



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



On October 4th, on the feast of St. Francis, from the town of Assisi, Pope Francis sent a very special message to the Church Worldwide all about Love and Attention - the kind of attention that brings a bleeding world back to health. It is a social meditation on the Good Samaritan who recognises Love and Attention as the supreme law. The notion that all created life shares its origin in God, and that in Christ we become Sisters and Brothers, bonded in dignity, care, and friendship, is one of the oldest social teachings of Christianity.

Shortly after becoming Pope, Pope Francis wrote to us:

“I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting Him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day”

Trying to live out that encounter, we see our Brothers and Sisters in a different way and we strive to care for the earth, OUR COMMON HOME.



World Mission Sunday 18th October

Next weekend is World Mission Sunday. We are a Worldwide/Universal/Catholic Church. We are together Sisters and Brothers in Christ. Some of our church communities are in great need and we would like to support and help them.

Collections at Mass in over 120 countries will be offered to support the life-giving work of missionaries. However, this direct appeal from Pope Francis is in jeopardy. Our pandemic restrictions mean that at present nobody can physically attend Mass, resulting in empty baskets. The implications for suffering overseas communities in the months ahead will be devastating.

This year, as part of Pope Francis' direct appeal so the life-saving work of the missionaries can continue, there are special **World Mission Sunday Envelopes** available in the Church.

What Does World Mission Sunday Actually Support?

- ❖ ***Provides basic infrastructure by helping communities build schools clinics, parish halls and churches***
- ❖ ***Prepares the future leaders and carers of the Church by supporting the training of sisters, priests, religious brothers and catechists***
- ❖ ***Supports missionary programmes that protect and care for children's spiritual and physical well being by offering safe shelter, healthcare, education and hope for the future***

If you would like to support this collection, you can do so, on your visit to the Church, by putting your donation into the World Mission Sunday Envelope and placing it in the letterbox at the back of the Church. The total collection will be sent directly into the Archdiocese on your behalf.

Next week we will have more information on other ways you may donate to World Mission Sunday