

WORKSHOP OPTIONS

Baptised for Life

- unpacking the mystery and the promise
Colette Furlong

Growing in Understanding and Confidence

- Introducing the Studies in the Catechism of the Catholic Church programme.
Nuala Caliendo and Philomena Travers

Rural Church Areas as "faith" communities

- Exploring our strengths and imminent challenges
Deacon William Gacquin

When daily Mass goes

- Exploring the recommended options
Justin Harkin

Being Catholic in a Multi-media age

- How can I play my part?
Kevin Leavy & Petra Conroy (Catholic Comment)

Why are so many young people not practicing?

- Exploring our concerns and thinking.
Moya Hegarty OSU

Town Pastoral Councils 2013 - 2023

- What needs to be considered?
Fina Golden & Barry McMahon

"To sing is to pray twice" (St. Augustine)

- Exploring the Mass through hymns, old and new (Sunday only)
Bridgeen Regan

The Mystery Sound of God's Word (Sunday only)

Fr. John Cullen

Registration for workshops will take place during Conference Registration.

For more details on all of the above workshops please visit www.elphindiocese.ie

YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMME

(18-35 YRS)

Young adults who participate on Saturday may also choose the following programme.

Our Search for Meaning

11.30 - 11.45am:

Introductions, Icebreakers & Sharing of Perceptions

11.45 - 12.00 noon: Testimony from a Young Adult

12.00 - 12.40 pm:

The search for happiness and meaning
Deacon Frank McGuinness & Paul Keogh

12.45 - 2.00 pm: Lunch

2.00 - 2.45 pm:

God / Religion / Church as goal of search?
Deacon Frank McGuinness & Paul Keogh

2.45 - 3.30 pm: Encounter

A time of quiet reflection, prayer, praise and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

Group rejoins Conference

This option will be led by **Deacon Frank McGuinness, Director of Youth Ministry and Safeguarding Children with the Diocese of Elphin,** and **Paul Keogh, Chaplain, Summerhill College, Sligo.**

TO BOOK A PLACE

If you (and your group / friends) are interested in participating in one or both days you can book a place by contacting The Pastoral Development Office before Wednesday April 17th.

Places cannot be guaranteed after that date.

Please contact (before Wednesday April 17th):

The Pastoral Development Office (Diocese of Elphin),
Church Grounds,
Strokestown,
Co. Roscommon.
Tel: 071 9634960
Email: pdo@elphindiocese.ie

FURTHER ENQUIRIES

Justin Harkin
Mobile: 087 6171526
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YEAR OF FAITH 2013

DIOCESE OF ELPHIN

Daring To Believe & Proclaim The Good News - A time to get real?



**A two-day conference
for committed lay people**

The Abbey Hotel ,
Christian Brothers Secondary School
& Sacred Heart Church, Roscommon

**Saturday April 20th
& Sunday April 21st 2013**

All Welcome
Pre-Booking Advised

BISHOP JONES' INTRODUCTION



Fifty years ago Pope John XXIII opened Vatican II in Rome. Twenty years ago Pope John Paul II published the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Last year Pope Benedict XVI called upon us to celebrate a Year of Faith. In so doing

each Holy Father was responding to the signs of the times and seeking to contribute to our wellbeing and happiness.

Today many challenges beset us but we also have many strengths. The time is right for a shared exploration of how best to respond.

When Jesus asked the twelve apostles "Will you also go away?" Peter responded "To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:66-70).

Today we face such a moment. Are we to walk away or recommit to the Christ, who more than any other, has touched our lives? What shall our response be? Complacency leads to weariness and tiredness. This is never true Christian living. Has the time come "to get real?"

My prayer is that this Conference will help us hear God's call to us as individuals and as members of families, Church groups and parish communities. Over the two days we are likely to experience a living sense of the vast richness and diversity of our Christian tradition. Simultaneously may we be drawn closer to God and to each other in a spirit of mutual respect, admiration, resolve, gentleness and kindness.

Sincerely,

+ *Christy*

+ Christopher Jones
Diocese of Elphin

SATURDAY APRIL 20TH

Living the Christian Life Today

09.00 am: Registration in The Abbey Hotel (inc. workshop preferences)

09.30 am: Morning Prayer

09.45 am: Keynote address (Breda O'Brien)
How did we get here?
Where are we going?

10.45 am: Questions & answers with Breda

11.10 am: Tea / Coffee

11.30 am: Choice of Workshops
Young Adult programme commences

12.45 pm: Lunch

02.00 pm: Choice of Workshops

03.15 pm: Tea / Coffee

03.45 pm: Panel of Speakers (4) sharing brief reflections on the day

04.05 pm: Open Forum

04.30 pm: Final Reflection (Breda O'Brien)

05.00 pm: Word of thanks and appreciation (Bishop Jones)

05.05 pm: Evening Prayer

Breda O'Brien is a wife, mother, teacher, freelance journalist, columnist with The Irish Times and a member of the Board of Directors of the Iona Institute.

SUNDAY APRIL 21ST

Sunday Mass as Source and Summit of the Christian Life

09.15 am: Registration in The Abbey Hotel (inc. workshop preferences)

09.30 am: Morning Prayer

09.45 am: Keynote Address (Fr. Patrick Jones)
What will happen at Mass this morning?

10.45 am: Gathering in Sacred Heart Church Roscommon

11.00 am: Mass (to be broadcast on RTE Radio)

12.00 am: Return to The Abbey Hotel

12.10 am: Reflection on our experience of Mass with Fr. Patrick.

12.45 pm: Lunch

02.00 pm: Choice of Workshops

03.15 pm: Tea / Coffee

03.45 pm: Panel of Speakers (4) sharing brief reflections on the day

04.05 pm: Open Forum

04.30 pm: Final Reflection (Fr. Patrick Jones)

04.45 pm: Word of thanks and appreciation (Bishop Jones)

04.55 pm: Evening Prayer

Fr. Paddy Jones is Director of the National Centre for Liturgy and Secretary to the Council for Liturgy of the Irish Episcopal Conference.

COST TO PARTICIPANTS

Owing to generous donations from the Knights of St. Columbanus and the Diocese of Elphin, the willingness of workshop providers to share their expertise free-of-charge, and the support of a great team of volunteers many costs and anticipated needs have been met.

The organisers, nonetheless, would appreciate a contribution of €5 from each participant per day from those who can afford it.

Participants are free to bring a pack lunch and to avail of a dining area with free tea and coffee in the Christian Brothers Secondary School.

Alternatively lunch (main course + tea / coffee & biscuits) is available in The Abbey Hotel at a cost of €15.00 per lunch (payable at registration).

Contributions will be taken up during registration.

