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Sharing the Good News



Archbishop Eamon Martin to commemorate two papal visits with prayer service 'For Ireland and for Humanity'

On Sunday 29 September, Archbishop Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh and Apostolic Administrator of Dromore Diocese, will lead a special prayer service 'For Ireland and Humanity' at the Papal Cross near Drogheda, Co Louth. The service is taking place to commemorate the first anniversary of the visit of the Holy Father Pope Francis and the 40th anniversary of the visit of Pope Saint John Paul II to Ireland.

Speaking ahead of the prayer service, Archbishop Eamon said, "The tragedy of violence and conflict continues in many parts of the world today. In particular, Ireland, north and south, is going through a period of political and economic uncertainty and the imminent introduction of very liberal abortion legislation in Northern Ireland continues to give grave cause for concern. We will use the same prayer service that Pope Saint John Paul II used to pray for peace and reconciliation in Drogheda, forty years ago. It is the perfect prayer for us during these troubled and uncertain times."

Archbishop Eamon has invited parishioners from across the dioceses of Armagh and Dromore to join with him at the same time in their own parishes to pray for peace and for the protection of life and humanity. The prayer service will be live-streamed on the Armagh Diocesan Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseOfArmagh/>

We are all urged to welcome, protect, promote and integrate migrants - Bishop Denis Brennan

Ahead of the 105th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, which will be celebrated globally on Sunday 29 September, Bishop Denis Brennan, chair of the Bishops' Council for Immigrants, has launched a new resource pack for parishes. Speaking as he launched the resource, Bishop Brennan said, "Our first thoughts and prayers are with our migrant brothers and sisters who live here among us in Ireland, in our dioceses, our parishes and most especially those in direct provision centres in our country. We are all urged to adopt a decided stance and course of action summed up in four simple verbs: welcome, protect, promote and integrate.



"I hope this resource pack will assist in raising awareness of the challenges facing our migrants and refugees in Ireland, and throughout the world. I encourage everyone to make use of these resources to reach out meaningfully and warmly in their parishes."

The resource pack is available now to download from www.catholicbishops.ie.



Bishop Denis Nulty of Kildare and Leighlin pictured at the 'Ploughing' with blessed salt for farmers where he also announced that the *Hail Mary* was voted Ireland's favourite prayer.



News in Pictures

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin & Brother Kevin Crowley at breakfast to mark the anniversary of Pope Francis' visit to the Capuchin Day Centre as part of his visit to Ireland for WMOF2018.



Members of the Bishops' Council for Life pictured following its inaugural meeting in Maynooth on 16 September.



99 year old Nora Hawkes was one of the 2,000 pilgrims on this year's Dublin Diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage which was led by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin. See dublindiocese.ie

Bishop Donal McKeown of Derry has paid tribute to Bishop Séamus Hegarty's commitment to Irish emigrants. Bishop McKeown was speaking at the Funeral Mass of Bishop Hegarty, Bishop Emeritus of Derry and former Bishop of Raphoe, who died on Friday 20 September. Speaking in Saint Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, Bishop McKeown said, "Many had to leave this island because of unemployment and other reasons. Some ended up in dire poverty abroad and he worked tirelessly to support the emigrant chaplaincies around the world." Read the homily in full on www.catholicbishops.ie



Fifteen seminarians have begun their formation and academic programme for 2019 – 2020. The new students are currently in formation in Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth and the Pontifical Beda College, Rome; with a number beginning their propaedeutic programme in other locations in Ireland and abroad. This brings to 68 the total number studying for the priesthood for Irish dioceses. Commenting on the 2019 – 2020 intake of seminarians, Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan, chair of the Bishops' Council for Vocations, said, "These formation figures released today offer us a sign of hope." For more see www.vocations.ie.

Role of faith in politics discussed at Kennedy Summer School 2019

Archbishop Eamon Martin delivered the Edward M Kennedy lecture at the annual Kennedy Summer School which took place this year on 5 September in New Ross, Co Wexford. Archbishop Eamon addressed the Summer School on the role of 'Faith in Politics'. The Primate said that bringing faith to politics is not an optional extra for a committed Christian and that we are called to be "faith – full" citizens, bearing witness in the public sphere, to scrutinise "the signs of the times. Archbishop Eamon is pictured with Willie Keilthy, Director of the Summer School with Sinéad McSweeney, wife of the late Noel Whelan and their son Séamus Whelan. Mr Whelan was the founder of the Kennedy Summer School and he passed away in July this year.

