

## Reflection Tuesday Week 32 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica 2021

The Lateran Basilica was built by Emperor Constantine on the Lateran Hill in Rome about 324. Its dedication has been celebrated in Rome on this date since the 12<sup>th</sup> century. In honour of the basilica, *“the mother and head of all the churches of the City and the World,”* the feast was extended throughout the Church as a sign of unity and love towards the See of Peter which *“presides over the whole assembly of charity.”*

Ezekiel writes with vivid imagery and symbolism. The Lateran, as a symbol of the Unity of the Church, stands as the source of all the graces, power and love of God flowing from the centre to the furthest reaches of the world like the water Ezekiel writes about in the reading today. The power and movement of water suggests life and vigour, movement and activity. The Life of Christ flowing into and out of us, back and forth, through us to others and back again. The movement of life is very evident in Celtic spirituality where everything is interconnected. This is reaffirmed by our present concern for the climate and the future of our planet. It is also reinforced by the stress being made on our synodality as a pilgrim people journeying together and supporting each other along the way.

Dear Unity, be proud of the work you've done.  
Working day and night, leaving complaints to none.  
With your calm blue aura, full of peace.  
People from sadness and separation, you release.

Dear Unity, extending the branches of your unifying tree,  
watching over like a flock of birds flying free.  
Amalgamate the opposing forces of destruction and war,  
spare them from the unnecessary deaths and gore.

Dear Unity, reunite us with our long-lost friends,  
so there will be happiness and laughter as broken hearts mend.  
Clear the miserable loneliness haunting around,  
and stop at no cost until the cure is found.

Dear Unity, oh unity, our guardian angel in disguise,  
ridding us of the hatred, betrayal and emotion we despise.  
Dear Unity, you are all for one and one for all,  
thank you for being there every time we fall. (Venesa)

**What do you call** a pig that does karate? A pork chop.

What do you call a cow with two legs? Lean beef!

What do you call a factory that sells good products? A satisfactory.