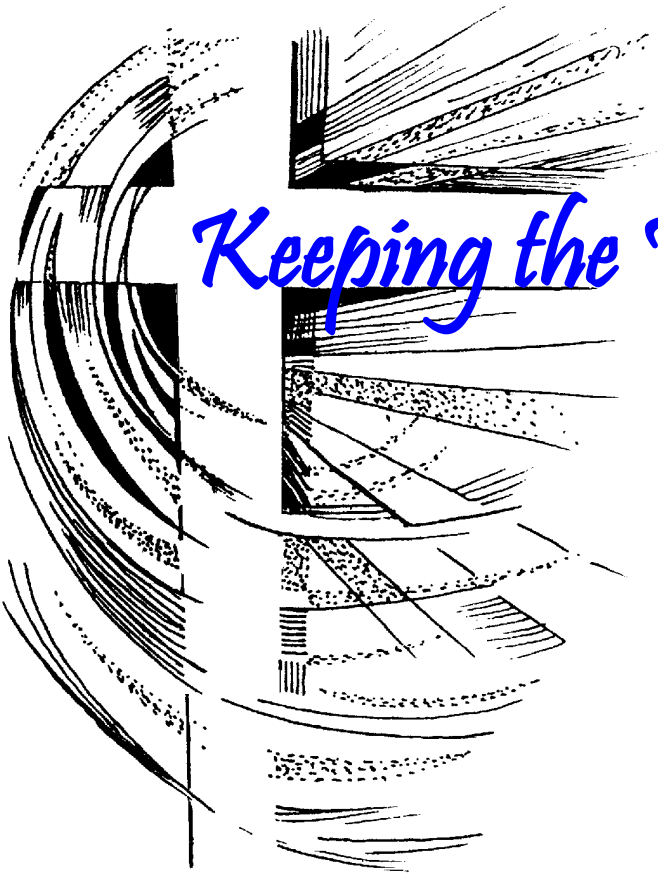


Limerick Diocesan Youth Project 2011/2012

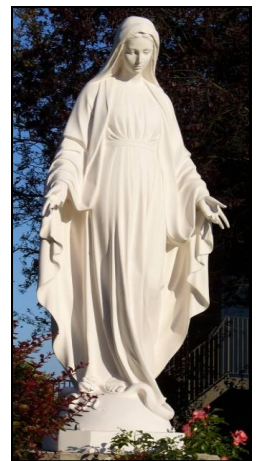


Keeping the Faith...

The Christian faith has a rich and varied history of traditions and customs that reach back through the generations. However we are in danger of losing these traditions, so this year we are asking for your help in gathering and recording them to keep them safe for future generations.

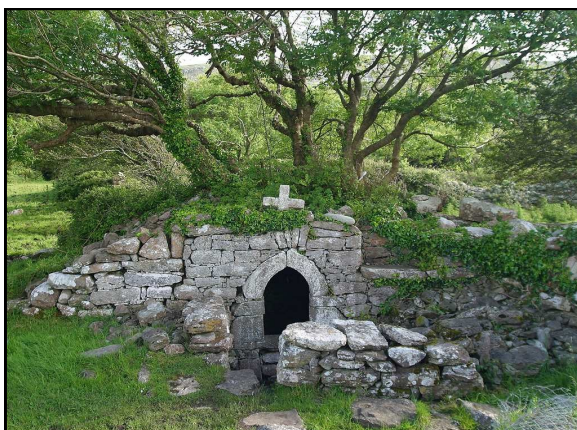


These customs and traditions can be particular to certain areas or events and to certain generations and times of the year. Your great-grandparents may remember certain traditions associated with local saints, your grandparents may remember praying the Angelus and the Rosary at home every day and fasting every Friday, your parents might remember having May Altars at home or in school. We would encourage your students to talk to their parents/grandparents/neighbours etc about faith traditions that they remember and then write up their findings.



Please turn over for more information

Please contact Aoife/Chris for entry forms or queries 061-400133 or awalsh@ldpc.ie



Information for Teachers / Project Co-ordinator

- We hope that this project will be an opportunity for schools and parishes to collaborate in a very real way as it will give younger people a chance to talk to the older generation about their faith experience. We also hope that it will provide a rich resource that will help to preserve the unique faith traditions and customs of our Diocese. Any valuable material we collect as a part of this project will be forwarded to Mary Immaculate College and to our Diocesan Archivists. There is already a precedent for this type of project as you can read about below.
- In 1937 the Irish Folklore Commission, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Irish National Teachers' Organisation, initiated a revolutionary scheme in which schoolchildren were encouraged to collect and document folklore and local history. Over a period of eighteen months some 100,000 children in 5,000 primary schools were encouraged to collect folklore material in their home districts. The topics about which the children were instructed to research and write included local history and monuments, folktales and legends, riddles and proverbs, songs, customs and beliefs, games and pastimes, traditional work practices and crafts, etc. The children collected this material mainly from their parents and grandparents and other older members of the local community or school district. Now known as the Schools' Manuscript Collection, the scheme resulted in more than half a million manuscript pages of valuable material.
- The information collected by the students can be submitted in whatever form best suits your approach to this project, whether it be written or printed. Some students may wish to present their work on Charts or as Power-point presentations etc.
- Here are some possible traditions, customs that young people may wish to discover more about: local Saints Day... St. Brigid's, Holy Well, November, St. Blaise, General Sunday mass - fasting on Fridays, funeral traditions, weddings, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween, Christmas, Easter, confession, Holy medals, Novena's, Pilgrimages, Confraternities, Holy obligations, Corpus Christi, May Altar, Sacred Heart, Holy water, journeys. Bless the perimeter - May Eve, Our Lady's Islands, Rosary, Angelus,
- We suggest that students speak to at least three people (they can use the entry form as a guide in terms of the questions they could ask).
- If students are unsure about who they could interview maybe a coffee morning could be held to meet with local parishioners after a week day morning mass. Or they could perhaps visit a local convent/monastery to interview people there.
- Each project must be accompanied by an entry form.
- The closing date for submission of projects is March 30th 2012