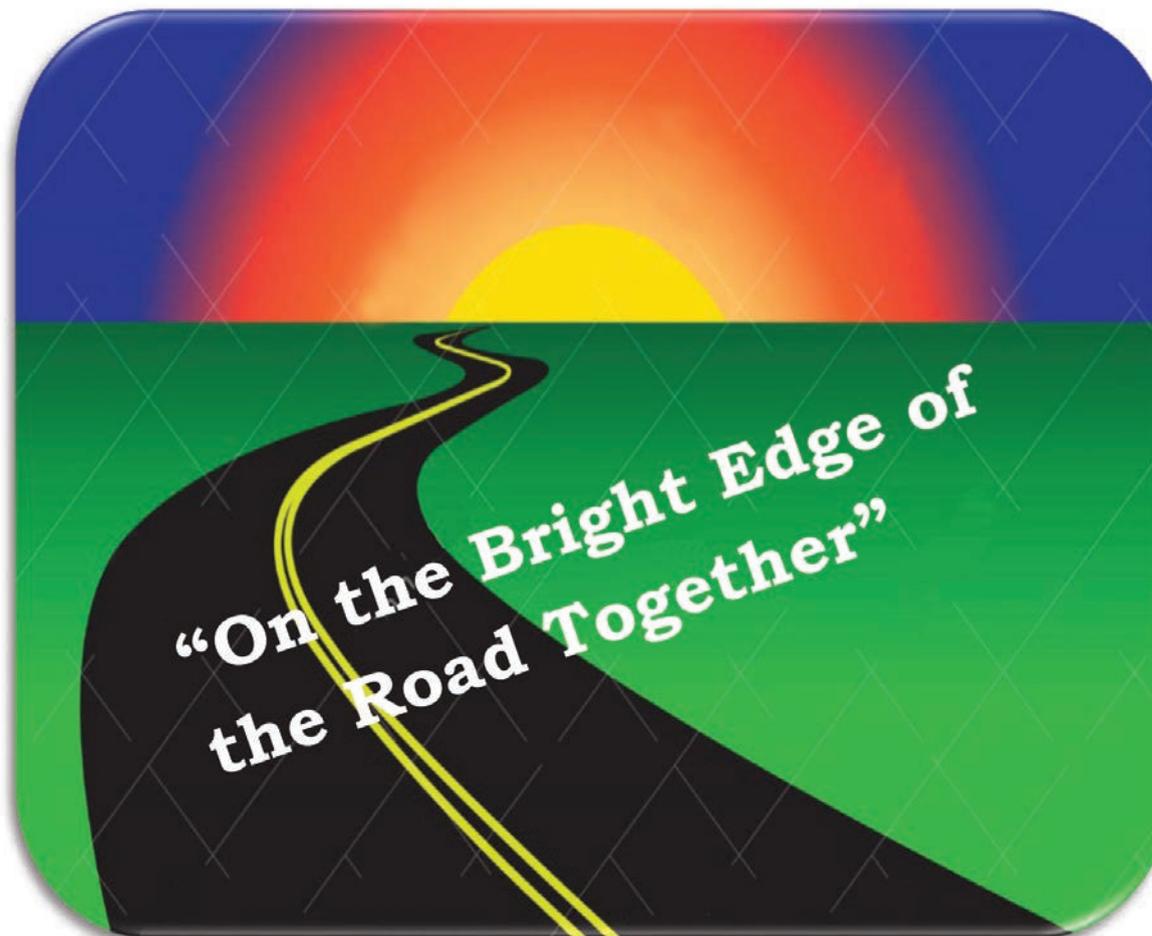




AGM Report

September 2017 - May 2018



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Marc Whelan C.S.Sp.

The purpose of AMRI is to represent and promote active collaboration between Religious Institutes, Societies of Apostolic Life and Missionary Organisations, so as to respond to existing and emerging realities both in Ireland and overseas by supporting and energising the life and ministries of their members and of the wider Church with a renewed sense of hope and relevance.

AMRI is still very much a recent foundation and we are still at the stage of growing into our role and mission. To say that we are just the amalgamation of two organisations of similar purposes and objectives would be to miss the point that we are engaged in something new and seeking to forge new pathways for discipleship and Gospel commitment in Ireland (cf Is 43:19). We seek to bring together religious, members of Societies of Apostolic Life and lay people in a desire to work together in the sowing of the seeds of a new Church.



In these days of Pentecost, we recognise how much we need to be attentive to the promptings of God's Spirit as we seek to plough new furrows buoyed up, as we are, by the grace of a rich harvest, fruit of those who ploughed before us.

Among the objectives we have given ourselves are the development and promotion of religious, apostolic and missionary life as a vibrant, prophetic, organic and integral feature of the life of the church.

It has been an honour for me to serve as the first President of AMRI. I have been privileged to serve with an excellent and truly committed Executive Committee, and supported by the dedicated and talented staff working with the Secretary General. I would like to think that in the spirit of leadership in religious life we have worked together as a team taking a conciliar model as our way of operating.

Obviously, as with any new organisation, much of our time has been taken up with issues of governance and putting in place the structures and systems necessary for an effective and accountable service to the mission entrusted to us.

The Executive Committee put in place a Working Group to refine and give precision to the strategic framework that was the fruit of such hard work during the transition period that led to the creation of AMRI. With the help of a Consultant, Ms Anne Kelleher, we believe we can now present to the organisation a Strategic Plan that will set the path for us for the next three years (2018-2021) and which will be complimented by an Implementation Plan to ensure delivery of our strategic direction at all levels of the organisation.

While working on this Strategic Plan the Executive Committee also put into place two sub committees of the Executive Committee: Finance and Governance and Justice and Peace. A group of lay missionaries also meet regularly as does Act to Prevent Trafficking, an initiative supported by AMRI. I would like to thank all those people from our different member organisations for giving of their time and expertise to serve on these groups. It is at the level of sub-committees and working groups, working with the different services of AMRI, that I believe much of our work and mission will be achieved.

We maintain excellent relationships with the Irish Episcopal Conference and three times a year we have a structured conversation with the four Archbishops on issues of mutual concern and interest. We are also very grateful for the support of the Papal Nuncio to Ireland. Many of our members belong to communities and organisations that straddle more than one jurisdiction. We seek to enhance good relationships with our sister conferences in Europe through membership of UCESM. We are especially close to the Conference of Religious of England and Wales and the Conference of Religious of Scotland with whom we hope to develop even closer ties and cooperation into the future.

My participation in the Executive Committee has enhanced my service of leadership within my own community and I am very grateful for this. I would like on my behalf, but also on behalf of the Executive Committee to thank and acknowledge the work of Sr. Liz Murphy (Secretary General), Sr Sheila Curran (JPIC), Mr Jim Farrell (Lay Mission Coordinator), Sr Eithne Woulfe (Education), Aoife O'Brien (office) and Sandra Neville (Garda Vetting). I also thank our staff on the Religious Formation Ministry Programme at Willow Park – Sr Ann Concannon, Fr Tom McNamara, Br Peter Roddy and Sr Geraldine Collins. All AMRI staff render such an important service to our membership and ensure that AMRI remains a vibrant and prophetic voice in our Church.

MARC WHELAN C.S.Sp.
President AMRI

May 2018



FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

INTRODUCTION

Looking back over the past nine months and seeing AMRI develop into its second year of life I am reminded of two writers. The first is the late and much loved John O'Donohue in his reflections on Beginnings (Benedictus: A Book of Blessings, p. 21):



Perhaps beginnings make us anxious because we did not begin ourselves. Others began us. Being conceived and born, we eventually enter upon ourselves already begun, already there. Instinctively, we grasp onto and continue within the continuity in which we find ourselves. Indeed, our very life here depends directly on continuous acts of beginning ...

Beginning precedes us, creates us and constantly takes us to new levels and places and people. There is nothing to fear in the act of beginning. More often than not, it knows the journey ahead better than we ever could. Perhaps the art of harvesting the secret riches of our lives is best achieved when we place profound trust in the act of beginning...

There is a certain innocence about beginning, with its excitement and promise of something new. But this will only emerge through undertaking some voyage into the unknown.

There are times when I feel AMRI has been around for years and then something happens like a letter arrives addressed to CORI or there is a phone call saying “Is that the IMU office?” and I realise we are still in a very new place and space. The former CORI and IMU files and documents have moved into archival space here at the AMRI office at Templeogue with their history preserved professionally having been reviewed and arranged by Dr Louise O’Reilly. That seems like an ending. But endings also give way to new beginnings. The AMRI 2018-2021 Strategic Plan will be launched at this AGM, the culmination of months of deliberation and reflection by the members of the Executive, offering a map to guide us into the future. What kind of future lies ahead for AMRI? Having this map to follow is like having google maps direct us on the journey. No doubt there will be surprises along the way!

This is where I come to my second writer. The Greek poet Constantine Cavafy wrote the memorable poem Ithaca describing what it is like to journey onwards. While Ithaca is an ancient Greek island associated with the travels of Odysseus it stands for any place, any organisation, any person willing to travel on without knowing what lies ahead. The journey is so much more important than the destination.

*As you set out for Ithaka
hope your road is a long one,
full of adventure, full of discovery...*

*May there be many summer mornings when,
with what pleasure, what joy,
you enter harbors you’re seeing for the first time;...*

*But don’t hurry the journey at all.
Better if it lasts for years,
so you’re old by the time you reach the island,
wealthy with all you’ve gained on the way.*

Since the last AMRI AGM on 7 September 2017 the journey has certainly continued to be “full of adventure, full of discovery.” Some of those adventures were highlighted in the **AMRI Chronicle December 2017**. With Easter Sunday falling on 1 April our story continued and those early months of 2018 were recorded in the **AMRI Chronicle March/Easter 2018**. Now that we are into the “merry month of May” with its “summer mornings” filled with pleasure and joy we don’t forget the challenges of “Storm Emma” and the unpleasant snow that caused so much disruption far and wide in February and March. This Report carries some of the ‘harbors’ encountered over the past nine months and you are asked to forgive the repetition from the two Chronicles.

AMRI EXECUTIVE

The members of the Executive have been most faithful to having regular meetings and these involve much of my work both in preparing for them with monthly reports, planning them with the President, and following up on action afterwards. Since the last AGM the Executive met on

6th September 2017	1 st February 2018
2nd November 2017	13 th March 2018
29th November 2017	11 th April 2018
13th December 2017	3 rd May 2018

Ms Lucy Franks addressed the March meeting pointing out clearly the fiduciary role of Executive members in relation to Corporate Governance, setting Strategic Direction and ensuring Policies are in place. She outlined the role of the Chair of the Board (President) and also the role of the CEO or Secretary General in relationship to the Board. Since these roles are outlined in both the Constitution and Statutes of AMRI I have found it very useful to have these points of reference as AMRI continues to grow and develop.

The Secretary General is responsible to the Association through the Executive Council and will have the following responsibilities:

- (a) Implementing the strategy of the Association
- (b) Carrying out the policy of the Executive Council and contributing to policy making
- (c) Being responsible for setting priorities and resource planning
- (d) Co-ordinating the work of the Secretariat and the various offices
- (e) Being responsible for the day to day running of the Secretariat which is the Executive arm of the Association
- (f) Ensuring that the services for the Executive Council, the Committees and the Association as a whole are provided efficiently
- (g) Negotiating, when designated to do so on behalf of the Association
- (h) Representing the Association and speaking on its behalf where appropriate. Liaising with other Bodies of the Association
- (i) Being responsible for financial control of the funds of the Association
- (j) Preparing an annual budget
- (k) Presenting an annual financial report (Statutes 24.3)

The Secretary General attends all meetings of the Executive Council unless requested by the President not to do so. (Statutes 13.5)

PARTNERSHIPS

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE IRISH EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE and AMRI



AMRI welcomed **NUNCIO OKOLO** at our September 2017 AGM. I attended his formal welcome by the Irish Bishops in Maynooth on 3rd October 2017 and Fr Marc and I were present at a Mass of welcome for him at the Pro Cathedral Dublin on Sunday 12th November 2017. Following his request to meet with the Executive this took place on 1st February 2018 at the Nunciature where we were warmly welcomed. Our relationship with CICLSAL in Rome is conducted through the Papal Nuncio.

Meetings between representatives of AMRI and the four Archbishops for conversation on matters of mutual interest take place quite regularly. With the Irish Episcopal Conference AMRI co-sponsors two companies: COIMIRCE and Towards Healing. Members of COIMIRCE include the four Archbishops together with Marc Whelan, C.S.Sp., Geraldine Fitzgerald SJOG, John Hennebry OSA and myself. The 2017 AGM took place on 4th September 2017 and the next



one will be held on 11 June 2018. AMRI also appointed two new Directors to the Safeguarding Board in 2017: Srs Nuala O’Gorman RSM and Evelyn Green HF. Work is underway on a *Review of Safeguarding Practice in the Catholic Church*

2018 and AMRI has contributed to this. On behalf of its members AMRI contributes substantially to the funding of COIMIRCE which costs approximately 420k per annum. With costs for 2017 amounting to €126,000 from AMRI this is built in to the Annual subscription of members. The cost for 2018 will be higher. The Staff at AMRI availed of training by the National Board on 20th November 2017 in relation to implementing *The Safeguarding Children Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016*.

TOWARDS HEALING



Work on creating a new **Memorandum of Understanding 2018/2019 and beyond** between the two sponsoring bodies **IEC/AMRI** and **Towards Healing** took considerable time in 2017/2018. This agreement was formally signed by both sponsors and Towards Healing following a meeting with members on 29th November 2017. A **budget** based system replaced the previous billing system from 1st January 2018. This created a new role for AMRI which is the recipient of Pledges from the congregations involved with Towards Healing to date, and from congregations choosing to support this initiative. This new approach means that congregations no longer receive bills directly from Towards Healing. The commitment of all to the implementation of this new MOU

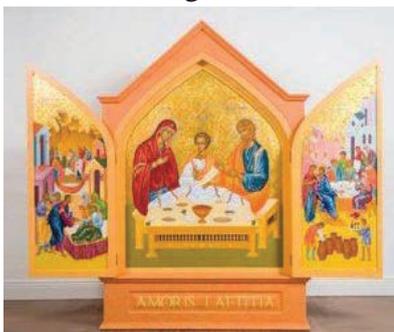
is vitally important as we go forward. The first tranche of payment was transferred in January 2018 and the second transfer will be made in June. However, this is dependent on receipt of the funds.



TOWARDS PEACE is the initiative started by the Irish Bishops in 2011 with the support of both CORI and IMU. It operates from an office in the Columba Centre, Maynooth. It offers support to survivors of abuse in their spiritual wellbeing. A recent review of this service took place in the past year leading to a reduction of staff from two to one and also to a reduction of hours. The former Board will now be replaced by a Steering Group. I am involved in the Steering Group and its planning into the future.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

Archbishop D Martin chairs the company set up to host the World Meeting of Families 2018 in the Archdiocese of Dublin. I was happy to convene meetings for Provincial Leaders/Bursars in Dublin on 4th October, in Cork on 19th October and in Ballinasloe on 22nd November to inform them about this event and how religious and missionaries might be involved. Information on how to



contact WMF2018 was sent by email to all AMRI

members at various times in the past year and congregations have been most generous in contributing towards the costs involved. Our Contemplative members have been involved in praying for the intentions of all as the Icon of the Family moves around the country. With the announcement of the visit by Pope Francis on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th August much interest has been aroused. AMRI has booked Exhibition Spaces at the RDS that will

be shared by various congregations, by Vocations Ireland and by Act to Prevent Trafficking (APT) group. We have been assured of reserved space for religious at the Festival of Families at Croke Park on Saturday 25th and at the Mass in the Phoenix Park on Sunday 26th. The website www.worldmeeting2018.ie continues to carry much information about this memorable event.

MISSION

Co-ordinated parish promotion programme (CPPP)

This programme is well known to the missionary congregations who conduct weekly visits to parishes all over the country bringing awareness of mission and the need for continued support. AMRI receives permission from the Bishops for this annually, and a five year programme is in place 2017-2021. During the past year AMRI hosted three meetings for all involved giving up-to-date information on Garda Vetting, learning about the Charity regulations in relation to funding procedures, and also how best to proclaim the Good News about mission. This is a demanding ministry and the great efforts of all involved deserve much appreciation.

Mission Month 2017

AMRI was pleased to co-operate with **World Mission Ireland** in the series of events that marked Mission Month in October 2017. This commenced with the viewing of a film on the life of Sr Paschal O'Sullivan IJ at the Irish Film Institute on 3rd October. Sr Paschal's relative created the story of this 101 year old missionary who spent 75 years in Japan. Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving for Irish missionaries in Maynooth on Sunday 8th October. AMRI was invited to take an active role in the RTE Mass on Mission Sunday on 22nd October where many of the students at the Religious Formation for Ministry Programme (Loreto House) brought a truly international dimension to the congregation that morning. AMRI is already involved with the National Mission Council and with World Mission Ireland in planning for the celebration of Mission Month 2019.

Returned missionaries transition workshop

The staff at the AMRI office welcomed 24 Returned Missionaries for a two day Transition workshop held on 27th and 28th September 2017. This was conducted by Dr Kevin Egan and gave opportunity for reflection on years of active ministry in different parts of the world and the challenges faced in returning to Ireland. Many met again at the Christmas Party at Wynns Hotel on 19th December which proved to be a highlight of the year for all who attended.

Fit for Life: This programme, initiated some time back by Deirdre, was taking place at the Blessed Sacrament Hall in Dublin once weekly. However, it needed structure and commitment. I put a formal 10 week programme in place in the Spring which was attended by twenty three very enthusiastic returned missionaries every Wednesday morning. This provided opportunity for weekly chat and catch up as well as being energetically mobilized. A further programme will take place in the autumn.



Mission Colloquium

To honour the 100th anniversary of their founding the Columban Fathers hosted a colloquium on Mission at Dalgan Park on February 8-9. Input was given by nine congregational Leaders based in different parts of the world. Ably facilitated by Sr Clare Slattery the 30+ participants explored mission. I was delighted to be invited to this event and gained enormously from the sharing there.

Laudato Tree Project

On Monday 26 March 2018 President Higgins and his wife Sabina hosted a reception at Áras on Uachtaráin on **DESERTIFICATION and IRELAND'S ROLE IN THIS GLOBAL CHALLENGE**. This event was in support of the Society of African Missions 'Laudato Tree Project' that is under the patronage of Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly. This is a major SMA initiative in the lead up to the World Meeting of Families 2018, in association with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). Inspired by Pope Francis' 2015 environmental encyclical "Laudato Si" and the



"Great Green Wall" project across 11 African countries, the "Laudato Tree" project aims to build support for climate action and tree planting, in Ireland and the Sahel region. Sr Sheila and I were honoured to be among the invited guests.

GENERAL SERVICES, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES



AMRI began to work on General Data Protection Regulation back in 2017 when two staff members availed of training. Following a request from some Provincial Leaders AMRI organised two days of training for Leaders, Bursars, Secretarial Staff and Archivists. Marianne Matthews, solicitor, conducted two workshops - one on 23 January 2018 was filled to capacity. A further workshop took place in Dunardagh on 6th February 2018. We were heartened to see such interest and we look forward to having congregations collaborating together on this important area. Further information on this will be available shortly.

Leadership Training and Development

A key role for AMRI is the provision of training for both Leaders and Formators. This has been taking place for over 30 years at the 'Loreto House' or Religious Formation for Ministry Programme based at Willow Park, Blackrock. Twenty six international students are availing of this programme in 2017/2018 and a further course is planned for 2018/2019. The Executive has put in place a Review of this programme that is in the capable hands of Professor Andrew McGrady. See Report by Ann Concannon.

A further Leadership training programme is also under consideration – the **Collaborative Leadership Development Programme**.(CLDP) aimed at younger religious and colleagues in ministry with us. Several meetings about this have taken place over the past year and it is hoped to progress this much more in 2018.

Garda Vetting

There has been a huge increase in the number of **Garda Vetting** applications sent into the office, most likely due to the new legislation that came into effect in January 2018. Sandra Neville has been managing all of these on your behalf. If you have any queries about Garda vetting please feel free to contact Sandra directly at neville.sandra@gmail.com.

Finance

Membership: Fees for 2017 were collected late in 2017. These were substantially reduced for the nine month period from March. There is much work to be completed on a daily, monthly and yearly basis as salaries are paid, contributions to various offices in Maynooth are made and also our Audit which has just been completed for 2017. The financial work on Towards Healing has been particularly onerous as the method of payment changed from individual congregations to AMRI. Updating two previous systems into one has taken enormous time and energy particularly

in dealing with banks. I wish to thank Philip Keveny from Keveny Monahan for his outstanding patience in bringing this work to conclusion for 2017. I also wish to thank the firm of Walsh O'Brien Harnett for providing us with accounting support on a monthly basis as well as doing our monthly payroll. We have now engaged a Financial Administrator, Cait, who will be with us one day per week. She can be contacted on accounts@amri.ie

COLLABORATION

Vocations Ireland. I attended the AGM of Vocations Ireland held at Emmaus on Saturday 11th November. Input was given by Bishop Donal McKeown. Research conducted by Dr Noelia Molina on *Religious Vocations in Ireland: Challenges & Opportunities* outlining some key findings in Ireland today was forwarded to all offices courtesy of Vocations Ireland.

ABRI (Association of Bursars of Religious of Ireland) was founded 'under the auspices of CORI' and is now 'under the auspices of AMRI.' The theme of its 3 day conference held at Emmaus 13-15 November was *Stewardship Today to Sustain Tomorrow*. This was very well attended. The Agenda covered significant input on Charity legislation, Data Protection, the practice of good Governance, the role of the Bursar's office, Cyber Security and legal issues. Davy Charities, the sponsors of the event, recorded much of the event and there are DVD's on the website giving the inputs by Sr Carol Zinn and myself.

COMMUNICATION/PUBLICATIONS

Guide to Retreats and Courses 2018

This annual Guide was created in good time towards the end of 2017 with the help of Collette Bradford. Copies were sent to all Congregational/Provincial offices, to Bishops and to all advertisers before Christmas. The Guide is also available on www.amri.ie

The **AMRI 2018 Address Guide** was published just before Christmas and was mailed in December. Permission to use your contact details in this was sought prior to publication. The Guide is available to members only.

Consecrated Life Celebration: A Ritual for this was circulated by AMRI for 2nd February. It is heartening to hear how this day is celebrated around the world and in many Dioceses here in Ireland. The Archdiocese of Dublin held its celebration on Saturday 3rd February at the Carmelite Church, Terenure and took the theme *New Wine in New Wineskins* based on the book with that title published by CICLSAL.

Amri Website: With Aoife's help, together with support from a voluntary web development group the AMRI website grew over the past year providing information on various documents, links to associated groups, information about stipends and fees, and current happenings. This has suffered in the past months due to Aoife's departure but is very much on our agenda as Colette, our new Executive Assistant/Office Manager starts on 28 May.

CONCLUSION

My final conclusion is to thank you, the members for your incredible support and co-operation in the past year. AMRI is your organisation, your network of support. It is always a delight to hear from you, to receive your cards at Christmas and Easter, to hear your voices on the phone, get your queries or questions by email. Know that we, the staff of AMRI are there to support you in any way we possibly can.



FROM THE JUSTICE PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION OFFICE

“The dignity of the human person and the common good rank higher than the comfort of those who refuse to renounce their privileges. When these values are threatened, a prophetic voice must be raised.” (Evangelii Gaudium, 218)

Overview

Impelled by the Gospel and disturbed by the many unjust structures in our world today, the AMRI JPIC office seeks to be an active voice in raising awareness and facilitating responses to migrant and refugee crisis as well as the degradation of earth. What follows is a snapshot of the activities undertaken since our last AGM in September 2017.

In order to work effectively, I felt it was important to create strategic partnerships with individuals, organisations and networks, who work on similar issues. Thankfully, this has been successful and I have developed strong alliances with others who work on similar issues. What follows are some examples.

AMRI and Irish Refugee Council on Housing and Integration of Refugees

Access to affordable housing is an ongoing challenge for many but ever more so for refugees. Despite our ongoing lobbying with many other organisations from civil society a clear policy on housing and integration has not been realised by our Government. I continue to meet with Minister David Stanton, Mr. Liam Dwyer and Ms Eve Leonard from the Irish Red Cross together with other NGOs on the housing issue.



I have been working with the Irish Refugee Council and liaising with our members on an integrated housing strategy. We have formed a “housing group” with members from the congregations who have generously offered property for the housing of refugees and migrants. Currently, 11 properties are being used to house refugees. One was recently featured on RTE’s Six One news. Those participating in this group are Tom O’Connor SPMS, Margaret Lynch and Manuela Coletti (RGS), Ellen O’Leary (RSHM), John Kilcrann and Garry Lyons CSSp, Kathleen McGarvey and Gabrielle Farrell OLA, Paul Hendrick CFC, Margaret Corkery (RSM, South Central Province), Rory O’Neill (IRC) and myself. We meet regularly to discuss the challenges involved and how best to address them.

AMRI is collaborating with the Good Shepherd Sisters in a Research Project looking at the contribution made by religious congregations and missionary societies to housing of vulnerable groups in the Republic of Ireland, with a view to looking at good practice and policy reform within the housing system. We will be depending on your collaboration. Also, if any other members are interested in offering a property for the short-term or long-term needs of refugees please contact me. Housing is needed.

Spirasi Befriending Project: The programme currently has a total of 28 AMRI volunteer



befrienders, the majority of whom are female. One of the unique aspects of this project is that it is intergenerational, cross-cultural and interfaith. Spirasi are looking for more volunteers to participate in their Befriending Project in the following places: Drogheda, Galway, Waterford, Clare, Longford, Portlaoise, and Sligo. They are keen to

grow the service from its predominantly Dublin based roots. They value AMRI volunteers as they are so experienced and empathetic and they find it easy to match them with clients/students. I would like to express my gratitude to Deirdre Markey (Spirasi) and all those who have volunteered their services.

NASC: I have been working closely with NASC in Cork. In particular we have been supporting their campaign on Safe Passage and Family Reunification. AMRI welcomes the recent Government's announcement that citizens and refugees can now request permission for family members to join them in Ireland under a new humanitarian admission programme. This will allow family members and dependents, including those not covered under the existing provisions of the International Protection Act 2015, to reunite with their family in Ireland. These include Irish citizens, who currently do not have a right to family reunification under the Act.

Dublin Interfaith Forum and European Anti-Racism Network



AMRI is a member of both groups and at present I am part of a team developing training for faith communities to work on issues related to racism. We are at present running this programme with members from different faith communities and to date it has been well received. Interfaith and Anti-Racism work are vital in building an inclusive and diverse Ireland. Anti-Racism training will be offered by AMRI in the autumn for those who are interested.

Bishops Conference on International Relations and Social Affairs

I attend the Bishop's Conference on International Relations and Social Affairs meetings and work closely with their researcher on relevant issues.

AMRI Refugee Solidarity Fund

This fund has enabled us to support and be in solidarity with organisations that are working with migrants and refugees. A second round of funding has been allocated to organisations who sent in reports and demonstrated how a second round of funding would help consolidate the work they were able to undertake as a result of having access to this fund managed by AMRI. Each of these projects received €10,000 in December 2017:

- Spirasi: Befriending project
- Irish Refugee Council: Integration and Housing Project
- Dun Laoghaire Refugee Project: Educational Support and Mentoring
- Lantern Centre: Counselling and Integration Support Project
- Doras Luimni: Proactive Integration Project
- NASC Cork: "Connect" — holistic advocacy and support for migrant young people
- MRCI: The Sky is the Limit — securing rights for undocumented migrants

The reports from projects funded in the previous round of funding are available on request to leaders who donated money to the fund. I wish to thank Fr. John Kilcrann C.S.Sp. and Sr. Margaret Lynch RGS, who are part of this funding committee, for their reviews of the reports and sorting through the applications for funding.

The fund is now low and I would like to hear from members if they interested in continuing to support an AMRI Refugee Fund.

MRCI Justice for Undocumented

I continue to work with MRCI in advocating for the regularisation of undocumented people in Ireland. We actively supported their St Patrick's Day weekend, where over a 100 undocumented men and women living across Ireland posted selfies of their faces, homes and families online to raise awareness of the estimated 20,000-26,000 undocumented people living and working in Ireland. In solidarity with the undocumented here, we all need to keep reminding our political leaders that when they are highlighting the situation of the undocumented Irish in the USA undocumented migrants want to remind them of the other undocumented Irish who live here, belong here, and are contributing positively to Irish society.

Trocaire

I have been working with Lorna Gold from Trocaire on fossil fuel divestment and ethical faith-based investments for some time. To date, five Irish congregations/missionary societies have committed publicly to the fossil free pledge and I'm hopeful that others might be considering such a move. To date, the Kiltigans, Columbans, Mercy Northern Province, Presentation Sisters (Generalate and two Provinces), Srs of St Joseph of Chambery and Srs of St. John of God have pledged. In the light of the visit of Pope Francis, it be wonderful if more congregations would consider supporting the growing momentum on the Catholic divestment pledge here in Ireland. Any congregation can sign the fossil free pledge in its own right. This can be done regardless of whether they have investments in fossil fuels. It is a commitment for the organisation to be fossil free within 5 years. I ask AMRI members who have not signed to date to consider doing so. It would be a prophetic step.



International partnerships

JPIC Meeting in Rome



I attended the JPIC Workshop in Rome from November 15-18, 2017. The meeting offered an opportunity to meet JPIC promoters from Leadership Teams based in Rome as well as an opportunity to network with organisations working with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers such as: Rete Migrant UISG, Talitha Kum and the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development and the JRS project in Rome. I am in regular contact with this organisation as we continue to work more collaboratively with each other.

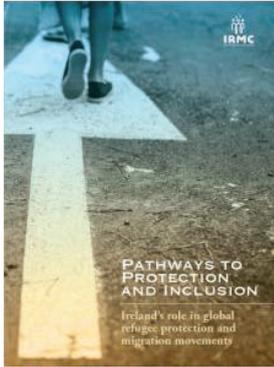
UISG Rome

I am also in regular contact with Sr. Florence de la Villéon, from the Migrant International Desk. We have had two meetings and we are now looking at ways to develop an international network to help us respond more effectively to the situation of migrants and refugees.

INFLUENCING GOVERNMENT POLICY

The Irish Refugee and Migrant Coalition (IRMC)

The coalition seeks to advance the rights and dignity of people on the move and those in need of international protection. We also act as a “watchdog” on the State’s performance. Working as a coalition also avoids duplication, and our collective voice is an added advantage when it comes to influencing government policy. It also enhances AMRI’s response to the EU Refugee and Migrant Crisis through membership of and participation in the IRMC. Here are some of the ways we tried to influence Government policy:



In October 2017 we launched a newly-published report, *Pathways to Protection and Inclusion*, which proposed a new framework for the Irish Government to improve its response to refugees and migrants. A copy of this report is on the AMRI website.

In March we sent a letter to *An Taoiseach* Leo Varadkar, asking him to clarify the comments made in Washington during which it was reported that “uncontrolled mass migration” was one of the main challenges facing Ireland.

Recently, each organisation in the coalition signed a statement calling on Hungary to withdraw the proposed laws targeting groups working with migrants and refugees.

Community Sponsorship Programme: The Irish Government is currently developing a Community Sponsorship Programme for Refugees which will probably be launched in June. The IRMC submitted a proposal on Community Sponsorship to the Department of Justice which we are led to believe will form the base for the Government’s plan for rolling out this programme in June of this year. We will have to wait and see.

I participated in discussions with the members of the Department of Justice, The Irish Red Cross, UNHCR, as a member of a faith group, to discuss how faith groups could play an active role in such a programme. I was also invited to participate in the round table discussions with a Canadian faith group who shared their experience of the benefits of such a programme. Faith groups play a significant role in the Community Sponsorship Programme in Canada. A Community Sponsorship Programme has many advantages and I would encourage our members who run parishes to consider getting involved in such a programme. Feel free to contact me for further information.

Direct Provision

I continue to work with the Irish Refugee Council and others to advocate for the changes in Direct Provision together with exploring alternatives to Direct Provision from a not-for-profit entity which would comply with best practice recommendations and standards.

We also continue to call on the Irish Government to fully implement the recommendations of the McMahon Report.

I continue to advocate on the Right to Work for Refugees as the present ruling is very restrictive and unjust. Decent work for all is one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which the Irish Government played a very important and positive role in developing.

Submissions sent to Government by AMRI JPIC

Global Compacts: A submission on the UN Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration was sent to the Department of Justice ahead of Stocktaking Conference in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. A copy of the submission is on the AMRI website.

Honduras: A letter was sent to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade to express our concern about the violence and the attempt to silence the people of Honduras in the wake of the contentious election result in November 2017 and call on the Government of Honduras to allow the people to express their democratic right by peaceful protest and institute a transparent voting system.

Peru: A letter was sent to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, requesting the Government to show its solidarity with the Peruvian people and express its objection to the humanitarian pardon given by President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski to the former Peruvian dictator Alberto Fujimori.

Presentations

The Celebration of 60 Years of St. James Missionary Activity in Latin America.



In February I was invited to work with the Missionary Society of St James the Apostle as they celebrated 60 years of missionary activity. The work involved a number of different meetings and workshops culminating in the week-long celebration at their Center House in Barranco. I was also one of three keynote speakers, together with Padre Gustavo Gutiérrez, OP., and Mgr. Allen Aganon from the Diocese of Parañaque, Manila.

Learning Exchange: Faith-based Organising and Communications on Migration and Refugee Protection

I participated in a Learning Exchange which was coordinated by Avila Kilmurray from the Social Change Initiative and was hosted by Church World Service in Washington DC from 6th - 13th April 2018. The goal was to enable participants to focus on examples of faith activism, and advocacy with, and for refugees and migrants. Each participant had to present the work they were doing in relation to migration and refugees. One of the outcomes of this event is to build greater collaboration between participants, particularly in developing, faith based responses to welcoming migrants and refugees in our respective countries.



Sisters of the Troubles

Together with some of our members, I met with Dr. Lisa Isherwood from the Institute for Theological Partnerships, University of Winchester and Dr. Dianne Kirby from University of Ulster who are working on a project entitled “Sisters of the Troubles.” The role of Catholic clergy during the Troubles is well documented but the work of Catholic Sisters is less well known. This has led to the development of witness seminars in which a number of Sisters have participated, some of which have been recorded, and will eventually be available to the public. The project is a work in progress.

Another outcome from this project is a documentary which was broadcast on the BBC World Service on 25 March, entitled “Sisters of the Troubles.” The documentary was compiled by Rosie Dawson from the BBC. This is available at:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0623s43>.

Communication

I have an email list of over 100 people who expressed a wish to receive regular emails on Justice Issues. If you are interested in having your name on the list, please send me your email address. JPIC information is also published on our website and in the Chronicles which are sent out during the year. I welcome your feedback on how we could improve our communications on our JPIC work.

Conclusion

AMRI will now have a new Strategic Plan that will help to us to evaluate and sharpen the focus of our work for the next number of years. In relation to JPIC work at AMRI I am posing the following questions for your reflection:

From your point of view what mandate does the JPIC Office have?

How do you view the status of the JPIC Office? Is it representative or consultative? Is it operational or solely coordinating?

How do you think we can become a more effective, collective voice on critical social justice issues in civil society today?

Thank you for your support.

Sheila

If you have any queries or wish to participate in any of the projects outlined here please contact me at sheila.curran@amri.ie.



AMRI EDUCATION 2017/18

The Education role of AMRI in 2017/18 can be summarised as follows:

- Support for members in the fulfilment of their responsibilities within the Educational field.
- Active engagement in the development of new structures of partnership within Catholic Education services in both Irish jurisdictions.
- Representative function on a number of voluntary and statutory bodies
- Communication on behalf of Catholic Education across a spectrum of contexts.

Support for Members

Voluntary Secondary Schools

Some 230 Catholic Voluntary Secondary schools are now PJPs of the Irish Episcopal Conference or individual dioceses. This represents a significant majority of about 300 Catholic schools in this sector. In other such schools, the Trusteeship is held canonically by the diocese or by the designated religious Leader and/or Team/Council either directly or through delegation to a civil Trust, where the religious leadership constitutes the membership of the latter. There is thus a distinction between being a canonical and civil trustee. All congregations/orders are de jure, PJPs, either pontifical or diocesan, so to speak. Equally, all recognised Catholic schools have an institutional relationship with the Catholic Church, and the features of this relationship are essentially the same for all Catholic schools, in whatever sector.

Church norms identify two important relationships: with the diocesan bishop, and with its 'Trustees' – the two entities exercise complementary functions in relation to a Catholic school.

The role and responsibilities of Trustees can be viewed as being twofold: trusteeship of the mission as part of Catholic Education within a particular congregational/order's charism, and trusteeship of the property which is made available for the pursuit of the mission.¹

The challenges of these dual trusteeship roles and relationships have become increasingly demanding especially where coupled with emerging legislation (such as the Admissions Bill 2018), guidance from the State, increasing secularisation, dependence on grant aid, school provision/rationalisation and the reality of most religious members being no longer actively involved in education, nor living locally.

Community Schools

Community Schools evolved in Ireland from the 1970s, either as green field schools in developing urban areas or as the result of rationalisation of school provision in an area and the merging of existing Voluntary Secondary and Vocational

¹ Civil law in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland is clear as to the responsibilities of Trustees as owners of school property, and the Education Act 1998 and the Education Order 1990(N.I.) and D.E. (N.I.) Guidance designate certain functions to Trustees concerning the identity of a school, a role calling for ongoing active engagement in situ.

schools into a new single local Community school. These schools are totally built and funded by the State, and are in joint trusteeship with the State through the local Education and Training Boards ETBs (formerly V.E.C.s), and either dioceses or religious trustees. This relationship is governed by a Deed of Trust which, for example, establishes the right of Catholic Trustees to three places on the Board of Management and representation on all interview panels. It clearly articulates the place of religious education for all pupils in their particular faith tradition and none. It also identifies the local Bishop as the competent religious authority, and establishes the right of these schools to the publicly remunerated services of a full time Catholic chaplain.

The recent circular 3/18 from the Minister for Education and Skills on R.E. being an optional subject in these schools has failed to take account of this Deed of Trust. There is resulting confusion in some schools, a worrying situation, pointing to the need for active, informed Trustees and Trustee nominees to the Boards of Management of such schools.

AMRI has had a significant level of engagement in clarifying the above roles for some members in these often rapidly evolving contexts. It has also been involved in lobbying and making representations in these and other relevant areas.



Active engagement in the development of new structures of partnership within Catholic Education services in both Irish jurisdictions.

Northern Ireland:

This year has seen the establishment of the Catholic Schools Trustee Service as the executive arm of the Northern Ireland Commission for Catholic Education (NICCE). A full time CEO and two part time executives have been appointed and **the service is beginning to grow.** It has already been available to facilitate the needs of individual Trustees on request, and has assumed a Trustee representative role in relationships with a number of statutory and educational bodies. Funding, subject to a successful annual application is received from the Department of Education, towards Area Planning in school provision, and the promotion of shared education. A per pupil levy system is paid by Trustees towards the development of Ethos support for Governors, school leadership and their communities.

Ireland:

Strategic Plan

Work is slow but ongoing on the consultation and buy-in process of a Strategic Plan on the future of Management and Trusteeship interests for Catholic Post Primary Schools. An implementation group under the chairmanship of Mr. G. Lundy has been working steadily and is set to meet key stakeholders in the coming weeks as part of the process of planning next steps towards implementation process. Eithne

Woulfe acts as Executive Secretary to this group.

Conference: As part of this work, the Catholic Education Service Committee (CESC) organised a Conference on March 12th to which Bishops, Trustee representatives and other constituent parties were invited to look at the current and emerging reality for Catholic Education in Ireland (social, political, legal, ecclesial). This also afforded attendees to engage with the Strategic Plan with many constructive suggestions emerging. AMRI deferred its plan to host a related conference for a wider audience to Autumn 2018.

CESC Membership

This Strategic Plan envisages a wider membership in CESC to reflect the reality of PJPs and lay Trusteeship. This will result in a realignment of AMRI membership, based on the principle of proportionality.

Executive Leadership Workshop:

NICCE and CESC are planning to jointly host an initial workshop for senior executives in Catholic Education agencies at national levels in late 2018, many of whom have been recently appointed to these positions.



Representative function on a number of voluntary and statutory bodies:

AMRI has rights of membership in a number of bodies, such as the Council of Management of Catholic Secondary Schools, Catholic Primary Schools Management Association, Catholic Education Service Committee, Allianz Schools Insurance Advisory Forum, Catholic Schools Partnership, Northern Ireland Commission for Catholic Education, as well as advisory roles on statutory and other expert bodies.

Communication on behalf of Catholic Education across a spectrum of contexts:

This includes inter Church dialogue on Education, Council for Catholic maintained Schools (N.I.), Education Provision Committee (N.I.), working group on Jointly Managed Church Schools (N.I.), Faith in our Schools, and lectures/talks/conversations to/with interest groups on request, and where relevant.

Education has always been a contested site. The 20th century system in Ireland has been a binary one with Church and State in a betimes symbiotic relationship. By contrast, the current discourse is one of a certain isolationism with vocal efforts to sterilise any religious input, almost an effort to create a schooling system that is free from religion as distinct from freedom for religion.

This is a challenge for Catholic educators on this island to find a new language, new ways, ‘non nova, sed nove’, *not new things, but new ways*, so that members of our education communities and society may come to know the saving wisdom of

Christianity. The future is a canvas that needs to build on core values. Contemporary Ireland is becoming increasingly pluralistic. Thus, this future might be developed systemically through recognising, and promoting the roles and responsibilities of various key parties, for

example the State, statutory and voluntary bodies including faith-based ones, operating for the common good, in a pluralistic democratic society, with Christian and human foundations, *‘attracting by our witness those who are far off’* Pope Francis

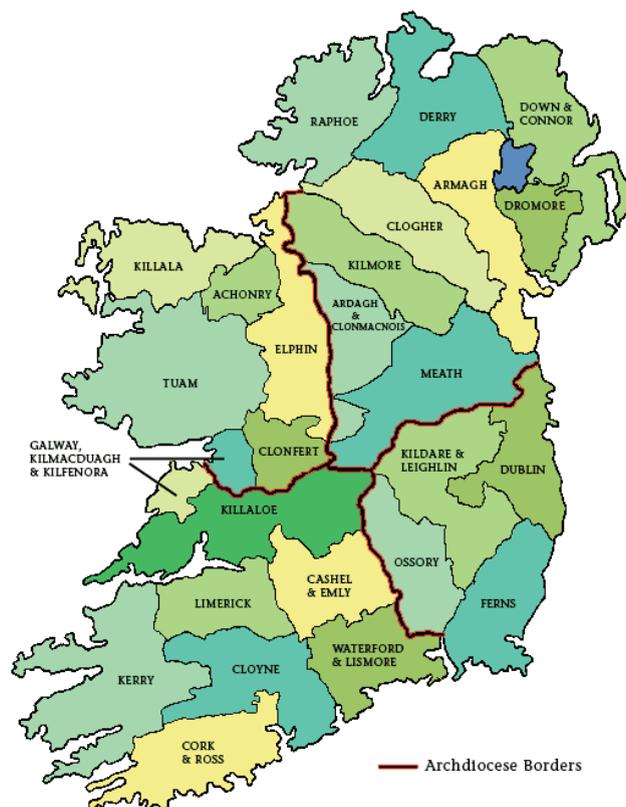


Report from Jim Farrell, Lay Mission Coordinator



Lay Mission Groups in Irish Dioceses.

Returned lay missionaries and volunteers continue to meet on a regular basis in dioceses across Ireland to discuss, share and work on a wide variety of issues including faith sharing, justice and ecological issues, reflection on the encyclical 'Laudato Si' and its implications for our lives and the Church, raising awareness of mission at home and overseas, supporting lay missionaries and volunteers on current assignment overseas, providing information on events of interest to the groups, raising the profile of missionaries and volunteers working overseas in the local dioceses and working with groups assisting new migrants and refugees who have come to Ireland. A number of presentations were given to the groups on the encyclical 'Laudato Si' during October and November 2017 which led to animated discussion in the groups.



Some of the groups have now organised their own facilitators for their regular gatherings. Many of the groups have expressed that they would like to meet up with other groups at a national or regional level. It has become clear that the experience of working overseas has had a profound impact on the lives of people who have worked overseas and some have taken a different career path as a result. It is hoped that their experiences can bring much needed energy to the local Church in Ireland. Two groups are actively involved in supporting lay missionaries working overseas while others are providing a support network for those who have returned to Ireland. Closer bonds continue to grow with the World Mission Ireland directors in each diocese. A number of lay missionaries spoke during

Mission Month in 2017 in a number of dioceses across Ireland about their experiences of working overseas as a missionary and their own faith journey and were warmly received in parishes. This was organised through the World Mission Ireland diocesan directors.



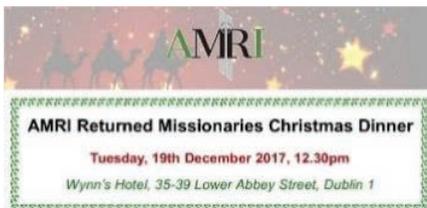
New group in the diocese of Killaloe

A new group have met up in Killaloe diocese in Ennis last April for the first time which was attended by returned volunteers, missionaries and Bishop Fintan Monahan with the very active assistance of Fr Tom O'Halloran, World Mission Ireland director for the diocese. It is hoped that more lay mission groups will be set up in other dioceses in the latter part of 2018 and in 2019. If you know of any returned lay/religious missionaries or volunteers who might be interested in attending these regular gatherings, please contact Jim: jim.farrell@amri.ie or phone 083 8422468.

Transition Workshop for Returned Missionaries

This programme was run at AMRI, facilitated by Dr Kevin Egan on September 27th & 28th 2017. It was attended by 24 sisters and priests from different missionary societies and congregations. The objective of the workshop was to provide a space for participants to explore their experience of transition and draw on the collective wisdom of all for guidance in negotiating transition. The feedback from the workshop was very positive and the hospitality shown by AMRI was noted in the evaluation forms.

Annual Christmas Lunch for Missionaries 2017



The very popular Annual Christmas Lunch for missionaries took place on 19th December 2017 at Wynn's hotel in Dublin attended by 81 people. This provided a great opportunity for everyone to connect with other returned missionaries in a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere.

UCD in partnership with AMRI

UCD Volunteers Overseas (UCDVO), in partnership with AMRI, facilitated a number of IT Skills Exchange Workshops for returned missionaries during the months of February and March 2018 at the UCD campus. On this course, 10 UCDVO volunteers who are preparing to travel to Tanzania and Haiti to work on an IT education project in summer 2018 tutored 10 returned missionaries in IT skills on a 1:1 basis over a number of hours each week. In return, missionaries shared their own personal stories about working overseas to help the students prepare for their work in Tanzania and Haiti.



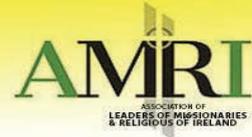
Graduating Missionaries with their UCD Student Tutors

Missionaries learned some new IT skills on getting the most out of their smart phones and laptops as well as using Microsoft Word and Excel. Students also got an insight from the returned missionaries about the challenges of working in another culture, tips on how to cope, the importance of learning to engage with another culture and of course enjoying the experience there. On 15th March, the last day of the programme, a story-telling event took place at UCD campus where missionaries told of their own personal journey which brought them to work in many different countries in Africa and elsewhere. A graduation ceremony followed with students presenting certificates to the missionaries on completion of their IT Skills Training Programme. Sr Liz expressed AMRI's sincere gratitude to Zoe Liston and her colleagues at UCD for facilitating this Intergenerational event and expressed the wish that other universities might follow this example. If you are interested in getting involved in next year's programme, please Jim: jim.farrell@amri.ie

Questions for Consideration:

- 1. How can AMRI continue to contribute to the work of mission at home and overseas?**
- 2. How can the Church in Ireland connect with the new cultures in Ireland and what role can AMRI play in this?**

RELIGIOUS FORMATION MINISTRY PROGRAMME LORETO HOUSE



The Religious Formation Ministry Programme is coming to the end of its 36th year, with a group of 26 participants who will finish the programme on 8th June. In this month of May, the focus is directed outward as we help participants prepare for future ministry – whether that is in initial or ongoing formation, leadership or some other pastoral ministry. At this time of year, having had an eight-day retreat at the end of April, participants are very much in touch with how the RFMP journey has enriched them, and they are ready to leave with a sense that the programme had enabled them to grow and develop in significant ways, and generally they feel more ready to help others on their journeys.

Most participants belong to congregations/orders/societies who have houses in Dublin and they therefore find a home from home with their own communities. This can be a great help in their adjustment to life in Ireland. But, we have other participants who have no connection with Ireland, so we are very grateful when communities open their doors and accept them as guests for the year. It is a concrete way of helping the wider Church.

We have had a new model of team this year: two full-time and two part-time members. This was a challenge, but we are all aware of the importance of team in RFMP and all of us were committed to making it work. Having in effect a new team each year as some team members leave and others join is demanding as well as being enriching.

As the 2017-18 group prepares to leave us, we are already processing and accepting applications for 2018-19. While we have a good number of applications in already, there are still a few places available if one of your members is interested.



Br Peter Roddy, Sr Geraldine Collins, Sr Ann Concannon (Director), Fr Tom McNamara

Ann Concannon, SSL Director, RFMP

The Executive of AMRI has initiated a review of the RFM Programme which is now in its 36th year. Professor Andrew McGrady has been commissioned to conduct this review. He is accompanied by a Review Advisory Group of the following members: Fr Tom O'Connor (Executive), Sr Liz Murphy (Secretary General), Sr Ann Concannon (Director), Dr Bernadette Toal (Theologian), Sr Anne Harte-Barry (Former Director), Sr Radegunda Shayo (Previous participant), Br Ashley Tilleck (Current participant).

This review got underway in March and will continue to December 2018.



**Association of
Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland
Company Limited by Guarantee**
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Company Number: 529508
Charity Number: 9301
Charities Regulatory Authority Number: 20023263

**Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited
by Guarantee**
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

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Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Directors	Marc Whelan C.S.Sp - President (Appointed Director 7 March 2017; Appointed President 28 March 2017) Kathleen McGarvey – Vice President (Appointed Director 20 December 2016; Appointed Vice President 29 November 2017) Sally Fay Roddy (Appointed 7 March 2017) Edmund Ignatius Garvey (Appointed 7 March 2017) Rita (Margaret) Kelly (Appointed 7 March 2017) Thomas O'Connor (Appointed 7 March 2017) Geraldine Fitzpatrick (Appointed 7 March 2017) John Hennebry (Appointed 28 March 2017) John Denny (Appointed 28 March 2017) Michael Anthony McCabe (Appointed 28 March 2017) Aidan McGrath (Appointed 5 September 2017) Brid Liston (Appointed 29 November 2017) Fr John Guiney SJ (Resigned 7 March 2017) Fr Michael Corcoran (Resigned 7 March 2017) Phyllis Behan (Appointed 7 March 2017, Resigned 5 September 2017)
Company Secretary	L&P Trustee Services Limited
Charity Number	9301
Charities Regulatory Authority Number	20023263
Company Number	529508
Registered Office and Principal Address	Student Wing Cypress Grove House Cypress Grove Road Templeogue Dublin 6W
Auditors	Keveny Monahan Limited Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm Herbert House 18 - 22 Pembroke Road Dublin 4
Bankers	Allied Irish Banks Plc. 52 Upper Baggot Street Dublin 4 Bank of Ireland Ranelagh Dublin 6

**Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Allied Irish Bank
Navan
Co. Meath

Bank of Ireland UK
306-310 Ormeau Road
BT7 2GE

Allied Irish Banks plc
69/71 Morehampton Road
Dublin 4

Solicitors

Millet and Matthews Solicitors
Main Street
Baltinglass
Co. Wicklow

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014 and, with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Principal Activities

The main objective of the Charity is the advancement of religion through the provision of a forum for consultation and co-operation between Catholic Religious Institutes, Societies of Apostolic Life and Missionaries and to provide support and promote the common interests of the member organisations in Ireland.

The Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland (AMRI) is an amalgamation of the Conference of Religious of Ireland (CORI) and the Irish Missionary Union (IMU), in a response to a desire to energise and support the life and ministry of the Church, both in Ireland and overseas.

CORI was first established under the title Conference of Major Religious Superiors of Ireland (CMRS) in November 1960 and had a combined membership of approximately 9,000 from 138 religious congregations. The IMU was set up in 1970 for the broad purpose of providing a collaborative network of missionary groups, with 1,500 Irish Missionaries from over 80 member congregations engaged in 84 developing countries.

The purpose of AMRI is to represent and promote active collaboration between Catholic Religious Institutes, Societies of Apostolic Life and Missionary Organisations. Key strategic programme areas include Mission and Education at home and abroad; Justice, Peace and Environment; Health and Pastoral Care; and Support to its Membership.

The company has been granted charitable status under Sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, Charity No 9301.

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

Directors

The directors who served throughout the year, except as noted, were as follows:

Marc Whelan C.S.Sp - President (Appointed Director 7 March 2017; Appointed President 28 March 2017)
Kathleen McGarvey – Vice President (Appointed Director 20 December 2016; Appointed Vice President 29 November 2017)
Sally Fay Roddy (Appointed 7 March 2017)
Edmund Ignatius Garvey (Appointed 7 March 2017)
Rita (Margaret) Kelly (Appointed 7 March 2017)
Thomas O'Connor (Appointed 7 March 2017)
Geraldine Fitzpatrick (Appointed 7 March 2017)
John Hennebry (Appointed 28 March 2017)
John Denny (Appointed 28 March 2017)
Michael Anthony McCabe (Appointed 28 March 2017)
Aidan McGrath (Appointed 5 September 2017)
Brid Liston (Appointed 29 November 2017)
Fr John Guiney SJ (Resigned 7 March 2017)
Fr Michael Corcoran (Resigned 7 March 2017)
Phyllis Behan (Appointed 7 March 2017, Resigned 5 September 2017)
Brid Liston (Appointed 29 November 2017)

In accordance with the Constitution, the directors are not required to retire by rotation.

Change of Name

On 20 December 2016, the members unanimously approved the change of name of the company from Irish Missionary Union CLG to Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee.

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The company relies on the continued support from its members to operate and achieve its goals and objectives. Any decrease in this support could have a negative impact on the future of the company. The company receives income from its members and applies this to the furtherance of its objectives. Management review the income and expenditure of the company periodically during the year to ensure that the company raises sufficient funds from members to enable it to achieve its objectives each year. The Directors believe that the charity is well positioned and has full support of its members to reduce this risk to an acceptable level.

The results for the year ended 31 December 2017 reflect the amalgamated activities of CORI, the IMU together with the connected organisations which are defined in this report. The results for the year ended 31 December 2016 reflect the activities of the Irish Missionary Union and Conference of Religious Ireland following the adoption of the merger basis of accounting as is permitted by FRS 102 SORP.

Auditors

The auditors, Keveny Monahan Limited, have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 380 of the Companies Act 2014.

Statement on Relevant Audit Information

There is no relevant audit information of which the statutory auditors are unaware. The directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and they have established that the statutory auditors are aware of that information.

Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have employed appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The accounting records are located at the company's office at Student Wing, Cypress Grove House, Cypress Grove Road, Templeogue, Dublin 6W.

Organisational structure

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is a registered charity with the Charity Regulatory Authority.

The directors meet regularly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the company.

Political Donations

The Charity made no political donations during the year.

Research and Development

The Charity did not carry out any expenditure in the field of research and development.

Members of the Executive Council 2017

President: Marc Whelan C.S.Sp.

Vice President: Kathleen McGarvey OLA (from September 2017)

Vice President: Phyllis Behan RSC (to September 2017)

Geraldine Fitzpatrick SJG

Edmund Garvey CB

John Hennebry OSA

Rita Kelly MMM

Thomas O'Connor SPS

Sally Roddy VC

Michael McCabe SMA (co-opted)

John Denny VMM (co-opted)

Aidan McGrath (co-opted)

Brid Liston (co-opted)

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

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DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Members of the Finance Committee

The Finance & Governance Committee was formally established by the Executive of AMRI with approved Terms of Reference. Its members are:

Sr Kathleen McGarvey, OLA (Chairperson, Executive member)
Ms Linda Downes, (Financial & HR Consultant with Vincentians)
Mr Pat Clarke, WK Nowlan, (Chartered Surveyor & Property Advisor)
Mr Ian Brady, (Head of Davy Charities & Not for Profit)
Sr Anne Doyle, RSM, (Bursar General with Sisters of Mercy Congregation)
Fr Paddy Hennessy, (economist, Salesian priest, Vice Provincial of Salesians)
Dr Elizabeth Murphy, RSM, (Secretary General AMRI)

The Executive Committee is currently working on Governance issues with Legal Advisors Millett & Matthews, and with canon Lawyer Fr Aidan McGrath. A Governance Committee of Fr Aidan McGrath, Br Edmund Garvey and Dr Liz Murphy has been established to review and amend aspects of the AMRI Constitution. Policies and procedures for day-to-day operations are outsourced to Adare Human Resources.

Member Organisations

The members comprise of 192 religious organisations/missionary societies and apostolic groups around Ireland who pay a membership fee to fund the activities of the charity. The charity also provides Garda vetting services, Education and Healthcare services, Justice co-ordination (housing, migrants, refugees and interfaith development), Formation programmes e.g. on GDPR to its members, and regular newsletters.

It has responsibility for a year-long Religious Formation for Ministry Programme (RFMP), now in its 36th year based in Willow Park, Blackrock where members of religious congregations, mainly from Africa and Asia study formation and leadership. The Programme addresses the task of preparing women and men in a cross-cultural setting for the ministry of leadership and initial/life-long formation in Religious Life, Church and society in the 21st century. Since it began in 1982, the Programme has become renowned for its excellence and graduates are ministering on every continent throughout the world. Many religious also choose the Programme for renewal and discernment during a time of transition. The Programme offers unique opportunities for human development and personal transformation. It enables participants to engage with current realities in Church and world with greater skill, confidence and self-awareness. Included in the AMRI accounts for 2017 is income of €298,904 (2016: €235,411), expenditure of €143,813 (2016: €250,448) and at the balance sheet date, cash at bank from RFM.

APT (Act to Prevent Trafficking)

APT is an inherent section of AMRI's Justice Office and is served by a Committee. The Purpose of APT is twofold:

- To raise awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons.
- To work in collaboration with others for the prevention of the trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation.

APT has a wide network of international contacts through colleagues working in countries from which trafficked people originate. Members of APT are mainly religious men and women who are directly or indirectly involved in this work. As well as addressing the evil of human trafficking, it uses its network to help victims and to work on prevention. It organises public awareness raising programmes, plans annual events and periodic conferences to highlight the plight of trafficked people and how to support them. Its website is updated regularly. Its finances are included in those of AMRI.

At 31 December 2017 AMRI holds €128,682 in the bank on behalf of APT which is also shown in the creditors on the charity.

Association of Bursars of Religious of Ireland (ABRI)

According to its Constitution ABRI was founded "under the auspices of CORI." Following the amalgamation of CORI and IMU to create AMRI in 2017 a request was made and granted by the Executive for ABRI to come "under auspices of AMRI." Membership of ABRI consists of the Bursars of the various religious congregations and missionary societies together with the staff of the various financial offices. ABRI hosts a 3-day conference annually providing information and support for all involved. The accounts of ABRI have been included in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017, showing income of €42,750, expenditure of €44,471 and bank balance of €49,433.

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

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DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Irish Missionary Union Mission Institute

Prior to the amalgamation of CORI and IMU to form AMRI, a decision was taken by the Executive of the Irish Missionary Union to end the education programme that had been running for many years as the Irish Missionary Union Mission Institute, Dalgan Park, Navan, Co Meath. Included in the accounts of AMRI for 2017 are amounts of €250,000 which were the funds remaining in Irish Missionary Union Mission Institute. These funds were approved by the IMU Executive to defray the costs of the facilities used by Irish Missionary Union Mission Institute over the years in which it operated from its base in Dalgan Park. The 2016 accounts of IMU include income of €106,806, expenditure of €145,084 and cash at bank of €260,260.

UCESM

AMRI is a member of UCESM which is a network or Union of European Conferences of Major Religious Superiors. It consists of 39 National Conferences representing the leaders of Apostolic Religious Institutes in 28 European countries, with approximately 250,000 religious men and women. Its office is based in Brussels and AMRI supports this with an annual per capita contribution from its members. It holds a bi-annual conference which focuses on current international and European affairs.

Formal relationships between AMRI and other companies/trusts in keeping with its charitable objective include:

The Irish Episcopal Conference (IEC)

The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference is the episcopal conference of the Roman Catholic bishops in Ireland. The conference meets a number of times a year in Maynooth which is the location of Saint Patrick's College, Ireland's national seminary. While each bishop is autonomous in his own diocese, meetings of the conference give bishops a chance to discuss issues of mutual concern, or issues of national policy.

In the Catholic Church, an episcopal conference is an official assembly of all the bishops of a given territory. Episcopal conferences have long existed as informal entities but were first established as formal bodies by the Second Vatican Council (Christus Dominus, 38), and implemented by Pope Paul VI's 1966 *motu proprio Ecclesiae sanctae*. The operation, authority, and responsibilities of episcopal conferences are currently governed by the 1983 Code of Canon Law (see especially canons 447–459). The nature of episcopal conferences, and their magisterial authority in particular, was subsequently clarified by Pope John Paul II's 1998 *motu proprio Apostolos suos*.

Certain tasks and authority are assigned to episcopal conferences, particularly with regard to setting the liturgical norms for the Mass. Episcopal conferences receive their authority under universal law or particular mandates. In certain circumstances, as defined by canon law, the decisions of an episcopal conference are subject to ratification from the Holy See. Individual bishops do not relinquish their authority to the conference and remain responsible for the governance of their respective diocese.

IEC/AMRI Company Co-Sponsorship

AMRI has a strong emphasis on collaboration with groups who share its interests. With the Irish Episcopal Conference it co-sponsors two companies COIMIRCE (Company No 465899) the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church, and CCSS (Company No 431457), t/a Towards Healing.

COIMIRCE is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital that was incorporated in December 2008. Its founding members comprise the Archbishops and the Episcopal Secretary of the Irish Catholics Bishops' Conference, together with the Director General of the Conference of Religious of Ireland (CORI), a nominee of the executive of CORI, the Executive Secretary of the Irish Missionary Union (IMU) a nominee of the Executive Board of the IMU.

The main object of the company is to provide advice, services and assistance in the furtherance of the development of the safeguarding of children within the Roman Catholic Church on the island of Ireland, and to monitor compliance with legislation, policy and best practice and to report on these activities annually, all as comprehensively set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company.

AMRI, (having replaced CORI and IMU as co-sponsors), is now a joint member of COIMIRCE with the IEC. They work together and have an understanding whereby AMRI, on behalf of its members, makes a payment to support COIMIRCE. The amount paid during the year amounted to €124,171 and an accrual for the 2017 contribution amounted to €132,044, leading to an expense in the accounts of €256,215.

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

CCSS t/a Towards Healing

Towards Healing Counselling and Support Service reflects the commitment of the Catholic Church in the thirty two counties of Ireland to meet the support needs of survivors of Religious, Institutional and Clerical Abuse and their families. Towards Healing Counselling and Support Service was established in February 2011 by the IEC, CORI and IMU. The service took over from the Faoiseamh service, which provided counselling from 1996 to 2011. Towards Healing is committed to supporting victims/survivors of Catholic Institutional, Clerical and Religious childhood abuse, and also their families. It offers counselling and other support services, appropriate to their needs, in a timely manner which are safe, respectful, cost effective, and of the highest quality.

AMRI, having replaced CORI and IMU, is a co-sponsor of Towards Healing with the Irish Episcopal Conference. A Memorandum of Understanding is in place between IEC, AMRI and Towards Healing whereby AMRI facilitates the holding of money on behalf of its members for payment to Towards Healing for the service it provides. At 31 December 2017 AMRI holds €333,796 in the bank which is also shown in the creditors of the charity.

Towards Peace

A third entity put in place by the IEC, CORI and IMU is Towards Peace, which was established to provide a safe supportive space, where people who have been affected by abuse in a Church context can be accompanied as they seek their own experience of spiritual peace, one step at a time. Towards Peace realises that abuse by Church personnel in particular, may have an especially traumatic impact on the individual's spirituality, shattering a person's sense of wholeness, rupturing their inherent trust of their own goodness and sacredness, and fracturing their relationship with the presence of God within themselves and their lives. This kind of abuse, which harms a person's core in the name of 'God', can create deep lifelong spiritual wounds. In seeking to offer a pathway 'towards peace', they respect that the journey of healing from spiritual injuries is a painful, complex and unique journey, for each person. With the difficulty of this work in mind, Towards Peace is committed to the ongoing development of responsible practice, including competency, accountability, transparency and collaboration.

CORI appointed a committee member to Towards Peace and supported it financially with contributions collected from its members up to the end of 2016. AMRI, having replaced CORI, continues to support Towards Peace by making an annual payment on behalf of its members towards the costs of employees, office space etc. An accrual for the 2017 contribution amounted to €36,278, leading to an expense in the accounts of €36,278.

Relationships between AMRI and other charities

Charities Institute of Ireland (CII)

AMRI is a member of the FICTR formed in 1991, which organised a number of campaigns to optimise tax effective giving, reduce the tax burden on the sector, and ensure regulation is appropriate to the needs of Irish charities. The three measures of the standards promulgated are good governance, best practice fundraising and transparent financial reporting. CII develops, guides and supports members through objectives outlined in three strategic pillars - Advocacy, Education and Communication.

The WHEEL

AMRI is also a member of The Wheel, Ireland's national association for over 19,000 community, voluntary and charitable organisations which are an important part of the fabric of Irish society. It was established to address the shared challenges of its member organisations and to help them develop an environment in which community and voluntary activity flourishes. They play an essential role in delivering social and public services, such as healthcare, education, housing, poverty relief, the arts, sport and the protection of our environment and heritage. While AMRI has its own vision, mission and goals it shares many challenges, such as delivering effective services, engaging with the State, complying with regulations and managing staff and volunteers. Working together with these organisations, helping and supporting each other is deemed to be in accordance with the charitable objectives of AMRI.

Membership of The Wheel offers opportunities to work together, access to the most up-to-date information, dedicated support services, unrivalled networking opportunities and the ability to influence policy-makers.

Working together with these organisations, helping and supporting each other is deemed to be in accordance with the charitable objectives of AMRI.

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Details of AMRI achievements and performance in 2017

As voted at the Extraordinary General Meeting on 7th March 2017, the members voted and approved the amalgamation of the Conference of Religious Ireland (CORI) and the Irish Missionary Union (IMU) to form Association of Leaders Missionaries and Religious of Ireland. An executive committee was established and which met regularly throughout the year. A Finance Advisory group was established until a formal Finance Committee was convened to examine the governance and financial situation of the new entity. During the year the charity transferred all bank accounts in to the new entity's name.

Since March 2017 the new Executive members have met, elected Marc Whelan as President and Phyllis Behan as Vice President and there is a Standing Committee of four members.

To date AMRI has hosted Executive meetings, Finance Advisory group meetings, two gatherings of all involved in the Co-ordinated Parish Promotion Programme (CPPP), the staff and participants of the RFM programme, web advisory group meetings, a Communications workshop for Executive and Staff, an event with Sr Mary Johnson from the United States on current trends and developments in religious life. Other meetings about Justice issues such as homelessness, interfaith dialogue etc were also hosted and attended by AMRI members and some Muslim women.

This is the first set of accounts since the amalgamation of CORI and IMU. The Charity made a loss in the year of €632,084. This arose from non-recurring costs in relation to the amalgamation, donations and support to projects. The membership subscription fees were not billed until later in the year, leading to lower income than in prior years. Since the year end the Finance Committee has been working on a budget for 2018 and have recommendations for membership subscription fees.

Communication

AMRI is committed to developing a communications strategy that is up to date, effective and Gospel based. To date, under the direction of a voluntary Web Group and with the assistance of the Executive Assistant/Office Manager AMRI's website is up and running and provides comprehensive information on various areas including video coverage of the EGMs in March 2017, ABRI conference in November 2017 and other events. It also provides links to other websites. Going forward the hope is to develop other social network platforms such as facebook and twitter. Skyping is available from AMRI's up to date meeting room and live streaming may follow in due course.

Newsletters/AMRI Chronicles were issued at Easter and one in July 2017 marked the first four months of AMRI. A Christmas 2017 Chronicle was circulated by email and post mail to all members. Email is now the major form of communication and saves considerable money on postage.

Stillwater Communications, under the direction of Cillian Fennell, presented a workshop for Executive, Staff, Web Group and Vocations Ireland at the AMRI office on 3 August 2017. This was the background to developing a formal communications strategy.

Wally Young (Young Communications) has been engaged by the Executive to help with crisis times or emergency situations which call for a response. The media continues to ask for responses as contemporary topics or issues surface. They wonder at our reticence to speak publicly on certain issues pertaining to religious matters.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

Marc Whelan – President

Kathleen McGarvey – Vice President

Date: 3 May 2018

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland including the accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net income or expenditure of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the Charities SORP (effective January 2015) has been followed;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and with Irish Statute comprising the Companies Act 2014, and all Regulations to be construed as one with those Acts. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the charity's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

Marc Whelan – President

Kathleen McGarvey – Vice President

Date: 3 May 2018

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee for the year ended 31 December 2017 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 1. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*.

Opinions and conclusions arising from our audit

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Charity as at 31 December 2017 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described below in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing & Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements including Section 6 of the Ethical Standard – Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities (PASE) (2016).

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (Ireland) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion, the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and financial statements are in agreement with the accounting record.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the directors' report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at:

http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Philip Monahan

for and on behalf of

KEVENY MONAHAN LIMITED

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm

Herbert House

18 - 22 Pembroke Road

Dublin 4

Date: 3 May 2018

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2017 €	Total 2017 €	Restated per note 20 Total 2016 €
Incoming Resources				
Generated funds:				
Investment Income	4	2,146	2,146	6,800
Income from Charitable Activities		732,677	732,677	931,375
Total incoming resources		734,823	734,823	938,175
Net Incoming Resources				
available for charitable application		734,823	734,823	938,175
Resources Expended on Charitable Activities				
Costs of Charitable Activities		1,366,907	1,366,907	1,134,235
Total Resources Expended	5	1,366,907	1,366,907	1,134,235
Net movement in funds for the year		(632,083)	(632,083)	(196,060)
Reconciliation of funds				
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2017		2,294,740	2,294,740	2,490,800
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2017		1,662,657	1,662,657	2,294,740

Approved by the Board of Directors on 3 May 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Marc Whelan - President

Kathleen McGarvey – Vice President

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2017

	Notes	2017 €	Restated per note 20 2016 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	9	5,774	998
Financial assets - commercial investments	10	63	76,659
		<u>5,837</u>	<u>77,657</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors	11	38,090	23,781
Cash and cash equivalents		2,342,808	2,619,878
		<u>2,380,898</u>	<u>2,643,659</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(724,078)</u>	<u>(426,576)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>1,656,820</u>	<u>2,217,083</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>1,662,657</u>	<u>2,294,740</u>
Funds			
General fund (unrestricted)		1,662,657	2,294,740
Total funds	15	<u>1,662,657</u>	<u>2,294,740</u>

Approved by the Board of Directors on 3 May 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Marc Whelan - President

Kathleen McGarvey – Vice President

**Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited
by Guarantee**

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Restated per
note 20
2016
€

	Notes	2017 €	Restated per note 20 2016 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds		(634,230)	(199,785)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		2,923	6,690
Gains and losses on disposal of fixed assets		(4,000)	9,724
Gains and losses in investments		-	(44,029)
		<u>488,805</u>	<u>(227,400)</u>
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in debtors		(27,275)	(1,170)
Movement in creditors		596,230	(1,794)
		<u>1,057,760</u>	<u>(230,364)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		2,146	3,726
Payments to acquire tangible assets		(8,697)	-
Movement on CORI investment		(76,596)	-
Receipts from sales of tangible assets		4,000	100
Receipts from sales of CORI investments		76,596	759,003
		<u>(2,551)</u>	<u>762,829</u>
Net cash generated from investment activities			
		<u>1,055,209</u>	<u>532,465</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2017		<u>1,287,599</u>	<u>2,087,413</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2017	17	<u><u>2,342,808</u></u>	<u><u>2,619,878</u></u>

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP in accordance with FRS 102, effective January 2015) and with generally accepted accounting principles in Ireland and Irish statute comprising the Companies Act 2014. They comply with the financial reporting standards of the Accounting Standards Board, as promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland. The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements.

Unrestricted designated funds

General fund's represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of directors in furtherance of the objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes. Such funds may be held in order to finance working capital or capital expenditure.

Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held as expandable or permanent endowment by the company, principally investments. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the company and is included as unrestricted income.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Charitable activities include costs of services and grants, support costs and depreciation on related assets. Costs of generating funds similarly include fundraising activities. Non-staff costs not attributed to one category of activity are allocated or apportioned pro-rata to the staffing of the relevant service. Finance, HR, IT and administrative staff costs are directly attributable to individual activities by objective. Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Currency

The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	25% Straight line
Motor vehicles	-	20% Straight line

Investments

Investments held as fixed assets are stated at cost less provision for any permanent diminution in value. Income from other financial fixed asset investments together with any related withholding tax is recognised in the income and expenditure account in the year in which it is receivable.

Taxation

No charge to current or deferred taxation arises as the charity has been granted charitable status under Section 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, Charity No CHY 9301. Irrecoverable value added tax is expended as incurred.

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

2. PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR SMALL ENTITIES

In common with many other charitable companies of our size and nature, we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

3. NET INCOMING RESOURCES	2017	2016
	€	€
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	2,923	6,690
Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(4,000)	9,724
(Deficit)/surplus on foreign currencies	90	-
Gains and losses in investments		(44,029)
	<u>2,923</u>	<u>(44,029)</u>

4. INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME	2017	2016
	€	€
Bank interest	1,683	3,225
Other interest	463	501
Rent receivable		3,074
	<u>2,146</u>	<u>6,800</u>

5. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Costs of Charitable Activities 2017 €	Total 2017 €	Total 2016 €
Other costs			
Staff expenses	8,954	8,954	92,651
Rent, rates and repairs	58,755	58,755	84,867
Light, heat, computer cost and phone	13,175	13,175	60,417
General overheads	23,895	23,895	50,927
Charitable Donations	294,867	294,867	414
ABRI expenditure	44,471	44,471	-
COIMIRCE	256,215	256,215	121,263
Youth Ministry	50,000	50,000	-
Refugee Fund	70,000	70,000	-
Towards Peace	36,278	36,278	-
Bank charges	1,339	1,339	1,548
Insurance	(1,278)	(1,278)	16,151
Motor and travel	18,025	18,025	15,626
Depreciation	2,923	2,923	16,414
Postage, printing and advertising	34,270	34,270	9,703
Legal and Professional	139,537	139,537	110,877
Other direct costs (RFM board and lodging, lecture expenses)	68,388	68,388	189,934
	<u>1,119,814</u>	<u>1,119,814</u>	<u>770,792</u>
Governance Costs:	247,093	247,093	363,443
Totals	<u>1,366,907</u>	<u>1,366,907</u>	<u>1,134,235</u>

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

6. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED AND RELATED INCOME FOR CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Costs of Charitable Activities 2017 €	Total 2017 €	Total 2016 €
Charitable activities:			
Direct and other costs	(1,366,907)	(1,366,907)	(1,134,235)

7. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Governance 2017 €
Salaries and Wages (Note 8)	223,422
Audit Fees – current year	9,858
Audit Fees - accruals	3,948
Accountancy services	9,865
	<u>247,093</u>
Total	<u>247,093</u>

Audit and accountancy amounts are inclusive of VAT.

8. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of employees

The average number of persons employed (including executive directors) during the year was as follows:

	2017 Number	2016 Number
Religious Formation Ministry	3	-
Irish Missionary Union	-	4
Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee	6	-
Conference of Religious Ireland	-	8
	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>

The staff costs comprise:

	2017 €	2016 €
Wages and salaries	204,716	334,719
Social security costs	13,623	17,562
Pension costs	5,083	1,044
	<u>223,422</u>	<u>353,325</u>

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Motor vehicles €	Total €
Cost			
At 1 January 2017	24,091	27,970	52,061
Additions	7,699	-	7,699
Disposals	-	(27,970)	(27,970)
At 31 December 2017	<u>31,790</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,790</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2017	23,093	27,970	51,063
Charge for the year	2,923	-	2,923
On disposals	-	(27,970)	(27,970)
At 31 December 2017	<u>26,016</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,016</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2017	<u><u>5,774</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,774</u></u>

9.1 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS PRIOR YEAR

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Motor vehicles €	Total €
Cost			
At 31 December 2016	<u>24,091</u>	<u>27,970</u>	<u>52,061</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2016	19,265	25,108	44,373
Charge for the year	3,828	2,862	6,690
At 31 December 2016	<u>23,093</u>	<u>27,970</u>	<u>51,063</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2016	<u><u>998</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>998</u></u>
At 31 December 2015	<u><u>4,826</u></u>	<u><u>2,862</u></u>	<u><u>7,688</u></u>

10. FINANCIAL FIXED ASSETS Commercial investments

	Other investments €	Total €
Investments		
Cost		
At 1 January 2017	76,659	76,659
Disposals	(76,596)	(76,596)
At 31 December 2017	<u>63</u>	<u>63</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2017	<u><u>63</u></u>	<u><u>63</u></u>
At 31 December 2016	<u><u>76,659</u></u>	<u><u>76,659</u></u>

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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for the year ended 31 December 2017

10.1 FINANCIAL FIXED ASSETS PRIOR YEAR

Commercial investments

	Other investments	Total
	€	€
Investments		
Cost		
At 31 December 2015	791,633	791,633
Additions	6,317	6,317
Disposals	(765,320)	(765,320)
Gain	44,029	44,029
At 31 December 2016	<u>76,659</u>	<u>76,659</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2016	<u>76,659</u>	<u>76,659</u>
At 31 December 2015	<u><u>791,633</u></u>	<u><u>791,633</u></u>

11. DEBTORS

	2017	2016
	€	€
Trade debtors – Membership subscription	13,828	10,510
Other debtors	22,429	12,966
Prepayments and accrued income	1,833	305
	<u>38,090</u>	<u>23,781</u>

12. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	2017	2016
	€	€
Trade creditors	13,670	15,932
Taxation and social security costs (Note 13)	13,722	12,952
Other creditors	479,962	170,006
Accruals	216,724	227,686
	<u>724,078</u>	<u>426,576</u>

Other creditors include amounts held for Act to Prevent Trafficking of €128,682 and amounts held on behalf of Towards Healing of €333,796. These amounts are also held in bank balances at the year end. Accruals include amounts accrued in respect of COIMIRCE of €132,044; Refugee Fund €20,873; Towards Peace €36,278 and accrued overhead expenses and governance costs.

13. TAXATION AND SOCIAL SECURITY

	2017	2016
	€	€
Creditors:		
PAYE / PRSI	<u>13,722</u>	<u>12,952</u>

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(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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for the year ended 31 December 2017

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets - charity use €	Financial fixed assets €	Current assets €	Current liabilities €	Total €
Unrestricted income	5,774	63	2,380,898	(724,078)	1,662,657
	<u>5,774</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>2,380,898</u>	<u>(724,078)</u>	<u>1,662,657</u>

15. ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 January 2017 €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance 31 December 2017 €
Unrestricted income	2,294,740	734,823	(1,366,907)	1,662,657
Total funds	<u>1,170,629</u>	<u>734,823</u>	<u>1,366,907</u>	<u>1,662,657</u>

16. STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

17. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017 €	2016 €
	1,411,573	1,487,543
	931,235	1,132,335
Cash and bank balances	<u>2,342,808</u>	<u>2,619,878</u>

18. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the year-end.

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

19. JUDGMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The directors consider the accounting estimates and assumptions below to be its critical accounting estimates and judgements:

Going Concern

The directors have prepared budgets and cash flows for a period of at least twelve months from the date of the approval of the financial statements which demonstrate that there is no material uncertainty regarding the company's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern. On this basis the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the company was unable to continue as a going concern.

Useful Lives of Tangible Fixed Assets

Long-lived assets comprising primarily of property, plant and machinery and intangible assets represent a portion of total assets. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and, in certain circumstances, estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these useful lives and change them if necessary to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives management consider technological change, patterns of consumption, physical condition and expected economic utilisation of the assets. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charge for the financial year. The net book value of Tangible Fixed Assets subject to depreciation at the financial year end date was €5,774 (2016: €998).

20. AMALGAMATION OF CORI AND IMU – CHARITY MERGER ACCOUNTING (CHARITIES SORP FRS 102)

As voted on at the EGM on the 7th March 2017, the CORI reserves of €1,124,112 were introduced into the accounts. This was made up of fixed assets amounting to €998, assets and liabilities of (€275,585), investments of €76,596 and bank and cash of €1,322,103. These financial statements have been prepared using the merger basis as is permitted under Section 27 of Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

The comparative amounts for 2016 have been restated to show the merged results of CORI and IMU.

21. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 3 May 2018.



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