

Annual Report

2021 - 2022

Gospel Leadership

Mission and Dialogue

Justice, Peace and
Integrity of Creation

Healing, Wellbeing
and Wholeness

AMRI

ASSOCIATION OF
LEADERS OF MISSIONARIES
& RELIGIOUS OF IRELAND

AMRI

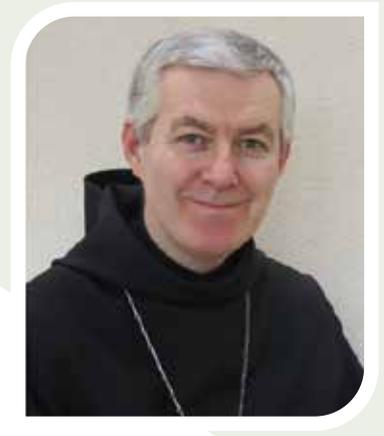


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brendan Coffey OSB



For I know the plans I have for you – declares the Lord – plans for peace, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11).

With these words of the prophet Jeremiah, I greet all of you who read this report. Over the past twelve months, AMRI has been working hard, laying new foundations, as we emerge from a time of COVID and begin to walk the Synodal Pathway with Pope Francis. We have prepared a new strategic plan, engaged in the ongoing synodal process and endeavoured to respond to the changing needs of our members. We facilitated webinars, meetings and other encounters, to help members address the issues that are your priorities. It has been a busy few months, but months filled with hope. You will read more about all of this in the Secretary General's Report.

As an organisation, AMRI exists to serve the needs of the membership. This is something we achieve with your continued support and encouragement. AMRI depends on membership support for all its activities. My first words, therefore, are words of gratitude. I want to thank you, our membership, for your continued support and trust; it is very much appreciated. I want to thank David, our Secretary General, and all our dedicated staff in the AMRI office for their commitment and diligence over a very difficult period. I want to thank the chairs and members of all our AMRI committees and sub-committees and the members of the synodal working group for the time and dedication they have shown in their respective tasks. I want to extend a special word of welcome to Vocations Ireland, who came under the umbrella of AMRI in the last year.

Last, but by no means least, I want to thank my fellow members of the Executive Council of AMRI, for your generosity, support, friendship and encouragement over the past year. I would also like to say a personal word of thanks to Sr Mary Hanrahan, Vice President

of AMRI, for all her work, which has been an invaluable support to me in my own role as President.

The post-COVID reality has been a difficult time for many communities living consecrated life. In many of our communities, we are dealing with older and fewer members. Increased administration and bureaucracy of all kinds and a movement away from the traditional areas of apostolic engagement, particularly in education and healthcare are commonplace. Those of us who are in leadership positions today often feel overwhelmed by all of this and at times, I'm sure we all begin to wonder, was this endless administrative drudgery what I signed up for when I made my profession? I think the words of St Paul are apposite here, "...our eyes are fixed not on what can be seen but on what cannot be seen, for what can be seen is transitory while what cannot be seen is eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:18). AMRI's lay members have had to face similar difficulties in their own family situations. COVID has left its mark on our world and nobody will emerge unscathed from this experience.

What is being asked of us in all of this today? What is the Holy Spirit saying to us? What does it mean to live a consecrated life in the Ireland of 2022 where a great many consider us "religious" to be simply irrelevant? I suggest to you, in all humility, that we are being invited to become a people, "rejoicing in hope, steadfast under trial, persevering in prayer;" (Romans 12:12) not in some abstract way, but in our lived daily experience.

The war in Ukraine has cast a dark shadow over much of the past year. The terrible suffering of innocent people, particularly the elderly, women and children who find themselves caught up in this struggle. This conflict is to be utterly and unequivocally condemned.

AMRI and our membership has generously responded to this crisis by making properties available to those arriving on our shores. Many of our congregations have members working on the ground in Ukraine under oftentimes difficult and dangerous conditions. We also call to mind other areas of conflict in the world today, in the Middle East, Yemen, Ethiopia, Afghanistan and of course Nigeria, where the Christian population lives in fear and distress, and this is but to mention a few. Many of these conflicts fail to attract the international media spotlight. This is a very sad part of our global reality today. AMRI also exists to enable the voice of these peoples to be heard.

The climate crisis and the message of sustainable development championed by Pope Francis and many others is also very much on our agenda and in our thoughts and prayers. It is so easy to feel powerless before such global forces and at times our efforts may seem trivial and paltry, but together we make a stronger voice and one which needs to be heard. We need to amplify our voice.

Our collaboration as AMRI with the IEC is now well-established and bearing fruit. The Synodal Pathway, dialogue between the bishops and women religious and our One Church approach, are just some of the ways in which this partnership manifests itself. Representatives of AMRI and the IEC meet regularly to discuss these and any other matters of mutual interest to our respective conferences as they arise.

AMRI continues to work on behalf of members in the area of Safeguarding, engaging at a national level with the NBSCCCI, Towards Healing and Towards Peace. Together with the IEC, AMRI acts as a sponsoring body for our members, funding the important services these agencies provide for survivors and the work they carry out in the area of safeguarding. AMRI and the IEC have also commissioned the National Board to complete a project on Adult Safeguarding, the fruits of which we will be able to share with members shortly. Our painful past history of abuse in the Catholic Church is part of our story as consecrated

persons and we should not try to shake it off. It is a tragic, miserable reality. We have to learn from it and heed it as a summons to conversion. The suffering of survivors needs continued acknowledgement, together with our failures of the past, and our work in the area of safeguarding today needs to continue to make the Church in Ireland a safe place for children and adults alike. There is a sickness abroad in our society and in the Church that such things were allowed to happen. We must diagnose it and so strive to bring healing where possible. To that end, AMRI and the IEC have commissioned a review of safeguarding in the Catholic Church in Ireland, to help us direct resources appropriately into the future.

In all of this, our fragility is reminding us that our consecrated life is primarily about “being”, rather than “doing”, as all our activities flow from our “being” in the Lord. We are called to read the signs of the times, to return to our roots and to listen to the Word of God speaking to us, “for there is a future and your hope will not come to nothing” (Proverbs 23:18).

The time we live in, is a time of rebirth. God is doing something new and we are privileged to be part of this plan. We need to ask the Holy Spirit for new confidence, fresh hope, courage to ask for and accept help when it is needed, discretion to approach our present with realism and the blessing of a fresh awareness that there is only one boat and we are all in it together.

So, “for this purpose we toil and struggle, because our hope is in the living God who is the Saviour of the whole human race, but particularly of all believers” (1 Timothy 4:10). A lot of work has been done, much more remains. We face the future with trust and confidence, because our consecrated life, a gift of self to God in love, a radical living out of our baptism, has something to say to people today, much to give and above all, is witness to the Resurrection in a world at war and in need of hope.

Brendan Coffey OSB
President of AMRI

AMRI MEMBERS

Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland



Collaborating and Connecting

- Irish Episcopal Conference
- National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland
- Towards Healing
- Towards Peace
- Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
- Mísean Cara
- National Mission Council
- Union of the European Conferences of Major Superiors
- Other National Conferences of Religious
- Missio Ireland

OUR AIMS 2021-22:

1. Gospel Leadership – high standards of governance and leadership
2. Mission and Dialogue – open to new models of mission and inter-religious dialogue
3. Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation – awareness raising, action for justice and sustainable living
4. Healing, Wellbeing and Wholeness – fostering pastoral responses in areas of need



SECRETARY GENERAL'S OVERVIEW

David Rose: Secretary General, AMRI



In presenting the highlights of AMRI's work for the period mid 2021 to mid 2022, I am conscious that it is the work of many, who give freely and very generously of their time and talents working alongside the small team here in the AMRI office, and for which we are very grateful. The period covered in this report is a time of gradual emergence from public health restrictions and the worst impacts of the Covid pandemic. Notwithstanding Covid, it was a time of fruitful productivity for AMRI, as the new executive council and staff team rose to the challenge of pivoting online to develop new initiatives as well as maintaining existing work, all in the service of the AMRI membership, the Church and those who are on the margins of society.

Synodality

Synodality was the context for much of our work in this period. Pope Francis' invitation to journey together, to listen for the Holy Spirit in conversations with each other in order to make time and space for a different Church to emerge, was providential and continues to inspire our work. In the depths of the gloom of the pandemic, something new was being born. Zoom enabled us to reach out to hundreds of people – lay and religious – who participated in online meetings to share their hopes and dreams for the future of the Church.

The AMRI lay mission committee hosted two national webinars, attended by over three hundred participants, on synodal themes: exploring a national voice for lay people, the difference a synodal process can make and the role and voice of women in decision-making in the Church.

The dialogue between a number of women religious leaders and a number of bishops was initiated and continues to explore the experience of women religious in the Church in the hope that it can lead to a new way of being Church where men and women

work together as equal partners committed to healing, peace, unity, and new life.

The AMRI Executive established a synodal working group to prepare the AMRI submission for the universal Synod to be held in Rome in 2023, and to contribute to the national synodal pathway announced by the Irish bishops. The working group devised a short resource and questions for reflection inviting members to engage in conversations locally. The responses were synthesised and formed the AMRI submission which along with the reports from the lay mission committee and the religious women's dialogue were sent to the Irish bishops' synodal group and to Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life (CICLSAL) in the Vatican.

The overarching messages in the three submissions are: to work for a more welcoming, inclusive and hospitable Church, where the participation of laypeople, particularly women, is valued in ministry and leadership; to reach out to young people; to listen to the voices of survivors, support healing and continue to acknowledge and own the story of abuse as part of the story of the Church.

The Irish synodal pathway reached a significant milestone with the national gathering in Athlone and Clonmacnoise, where 160 delegates listened to what was being said in the very many reports received. It felt like a spirit inspired event, inclusive of the rich diversity of views in our Church.

Strategic Planning

The AMRI executive commissioned independent consultant, Lucy Franks to review AMRI's work in order to prepare for a new strategic plan. In April and May 2021, the AMRI membership was consulted by questionnaire and there were follow up interviews and meetings with the executive, staff and committees of AMRI centred on the following: capacity for mission and ministry in Ireland and overseas; key issues for leadership and supports required; the changing nature of the Church, religious life and lay ministry; and justice issues and collaboration opportunities.

Under key issues for leaders, the following were identified: aging membership/elder care; financial pressures; administrative demands; intercultural challenges; transition to lay leadership/partnership; impact of the pandemic; current condition of the Irish Church and public perception of religious life.

In trying to imagine a new vision and to move to a new way of being Church, the following pressing transition issues were identified: the need for a new theology, spirituality, and missiology for contemporary society; re-envision the role of religious life; need for the language and practice of equality; and to develop a servant leadership model. There is need to engage with laypeople; with women; with young people; with the bishops; other Christian communities and people of other faiths. A key question people asked was: how best to engage in the synodal process?

To move towards a new vision of religious life, there is need to let go of: a fixed mindset; out of tune world-view; defensiveness; conforming to institutional frameworks which are out of date; a sense of entitlement and exclusivity; "only we can do it!"; male clerical view; people come to us, we don't go to them; denial; acceptance of the need for change – can't go on as before; impact of change; acceptance that religious life is a story with light and shadow.

There was a clear desire for a Church that is more inclusive, hospitable, engaging with contemporary realities, confronting misogyny, synodal in its approach, collaborative and in service to society and the world with new structures that are community-based, small cells, energised and open to reform. Greater lay involvement in leadership is envisaged with supports for this including the need for better faith formation.

In the consultation, the AMRI members called for engagement on a new vision for the future while recognising the reality of an aging demographic among the membership. They want to see AMRI develop as resource hub supporting key needs through providing shared services; fostering greater collaboration on common concerns and on justice issues; amplify the voice of religious to witness to the Gospel today through a communications and advocacy strategy; strengthen AMRI as an organisation with balance between operational and strategic, and ensure financial sustainability. Underpinning this desire for change is faith in the person of Jesus, who always beckons us forward in hope, calling us to announce the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

The consultation provided a solid foundation to prepare a new strategy for AMRI for the next five years. A new plan titled: *A Future with Hope* has been prepared and will be launched at the AGM. It will have a strong focus on leadership supports and development, and collaborative approaches to our work.

Safeguarding and Supports to Survivors

AMRI and the Irish Episcopal Conference (IEC) in line with best practice have commissioned an independent review of child safeguarding in the Catholic Church to ensure the most effective and efficient structures and services are in place with regard to child safeguarding in the Church's ministries and services. This review is now underway, and a sample of AMRI members will be contacted in the coming months.

AMRI and IEC as the sponsors and funders of the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, have asked the National Board to develop policy on vulnerable adults, to provide guidance for both ministry and the care of vulnerable adults in religious communities. This work is underway.

Many AMRI members continue to provide significant financial support for the funding of the services for survivors – Towards Healing and Towards Peace, and for this we are very grateful. A small number of congregations contribute the majority of funding and are struggling to maintain this; so this year we have encouraged more AMRI members to share the financial burden through a sense of shared solidarity with fellow members and with survivors. These are valuable services, an integral part of the healing ministry of the Church in Ireland and while numbers availing of the services are declining; they will continue to be needed for the foreseeable future.

A joint AMRI/IEC working group examined a number of recent international reports on safeguarding and held a conference for bishops and provincial leaders in Athlone to learn lessons for safeguarding in the Irish Church.

AMRI's Programme Areas of Work

AMRI provides a range of services and programmes to the membership and their communities in Ireland and overseas. The following is a snapshot of these services. You can read more detail about these in the individual programme reports in subsequent pages.

Religious Formation Ministry Programme: (Loreto House) is a service to the global Church training people for formation and leadership. It celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. Despite the pandemic, the programme ran successfully with a reduced number of students in 2021/22.

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Programme: The focus this year included lobbying for access to vaccines for all, developing the Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network, Ireland, awareness raising on Obstetric Fistula – an issue of human rights and human dignity, and hosting an in-person seminar for AMRI leaders and bursars on the theme of *Faith-Consistent Investing* – Living Laudato Si, the afternoon event was live streamed to a global audience of some 4000 participants.

Accommodation for Ukrainian Refugees: We sincerely thank the 45 religious congregations who very quickly pledged properties to accommodate the thousands of refugees who are fleeing the war

in Ukraine for safety in Ireland. Many religious are involved locally with language support and integration.

Act to Prevent Trafficking (APT): The *cAPTives* – *Human Trafficking Awareness-Raising Programme* designed for senior secondary school students was officially launched on 18th October 2021. Piloted in 11 schools around Ireland during November, December 2021 and January 2022, the programme has received very positive feedback, and since this pilot, 15 other schools have run *cAPTives* and there are expressions of interest for 2022-23.

Vocations Ireland: is now an integral part of AMRI and it is a mutually beneficial relationship. Over the year, Vocations Ireland provided support and guidance to vocations directors through a range of webinars, engaged in awareness raising, and research on vocations.

Governance: A number of webinars were held for AMRI members who are looking to the future and the need for new structures to ensure good governance and compliance in relation to both civil and canonical obligations.

Communications: Our e-news noticeboard list of subscribers continues to grow. We regularly respond to media requests for both print and broadcast media. We produced short videos on sustainable living and a prayer service for Advent.

Finance and Administration: The finance committee met regularly to ensure good stewardship of the resources entrusted to us. The Association of Bursars of Ireland held their conference in person this year.

Lay Mission Committee: The committee focused on the synodal pathway over the past year with well attended national webinars; and produced a submission for the synodal pathway.

Women Religious Working Group: The group met a number of times to share their experience and dreams as religious women in the Catholic Church and then engaged in dialogue with a number of bishops to share their hopes and concerns in the context of synodality.

Synodal Working Group: This new group was tasked with preparing the AMRI synodal submission and resources on synodality.

Education: The Catholic education sector is in a state of flux and AMRI is discerning how best to engage with the changes while maintaining representation on a number of Church bodies.

Garda vetting: This service continues to grow with more congregations availing of it. The number vetted from July 2021 to June 2022 was 884 and the number of congregations using the service is now 52.

Research on missionary experience: This research project on the experiences of returned missionaries is on-going. Thanks to all who agreed to be interviewed.

Mission Awareness Programme: (formerly Co-ordinated Parish Promotions Programme). This programme enables our missionaries to raise awareness of their work abroad in parishes in Ireland. A small working group developed a new 5-year programme and schedule of visits to dioceses which was approved by the National Mission Council and the Irish Episcopal Conference.

Minister of Religion Visas: The working group continued to raise the difficulties our overseas members are experiencing in obtaining minister of religion visas, with the Dept of Justice immigration

section, visa section and the Minister's office; and provided input to the review of the MOR policy.

Towards a shared archive: A working group of archivists has been established to progress this initiative for 16 congregations who have expressed interest in being involved.

Conclusion

I hope you will enjoy reading this annual report and that it will give a sense of the extent and diversity of the work that AMRI is engaged in, in serving our members. Throughout the year, many individuals and groups freely provided support, advice, actively facilitated and took part in the many webinars we held. Thank you all so very much.

I would like to thank most especially two colleagues who have moved on from AMRI. Sr Eithne Woulfe finished as Education Director after a distinguished career of more than 25 years of dedicated service to Catholic education. Helena Connolly set up the AMRI communications office and was the friendly face on so many webinars. We wish them every grace and blessing for the future.

Finally, thanks to you our members for all your support and prayers.

David Rose
Secretary General
September 2022

PROGRAMME REPORTS

RELIGIOUS FORMATION MINISTRY PROGRAMME



Sr Josephine Enenmo OLA, Director RFMP



As we look forward to marking the fortieth anniversary of the Religious Formation Ministry Programme - Loreto House, I am delighted to share my thoughts on the experience of this past year which brought its own unique challenges and opportunities.

The Religious Formation Ministry Programme, having been closed for over one year (2020-2021) due to the restrictions imposed at the height of the Covid 19 pandemic, resumed on the 19th of October 2021. The team (Fr Joe Magee, Sr Jennifer Burke and I) took extra care to implement the government regulations, and following advice from AMRI, developed a unique Loreto House Covid protocol. Appropriate signage was placed throughout the building and the use of sanitisers, electronic filters and face masks, together with daily individual temperature reading, were among the measures put in place. Such steps, plus individual efforts, enabled us to re-open the programme and joyfully welcome our new participants, albeit with a certain level of apprehension.

By the end of the first week of October, it was obvious that only four participants had reached Ireland and were therefore in a position to commence the programme. We are grateful to David Rose who, at the time, checked with the Department of Justice regarding the status of some of our participants' visa applications. The team also made other attempts by visiting the Preclearance Office at Hanover Street. Unfortunately, such efforts proved fruitless and we

had to wait patiently and hopefully for the staggered arrival of other participants.

To help cope with the anxiety of those waiting for their visas, the team organised a one-off Zoom meeting on the 11th of November, with all of the possible fourteen participants. This was very helpful to all. The fifth participant joined us during the first week of November. Later on in November, two more participants arrived and then the final two arrived in January making a total of nine. Small in number, yet rich in cultural diversity this year's participants came from Nigeria, South Korea, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea and Cameroon. A number of them were living and working in countries other than their country of origin namely Nigeria, Cameroon, Ireland and Uganda.

From October until January, team members and participants alike, endeavoured to find creative ways to welcome arrivals and to facilitate their integration into the programme. Aspects of the orientation process were repeated a number of times as new participants were incorporated into the group. Nonetheless, we are grateful that the 2021/2022 group enjoyed a memorable and productive experience at Loreto House.

We refer the reader to our website (www.lorethouse.com) where you will find a rich selection of photographs taken during the various presentations and occasions of celebration throughout the year. Likewise you will also find some very encouraging personal testimonies from each of the participants. On the 30th of June 2022, the RFM Programme for 2021/2022 came to an official close. Our nine participants celebrated their graduation with great rejoicing and a strong sense of achievement.

By the time you receive this report most participants will have returned to their home countries and new places of mission with renewed enthusiasm and confidence in their abilities to respond to the challenges facing them as they carry with them the fruits of their own good work during what was a particularly intensive yet thoroughly enjoyable year at RFMP.

The RFM Programme expects twenty-one participants for the 2022/2023 academic year from fourteen countries, namely Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Gambia, India, Kenya, Lebanon, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is worthy to note that eight of these participants are currently on mission outside their country of origin, in places such as Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, South Africa and South Sudan.

Obtaining a Minister of Religion Visa to enter Ireland continues to be a serious challenge. Negotiating the pre-clearance application is daunting, but when it is done painstakingly it provides positive results. The team is hopeful that when the new term begins on the 19th of September 2022, the majority of the twenty-one participants will have been successful with their visa applications.

The RFMP team would like to acknowledge the support received from AMRI members, particularly those individuals who contribute to the programme by giving input or conducting workshops for our participants. We often find that the experience is enriching for presenters as they engage with our multicultural group. When congregations/societies of apostolic life in Dublin host participants and give them a home from home in their own local communities, the experience is always mutually beneficial. Often the young RFMP participants are thrilled to meet again with former Irish missionaries who were once their formators, superiors and mentors. This can give the new arrivals added confidence as they adjust to life in Ireland. We are grateful to communities who host participants with no connection to Ireland. Without your generosity it would not be possible for applicants from smaller non-Irish-based communities to participate in the RFM Programme.

There are many things to celebrate in RFM Programme as we look forward to this fortieth year. It is surely worth celebrating the fact that the Programme has not merely survived but has flourished and made such a significant contribution to the worldwide Church for four decades. The success of the programme is largely down to the steadfast commitment and wholehearted dedication of team members and presenters who, over the years, have shared their time, expertise and leadership skills with professionalism and dedication. The ongoing support of the AMRI Executive and its subcommittee on RFMP is much appreciated as the present team looks forward to playing our part in continuing the good work of the past forty years in the Irish missionary tradition of bringing the Good News to all corners of the globe.

JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION

Toni Pyke, JPIC Coordinator



Peace, justice and the preservation of creation are three absolutely interconnected themes, which cannot be separated and treated individually without once again falling into reductionism [Laudato Si' 92].



Grounding the work of the AMRI 'Justice Desk' is an understanding of the key message as revealed in Pope Francis' pioneering encyclical *Laudato Si'* (2015) - that everything is 'interconnected'. In hearing and responding to both the 'cry of the earth' and the 'cry of the poor,' the Justice, Peace and Ecology Coordinator guided by the AMRI JPIC Committee, has focused on 4 key justice responses during this year: vaccine justice, economic justice, 'integral ecology' and human rights. We network and collaborate with other AMRI member congregations, NGOs and coalitions to respond to injustices in Ireland and overseas.

People's Vaccine Alliance Ireland

AMRI are active members of the People's Vaccine Alliance Ireland (PVAI), a coalition of organisations and civil society groups in Ireland who campaign for equitable global access to Covid-19 vaccines, treatments and diagnostics – a 'people's vaccine'. AMRI members both in Ireland and overseas lobbied the Irish government to support the campaign, alongside the European Citizen's Initiative on access to vaccines. AMRI were signatories to advocacy letters to: An Taoiseach; Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Tánaiste and Minister Troy at the Department of Trade, Enterprise and Employment, and President Michael D Higgins.

In February, AMRI participated in a public protest outside Leinster House to highlight the continuing inequity around global vaccine access. On 2nd June the Alliance hosted an online conference: *The Pandemic is Not Over: A COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Conference*.

Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network, Ireland

AMRI, along with 9 religious congregations are members of the Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network (AEFJN) Ireland Antenna. The antenna (group) meets regularly to plan and support work on awareness raising, advocacy and taking action on key issues that impact on and relate to corporate human rights abuses in Africa. In May, the antenna hosted a webinar – *Corporate accountability and human rights: responding to abuses in Africa* and launched a letter writing campaign among members of religious congregations to demand that the Irish government lobby the EU for full corporate accountability throughout transnational corporations' supply chains to ensure human rights and human dignity. The Ireland Antenna links in with the AEFJN Secretariat in Brussels, along with antennae in Africa. It is an active member on the Irish Coalition on Business and Human Rights and their campaign: 'Make it your business'.

Prevention of Obstetric Fistula – an issue of human rights and human dignity

AMRI are supporting the campaign to prevent obstetric fistula, as endured by many young women and girls in rural communities in Asia and Africa. The campaign focuses on raising awareness of the wider human rights violations and indignity associated with the condition. AMRI hosted a webinar to highlight these realities and the economic and psychological consequences and exclusions that women and girls experience – such as the cultural expectations of early marriage, the denial of the right to food, to education, ante-natal health services, the stigma associated with the condition, and the ostracization from community life. Key speakers from Pakistan, Kenya, Uganda, Geneva and Ireland gave testimony to the horrific experience of obstetric fistula and the impact on the lives of women and girls.

The campaign was taken to Rome, where a series of meetings took place with a number of Central Leadership Teams. Meetings were also held with the Secretary of the International Union of Superiors General (UISG); the Permanent Delegate of the Dominicans to the United Nations in Geneva; contact members of VIVAT International and the Irish Ambassador to the Vatican. On May 23rd, the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, the campaign successfully published an article in the Irish Times highlighting the realities of obstetric fistula.

'The cry of the earth' – *Living Laudato Si'*

This has been a busy year in intensifying the awareness of the 'cry of the earth' and the devastation to our natural environment. The AMRI Justice desk collaborated closely with Vocations Ireland in supporting religious inclusion at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP 26), the key global climate summit which was hosted in Scotland in November.



In December, AMRI developed and shared an Advent series focusing on *Living Laudato Si'*, which showcased the integral ecological journey of various AMRI members who are responding practically to the climate and ecological crisis.

AMRI worked closely with FaithInvest, Francesco Collaborative and the Laudato Si' Movement to host an in-person seminar for AMRI leaders and bursars on the theme of *Faith-Consistent Investing - Living Laudato Si'*. The event took place at An Tairseach, the Dominican Sisters' Organic Farm and Ecology Centre in County Wicklow. In the afternoon, a similar event was live streamed to a global audience of some 4000 participants.

Supporting refugees from Ukraine

Responding to the brutal invasion of Russia into Ukraine, some 45 religious congregations pledged properties to accommodate the thousands of refugees who are fleeing the war for safety in Ireland. Communicating with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth; the Irish Refugee Council and the Irish Red Cross, AMRI are ensuring that these pledges are being taken up.

Collaborations

We continue to link in with and support the work of Act to Prevent Trafficking (APT). We link in with and support the Spirasi Befriending programme, the Irish Network Against Racism, the Irish Refugee Council and the Irish Episcopal Conference Council for Social Justice.

ACT TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING

Sr Liz Byrne IBVM, APT Chair



The Covid-19 pandemic has meant that APT members continued meet online throughout 2021-22. Nonetheless, consistent commitment saw the realization of the *cAPTives - Human Trafficking Awareness-Raising Programme* designed for senior secondary school students which was officially launched on 18th October 2021. Piloted in 11 schools around Ireland during November, December 2021 and January 2022, the programme has received very positive feedback, and since this pilot, 15 other schools have run *cAPTives* and there are expressions of interest for 2022-23.

The fruit of wide-ranging discussion at members meetings, the programme was drawn up by a working group of five APT members who, in collaboration with *iCatholic*, have delivered a useful resource which draws on the expertise of Kevin Hyland OBE (former UK anti-Slavery Commissioner and member of the Santa Marta group at the Vatican); Anne Marie Cagney (Assistant Garda Commissioner); Derek Maguire (Detective Superintendent at the Garda National Protective Services Bureau); JP O'Sullivan of MECPATHS Ireland (Mercy Efforts for Child Protection against Trafficking within the Hospitality and Services Sectors); Alex Cooney (CEO of Cyber Safe Kids Ireland) and Canadian sculptor Timothy Schmalz who, at the invitation of Pope Francis, created the sculpture 'Let the oppressed Go free'. To take the programme to the next level, it is hoped to engage the services of a Promotor/Coordinator who will work in conjunction with the APT leadership group.

APT is also part of the *National Stakeholders Forum* at the Department of Justice which brings together representatives of Irish NGOs and faith-based groups who work to create public awareness of human trafficking or respond directly to those who have been trafficked. It is hoped that a more collaborative approach will enable a more holistic response to the issue that will result in all round improved services for victims and survivors.

Other activities during the year have focused on a review of the APT website and the preparation of material for its renovation during 2022-23. Members have regularly attended both national and international online webinars and meetings addressing the issue of human trafficking and remain connected to the activities of both the RENATE [Religious Networking Against Human Trafficking in Europe] and *Talitha Kum* [UISG coordinating body for female religious congregations tackling human trafficking and exploitation].

VOCATIONS IRELAND

Margaret Cartwright, Vocations Ireland Director



Pope Francis calls us to a Synodal pathway. We are invited to journey together in discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church in Ireland at this time. We are acutely aware of the huge challenges to the faith over the past fifty years from the rapid transformation and secularisation of society in Ireland. This brings with it a major decline in the practice of the faith and in the number of vocations to the priesthood and the religious life.

We are alert to the need to connect with the energy and gifts of our young people, forming and enabling them to be missionaries to each other, inviting them to spread the Good News, not only in Ireland but around the world, that Christ is alive! God is still calling; are we open to discerning with those interested in discerning?

Culture of Vocation

Inspired by the Gospel and the writings of Pope Francis, we have moved from promoting religious vocations to specific orders and congregations to the promotion of a culture of vocation. We understand our vocation or calling as an invitation from God that begins at Baptism. We strive to encourage this understanding among those who show an interest in religious life. We encourage the understanding that as we grow in our vocation, we are called to the living out of our vocation in different ways. While our vocation journey begins in the same way, through prayer and discernment we assist young people and the not so young to look at the various paths that God may be calling them to follow.

To work more effectively, it is important to create strategic partnerships with the various individuals, organisations and networks working on vocations ministry. This is why Vocations Ireland is now an integral part of AMRI in serving AMRI's members. We see this type of partnership with Compass in the UK and with the various vocation networks in Europe who are linked with their religious leadership conferences.

Membership of AMRI

We are delighted to be part of AMRI. After many delays with the bank, we finally have approval to transfer Vocations Ireland accounts to AMRI. Vocations Ireland will maintain our own subscription as not all AMRI members wish to avail of the services of Vocations Ireland. Our budget going forward should be much lower as the office space and running costs are shared with AMRI. Workshops and courses are costed to be self-financing.

Vocations Ireland works closely with the AMRI Justice desk, communications coordinator and contributes where it can to other AMRI programmes i.e., synodality process, lay mission committee and will continue to work closely with other areas that we find we have similarities or links with. It is a relationship that is mutually beneficial.

Vocations Research

Vocations Ireland is working closely with Sr Gemma Simmonds on a book she is co-writing on religious life and new members. Gemma has been working for over a year on this project Professors Mary Johnson SND and Patricia Wittberg SC, Dr. Mary Gautier from CARA and Sr Natalie Becquart at the Vatican.

Vocation Awareness Projects

We are continuing to work with the Vocation Music Awards to produce a CD from the 10 finalists of the competition to be launched before Christmas.

“Made for More Conversations” between young people and religious began in the week leading up to Vocation Sunday. We hope to continue these with coffee & chat evening with university students online. We also took part in online panel discussions with secondary school students and teacher training colleges.

We are taking part in the Ploughing Championships, and our focus will be on the theme of “Caring for the Earth”. We will showcase religious congregations who are involved in eco-farming, biodiversity programs, and care for humanity initiatives.

We took part in the Miracles of the Eucharist event in Carfin in Glasgow. We supported the Blessed Sacrament Fathers’ initiative, especially the Blessed Carlos Acutis Exhibition which will come to Ireland this year. This exhibition is of particular interest to young people who are interested in the Internet.

We have begun to prepare for the Flame event in Birmingham, Youth 2000 in Ireland, and World Youth Day in Portugal.

Engagement with other Vocation Organisations

Vocations Ireland continues to collaborate with the NRVC and will offer our professional development course for new vocation directors and new formators in October. We also collaborate with the Canadian Conference, Compass and the UK NOV Conference, and the Diocesan National Vocation office in Ireland. A network of the national directors or centres for vocations of special consecration has been in existence since 1999 (European Vocations Service – EVS) of which we were part. This became a commission of CCEE in 2006. Since 2012 it is known in CCEE as Commission for Vocations. At the request of the Secretary General, I have been attending the Vocations Directors meetings of the (U.C.E.S.M) Union of the European Conferences of Major Superiors.

Communications and Media Engagement

Vocations Ireland are members of Communications for Women Religious (CWR) Ireland and involved in the organising committee for the very successful recent CWR Conference. Vocations Ireland are hosting three webinars to assist congregations with training of communities in the use of Zoom and in the art of blogging as a way of

communicating the good news of religious life. While CWR is aimed at Women Religious, I work hard to ensure that the skills I have gained from being part of such a group are used with the male communities of Vocations Ireland.

We have had radio interviews with Spirit Radio, Radio Maria Ireland and Radio Maria UK, Local Radio Stations. There have been articles in the Irish Catholic, Doctrine and Life, the Horizon magazine with NRVC. We are on Facebook, and Twitter (although not so much). We regularly update the Vocations Ireland website and provide a dedicated newsletter for our members.

Webinars during Covid

During the two years of Covid our work has been via Zoom. We have had webinars on Re-imagining the Future of Religious Life, Synodality and Religious Life, Vocation Ministry, Contemplative Gifts for an emerging Post Covid World, Encounter with the cultural other, and Discerning Vocation in Pandemic Times.

On-going Formation

We continue to offer ongoing formation webinars, workshops, and training for our Vocation Directors. These are not closed groups and where possible we offer them out to other members of congregations because we believe that Vocation promotion is the responsibility of every member of the community.

Sometimes we work with different groups with a specific focus such as the recent webinar offered to contemplative sisters or our work with the religious brothers in developing a new way forward for brotherhood as a vocation today. We have responded to several requests to speak with provincial councils in preparation for their provincial chapters. We provided support to individual congregations interested in exploring new ways of promoting vocations. We provided pastoral supervision for vocation directors.

Thank you to the many congregations who have supported us with our various projects. Thank you to those who have volunteered to help in areas such as website updating, producing newsletters, and organising events. A special thank you to the Vocations Ireland committee who have continued to work via zoom month in and month out always giving generously of their time. If you wish to become more involved in Vocations Ireland, please contact info@vocationsireland.com

LAY MISSION COMMITTEE

Denise Flack, Lay Mission Committee Chair



This year the Lay Mission Committee, building on the success of their first webinar in 2021, organised two further webinars in the “We Need to Talk” Series, aimed at giving a voice to laypeople, in connection with the Synodal Pathway.

The first of these involved a facilitated panel discussion while in the second a diverse group of four women shared their experience as women in the Church. We are grateful to all our panelists, speakers, and facilitators but what excited us most was the large number of people who signed up for and attended each webinar. And these attendees were active participants in the process with the opportunity to share in small breakout groups at discussion time and to offer invaluable feedback afterwards.

Members of the committee volunteered to painstakingly read through all the feedback and we all met to reflect on this. A report, reflecting the views

expressed by the webinar participants, was then put together as part of AMRI’s submission to Irish Synodal Pathway working group and to the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

The Lay Mission Committee was also aware that a major focus for AMRI this year was the creation of a new strategic plan. The Committee was involved in making a contribution to the plan and had a facilitated session with Lucy Franks. We are heartened that increasing lay participation and involvement in leadership is a key focus in the new plan, and we look forward to helping advance this.

EDUCATION

Catholic education in primary and secondary schools, and in lifelong learning is in a state of flux. AMRI's membership includes most of the congregations that provided schools education in Ireland over many years; the majority of whom have transferred trusteeship of their secondary schools to new mainly lay trustee bodies. These have responsibility to ensure the living of the charism and values of the congregations, while acting in the best interest of the schools and the communities they serve.

The establishment of the Catholic Education Partnership with an all-encompassing role in advocacy for primary, post-primary, third level and adult Catholic Education in Ireland, has taken on much of what was the role of AMRI as an authoritative voice on Catholic education for religious. There has been significant investment by religious in resourcing the establishment of the Catholic Education Partnership (formerly Catholic Schools Partnership).

AMRI is represented on a number of Church education bodies offering the opportunity to influence policy directions within the Church and beyond. The external environment for Catholic education includes the increasingly secular education policy context, the

push to remove religious education from schools, the need for divestment of some schools, an increasingly multi-cultural and multi-faith society, and the influence of social media to shape young minds to a largely consumerist mentality. As AMRI develops a new strategic plan, we will take account of the internal and external factors influencing education, as we discern how best to engage with Catholic education going forward.

This year, Sr Eithne Woulfe stepped down as AMRI's education director after more than 25 years. We thank her for her distinguished career in Catholic education, always acting in the best interests of AMRI's education members, and we wish her well in the years ahead.



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Fidelma Mallon: Financial Administrator (Above left)

Anne Donnellan: Office Administrator (Above right)

The Finance Committee met regularly over the year to monitor and oversee AMRI's finances. Our finance administrator prepares quarterly accounts, tracks the subscriptions, does the payroll, banking, monitors the income and transfers for Towards Healing and liaises with the auditor. With the Secretary General, she prepares the annual budget. She records the income and expenditure for all of AMRI's programmes.

Looking ahead, a key challenge is financial sustainability as the membership of congregations decreases. The Finance committee explored options on how to increase income and will bring forward a proposal at the AGM for an increase in the subscription rate.

Our administrator manages the behind the scenes organisation for the AMRI meetings and conferences. She is the recording secretary for many meetings and in addition this year included the dialogue of women

religious. She provides the admin for the Mission Awareness Programme and assisted with preparing the new schedule and programme.

She manages the Garda vetting for AMRI members. This service continues to grow with more congregations availing of it. The number vetted from July 2021 to June 2022 was 884 and the number of congregations using the service is now 52.

Garda Vetting

Despite the various restrictions and lack of engagement on a pastoral ministry front, many congregations continued to require access to the Garda vetting process. This was mainly for new employees and for some renewal of those previously vetted. Almost 884 were vetted over the past 12 months.

ASSOCIATION OF BURSARS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES IRELAND

Sr Geraldine McAleer IBVM, ABRI Chair



ABRI Conference 2022

The annual long awaited and planned for conference of the Association of Bursars of Religious Institutes Ireland (ABRI) took place from 21st to 23rd March 2022 in the Retreat and Conference Centre Dromantine, Newry Co. Down. One hundred plus stewardship personnel were in attendance.

The theme of the conference was “Matching Mission and Resources” which was taken up in an engaging and unique manner by the speakers and workshop presenters. Professor Rose Anne Kenny who is the Head of the Department of Medical Gerontology in Trinity College Dublin set the tone for the Conference with her opening lecture “Age is not a Number”. Shane Cowley L&P/Cantor Fitzgerald and Sr. Lorraine Connell SND de Namur, Rome took up the theme of “Planning for the Future” from an economic and religious perspective respectively. Amanda Francis

from Buzzacotts Accountants UK gave very practical and extremely useful advice at the Conference with her input entitled “Trustee Reporting beyond the SORP”. Shane Cowley and Carolina Angarita from L&P/Cantor Fitzgerald brought us through investments including positive impact investing. The workshops which covered the Governance Code, Cyber security and HR issues gave the participants an opportunity to expand their knowledge and engage with both presenters and participants in areas which are pertinent to Bursars and Trustees alike. The participants who chose a workshop entitled “Journey to the Well” had an opportunity to be refreshed and renewed.

The sunshine and hospitality made Dromantine Conference Centre an excellent venue for the 2022 ABRI Conference and it is booked for the 2023 Conference from 27th to 29th March.

COMMUNICATIONS

The communications committee met a number of times over the past year to develop a communications strategy, including a facilitated session by broadcaster Anton Savage of the Communications Clinic. Our communications coordinator Helena Connolly finished in December 2021. Helena was instrumental in establishing the communications office, the new website and the e-newsletter. During Covid, she managed many of the webinars. She also produced a number of short videos on sustainable living, a prayer service and edited zoom recordings of webinars.

It has been difficult to find a replacement in the present climate of almost full employment, where communications people are in demand. Nevertheless, we hope to have a new communications coordinator in situ soon. The JPIC coordinator and Secretary General have maintained production of our e-news noticeboard and our list of subscribers continues to grow. We regularly respond to media requests for both print and broadcast media, and AMRI has featured in *The Irish Catholic*, *Irish Times*, *Irish Independent*, *The Tablet* and *Newstalk*.

GRATITUDE FOR GENEROUS SERVICE TO AMRI

AMRI thanks all who have contributed their time and talent to the Association through service as executive council members, committee members, and as representatives to other organizations in 2021 - 2022

Executive Council

Brendan Coffey OSB, Mary Hanrahan PBVM, Anne Harte Barry OSU, Denise Flack VC, Paula Molloy MSHR, Breege O'Neill RSM, Dan Baragry CSSR, Martin Kelly CSSp, Raymond Dwyer FPM, Raymond Husband SCC, Timothy Lehane SVD

Religious Formation Ministry Programme Committee

Ann Harte Barry OSU (Chair), Rita Kelly MMM, Patricia Ojo SSL, Barry Noel FPM, Damian Bresnahan SMA, Tom O'Connor SPS, Derry O'Connell SAC. In attendance: Josephine Enenmo OLA, David Rose.

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Committee

Martin Kelly CSSp (Chair); Liz Byrne IBVM (APT rep); Gerry Forde, Kevin Hargadan, Joe Murray, Tom O'Connor SPS, Michael O'Sullivan, Sally Roddy VC, Toni Pyke, JPIC co-ordinator

Communications Committee

Timothy Lehane SVD (Chair), Dan Baragry CSSR, Michelle Robertson, Pat Coyle, Margaret Cartwright, Finbar Tracey SVD, David Rose.

Finance Committee

Raymond Dwyer FPM (Chair), Pat Clarke, Sr Anne Doyle RSM, Sr Breege O'Neill RSM, Paddy Hennessy SDB, Ian Brady, Linda Downes. In attendance: David Rose, Fidelma Mallen.

Governance Committee

Brendan Coffey OSB (Chair), Aidan McGrath OFM, Nicola Keogh, David Rose

Lay Mission Committee

Denise Flack (Chair), Sally Roddy, Shane Halpin, Mary Winters, Ray Husband SCC, Paula Molloy MSHR, Angelica Escarsa, Rita McGuigan, Jim Farrell, David Rose

Vocations Ireland

Colm O'Mahony OSA (Chair), Mary Hanrahan PBVM, Malachy Thompson OCSO, Fionnula Quinn OP, Carmel Ryan DC, Rupert O'Sullivan FPM, Mary Usifoh RNDM, Mary Healy, Keliiah Blohmn.

Act to Prevent Trafficking

Liz Byrne IBVM (Chair) and APT Group.

Synodal Working Group

Kathleen McGarvey OLA (Chair), Martin Kenneally FPM, Karen Kent OSU, Jim Farrell, Noirin Lynch, David Rose

Visa Working Group

Timothy Lehane SVD, Louise O'Rourke PDDM, David Rose

Education Committee

John Hennebry OSA (Chair), Patricia Bourden, Niall Coll, Peter Kelly, Martin Kenneally FPM, Deirdre Matthews, David Rose, Eithne Woulfe.

Association of Bursars of Religious of Ireland Committee

Geraldine McAleer (Chair); Mary Cashman (RIP); Sally Byrne, Treasurer; Marie King; Aine McGoldrick; Dominica Murphy; Ger Mulvey; Anne Doyle.

REPRESENTATION AND LIAISON WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Liaison with Irish Episcopal Conference

Brendan Coffey OSB, Mary Hanrahan PBVM, Breege O'Neill RSM, Paula Molloy MSHR, David Rose

Towards Healing

Cait O'Dwyer RSM, Hugh Lagan SMA

Towards Peace

Anne Sheehy RSM, Hugh Lagan SMA, David Rose

National Board for Safeguarding in the Catholic Church in Ireland

Phil O'Laoide, Nuala O'Gorman RSM

National Mission Council

Denise Flack VC, Ray Husband SSC, Martin Kelly CSSp, David Rose

Missio Ireland

Brendan Coffey OSB

UCESM

Brendan Coffey OSB, Mary Hanrahan PBVM, David Rose

St Luke's Institute

Mary Hanrahan PBVM

Council of Management of Catholic Secondary Schools

Patricia Bourden

Joint Managerial Body

Patricia Bourden

Catholic Education Service Committee

Aideen Kinlen RSCJ, Ella McGuinness RSM, Fr John Hennebry, OSA, Fr Leonard Moloney SJ

Catholic Education Service Trust

Fr John Hennebry, OSA, Fr Leonard Moloney SJ

Catholic Education Partnership

Eithne Woulfe SSL

Secretariat of Secondary Schools

Eithne Woulfe SSL

NI Commission for Catholic Education

Maureen O'Dea OSC, Brigdhe Valelly OP, Eithne Woulfe SSL



AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

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

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

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DIRECTORS' AND OTHER INFORMATION

Directors

Brendan Coffey - Chairperson and President
 Mary Hanrahan - Vice President Paula Molloy
 Timothy Lehane
 Raymond Dwyer (Appointed 16 September 2021)
 Martin Kelly (Appointed 16 September 2021)
 Daniel Baragry (Appointed 16 September 2021)
 Breege O'Neill (Appointed 16 September 2021)
 Anne Harte-Barry (Appointed 16 September 2021)
 Denise Flack (Appointed 16 September 2021)
 Raymond Husband (Appointed 16 September 2021)
 Kathleen McGarvey (Resigned 16 September 2021)
 Sally Fay Roddy (Resigned 16 September 2021)
 Edmund Garvey (Resigned 16 September 2021)
 Thomas O'Connor (Resigned 16 September 2021)
 Rita (Margaret) Kelly (Resigned 16 September 2021)
 John Hennebry (Resigned 16 September 2021)
 Aidan McGrath (Resigned 16 September 2021)
 Evelyn Greene (Resigned 16 September 2021)

Company Secretary

L&P Trustee Services Limited

Charity Number
 CHY 9301

Charities Regulatory Authority Number

RCN 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
 1 Lower Baggot Street
 Dublin 2

Bank of Ireland
 Ranelagh
 Dublin 6

Allied Irish Banks 40/42
 Ranelagh
 Dublin 6

Solicitors

Millett and Matthews Solicitors
 Main Street Baltinglass Co. Wicklow

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, applying Section 1A of that standard and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. At present, given that accounting regulations under charities legislation are pending in the Republic of Ireland, the application of SORP is not mandatory, but may be adopted on a voluntary basis. The directors of the Charity are also Charity trustees for the purpose of Charity law and under the Charity's constitution are known as members of the Executive Council.

In this report the directors of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements, and finances for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

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, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

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

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Mission Statement

The purpose of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is to represent and promote active collaboration between Religious Institutes, Societies of Apostolic Life, and Missionary Organisations. Key strategic programme areas include Mission and Education at home and abroad; Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation; and Support Services to its Membership.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the Charity has assets of €1,901,064 (2020 - €1,843,488) and liabilities of €338,731 (2020 - €179,652). The net assets of the Charity have decreased by €101,503.

Reserves Position and Policy

The directors aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately two years of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The directors consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to a decrease in membership fees and to ensure support and governance costs are covered. The directors consider that a level of two years is sufficient.

The balance held as unrestricted funds at the year-end was €1,562,333, of which €1,401,425 are regarded as free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets and designated funds. At the year end, funds had been designated for specific purposes which include Act to Prevent Trafficking (APT) and Association of Bursars of Religious of Ireland (ABRI). Actual two-year expenditure for 2021 and 2019 totalled €1,246,049. Expenditure levels in 2020 was reduced as a response to Covid – 19 pandemic and

this would not give an accurate reflection of two-year expenditure if included. The current level of free reserves is higher than the two-year expenditure and this is to cover any unexpected costs that may arise.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Charity 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 Charity. The Charity receives income from its members and applies this to the furtherance of its objectives. Management reviews the income and expenditure of the Charity periodically during the year to ensure that the Charity seeks to raise 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.

Directors and Secretary

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

Brendan Coffey - Chairperson and President
Mary Hanrahan - Vice President

Paula Molloy

Timothy Lehane

Raymond Dwyer (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Martin Kelly (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Daniel Baragry (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Breege O'Neill (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Anne Harte-Barry (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Denise Flack (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Raymond Husband (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Kathleen McGarvey (Resigned 16 September 2021)

Sally Fay Roddy (Resigned 16 September 2021)

Edmund Garvey (Resigned 16 September 2021)

Thomas O'Connor (Resigned 16 September 2021)

Rita (Margaret) Kelly (Resigned 16 September 2021)

John Hennebry (Resigned 16 September 2021)

Aidan McGrath (Resigned 16 September 2021)

Evelyn Greene (Resigned 16 September 2021)

The secretary who served throughout the financial year was L&P Trustee Services Limited.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The Charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2014
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Charities Act 2009

Post - balance sheet events

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

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 met monthly throughout the year and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity.

Political Donations

The Charity made no political donations during the year.

Research and Development

The Charity continued a research project on the experiences of returned missionaries. This is expensed to the Statement of Financial Activities as the project is for academic purposes only.

Members of the Executive Council 2021

Brendan Coffey - Chairperson and President

Mary Hanrahan - Vice President

Paula Molloy

Timothy Lehane

Raymond Dwyer (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Martin Kelly (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Daniel Baragry (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Breege O'Neill (Appointed 16 September 2021)

Anne Harte-Barry (Appointed 16 September 2021)

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Thomas O'Connor (Resigned 16 September 2021)
Rita (Margaret) Kelly (Resigned 16 September 2021)
John Hennebery (Resigned 16 September 2021)
Aidan McGrath (Resigned 16 September 2021)
Evelyn Greene (Resigned 16 September 2021)

The Executive members met monthly throughout the year and continue to develop the Charity. The Executive Council is currently working on the implementation of the six principles of the Charity Governance Code and implementation of its strategic plan.

Finance and Risk Management Committee

The Finance and Risk Management Committee was formally established in 2017 by the Executive of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee with approved Terms of Reference. Its members are:

Raymond Dwyer, (Chairperson, Member of Executive Council, Provincial, Presentation Brothers) Breege O'Neill, (Member of the Executive Council, Provincial, Mercy Sisters West)

Linda Downes, (Financial & HR Consultant with Vincentian Fathers) Pat Clarke, (Chartered Surveyor & Property Advisor)

Ian Brady, (has worked in the sector for several years)

Anne Doyle, (Treasurer with Sisters of Mercy Congregation) Paddy Hennessy, (Vice Provincial of Salesians)

David Rose, Secretary General attends in an administrative capacity

Fidelma Mallen, Financial Administrator, attends in an administrative capacity

Governance Committee

The Executive appointed a Governance Committee to work on Governance matters. The following were appointed and work with Legal Advisors Millett & Matthews:

Aidan McGrath, Canon Lawyer
Brendan Coffey, Canon Lawyer
Nicola Keogh, L&P Trustee Services Limited
David Rose, Secretary General

Their mandate is to review and amend aspects of the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee's Constitution and advise the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee members on governance and leadership issues. The committee held two webinars on governance matters for the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee's membership.

Governance

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland is a Company Limited by Guarantee with a Constitution approved by the Companies Act 2014 and ratified by the Members on 7 March 2017. The Charities Regulatory Authority Number is RCN 20023263. It is a registered Charity and has been granted the CHY number 9301. Its Statutes were approved ad experimentum by Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life (CICLSAL) in August 2017 for a period of five years.

Human Relations Management

Policies and procedures for day-to-day operations are outsourced to Adare Human Resources, Blackrock, Co Dublin. To date an Employee Manual has been developed incorporating all aspects of current employee legislation.

Location of Offices

The main administration office was leased from a missionary congregation on a three-year renewal basis, which was renewed for a further two-year term in June 2021. This offers value for money since it provides accessibility not only for individual offices but also meeting rooms and car parking facilities.

A second base at Willow Park, Blackrock, rented from a missionary society, provides very adequate classroom facilities for the one-year Religious Formation Ministry Programme.

Member Organisations

The members comprise of 131 religious organisations, missionary societies and apostolic groups in Ireland who pay a membership fee to fund the activities of the Charity. The services provided include legally compliant Garda vetting, Covid Helpline and Advice, Communications Programme, Education policy and advice, Justice and Ecology programmes (divestment, housing, migrants, refugees and interfaith development), Action to Prevent Human Trafficking, Research on Missionaries, Missions Promotions Programme, Advocacy on Minister of Religion, Visas, Engagement on Synodality, Vulnerable Adults policy development and Religious Formation Ministry Programme. Communication is provided through its website which features many media statements, relevant documents, and regular e-newsletters.

Strategic Planning

The Strategic Plan 2018-2021 outlines the Vision, Mission and Values of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee. The Executive Council commissioned an external review of the plan which formed the basis of an extensive consultation with the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee membership on developing a new strategic plan for 2022-2025. Individual meetings will be held with the following committees to further the development of a new plan, these include: Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation, Religious Formation Ministry Programme Management, Communications, Lay Missionaries, and Finance and Risk Management Committee. The Executive intends that the new strategic plan will give a sharper focus to addressing key needs of the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee membership in the areas of leadership, governance, and social and environmental justice.

Covid

Covid and the associated lockdowns had an impact on how the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee office functioned in 2021. However, while staff worked from home, most activities were able to be delivered.

The Executive continued to meet monthly by Zoom. A Covid working group provided advice and a helpline to the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee membership and liaised with the Health Service Executive on the rollout of vaccines to older religious. The group hosted a number of webinars on coping with Covid including an online remembrance service for members who died from Covid.

Justice Peace Integrity of Creation (JPIC)

A new Coordinator for Justice, Peace, and Ecology was appointed in 2021. A major part of the work continued online. Key initiatives undertaken in 2021 were: vaccine justice with Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee on the steering group of the People's Vaccines Alliance, Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee supported the re-establishment of the Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network to challenge economic injustice in Africa; awareness raising on obstetric fistula; and promoting integral ecology in line with Pope Francis encyclical Laudato Si. The Justice Peace Integrity of Creation committee organised a webinar on ethical aligned investment for leaders and bursars.

Act to Prevent Trafficking (APT)



APT is under the auspices of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee and has a representative on the Justice Peace Integrity of Creation committee. The purpose of APT is twofold:

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

The 40 or so members of APT meet monthly to plan their work, to organise seminars/workshops and to continue to engage in various forms of awareness raising. It has a wide network of international contacts through colleagues working in countries from which trafficked people originate. Highlights of the year

included: participation in the UN Commission for the Status of Women Forum, where APT presented two seminars; awareness raising on the European Day Against Trafficking; and the development of an all-Ireland anti-human trafficking awareness education programme – cAPTives.

Included in the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee accounts for 2021 is the following in relation to APT: income of €900 (2020: €680), expenditure of €10,380 (2020: €6,061) and at the balance sheet date, cash at bank amounts to €100,410 (2020: €109,890). The cash at bank of €100,410 is deemed sufficient to cover the costs during the period.

Religious Formation Ministry Programme (RFMP)



Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee has responsibility for a year-long Religious Formation Ministry Programme (RFMP), now in its 40th year based at Willow Park, Blackrock. Members of religious congregations, mainly from Africa and Asia study formation and leadership over the course of nine months. This programme re-commenced in 2021 with a reduced number of students owing to international travel restrictions due to Covid. A new staff member was appointed in January 2021.

Included in the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee accounts for 2021 is the following in relation to RFMP: income of €24,767 (2020: €4,125), expenditure of €66,175 (2020: €90,844) and at the balance sheet date, cash at bank amounts to €170,247 (2020: €164,330). Due to the Covid - 19 pandemic, classes were cancelled for the academic year 2020/2021 and have resumed for the academic year 2021/2022. Included in the balance sheet is deferred income of €49,533 (2020: nil).

Education

Gospel Leadership is the goal of the work undertaken by Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee's

part-time Education Co-ordinator who has a remit to support members, to have a proactive stakeholder engagement in the development of new structures for catholic education at national level and in cross border initiatives on behalf of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee 's members. The remit also includes a representative function and communication with members, education partners and statutory bodies where appropriate. These roles also bring with them engagement in particular working groups and dialogue as needed, e.g., ethos, formation, resource development, research, catechetics, academic certification, curriculum consultation, jointly managed schools, mentoring, and dialogue between faith, culture, and education in contemporary Ireland.

Communications

A new Communications Co-ordinator was appointed in 2021. With Covid, all of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee's work moved online and the Communications Coordinator managed numerous online gatherings, such as facilitated seminars, large scale webinars and smaller group meetings. The Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee website <http://www.amri.ie> was completed, redesigned and updated, making it more functional and effective. A new regular e-newsletter was developed which enjoys a wide circulation. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee participates in the Communicators for Women Religious organisation.

Coordinated Parish Promotions Programme (CPPP)

The CPPP co-ordinated parish promotions programme was put on hold as churches closed due to Covid. The CPPP is organised by Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee in conjunction with the Irish Episcopal Conference whereby congregations visit dioceses to promote their congregations but also to promote the contemporary involvement of missionaries at home and overseas.

Lay Mission Committee

The Lay Mission Committee is an integral part of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee. Its mission is to promote and advance the work of lay missionary groups. It continued to meet regularly by Zoom. The committee organised three webinars attended by over 300 participants on themes of the Synodal Pathway: the voice of laypeople in the Church, the role of women, and being a more inclusive Church.

Association of Bursars of Religious of Ireland (ABRI)

ABRI is a committee under the auspices of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee. Membership of ABRI consists of the bursars of the various religious congregations and missionary societies together with the staffs of the various financial offices. ABRI have been included in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021, showing income of €4,250 (2020: €30), expenditure of €168 (2020: €857) and bank balance of €57,564 (2020: €53,482). ABRI's income and expenditure largely relates to the annual conference they hold every year. The annual 3-day conference that was due to be held in 2021 has been cancelled due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The cash at bank of €57,564 is deemed sufficient to cover the reduced costs during this period.

Vocations Ireland

Vocations Ireland is in the process of joining Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee. New terms of reference were agreed by both bodies. Vocations Ireland promote a culture of vocations, provides training and support to vocations directors, hosted the Vocations Music Awards an EU-wide online event, participated in COP26 in Glasgow, collaborates with NRCV and other like-minded bodies. Vocations Ireland is a member of Communicators for Women Religious Ireland.

Union of European Conferences of Major Superiors (UCESM)



Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a member of UCESM which is a network or Union of European Conferences of Major 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 Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee 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. It also holds periodic workshops and seminars.

Formal relationships between Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee 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 several times each 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. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee representatives meet regularly with representatives of the IEC.

IEC/Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee Company Co- Sponsorship

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee 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 - National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI)

This is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital that was incorporated in December 2008. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a joint member of COIMIRCE with the IEC. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee, on behalf of its members, makes a payment to share the annual running costs of COIMIRCE from the annual subscription to Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee. An accrual for the 2021 contribution amounted to €68,828 which is shown as an expense in the accounts. The total contribution for 2021 from Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is €68,828.

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.

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, Conference of Religious in Ireland, and Irish Missionary Union.



The service took over from the Faoiseamh service, which provided counselling from 1996 to 2011. Now funded largely by congregations and supported by the IEC, Towards Healing is committed to supporting victims/survivors of Catholic Institutional, Clerical and Religious childhood abuse, and their families. It offers counselling and other support services, appropriate to their needs, in a timely manner which are independent, safe, respectful, cost effective, and of the highest quality.

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a co-sponsor of Towards Healing with the Irish Episcopal Conference. A Service Level Agreement is in place between IEC, Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee and Towards Healing whereby Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee collect and hold the money on behalf of its members for payment to Towards Healing for the service it provides. At 31 December 2021, Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee holds €109,671 (2020: €6,723) in the bank which is also shown in the creditors of the Charity.

Towards Peace

A third entity under the sponsorship of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee and IEC 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 can create deep lifelong spiritual wounds.



Towards Peace respects that the journey of healing from spiritual injuries can be 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.

The Secretary General of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a member of the Towards Peace Oversight Group. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee continues to support Towards Peace by making an annual payment on behalf of its members towards the costs of the part-time employee, office space and other costs. This payment comes from the annual membership subscriptions. An accrual for the 2021 contribution amounted to €5,847, leading to an expense in the accounts of €5,847.

Vulnerable Adults

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee and the IEC recognise the need to address issues and concerns for vulnerable adults and have commissioned the NBSCCI to undertake a review of policies on vulnerable adults with a view to developing a template policy. An accrual for the 2021 contribution amounted to €37,500, leading to an expense in the accounts of €37,500.

Relationships between Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee and other charities:

Missio Ireland

Missio Ireland (formerly World Missions Ireland) is Pope Francis' official charity for overseas mission, part of a worldwide network of 120 offices, under the coordination of the Pontifical Mission Societies in Rome. Missio is the Holy Father's chosen instrument for sharing the Gospel and building the Church throughout the world. Missio believes in the dignity of all, and supports everyone regardless of race, gender, religious or political beliefs. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is represented on the board of Missio Ireland.

Rotha trading as The WHEEL

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



Guarantee 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.

Membership of The Wheel offers opportunities to work together, provides access to the most up-to-date information, dedicated support services, unrivalled networking opportunities and the ability to influence policymakers. Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee staff have availed of workshops on Charity Regulations and GDPR provided by The Wheel.

Details of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee achievements and performance in 2021

This was a difficult year with the Covid-19 restrictions in place. Nevertheless, a great deal of work was progressed through Zoom meetings of the Executive Council and Committees including: Towards Healing funding; APT meetings; JPIC meetings; Lay Mission meetings, Meetings with Department of Justice on Visas; Vocations Ireland joining Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee; RFMP on-going work; and Work with congregations on Mother and Baby Homes. Work also commenced on a review of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee's strategic plan. A Covid Advisory working group was established to support the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

membership with a helpline and webinars to provide up to date information and advice.

This is the fifth annual report and financial statements since the amalgamation of CORI and IMU. The Charity made a loss in the year of €(101,503) (2020: €(4,893)). Since the year end the Finance and Risk Committee continue their budget and financial planning work for 2022 and subsequent years to ensure that Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee has clarity on its finances along with a sustainability plan for 2018-2021 in harmony with the Strategic Plan.

Auditors

The auditors, Keveny Monahan Limited, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Statement on Relevant Audit Information

In accordance with section 330 of the Companies Act 2014, so far as each of the persons who are directors at the time this report is approved are aware, 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.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 29th June 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



**Brendan Coffey - Chairperson and President
Director**



**Mary Hanrahan - Vice President
Director**

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard, issued by the Financial Reporting Council. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charity as at the financial year end date and of the net income or expenditure of the charity for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- 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 ensuring that the charity keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the charity, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and net income or expenditure of the charity to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and the Directors' Annual Report comply with Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. 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 as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 29th June 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Brendan Coffey

**Brendan Coffey - Chairperson and President
Director**

Mary Hanrahan

**Mary Hanrahan - Vice President
Director**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the charity financial statements of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee for the financial year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

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 2021 and of its deficit for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2014 and having regard to the Charities SORP; 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 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 and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and the Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 4 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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.

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 course of 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

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- the information given in the Directors' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual 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 complied with by the company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 13, the

directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, if applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the charity 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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions,

misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



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: 29th June 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €
Incoming Resources					
Charitable activities					
Membership and course fees	5.1	426,678	426,678	438,918	438,918
Investments	5.2	4	4	52	52
Total incoming resources		426,682	426,682	438,970	438,970
Resources Expended					
Charitable activities	6.1	528,185	528,185	443,863	443,863
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		(101,503)	(101,503)	(4,893)	(4,893)
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		(101,503)	(101,503)	(4,893)	(4,893)
Reconciliation of funds					
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2021	15	1,663,836	1,663,836	1,668,729	1,668,729
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2021		1,562,333	1,562,333	1,663,836	1,663,836

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year. All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 29th June 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Brendan Coffey

**Brendan Coffey - Chairperson and President
Director**

Mary Hanrahan

**Mary Hanrahan - Vice President
Director**

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	10	2,934	4,909
Current Assets			
Debtors	12	6,181	5,639
Cash at bank and in hand		1,891,949	1,832,940
		1,898,130	1,838,579
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(338,731)	(179,652)
Net Current Assets		1,559,399	1,658,927
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		1,562,333	1,663,836
Funds			
Unrestricted designated funds		157,974	163,371
General fund (unrestricted)		1,404,359	1,500,465
Total funds	15	1,562,333	1,663,836

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 29th June 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Brendan Coffey

**Brendan Coffey - Chairperson and President
Director**

Mary Hanrahan

**Mary Hanrahan - Vice President
Director**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds		(101,503)	(4,893)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		1,975	3,900
Interest receivable and similar income		(4)	(52)
		(99,532)	(1,045)
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in debtors		(542)	12,186
Movement in creditors		159,079	(209,476)
Cash generated from operations		59,005	(198,335)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		4	52
Payments to acquire tangible assets		-	(3,843)
Net cash generated from investment activities		4	(3,791)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		59,009	(202,126)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2021		1,832,940	2,035,066
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2021	18	1,891,949	1,832,940

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the Republic of Ireland. The registered office of the company is Student Wing, Cypress Grove House, Cypress Grove Road, Templeogue, Dublin 6W which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that standard and the Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP).

The charity has applied the Charities SORP on a voluntary basis as its application is not a requirement of the current regulations for charities registered in the Republic of Ireland. As permitted by the Companies Act 2014, the charity has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats, as outlined in the Companies Act 2014, are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the charity for the financial year ended 31 December 2021 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing

their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Fund accounting

The following are the categorises of funds maintained:

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are comprised of general funds and designated funds. General funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of directors in furtherance of the objectives of the company while Designated funds are a portion of the unrestricted funds that have been set aside for a particular purpose. General funds may be held to finance working capital or capital expenditure.

Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held as expendable 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 accrual's basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accrual's 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.

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

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the charity from government agencies and other co- funders, but not yet received at year end, is included in debtors.

Creditors

Creditors are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months' notice of withdrawal.

Taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the charity has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable value added tax is expensed as incurred.

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 expensed as incurred.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS 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

At the date of signing the financial statements, the director was working on the preparation of budgets and cashflows for a period of twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The directors have relied upon post year end management accounts and cash at bank 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 €2,934 (2020: €4,909).

4. PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR AUDITS OF SMALL ENTITIES

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

5. INCOME

5.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2021 €	2020 €
Income from Charitable Activities	426,678	-	426,678	438,918

5.2 INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2021 €	2020 €
Investment and Other Income	4	-	4	52

6. EXPENDITURE

6.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Direct Costs €	Other Costs €	Support Costs €	2021 €	2020 €
Costs of Charitable Activities	-	235,708	292,477	528,185	443,863

Other costs relate to RFMP course costs, Insurance, Rent, COIMIRCE, Towards Peace, Healthcare Office, website costs, Returned Missionaries research and other running costs of the charity.

7. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2021 €	2020 €
Salaries and Wages	266,679	150,162
Audit Fees inclusive of VAT	7,995	11,368
Legal and professional inclusive of VAT	17,803	37,076
	292,477	198,606

Included in the Audit Fees above is fees for non-audit services of assistance with financial statements preparation and filing of the corporation tax return.

8. NET INCOMING RESOURCES

	2021 €	2020 €
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	1,975	3,900

9. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of employees

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Religious Formation Ministry	3	3
Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee	6	5
	9	8
The staff costs comprise:	2021	2020
	€	€
Wages and salaries	240,746	141,545
Social security costs	22,903	8,617
Pension costs	3,030	-
	266,679	150,162

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Total €
Cost		
At 31 December 2021	34,532	34,532
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2021	29,623	29,623
Charge for the financial year	1,975	1,975
At 31 December 2021	31,598	31,598
Net book value		
At 31 December 2021	2,934	2,934
At 31 December 2020	4,909	4,909

11. INVESTMENTS

	Other investments €	Total €
Investments		
Cost		
At 31 December 2021	63	63
Provisions for diminution in value:		
At 31 December 2021	63	63
Net book value		
At 31 December 2021	-	-

12. DEBTORS

	2021 €	2020 €
Trade debtors	3,560	2,580
Other debtors	-	500
Prepayments	2,621	2,559
	6,181	5,639

13. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 €	2020 €
Trade creditors	5,414	47,762
Taxation and social security costs	20,987	8,724
Other creditors	110,802	7,269
Accruals	143,855	115,897
Deferred Income	57,673	-
	338,731	179,652

Other creditors include amounts held on behalf of the funding congregations who are members of the charity which amount to €109,671 (2020: €6,723) and credit cards. These amounts are also held in bank balances at the year end. Accruals include amounts accrued in respect of Coimirce of €68,828; Towards Peace €19,104 and accrued overhead expenses and governance costs. Deferred Income relates to RFMP course fees paid in the year which relate to 2022.

14. RESERVES

	2021 €	2020 €
At 1 January 2021	1,663,836	1,668,729
Deficit for the financial year	(101,503)	(4,893)
At 31 December 2021	1,562,333	1,663,836

15. FUNDS

15.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds €	Total Funds €
At 1 January 2020	1,668,729	1,668,729
Movement during the financial year	(4,893)	(4,893)
At 31 December 2020	1,663,836	1,663,836
Movement during the financial year	(101,503)	(101,503)
At 31 December 2021	1,562,333	1,562,333

15.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 January 2021 €	Income €	Expenditure €	Transfers between funds €	Balance 31 December 2021 €
Unrestricted funds					
Act to Prevent Trafficking	109,890	900	10,380	-	100,410
ABRI	53,481	4,250	168	-	57,563
Donations	1,500,465	418,832	514,937	-	1,404,360
	1,663,836	423,982	(525,485)	-	1,562,333
Total funds	1,663,836	423,982	525,485	-	1,562,333

15.3 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets - charity use €	Current assets €	Current liabilities €	Total €
Unrestricted designated funds	-	157,974	-	157,974
Unrestricted general funds	2,934	1,740,156	(338,731)	1,404,359
	2,934	1,898,130	(338,731)	1,562,333
	2,934	1,898,130	(338,731)	1,562,333

16. STATUS

The charity is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The liability of the members is limited.

17. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments payable during the next twelve months amount to €30,000 and are payable in relation to rental leases.

18. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2021 €	2020 €
Cash and bank balances	1,110,296	1,051,291
Cash equivalents	781,653	781,649
	1,891,949	1,832,940

19. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant post balance sheet events.

20. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 29th June 2022.



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