



# SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Monthly newsletter for Dioceses and Parishes Issue 13 - November 2014

Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference

Columba Centre, Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co Kildare



Vocations directors conference in Maynooth

## Address of Pope Francis for conclusion of Synod of Bishops



Speaking in October at the conclusion of the well publicised Third Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, Pope Francis said: "With a heart full of appreciation and gratitude I want to thank, along with you, the Lord who has accompanied and guided us in the past

days, with the light of the Holy Spirit. I can happily say that – with a spirit of collegiality and of synodality – we have truly lived the experience of 'Synod', a path of solidarity, a 'journey together.' And it has been 'a journey' – and like every journey there were moments of running fast, as if wanting to conquer time and reach the goal as soon as possible; other moments of fatigue, as if wanting to say 'enough'; other moments of enthusiasm and ardour. There were moments of profound consolation listening to the testimony of true pastors, who wisely carry in their hearts the joys and the tears of their faithful people. Moments of consolation and grace and comfort hearing the testimonies of the families who have participated in the Synod and have shared with us the beauty and the joy of their married life." Read the full text of the Pope's concluding address on [catholicbishops.ie/synod](http://catholicbishops.ie/synod). For more see the December/January issue of *Intercom* magazine when Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, who represented the Irish Bishops' Conference at the Synod, will offer his reflections on the Synod.

## NEWS SNIPPETS

- Writing in this month's *Intercom* magazine Úna Ní Dhubhghaill, the new CEO of the Charities Regulatory Authority, outlines what the Charities Act means for your parish. Read the article on [www.catholicbishops.ie/tag/intercom/](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/tag/intercom/)
- To accompany the recent pastoral on climate justice *The Cry of the Earth - A Call to Action for Climate Justice*, Trócaire has produced a new resource for parishes called GLAS. To download please see [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie).

## Year for Consecrated Life

Pope Francis has asked the Universal Church to celebrate a special Year for Consecrated Life from 29 November 2014 - 2 February 2016. The year will mark the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II decree on the renewal of consecrated life. Bishops ask the faithful to pray to support those who are consecrated to serve in religious life, and to pray for vocations.

## Diocesan Vocations Directors Conference in Maynooth

Diocesan Vocations Directors from around Ireland met in Maynooth for their annual conference on 26 and 27 October on the theme 'I will make you fishers of men' (Mt 4:19). Fr Stephen Langridge from Southwark Diocese was the keynote speaker. Read a special report from this conference on [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie).

- This year's online Advent Calendar will go live on [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie) to coincide with the first Sunday of Advent on 30 November.
- Audio: hear the interview with Bishop Kevin Doran on vocations on [vocations.ie](http://vocations.ie) or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.
- Read the address of guest speaker Archbishop Eamon Martin at this year's Radharc Awards on Church and media relations: <http://tinyurl.com/kjdkujy>



## New report published on the future of voluntary secondary schools



The future of Catholic secondary schools has been a matter of concern for all those involved in Catholic education over recent years. *Catholic education at second – level in the Republic of Ireland, Looking to the Future* is a new report on this issue launched by the

Catholic Schools Partnership and can be accessed on [catholicbishops.ie](http://catholicbishops.ie).



**Pope Francis' Tweet of the Month:** "The family is where we are formed as people. Every family is a brick in the building of society." Follow Pope Francis on Twitter @Pontifex.

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