



# Emmaus The Link

“While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them” Luke 24:15

## Dublin Emmaus Walks-2017

This is the thirteenth year of the Emmaus walks in Ireland. For the first three years the previous walks were held at the Glenree Reconciliation centre in the Wicklow mountains. The mountain top experience was amazing and the Almighty poured out His blessings on the pilgrims and the team. This year, as with last year, the Women’s Walk is held at the picturesque Dromantine Retreat & Conference centre, Newry, Co Down in Northern Ireland.

For the first time, the Men’s Walk is being held at the seaside in Coolnagreina, Greystones Co.Wicklow.



Dromantine Centre



Coolnagreina

The Lord is waiting with arms stretched to welcome all and pour out His blessings. The prayers and preparation that have gone into this will not be in vain.

### From the Community Lay Director



You have no idea how much joy it gives me to welcome you into the Emmaus Community Ireland! I feel sure you have had a beautiful time of refreshment & spiritual renewal. Many will have met with God in a new way. What an awesome privilege. But this is only the beginning! God has so much more to do, in you and through you. All my life I have longed and prayed for Renewal to spread through every church in Ireland. Emmaus is, in essence, a Renewal Movement! You and I have experienced renewal on our Walk, and God is now sending us out into our homes, places of work, and our communities, to challenge our culture and to be an agent for change. In this way we will reflect Christ’s love to the hurting, and to those who have lost hope. Our prayer is that we will set our churches and towns ablaze. And may the fire never die out!

Ruth Wilson

### From the Women’s Walk Spiritual Director

I was a pilgrim on the "Walk" in 2007. There are some things I didn't quite understand at the time, but what I did really appreciate was the way in which the Biblical material was structured. It all revolves around the theme of GRACE, something which we don't speak enough about. Interspersed with the overall theme, there are practical issues which help us to focus on what it means to be a disciple. The learning procedure is also excellent. So good material well presented is an ideal combination. Too many Christians become Christians and don't go any further---vegetate. Discipleship is all important and it is through it that growth and maturity comes. I have been asked to take a leadership role in a Walk of 2017. In preparation for that, I have been reading the Manuals. All the things that I didn't understand when doing the Walk in 2017 have become clear. The purpose of Emmaus is to help Christians to mature. Sometimes people come into a fresh experience; sometimes people who call themselves Christians come to realise what being a Christian is all about. If that happens, it's good, but the primary purpose is to help people into Discipleship and then to move on into constructive Christian leadership. The "Walk" does all of that and does it very well. The creation of a fellowship of believers is also a significant and vital part of the movement.

Ken Lindsay

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Official News letter of  
Walk to Emmaus Ireland  
Dublin Community  
Number 14, March  
2017



### The Team in Coolnagreina

Stephen Barrington  
 Ken Todd  
 Brian Hughes  
 Denis Maguire  
 Ivan Dungan  
 Alan Wardlow

Rosemary Lindsay  
 Andrew Lee  
 Deon Theron  
 Mick Redmond  
 Jim Thorpe  
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 Ken Wilson

Katriina Garcia  
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 Fidelma Walsh  
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 Trina Hanlon

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 Daphne Wood  
 Lynne Morrison  
 Dorothy Magee  
 Winifred Graham  
 Leesa Beal  
 Melanie Douglas

Jean Woolmington  
 Brenda Scarff  
 Ineke Whelan-Horring  
 Sarah Hall  
 Marion Smith

### *From the Men's Walk Spiritual Director*

The word "company" means eating bread (panis) with (com). On the first Easter evening, Jesus walked to Emmaus in the company of two despondent disciples, who had not heard that the Crucified One was alive. Hope began to return to them as the Scriptures were explained and they had a meal together and their eyes were opened to see that it was their Lord (Luke 24v13-35).



I have found that the international movement of "Walk to Emmaus" provides a great, worldwide company of kindly people who are encountering the risen Lord Jesus in their daily walk through life. I find the honesty and humour and acceptance of other pilgrims, to be refreshing and stimulating to my faith. We are all so different yet we are all on the same journey where none has yet arrived at the perfect knowledge of God. We are all learners or disciples. The teaching we receive is concentrated but accessible and opens up the Bible for us. On occasion, I have been invited to be a Spiritual director for the Men's Walk to Emmaus. I don't know everything. I am part of a team that has been training and praying and practising talks. Already I have learned much from the team and I look forward to learning more.

As well as promoting the truth of God, the Walk to Emmaus illustrates the love of God. God is Truth and Love. A pagan commentator in the early days of Christianity remarked: "See how these Christians love one another." Sometimes up front, but often behind the scenes, making snacks, setting up events, providing many extras, there seems to be an army of loving people in the Emmaus Community. And there is the prayer, worldwide prayer. As well as the prayer ministry at each Emmaus Walk, there is the 24 hour daily prayer-commitment from all over the world. People in Sydney are praying for us when we are asleep, while folk in Nairobi and Nashville pray when we are half awake, and people in Cork and Carrickfergus pray throughout the day. After the Walk to Emmaus week-end, there is the small group support to help us on our pilgrim way to learn holiness and wholeness. Judgementalism is absent and there is no "holier than thou" attitude. We approach Scripture prayerfully and humbly and we find, amazingly, that the Bible reads us as we read the Bible. We learn to meet openly because God will not force his gifts into clenched hands.

You could say that in the Emmaus story in the gospel, the two people who had been pilgrims to Jerusalem for the Passover and had previously become followers of the Lord Jesus, were disillusioned because Christ had been killed on the Cross. They were disillusioned about life, people, religion and Jesus. But on their walk home to Emmaus the Lord met them and all changed. Because they experienced the companionship of the risen Christ and shared in conversation with Christ, they received a new commission from Christ and returned to Jerusalem with joy to tell the other followers that Jesus is alive.

There is a welcome on the mat at Walk to Emmaus Ireland. God bless you.

Ken Todd

### *My Fourth Day Dorothy Magee Walk 24 Table of Lydia*

When I went on my Emmaus Walk I didn't know what the "Fourth Day" meant or indeed the significance of it. For that matter, what the 3 days were about, was also a bit of a mystery!

Like all who participate in the Walk, I had an unbelievable experience of God's presence and the Emmaus Community's outpouring of love. Without the support from my Reunion Group and the Emmaus Community, the Walk's influence and impact on my life would have been diluted over time.

I live in Ballyclare and there were no members of the Emmaus Community living in my area. Two of the Pilgrims, whom I had travelled with to the Walk, lived in Newtownards and were joining the "Scrabo Sisters" Reunion Group, which is a 40 minute drive from my home. Anyone who has done the Walk knows that all the Pilgrims on a particular Walk have a very special bond, and so joining the Scrabo Group was an easy choice for me.

I am thrilled that I've been able to sponsor some Pilgrims to the present Walks. I now plan to set up a Group in Ballyclare with my sponsored Pilgrims.



(contd.)



It will be with great sadness that I leave my Scrabo Sisters, but our friendship will continue through our involvement in the Emmaus Community. On the other hand, I am happy and excited at the prospect of setting up a new Group in my own area The love and fellowship we have at our Reunion Group is amazing. Our evenings consist of a time of tea, coffee and general catch up. Then we go on to spend time reviewing our Reunion Card, and this keeps me accountable, not only to my Group, but most of all to God.

My Fourth Day has been a very fulfilling time for me. I have grown in myself, have had the courage to talk more openly about my faith, and agreed to participate in and volunteer for things I would never have dreamt of doing. It has even given me the courage to give one of the talks at the recent Walk!

All this is as a result of my Walk to Emmaus and the encouragement and love of my Reunion Group and Community Gatherings.

Welcome to the Emmaus Community, and may God bless you greatly on your Fourth Day. Dorothy

*From the Men's Walk Lay Director*



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

I don't know about you but I don't like disappointments. It starts when you are a kid at Christmas and you are expecting a red bicycle and you get a jumper. It then moved on to school and you ask the girl of your dreams out and she says no. You then buy your first car and it is not the red Ferrari but a beaten up Renault 4. You then buy your first house and it is a matchbox not a mansion. Well last year was a little disappointing because the Men's Emmaus Walk didn't happen because of too few numbers. After all the preparation and expectation it turned out to be a dashed and disappointing end.

When you are in the service of a loving God who knows the best timing for our lives, all our disappointments can be turned into joy. I was delighted to be asked to lead the men's team again in 2017. I'm delighted that so many men applied to come. I hope that Jesus has worked a wonder in your heart as he did on my Emmaus walk.

When we realise that God always has the best for our lives, even when disappointment and hardship comes, we can trust Him completely. We can encourage each other when we look back over our lives and see the beautiful gold threads He has woven in to the fabric of our walk of service for Him. We can be those who abound in love and joy because of what Jesus has done and the price He paid for our rebirth. What a God we serve!!! Let's praise Him for your disappointments because he turns them into paths of learning to grow closer to Him.

De Colores. Stephen Barrington.

*From the Women's Walk Lay Director*



A very warm welcome to the Emmaus Community!

Your Emmaus Walk - I hope, has been a special time on your journey of faith. Wherever you are on this journey, I trust you have been blessed. I pray that this weekend has helped you to draw closer to God and that you are now more aware of His amazing Grace and the extreme depth of His love for you.

I am reminded of my 'Walk' which took place in 2013 - Walk #18 Table of Claire. And though apprehensive at the beginning, I experienced God's love in a new way. And because of the love and sacrifice of the Emmaus team and Community in Ireland and around the world, I learned of "Agape", this unconditional love that serves, regardless of circumstances. For me, learning in more depth about the Grace of God was mind-blowing. We have such an amazing God.

I want to reassure you that when I did my 'Walk', though I was very blessed at the time, it took me weeks to absorb all that I had learned and experienced over the weekend. Serving on an Emmaus Team has also underpinned and strengthened me in my journey of Faith.

As you return to your daily life and face the ups and downs which life brings, I pray that you will persevere in this 'Life of Grace'. Remember that you cannot do this in your own strength but only with God's help through His Holy Spirit. Spend time with God. Remember too that fellowship with others is vitally important, so get involved in your church and home group. Can I encourage you to join a Reunion Group and come to the Gatherings. We cannot live this 'Life of Grace' without the help and support of others.

As God continues to bless and encourage you on your journey of faith, may you be a blessing to others in your church, your home and in your workplace. And through your loving actions and words, you will be able to introduce them to the God of Grace who truly loves them.

De Colores, Anne Gillanders

**The Pilgrims**

Robert Bailey  
Ardon Bramble  
Jonathan Faulk  
Colin Ferguson  
Roger Grant  
Michael Horsman  
Eric Luk  
Eric Morrison  
Bryan Myles  
Neilson Wylie  
Meredith Pollock  
Dean Said

Andrew Sands  
Rodger Scott  
Albert Wakili  
Declan Whelan  
Richard Zipser  
Janet Faulk  
Rose Fay  
Elizabeth Forsyth  
Mary Herd  
Katie Higginson  
Donna Jones  
Margaret Jordan

Danise Kirk  
Hyewon Kim  
Jean Kingston  
Margaret Mellon  
Penny Montgomery  
Rosemarie Montgomery  
Val Nolan  
Hazel O'Connor  
Esther Ogundare  
Margaret Pelu  
Mary Peters  
Glennys Pollock

Rosemary Reid  
Patricia Russell  
Oonagh Soden  
Claire Stewart  
Olive Stewart  
Terry Tynan  
Yvonne Young  
Lorraine Zipser

*From the Community Spiritual  
Director*



Dear Pilgrims,

Welcome to the Emmaus Community! Even though in Emmaus terms you end your Walk as full members of the Community and we no longer call you pilgrims, I guess none of us should ever forget that we are all still travellers, 'marching to the Promised Land' as one old hymn puts it.

Another old hymn begins 'O for a closer walk with God...' This weekend you have had an opportunity to walk closely with God, to listen quietly for His voice and to experience His tremendous love through the prayers and actions of so many people. I hope you feel that this weekend away from the ordinary pressures of daily life has been a gift – even though it may have been exhausting, sometimes emotionally as well as physically.

But when you go home, back to a world which hasn't changed in your absence even though you may have changed, it can make you feel like 'pilgrim in a barren land,' as yet another old hymn writer said. Your Fourth Day won't necessarily be less problematic than your life before Emmaus. But hopefully some of what you've heard this weekend about Piety, Study, Action and Grace will have equipped you to cope – knowing that the Lord is with you through it all, to help and guide you. The Emmaus Community is willing to pray for you, too – just ask!

Our monthly Gatherings are a great means of support, as we meet to share food and experiences and worship and prayer and Communion; and the little local Reunion Groups are also good for keeping us on track. Paul advises Timothy: 'Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.' (2Tim. 2:22) Good advice – I recommend it! Do try to find a Reunion Group near you – or start one of your own!

I look forward to getting to know many of you in the future. Please do try to get to our Fourth Day Gathering next month – other Community members will be so glad to meet you!

May God bless you and keep you strong as you continue to walk in His way.

Rosemary Lindsay

# Fourth Day

**Venue:** Dundrum Methodist Church

Saturday, 4.00pm

8th April

**ALL ARE INVITED**—bring your family too!

Gatherings are usually held once per month.

For an update on the gathering dates, visit  
[www.emmauswalks.ie](http://www.emmauswalks.ie)

## *Reunion Groups*

My name is Gary Dunn and I took over coordinating the reunion groups on behalf of the board in September. I would encourage all of us to join a reunion group, even if you already

meet in a bible study group. My group split this year into two groups as we had grown too big for one group. There are five of us now and we meet on Saturday mornings once a month. A reunion group ideally should have between two and five people that meet together regularly. What is discussed in the group of course is confidential and it should be a place where you can build real relationships with like minded people and pray for and encourage each other in your fourth day journey.

There are reunion groups meeting in lots of different areas and at different times so hopefully there will be one that matches your time and location. I am happy to chat with you at any gathering or by email to help you find a group or start one. Maybe your sponsor will also be able to help you find a group or start a new group with you.

So why be in a reunion group? Your reunion group will pray with you and for you. You will be encouraged to think about your Christian action and how you can live out your faith in practical ways everyday. Your fellow group members will hold you accountable and also be accountable to you. The little reunion card that we all got on our Walks helps to keep the group focussed. Meeting in a group with people that have also done an Emmaus Walk is also a great way to stay connected to the community and maybe together help run a gathering or just travel together to a gathering or other community event.

Finally your commitment to a reunion group doesn't have to involve a lot of time, my group meets from 8am to 9.30am and in that time share breakfast together, and by being honest and real discuss the struggles and victories in our lives. I hope this encourages you to be in a reunion group whether you have just done your Walk or you did your Walk many years ago. May we all be richly blessed in all our fourth days.

De Colores Gary      Email : [reunions@emmauswalks.ie](mailto:reunions@emmauswalks.ie)



Published by Walk to Emmaus Dublin Community.

Articles, thoughts, Emmaus activities and prayer requests may be mailed to the Editor below. If you wish to share some of your experiences, memories of the walk or fourth days and pictures, either on the web site or newsletter, please send them to us. Contact Eamon Kelly : [communications@emmauswalks.ie](mailto:communications@emmauswalks.ie)