



'Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God.'⁸⁴ **LaudatoSi**

'There is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf.'²³³ **LaudatoSi**

OUR GARDEN INCLUDES

The Cosmic Spiral



Biodiversity: Trees ~ Shrubs ~ Grasses ~ Flowers



Saint Broc's Well



Sculptures

WELCOME to our GARDEN! CREATE A GREENER WORLD



Fun Activities
Arts & Crafts
Pollinators

WHAT CAN I DO?

HOPE

All it takes is one person to restore hope!⁷¹
Care for creation is essential to Christian Faith.⁶⁴
Take golden moments every day to admire nature!

ACT!

Take the *Laudato Si'* Pledge!

- ~ I will Pray for Creation ~ I will Live more simply ~
- ~ I will Work with others for Our Common Home ~
- Say 'No' to plastics
- Eat less meat
- Recycle
- Reduce use of fossil fuels
- Support global movements like the Global Catholic Climate Movement

OUR FRAGILE HOME

EARTH

'Sister earth cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her.'²

DESERT

'We can feel the desertification of the soil almost as a physical ailment.'⁸⁹

FORESTS AND WETLANDS

'When forests are burned down or levelled countless species are lost and the areas become arid wastelands.'³⁸

SPECIES

'Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us.'³³

GARBAGE

'The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.'²¹

OCEANS

'Who turned the wonder-world of the seas into underwater cemeteries bereft of colour and life?'⁴¹

WATER

'Unsafe water results in many deaths and the spread of water-related diseases, especially among the poor.'²⁹

PURCHASING

'Purchasing is always a moral act, not simply an economic one.'²⁰⁶

FOOD

'Food thrown out is stolen from the table of the poor.'⁵⁰



COME VISIT!
EXPLORE • LOOK • PRAY
REST • LISTEN

'The divine and the human meet in the least speck of dust of our planet.'⁹ **LaudatoSi**

THE GROTTO

Dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes, where Mary, the Mother of God, spoke in 1858 to a young girl named Bernadette. Invite Our Lady to speak with you now! **She might say: 'Do whatever Jesus tells you!'**

ST BROC'S WELL

Holy Wells are part of the storehouse of our Celtic past. Ireland has over 3,000 Holy Wells, and National Holy Wells Day is celebrated in June. Our Well is named after St Broc, an 8th century woman from Meath: she founded a monastery by the Dodder River in nearby Donnybrook (the name means The Church of Broc). Take water from the well into your hands; contemplate its beauty; let it fall and admire the sound. **Ask yourself: How can I help to protect the precious gift of water?**

BIODIVERSITY

The sessile Oak is officially the national tree of Ireland. This Oak is special, and comes from the Columba Community in Derry. Derry means 'oak-grove' in Irish, and this oak indicates our cross-border care for the Earth. An oak is home to hundreds of species of tiny living things! Cut down an oak tree and a whole eco-system vanishes. A healthy oak can live for 1,000 years. Notice the biodiversity of grasses, shrubs and flowers in our Garden. **Where is your favourite tree? What word comes to mind when you think of a tree?**

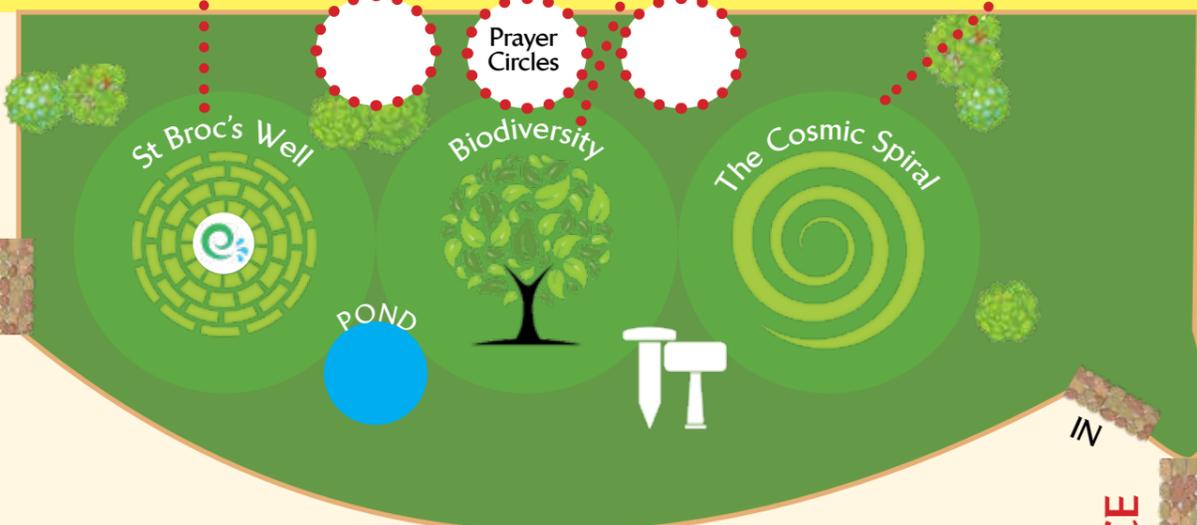
THE COSMIC SPIRAL

The spiral tells the evolutionary story of the cosmos. 13.8 billion years ago the universe flared forth out of the creative energy and love of God. The mass of gases from the fireball formed into clouds and later into stars and galaxies. All that will ever exist can trace its origin to that fireball and to the stars. Our privileged planet earth, Our Common Home, emerged over 4 billion years ago. Over millions of years the rich diversity of life forms developed, and finally humans emerged. All species share the same atoms, minerals and chemicals. All is interconnected, interdependent and interrelated. All is holy, all is one.

We have a responsibility to heal, protect and care for Our Common Home.



OUT



Church Door

Children's Play Area

Reconciliation / Confession Space

Education & Awareness Area

Anglesea Road

SIMMONSCOURT ROAD

Merrion Road

ENTRANCE

Attend our Talks in the Garden on **Caring for Our Common Home!**
10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 13.00, 18.30, 19.30

Join us in the Garden to **Pray for Creation**

Pray with the **Community of Poor Clare Sisters**
Mass 7.30; Exposition through the day; Rosary 11.20; Prayer of the Church 12.00, 13.00, 16.00, 17.00 & 19.00

THE SWALLOWS

Swallows are called 'the birds of freedom' because they cannot endure captivity and mate only in the wild. Here, they stand for all species of birds, many of which are endangered. **Decide now to do what you can to defend our winged friends.**

Related Events Elsewhere

RDS Family Arena
Wed 22nd August, 10.00,
"Eco-Awareness Workshop for Families"

Main Prayer Marquee

Visit Eco-Congregation's "Climate-Justice Candle" and photo exhibition to reflect and pray in Our Common Home Prayer Space.

Write a prayer on ribbon for care of the earth

Simmonscourt

The Beehive Cell: an interactive sculpture by Irish artist Imogen Stuart. You are invited to sit and pray in it

Simmonscourt, Hall C3

Thurs 23 August, 19.00-20.00,

Trócaire Seminar: "Care for our Common Home" with Cardinal Bo & Prof John Sweeney

Children's Global Village

We will have seed planting workshops and children will also learn about the Earth Cube!

Teen Global Village

We will host workshops for 13-17 years daily at 10.30 and for all ages from 18.30-20.00

Wednesday 22nd August

10.30-11.45, "Meet an Eco-Missionary", led by James Trewby and the Columban Justice and Peace Team, UK

Thursday 23rd August

10.30-11.45, "The Earth Cube"

with John & Julie Mundell

Friday 24th August

10.30-11.45, "Guardians of Creation" led by the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM)

THE SCULPTURES



Imogen Stuart,

one of Ireland's great sculptors, has been inspired by the rich heritage of early Irish art to create these modern masterpieces.

1. Methos: The Angel of Peace. 'If I cried, who out of the order of the angels would hear me?' (Rilke).

Good angels assume care and responsibility for humans.

2. The Promise. The two hands of Noah express gratitude for the rainbow after the Great Flood.

The Promise invites us to care for our environment.

3. Saint Francis, patron saint of ecology, addresses Brother Sun and Sister Moon, as in his 13th century canticle, *Laudato Si'*.

4. I and Thou. In solitary confinement in Argentina, two prisoners could see each other though small peep holes in their steel doors. This gave them hope. Here you look through the small square and see the eye of God!

5. Madonna. Mother and Child. This piece evokes a mother's feelings of tenderness, love and care for her child. Note Mary's hands on her Child's shoulders.

6. Bog Lovers. The use of turf shows how the artist is inspired by Celtic tradition. The simplicity of turf illustrates her statement that 'having lived through a war, you learn not to waste anything.'

7. John-Paul II. Inspired by Pope John-Paul's visit to Ireland in 1979, this sculpture can symbolise divine love and protection for all humankind. It suggests how Jesus took little children into his arms and blessed them (Mark 10:16).

The tortoise shape? In oriental thinking the tortoise is a bridge: a title for the pope is Pontifex, the bridge-builder.

Prayer for Our Common Home

Loving and creative God, you embrace with great tenderness the human race, the whole universe and the smallest of your creatures.

Be with us each day in our painful struggle for universal harmony in your creation.

Help us to protect life and beauty in all its forms, and to support the abandoned people of our world, who are so precious in your eyes. Soften the hearts of the greedy with compassion for the poor and for the endangered wonders of nature.

Teach us to discover the worth of each single thing that you have made. Enlarge our hearts to recognise our solidarity with all creatures, so that hand in hand we may reach our destiny, the transfiguration of the entire cosmos.

AMEN

- Adapted from *Laudato Si'*, 246



Find the 10 bees in the picture on the front of this brochure!