

OPRFM

1st Edition August 2013

Office of Pastoral Renewal and Family Ministry

This is the first edition of a quarterly newspaper that we hope will keep you up to date with events in the diocese. If you would like to have an event published or advertised contact us.



Archbishop Eamon Martin addressing the Spiritfest Conference

Remembering Fr. Andy

R.I.P. 6th Sept.2012



We recall with great fondness our departed colleague, Fr Andrew McNally who did such incredible work in pastoral planning and renewal across the archdiocese of Armagh.

Andy's untimely death on September 6th 2012 causes us to ponder the mysterious designs of God and should help us to focus on the brevity of life and the importance of living life to the full.

Andy had a huge zest for living and he brought an indefatigable energy to everything that he became involved in.

Teaching, planning, running, cooking, socialising, reflecting, galvanising, caring, loving, befriending, pastoring were all

richness and giftedness of those around us.

Yet he taught us best and most poignantly in the

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dynamic aspects of Andy's vibrant engagement with life.

He taught all of us who knew him something about the joy of living and how to celebrate the

manner in which he accepted and resigned himself to his gradual incapacitation, the loss of much of his physical and mental ability and his ultimate demise.

On one of my last visits to see him shortly before his death, he asked me to pray with him. As I concluded my prayer, he raised his own trembling hands to bless me. As he prayed over me in a disjointed mumble of words, the language made no sense yet I knew I was blessed by a true man of God, someone who allowed the radiance of God to shine. He was a priest to the very end, ministering more powerfully than ever even in the midst of his own brokenness.

We pray the light of heaven and eternal reward for Fr. Andy.

Noel & Susan Morgan



Noel and Susan were key members of the Spiritfest team who organised the event

Patricia Finlay Hanratty & Sr. Anna Ryan



Patricia Hanratty a fourth year Theology student and Sr Anna Ryan, a Mercy, nun enjoying the conference

Spiritfest Dundalk.

Kevin McGuigan and team assembling the boat

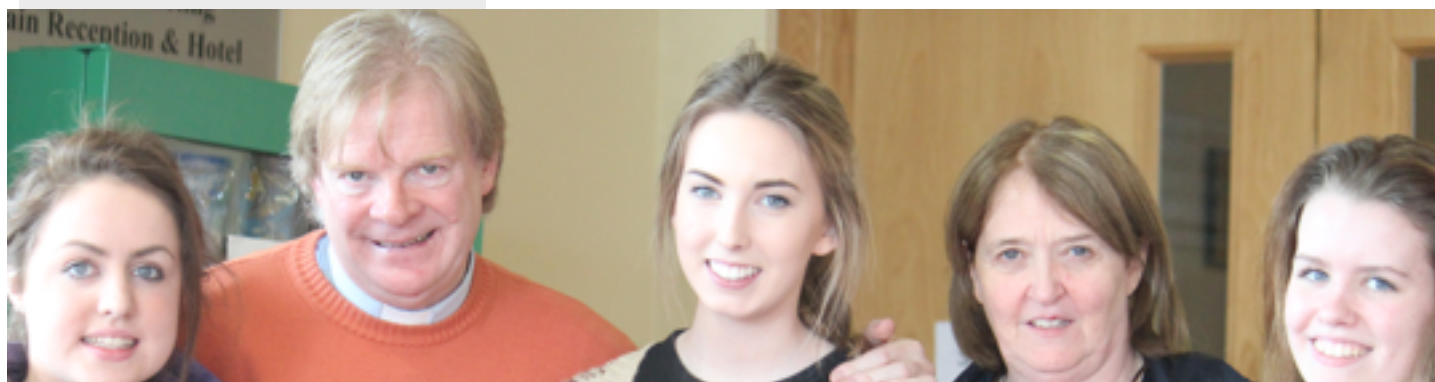


We had a wonderful second Spiritfest Conference in Dundalk in early summer. The speakers were superb and the feedback from the participants was most encouraging. Here are some of their comments.

Hi all; Just wish to congratulate the whole team for the wonderful day that was Spiritfest. I really enjoyed everything that was presented on the day, the talks, the reflections and the music. Take a bow for a job well done. It would be hard to match the whole day but I am looking forward to the next one. By the way, when is it? Martin.

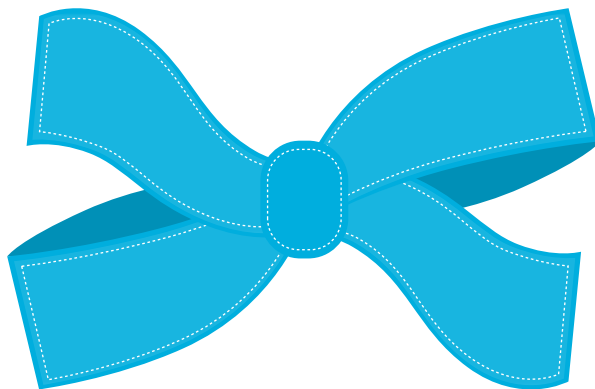
Many thanks for Spiritfest on Saturday. Well done with all your hard work getting the day to fruition. I enjoyed the talks, meeting others, browsing

the books; in all a wonderful experience. I'm looking forward to the next Spiritfest. Very best wishes, Leo



Fr. Frankie Murray, Sr Yvonne Hanna & Team

Upcoming Events



Soil for the Seed Theology Course reopens in Benburb Priory from Monday September 9th at 7.30. The first module is on LITURGY and the facilitator will be Fr. John McGoldrick. Newcomers are welcome to join on a modular basis. To Book contact OPRFM at 00353429336649.



Go Into My Vineyard Year 5 and Year 2 reopens on Tuesday September 17th in Dromantine at 7.30



The RCIA programme will begin in the Pastoral Centre Dundalk on September 16th at 7.30.



Parish Pastoral Council Training will take place in the parishes of Clonoe, Armagh and Middleton during September and October



The Adult Faith & Training Commission together with The Archdiocese of Liverpool will begin the Integrating Life and Faith Programme in October. For more details contact: Kevin McGuigan at 00447515910967.



The Diocesan Pastoral Council will meet on October 19th in Dromantine from 10.30-5.00.



Early notice of the "Called Gifted and Sent" seminar which will take place in Dromantine in February 2014. More information from www.parishandfamily.ie



- OPRM and the Vocations Commission are launching the Galilee Project in September. It will be a pilot project on home visitation with four groups involved in the initial outreach. The four groups are Dungannon Parish, St. Patrick's Dundalk, Kilmore Parish and the Family of God Community, Dundalk.