



PLANNED GIVING: Weekly Envelope Collection: This week: €1,910. Thank you for your generosity. Thanks also to the collectors.

Green Light for the Future by Nicholas Stern

Pope Francis' eagerly awaited encyclical subtitled "Care for Our Common Home" shows deep scholarship as well as great wisdom both in recognising the scale of risks humanity faces from environmental degradation, and in identifying ways to make progress, writes Nicholas Stern. The encyclical is grounded in an analysis of how human activities are creating a range of acute environmental problems, including climate change, deforestation, air pollution and loss of biodiversity.

These are not just damaging the natural environment, but also harming humanity. While we are all facing immense risks of our own creation, it is, in particular, poor people in both rich and developing countries who are often most exposed, for instance, to extreme weather events due to climate change. As a result, these environmental problems present profound ethical and moral challenges. Many of the products of economic progress that have created wealth and prosperity also threaten lives and livelihoods, particularly of the most vulnerable members of society. And the kind of world that our children, grandchildren and future generations will inherit from us depends on our ability and willingness to manage better the unintended adverse side effects of scientific and technological advances. The analysis presented in the encyclical draws on the best science, and Pope Francis recognises and sets out the strength of evidence that human activities, particularly emissions of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels, is driving climate change. The Pope also shows a deep understanding of the environmental threats can result from the failures of markets.

My own study of climate change has led me to conclude that it is the result of the largest market failure the world has ever seen because the prices of products and service that create greenhouse gas emissions do not reflect the huge costs imposed on others through the impacts of climate change. Pope Francis wisely quotes from a previous encyclical by Pope Benedict XVI about the need for such costs to be "recognised with transparency and fully borne by those who incur them, not by other peoples or future generations" and stresses that this is the basis for ethical action.

In doing so, the Pope displays a fundamental understanding that sound economics must be based on sound ethics. This is embodied in the principle of carbon pricing, which transfers the cost of emissions back to its source. That approach is not, of course, "anti-markets". On the contrary, it is to understand markets and to harness them for the common good. Importantly, the encyclical calls for environmental threats to be tackled at the same time as the battle against poverty across the world. The risks of climate change will not be successfully managed unless the transition to low-carbon economic growth and development aids efforts to help poor communities. To illustrate how this can be done, the encyclical cites the example of solar power, which can provide electricity for poor rural villages in developing countries, and can be financed in a way that promotes self-sufficiency. Pope Francis draws attention to the particular significance of cities, where a combination of poor-quality housing, air pollution and traffic congestion can profoundly damage the quality of life, and notes the crucial role that reliable and affordable public transport can play in improving lives.

Throughout the encyclical, the Pope shows that his analysis matches those of others who have studied these problems, including the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate. The commission's first report was published last September and explained how a better quality of economic growth could be achieved through policies and measures that reduce emissions of green-house gases. Members of the commission met Pope Francis in April to outline their findings that a transition to a low-carbon economy could be attractive, full of creativity and innovation, and lead to a cleaner, safer and more secure world. In other words, it is an economic path that can raise living standards and overcome poverty in a sustainable way.

The Pope, like the commission, also recognises the urgency of the problem we face. Delay is dangerous, as much of the damage caused by climate change will be irreversible, and we risk being locked into structures that are difficult to alter. The encyclical is a compelling document and hopefully it will be carefully read not just by Catholics but by people of all faiths around the world. It brings together the crucial moral and ethical arguments with the scientific and economic analysis. We should all work in our own way to take this discussion forward. autumn. Politicians, in particular, should recognise the strength of the arguments presented by Pope Francis, and follow the example he has shown.

This is a vital year, with a new international agreement on climate change expected to emerge from the United Nations summit in Paris in December. Pope Francis has used his moral authority to layout just what is at stake.

Extract from the Tablet by Nicholas Stern.

The Encyclical is available at the back of the Church. Price €5

Weekend Mass Intentions:
St Brigid's Church
Saturday 6pm: Paddy Dowling
Sunday 11am: Tom Travers, Fergal McCarthy

St. Patrick's Church:

Saturday

6.30pm: Colin Brunswick (m.m.)
 Caragh Montgomery

Sunday

8.30am: Eddie Clarke
9.30am: Special intention
11am: Michael Keating
12.30pm: Stephen & Thomas Cummins
7pm: Gai McHugh

Weekday Mass Intentions

Mon 6th 10am: Rita Finan **7pm:** Special intention
Tues 7th 10am: Josephine Makuala, Koko Ndudi **7pm:** Nancy Condell
Wed 8th 10am: Mary Pedreschi **7pm:** Anna Archbold
Thur 9th 10am: Nora Twohill **7pm:** Mary Kiernan
Fri 10th 10am: David & Anne Greene **7pm:** Special intention
Sat 11th 10am: Bill Lee

We remember in our prayer Louisa Fuscuardi of Wolstan's Court whose funeral took place on Friday. Louisa was devoted to her family and she is survived by her husband Riccardo and four children and her grandchildren. May she rest in peace.

A big thank you to Lorcan from **AB fab flowers** for donating the flowers for the Church this week. It is very much appreciated.

Please support St. Raphael's Garden Fete this Sunday 5th July.

Rosters for 11th/ 12th July

Ministers of the Word (Readers)

6.30pm: Luke McDonnell
8.30am: Joe Curran
9.30am: Jennifer Deane-King
11am: Alma Menton
12.30pm: Maribel Macapaz
7pm: Joe Bermingham

Eucharistic Ministers

6.30pm: Lorraine O'Connor, Peter Donohoe.
8.30am: Bernadette McGee, Niall Buckley.
9.30am: Annette Melinn, Robert Melvin, Denise McDonnell.
11am: Martina Blessing, Jim Murphy, Geraldine O'Callaghan.
12.30pm: David Harkness, Margaret O' Shea, Breda Ryan, Liam White.
7pm: Michael O' Fiannachta, Helena Van der May, Winnie Lynch.

St Vincent de Paul Society

This weekend 4th/ 5th July the St Vincent de Paul Society will be holding their usual monthly collection after all Masses. Your support, helps us to alleviate to some extent the needs of the less fortunate among us. We appreciate your support

Straffan Church volunteers needed urgently

We would like to establish a team of volunteers who will give one hour a month as part of an Altar Society to help Hoover and clean the Church. If you have the time and are willing to help out please contact Josie in the sacristy. Every little bit helps.

The Parish Choirs

The parish choirs are now taking a much deserved break for the summer. We sincerely thank them for the enriching contribution they make to our liturgies.

The Cemetery Mass in Straffan

will be celebrated on 15th July at 8pm.

As the a fundraising event, The ACRE Project is holding an indoor Arts and Crafts Fair, and outdoor Family Fun day on Saturday, 18 July, 12-6 pm at the Salesian College, Maynooth Road, Celbridge. Admission free.

Mass Times

St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge

Saturday (Vigil) 6.30 pm
 Sunday 8.30am, 9.30am, 11am, 12.30pm
Weekday Mass: 10am & 7pm
Holy Days: 7pm (vigil), 8am, 10am, 7pm.
Bank Holidays: 11am.
Confessions: Saturday after 10am Mass

Mass Times

St Brigid's Church

Saturday (Vigil) 6pm.
 Sunday 11am.
Weekday Mass 9.15am.
Holy Days 10am.
Confessions: Saturday after 6pm Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament :

St Patrick's Church: Friday morning before 10am Mass (9am - 9.50am).
St. Brigid's Church Friday morning after 9.15am Mass.

Baptisms

St Patrick's Church: Sunday 2pm
St Brigid's Church: Last Sunday of the month at 12pm
Pre- Baptism meetings: To book contact the parish baptismal team 0858662255