

Seasons

Autumn begins and as always how quickly our Summer has passed. I hope all our parishioners found some time for rest and renewal over the past few months. When the days shorten, many of our lives return to fairly hectic pace both personally and in our parishes. Many thanks to all of you who actively serve our communities in a wide variety of ways sharing your gifts and talents so generously. For parents /children September brings its own joys, new adventures and challenges. Our past Leaving Cert students begin new adventures too in college or work. Those who are ill or housebound, please continue to pray for all of us from the monastery that is your home/ nursing home / hospital. As we begin this new season together, lets each consciously try to invite the Lord more fully into our daily lives, our joys and our struggles.

"Seek me in good times, seek me in hard times, you will find me watching over you all the time" Deuteronomy 4:29 / Hebrews 10:23 / Psalm 145:20.

And speaking of seasons, the season of creation instituted by Pope Francis runs from 1st September till October 4th (feast of St Francis of Assisi. The theme of this year's season is "living water" Ezekiel 47:1-12 describes life giving water flowing from the temple to heal barren lands and restore ecosystems. May we all renew our own commitment to care for our common home.

We can link thirsting for God with the reality of those who are deprived of clean water. Maybe we can all do a 'leak audit' and assess where we need to repair our awareness of and our actions in truly caring for and enhancing our planet and living environments, our shared common home. As the beautiful Taizé song prays,

'Let All Who Are Thirsty Come'

Father Pat

Living water and the environment "Future generations will never forgive us if we miss the opportunity to protect our common home. We have inherited a garden; we must not leave a desert for our children." Joint statement of the late Pope Francis, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury