

Sr Mary Carmody

Born on a farm in North Kerry where I was nourished in the midst of a natural habitat rich in biodiversity. For me Ecology was caught, not taught. Primary school days were spent in the local two teacher Primary School. We walked to and from school and had a very happy natural basic education. Secondary school was in St. Leos, Carlow Entered the Mercy Community in St. Leos and after teacher training spent many years teaching in primary school. Also worked with many and varied ventures with the St. V de Paul Society. I had a dream of having a garden where both wild and cultivated life could enrich each other. After finishing in school I went to Genesis Farm in New Jersey USA to get immersed in an Earth Literacy Programme. This was followed by an MA course in Ecology and Religion organised by Dalgan in conjunction with Lampeter University. Following the 'eye openers' of these courses I got the opportunity to 'Walk the Talk' so I started a Community Garden and Wildlife Area in the shadow of the Wicklow hills in Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow in 2005.

Jim Farrell

Jim Farrell is a member of the Diocese of Raphoe Justice Peace and Integrity Group which was launched in February 2014 whose aims are to promote peace and justice by identifying local and global issues of injustice and its root causes and working with others where appropriate to educate and empower the community to take action. He has been part of a campaign to create awareness about Climate Change and Climate Justice through the Raphoe JPIC group in partnership with Trocaire and Eco-Congregation Ireland and in delivering the GLAS programme at parish level. He also was part of a team of Trocaire volunteers who visited Ethiopia in November 2014 and was involved in the 2015 Trocaire Lenten Campaign.

Sylvia Thompson

A native of Co. Limerick, now living in Kerry, Sylvia has been part of the Diocese of Kerry Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Committee since its inception in the lead up to the Millennium. Sylvia started her work for justice many years ago with Pax Christi, Catholic peace movement and has lived and worked in various countries, most recently in Peru in association with the Columbans. Now back in Kerry Sylvia is active at various levels to try to build a community where there is an active and practical reaching out and caring for the stranger, the neighbour and for all of creation in cooperation with people of faith and others of good will. This includes the promotion of Earth Week in the diocese, being part of a renewable energy group (Transition Kerry), growing her own, Fairtrade Tralee, and sharing the mountains of Kerry with newcomers!