

Blessing of the Diocese conducted by Bishop Phonsie Cullinan
on Sunday September 27th, 2020

I invoke the blessing of Almighty God, on this Diocese of Waterford & Lismore. From West Waterford, in particular the ancient site of Ardmore where St. Declan preached the faith at the beginnings of Christian evangelization here and from the seat of St. Carthage at Lismore, from here to Crook, and on all the parishes along the coastline, to our city of Waterford and to all the towns and villages in our Diocese, to all the parishes along the Suir and Blackwater and in the Nire valley, on all the parishes in the north of the Diocese in Co. Tipperary and all the parishes in and around the Comeraghs and Knockmealdowns.

God's blessing on all homes and families,

On our hospitals and nursing homes and on all places of work,

All our schools and colleges

On all the children and the elderly,

On all our priests and religious,

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your consolation and peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and strength. Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they serve.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us trust in you.

Lord Jesus Christ, banish this pestilence from our midst. We ask this through the powerful intercession of Our Mother Mary, especially under the title of Our Lady of Knock.

St. Joseph pray for us, St. Michael the Archangel pray for us.

St. Declan – pray for us, St. Patrick – pray for us.

St. Ita – pray for us, St. Carthage – pray for us

St. Otteran – pray for us, Bl. Edmund Ignatius Rice– pray for us

Little Nellie of Holy God– pray for us