

Archdiocese of Dublin

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

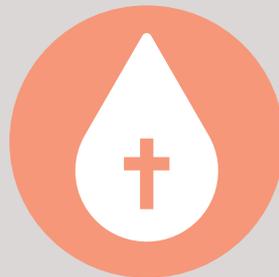


Ministry must be integrated and our understanding of discipleship must be an integrated one, where theology and prayer, witness and care of the poor belong together and can influence the world around us and make society more loving.

IN 2017 IN 199 PARISHES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF DUBLIN



130,000
ATTEND
MASS ON
ANY GIVEN
SUNDAY



14,147
CHILDREN
WERE WELCOMED
INTO THE CHURCH
THROUGH BAPTISM



THOUSANDS
OF YOUNG
CHILDREN
RECEIVED THEIR
FIRST HOLY
COMMUNION



14,927
YOUNG PEOPLE
RECEIVED THE
SACRAMENT OF
CONFIRMATION



1,624
COUPLES
BEGAN A NEW LIFE
TOGETHER THROUGH
THE SACRAMENT OF
MARRIAGE



FUNERAL MINISTRY
TEAMS AND PRIESTS
AND DEACONS
MINISTERED TO THE
FAMILIES OF
7,972 PEOPLE
WHO DIED LAST YEAR

This extraordinary celebration of the life and the transmission of the faith to hundreds of thousands of people was carried out by Priests, Parish staff, Parish Pastoral workers, Permanent Deacons and diocesan staff.

It would not be possible without the hundreds of women and men who also give their time and their effort voluntarily witnessing to what the love of God means in their lives and in the lives of their communities.

Office of Catechetical Formation



This office was established in October 2016. Its focus is on developing a diocesan response to the need for parish-based catechesis. The word ‘catechesis’ tends to be associated with children, with instruction and with preparing candidates for the sacraments of initiation. A strong indication that has been emerging is the need for a significant shift of attention and energy towards adult faith – particularly, but not only, of parents who present their children for the sacraments.

In this context, the work of the office has two focal points; one around the sacraments of initiation and the other around adult faith development.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

This work during 2017 developed in the context of a need for a fundamental review of the approach to these sacraments;

- Development of a coordinated diocesan approach to Baptism, through accompanying and resourcing parish baptism teams, especially in engaging with parents
- Assisting the work of parishes around First Communion and Confirmation, with particular attention to how to engage with parents
- Working with parishes where there are non-Catholic schools, to explore the possibilities for a parish based and family-focused approach to sacramental preparation

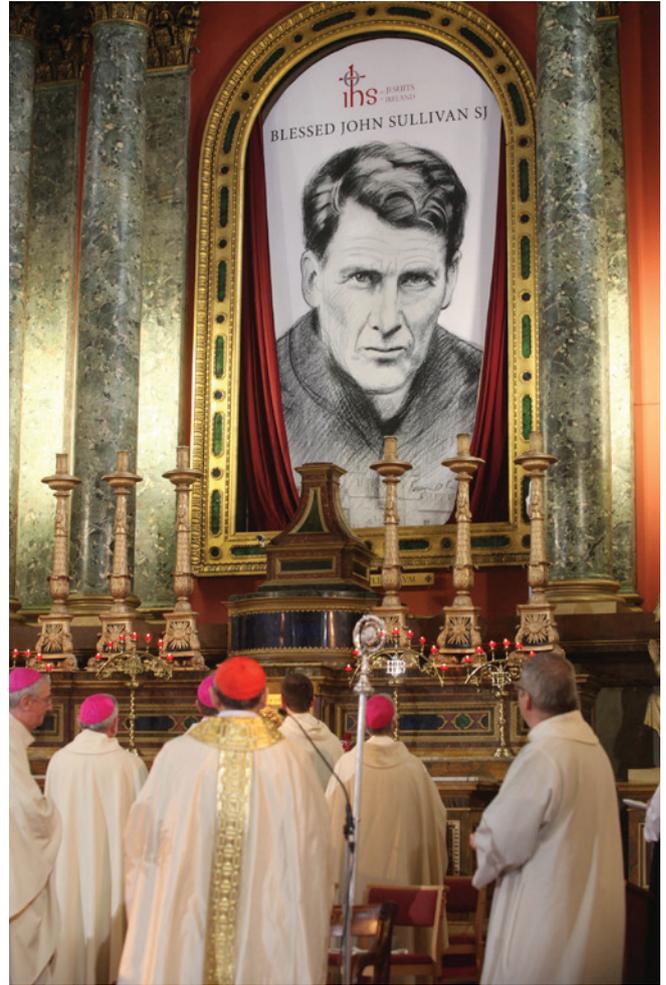
ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

In Share the Good News, one of the objectives articulated for the parish community as an agent of faith development is that ‘adult faith development will be at the centre of parish life’. Through 2017, the Office sought to respond to this challenge;

- Supporting processes of discernment around future possibilities for parish adult faith development. This includes gathering best practice from around the diocese
- Developing training provision to equip people to work on adult faith development initiatives in their parishes
- Developing resources for adult faith development in the parish

Much of this work has involved collaboration with other diocesan offices – Evangelisation and Ecumenism, Liturgy, Education.

Liturgy Resource Centre



The **Liturgy Resource Centre** continues to support parish teams in a variety of ways. Ongoing training for Baptism and Funeral ministry teams is now carried out in collaboration with both the Catechetical and Evangelisation Offices. Their twice-yearly seminars in 2017 covered a variety of topics including Ministry of Welcome, Laudato Si, the Season of Creation, the Future of Family Mass Teams and the Richness of the Icons. Workshops during the year built on the work done at seminars and the provision of online supports ensures that material reaches a wider audience.

The staff of three offer assistance to parishes as they prepare the celebrations of First Holy Communion and Confirmation and seek to respond in creative ways to their liturgical needs. They also help to

oversee major Diocesan Liturgies particularly those led by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin.

In 2017, in particular, there was the funeral of Cardinal Desmond Connell, the Beatification of Blessed John Sullivan SJ and the visit of international delegates preparing for the World Meeting of Families taking place in Dublin in 2018.

Music featured strongly in the programme of work with the longstanding Emmanuel programme for Second Level Schools hitting new records with the participation of over 2,500 students over 4 days in workshops and concerts last year. The launch of the Laudate Liturgical Music Programme for Primary Schools was a great success with the two venues north and south of the Liffey filled to capacity.

The Office for Evangelisation and Ecumenism



The Mission of the Office for Evangelisation and Ecumenism is to witness to Jesus Christ and His Gospel through promoting lifelong learning in faith, building faith communities and discerning innovative ways to engage with contemporary culture.

In 2017 this was undertaken in a number of ways - by **Training of Parish Pastoral Councils** offering through the year three adult Faith Development Programmes and assisting parishes with Pastoral Assemblies. The Office gave practical assistance to parishes when questions or liturgies of an Ecumenical nature emerged. This Office also supports the diocesan Lay Parish Pastoral Worker programme.

A particular priority of the Office last year was the outreach programme, **Dublin Young Church Initiative**. A dedicated team based in St Paul's Arran Quay build capacity to train and equip young leaders in their parishes to engage in this work. The Young Church initiatives in 2017 included:

The **Teen Hope Programme** - a parish based faith outreach to teenagers. Throughout 2017, it provided opportunities and continued support for teenagers to encounter and get to know God in Jesus Christ, through fun and exciting activities, while at the same time building faith friendships. Its aim is to help the young person discover their true value and worth, inspired by *Jeremiah 29:11*: "I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for your peace, not disaster, reserving a future full of hope for you." It is designed so that young people will have the skills and confidence to be leaders in their own parishes.

The **Encounter** event is growing in momentum each month, with a real mix of people from different backgrounds. In 2017 it attracted between 80 -100 young people with many third level students attending. The programme included scripture, prayer, testimony and live contemporary Christian music.

The Office for Evangelisation and Ecumenism



Pope John Paul II Awards Eighty-eight young people received the accolade of the Pope John Paul II Awards last year. In recent years there has been a conscious effort to shift from the young person's experience of the Award which is school based. Schools are accepted where there are clear connections with local parishes.

FaithFest is an event for teenagers which builds spaces where teenagers have an experience of a peer community, explore faith, and encounter an experience of welcome, belonging, discipleship, worship and prayer in a creative and fun atmosphere. Three FaithFest events were held in 2017.

The Foundational Leadership Programme (FLP) offers participants a unique opportunity to explore and develop Gospel centred transformational leadership Skills. The programme comprised a mix of input from experts, reflective practices, mentoring, journaling, spiritual accompaniment, workshops and social immersion. In 2017 it was run jointly between the Catholic and Church of Ireland Dioceses of Dublin

The Office for Evangelisation and Ecumenism collaborated closely with other diocesan offices in advancing planning and training for sacramental programmes that included Baptism and First Communion. Parish training for Funeral Ministry Teams were also initiated this year.

Child Safeguarding and Protection Service



The team at CSPS continued to work alongside those working in our parishes, diocesan offices and agencies and faith groups operating within the Diocese to ensure that families know that the Church is, in the words of Pope Francis, “*making every effort to protect their children*”.

16,000 vetting applications were completed in 2017, the same number as for 2016.

Over 2,300 people attended safeguarding training days and information sessions, a similar figure as for 2016.

During 2017, a sustained effort was made to provide training for those who volunteer for the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Twelve training sessions were provided for over 400 volunteers and the scope of the training was expanded to include safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

Parishes are increasingly monitoring their own safeguarding practice and this provides an opportunity for those within the parish to take ownership of the process and enhance their own practice. 57 self-audits were completed last year and the plan is for every parish to do so within a three year cycle. This work would be impossible without the active input of the Parish Safeguarding Representatives - 383 representatives were in place by the end of 2017.

The service continued to provide support to those who suffered abuse as children within a church context and to their families. The service manages allegations of child sexual abuse against priests of the Diocese. There were nine such allegations received in 2017. Only one of these concerned a priest not previously known to the service and this priest was deceased. The total number of Dublin Diocesan Priests against whom allegation of child sexual abuse have been made stood at 112 at the end of 2017. Meetings were held with representatives of Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, and An Garda Síochána to ensure that the proper procedures were followed when risks to the safety and welfare of children were identified.

Significant new legislation came into effect at the end of the year, with the commencement of important sections of the Children First Act 2015. Among other reforms to the child protection system, this introduced mandatory reporting of child protection concerns. This imposes a legal obligation on certain post holders, known as mandated reporters, to report such concerns to Tusla. This new legislation has important implications for the Diocese as priests, deacons and parish pastoral workers are included within the definition of mandated reporters. The new legislation required changes to diocesan child protection policy and members of the team have been providing training, information and advice to mandated reporters within the Diocese on their new responsibilities.

Vocations Office



The Vocations Office encourages and promotes vocations to the priesthood and permanent diaconate in the Archdiocese. The Vocations Director appointed in 2016 is Fr. Enda Cunningham. Fr. John Gilligan is the Director of the Permanent Diaconate.

2017 saw the ordination of two men to the priesthood in the Diocese, Fr. James Daly and Fr. Bill O' Shaughnessy. They were ordained by Archbishop Martin on the Feast of St. Laurence O' Toole, November 14th in St. Mary's Pro Cathedral. Four men are currently studying for the priesthood in Dublin – one doing a propaedeutic year in Valladolid in Spain while three are studying in the Irish College in Rome.

Permanent Diaconate



The areas of ministry entrusted to Permanent Deacon's fall under three general headings; Altar, Word and Charity. Deacons can assist the priest at the celebration of the Eucharist; they can celebrate Baptism and Marriage and preside at funerals. They also facilitate visiting the sick, prisoners and the bereaved and promoting awareness of the social teaching of the church. In partnership with priests and parish pastoral workers, their role includes supporting the structures, which allow for the wider participation of the lay faithful in a range of ministries in the parish and in the wider community. 22 Permanent deacons are in ministry in the Diocese. In 2017, 8 men began formation for the diaconate. Formation takes five years. Deacons are ordained after the third year.

Diocesan Archives



Religious archives are places of memory of the Christian community. In terms of specific content, archives preserve the sources describing the historical development of the Church community as well as those relating to the liturgical, sacramental, educational and the charitable activities, which the clergy, religious, and lay members of the Church have carried out throughout the centuries up the present day.

In 2017, the Diocesan Archives dealt with over 1,750 research enquiries. These enquiries came from academics, university students, local and family history researchers as well as parishes, diocesan agencies and the diocesan offices.

At present work continues on the cataloguing of the final tranche of the Archbishop McQuaid

papers. Work is ongoing in organising the papers of Archbishop Byrne with a view to commencing their cataloguing soon. Recently more material from the time of Cardinal Paul Cullen (1852-1878) has been discovered and this is currently being added into the existing catalogue.

The archive is actively involved in all aspects of records management and Data Protection for both parishes and diocesan offices. Information and training sessions for all parishes and diocesan staff took place throughout the year.

In 2017, the archive began preparing documents for an exhibition relating to the War of Independence and Civil War. Much of this material has never been in the public domain previously.

Chancellery



The Chancellery is the office which deals mainly, though not exclusively, with Canon Law matters. It serves as a resource to give advice on canonical issues to the Archbishop, his staff, priests, diocesan agencies and parishes.

This includes those matters which relate to the sacraments and in particular marriage. This involves the processing of documentation for marriages abroad; applications for dispensations and permissions such as mixed marriage; people wishing to marry who have had an annulment, or who have been previously married in a civil ceremony.

It deals with the authorisation to change parish registers and adoption queries. It processes the granting of faculties for priests; the registration of solemnisers for marriage; laicisations of clergy and matters relating to the diocese and parishes as juridical persons.

The office had another particularly busy year in 2017, especially in processing of sacramental documentation and statistical information. Chancellery staff assisted with the necessary requirements for 14,147 Baptisms, 14,927 Confirmations, helped 1,624 couples who were married in 2017. Parishes were assisted with notifications on 7,972 people who died during the year.

Office for Clergy supports the spiritual, theological, pastoral, continuing formation wellbeing and general care of the Clergy.

Office for Religious provides support services for all religious contemplative men and women, active sisters, brothers and priests, especially in canonical matters.

Human Resources



Throughout the year, the office continued providing advice, guidance and administrative support to parishes and the Curia regarding all employment related matters. This included compliance with employment legislation such as the preparation of contracts of employment, guidance on payroll requirements, as well as the production and dissemination of up-to-date HR Policies and

Procedures. The Office up-dates these policies regularly in line with changes to legislation. In addition, the Office for Human Resources sources appropriate external training for staff, for example on health and safety. In 2017 the Office undertook to deliver training on direct accounts and pastoral management systems for parish staff.

Finance Secretariat



The Finance secretariat provides financial advice and support to parishes as well as advice, guidance and supervision of parish building and maintenance projects.

In 2017, the Finance Secretariat was responsible for the ongoing implementation of a standardised parish accounting system throughout the Diocese. Accounting records are recorded on Accounts IQ. Parishes continued to be supported in the use of the uniform pastoral management and accounting systems through training of parish staff.

The Finance Secretariat advises parishes on financial and legal matters, such as banking arrangements, financial controls, accounting obligations under the Charities Act and legal issues.

The Finance Secretariat administers the two weekly collections taken up at Masses in the parishes. The Secretariat processes salary payments to diocesan employees and provides administration services in relation to pension and health insurance. The Secretariat process the monthly payments to active and retired priests, payments of expenses such as supplier invoices, insurance premiums and

payments to the beneficiaries of the restricted funds.

The Finance Secretariat is responsible for the production of annual accounts and budgets for a number of diocesan entities.

The Property Section of the Finance Secretariat oversees building maintenance and projects, particularly in the maintenance of 241 Church Buildings, 127 of which are listed buildings.

The Office advises the Diocesan trustees in conjunction with the various Financial Committees. The Trustees are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the books of the accounts of the Parishes and for the provision and disclosures to the accountants of all information relevant to the purpose and compilation of the financial statements.

The **2017 Financial Statements** of the Archdiocese and its parishes are now available on line at www.dublindiocese.ie

Office for Financial Development



In its second year of work the Office for Financial Development (OFD) continued to assist parishes in their efforts to secure the financial underpinnings of their pastoral work.

The Office worked with dozens of parishes to help them apply for tax relief for gifts made by parishioners. Throughout this programme of work the OFD promoted the use of envelope-based giving for the First and Share Collections so that gifts to these collections are eligible for tax relief, which stay in the parish, supplementing the Family Offering and Dues and other gifts received.

The move from cash-based to cash-less transactions, including the giving of support to the Church, accelerated during 2017 in Ireland and in many other countries. The OFD worked in 2017 to identify methods of giving which will allow cash-less giving to grow without discouraging the traditional methods of support.

During 2017, the OFD began to work closely with a number of philanthropic donors, individuals and foundations, to develop funds for key projects in the Archdiocese. Over 1.2 million Euro was pledged for projects including parish centres, church renovations and renovations to presbyteries, with an emphasis on the poorer parishes of the Archdiocese.

A number of individual parishes conducted specific campaigns for parish needs and sought the assistance of the Office for Financial Development in planning their appeals to parishioners and others.

The Archdiocese has responsibility for over 150 protected churches and other structures, each deserving of appropriate maintenance and respect. In 2017 the OFD sought and won a small number of Structures at Risk and Built Heritage Investment Scheme grants, developing funding from these and other sources in order to be able to re-roof, re-point safeguard important churches so that they will continue to serve as places of worship for many years to come. This work will be extended in future years.

The important work of encouraging Legacy Gifts in the form of bequests began in 2017 and will build in future years.

Communications Office



The Communications Office continued with its core functions of internal and external communications throughout 2017. 199 parishes and over 400 priests, pastoral workers and deacons received updates two to three times weekly. Updates are made available to parishes for the purpose of assisting them populating their websites, newsletters and social media sites with information on parish and diocesan events. This service was enhanced this year with the introduction of a third stream of internal communication to parishes, a secure area on the Diocesan website, making it easier for priests, parishes to access administrative and governance documents from the Diocesan Support Services.

The Communications office also took on the responsibility of co-ordinating the Diocesan obligations for compliance with Lobbying legislation and registration. The Office provided media support and advice to parishes, both diocesan agencies, Crosscare and Accord and to the Offices of the World Meeting of Families as preparations began in earnest for this global event and the expected visit of Pope Francis.

Throughout 2017 over 300 media queries were

processed from local, national and international media, over 100 press releases issued on behalf of Archbishop Martin, Diocesan groupings, parishes and agencies as well as assistance provided with over 1,300 queries from members of the public and other religious organisations. Among the key events of the year involving media, were the death of the Late Cardinal Desmond Connell, the visit of Coptic Pope Tawadros II, the ordinations of Fr. James Daly and Bill O' Shaughnessy and the handing over by the Archdiocese of Mater Dei College to be run as a hub and more towards homeless families. Media attention nationally and internationally began to focus on the World Meeting of Families and the possibility of a visit to Ireland by Pope Francis and this generated many inquiries. The Communications office is responsible for producing daily updates on three key communications platforms, www.dublindiocese.ie, Facebook and Twitter. Across all three platforms, core audiences continue to record upward trends. The office also produced the comprehensive Dublin Diocesan Directory for 2017. Work continues to reduce the level of printed content in circulation at Diocesan level towards having comprehensive information on the Archdiocese available on-line.

Education



At primary level the “Grow in Love” in-service training for the Religious Education Programme, was attended by 98% of our Catholic schools. In 2016, a pilot programme of music celebration was launched in conjunction with the Diocesan Liturgical Resource Centre called “Laudate”, which asked 20 schools to demonstrate their musical talents.

The Post-Primary sector of the Education Secretariat supports the Emmanuel concert series with the Diocesan Liturgical Resource Centre. The Post-Primary ‘Ember’ programme is a Faith leadership programme which saw 20 schools and 170 pupils receive training last year. The pupils bring this

experience to their respective schools and organise liturgical events and social justice initiatives throughout the school year.

The Education Secretariat assisted the redeployment of 36 teachers from the Main Panel and 238 teachers on the Supplementary panels to various schools within the Diocese as well as assisting with the appointment of 39 principals in Diocesan schools. The Education Secretariat liaises with the Education Training Boards in Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow. The Education Secretariat assists the Archbishop’s nominees on Community Schools and Community Colleges.

Lourdes Pilgrimage



The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is the largest of its kind in Ireland.

In 2017 over 2,000 people left Dublin for the Pilgrimage on board 10 different flights. The group included 200 sick pilgrims, parishioners, students, priests, volunteers, musicians and medical teams.

130 secondary students from schools throughout the Archdiocese took part – including for the first time students from Coláiste Chill Mhantáin and Maryfield College in Drumcondra.

300 young adults joined the Youth Group, 45 nurses volunteered, 8 doctors and 650 people helped out in a wide variety of roles – not just for the six-day pilgrimage but throughout the year. Dr. Maeve O'Reilly is the current Chief Medical Officer and with Rosaleen O'Malley Director of Nursing, with their teams, they look after the medical needs of the sick pilgrims on a round-the-clock rota basis. In the months prior to travelling to Lourdes this team is also involved in the selection of the sick pilgrims. Fr. Martin Noon is Director of the Lourdes Pilgrimage.

The annual Children's Pilgrimage took place at Easter. The Children's Pilgrimage is a much smaller group, but a very important one, as it joins with thousands of other child pilgrims from all over the world each Easter Week. Forty children travelled from Dublin assisted by the same number of helpers and a team of chaplains, doctors and nurses.

Agencies



The Diocese has two Agencies:

Crosscare, based in Clonliffe, is the Social Care Agency of the Archdiocese of Dublin and works with thousands people living in poverty, homelessness and on the margins of society on behalf the Diocese www.crosscare.ie



Accord Dublin moved their offices and staff to Holy Cross Diocesan Centre in 2016 from where they now continue to and deliver marriage guidance counselling and support, marriage preparation courses and sex education programmes to schools throughout the Archdiocese.

The Lourdes Pilgrimage, Crosscare and Accord are separate registered charities and file their own financial statements

Thank you for your ongoing support for the Archdiocese of Dublin



- **The First Collection** at Masses each weekend goes towards the support of our priests as well as supporting sick and retired priests.
 - **The Second Collection** at Masses, the Share collection, supports our parishes, priests, deacons and lay people working together in mission a variety of different ways
 - Church Repairs & Financial support for Parishes
 - Parish Pastoral Workers & Catechists
 - Evangelisation and Liturgy Programmes & Events
 - Faith Development for Young adults and Youth Groups
 - Support for our Catholic Schools
 - Child Safeguarding & Protection & Garda Vetting
 - Parish Financial & Property Management, HR Support and advice
 - Communications between Parishes and the wider Church
 - Diocesan Archives – preserving our history for future generations
- The Third collection, **The Family Offering**, goes towards the upkeep of your local parish church.
 - **Bequests & Donations** Throughout the year individuals continued to support the work of the Archbishop and his priests and parishes by remembering them in their wills and also by individual donation.
- If you would like more information on how you can support the Mission of the Archdiocese please contact Mathew Kelly or Patricia Clifford in the Office for Financial Development:
- Malcom Kelly**
Tel: 01- 8087584
Email: Malcolm.kelly@dublindiocese.ie
- or
- Patricia Clifford**
Tel: 01- 8087584
Email: Patricia.clifford@dublindiocese.ie
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