

To AMRI Members

As we journey towards the end of our Lenten Season towards Easter, may we draw from the 'living water' of hope and open our hearts to receive the love of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ. In this month's AMRI noticeboard you will find:

- A message from Bishop Brendan Leahy on an initiative being organised by the Advisory committee to the Irish Episcopal Conference on Interreligious Dialogue and Veritas.
- News from the *Religious Formation Ministry Programme* from the Director Sr Josephine Enenmo OLA.
- An upcoming HSE event relevant to AMRI's Covid Response.
- Celebrating *Earth Hour* on 27th March 2021.
- Two videos from APT / AMRI presentation at the UN NGO CSW Virtual Forum, March 2021.
- Upcoming Courses and Reminders for the wider AMRI network.

AMRI has received a request from an AMRI member seeking support for a Somalian family residing in Ireland for the last 10 years, who are living in unsuitable accommodation for their needs.

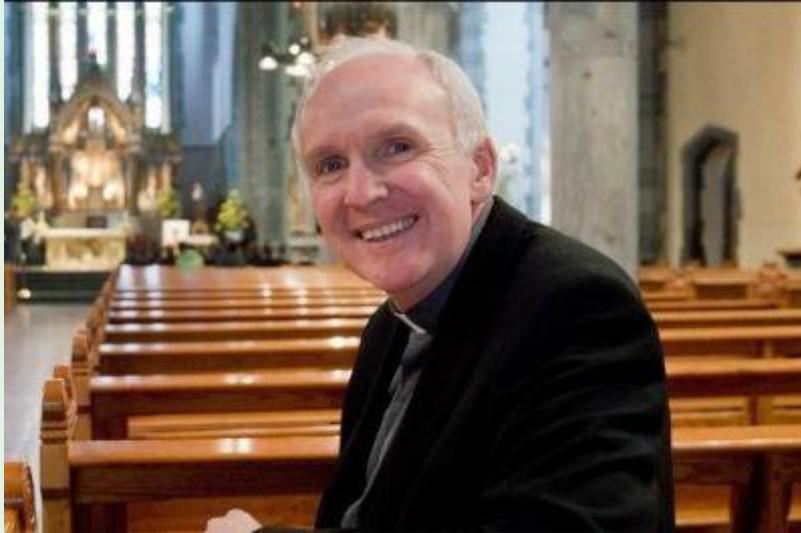


Currently the family are living in a 3<sup>rd</sup> floor 3-bed apartment,(homeless accommodation) with 4 children and a grandmother. One of the boys has severe autism and another boy has a profound physical disability with complex medical needs who attends Menni Services.

If your congregation has a 3 or 4 bedroom house within the greater Tallaght area that could be leased for a 3-5year term, through the government HAP scheme, please email: [communications@amri.ie](mailto:communications@amri.ie) and we will put you in contact.

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## A message to AMRI members from Bishop Brendan Leahy



Dear AMRI Members

I write to let you know of an initiative being organised jointly by the Advisory Committee to the Irish Episcopal Conference on Interreligious Dialogue and Veritas. The Advisory Committee was established with the aim of strengthening our engagement as Church in Ireland in the field of respectful and constructive dialogue with people of other faiths.

Members of the Committee are Bishop Brendan Leahy (Chair), Fr Alan Hillard, Ms Aiveen Mulally and Sr Kathleen McGarvey OLA.

**Each diocese and religious institute  
is invited to ask one representative,  
preferably their nominated Director/Secretary  
for Interreligious dialogue,  
to attend a zoom conference on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 15.30-  
17.00.**

The primary objective of this zoom conference is to look together at the issues and questions surrounding the diversity of religions present in Ireland today,

and consider ways in which our engagement in the promotion of interreligious dialogue can be strengthened.

The meeting will include

- 1) a look at what the Church is saying today about interreligious dialogue especially in the light of the Abu Dhabi document;
- 2) the issue of students of different faiths in catholic schools;
- 3) general pastoral issues.

The participation of a representative from your Religious Institute will be very much appreciated.

Registration with name and e-mail contact details for the zoom link can be sent before April 12<sup>th</sup> to [cora.hennelly@iecon.ie](mailto:cora.hennelly@iecon.ie)

Veritas will be organising the zoom link so the contact e-mail address will be forwarded to Veritas for their use in the zoom.



The next Religious Formation Ministry Programme will commence in September 2021. This will depend on international travel restrictions etc. relating to the current Covid-19 Pandemic. The Team is currently accepting and processing applications. We will endeavour to keep all applicants up to date with travel and quarantine restrictions in Ireland.



### **Meet the Team**

RFMP Director, Sr Josephine Enenmo OLA with Fr Joe McGee MSC.

Josephine and Joe would be delighted to hear from any leader who wishes to make an enquiry. Please don't hesitate to get in touch:

Sr Josephine Enenmo (director):

[josephinerfmp@gmail.com](mailto:josephinerfmp@gmail.com)

Fr Joe Mc Gee:

[joerfmp@gmail.com](mailto:joerfmp@gmail.com)

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Below you can listen back to a recording of **APT/AMRI presentation at the UN NGO CSW Virtual Forum**. This was recorded on 25th March 2021.

The first forum (18th March) can also be [viewed here](#)



AMRI Covid Response

As we continue to adapt our lifestyles to deal with COVID-19 and face difficult challenges HSE Health and Wellbeing are taking the opportunity to share some tips on how to build happiness into your life using positive psychology. Positive psychology focuses on the positive events and influences in life.

**HSE Health and Wellbeing Webinar: Positive Psychology and Happiness**  
**31st March 2021 (2-3pm)**

You can register for the webinar here;

[https://ims.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_hQvb3xOSQj-yFuBEs4ER3w](https://ims.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hQvb3xOSQj-yFuBEs4ER3w)

**Have you signed the EU vaccine petition yet?**



Ireland still needs 5,803 signatures!

<https://noprofitonpandemic.eu/>

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Earth Hour: Saturday March 27th 2021

Each year on the last Saturday of March since 2007, millions of people across the world join together in raising awareness of the environmental issues and challenges facing our planet and as a reminder of our call to action.

**This Saturday at 8.30pm, consider joining the millions of others across 180 countries and territories in switching off your lights to demonstrate your solidarity in responding to the ‘cry of the earth’.**

*Earth Hour* which was started by the World Wildlife Fund and partners has become one of the world's largest grassroots movements for the environment. While switching off lights at 8.30pm began as a symbolic action of awareness and solidarity, Earth Hour has since expanded into a “catalyst for positive environmental impact, driving major legislative changes by harnessing the power of the people and collective action”.

<https://www.earthhour.org/>



We can be a part of that change process, beginning with this simple act of switching off your lights and reflecting on the various ways in which you can take action at an individual, community, national and international level.

“There is a growing sensitivity to the environment and the need to protect nature, along with a growing concern, both genuine and distressing, for what is happening to our planet... Our goal is not to amass information or to satisfy curiosity, but rather to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world

into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it” (Laudato Si, 19)

***A Prayer for our Earth***

Lord, you often spoke of your ‘hour,’ the hour of a new consciousness,  
the season of a new way of being human, a decisive moment in history –  
Wake us up in this ‘hour’ of our days;  
remind us that our future is connected to the earth and all its abundant life.  
May we act selflessly in this hour  
with a new sensitivity to life in all its variety,  
And not just for today, but for ‘tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow.’  
For our children, and our children’s children.  
For the earth, for our home’s sake.

**Amen**

By Rev. Bob Comin



### **TAKE PART IN THE EARTH HOUR VIRTUAL SPOTLIGHT**

Stay tuned for the drop of the must-watch video on 27 March that will make you see our planet in a new light - feel free to SHARE IT far and wide! Every share matters. Let's get the world watching. Let's get the world *talking*.

### **A Reminder to complete the AMRI Justice Survey**

In planning for the direction and focus of the AMRI members' justice desk, we would really appreciate your time and support in taking a short survey. This can be completed by clicking on the box below, or copy and paste the following link and send to the relevant justice person in your congregation:

<https://us7.list-manage.com/survey?u=553eeacfc0a758e79433e24f8&id=558945dbcb>

The purpose of this survey, is to help AMRI's *Justice Peace and Ecology Coordinator*, Toni Pyke, to establish the key social justice issues that AMRI member congregations are already challenging and taking action on. Toni is

seeking clarity in planning for a network-wide response to support this work,  
both at home in Ireland and overseas.

Thank you for your continued support.

[Click here to complete the Survey](#)



## Threshold of Hope

30th March 2021 | 8pm

An online musical experience  
with Deirdre Ní Chinnéide

This is a free event open to all. Join us via live streaming at  
[www.churchservices.tv/deirdrenichinneide](http://www.churchservices.tv/deirdrenichinneide)

Drawing on the ancient celtic culture,  
rooted in the Aran islands, allow Deirdre's  
music to soothe the soul, as we enter into  
the spirit and hope of Holy Week.

**church services tv**  
Connecting Communities

**CATHOLICIRELAND.NET**  
CATHLICIGH AR AN INGBEASÁN

**Emmaus Productions**

This free event can be viewed at [www.churchservices.tv/deirdrenichinneide](http://www.churchservices.tv/deirdrenichinneide)  
Live chat afterwards on FB @DeirdreNíChinneide | More at [www.celticpassage.com](http://www.celticpassage.com)

Deirdre's music is available online at Bandcamp and at various religious bookshops  
(Knock Shrine, Ulenstal etc.) | Queries/press: [celticpassage@nismor@gmail.com](mailto:celticpassage@nismor@gmail.com)