

Healer Prayer Groups

Turning our attention to the pain and suffering of others is one of the most difficult, but also one of the most authentic acts a person of faith can do. In many parishes, groups of lay people have committed to doing just that, praying for those in need of God's healing in body, mind, or spirit. We offer a booklet "**Called to Prayer - Information and Guidelines for Healer Prayer Groups**". We also offer support to existing groups and to those exploring setting up a new group.

Resources

CMH:I continue to design and produce cards and bookmarks for use in ministering to those who are ill, distressed, or grieving. Examples of these cards can be viewed on our website www.ministryofhealing.ie and requests for copies can be made through the office. A recent comment "I feel that the cards are a tremendous help to me in my ministry and to the people I minister to".

Annual Appeal

As an organisation that relies entirely on donations, legacies and investments received we remain ever grateful for all contributions from individuals, Diocesan Committees and parishes around the country. If you are able to financially contribute to the work of the Ministry then please send a cheque, money order, or donate directly to our AIB bank account number 04267097 (IBAN: IE58AIBK93122504267097).

Contact

The Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland is governed by a Board of Directors chaired by Rev Canon Dr Daniel Nuzum. The other Board members are Mr Richard Graves (Secretary/Treasurer), Canon David Brown, Rev Garth Bunting, Mrs Carol Casey, Mrs Susan Dawson, Canon Lady Stella Durand, Mrs Avril Gillatt, Canon David Gillespie, Rev Bruce Hayes, Rev Christine O'Dowd-Smyth, and Rev Lesley Robinson.

There are two part-time members of staff. Dr Iva Beranek is our Ministry Facilitator and Olwyn Cross is our Administrator. Please feel free to contact Iva or Olwyn if you are interested in exploring what we can do for you personally, for your parish, or for your chaplaincy. All contact details are below. The office is usually staffed on Tuesdays and Fridays between 10am and 3pm. Outside of these hours Olwyn can, if necessary, be contacted on 087 4392669.

Newsletter Spring/Summer 2018

Church's
Ministry
of Healing
Ireland

Ministry of Healing - Healthcare Chaplaincy

Chaplains in healthcare facilities are at the coalface of the ministry of healing. We are with people who are struggling with health issues, many seriously ill and distressed. They may well feel frightened and disorientated in unfamiliar surroundings, worried about what lies ahead, or worried about their family at home. In most cases outcomes are good. The medical and nursing staff diagnose and treat the individual, and they are discharged home ready to continue with their lives. But of course, some people are left with long term illness and the possible loss of independence, and others are entering the end of their lives. Our Christian hope is that they will return to our Maker, at peace with themselves and those whom they love.

In all these various situations the chaplain's role is to 'be present' to the patients, to sit with them, listen to their story, and to take a few steps alongside them on their journey of life: to accompany them, to comfort and support them, and, if they so wish, to pray with them. I tend to pray, extemporary prayers, bringing to God the concerns and feelings expressed by the patients. However, there are times when more formal prayers can be very useful as part of the toolkit of chaplains, either to be read by the chaplain as part of their visit, or to be left with the patients to facilitate their private prayer. The Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland has a good selection of very helpful prayer cards. They include scripture passages, psalms, and prayers. In particular the card for the bereaved is good to offer to families to take away with them.

The prayer cards are a good resource in healthcare chapels. Made freely available they may reach patients or their families when they seek consolation or a quiet place to pray in the chapel. I recommend chaplains contact us at the Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland for a supply of this valuable resource.

Susan Dawson is a Presbyterian Church Hospital Chaplain in the Dublin area and a Board Member of The Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland

CMH:I Annual Thanksgiving Service & Gift Day

St Catherine's Church, Tullamore, Sunday 27th May at 3pm

All are welcome

Annual Thanksgiving Service & Gift Day 2018

This year we are delighted to announce that we will be holding our Annual Thanksgiving Service & Gift Day in St Catherine's Church, Tullamore on Sunday 27th May at 3.00pm. At this service of Wholeness and Healing with Holy Communion there will also be an opportunity for prayer with the laying on of hands and anointing with oil. The Rev Isaac Delamere (Rector of Tullamore Union of Parishes) will celebrate and the Rev Canon Dr Daniel Nuzum (Chair of CMH:I and Chaplain at Cork University Hospital) will preach. All are welcome and encouraged to attend the service and stay for some light refreshments afterwards.

St Catherine's Church in Tullamore is easily accessible by road, rail and bus. However, if you live in the Dublin & Glendalough area and have no direct means of transport then please contact Olwyn at the Ministry office to see if (shared) transport can be arranged.

"Compassion: seeing with the heart"



Quiet Day held in the Methodist Church Hall, Ballineen, Co Cork on Saturday 24th March 2018.

Dr Iva Beranek, our Ministry Facilitator, led the Quiet Day on Saturday 24th March in Dunmanway, Co. Cork. Around 30 people attended. The day was organised by Rev Cliff Jeffers and the healer prayer group in Dunmanway. Participants were from Church of Ireland, as well as from the Methodist church, and the day took place in the local Methodist Church Hall. Iva spoke on the topic of compassion, and participants were led into quiet reflection after each input. Everyone was very receptive and enjoyed the day. The hospitality was phenomenal, with homemade scones, cakes, soup for lunch and tea and coffee. One of the participants made the jars with the title of the day as a decoration. As you can see, it looked really beautiful.

Welcoming Prayer

Welcoming prayer helps us to engage with our difficult emotions and feelings. It helps us bring healing to our situation. And it is more than this: it also allows the creation within us of something that was not there before.

Practicing the Welcoming Prayer invites us to live in the present moment, to experience what is going on right now and to bring it into prayer. It deepens our relationship with God. It is a prayer of letting go, of surrender.

In faith, we know the Holy Spirit transforms us, inside out, in God's time. Everyone and everything may remain the same; but our attitude is changed. We learn to speak and act through love. Through the practice of this prayer we become more aware that, no matter what happens, God is present. By working with this prayer, we can "bloom into the Beatitudes - transformation in and through Christ."

There are three simple steps to the prayer:

1. See what is going on within.
2. Welcome it. And welcome Indwelling Presence.
3. Let go.

It is a deceptively simple practice - and powerful.

We offer a presentation on the Welcoming Prayer at our Wellspring Retreat days. It is indeed a gateway to our inner healing.

Recommended: 'The Welcoming Prayer: Consent on the Go, a CLP Praxis' published by Contemplative Outreach.

www.contemplativeoutreach.org

Also: 'Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening' by Cynthia Bourgeault.

[Carol Casey is a Board Member of the Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland](#)

Wellspring

Following a very successful Wellspring in the Church of St John the Baptist in Clontarf on Saturday 24th February, we are again offering Wellspring on Saturday May 19th at St Patrick's Church in Dalkey. Please register your interest with the office hello@ministryofhealing.ie or leave a message on **01 8727876**.

General Synod, Armagh City Hotel 10-12th May.

CMH:I will have a stand at General Synod and, in addition this year CMH:I will be hosting a 'prayer space' where Synod members can come for some quiet reflection or prayer during the busy days of synod business.

Please stop by our stand for a chat and let us know what we can do for you. You can also pick up some of our information leaflets, resources and some samples of our popular prayer cards. We are also happy to hear from you about how we can serve you in your ministry.