

Dear Eco Congregation friends

Welcome to the July 2017 edition of the Eco-Congregation Ireland newsletter. We hope everyone is enjoying summertime! Creation Time is almost here!



Are you interested in learning more about Eco-Congregation Ireland?

Perhaps your congregation or parish has an interest in the environment and has thought about becoming an Eco-Congregation? The Eco-Congregation Committee has Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist, Church of Ireland and Quaker representatives on it and they are happy to come to speak to your group no matter how small! The contact details are listed at the end of this newsletter.

Do you know we are on Facebook? You can access the Eco-Congregation Ireland Facebook profile [here](#) or just go to facebook.com and search 'Eco-Congregation Ireland'. It's a great place to keep up to date with ECI's activities and access current news and information from other NGOs and faith organisations.

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Our Climate Justice Candle – the journey continues!

Since our last newsletter, ECI's Climate Justice Candle has visited **the Daughters of Charity and Carrickedmond in Longford**. It is still continuing on its ecumenical and climate justice journey! If you would like to be part of this initiative, simply drop us an email to info@ecocongregationireland.com.

Climate Justice Candle Inspiration!

The [Eco-Congregation Ireland Climate Justice Candle](#) can be used in many different ways in a church or parish.

Daughters of Charity - on 10 June the [Daughters of Charity](#) met to review their whole year's work on Laudato Si. As a Province the Sisters took the decision to commit to working towards becoming an Eco-Congregation and this was ritualised by hosting the ECI Climate Justice Candle. The Sisters lit the Climate Justice Candle and held it up as the prayer entitled, *A Prayer for the Earth* from the [Eco-Congregation Climate Justice Resources](#) was read. They then had a moment's silence before processing to the chapel to begin their Eucharist. Read more about the Daughters of Charity work on Laudato Si and their progress further in this newsletter.



Church of the Three Patrons, Rathgar - the Laudato Si Group in the [Church of the Three Patrons, Rathgar Parish](#) is planning to host the [Eco-Congregation Ireland Climate Justice Candle](#) in September. They are aiming to include an event during the 10.30am Family Mass on Sunday 24 September specifically to involve children and young people. Following the Mass they will distribute pollinator friendly bulbs and peat free compost to all.



On the following evening Monday 25 September they plan to host an Ecumenical Service in the Church focusing on Climate Justice with the Climate Justice Candle as a particular symbol. They will be linking with their friends and neighbours in local churches and centres of faith and hope others from far and wide will also join them on the evening. Confirmation of start time for this Service will be on the parish website closer to the date.

Creation Time/Season of Creation 2017 – Resources Available from Eco-Congregation Scotland!

[Eco-Congregation Scotland](#) has published material for use by congregations during Creation Time 2017. The material comes from an ecumenical writing group, with contributors from the Church of Scotland, the Roman Catholic Church, The Salvation Army and Scottish Episcopal Church. The materials follow the theme *Journeying with God*, linking to the UN International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development. They explore God's invitation to join us in the journey of faith leading us into care for all creation. You can access these new materials by visiting the [Creation Time section of the Eco-Congregation Scotland website](#).



Creation Time Hymn composed by parishioner of Carrigaline Union of Parishes, Cork

Mary Cowhig, a parishioner of Carrigaline Union of Parishes, Cork has composed a beautiful hymn that she has shared with us all for use during Creation Time 2017. The hymn is called *A Hymn of Gratitude for All Creation* and is sung to the air of *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*. Carrigaline Union of Parishes, Cork received their Eco-Congregation



Ireland award in 2014 and their journey to the award is available in the document on the ECI website entitled [Environmental Initiatives by Church Groups in Ireland](#). You can read Mary's hymn on the ECI website [here](#).

Take the Laudato Si' Pledge for Season of Creation 2017!



The Laudato Si Pledge is a global campaign by the [Global Catholic Climate Movement](#) and its member organisations to raise awareness of the Encyclical's message and to encourage the Catholic community to take action with the urgency required by the climate crisis. The goal is to get 1 million Catholics to sign the LS Pledge and bring Laudato Si to life!

This pledge is as follows: *Answering Pope Francis' urgent call in Laudato Si, I pledge to: pray for and with creation; live more simply; advocate to protect our common home.* Signatories of the pledge will receive suggestions on how to bring the encyclical into action through prayer, lifestyle changes, and advocacy initiatives organised by GCCM and its member organisations. Take the pledge and find out more information on the [Live Laudato Si website](#). Lots of information is also available in [this online document](#).

News from Westport Eco-Congregation!

As part of National Bike Week 2017 [Westport Eco-Congregation](#) held a 'Cycle to Mass and Parish Picnic'. Parishioners were encouraged to cycle to Mass and service in Holy Trinity and St. Marys Churches to reduce their carbon footprint. Westport Flower Festival 2017 was held on July 1st and 2nd in Holy Trinity Church. Westport Eco-Congregation entered an arrangement to raise awareness of Eco-Congregation and the need to protect our Common Home. The display consisted of a cross and greenery to represent the Eco-Congregation logo, an arrangement of organic flowers, a world, a bicycle made from recycled materials and a short description of Westport Eco-Congregation and what is required of us to help protect our fragile planet. Big plans are afoot for Season of Creation in Westport, County Mayo! [Keep up to date with their plans on Facebook](#). Read more and see more photos [here](#).



Season of Creation ... Time for Creation across the Diocese of Kerry



Diocese of Kerry

From 1 September to 4 October the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee of the Diocese of Kerry has organised three events and drawn up a leaflet with this year's focus on *Cherishing God's Gift of Food*, providing practical ways to reduce food waste. *Time for Creation* will open on 1 September with a celebration of *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*. The second event will be *Reducing Food Waste and Composting. Simple Practical Ways* and the third *Being Creative with Leftovers. A Cookery Demonstration*. The 3-way leaflet gives suggestions for parish events all based around cherishing food and reducing food waste including having a parish picnic, and buying local and seasonal products. You can read about the JOIC committee's events in more detail with times and venues on the [ECI website](#).

St Senan's Church Inniscarra to Celebrate Creation Time!

On Saturday 30th September from 3.00pm to 5.00pm, Bishop Richard Henderson will lead worship at St Senan's Church, Inniscarra on the theme *Making the Best of a Good Job*. During these two hours Bishop Richard will take those present on a journey to celebrate God's Creation, to deepen their relationship to it, and enrich their prayer life by opening all our senses to the



wonder of God in Creation. This will be against a backdrop of scripture, science, and the climate and environmental issues of our day. There will be short breaks to be quiet and meditate in St Senan's and walk around the grounds. On Sunday 1 October at 11.00am Bishop Richard will lead the Harvest Festival Service. Read more on the [ECI website](#).

Latest News from the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice!

JCFJ *jesuit centre for faith & justice*

Since our last newsletter the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice has been busy. They have prepared their submission to the [Citizen's Assembly](#) on the topic of 'how the State can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change'. The Jesuit Curia recently joined the [Flights for Forests](#) initiative. In response to Pope Francis' invitation to us all to acknowledge our environmental responsibility, the Jesuit Provincialate has taken the decision to commit to reflecting critically on its own use of air-travel. As part of this process, the [Jesuit Curia](#) will help offset the costs of air travel by making a regular donation to the Flights for Forest project.

In their Eco-Congregation journey, [Gardiner St. Parish](#) invited in their recycling company to give a presentation on how the Parish and the Jesuit community within the parish can improve their waste reduction and recycling. This was well-received, and progress on recycling has been already made. The parish are now busy planning activities for the year ahead. This update from the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice can be read in full [here](#). The JCFJ Environmental Justice Officer Catherine Devitt's letter on the need for Ireland to significantly increase its ambition on climate policy, appeared in the [Irish Times](#).

The Catholic divestment movement continues to grow

Trócaire

On 10th May, nine Catholic organisations joined the fight for climate justice by committing to divest from fossil fuels. This brings to twenty seven Catholic organisations in total which have divested from fossil fuels over the past two years. Divestment works because is a public commitment to remove the legitimacy of the fossil fuel industry – the industry which contributes most to climate change. The industry is also known to have undermined climate science over the past decades, seeding doubt and delaying action. The most recent organisations to divest include the Jesuits in Italy, the Passionists in the UK and Pescara Diocese in Italy. Many more organisations in Ireland and internationally are currently considering the ethical criteria governing their investment strategies with a view to divesting.

They join over 530 institutions globally, representing over \$3.4 trillion in funds under management, have committed to divest. They include institutions such as the World Council of Churches, the Lutheran World Federation, the Norwegian Sovereign Wealth Fund, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and many academic institutions such as Stanford University and Oxford University. For more details on how to participate in the next global divestment announcement on 4th October 2017 please contact Lorna Gold in Trócaire lorna.gold@trocaire.org and check out the [Global Catholic Climate Movement](#) divestment page for the full list of organisations.

Update from the European Christian Environmental Network

The aims of the European Christian Environmental Network are to share information, experiences in environmental work among widely varied Christian traditions and to encourage a united witness in caring for God's creation. ECEN has a very useful website that contains environmental news and updates on their activities. You can read about the ECEN workshop 'Theology of Hope for Oikos', 28-29 August in Budapest, an article on speaking up for trees by Orthodox Christians, the WCC Executive Committee Statement on the US Government's Withdrawal from the Paris Agreement on Climate Change,



updates from the conference 'Faith Communities and Environmental Activism held in Edinburgh and many more. Visit the [European Christian Environmental Network](#) website for more information.

Saving Dandelions Saves Bees – by Fran Brady

Fran Brady is the Quaker representative on the Eco-Congregation Ireland committee and attends Quaker Meeting for Worship at Eustace Street in Dublin. Fran also sits on the EcoQuakers committee. Fran has contributed an article to the Irish Friends bi-monthly newsletter

The Friendly Word entitled *Saving Dandelions Saves Bees*. In her article Fran gives these words of encouragement to all 'Let's leave more dandelions in the cracks, for a start. Do not scorn the dandelion-filled garden which in the mind of the tamed gardener is a blemish in the neighbourhood. And for Quakers, especially those who have areas of ground surrounding their Meeting Houses, let's afford dandelions a refuge, an amnesty, wherever they happen to pop up. In the long term they are friends, not foes.' You can read Fran's text in full on the [ECI website](#) and view older issues of *The Friendly Word* on the [Quakers in Ireland website](#).



Ireland's First National Holy Wells Day

National Holy Wells Day 2017 was promoted by [Loving Sister Earth](#). They work to develop a Nationwide Network of Prayer and Care for our Common Home, focused on Ireland's Holy Places. Our Holy Places offer inspiration and energy, identity and rootedness, which encourage us to protect the local environment by building on our heritage.



Pope Francis' call for the protection and fair distribution of clean water was the theme for this first National Holy Wells Day which was held on 18 June. Participants were encouraged to become aware of how precious water is, visit a local Holy Well, pray for the protection of water and plan with others how you can protect the water in your area. This event generated enthusiasm across the country, and showed that people have a protective affection for their local wells. At local wells across the country pilgrims prayed, others prayed at home, walked by the sea, or drank water mindfully. The Steering Group of Loving Sister Earth hopes to hold this event again next year on 17 June 2018. You can read [their report in full](#) on the ECI website with reports from around the country. You can read a beautiful prayer by Loving Sister Earth for National Holy Wells Day [here](#). You can keep up to date with the activities of Loving Sister Earth and get inspiration from them on [Facebook](#). The [Diocese of Kerry](#) took part in National Holy Wells Day by gathering for early morning prayer at Tobar na Molt. You can see some photos on [Facebook](#).

Creation Care Network in Northern Ireland – Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Creation Care Network in Northern Ireland will be held on Saturday 23 September 2017 in Hillsborough Presbyterian Church Hall from 2pm - 4pm. Sr Nellie McLaughlin will speak on Pope Francis' Encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. All welcome!



Clogher JPIC Group marks 2nd Anniversary of Laudato Si'

Clogher Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation group held an event on 3 June 2017 to celebrate Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si'* in St Macartin's Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen. The timeliness of the event coming shortly after President Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord was noted by the



chairperson of the event Sr Nellie McLaughlin. Tanya Jones spoke on 'Heart, Hands and Voice – Living out Laudato Si' and Anne Marie Russell delivered a presentation on 'Zero Waste'. You can read a full report with summaries of the talks at this event in the ECI website [here](#). Tanya provides the complete text of her talk on her blog GreenLassie.com. Clogher JPIC group are on [Facebook](#).

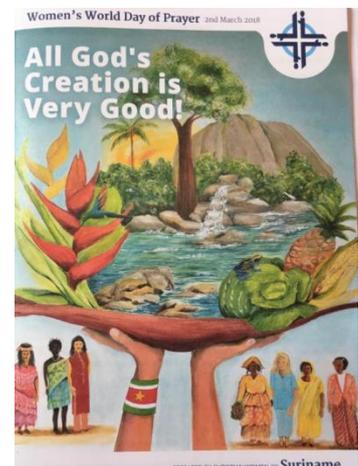
Operation Noah Annual Report available

The Operation Noah Annual Report was presented by Nicky Bull, Chair of Operation Noah, at their AGM on 10 June 2017 in Birmingham. During 2016, Operation Noah continued to work with York-based theatre group Riding Lights on plans for the filming of scenes from the 2015 eco drama, Baked Alaska, and the production of accompanying resources for both schools and church-based groups. Since February 2016, James Buchanan has been their [Bright Now](#) Campaigner (Bright Now is a campaign which calls on the Churches and the Christian community in the UK to disinvest from companies involved in the extraction of fossil fuels) and a particularly important achievement this year has been the production of a new printed resource entitled '[How to Divest your Church](#)'. You can read their Annual Report in full [here](#).



Women's World Day Prayer 2018 – 'All God's Creation is Very Good!'

The 2018 [Women's World Day of Prayer](#) Service has the theme "All God's Creation is Very Good!" It is written by the Christian women of Suriname who focus on creation and our responsibility to care and look after it. Women from Suriname lift up their voices to remind us that we are caretakers of God's creation! Read more from the Executive Director of Women's World Day of Prayer, Rosângela Oliveira on the ECI website [here](#). The date set for the service is always the 1st Friday in March - **2nd March 2018**. You can keep up to date on the Women's World Day of Prayer on [Facebook](#).



South Belfast Quakers and Methodists' 'Food for All' Event!

[South Belfast Quakers](#) and [Methodists](#) are organising a second participative event following on from their 2016 event '[Enough is Plenty: Reclaiming the Common Good](#)'. This event is entitled 'Food for All - For Ever' and will look at the broad ecological impacts of food and its production and the human right to a healthy diet. Details of event - The Agape Centre, Lisburn Road, Belfast, Saturday 23 September 2017, 1.30 for 2pm start, ending no later than 5pm. Admission: free, but voluntary contribution welcome. Book via [Eventbrite link](#). This theme will be the basis of the Harvest Sunday service at South Belfast Methodists on the following day (24 September) - the two events are linked but independent. South Belfast Quaker Meeting is an Eco-Congregation!



General Synod of the Church of Ireland passes resolution on climate change and fossil fuels

At this year's General Synod of the Church of Ireland, held in Limerick from 4th-6th May, members voted in favour of a resolution on climate change and fossil fuels. The Church of Ireland's investments are managed by the Representative Church Body (RCB), which was established in 1870 as the charitable trustee of the Church.



The resolution directs the RCB to: exclude companies whose turnover (in excess of 10%) is derived from the production of coal or tar sands in recognition that these companies are unlikely to be able to assist with the transition to a low carbon economy; aim to increase (where possible and subject to adequate returns) its exposure to green alternatives, to reduce its exposure to oil and gas producers and to seek companies with good environmental policies that are committed to reducing their carbon footprint; continue to support collaborative engagement with companies and with policy makers for the delivery of this commitment on assisting the transition to a low carbon economy; acknowledge that divestment from companies not taking seriously their responsibilities to assist with the transition to a low carbon economy may be the appropriate course of action; monitor and report annually on their implementation of this policy. The resolution also endorses the [Environmental Charter](#) that was passed by General Synod in 2015. Read more [here](#).

New Wine Ireland conference in Sligo holds seminar on a Christian Response to Climate Change

[New Wine Ireland](#) held a conference in Sligo from 9-14 July 2017. This year the conference included a seminar on a Christian Response to Climate Change given by Stephen Trew from the Church of Ireland. Here's what Stephen says about himself: *I have an environmental background. I studied Environmental Sciences in Queens and I currently work for the Department of Agriculture, the Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland. But I'm not an international speaker or author. I am just an ordinary Christian. But a couple of years ago something changed in me. I reached a tipping point and I became an environmental activist.* Vox Magazine included an article on Stephen's talk and you can read this article [here](#).



Report on Glimpses into the Mystery of the Unfolding Universe – Summer Retreat in Drumalis

From 10-16 July 2017 Margaret Rose McSparran CP and Anne Harnett CP facilitated a summer retreat at [Drumalis Retreat Centre](#) in Larne, Co Antrim entitled *Glimpses into the Mystery of the Unfolding Universe*. Gráinne Doherty, one of the participants, provided ECI with a report of the retreat. Gráinne will be facilitating the annual spring conference in Drumalis 23-25 February 2018. The Glimpses Journey will continue 24-30 June 2018. Read her inspirational report in full on the ECI website [here](#).



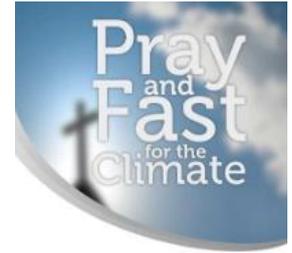
Carrigrohane Union of Parishes Pedal Power!

This May [Carrigrohane Union of Parishes](#) formed its own sub-team as part of Cork's contribution in the 2017 European Cycling Challenge to raise the visibility of cycling in their own congregation and the local community and to show that cycling is a viable transport mode for young and old alike. Transport is a leading contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, which makes how we get from A to B an important question to consider if we want to reduce our environmental impact. Overall, team Carrigrohane Church took 4th place in Cork, ahead of the city and county councils teams and even the university team, showing what a close-knit community of faith can achieve! Read their story in full on the ECI website [here](#).



Pray and Fast for the Climate

With lovely summer weather we have an ideal opportunity to arrange a prayer walk with our churches. [Pray and Fast for the Climate](#) have some ideas and prayers that you may find useful as you plan a local prayer walk focusing on caring for the environment and climate change. Organising a short local prayer walk encourages people to take time out of busy lives to walk together, pausing at intervals to reflect and pray about local and global issues. Pray and Fast for the Climate have provided a very useful [Climate Prayer Walk](#) resource for use by groups and churches to assist in developing this practice.



News from the SMA Garden Project, Wilton, Cork

The Society of African Missions in Wilton, Cork has a beautiful garden which was created by Fr Tom Kearney SMA. It is a quiet place to reflect and pray and they harvest beautiful produce from it! You can see lots of photos of this garden on the [SMA website](#).



Here is what the parishioners say about their garden: 'Looking at creation we discover a great gift given to us and we learn to see ourselves in relation to all that God has created. This helps, or should help us, to respect our unique place as human beings in this world and our relationship to our surroundings. Looking at nature – it invites us to see nature as a wonderful book in which God speaks to us. Enjoying and tilling our garden we learn what a wonderful place the world is and our duty to look after and respect this gift of God. We learn that every little we do looking after and caring for this gift helps and shows our thanks to God.' Fr Maurice Henry SMA has written a statement '[How the State can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change](#)'.

Salesian Cosmology Team – Rethinking Ecological Education for a New Covenant with our Planetary Home

The Salesian Cosmology Team offered two second level schools in Limerick some valuable input on Care of our Common Home during the second and third term of this scholastic year. The young people were very receptive in both schools and it is hoped that the sections in their religious programme which deal with religious traditions and the environment will lead to a deeper awareness of responsibility and growth in planetary citizenship. They also hosted the visit of a leader from the Guarani Indigenous Community, Brazil, Ladio Veron. The Guarani community in Brazil has a total population of 47,000, and they have been trying to recover a small portion of their original land. However, they have been facing violent resistance from the wealthy ranchers and plantation owners. The tribe has lost almost 95% of its ancestral land to industrial scale biofuels, and sugarcane and soya plantations. Read their report in full [here](#).



Laudato Si' O Mi Signore! – Update from the Daughters of Charity

On 10 June the Daughters of Charity met again to review their year's work on Laudato Si. This day was a culmination of a whole year's work and the goal of the day was to identify one Province action that they could take to continue their efforts to live out the challenges of Laudato Si'. The Sisters spent some time in reflection, discussion and



group work seeking to find what one action they could embrace as a community to further their work. They decided that the one action they could all support was to work towards becoming an Eco-Congregation! Their final statement read: **'As a Province we commit to working towards becoming a member of Eco-Congregation Ireland'**. Read their full report on the [ECI website](#).

An Tairseach Update by Colette Kane OP

On 6th July members of the Eco-Congregation Ireland visited [An Tairseach, Dominican Farm and Ecology Centre](#), Wicklow town. Their mission was to see the work of the Centre and Farm as part of the process of An Tairseach's journey to becoming an Eco-Congregation. In the second week of July, Sr. Colette Kane OP directed a Summer School for Teachers on the Integrity of Creation. The course was called *Knowing our Place – From Stardust to Sand*. Coming up at An Tairseach: *Shine a light on Climate Justice – 14th September 2017* - a day's reflection on Climate Justice - can we change, must we change, will we change? Mr Raoul Empey of Sustineo will facilitate the day. *Creation, Evolution and Faith – 26 -29 September* - An Tairseach will host a three and half day course with the renowned author and speaker Dr. John Feehan. A botanist, geologist and some would say mystic, John will challenge us to think about what God is asking of us in an evolving universe. You can read An Tairseach's update in full and learn more about their upcoming events on the [ECI website](#). An Tairseach is on [Facebook](#) where you can read all their news and view photos of their wonderful events.

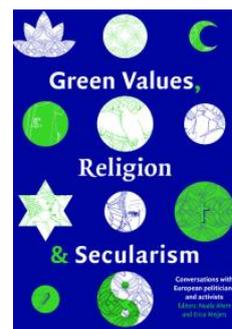


An Tairseach will be holding ten week sabbatical programmes entitled *Exploring Spirituality in the Context of An Expanding Universe; An Endangered Earth; The Christian Tradition*. Details as follows: Autumn: 3 September 2017-10 November 2017, Spring: 4 March 2018-11 May 2018. More information is available on [An Tairseach's website](#). The sabbatical brochure is available [here](#).



Green Values, Religion and Secularism: Conversations with European Green Politicians and Activists

Green Values, Religion and Secularism is a book published by [Green Foundation Ireland](#) in which Green politicians from different European contexts reflect on the relationship between politics and religion, both in their own lives and in society. Green Foundation Ireland is an educational charity with a vision of ecology and sustainability. You can download this publication for free [here](#).



FREE TCD/ISE MOOC on the Sustainable Development Goals – Register Now!

[Trinity International Development Initiative](#) is launching a Free Open Online Course in September 2017 on 'Achieving Sustainable Development.' Launching on 11 September 2017, and running for 4 weeks, registration is open now. This course critically considers key Sustainable Development Goals including peace, healthcare, sustainable cities, and water and sanitation. This course is aimed at anyone interested in the future of our world, and how we can improve it. The staff



Achieving Sustainable Development

Explore the interconnected challenges we face to create a sustainable world in this free online course

and students of the [Irish School of Ecumenics](#) feature in this massive on-line course. Researchers from other departments around Trinity exploring four more SDGs - Good Health and Well-Being; Clean Water and Sanitation; Sustainable Cities and Communities; and Gender Equality. Learn more on the [ECI website](#) and sign up for free at the [Futurelearn platform](#)!

Update from Ards Walled Community Garden, Co Donegal

Ards Walled Community Garden in Co Donegal is a beautiful facility situated in [Ards Friary](#) near Creeslough, in view of mighty Mount Muckish. In June there was an open day in the garden as part of Street Feast nationwide. Joanne Butler of [Organic Gardens in Gortahork](#) has been inspiring some 20 allotment holders and fervent gardeners. She helped the folks at Ards garden with practical advice and valuable seedlings. Ards Friary is under management of the Franciscans Capuchins. It is a stunning beautiful treasure in the heart of Donegal with at least six different types of soil: woodlands, wetlands, sand dunes, bogs, and others. There are wide vistas over the open Wild Atlantic from some of the well kept walking paths. You can read more of this report and see more photos on the [ECI website](#). The Ards Walled Community Garden is on [Facebook](#).



Presbyterian Church in Ireland – Stewardship of Creation Panel

At its recent General Assembly the [Presbyterian Church in Ireland](#) approved a document providing the context of the approach to be adopted by its Stewardship of Creation Panel in considering environmental issues. Joe Furphy is the Presbyterian representative on the Eco-Congregation Ireland committee and is also a member of the PCI Stewardship of Creation Panel. Read the [Stewardship of Creation document](#).



Eco challenge!

As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, the Jesuit Curia recently joined the [Flights for Forests](#) initiative. In response to Pope Francis' invitation to us all to acknowledge our environmental responsibility, the Jesuit Provincialate has taken the decision to commit to reflecting critically on its own use of air-travel. As part of this process, the [Jesuit Curia](#) will help offset the costs of air travel by making a regular donation to the Flights for Forest project. Is this something we consider when we fly around the world on holidays and business or church trips? Visit the [EcoJesuit](#) website to learn more.



Prayer for the Earth

National Holy Wells Day took place on 18 June. We were encouraged to become aware of how precious water is, visit a local Holy Well, pray for the protection of water and plan with others how you can protect the water in your area. The Diocese of Kerry gathered for early morning prayer at Tobar na Molt. The parishioners offered this prayer:

O God of all creation, teach us how to protect water on which all living things depend: plants, animals, fish, birds, humans. Help us to ensure that water may always flow freely and purely for all of your creation. May your Spirit soften our hearts and enlighten us so that we may act responsibly to protect water, the vital source of life in Our Common Home. Amen.



With kindest regards,

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