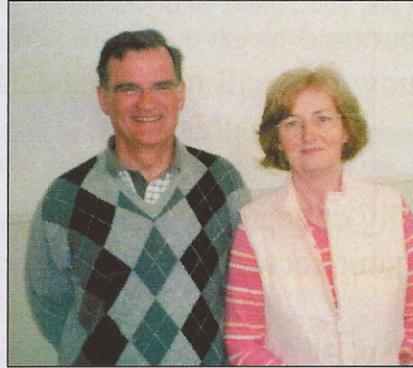


Teams of Our Lady

NEWSLETTER



IRISH REGION Summer 2011 (Issue 86)



Pat and Carmel Cuneen

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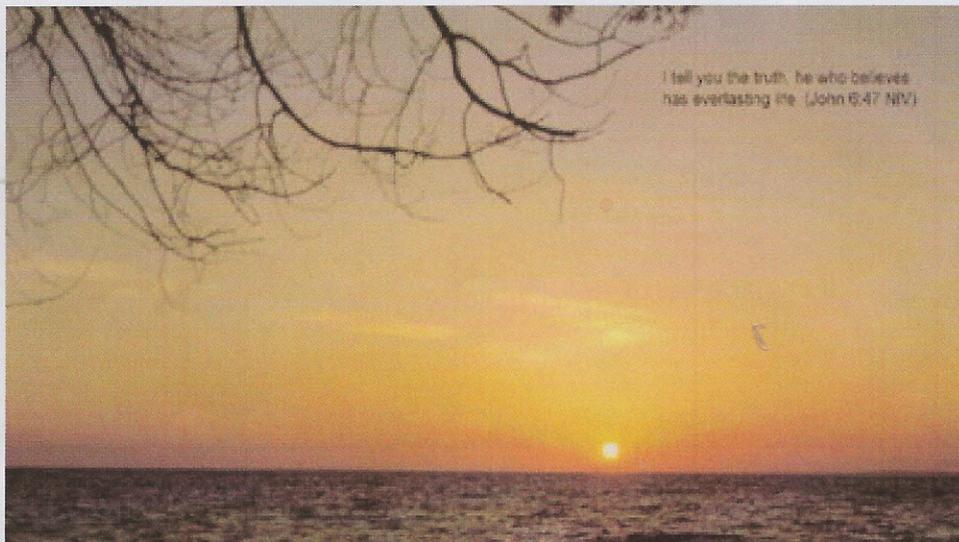
From the Regional Couple

Scripture readings at this time, Eastertide, Pentecost, remind us of early Christian Church. We have been reminded in our life in Teams about community too. We 'are turned towards the Father and welcome His love', 'we share this love'. Like the early Christians, 'we send our members into the world to reveal this world to others'. We have personally been conscious on these points studying the teachings of Fr Caffarel. Even more recently we have shared the joy of hear-

ing a team, under piloting, express that sense of community. 'It is fellowship and mutual help which should provide the Team couples with the security that so many others seek in material things alone' is how Fr Caffarel expressed it. We share our faith at our meeting and our struggles too. There are demands too. Pope John Paul II.. 'your movement has developed its own pedagogy, based on 'concrete points of endeavour' which help you as a couple to grow together in

holiness'. Love must be the motivation for the community, love for God, love for each other. At a practical level we accept one another unconditionally, we witness and inspire through our sharings. Fr Greely describes(Teams).. 'a fellowship of believers which in a visible way reflects the invisible mystery of the union of God and His people'. We should be thankful for this calling, this gift. Wishing all a great holiday period.

Pat and Carmel Cunneen



I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. (John 6:47 NIV)

From the Treasurers

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

It is that time of year again when we need to raise the issue of contributions.

As you know we are encouraged to give, where possible, one day's pay or whatever you can afford. We know you will make a special effort to help the Movement this year.

Contributions are normally collected at the June assessment meeting and can be forwarded to your sector couple or directly to ourselves at:

**No. 46A Leopardstown Grove
Blackrock
Dublin 18**

Tel No. 01 2884405

We hope and trust you are all well.

God bless

Sheila and Michael Foley



Mullingar: "Group taken at Jerry and Maeve Cliffords' house to welcome the Super-Regional Couple, Antony and Janet Denman"

Scripture Readings

Being ready and alert to answer God's Call

One of the marvels of Christian life is that fact that, as loved sinners made new by God's mercy, we are invited by Jesus to be his disciples. When we turn our attention to Jesus in the gospels, we can come to a deeper knowledge and love of him and his ways.

God, in that encounter with Jesus, stirs us with love and transforms our minds, and choices so that, as the process of conversions unfolds, we become a fuller reflection of Christ for our own time in human history.

June 2011.

If a human leader can have an appeal to us, how much greater is the attraction of the God-Man Jesus Christ
Matthew 16:24-26. & John 4: 34.

What role have heroes and heroines played in my life? Who have been the mentors and models whose lives and values have inspired me?

What dreams, values and issues stir my passionate concern at this time in my life?

July 2011

Whoever wishes to join me in this mission must be willing to labour with me, and so by following me in struggle and suffering may share with me in glory.

Matthew 21: 28-32 & Luke 12:22-31

What is there about the person and priorities of Jesus which has drawn me into being a Christian disciple?
In all honesty, what do I hesitate to give up or to do in order to better respond to God's call?

August 2011

I desire to deepen my faith and trust in God who has become human in Jesus. I try to enter into the vision of God and with God can I hear people laughing, crying, some shouting and screaming, some praying, others cursing.

Luke 1: 26-38

What aspects of being human are delightful to me? What aspects can be burdensome?

In what areas of my life am I being asked to say "yes" as Mary did?

September 2011

God knows the time has come when the mystery of salvation, hidden from the beginning of the world, will shine into human darkness and confusion.

John 1: 1-18. & Isaiah 9: 1-6

How do I respond through the use of my gifts and talents to the "groaning of all creation"?

From God's goodness, I have received "grace upon grace" Which ones surface for me at this moment and what might be the significance of that awareness or memory?

International News

With Brasilia approaching closer day-by-day, the Satellite Teams are in the process of finishing up their work in a spirit of communion and internationalism. We talk about a spirit of communion because it involves a service that is accomplished out of love for the Teams of Our Lady and its member couples and about a spirit of internationalism because each idea is worked through in such a way as to respect and accept all cultures with a view to enriching our dear Movement.

Let us remind you what our preoccupation was back in October 2007 when the various works were launched at Fatima and Rio. At that time, together with the generous 'yes' given by the couples involved in the Satellite Teams, we began our work under the protection of Mary our Mother and with the intercession of Father Caffarel.

It cannot be said that the road was easy, but for us, the coordinating couple of these teams, it was a time of apprenticeship, discovery, humility and above all, great spiritual richness.

Getting to know all these couples from the different Zones, discovering and presenting the most 'adequate' way that corresponds to the time we live in, was a concrete sign of the need for the Teams of Our Lady to be present in today's world.

We tried to answer all the requests made by the Super-Regions and Regional Leaders at the Durham College Gathering in July 2007 by identifying all the subjects that were of importance to them.

As you know, from then on two types of Satellite Teams were defined: the first kind were permanent and in office for the same amount of time as the current International Leading Team (ERI), while the second kind were more temporary in character and dealt with a specific topic/question and finished up once they had exhausted the subject.

The two permanent teams, relating to Education and Training, will continue their work until the end of this year.

The Education Satellite Team has been working intensively and has already finished a document relating to the Team meeting as well as two study topics: "The Team Meeting" and "The Mystery of the Endeavours and the Sharing". It is currently finishing up its last study topic on "The Mission".

The Training Satellite Team is also developing an in-depth work on training in the Movement, entitled "Training in the Teams of Our Lady Movement". Various notes and cards concerning both specific and permanent training will accompany this document and are currently undergoing the final editorial process.

Various Super-Regions and Regional Leaders already use these notes and cards for specific training and have adapted them to the particular nature of each region.

Some temporary Satellite Teams have already finished and presented their work which are now available to the Super-Regions and the Regional Leaders. The latter are now able to use these documents that have been prepared precisely with their needs in mind.

This is the case with the Father Caffarel Satellite Team that worked on the publication of the booklet entitled "Henri Caffarel: Prophet of the Sacrament of Marriage", which was handed out to all couples in the Movement that they may learn about our founder's thinking on marriage.

This was also the case with the Elder Teams Satellite Team that produced a document called "The Teams of Our Lady and their elders", once the Super-Regions and Regional Leaders had given

their feedback and suggestions. This document was also distributed to all Super-Regions and Regional Leaders so that they could make it available to all interested couples.

"Young couples and the Teams of Our Lady Movement Today! What does that mean?" is the name of a document produced by the Young Couples Satellite Team. It grew out of the replies to an enquiry and questionnaire issued to all young couples in the Movement throughout the world. It is also available to Super-Regions and Regional Leaders so that Team members may use it.

The last team, the Married Spirituality Satellite Team (March 2009) is in the final phase of its work. This team was set up to provide answers to the final orientation of the Letter of Lourdes: Missionaries of the Sacrament of Marriage. As you know this subject is very particular to and important for the Teams of Our Lady Movement, since it embodies the very charisma of our Movement, the axis upon which the whole Movement turns.

We would like to add that these documents that are produced over long hours of work on the computer are finalized at an annual meeting attended by all who can make it. At this meeting, we managed to overcome obstacles that seemed insurmountable. By reading the Word of God and by being collegial, we felt how strong the action of the Holy Spirit was.

The last two meetings we attended were indeed examples of the gifts received by a community assembled in the name of the Lord. This resulted in good communication with each other and a general consensus that seemed difficult to reach at the outset.

We feel that most of the Satellite Teams continue to work with the same joy and enthusiasm of the first days. We would also like to underline the team spirit that they have developed. Today all these couples, from different parts of the world, are an integral part of each other's lives.

We are happy to bear witness to how the spirit of our Movement is experienced and practiced in communities made up of couples from very different countries and cultures. Every day we confide to the Lord the Satellite Teams entrusted to us (and who have given us so much), certain in the knowledge that He will bless their work and their families.

Tó et Zé



" Galway teams welcome Antony and Janet"

At home with the Trinity

There is a story that St. Augustine was walking on the beach, contemplating the mystery of the Trinity. Then he saw a boy in front of him who had dug in the sand and was using his little bucket to fetch sea water and empty it into the hole he had made.

'What are you trying to do?' he asked the child.

'I'm going to pour the entire ocean into this hole'

'That is impossible. The whole ocean will not fit into the hole you have made' said the saint sensibly.

'And you cannot fit the Trinity in your tiny brain' retorted the boy.

The little boy was quite right of course. The Trinity is a mystery which we will never even begin to understand. However, that does not mean that we should not engage and reflect on what is the core of our being and in whose image we are made. The Trinity is the perfect relationship and since relationship is what Teams is about, we might well look at the ideal.

St. Ignatius of Loyola had a great devotion to the Trinity, as he tells us in his autobiography and he would pray daily to each divine person.

'One day while reciting the Office of Our Lady on the steps of the same monastery his understanding began to be raised up as if he saw the most Holy Trinity under the figure of three (organ) keys'. (1) He describes how he became very emotional and at dinner could not talk about anything else but the Trinity. Two things strike me here. One is that he was reciting the office of Our Lady when this enlightenment came to him. Mary seems always to have had a presence at crucial moments of Ignatius' life. It is my belief that she opened up the feminine, intuitive part of himself, so that he experienced rather than rationalized the Trinity as Augustine had done. Secondly the event, whatever it was had a lasting effect on him.

Ignatius was given the image of organ keys. The organ is a magnificent instrument and the idea of each person being a key evokes a great sense of both individuality and harmony. In the Spiritual Exercises, in the meditation on the Incarnation (2), he gives a lovely picture of the three Divine persons discussing the human race in its brokenness and deciding that the second person should become human as its Saviour. Ignatius seems to have a sense of a God who is deeply involved with humanity, whose persons are very distinct and whose intense love results in the second person becoming Emmanuel: God with us.

Another view of the Trinity is depicted rather beautifully and imaginatively in a recently written book called 'The Shack' (3). The story is about a man called Mack who is weighed down by the 'great sadness', his young daughter's disappearance and presumed murder. One day he receives a mysterious note, inviting him to the shack where his daughter's blood stained dress was found. It is simply signed 'papa', his wife's name for God. At first Mack discards the note but becomes more and more drawn to revisit the shack and eventually he does so. It is there he comes face to face with the three persons of the Trinity. The Father is a black Afro-American Mammy who embraces him warmly and cooks for him. Jesus is very much an ordinary human being in jeans and a plaid shirt who works with His hands; you could almost describe Him as a bloke and the Holy Spirit is fey Asian woman, Sarayu, meaning wind. Of course none of these images are anywhere near the reality but I think they convey just wisps of imaginative understanding.

The Shack is a story of healing. The Trinity's invitation to Mack to join them in their home and to live life with them in their relationship has a powerful impact on him. Each person brings something different to him, yet like Ignatius' three keys, they are in harmony with one another. Their love for each other and for him enables him to confront 'the great sadness' and his own unhappy relationship with his father and in doing so to change, to grow and to heal. Perhaps the likenesses in which the three characters appear are the ones which are most help to Mack as he is at that time. The way in which they gently bring him through

At home with the Trinity continued

various experiences reminds me of Queen Shahrazad in 'the Thousand and One Nights' who continues to tell stories to the broken King Shahryar until he is restored to wholeness. Mack is fascinated by the fact that there is no leadership or hierarchy in the Trinity. Their relationship is one of equals who relate with respect and care for one another.

I find that when we try to operate in this way, whether as couples, in family, in groups, as church, in our teams meetings, we find a community that is vibrant and life giving. Unfortunately in human society we are very often lured into structures, hierarchies and politics that stultify and inhibit vitality and energy. In the Shack the three persons of the Trinity come across very strongly as unique individuals each with His or Her function. Likewise in Teams it is each individual with his or her own story and giftedness that are the heart of the movement. When a team is functioning well, each person is contributing their own self fully to the group. We may not like everything that we hear, we at times may become tired or bored or even irritated but often at these times are when the greatest treasure is to be found. At our recent retreat, the day was organized by using the gifts of individual people. As we reflected, prayed and shared together with our bishop and with each other, I think we experienced the dynamism of the meeting of persons in listening love which is the radiance of the Trinity.

'Those who love me will keep my word and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them' (4)

Lavinia Byrne presents this kind of picture of the Triune God in her book 'Women before God' (5). I will conclude with her words.

What if God were concerned to set up a tent in our midst and dwell among us. God the homemaker lays a different kind of table, one around which people come to talk and laugh and share, to taste and see that the Lord is good. God the homemaker puts the kettle on and draws up chairs. God the homemaker wants to hear about real problems and questions that exercise us, about the people we love and the people we fear.

The feast of the Most Holy Trinity falls this year on Sunday, June 19.

References

1. Inigo: Original Testament, the Autobiography of St. Ignatius Loyola. Transl. William Yeomans S.J.
2. St. Ignatius Loyola: Personal Writings. Spiritual Exercises. Second Week. First Contemplation. On the Incarnation. (Published by Penguin)
3. The Shack by William Paul Young.
4. John Chapter 13 v 23.
5. Women Before God by Lavinia Byrne

Elizabeth Roddy, Corcullen, Galway.

Galway Teams Retreat, Report

An old house, beside the river Corrib, was the setting for the annual retreat of the three Galway teams. Our bishop, Martin Drennan, became very much part of the family as he explored with us the Transfiguration of Our Lord, which was the reading for the second Sunday in Lent. The gospel scene was made very real for us by a tableau arranged by one of our team, with different flowers representing the characters in the story and a cross made from larch, whose bare winter branches were budding with new growth.

Father John Humphries, our team chaplain opened the retreat with a prayer centering on the theme from the words of Peter in the gospel:

"It is good for us to be here"

Bishop Martin then went on to reflect with us the experience of the three apostles, Peter, James and John. Peter, future leader of the church was beginning to learn the cost of commitment. The wonder of the vision of Jesus in His glory with Moses and Elijah made him yearn to stay in that place forever. Such incidents, however enriching, are short lived in duration, though their effects can continue long after and sustain individuals in times of trial, as indeed the apostles would discover later. Peter resisted the idea of Christ's suffering, but Jesus reprimanded him saying that he was a stumbling block to His obeying the will of the Father. We too can resist being transformed. Like the Samaritan woman at the well, we need to name our failure and like her move on. Healed wounds do no hurt.

We were asked to consider what is the motivation of our lives; what is our 'secret'. What motivated Christ was His relationship with the Father, which we try to mirror in our personal relationship with Him, allowing ourselves to be transfigured in our everyday experience. The parable of the treasure buried in the field encapsulates what is really the essence of Christian life. We find, we sell, we invest.

Relationship was a word the bishop used frequently and that whether our vocation is to be priesthood or married life the word 'fidelity' was the keystone. Love is forever, exemplified in the person of Christ who lived love to the end and gave Himself completely on the cross. Words like tenacity, timing and tact characterize relationships which blossom and flourish. Friendship has to be worked at and is risky because love makes us vulnerable. We are after all interdependent. 'Listening love' were two words that I found particularly attractive for they are the key to the whole success of our teams meetings.

The other word that challenged me to reflect more was 'gift'. God is generous in giving, inviting us to a wider space and I felt that I would need to delve deeply within myself and pray hard for true recognition of my gifts which are not to be hoarded for the benefit of myself myself but to be put to the service of others.

We followed the usual format of group discussion following input and then a plenary where we brought back the fruits of our discussion to Bishop Martin. I found the interaction between people especially warm and as usual got a lot out of listening to what they had to say.

Again we followed our usual custom of a pot luck lunch and afterwards enjoyed a walk down to the river. The day ended with Bishop Martin concelebrating Mass with Father John Humphries, where the homily was shared and prayers of the faithful came from the group.

We were looked after most kindly by Mary, one of the house staff and her unobtrusive help was invaluable.

I will leave final thought to St. John who did not include the Transfiguration in his gospel. When I asked the bishop about this, he said that John saw Christ's glory shining through His entire life. Perhaps this wisdom might be applied to our everyday experience. As the Jesuit poet Gerald Manley Hopkins wrote in the 'Windhover'.

'No wonder of it; sheer plod makes plough down sillion Shine, and blue bleak embers, ah my dear, Fall, gall themselves and gash gold vermillion'.

Elizabeth Roddy
Team 3
Galway

BRASILIA 2012

The XIth International Gathering is in Brazil: -

- The place: Brasilia.
- The dates : 21/26 July 2012.
- The title: To dare to live the Gospel.
- The gospel chosen as the theme:



The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10, 25-37)

In our Super-Region, Paul and Helena are the contact couple for information and registration and have set up a special email address for all communication about Brasilia - **TA.Brazil2012@gmail.com**. At this stage, the most important thing for the organisers is to get an accurate indication of the likely numbers attending. If you think there is a possibility that you may be able to come, please email **TA.Brazil2012@gmail.com** with your team name and contact details. This is without obligation. Initial deposits and confirmation of intention to come will be asked for during 2011.

Prayer Intentions

For the deceased:

Billy Long, Team 24 Dublin,
Fergus Green, son of Tom and Beta Green, Dublin
Cassie Gallagher, mother of Hugo Gallagher, Dublin
Peggy McGrath and Rosaleen McGrory, aunts of Hugo,
Hugh Worriskey and John Wallace, cousins of Hugo,
Joe McEvoy, brother of Eithne Clenaghan, Belfast and
John Goodwill, London.

Please remember in your prayers Emmie Lloyd, Galway, who is unwell.

SECTOR NEWS

Dublin

Good News

Great news from Team 11! Robert and Maeve Jordan's son - Br. Columba Maria Jordan, CFR (Franciscan Friars of the Renewal), by God's grace, was ordained to the priesthood on Saturday 14th May in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York by Archbishop Timothy Dolan. This is a special time of blessing for the Jordan family, Team 11, and indeed, for the whole Teams community. We ask that you keep Fr. Columba in your daily prayers, and we extend our best wishes to all his family. Newly ordained Fr. Columba will be assigned, along with brother friars to their Friary in Derry.

Fr. Columba will be in Dublin in July and will celebrate a special Mass of Thanksgiving in St. Joseph's Parish Church, Terenure, Dublin 6, on Saturday 23rd July, at 4pm.

All are welcome. Fr. Columba will celebrate Mass in Limerick also on Tuesday 26th July in Moyross Parish Church, at 7 pm.

New Teams

We are delighted to report that two new Teams are being piloted by two of our Sector Team couples, Joe & Ine Clayton and Kevin & Martha Wade and a further new Team is being piloted by the Regional Couple in Sligo. The new Rathmines Team is now fully established and a full member of the Teams Movement. The Piloting Couples are working very hard and doing a wonderful job and we are all indebted to them.

Retreat

The Dublin Sector held its annual Retreat in the Iona Centre, Knocklyon, on Saturday and Sunday the 5th and 6th of March 2011. Upwards of forty people attended over the course of the weekend. The Theme for the Retreat was Marriage, Sacrament of Covenant by Sr. Anne Healy and Sr. Catherine Cruz of the Verbum Dei Missionary Family. They gave a very instructive and up-lifting retreat and we are now much more aware of what Marriage, Sacrament of Covenant truly means and its importance in today's world. Each day concluded with the celebration of the Eucharist. The Mass on Saturday evening was celebrated by Fr. Brian O'Toole (Chaplain to Team 25) and Fr. John O'Keeffe (Chaplain to Team 32) celebrated Mass on Sunday bringing the Retreat to a conclusion.

Super Regional Gathering

A very successful Super Regional Gathering was held at Swanwick 8th-10th October 2010 last year. The Gathering was very successful with a significant overall increase in the numbers attending over the previous Gathering in 2007. The event commenced with an Introduction to the 5 Love Languages and the Sit-Down by Antony & Janet Denman (now the new Super Regional Couple).

Bishop John Hine then gave a very good Talk on: Journeying as a Christian Couple in the Modern World. He drew particular attention to the importance of the Teams Movement to the development of the Church today. Canon John Udris gave a wonderful talk on: Journeying - a saintly example: St Therese of Lisieux. A couple, Peter & Di Wordsworth, gave a lovely talk on a trip Down the Garden Path with some excellent graphic slides. This was followed with Formation Workshops. The couples formed into groups of 6-7 in separate side rooms off the main conference hall. A nominated couple had responsibility for leading each Workshop. There were a number of set questions on which the discussions centred. These Workshops were followed with mixed Team Meetings. The Theme for these meetings was Resting on the Journey: Jesus' Example. Again the approach was very open with very frank and intimate sharing.

The Animation Team, which planned and managed the workshops and mixed teams meetings, was led by the Ireland Regional Couple, Pat & Carmel Cunneen. The event concluded with a talk on International Horizons by Peter & Jan Ralton. Paul & Helena (the outgoing Super Region Couple) spoke about their Journey as Super Regional Couple and this was followed with the introduction of the new Super Regional Couple, Antony & Janet Denman. The weekend was brought to a close with Mass in the Main Hall.

The Teams Social Evening last year was very successful with up to 70 members attending. Robert Jordan from Team 11 took on the role of M.C. and did a wonderful job. It was a very relaxing evening with everybody joining in and enjoying themselves. We are planning a similar event for mid-September this year and hope to see everybody there.

Deceased Members

Regretfully, we have had a number of sad bereavements over the past number of months. We were all deeply saddened to hear of the death of Billy Long R.I.P. from Team 24 and extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Monique and their family. Also Fergus Green R.I.P. who died suddenly in March 2011. Fergus (son of Tom & Beta Green from Team 3) was a young man in his forties with a young family and we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family and to Tom & Beta on this sad occasion. Hugo & Mary Gallagher from Team 32 also suffered a number of bereavements over the past few months. Hugo's Mother Cassie Gallagher was in her nineties and his Aunts Peggy McGrath and Rosaleen McGrory and Cousins Hugh Worriskey and John Wallace R.I.P. passed away and we extend our deepest sympathy to Hugo & Mary and their family. Your prayers are asked for the happy repose of those who passed away and for all deceased Teams members and for their families.

Breda & Tony Preston

Belfast

Our December 8th function was a Mass held in Eithne and Michael Clenaghan's house. It was well attended, and Fr Ephrem Blake CP concelebrated Mass with Fr Gerry Cassidy CSsR. A very enjoyable evening was rounded off by Michael Flanagan, Quizmaster.

A meeting of the Sector was held on 17th January. It was decided that as no couple was available to take over as Sector Couple, a Sector Team consisting of present RCs Paddy and Anne Scott, Gerry and Margaret Mulhern and Moyra and Brendan Bunting would lead Teams until July 2012. They would alternate attendance at Regional meetings and Regional events, meeting and supporting each other as appropriate.

The Retreat was arranged for Sunday 15th May; to be held in Cuan Mhuire, Crossgar, Co Down; and to be led by Fr P.O'Keeffe CSsR, starting at 9.30 with Tea/Coffee and finishing after Mass at 4pm.

Prayers are asked for Eithne Clenaghan's brother Joe McEvoy who died recently.

Brendan and Moyra Bunting

Mullingar

Our annual retreat took place at St Camillus, Killucan, Co. Westmeath, a nursing home run by the order of St Camillus whose vocation is caring for the sick. Father Frank Monks, a Camillian Father is chaplain to one of our teams and generously offered us facilities for our retreat at the Monastery which we were delighted to accept, Father Monks made great preparations for our visit, everything in perfect order. He further offered accommodation for Father Charlie Davy, S.J. leader of our retreat making his visit to Westmeath very comfortable indeed. We were given a beautiful lunch on the Sunday, which was greatly appreciated by all. Father Davy who suggested that our retreat should be a quiet time with the Lord, based the sessions on the Mass readings of that Sunday, 3rd. Sunday of Lent. You must strike the rock and water will flow from it for the people to drink, Ex 17: 3 - 7. We read. Then it was suggested we meditate on that reading in silence (we were surprised at the silence). I shall never forget, when we went out to meditate we were greeted by the abundant water-flow of the river that flows through the grounds, reassuring us that God will take care of us abundantly, if we pray and ask. Father Davy also spoke about the scene in the Gospel of the Samaritan woman at the well. He unfolded the story enormously well and helped us to gain a better understanding of it.

A beautiful new Chapel has been built by the Camillians at Killucan which facilitated the celebration of Mass to which family members were invited. At Mass Father Charlie echoed the scene at the well and arranged for each couple to approach the well and to pray there. We were joined by members of the newly-formed Teams of Our Lady in Navan. We were delighted to welcome them and hope the experience for them was spiritually enriching.

Our plans for our Summer Outing are underway. We hope it will be memorable and enjoyable for all. We wish you all a happy summer-time with your families and friends.

Frank and Margaret Fagan.

Galway

This year our annual retreat which was organised by Team 3 was very fruitful and most enjoyable. We were fortunate to have our Bishop Martin Drennan as facilitator on the day. His deep knowledge of the Word of God added immensely to the talks and sharing. Liz Roddy (team 3) has included an article in this issue which gets to the heart of the day's reflections. We had a good attendance. We missed Eddie and Emmie as they were both unable to come due to illness. They always add so much to all our team activities. We wish them both a speedy recovery and remember them in our prayers. We were all delighted to see John and Helen McCarrick at the retreat. T m le filte rompu.

We are looking forward to our summer outing in Coole Park on the last Sunday in June. Hopefully the sun will shine. If Fr Colin Garvey is available on the day we look forward to celebrating the Eucharist with him at 12 noon. After the Eucharist we have a picnic followed by a walk in the woods.

We are planning for the Responsible Couples weekend here in Galway in Cro Nua spirituality centre Taylor's Hill. The centre is situated opposite Scoil R is on Rosary Lane. The weekend occurs on Saturday and Sunday the 1st and 2nd of October. Gu mis rath agus s an ar Mheithil Mhuire. Le gach deaghu .

Ann and Billy Hyland.