



# Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



The Season of Creation begins on September 1<sup>st</sup>, World Day of Prayer for the care of Creation and ends on October 4<sup>th</sup>, the feast of St. Francis Assisi, the patron saint of ecology.

## Why is it important?

Taking action during the Season of Creation is living out our Catholic faith.

The Church, following the teachings of Jesus, has exhorted believers to work for the common good, which requires **dignifying life** in all its forms, caring for the common home, committing to the construction of more just, supportive, fraternal and peaceful societies, among other fundamental aspects to achieve what, in Laudato Si, Pope Francis calls integral ecology.

Often, when we speak of creation, it is related to nature, animals, landscapes, the sun, the moon, but rarely do we become aware that the human being is the culmination of the Father's creative work, "God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good." (Gen 1:31), the Sacred Scripture states, implying that God, after the creation of man and woman, is pleased to see all their work.

In this regard, it is important to mention that, in the Bible, there are several references to the creative work of the Father, who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them (Rom 4:24) and, moreover, lovingly arranges everything to sustain and promote harmony.

In other words, he is not only a creator God, but a loving Father who tenderly cares for the work of his hands and has a vision of fraternity for all humanity.

Accordingly, **the Season of Creation is a celebration that allows all people to recognize ourselves as "the work of the Lord's creative act,"** to contemplate nature and all that dwells in it, and to care for our Common Home. It is necessary for all believers to join in the celebration of the Season of Creation. Since "what was good in the eyes of God has become an exploitable thing in the hands of man", and it is urgent that as Church we implement concrete actions towards care and preservation.

As Pope Francis wrote in Laudato Si', "Everyone's talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation".

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We are encouraged to return 30% of our parish grounds to nature and we are encouraged to join strongly in the activities for the Season of Creation.

In the coming weeks, with the help of our Environmental Group, we hope to start turning designated areas of our grounds into creature/insect friendly hubs for next Spring/Summer.

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## Loughlinstown Community Rooms Youth Program Registration Evening



Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm  
€2 per Class  
Starting Monday September 11<sup>th</sup>  
Ages 10+  
See poster on noticeboard



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## Dominican Retreat Centre - Tallaght



**A Day for Yourself** – Saturday, September 23. "I have come that you have life and have it to the full" John 10:10. Taking time out to appreciate faith and nature can be energizing and rewarding. Come and spend some time on this Day for Yourself and see what you discover about yourself. Dr Bernadette Toal was a lecturer in theology in the Milltown Institute, an external examiner at All Hallows College and a member of the Orlagh Retreat Team for many years. She was part of the Women's Forum and is on the Parish Pastoral Council in her parish.

She co-facilitates a Lectio Divina group once a week and is also involved in the Confirmation and Communion sacramental programme in her parish primary schools.

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**Wood You Believe:** Getting the Past out of the Present, Bringing Healing to our Lives, The Practice of Forgiveness, Moving beyond Loss Trauma and Victimhood. Workshop Facilitated by Fr Jim Cogley, Director of Pilgrimage at Lady's Island, Wexford. Jim uses his amazing wood carvings to explore core human issues.

**Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght, D24KA40. Saturday, September 23, 10am-4pm. €60 including lunch.**

For more information Email [dominicanretreats@gmail.com](mailto:dominicanretreats@gmail.com) or visit [www.domrc.ie](http://www.domrc.ie)

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