### Lenten Talks 2021

#### Each talk will be held on Zoom from 19.30 (sharp) to 20.15 (approx.) All are welcome. No attendance fee.

Please email <u>faithinactionballineaspaig@gmail.com</u> specifying which talk(s) you wish to attend and we will email you the relevant link the day beforehand.

#### 1. Tuesday, 23rd February

#### Mr. Gerry Forde

#### INTEGRAL ECOLOGY and Laudato Si' – a better way to see our world

Gerry Forde returned to Ireland in 2004 having lived and worked in Africa and the UK for twentythree years. Since then he has worked with the SMA, first as Coordinator of Cois Tine, a project supporting African Asylum Seekers and Refugees and since 2010 as the SMA Justice Officer. In this role he has, in cooperation with other SMA Departments, groups and organisations, worked to raise awareness of various justice issues and to promote a Christian response to them.

#### 2. Tuesday 2nd March

#### Professor Emer Rogan

Dr. Denise Gabuzda

#### Whale Tales - Whales and Dolphins in Irish Waters

Professor Emer Rogan is a lecturer in zoology in the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Science at UCC. A marine biologist, she has worked on numerous topics, including fisheries and marine mammals for 25 years. Most of her research focuses on cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises), looking at abundance, distribution, management and conservation.

#### 3. Tuesday 9th March

#### Looking to the Future with Hope

How can we retain hope even in the turbulent times of crisis through which we are living? To allow hope to grow and sustain motion into a more positive future, we must nurture our ability to imagine a variety of positive outcome, even if they may not seem the most likely ones. There are many possible outcomes to the planetary emergencies we are facing, and our collective thoughts, prayers and actions can affect their likelihoods. Hope can be found in a great variety of places, from our inherent spirituality and sociability, to our instinctive desire for equality and social justice, to emerging science and technology. This talk will explore these themes in the context of the Lenten season.

Denise Gabuzda teaches Physics and Astronomy at University College Cork. She has been a member of the Cork Quaker Meeting for about 13 years, and is currently the Clerk of Ireland Yearly Meeting, the all-island Quaker body. Her scientific and spiritual lives converge on learning to live sustainably and in harmony with Creation as the key task of our time.

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#### 4. Tuesday 16th March

#### Mary Elmes – The Quiet Heroine

#### Ms. Anne Twomey

Cork woman Mary Elmes devoted her life to helping refugees and was responsible for saving hundreds of Jewish children from Nazi death camps during World War 11. A new bridge in Cork has been named in her honour. Anne Twomey recounts her life from 1908 in Ballintemple through her incredible work to her death in 2002.

Anne Twomey received the Lord Mayor's Civic Award in 2020 in recognition of her commitment to local history through her role with the Shandon Area History Group and her contribution to the North Presentation Secondary School adult education and community service.

Faith in Action Group, Ballineaspaig Parish, Cork

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### **INVITATION**



**You** are cordially invited to a special celebration of life and love, of new beginnings and confident hope, of joy and happiness.

It is an invitation to each of us to recognise God's love for us that enables us to respect each other as uniquely precious.

It challenges us to declutter our lives, making room for our priority relationships with our host and each other.

It asks us to live more simply so that others may simply live.

It promises to enrich our world through generous service.

This celebration lasts forty days. It begins next Wednesday and climaxes at Easter. It is oftencalled **LENT.** 

You may not be able for every aspect of the festival, but tune into each aspect that nourishes your generosity of heart and your awareness of who we are as sisters and brothers of each other and of Jesus. Know that our efforts, no matter how meagre, will be enriched a thousand fold by the Lord, our host.

Fr. Tom

R.S.V.P. often to your best friend, our Lord and host, anytime during Lent