



## NEWSLETTER | ISSUE 17

### THANK YOU!

An enormous debt of gratitude is owed to all volunteers who have supported this year's Lenten campaign and our work in Ukraine. As you can see in this collage, there have been lots of activities as the country was slowly getting back into face to face meetings. Read on for more photos and stories.



**Trócaire**

# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Northern Ireland

Matching your  
donations with  
**UKaid**

Once again this Lent, the UK government committed to match all donations made to the Lenten Appeal in NI. Trócaire is the only organisation outside England receiving this match funding. We are very grateful for the support it will provide for people in Zimbabwe and beyond.

Thank you to all the volunteers who supported us over Lent with mass talks, altar displays and for the many visits to schools after Easter to collect fundraising cheques!



James McKeown receiving cheques from Moneynick Primary School (left) and from Mount St Michael's PS, Randalstown (below).





# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Northern Ireland

Cheque presentation at St Joseph's College, Belfast with Don Wildy (far left).

With (from left to right): Caitlin, Head Girl, Fr McGinnity and Pamela Whyte, Head of Religious Studies.



Carmel McCartan (back row left), doing a cheque presentation at Our Lady & St Patrick's Primary School in Downpatrick.

The kids organised a bake sale and raised £3,661.

Ann McGirr surrounded by the pupils at Grange Primary School in Kilkeel who raised £738.70.



# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Northern Ireland

Trócaire's 'Hope Springs Eternal' concert took place in Clonard Friday 20 May. 800 people packed out the famous Clonard Monastery and were richly entertained by The Priests, Margaret Keys and the award-winning St Dominic's school choir. Two of our volunteers Teresa Hill (below left) and Pauline Gormley provided some much needed help at what was a very busy but hugely rewarding event! So far over £12,700 was raised at the event, all of which will now be matched £1 for £1 by UK Aid Match.





# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Galway/Limerick

Bertie introduced the Face of Resistance exhibition to the Gaeltacht. The Irish version of the exhibition was held in Ros Muc (Connemara) between 11 March and 10 May and was viewed by 3,000 people.

Pictured at the launch on 4 April (from left to right): Galway volunteers Geraldine, Regina, Caoimhe de Barra (Trócaire CEO), Bertie, Marie-Anne and Jerry Liston (featuring on the exhibition).



Galway volunteers (right, from left to right) Bertie, Regina and Geraldine with young helper Aisling get support from Bishop Brendan Kelly to launch the Lenten campaign outside Galway Cathedral.



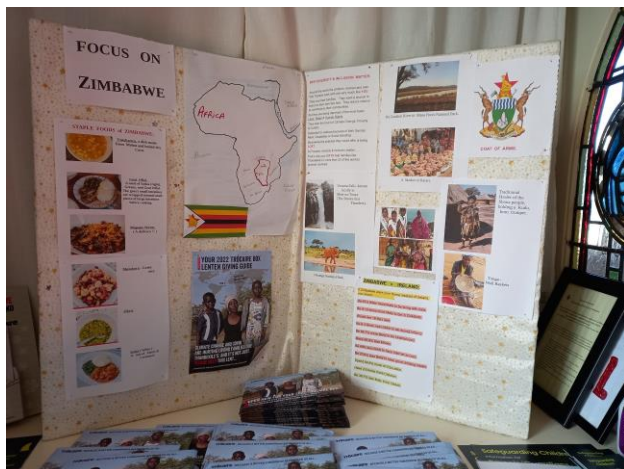
Bertie in Gaelscoil de hÍde, Roscomáin. Laoise Nic an Rí, Deputy Principal, said: "We had a really lovely visit from Bertie today. He was so interesting and he spoke fluent Irish which was wonderful."

The school raised €400 by busking for *Trad For Trócaire* in the local supermarket.



# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Galway/Limerick



Mary spoke at mass in Ballingarry Church, Sat 19 and in Granagh church (pictures left) Sun 20 March.

She had made beautiful displays in both churches (Granagh is above left)

Noel (below) spoke in St Mary's parish the 12 March and wrote an article for the parish newsletter early March.



### LENT 2022 | A Better Tomorrow



Meet Thandekile, Nomatter and Forward

Thandekile is a 31 year old mother of two children. Her daughter is Nomatter aged 11, and her son is Forward aged 8. Thandekile and her family are facing hunger because Covid-19 has compounded the effects of drought caused by climate change, and reduced the ways in which people can earn a living. After losing her husband, Doreen (35), to Covid-19, she now hopes that the love of strangers can help her and her children to survive. Thandekile's greatest fear is that she will die from Covid-19 and there will be no one to look after her children. The impact of Covid-19 has been felt greatly by Thandekile and her community in Zimbabwe. Thandekile places great trust in her faith and what she says about the Lord's Prayer is truly inspirational: 'The Lord's Prayer gives me courage, hope and strength in tough situations'. My hope is that my children will be able to continue in school and be successful in life. The greatest gift that people can give to one another in life is food and money because we need it to survive. What gives me hope is that I am still alive despite all that we have been through as a family. Whatever the problems you have been through in life, it is important to dust yourself off and move on, have hope and work hard for the children even if it's very difficult. I thank the people of Ireland for all the help you give to us. Please do not tire.

Thandekile believes that it is always possible for things to get better. Nomatter and Forward go to the local primary school. Before they walk to school, they fetch water from the borehole, wash the dishes and mop the floors in their one-room home. With the help of Trócaire supporters in Ireland, however, the family can dare to dream of a brighter future where they can provide for themselves. This Lent, Trócaire supporters in Ireland are helping Thandekile and thousands like her by providing them with the tools, equipment, knowledge and support they need to ensure they can grow enough food for themselves going forward, despite the impacts of climate change and Covid-19.

You can help Trócaire by taking home a Trócaire box or contacting them at:

www.trOCAIRE.org  
Trócaire Head Office, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 NX63  
T. 01 629 3333 E. info@trOCAIRE.org



# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Galway/Limerick

Canon Mícheál Liston of the Limerick Diocese recently launched his bilingual memoir; 'Gníomh Úrnua – A New Deed' which tells the story of his life journey and his creation of the Muintearas Íosa youth ministry movement. Canon Mícheál was joined at the launch (below right) by Bishop Brendan Leahy, Bishop of Limerick, Bishop Donal Murray, Bishop Emeritus along with the newly ordained Bishop Martin Hayes and Bishop Ger Nash. Bishop Martin and Bishop Ger both participated in Muintearas Íosa during their time at the University of Limerick. Canon Mícheál is kindly donating the proceeds of sales of his book at the launch to Trócaire, a total of €2,050. Special thanks to Rose for the support.



## *Launch of 'A New Deed'*

in support of Trócaire



# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Cork/Kerry

Huge thanks to our volunteers in Cork and Kerry for such incredible support for the Lenten Campaign.

In your local parishes, you spoke at Masses and created beautiful displays such as Ina Bourke's (left) from the Parish of Churchtown-Liscarroll and Mary Morrissey's (right) in her church of Shanballymore.



Trócaire's CEO, Caoimhe de Barra and Father Michael Murphy, Trócaire's Diocesan Representative for Cork and Ross Diocese (above), at the launch of our Lenten Campaign on Daly's Bridge in Cork.

Pictured below holding her Trócaire box is Sr. Brid Biggane from North Cork who speaks at Masses each Lent.





# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Cork/Kerry

John and Mary Moriarty from The Moriarty School of Music and Dance, Kilcummin, Co. Kerry are pictured right at the cheque collection. They organised a concert in Killarney (dancers below left) and raised €4,050 to support the people of Ukraine. Thanks to volunteers Mary and Joan for supporting the event.



Pictured right are Don Ryan from Cobh and his team of staff who arranged a blue-and-yellow day at work to stand in solidarity with all Ukrainians who have been forced to flee their home due to conflict.



Special thanks to Kerry volunteer, Marian from Castlemaine who offered huge administrative support for this year's Church Lenten collection – thank you Marian.

# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Cork/Kerry



Trócaire boxes from the third class pupils of Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Ferrybank in Co. Waterford.



First year students of Coláiste an Chraoibhin from Fermoy in Co. Cork, who with the help of their teacher, Aoideen Hickey held a bake-sale and walk fundraiser to raise proceeds for our work.

Cork Centre staff Elaine Hill with students and staff of Coláiste an Phiarsaigh in Glanmire, Co. Cork (right) who raised €1,100 for Trócaire's Ukraine Appeal.



Rathmore Social Action Group in Kerry (left) raised €6,335.59 for Ukraine Appeal through a youth community initiative supported by Trócaire's Martina O'Donoghue from Barraduff.



# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Leinster

Grace spoke at mass in Brackenstown Parish on the 12 and 13 March. She was welcomed by Fr Paul Thornton (picture here with Grace).



Julia and Peter Keane travelled to Kingscourt parish in County Cavan to speak at mass. This beautiful display for Lent greeted them in the church.

Frank O'Meara joined us at the Game Changers event on the 18<sup>th</sup> May. He is pictured here with Karen Casey, Head of Outreach for Trócaire.



## IN MEMORY OF MARTIN DUMMIGAN

On 26th of April 2022 we were devastated to lose our good friend and long term Trócaire volunteer, Martin Dummigan from Lurgan, County Armagh.

Martin volunteered with us for over 10 years and was a prolific speaker on our behalf. There was nothing he loved more than getting out and about during Lent, speaking at masses and in schools. In the three years pre-covid (Lent 2017, 2018 & 2019) Martin spoke at 77 masses and in 36 schools, reaching thousands of people of all ages and walks of life! His passion and enthusiasm for our work was unending and his commitment to getting our message out there was inspiring.

Martin was a human rights activist to the core and was simply full of empathy for those who are the most vulnerable in our society. He was a Union Rep for many years and in his retirement not only gave generously of his time to Trócaire but also to a charity working with homeless people in Belfast.

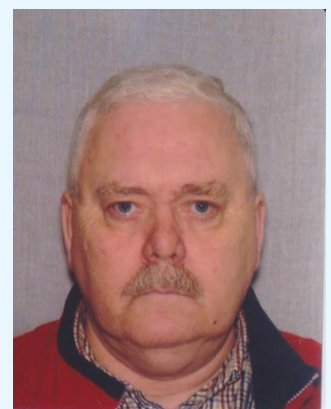
He also had a great sense of humour and was a joy to have at our Volunteer training sessions in Belfast. Even when he sent in this photo for his ID badge he wrote underneath "my wife and kids reckon with a mug like this they'll not let me in anywhere".

We shall miss his boundless energy, his insightfulness and his compassion.

Rest in Peace Martin



*Martin at St Patrick's College Dungannon a couple of years ago.*





# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Webinars

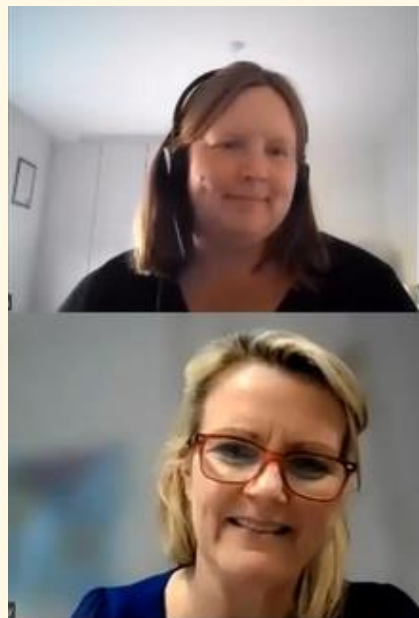
### **19<sup>th</sup> May 2022:**

Anna Keegan and Janet Twomey held a webinar on Synod and Trócaire's contribution to it.

Anna explained to us all about Synodality and about climate and environmental justice, and support of women's and girls' protection, voice, and leadership. Trócaire is of the view that these are important themes that should be discussed at the Irish and Universal Synods.

Thanks to Ina and Mary for reading the opening and closing prayers.

If you missed the session, you can watch it here: <https://vimeo.com/713235845> (ask your local contact for the password)



### **Summer webinars to look forward to:**

- 15th June 2022 – Women's Empowerment, 5-6pm
- 20th July 2022 - Trócaire's Strategic Plan 2021-2025, 5-6pm
- 21st September 2022 – Trócaire's work in Occupied Palestinian Territories, 5-6pm.

You can now register for these webinars at this link:

<https://trocaire-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZArcOiopz4sGtMmTE8X3nTgZugQjxbL7bOQ>

# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Campaigns group

### 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022:

At the latest campaigns group meeting, Michael O'Brien, Policy Advisor, gave an update on vaccine equity and the need to keep campaigning for it.

Jeannie introduced us to Roberta and Deborah from Conflict Textiles who explained the new idea for the Business and Human Rights campaign.

If you missed the session, you can watch it here:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7390141/video/695662976> (ask your local contact for the password)

## CONFLICT TEXTILES

Eleven volunteers from all parts of Ireland are creating their own textile to highlight an issue they're passionate about related to corporate and environmental justice (see one already made below right). All these put together will create a unique textile to raise awareness of the irresponsible actions of some big businesses.

Volunteers have met every two weeks since the 4<sup>th</sup> May for workshops to support them along the way and are now creating beautiful textiles. The textile will be launched at a public event in Belfast in October and will tour around Ireland to encourage action to help ensure people and the planet are prioritised over profit.





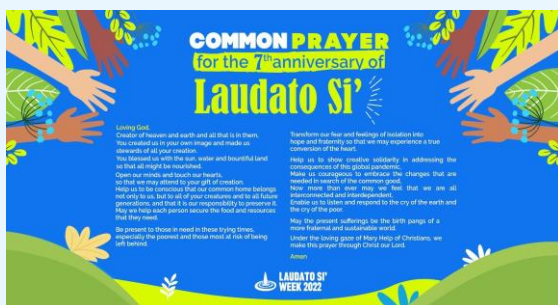
## LAUDATO SI'

LAUDATO SI'  
WEEK 2022

It is seven years since Pope Francis published his landmark encyclical "Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home."

Laudato Si' Week took place from 22 to 29 May 2022. The theme was "Listening and Journeying Together" and was guided by the following quote from Laudato Si':

"Bringing the human family together to protect our common home" (LS 13). Throughout the week there were a series of online global events on biodiversity, responding to the cry of the poor, fossil fuel divestment, ecological education, and eco-spirituality.



*"Injustice is not invincible... Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life". (LS, 74, 207).*

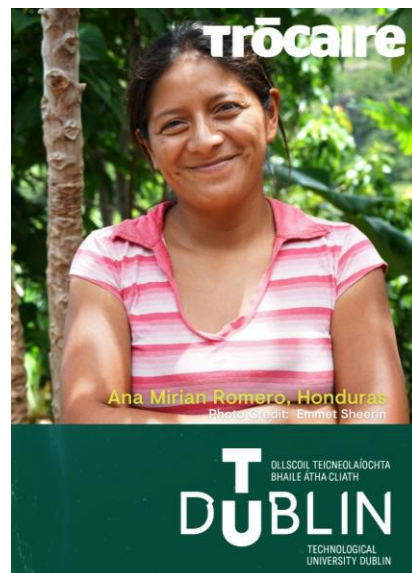
The Laudato Si' Week prayer is available here:

<https://laudatosimovement.org/news/laudato-si-week-2022-prayers/>

**Caring for Our Common Home – A Photographic Exhibition Inspired by Human Rights Defenders and Laudato Si'.** TU Dublin Grangegorman, 31 May–30 July 2022.

This photographic exhibition celebrates the courage and determination of those who have taken a stand against big business in support of a safer, cleaner and more just world. We are all invited to consider how we might play our part.

Public launch: 8 June, 7pm (contact us for more info)



## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Goal 2 of Trócaire's new Strategic Plan 2021-25 is on Climate and Environmental Justice: *Supporting communities to sustain their livelihoods and to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation.* Here is an example of what we do to help.

In 2020 Judith Mukacyubahiro, proud mother-of-two jumped at the opportunity to participate in Trócaire's biodiversity programme funded by Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA). She is hoping her new rabbit enterprise will give the family the financial security they need to survive.

The project aims to empower rural communities living around Nyungwe National Park (Rwanda) to manage their land and natural resources in a sustainable, economical and environmentally friendly way.

The project provided participants with livestock, including rabbits and chickens. This helped reduce the poaching of animals and protect the biodiversity of Nyungwe National Park, one of Africa's oldest rainforests. Last year, Judith received three rabbits (one male and two females) through the project and was given training on how to look after them properly.

11,291 people will benefit directly from the project, of which 60% are girls 40% are men and boys. Indirectly, the project will reach a minimum of 64,709 people from the three targeted sectors in Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru District.



Judith with her rabbits. She received three rabbits who after a few months gave birth to kits.

Photo credit: Ms. Nyiramana Agnes, one of the community facilitators in Nyamagabe District, Buruhukiro Sector, Munini Cell, Gitovu village.



**YOUR LOCAL  
CONTACT**

**Cork/Kerry:**

Janet Twomey – [janet.twomey@trocaire.org](mailto:janet.twomey@trocaire.org)

**Northern Ireland:**

Roisin O'Hara – [roisin.ohara@trocaire.org](mailto:roisin.ohara@trocaire.org)

Mark McMahon – [mark.mcmahon@trocaire.org](mailto:mark.mcmahon@trocaire.org)

**Dublin/North Leinster and Galway/Limerick:**

Marie-Anne Michel – [marieanne.michel@trocaire.org](mailto:marieanne.michel@trocaire.org)