

Resource Booklet

Kerry Earth Week

Our Diocesan Celebration of
Creation and the Care of Creation



26th September - 4th October
2010

The Song of Amergin

I am a stag of seven tines,
I am a wide flood on a plain,
I am a wind on the deep waters,
I am a shining tear of the sun,
I am a hawk on a cliff,
I am fair among flowers,
I am a god who sets the head afire with smoke.
I am a battle waging spear,
I am a salmon in the pool,
I am a hill of poetry,
I am a ruthless boar,
I am a threatening noise of the sea,
I am a wave of the sea,
Who but I knows the secrets of the unhewn dolmen?

Cover

Artistic Feature: Amergin

(on the N21 between Castleisland and Abbeyfeale)
based on the lyrics of "The Song of Amergin".

Artist: Ronan Halpin, Keel, Achill Island, Co. Mayo.

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1. Themes

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| 1 | Celebrating & Enjoying Creation -enjoying, protecting, exploring, blessing.... |
| 2 | Biodiversity in your parish -trees, flowers, bogs, hedgerows, gardens, animals, birds, bees, bats |
| 3 | Waste Management Recycling; Reducing; Composting |
| 4 | Energy - church & home heating & insulation - lighting - renewable energy |
| 5 | Climate Change -Living more sustainably |
| 6 | Food -growing, eating, Fairtrade, shopping |
| 7 | Our Beautiful World - sky, water..... |
| 8 | Transport/Mobility -walking, cycling, car, bus, train, plane |
| 9 | Supporting Local Initiatives -Green schools, community gardens & allotments, tree planting, walking & bike trails, farmers' markets, tidy towns/villages/streets/roadways, Fairtrade, Transition Towns, heritage/eco events..... |

2. Possible Projects

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| 1 | Invite a speaker to the parish to give a talk on some aspect of the theme of care of God's creation. |
| 2 | Include the theme of care of God's creation in homilies, prayers of the faithful & examinations of conscience. |
| 3 | Conduct an environmental/ energy/transport audit of your parish. |
| 4 | Identify & celebrate initiatives on the theme being taken in the local community. |
| 5 | Explore and document and work to protect the biodiversity in the parish. |
| 6 | Set up a group in the parish to study the Bishops' pastoral reflection 'The Cry of the Earth' |
| 7 | Engage with statutory voluntary and community groups within the community to explore ways of working together to improve the local environment. |
| 8 | Look at areas in the parish to promote tree planting, vegetable gardens and various ecological & conservation projects. |
| 9 | Assess the level of waste and work to reduce this. |
| 10 | Work towards good environmental practice re waste management, recycling, energy etc in church properties and gradually extend this to parish householders. |

Read more ideas in 'The Cry of The Earth' What Can Our Parish Do?
Available on www.dioceseofkerry.ie/justice

3. Possible Speakers/Contacts

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| 1 | Michael O Coileán Environment Officer Kerry Co Council(KCC) | Tel 066- 7162017 mocoilea@kerrycoco.ie |
| 2 | Una Cosgrave Heritage Officer, KCC | Tel 066 7183815 Mob 087 939 8007 unacosgrave@kerrycoco.ie |
| 3. | Willie Moynihan, Adam Stack Energy Officers, KCC | Tel 066- 7183576 Tel 066- 7183871 |
| 4 | Member(s) of Franciscan Communities | Killarney |
| 5 | Dingle Area Maire Ni Leime Corca Dhuibhne Beo GIY, allotments, TT | Tel 086 158 1218 www.westkerrylive.ie www.corchadhuibhnebeo. www.dinglefood.com |
| 6 | Kerry Community Transport www.kerrytransport.ie | Carmel Walsh 087 227 6341 Alan O Connell 087 966 2948 Tel 066- 7147002 |
| 7 | Transition Towns Seamus O Hara Niamh Ni Dhuill | Tralee seamusohara@nekd.ie niamhnid@gmail.com |
| 8 | Kerry Astronomy Club | Paddy Stack Mob 087 6315179 |
| 9 | Kerry Earth Education Project | Tel 066- 7137862 Niamh Ni Dhuill/Ian McGrigor eartedkerry@eircom.net |
| 10 | Green School Coordinators | Contact your local school |
| 11 | Water Issues Kerry County Council | Mick Boyce / Jim Fox Tel 066- 7183500 |

4. Liturgies/ Prayers/Scripture

All available on
www.dioceseofkerry.ie/liturgy

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| 1. | Resources for Harvest Mass, Celebration of the Day for Life, Blessing of Boats |
| 2. | Modules from Ecocongregations.ie 2: Celebrating Creation 6: Exploring God's green word |
| 3. | Info & Resources on 'Creation Time' |
| 4. | St. Francis' Canticle of the Creatures |
| 5. | St. Patrick's Breastplate |
| 6. | Reflections on the theme of Creation, Earth, Ecology |
| 7. | Ways for groups to pray together - Prayer services |
| 8. | Hymns on the theme of Creation, Harvest, Care of God's creation |

5. Useful Websites

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| 1. | www.dioceseofkerry.ie/justice keep up to date with local initiatives, projects, events |
| 2. | www.ecocongregationsireland.org Resources, Support, Award for Parishes becoming 'eco-congregations' Monthly Newsletter (emailed -free) |
| 3. | www.catholicbishops.ie (for long version of 'The Cry of The Earth') |
| 4. | www.nanonaglebirthplace.ie (Nano Nagle Centre) |
| 5. | www.ctbi.org.uk (Info & Resources on 'Creation Time') |
| 6. | www.christian-ecology.org.uk |
| 7. | www.operationnoah.org |
| 8. | www.earthcharter.org |
| 9. | www.giy.com (grow it yourself) |
| 10. | www.transitiontowns.org |
| 11. | www.treecouncil.ie |
| 12. | www.livesimply.ie |
| 13. | www.fairtrade.ie |
| 14. | www.change.ie |
| 15. | www.sei.ie (Sustainable Energy Ireland) |
| 16. | www.ipcc.ie (Irish Peatland Conservation Council) |
| 17. | www.biodiversity.ie |
| 18. | www.culgreen.ie |

6. Books /Articles

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| 1. | The Cry of The Earth- A Pastoral Reflection |
| 2 | If You Want To Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation. Pope Benedict XIV, World Day of Peace Jan 2010 |
| 3 | Paint the Church Green-A Group Course Ellen Teague. Pub: Kevin Mayhew |
| 4 | Sustainable Living-The Presentation Congregation |
| 5 | Why are We Deaf to the Cry of the Earth? Sean Mc Donagh |
| 6 | Greening the Christian Millennium. Sean Mc Donagh |
| 7 | 'Going to the Fathers House' -Pastoral Letter Bishop Bill Murphy.1999 |
| 8 | Poetry: J M Plunkett, G M Hopkins, Mary Oliver..... |
| 9 | Chief Seattle's Testimony |
| 10 | The Man Who Planted Trees. Jean Giono |
| 11 | The Earth Charter. Values & Principles for a Sustainable Future |
| 12 | Between the Flood and the Rainbow- Climate Change and the Church's Social Teaching. A Study Guide. Operation Noah |
| 13 | Becoming a Green Christian. Ellen Teague. Pub: Kevin Mayhew |
| 13 | Various Downloadable Modules: Eco Congregations |
| 14 | The Year Round Organic School Garden. Lucy Bell, Niamh Ní Dhúil & Áine Ní Fhlatharta. Kerry Earth Education Project & The Irish Seed Savers |

7. Local & National Organisations & Groups

(* see page on Useful Websites)

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| 1 | Transition Towns* |
| 2 | Killarney Conservation Group |
| 3 | Croi Ciarrai, Miltown, Co Kerry |
| 4 | Kerry Earth Education Project |
| 5 | Kerry County Council (Various Depts) |
| 6 | Shanakill Organic Community Garden, Tralee |
| 7 | KASI Garden, Ballycasheen, Killarney |
| 8 | Gortbrack Organic Farm, Ballyseedy. |
| 9 | Tralee Community Garden, Town Park |
| 10 | Kerry Bicycle Festival* |
| 11 | Kerry Community Transport* |
| 12 | Eco Congregations Ireland* |
| 13 | Killarney Tidy Towns |
| 14 | Irish Peatland Conservation Council* |
| 15 | Sustainable Energy Ireland* |
| 16 | Fairtrade* (National & Local) |
| 17 | Knockreer Education Centre (Killarney) |
| 18 | StreamScapes (streamscapes@eircom.net) |

Notes on Parish Plans & Ideas:

Booklet prepared by Kerry Diocesan Justice,
Peace & Creation Committee June 2010
www.dioceseofkerry.ie/justice

Kerry Earth Week is supported by Local
Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund &
Kerry Co Council.

Kerry Earth Day was first held in 1999.

It is organised by the Kerry Diocesan Justice, Peace & Creation Committee in conjunction with other individuals and groups and **aims** to give participants the opportunity to enjoy and experience ways to live lightly, joyfully and responsibly within God's creation.

This year it has become **Kerry Earth Week** and all parishes across the Diocese are being invited to take part and make this

"A Diocesan Celebration of Creation and the Care of Creation"

It is also hoped that this week may be of support to making the Integrity of Creation an ongoing and integral part of diocesan and parish life.

"Every action taken in favour of a just and more sustainable environment, no matter how small has an intrinsic value"

From 'The Cry of the Earth'.

Contacts

Kerry Diocesan Justice, Peace & Creation Committee

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