MAGGIE DERBY, FORMERLY OF BROWNLOW TERRACE

A Synod of bishops takes place this October on marriage & family life in the Church today. An Extraordinary Synod on this topic took place last year. The report from last year’s synod – and questions arising from it – are available for public consultation at this time. You are welcome to view this document and the questions attached to it, online, by searching for synodinaustralia.

Irish dioceses are forwarding reports to the Holy See on any marriage and family issues. If you would like to make a response, to be reflected in the report from our diocese, you should address your comments in writing to Fr Andrew McMahon c/o St Peter’s Parish Office or by email to andymcman@hotmail.com.

Comments/responses need to be with Fr McMahon by Sunday 22nd March 2015.

DIOCESEAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday 11th March 2015

At the Balmoral Hotel, Warrenpoint.

The Society’s Annual Irish Night, organised by Dean Anthony Davies, comprising of dinner and entertainment. £20 per person. To book call Dean Davies 4173 4984 or Frank McRill 3839 2314

REFLECTION DAY, DROMANTINE

Saturday 21st March 2015

An opportunity for prayerful reflection on the healing power of God’s Mercy for each one of us and for our world, a peaceful surrounding of Dromantine. 10.30am – 5.30pm. £25.00 which includes Lunch and Tea/Coffee.

Booking: Dromantine Conference Centre, Newry, tel 028 30821964. Email: admin@dromantineconference.com

Pope Francis - Encountering the Mercy of God.

“Let us be renewed by God’s mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation, and make justice and peace flourish”. Pope Francis – Easter Message 2013.

TROCAIRE LENTEN CAMPAIGN 2015

A representative of Trocaire, from their Belfast office, will speak at all Masses in our parish next weekend, the 5th & 6th March, and highlight the focus of this year’s campaign.

ST. PETER’S AND ST. PAUL’S PARISHES, LURGAN

INTRODUCING THE BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group is another voluntary parish-based ministry which aims to help people deal with recent bereavement and to encourage them to truly express their grief. The Group is being established for this time. Its members, who were recently commissioned for this ministry, are: Margaret Nugent, Cathy Magennis, Ger O’Hagan, Valerie Mullholland, Teresa McNally, Sr Josephine Sleivn and Raymond Murray

What does the Bethany Support Group do?

Bereavement comes to all of us and, at this time, most people need support. Family and friends provide this in the immediate period of death. The Bethany group offers further support a little later, at a time when bereaved people may be most vulnerable.

The ministers will:

- Pay a home visit six weeks after your bereavement.
- Offer a bereavement and an opportunity to talk.
- Listen sensitively and without judgment.
- Honour the confidentiality of the visit.
- Provide a drop-in service from 10.30 – 11.30 on the first Saturday of each month in St Peter’s Parish Office and St Paul’s Lower Sacristy.

The group does not aim to counsel or advise you. The visit is principally for you to talk about your feelings. You may feel unable to accept our ministry at the time it is offered. The ministers will understand and will invite you to call if you feel you may benefit at a later date.

More information about The Bethany Bereavement Support Group, or contact, can be made, by calling 075 4899 1681.

LEGION OF MARY BOOKSTALLS

The booklet racks at the rear of the Church have been re-stocked with new material. Some of this material is particularly relevant for Lenten reading, reflection and devotion. The Legion of Mary will collect donations of any new material that you may have to support this worthwhile and essential religious work.

The booklet racks are available in the Church entrance and in the church nave.

OFFERTORY PROMISE COLLECTION

The envelopes will be renewed in April. Anyone requiring envelopes for the first time, and asking to leave their details at the Parish Office. We would also appreciate being informed of any members of your household or addresses so that parish records can be updated.

BAPTISM

If you are planning to have a child baptised in St Peter’s Parish and wish to notify the Parish Office in person. One month’s notice is required. Parents/Godparents will have an opportunity to meet some members of the Baptism Team prior to the day of Baptism.