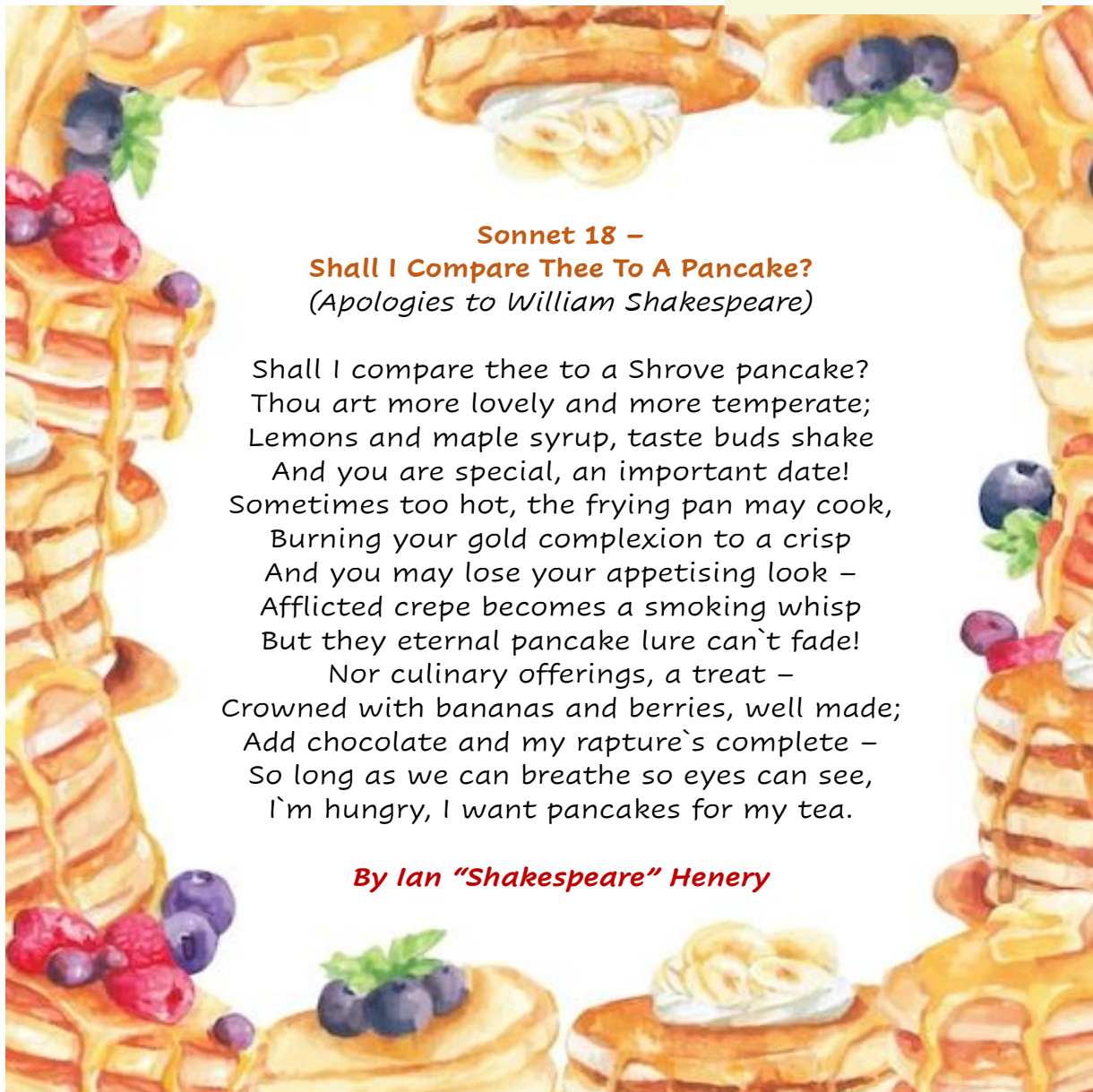




NEA NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY NEWS 2024



**Sonnet 18 –
Shall I Compare Thee To A Pancake?**
(Apologies to William Shakespeare)

Shall I compare thee to a Shrove pancake?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate;
Lemons and maple syrup, taste buds shake
And you are special, an important date!
Sometimes too hot, the frying pan may cook,
Burning your gold complexion to a crisp
And you may lose your appetising look –
Afflicted crepe becomes a smoking whisp
But they eternal pancake lure can't fade!
Nor culinary offerings, a treat –
Crowned with bananas and berries, well made;
Add chocolate and my rapture's complete –
So long as we can breathe so eyes can see,
I'm hungry, I want pancakes for my tea.

By Ian "Shakespeare" Henery



ASH WEDNESDAY

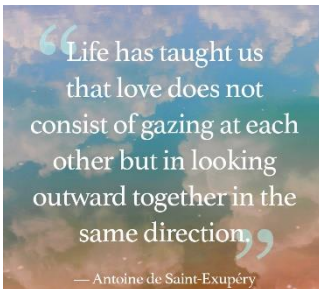
— Malcolm Guite



Receive this cross of ash upon your brow,
 Brought from the burning of Palm Sunday's cross.
 The forests of the world are burning now
 And you make late repentance for the loss.
 But all the trees of God would clap their hands
 The very stones themselves would shout and sing
 If you could covenant to love these lands
 And recognise in Christ their Lord and king.

He sees the slow destruction of those trees,
 He weeps to see the ancient places burn,
 And still you make what purchases you please,
 And still to dust and ashes you return.
 But Hope could rise from ashes even now
 Beginning with this sign upon your brow.

Some quotes for Saint Valentine's Day



“Keep love in your heart.
 A life without it is like a sunless garden when
 the flowers are dead. The consciousness of
 loving and being loved brings a warmth and a
 richness to life that nothing else can bring.”
Oscar Wilde



Love is the act of keeping your heart open no matter what comes.
 Love is the care for yourself and the world
 to keep it open despite fear, rage, grief, humiliation.
 To keep living....
 That is what I have learned from life.
 Love is possible. We need each other. And we can always love.
Alison Crosthwait



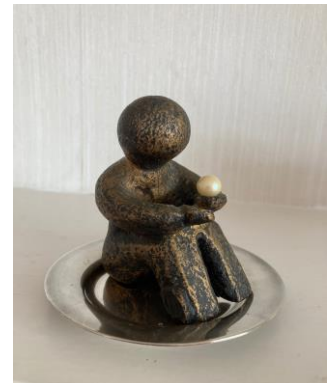
FUNERAL of SISTER JOYCE ATTWOOD RSHM RIP



Joyce's funeral took place in Arrowsmith on 6th February 2024. As a member of the Extended family wrote describing it, "The service in the chapel was so warm and comforting, almost like a house mass for a gathering of family and friends." Members of the community and some of the carers were able to attend as well as Joyce's nephew and nieces, RSHM from Carlisle, Noddfa and Liverpool and members of the extended family from Barrow, Carlisle and Liverpool.

Father John Cullen, who now celebrates Mass a couple of times each week in Arrowsmith, was the celebrant. In his eulogy Joyce's nephew Paul spoke warmly of her kindness, infectious laugh and way of making each one of them special. Barbara spoke of her various ministries in teaching, parishes, administration, and translating the Founders letters and her years in community in Carlisle, Upminster, Skipton, Ealing, Barrow and Seafield. We remember her as always hardworking, committed and generous in helping others and, although seemingly retiring, had a good sense of humour and enjoyed entertaining us with tales of her childhood and RSHM escapades !

She concluded " In her room Joyce had this statue of a little figure holding a pearl. I would wonder what it meant to her. I notice on the dish inscribed under the statue that it is a gift to "Sr Anthony" from the pupils of Newman on her departure in 1980. I wonder if it reminded her of those days and how much her presence was valued in the school, a special time for her perhaps, of living our rshm mission " That all May have Life".



Or I have wondered too, was she the pearl, the precious one chosen by Christ? or again was Christ the pearl, the precious one for whom she had given up everything? May she rest in Peace with him."

The Arrowsmith and Seafield communities wish to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, Masses, and other expressions of support and sympathy.



Note: ARROWSMITH PHONE

Arrowsmith now has one phone working. The number is the old one, namely 0151 931 2881. Unfortunately, after two months on and off the job, BT still has not fully resolved our problems so the line to the sisters' rooms is not good and the internet is unstable. Hopefully there will be a day when we can inform you that all is well and the second phone is up and working too! *Barbara*

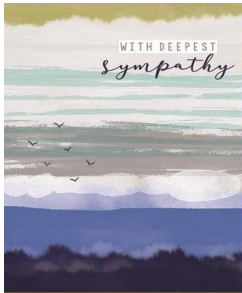


Is anyone interested in a shared NEA poetry group? This group could meet on zoom monthly or ...? Each member could share a poem – a poet's or her own. We might take a theme or simply leave it open. The emphasis would be on enjoying poetry together. Mary Jo McElroy will organise the zoom. Anyone interested please contact Eleanor. *Paula, Barbara and Eleanor*



Volunteer of the Month

We have chosen Ellen O’Leary as our volunteer of the month for this month. Ellen is one of our most dedicated and wonderful friendly callers who comes into the office each week to chat to our members. We are so grateful for her time and support and the time of all the other dedicated friendly callers and volunteers! Thank you Ellen.



BEREAVEMENTS

We offer our sincere sympathy to **Sr Kate Nolan RSHM** and her family on the recent untimely death of her brother **Fr John Nolan**, Parish Priest of Duncannon, Wexford, Ireland.

May John now rest in peace.

Sisters Deirdre and Patricia Kavanagh would like to thank our Sisters for their kind words and masses offered for our sister Miriam Cooper RIP. We are both praying the rosary each day for all your intentions.



*Celebrating 175 years
of witness and service as Religious of the
Sacred Heart of Mary on 24 February 2024.
Let us rejoice and be glad!*

*We remember and give thanks for all those
who have gone before us and on whose shoulders we stand.
We pray for those who will come after us and ask God to bless
them, keep them faithful and give success to the work of their
hands.*

