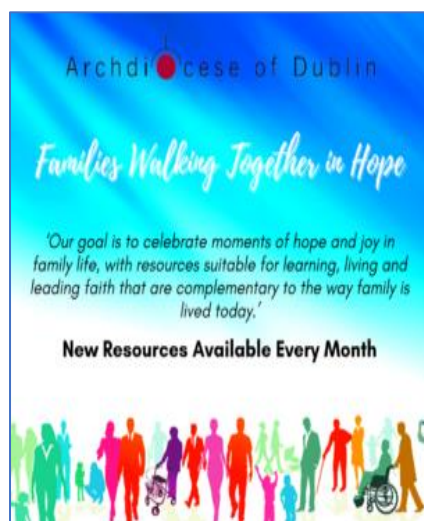




ST. GABRIEL'S NOTES

3rd October 2021



Year of the Family — October Resources *Cry of the Earth - Praying at the Kitchen Table*

Continuing the theme of connecting the Kitchen Table with the Eucharistic Table with family discussions on issues to be suggested each month by the Diocesan Office of Mission & Ministry, this month they suggest having a chat at the kitchen table, about ways we can make changes to respond to the climate crisis.



These are a few questions to think about. Take some time just to be quiet and consider how you want to respond.

1. "We are squeezing the goods of the planet. Squeezing them, like an orange. ... Today, not tomorrow, today, we have to take care of Creation with responsibility." Archbishop Dermot Farrell
How does the image of the planet being squeezed like an orange make you feel? What does it say to you?
2. How does caring for the earth and being a Christian connect up for you?
3. How do you want to live out your faith in this new time? What is God calling you to do?
4. What changes have you seen in your lifetime, share them as a family of different generations.

End by saying this prayer together:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, in your wisdom and love you have given your people the gift of the soil. In your goodness you made the earth bringing forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit. open our ears to the cry of the earth, and our hearts to its call, that we may cherish what you have given us, care for it, and share its fruits for the good of all.

For further details and ideas see the Mission & Ministry Section of the Diocesan website www.dublindiocese.ie

Day for Life: Sunday 3rd October. Message of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference: 'The Good Samaritan - A Model of Compassion'

Day for Life is celebrated annually by the Catholic Church in Ireland and the UK. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness of the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The following are extracts from the statement of the Irish Bishops for today.

The full text and other resources are available on www.councilforlife.ie



"Compassion is often presented as a justification for assisted suicide, but having compassion means "suffering with" someone. Assisted suicide reflects a failure of compassion on the part of society. It is a failure to respond to the challenge of caring for people who are terminally ill, or who have disabilities or dementia, as they approach the end of their lives."



– Day for Life Message 2021
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference



"Jesus gave us the image of the good Samaritan as the model for our compassion and our solidarity with those who find themselves vulnerable and who fear being abandoned in their final illness. The Good Samaritan is one who "crosses over", who "binds up wounds" and who, most important of all "stays with" the person for as long as is required."



– Day for Life Message 2021
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference