

Annual Report

2022–2023

Gospel Leadership

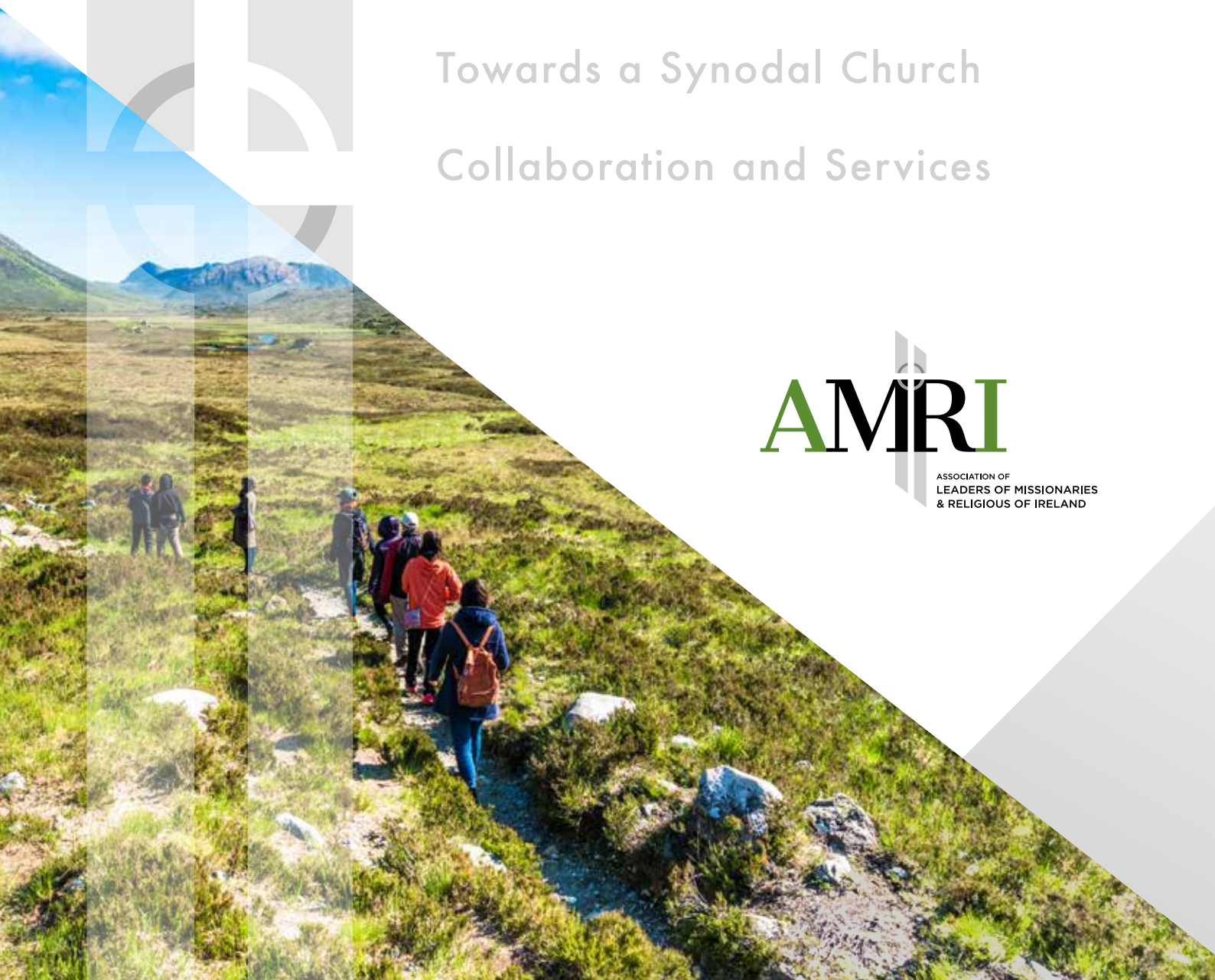
Social and Ecological Justice

Towards a Synodal Church

Collaboration and Services

AMRI

ASSOCIATION OF
LEADERS OF MISSIONARIES
& RELIGIOUS OF IRELAND



AMRI



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brendan Coffey OSB



Trust in the Lord with all your heart. (Proverbs 3:5)

These are important words for us to hear and with them I greet all of you who read this report. Since our last report, one year ago, AMRI has been working assiduously on your behalf, developing our services and implementing the strategic plan, which we launched at our conference last year. We have continued to engage with the Synodal Pathway and endeavoured to support and respond to the changing needs of members. We facilitated webinars, meetings and other encounters to help members address the issues we face today. It has been a busy time and one where with St Paul we are 'walking by faith and not yet by sight' (2 Corinthians 5:7) but filled with confidence. You will read more about all of these activities in the secretary general's report.

AMRI is a membership organisation and exists to serve the needs of our members. This can only happen with your continued support and encouragement. Your willingness to respond to our appeals, financial, material and human, is deeply appreciated and a wonderful sign of solidarity among our different members. AMRI depends on your support and never takes this trust and goodwill for granted. My first words once again this year are words of gratitude. I want to thank you, our membership, for your continued support and trust. I want to thank David, our secretary general, and all the dedicated staff in the AMRI office for their commitment and diligence over the past year and all of their support for me personally during my time as president. I want to thank the chairs and members of all our AMRI committees and subcommittees and the members of the working groups for the time and dedication they have shown in their respective tasks, as well as all those working in Vocations Ireland and in the Religious Formation Ministry Programme (RFMP).

Last, but by no means least, I want to thank my fellow members of the Executive Council of AMRI for their

generosity, support, friendship and encouragement over the past year. As this executive comes to the end of its term, I am both proud and privileged to have worked with each of you. I would also like to say a personal word of thanks to Sr Mary Hanrahan, vice president of AMRI, for all her support and encouragement, which has been invaluable to me in my role as president.

The last year has been particularly challenging for all of us. Past failings occasioning abuse of the young and vulnerable continue to emerge. Anger and disgust from society at these revelations is justified. There is also a sense of despondency among those of us who have worked for decades to bring about a change in the culture of safeguarding in Ireland and in each of our institutes. It seems that despite all our efforts, all the time and energy that has been expended on every aspect of safeguarding to make the Church a better and safer place for children and vulnerable persons, there are still more stories of abuse and neglect from our past to be told. There is no way to fast-forward this experience, nor should we attempt to do so. There is a lot more listening to do.

Those who abused in our church have cast a long shadow, the impact of which remains with us. We must never forget that so many innocents have been gravely harmed and deprived of their liberty and dignity. This painful history is part of our story and we should not try to shake it off. It is a tragic, miserable reality. We have a responsibility to survivors to do better and we have a duty to listen to what they have to tell us for as long as it takes. This is the time in which we live, a time of painful listening, a necessary time if the will of God is to be revealed in all of this.

We are all familiar with the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. How a stranger joined them

on that road and asked them the reason for their dejectedness. They tell a sad and even tragic tale, recounting how Jesus, their hope, was betrayed and crucified and how some women from their group astounded them by claiming that he was alive. This story is told as bad news, without hope and ending in tragedy.

On Pentecost morning, Peter tells exactly the same story as good news, gospel, because he had received the Holy Spirit. We need to see our present reality and our engagement with survivors of abuse as 'gospel', part of our work to build up the kingdom and a place where the Holy Spirit is at work today. It is difficult, painful and challenging, but this is what the Lord is asking of us now. Let us hope that we will not be found wanting.

In many of our communities around the country we are dealing with older and fewer members. Those of us who are in leadership positions struggle with the challenges this brings. AMRI's lay members also have their struggles to face – nobody has a monopoly on life's difficulties – but all of us together need to face into the future with renewed confidence and trust that the Lord Jesus knows what he is doing.

What is being asked of us today? What is the Spirit saying to us? What does it mean to live a consecrated life in Ireland in the midst of this turbulent sea? And it is a turbulent sea; the war in Ukraine continues to cast a dark shadow over our world, causing the terrible suffering of innocent people. The phenomenon of refugees and displaced persons is one of the most shameful characteristics of our era, together with the trade in human trafficking. The climate crisis and the message of sustainable development championed by Pope Francis and many others continues to be a priority for us, as does the plight of the homeless and the housing crisis in our own country. It is so easy to feel powerless when confronted with all of this, but together we have a stronger voice.

Our collaboration as AMRI with the Irish Episcopal Conference (IEC) has continued and deepened this last year. 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 continues to manifest 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.

As far back as 2014 Pope Francis encouraged all consecrated persons in the following words, 'do not hide the areas of weakness which are possible to observe today in consecrated life.'¹ With St Paul, we need to appreciate the real value of the words, 'My grace is enough for you: for power is at the full in weakness' (2 Corinthians 12:9). The disciples on the road to Emmaus were dejected, exhausted, sad, afraid, alone, and generally miserable and fed up. His presence and the prompting of the Holy Spirit changed everything. Their bad news became good news, their hearts started to burn within them and from somewhere they summoned up the energy to retrace their steps to Jerusalem where they arrived in plenty of time for Pentecost. This is our consecrated life. Without the presence of the Risen Lord and the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are nothing at all. Our gift to the world, through our different institutes, is what it always has been: the Gospel, good news, Jesus is risen from the dead and because this is true, everything is different and everything is possible. Our religious life, a radical living out of our baptism, is supposed to be a reminder to everyone of this simple but all-important fact.

With this report, I conclude my service as president of AMRI. The two years have passed in an instant. My time as president was made so much easier by the excellent groundwork laid down by Sr Kathleen McGarvey OLA and Fr Marc Whelan CSSp and the previous members of the Executive Council, the staff, secretaries general and all who down the years worked in our parent organisations, CORI and the IMU. We owe you a most sincere debt of gratitude. To all of you I say *míle buíochas* and in the words of St Benedict, 'May the Lord bring us all together to everlasting life.'

¹ 'Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to participants in the plenary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life', Clementine Hall, Thursday, 27 November 2014.

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
- Dicastery 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
- Communicators for Women Religious
- Catholic Youth Ministry Ireland (CYMI)

VISION, MISSION AND AIMS

OUR VISION

Inspired by the good news of Jesus, our vision is a creative and compassionate living of religious and missionary life in a Synodal Church, responding with hope to the signs of the times, to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide leadership and support to our members, to foster collaboration, and to promote spirituality, social justice and sustainable living on a shared journey of faith.

OUR AIMS

1. Leadership

Provide leadership development and governance support.

2. Social and Ecological Justice

Work for justice, peace and the integrity of creation.

3. Towards a Synodal Church

Contribute to the re-visioning of a different Church through synodality: communion, participation and mission.

4. Collaboration and Services

Develop AMRI as a collaborative organisation, a membership network and service provider for members.

5. Strengthening AMRI

Strengthen the AMRI secretariat and committees to ensure delivery of this plan.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S OVERVIEW

David Rose, AMRI Secretary General



I am delighted to present this overview of AMRI's work for the period mid-2022 to mid-2023. As I do so, I am very grateful and humbled by the generosity of our staff, the Executive Council, AMRI members and lay colleagues who give freely of their time and talents to serve on committees in order to advance a life-giving and creative vision of religious and missionary life in a synodal Church today. Together we serve in promoting a way of life that is centred on seeking God in community and in service with people who are excluded and in caring for our common home.

This is the first year of implementation of our new strategic plan, *A Future with Hope*. It was a time of laying solid foundations in terms of aligning our structures and staff to the new strategy. We are delighted to welcome Anne Codd PBVM as coordinator for leadership development and Gerard Gallagher as coordinator for communications and member services. Both are new roles designed to improve capacity and provide greater support for the AMRI membership.

Significant progress has been made in implementing the aims of our plan which are: leadership development and governance; working for justice, peace and integrity of creation; building a synodal Church; developing collaborative services; and strengthening AMRI as a representative and advocacy organisation. The results in year one are promising and hopeful.

A range of ongoing and new initiatives and actions are detailed in the following pages. We are responding to a number of government inquiries, including the scoping inquiry into religious-run schools, the Law Reform Commission's consultation on unincorporated associations, and the request from National Archives.

A highlight of the year was our leaders' conference and AGM in Tullamore, the first to be held since Covid-19 restrictions were lifted. It was a truly joyous occasion with almost two hundred participants meeting to hear keynote speaker, Ted Dunne, encouraged us at the graced crossroads to embrace our vulnerability so as to lead to transformation of self, our communities and society.

This year we organised regional meetings for members in Dublin, Cork and Knock, with more planned. It was great to meet in person to share our hopes and concerns. The need for a new shared governance structure to deal with administration, assets, finance and, in the longer term as our communities age, healthcare was affirmed. Work is under way on this important project, with a working group now in place. Our president, Brendan, and I met twice with the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life and with colleagues from the English-speaking conferences of religious and shared the work that AMRI is doing, including the need for a new model of governance.

In *A Future with Hope* we try to strike a balance between the internal service to members – such as governance, Garda vetting, minister of religion visas, towards a shared archives – and the external service

to the Church and society. Our Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation programme and engagement with authorities on the forty-five offers of accommodation for refugees and asylum seekers keeps a strong social justice focus on people who experience exclusion, as does Act to Prevent Trafficking. Our Lay Mission Committee has provided opportunity for engagement of laypeople through webinars on synodality. Our Religious Formation Ministry Programme is a service to the global Church with nineteen students this year from Africa, Asia and Oceania. We have been proactive in engaging with younger religious and young people through involvement with World Youth Day and outreach to schools and universities through Vocations Ireland.

As an association and a network, communication is vital. We have updated our website and developed a social media presence. We receive good feedback on our e-news noticeboard, which gives a sense of the liveliness of religious life in Ireland. Where possible we try to challenge false perceptions about religious in mainstream media.

We continue a fruitful collaboration with the Irish Episcopal Conference through quarterly meetings, regular contact with their executive secretary and through co-sponsorship of the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, Towards Healing and Towards Peace. We collaborated on the vulnerable adults safeguarding policy and on the safeguarding review. The dialogue on leadership in the Church continued between a number of women religious provincials and a number of bishops, conducted in a spirit of synodality.

To the AMRI members, I say thank you for your generosity and prayers, which enable us to do what we do. It is a privilege to serve AMRI and I am proud to lead such a dedicated staff team.

Special thanks are due to our president and vice-president, Brendan Coffey OSB and Mary Hanrahan PBVM, for their wise counsel and leadership and to all the members of the Executive Council.

I hope you enjoy reading this report and, as always, your feedback is welcome.

PROGRAMME REPORTS

RELIGIOUS FORMATION MINISTRY PROGRAMME



Sr Josephine Enenmo OLA, Director RFMP



The Religious Formation Ministry Programme (RFMP) ended its fortieth anniversary celebration on Zoom on 10 June 2023. We were delighted that over two hundred former participants, team members and resource persons joined us to mark this important event. Testimonies were given by various people during the meeting and stories were told of how participants have used the formation at RFMP to enrich their ministries. Of course, RFMP is a blessing, not only to the participants who attend the programme but also to the team. It is a real privilege to accompany participants and touch the lives of so many beyond the boundaries of Ireland in our missionary outreach.

On 16 June 2023 the 2022–3 programme came to an official close. The participants leave Ireland with many happy memories. They also leave with gratitude for a programme that invites them to embark on a journey; beginning with an emphasis on each one's personal inner journey, then widening the circle to look at our environment, both cosmic and human. Reflecting and sharing together in large and small groups accompanied by the team, the participants experienced the challenge of intercultural living and engaged meaningfully with issues of diversity, gender equality and other global concerns related to ministry in an ever-changing Church and society. This part of their journey was grounded in pastoral outreach, and we are very grateful that this year we were able to resume pastoral placements following the lifting of the Covid-19 restrictions. This year's eight-day retreat after Easter took place at Mt Joseph's Monastery, Roscrea, and was led by the Manresa team. As usual this

retreat was a source of strength for our participants, enabling them to further integrate the richness of the programme.

Change in Staffing

After five years of untiring and dedicated service, Joe McGee MSC has left us to serve in his congregation as provincial leader. We would like to acknowledge Joe's immense contribution to RFMP and thank him sincerely for his gentle presence on the team. We wish him every blessing in his new ministry.

2023–4 Programme

In 2023–4 the programme will run from 14 September 2023 to the 14 June 2024. We are expecting twenty-one participants, from fifteen countries. This internationality and interculturality of RFMP contribute to its uniqueness and attractiveness. As one of this year's participants reflected, the programme is not



Class of 2022–3 and RFMP team

an Irish formation course, rather, it is an international formation course that takes place in Ireland.

We want to acknowledge the support received from David Rose and Anne Harte Barry (chairperson) and all the members of the AMRI subcommittee

for RFMP, which ended its mandate this year. In conclusion, a very special word of thanks goes to our various resource persons – lay, religious and priests – whose varied and immense contributions give RFMP its unique flavour.

JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION

Toni Pyke, JPIC Coordinator



It has been a busy year for the AMRI Justice Desk, collaborating with many others along a shared journey towards a more just and sustainable world.

During this reporting period, AMRI launched its new strategic plan (2022–7), *A Future with Hope*, which establishes a framework that will guide the AMRI Justice Desk over the next five years. Also key in charting the direction of the Justice Desk is Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which repeatedly emphasises 'how everything is interconnected' (138). Referring to the 'creation accounts in the Book of Genesis', Pope Francis demonstrates how 'human life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbour and with the earth itself' (66). He echoes others across diverse platforms who recognised years back that the human being 'is part of a whole' (Albert Einstein, 1950) and 'interrelated' (Martin Luther King, 1967). The late environmentalist Wangari Maathai illustrates this reality in her 2006 memoir *Unbowed*; using the metaphor of the African three-legged stool, she states that 'when one leg is missing, the seat is unstable'.

It is this ideology and AMRI's strategic structure that the Justice Desk uses to plan, develop and implement its programme of activities. During the current reporting period, the Justice Desk has been developing and consolidating responses that have included economic justice, human rights, women's dignity and rights, integral ecology, prevention of human trafficking, facilitating a welcome for the stranger, and promoting social and ecological good practice. All are grounded in a collaborative and cohesive approach, partnered with AMRI members and civil society organisations in Ireland and overseas. Below are snippets of some of the initiatives undertaken over the last twelve months that respond to Strategic Aim 2: Social and Ecological Justice.

Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network, Ireland Antenna



AMRI and nine religious congregations form the Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network (AEFJN), Ireland Antenna. Since its launch in 2022, the antenna has met regularly to plan and support its work in awareness raising, advocacy and acting on key issues that impact on and relate to corporate human rights abuses in Africa. During this year, activity has centred on raising awareness aimed at urging the EU to adopt legally binding legislation that guarantees corporate accountability for human rights abuses across all corporate value chains and restore human dignity. The antenna hosted various online and in-person events including an Advent webinar called 'Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh' to highlight the human and ecological costs of extractive industries, with a focus on Northern Ireland and Uganda. To highlight International Women's Day in March



we held a webinar entitled ‘Women and Girls: The Impact of Corporate Irresponsibility’ that considered the ways in which corporate activities undermine the rights of women and girls in Africa and elsewhere. In May, alongside members of the Irish Coalition on Business and Human Rights (of which the AEFJN is a member), we took part in a mock public protest opposing the development of a palm oil plantation in St Stephen’s Green. This was to inform the public of the realities of corporate land-grabbing and environmental plundering throughout the world by corporate activities, such as palm oil plantations. The event was in many newspapers including the *Irish Times* and the *Irish Independent*, featuring also as the *Irish Times* ‘Photo of the Day’. The video developed for this event was viewed over forty thousand times across social media platforms. This year AEFJN Ireland established a subgroup to focus on a communications campaign to encourage the wider AMRI family to write to their local TDs/MEPs to lobby for a political commitment across the EU that enshrines corporate accountability.

Prevention of Obstetric Fistula: An Issue of Human Dignity and Rights



AMRI continues to support the global campaign to prevent obstetric fistula, a preventable injury experienced by many young women and girls in rural communities across Asia and Africa. The campaign has taken its concerns to the UN in Geneva to appeal for the inclusion of obstetric fistula within the UN human rights agenda through various channels, including the Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights,

the Universal Periodic Review process, and the World Council of Churches, to ensure that ‘no one is left behind’ (in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals). This year Fr Edward Flynn CSSp, along with a delegation from Geneva, visited Madagascar to explore first-hand the realities of women and girls’ experiences of obstetric fistula and to gather data to support the campaign.

THE LETTER - A CALL TO ACTION:
A Faith-Based Discussion on Caring for Our Common Home

VIRTUAL DISCUSSION

25 MAY
7:00PM - 8:00PM

REGISTER HERE

Join us for an interactive group discussion and workshop about the film "The Letter - A Message for our Earth".

To participate in the event we kindly ask that you watch the documentary beforehand. You can access the film by following the link or scanning the code.

This is a powerful documentary that sheds light on the urgent need to address the climate and biodiversity crises.

<https://youtu.be/Pan9t8eAB8U>

The Cry of the Earth: Living *Laudato Si'*

AMRI continues to work with JPIC animators, FaithInvest, Laudato Si' Movement, Trócaire and others in ensuring a sustainable future for our common home. We supported an in-person event at Curryhills House, Prosperous, Co. Kildare, hosted by FaithInvest and the Catholic Impact Investing Collaborative (CIIC). The gathering was aimed at faith-based investors in Ireland with an interest in aligning their investments with their mission and charism, and learning more about impact investing. The Society of African Missions and the Sisters of Our Lady of the Apostles, along with AMRI, hosted an interactive online discussion focused on the evocative movie *The Letter: A Message for our Earth*, which is based on *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis' invitation to us all to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. During the discussion, we explored critical key messages that the movie and the encyclical express and looked at ways in which we can respond to and advocate for a just and sustainable future for all in partnership with each other.

Welcoming the Stranger

In response to the migration of individuals and families fleeing the brutal invasion of Ukraine by Russia, some forty-five religious congregations have supported accommodation for hundreds of refugees seeking refuge in Ireland. Many AMRI members have provided additional support services to incorporate an holistic response. As part of the AMRI Advent series, the Justice Desk hosted a webinar – ‘A Room at the Inn? Displacement, “flight into” Ireland, and what it means to “live” *Fratelli Tutti*’ – to explore the realities and challenges of migration and welcoming the stranger, and our roles and responsibilities as citizen Christians in this context.



Daring to Hope: Irish Religious Sisters Embracing the Unknown (1923–2023) Photographic Exhibition

This year a group of voluntary religious and lay women embarked on an ambitious



Daring to Hope

Irish Religious Sisters Embracing
the Unknown (1923-2023)

project that shares more widely the courageous and oftentimes pioneering story of Irish religious sisters in Ireland and overseas over the last hundred years. In collaboration with others, a photographic exhibition was developed to demonstrate how Irish religious sisters have worked and ministered across a variety of challenging social, political and economic contexts, including extreme poverty, war, racism, political unrest and other grave injustices, both in Ireland and overseas. The pop-up exhibition is expected to travel to key public spaces throughout the island of Ireland. It is designed to inform and communicate the vital contribution that Irish sisters have made to society.

ACT TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING

Sr Liz Byrne IBVM, APT Chair



From the second half of 2022 Act to Prevent Trafficking (APT) maintained its flexibility to adapt to the ever-changing societal landscape as the country emerged from the concerns of the Covid-19 pandemic. Priority was given to facilitating members' monthly meetings by means of establishing technical systems at the RSC House in Donnybrook, where these meetings take place, to enable a hybrid format for meetings. This has seen a 60:40 ratio of meeting attendance, with 60 per cent attendance in person and 40 per cent online.

cAPTives Education Programme

Progression of the cAPTives programme continues apace, and in November 2022, APT was invited to present an overview of the programme at a meeting of the Catholic School Chaplains Association held in St Patrick's College, Maynooth. Ms Lynda Kelly was appointed programme coordinator in January 2023, and cAPTives continues to be promoted throughout the senior cycle of post-primary schools nationally. All post-primary schools have been contacted individually and, where practical, on-site visits have taken place. We are generally pleased with the uptake and will continue to encourage all schools and wider school communities to partake in the programme as an informative and possible generative voice among future generations and individuals of conscience.

Working closely with Fr Bill Kemmy at iCatholic, our partner in cAPTives, we hope to secure, for Ireland, a life-size sculpture of the Tim Schmalz piece *Let the Oppressed Go Free*. A donor in the United States with familial links to Ireland has kindly agreed to donate and sponsor the placement of the sculpture in Ireland, most likely in 2024. APT is currently in talks with the Office of Public Works with a view to siting the piece in a setting commensurate with the significance and meaning of the sculpture.



Photo courtesy Vatican Press

Given how human trafficking, including the horrors of organ donation, is surfacing more and more in media and wider culture, more needs to be done at all levels of civil society, which is why the gift of *Let the Oppressed Go Free* would be so welcome.

Presentations to the Standing Committee of the Irish Episcopal Conference

APT was pleased to attend an online meeting of the Standing Committee of the Bishops' Conference in January 2023. As well as our own APT presentation, the meeting included those of our colleagues at MECPATHS (Mercy Efforts for Child Protection Against Trafficking with the Hospitality and Services Sector) and from Kevin Hyland on behalf of the Santa

Marta Group. The meeting provided an opportunity to engage with the bishops, to highlight the crime and extent of human trafficking and to signal the importance of engaging parishes and local communities in its prevention.

APT Online Presence

APT's website remains under construction, with the assistance of Ross Print Services; however, we maintain an online presence by posting content daily to APT's social media profiles on both Facebook and Twitter. As a demographic, we face challenges in trying to engage with our members on social media platforms; it is a work in progress!

Governance and the Election of a New Steering Team

In keeping with AMRI procedures, APT began a review of its structure and governance and embarked on a process of prayerful discernment with a view to preparing for a change of leadership team to take place in mid-2023.

A one-day in-person retreat for members took place on 21 March 2023 in St Patrick's Missionary Society, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow, and on 24 April Lucy Franks (facilitator) assisted members in carrying out a comprehensive review of activities and clarifying aims and objectives for the next two years.

At the APT members meeting in June 2023 the new steering team was elected following a prayerful and reflective process. It will begin its two-year term in September 2023.

Global crises, climate change, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, wars and enduring discriminatory policies

and practices have a disproportionate effect on individuals already oppressed by injustices. These challenges further compound existing vulnerabilities to exploitation, including human trafficking.

Conclusion

While the reports on Ireland's performance in anti-human-trafficking initiatives make for sobering reading – see the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings Report 2022 and the US Trafficking in Persons Report 2023 – we continue to be inspired by the tireless work of our colleagues in AMRI, the OLA Sisters and Presentation International, along with MECPATHS, Cork Against Human Trafficking, RUHAMA, Doras Luimní and others who provide a social justice response as they collaborate, educate, raise awareness and advocate for the prevention of human trafficking, the protection of children, women and girls from trafficking and exploitation and, ultimately, help bring an end to what Pope Francis calls a 'crime against humanity'.

And finally, *mar focail scoir*, it is important to record that over the course of the year APT members have continued to put human trafficking in the spotlight by contributing to articles in magazines such as *The Messenger* and *Woman's Way*, by participating in the Gardiner Street Series in Dublin city and in panel discussion and analysis of the RIP Report on RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta and on Facebook, hosted by our colleagues in the OLA.

Quietly but purposefully, APT is making inroads, by collaborating and forging mutually beneficial partnerships so that together we can make a greater impact. We must break the inhumane cycle of discrimination and injustices if we hope to one day eliminate human trafficking.

VOCATIONS IRELAND

Margaret Cartwright, Vocations Ireland Director



I am delighted to be able to contribute to our annual report. Short reports can never do justice to all that goes on in reality but I aim to give some insight into our vocations ministry.

Pioneering a New Pathway

Becoming a committee of AMRI lends itself to new developments. We no longer have a Vocations Ireland AGM and we work in collaboration with AMRI members, staff and committees. The Vocations Ireland executive has been working hard to develop our new path and pioneer new ways to promote a culture of vocation. We have prayed and reflected on the changes we need to make. We have listened to the voices of our members at various conferences, webinars and individual meetings during the year. Finally, we reflected on Sr Lynn Levo's presentation at our spring conference, held in Mount St Anne's. Subsequently we invited Sr Lynn to work with the executive in coming up with a way forward that responds to the needs of this time. It is our hope to be able to open a window and door and invite you into the new world of vocation.

Pope Francis and Vocation

The theme for Vocation Sunday 2023 was 'Grace and Mission' and the theme for the Year of Vocation for Vocations Ireland is 'Answer the Call'. These two themes dovetail quite nicely.

We passionately believe that God calls and that God is still calling today. Speaking on World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2023, Pope Francis said, 'the Lord's call is grace, complete gift, and at the same time a commitment to bring the Gospel to others.' However, we are not naïve to the fact that some congregations are reaching completion of their mission. We are seeing some close their doors and others amalgamate,

but this is nothing new in religious life and it has been part of the history of religious life throughout the ages.

Every time I make a presentation, give a talk or visit congregations, I am asked the questions, 'Are there any vocations today? How many young people are entering today?' These are complex questions and have complex answers. In short, yes, there are vocations today; and what does it matter if there is one person or 101 entering? The important thing to remember is that God is still calling.



Mission



There can be no vocation without mission. Vocations Ireland encourages and accompanies those considering mission through our various vocation directors, teams, animators in our congregations. We believe very much

that the mission of Vocations Ireland is to joyfully celebrate and proclaim, filled with hope for the future.

This year our mission has been to be present as much as we can to young people by attending events such as Youth 2000 retreats, Legion of Mary gatherings, the National Ploughing Championships and Flame, the UK's largest Catholic youth conference. At Flame 2023 we met many young Irish people studying or working in the UK. We have hosted coffee mornings on Zoom and in person with university students, prayer online, discussion groups, spiritual direction, and vocation accompaniment both in person and online.

Provision of Support to Vocation Personnel



We have offered a variety of opportunities through Zoom and in person with webinars, workshops, reflection groups, pastoral supervision, bimonthly newsletters, visiting congregations and providing resources or assistance with promotion.

Collaboration

During the year we have attended meetings, workshops and conferences with Vocations Apostolate Network in Europe (UCESM) and the National Office for Vocations in England and Wales (NOV), the National Vocations Office in Maynooth, the National Religious Vocation Conference in Chicago (NRVC), the Canadian Vocation Conference, Catholic Youth Ministry Ireland



(CYMI), and Communicators for Women Religious (CWR Ireland). From February 2023 I am no longer a member of CWR because AMRI itself and a member of our executive are also members and, therefore, I felt we were sufficiently represented.

Joining AMRI

As part of AMRI, I have attended webinars organised by AMRI, contributed to the noticeboard and collaborated with other members of staff in their various roles. It has been good to work with my new colleagues on different projects. Gerard Gallagher from Communications and Membership Services has been assisting me with the development of podcasts and taking photographs. Sharing ideas with Toni Pyke in JPIC and Sr Ann Codd in Leadership has been beneficial. Being part of the staff meetings lends itself to the development of new ideas and the sharing of experiences. We collaborated on an article entitled 'Enlarge the Space of your Tent: Vocation and the Universal Call to Holiness', which was published in *The Furrow* in May 2023.

World Youth Day (WYD) has been a major piece of collaborative work between AMRI and Vocations Ireland. We brought over forty pilgrims, including young religious and young adults, to World Youth Day in Lisbon in August 2023. There were several pre-WYD preparation gatherings, including catechesis in preparation for pilgrims. Many religious orders and their leadership teams took part in the preparations. During WYD we had an active presence vocation area in Lisbon. This is an exciting development for both Vocations Ireland and AMRI, and hopefully will lead to similar initiatives in the future.

Year of Vocation

We began the year celebrating the eve of Vocation Sunday with a joyful celebration of the Eucharist in



the Carmelite church on Whitefriar Street in Dublin city. We were blessed to have the African Priests and Religious choir with us as well as our RFMP students, who proclaimed the Word and did a beautiful offertory dance.



We have planned further initiatives for later in 2023, including conversation spaces online and in person. We are continuing to develop our podcast of vocation and ministry stories, which features stories of celebrations and good news. We will continue to work on our Come and See events, pilgrimages, and attendance at events like World Youth Day. You will learn about these events through our website and newsletter.



We are all in this together. We are all called. It is up to each one of us to stand up, proclaim the Good News, be joyful, celebrate our vocation and invite others to join us in this celebration.

I will be contacting many congregations and orders during the year and inviting you to take part in the various events.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Gerard Gallagher, Communications and Membership Services Coordinator



It has been a busy year since I took up my new position with AMRI as coordinator for Communications and Membership Services. It has been a great experience getting to know the many religious and missionaries whom I have encountered since joining AMRI. Whilst I have been around in Church circles for many years, I have been struck by the level of joy and enthusiasm in these encounters.

Communications

Though we continue to respond to many darker stories from the past, there are also signs of hope. My focus is on the mission and the AMRI strategic plan (2022–7), *A Future with Hope*, and bringing the message of the gospel to a wider audience.

Pope Francis spoke about his ‘dream of a missionary option’ for the Church that is ‘capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today’s world rather than for self-preservation’ (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 27). Hopefully our communications outreach in AMRI is missionary in its tone, as well as being informative.

Communications is at the heart of the gospel. Mark’s gospel reminds us, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation’ (16:15). Our faith is one that is meant to be shared and distributed as widely as possible. That has been my operational model since I started in AMRI.

On arrival it was clear that AMRI had a well-resourced website and regular newsletter for members and subscribers.

Gradually there has been a transition from only online gatherings and events towards the prioritisation of in-person gatherings.

Collaboration

Collaboration is at the heart of my role. I have been able to collaborate with colleagues and their work programmes. This has included the launch of Vocations Ireland’s Year of Vocation and various initiatives around justice, peace and ecology. I have collaborated with the AMRI Lay Mission Committee for their webinars and with the Religious Formation Ministry Programme for their ruby (fortieth) anniversary celebrations in June. I am also part of Communicators for Women Religious and attend their annual conference.

At a Glance

Here is a snapshot of some of the key communications projects of AMRI in the public square of Church.

AMRI’s Communication Committee meets quarterly to review and reflect on the work of communication taking place in and through AMRI. AMRI’s communication strategy connects our website, newsletter and social media in a coordinated way in order to bring our Good News to a wider audience.

AMRI’s website is updated frequently. Members and website users can sign up directly for the e-newsletter. The most popular sections on the website are news, membership services and basic get in touch with AMRI sections. Most of the website traffic is Irish, but many other countries feature, reflecting the wider mission of many members.

New features to the website include new pastoral resources for Lent and Advent as well as World Youth Day, synodality and a podcast series for the Year of Vocation.

AMRI's Communications Committee agreed to move the e-newsletter from a weekly production to fortnightly. It has two distinct audiences: internal AMRI members and their communities; and the external audience beyond the congregations.

Facebook is proving to be popular among our members and external supporters. One of the highest performing Facebook posts was a review of the launch of Vocations Ireland's Year of Vocation in April. Pope Francis in *Fratelli Tutti* speaks of a 'greater spirit of fraternity' (165). This is very clear now on Facebook, with many members engaging with our posts and sharing them, as well as including us in some of their initiatives. It has proved successful in highlighting key AMRI initiatives, especially in supporting justice, peace and ecology campaigns. This demonstrates how all the congregations can work together, in synodality and bringing our voice to a wider audience.

Both the newsletter and Facebook page have highlighted the voice of AMRI in the 'public square' of social media with the promotion of many good initiatives. There is a balance in the information being published to reflect the various outreaches of AMRI in faith, justice, environment, synod and leadership.

AMRI issued two press releases: 'AMRI Calls for Cooperation with Inquiry into Historical Abuse in Religious Run Schools' (9 March 2023); and 'AMRI World Youth Day' (July 2023).

AMRI produced four video reflections for Synodal Sunday in collaboration with the Irish Synodal Pathway.

Webinars

Throughout the year AMRI hosted several webinars.

- Lay Mission Committee, 'We Need to Talk 4: A Priest-less Parish: Opportunity or Threat?' (11 May 2023)
- Two shared archive webinars
- Online celebration for Religious Formation Ministry Programme's (RFMP) fortieth anniversary, with over two hundred past alumni in attendance (10 June)
- Two webinars with members who have or had schools in relation to the government's Scoping Inquiry into Historical Sexual Abuse in Schools Run by Religious Orders
- Two webinars on World Youth Day with pilgrims booked with AMRI

AMRI Publications

- *Mission Awareness Programme 2022–5*
- *AMRI Address Guide 2023* (Spring 2023)
- *AMRI Annual Report 2023* (Autumn 2023)
- 'Enlarge the Space of your Tent: Vocation and the Universal Call to Holiness' by Margaret Cartwright, Anne Codd and Gerard Gallagher, *The Furrow*, May 2023
- 'For many people, sport has replaced the religious experience' by Gerard Gallagher, *The Irish Times*, 7 November 2022
- 'Obstetric fistula remains one of the most neglected human-rights realities' by Toni Pyke and Edward Flynn, *The Irish Times*, 23 May 2022

Membership Services

A new part of my role for AMRI is membership services. Some of these tasks were already in process. They are linked to AMRI's strategic plan (2022–7), *A Future with Hope*. It notes, 'This aim [Collaboration and Services] concerns AMRI developing as a shared services hub to address common organisational needs that individual congregations may not be able to address on their own or that make sense to address in a collaborative manner.' Some of these services include the following initiatives.

Mission Awareness Programme

AMRI hosted a meeting with all twenty-one participating congregations, societies and groups who are part of the Mission Awareness Programme for 2023–7. *A Guideline for Promotions Personnel* was published in 2022.

AMRI Remembrance Service, Gort Muire

AMRI hosted its first Prayer Service of Remembrance for all members in Gort Muire, Dublin, on Thursday, 24 November 2022. It was great to see so many making the effort to attend. It was led by Brother Richard Hendrick OFM Cap, Sr Marie Dunne CHF and Sr Jennifer Perkins FMA. It was a lovely prayerful afternoon of prayer, reflection and music. Hospitality was provided by the Carmelite community. It is intended to plan another one for November 2023.

World Youth Day, Lisbon 2023

One of the greatest gatherings of the younger generations in Church takes place at World Youth Day (WYD). I have led WYD groups for decades and know how seismic they can be for people discerning their relationship with God. Indeed, some religious vocational stories have begun at WYD. An expressed vision of AMRI is to 'Facilitate opportunities for younger religious to meet and collaborate inter-congregationally'.



AMRI reached out to younger religious to invite them to attend WYD. Forty travelled directly to WYD, comprised of Dominicans, Our Lady of Apostles, Carmelites, Capuchins and individual missionaries who are studying here. Some students from RFMP attended, as well as those from a collaboration with the Interfaith Centre in DCU. AMRI supported another dozen religious congregations and their youth ministry programmes, assisting with logistics, visa applications and shared pastoral preparation. They include Oblates, Jesuits, Spiritans, Redemptorists, Holy Faith, Daughters of Charity, Vincentians, Salesians, and youth movements, Youth 2000 and Jesus Youth. Many of our pilgrims stayed with the Irish Redemptorists in Lisbon. Some of our sisters who travelled stayed in Bom Sucesso, where the Irish Dominican Sisters were based in Lisbon for centuries.

Seven preparation gatherings were hosted in various religious communities, including a pilgrim walk around Dublin. An afternoon of prayer and reflection for all the congregations led by Vocations Ireland took place during WYD. AMRI also helped to lead one of the main English Language Catechesis sites in Lisbon with the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference. After WYD we plan to facilitate further gatherings of the younger religious.

Shared Archives for Congregations

The strategic plan (2022–7), *A Future with Hope*, noted the intention of AMRI and its members



to develop a shared archive proposal for congregations. A working group was convened, and two webinars were hosted by AMRI. Approximately thirty-four congregations expressed a desire to be kept informed. AMRI hosted a webinar that looked at how the Heritage Centre for Dutch Monastic Life has developed a shared religious archive. The executive of AMRI agreed to appoint a committee to continue to advance this important and urgent expressed need of members.

Communicators for Women Religious

I replaced Margaret Cartwright on Communicators for Women Religious. They held their annual conference on 22 April 2023 at the Ashling Hotel in Dublin city. CWR is open to all women religious leadership teams, communication personnel, lay and religious individuals, and anyone interested in the ministry of communication.



Mission Sunday

AMRI continues to work with Mísean Cara, Missio Ireland and RFMP to plan and lead the annual Mission Sunday Mass in October in RTÉ studios.

Synodality

AMRI produced four video reflections for Synodal Sunday in collaboration with the Irish Synodal Pathway.

Conclusion

In his message for the 57th World Communications Day, Pope Francis noted, 'We urgently need in the Church a communication that ignites hearts, balms wounds and shed light on the journey of brothers and sisters.' He notes that communication is about knowing 'how to light the fire of faith rather than preserving the ashes of a self-referential identity'.

I am delighted to serve the members of AMRI in bringing a message of Good News into all our collaborations. Hopefully AMRI can continue to be a 'light to the world' and help to make a difference in a modern Ireland.

LEADERSHIP SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

Sr Anne Codd PBVM, Leadership Support and Development Coordinator



In light of *A Future with Hope*, AMRI's strategic plan 2022–7, the Executive Council decided to create a new post 'to lead on the development of leadership supports and training for AMRI members and their leadership teams'. I joined the staff of AMRI in this capacity, on a part-time basis, last October.

The first item on my job description reads: 'Facilitate regional meetings of leaders as a forum for support and mutual sharing.' This task has been one of my main activities in the first phase of the project. During the months between February and June all members of AMRI were invited to a regional meeting with the stated purpose of providing 'an opportunity to meet other leaders, to share what might be of help to you in your role as leader, and to identify what supports AMRI might offer'.

The meetings were very much appreciated by those who participated, and the conversations have certainly provided a programme of work for some time to come. Our secretary general, David Rose, and I hosted the meetings jointly. In this way the present activities and engagement – the work-in-progress – of AMRI could inform the conversations, and members could put forward from their experience the other support and development opportunities that they would find valuable. Among these the following featured strongly.

Congregational and Provincial Leadership as Multidimensional

In general, a wide-ranging agenda that includes governance, leadership for mission, and management/administration rests with the one in the position of leader. It emerged that in many situations marked by contraction and diminishment, day-to-day issues

that could previously be handled at local level are tending to reach the desk of the provincial or even congregational leader.

In this context, and in light of the essential and increasing demands for transparency and accountability, not least on the part of statutory bodies, the need to reimagine and restructure leadership becomes pressing. Some congregations are well under way with this task, and there is much to learn from their experience. Models include mergers and consolidation, such as becoming one congregation with delegation of responsibility for animation and coordination to local level. Employing skilled lay persons, contracting management companies and/or establishing companies for specific purposes were discussed. In the next round of regional meetings, it is advisable that some would focus on this area of development. Through reflection on experience as well as by tapping good resources, wise ways forward can be explored.

Training and Development

Orientation for new leadership teams, or indeed for newly elected/appointed members joining other more experienced members, has been identified as a service which will be welcomed. Plans are afoot for a first such event to be held in November 2023. Equally, existing teams are welcome to pursue our conversation as they discern their support needs.

The Work of Completion

There are congregations who have discerned that the time has come for them to work towards completion. There are by now helpful pointers to how this painful decision and its consequences may be lived through without loss of heart. Through giving thanks for lives well lived and good work done, knowing that ultimately it is God's mission that we serve, that we are 'ministers not messiahs', a new freedom can enliven and sustain us. This too is an area which can be further explored in focused conversations in the days ahead.

Formation

At the same time, there are congregations and individual members who are eager to discern and foster the proverbial 'new shoots'. Of critical importance here is a close and critical engagement with the processes of formation. The prophetic voice is unlikely to be marked by compliance with the status quo, and so the journey into membership needs to be at once inspiring, growth-ful and liberating. Inter-congregational collaboration may prove vital, creative and fruitful in this context. The conversation is under way.

On reflection, the Executive Council has decided to appoint a committee which jointly supports the Religious Formation Ministry Programme (Loreto House) and the work of leadership support and development. I welcome this decision and look forward eagerly to its evolution.

Hopes and Dreams of Younger Religious

Also in the job description of this post I find, 'Facilitate a forum for younger religious to articulate their hopes and dreams and supports for religious and missionary life', as well as, 'Contribute to new thinking on the living of religious life in the context of a synodal church.' In phase one, I have maintained awareness of these tasks in conversation with colleagues in AMRI and in the regional meetings of our members. Our article, entitled 'Enlarge the Space of your Tent: Vocation and the Universal Call to Holiness', published in *The Furrow* (May 2023), is a fruit of our shared vision. In this regard, I look forward to the insights from the AMRI World Youth Day initiative.

A Future with Hope

In our conversations so far, there has been a remarkable combination of realism and hope. For instance, in place of referring to our 'dark history' as church, in general and religious congregations and missionary societies in particular, there is encouragement to consider ours a bright history with painfully dark components. However we speak of it, for a future with hope we need to proceed with humility, recognising that our service of mission is rooted in the quality of our being in the world and our witness to compassion as well as in the active service of our ministries.

LAY MISSION COMMITTEE

Denise Flack, Lay Mission Committee Chair



The AMRI Lay Mission Committee was involved in running a series of webinars during 2021–22 entitled 'We Need to Talk'. We also participated in the Universal Synod process and made a submission in May 2022 through AMRI. The Lay Mission Committee met for a brainstorming session in October 2022 to look at how we could build on what we had done, and what other possibilities or dreams we could look at.

Members of the committee attended the launch of the working document for the continental stage with a subtitle 'Enlarge the Space of your Tent' (Isaiah 54:2) on 7 November 2022. Then as a committee we agreed to engage with the process; this meant a lot of reading, reflection and sharing in a short time. After reading the Irish synthesis, the working document for the continental stage and the reflection guide, we met in December and worked through the format offered in the guide. This was a time of respectful and inspiring listening. Our reflections were collated, a draft document shared and finally an agreed submission was made on behalf of the Lay Mission Committee before the deadline in December 2022.

The chair of the AMRI Lay Mission Committee, Denise Flack, attended a focus group session in Ballygawley, Co. Tyrone on 22 March 2023. This group session was facilitated by Dave Thompson, who has been engaged as an independent consultant to assist in a facilitative leadership training programme by the Steering Committee of the Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland. David Rose attended a similar focus group in Maynooth. Four members attended an update webinar on 30 March 2023.

After focusing on the Universal Synod in autumn–winter 2022, we met again in February and March 2023 to follow up on our October 2022 brainstorming exercise. We decided webinars had engaged people in the past and, despite a break, we decided to set out on another series. A lot of thought and preparation was put into this and we held a webinar on 11 May 2023, entitled 'Priest-less Parish: Opportunity or Threat?'

We had three varied speakers: Eamon Duffy, a priest from the Diocese of Achonry with expertise in pastoral

and theological renewal; Frances Rowland, a pastoral development worker in the Diocese of Kerry, who is co-coordinating the diocesan formation programme for lay pastoral leaders and has wide experience in adult faith development, spirituality and liturgy; and Padraigin McKenna, a Dominican sister who shared some insights from her years working as a missionary in the Diocese of Registro, one of the poorest areas of the state of São Paulo, Brazil, where she was part of a living and vibrant church.

On the night of the webinar each speaker gave an excellent presentation with much food for thought. People participated in discussions in break-out groups and responded to our survey. We plan to have a follow-up event in early autumn 2023. The previous webinar presentations are available on the AMRI website. We also discussed other possible initiatives but time did not allow us to get any further this year.

Many of our committee members accepted an invitation to meet with Cardinal Mario Grech, secretary general of the synod, in Dublin on 20 June 2023, but unfortunately this was cancelled because Pope Francis needed Cardinal Grech to be in Rome for the launch of the *Instrumentum Laboris* that same day.

Three of the committee members, Angela Escara, Shane Halpin and David Rose, contributed to Synodal Sunday, a weekly video series produced for the Irish Synodal Pathway.





FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Fidelma Mallen, 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, donations, 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.

Thanks to the AMRI members for agreeing the increase in the subscription membership fee, which ensures AMRI is well positioned to implement the new strategic plan.

Our office administrator manages the behind-the-scenes organisation for the many AMRI meetings and the annual conference and AGM. She is the recording

secretary for Executive Council meetings and the friendly first point of contact for AMRI members, dealing with queries by phone and email. She manages the Garda vetting for AMRI members. This service continues to grow with more congregations availing of it. The number vetted from July 2022 to June 2023 was 606 and the number of congregations using the service is now 54.

ASSOCIATION OF BURSARS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES IRELAND

Sr Geraldine McAleer IBVM, ABRI Chair



The 2023 conference of the Association of Bursars of Religious Institutes Ireland (ABRI) took place 27-9 March 2023 in the Dromantine Retreat and Conference Centre, Newry, Co. Down. The conference, sponsored for a second consecutive year by L&P Cantor Fitzgerald, was attended by over 120 delegates from all over Ireland, with some travelling from the UK. The theme of the conference was 'Religious Charities - What Next?' There was a diverse range of interesting speakers and workshop presenters covering a number of topical issues, and each engaged with the theme in a unique manner.

Owen O'Kane, a psychotherapist and writer whose three books are translated into thirty-two languages worldwide, addressed the delegates on the topic of getting the best from life. Breda Cullen, co-director and senior employment law consultant at HR Team, spoke on current HR matters such as the latest in employment law, human resource management, and health and safety compliance. Thomas Mulholland, director of compliance and enforcement with the Charity Regulatory Authority addressed the conference on the latest charity requirements. Martin Palmer from FaithInvest discussed faith-consistent investing and Ian Halstead from L&P gave an overview on the power of impact investing.

Fr Seamus O'Neill SPS, inspired and motivated by *Laudato Si'*, outlined a number of environmental energy-efficient and sustainable projects that have been developed in St Patrick's, Kiltegan. John Flynn SEAI, the programme manager for SEAI's community grant scheme, complemented Fr Seamus and outlined practical steps that can be taken to get SEAI grants

for both small- and large-scale energy projects. Liam Guidera from Mason Hayes and Curran spoke about cyber fraud and the threat it poses for organisations. John Martin and David Wallace from Hibernia Senior Living spoke about future pathways for later living and accommodation, outlining a more social model of person-centred care and systems-based modernisation. Michael Dillon, the Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre director, spoke about the use of mindfulness as a resource for wellness and spiritual well-being.

The feedback from delegates on speakers and the content was very positive. The ABRI Committee at the Annual Business Meeting outlined the work of the committee and presented their Annual Financial Report to the delegates.

The sunshine and hospitality made Dromantine Retreat and Conference Centre an excellent venue for the conference in 2023 and it is booked for the 2024 conference from 22-4 April 2024.

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 organisations in 2022–3.

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 coordinator

Communications Committee

Timothy Lehane SVD (chair), Dan Baragry CSSR, Michelle Robertson, Pat Coyle, Margaret Cartwright, Finbar Tracey SVD, David Rose. In attendance: Gerard Gallagher

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, Keliyah Blohm

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

Ella McGuinness RSM, John Hennebry OSA, Mairead O'Regan OSU

Catholic Education Service Trust

John Hennebry, OSA, Leonard Moloney SJ

Catholic Education Partnership

Eithne Woulfe SSL

Secretariat of Secondary Schools

Eithne Woulfe SSL



ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

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

Joseph Coffey – Chairperson and President
 Mary Hanrahan – Vice President
 Paula Molloy
 Timothy Lehane
 Raymond Dwyer
 Martin Kelly
 Breege O’Neill
 Anne Harte Barry
 Denise Flack
 Raymond Husband
 Michael Troy (Appointed 31 May 2023)
 Daniel Baragry (Resigned 25 January 2023)

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 2022

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 2022.

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' 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. 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 board of trustees.

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 2022.

The charity 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 main object of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is the advancement of religion through the provision of a forum for consultation and cooperation between Catholic religious institutes, societies of apostolic life and missionaries and to provide support and promote the common interests of the member organisations in Ireland.

AMRI's mission is to provide leadership and support to its members, to foster collaboration, and to promote spirituality, social justice, and sustainable living on a shared journey of faith.

Key strategic programme areas include Mission and Education to Leadership Development, Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation, Building a Synodal Church and Support Services to its Membership. In 2022, A new strategic plan, *A Future with Hope*, including a new mission statement, vision and values was launched at the AGM.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of €1,877,187 (2021 – €1,901,064) and liabilities of €356,193 (2021 – €338,731). The net assets of the charity have decreased by €(41,339).

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 €1,510,694, of which €1,353,131 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 totalled €1,247,085. The current level of reserves is higher than actual two-year expenditure and this is to allow for reduced spending in 2021 which arose from the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Charity relies on the continued support from its members through the payment of membership fees 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 membership fees from its members and applies this to the furtherance of its objectives. The charity has seen a decrease in membership in the last few years which has led to a decrease in membership fees. A new proposal to increase the membership fees was launched at the 2022 AGM and was approved. 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:

Joseph Coffey – Chairperson and President
 Mary Hanrahan – Vice President
 Paula Molloy
 Timothy Lehane
 Raymond Dwyer
 Martin Kelly
 Breege O’Neill
 Anne Harte Barry
 Denise Flack
 Raymond Husband
 Michael Troy (Appointed 31 May 2023)
 Daniel Baragry (Resigned 25 January 2023)

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 Charities 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 2022

Joseph Coffey – Chairperson and President
 Mary Hanrahan – Vice President
 Paula Molloy
 Timothy Lehane
 Raymond Dwyer

Martin Kelly
Breege O'Neill
Anne Harte Barry
Denise Flack
Raymond Husband
Michael Troy (Appointed 31 May 2023)
Daniel Baragry (Resigned 25 January 2023)

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, (Property Advisor)
- Ian Brady, (Irish Life)
- Anne Doyle, (Treasurer with Sisters of Mercy Congregation)
- Paddy Hennessy, (Provincial Bursar of Salesians Ireland)
- David Rose, Secretary General attends in an administrative capacity
- Fidelma Mallen, Financial Administrator, attends in an administrative capacity

The Finance and Risk Management Committee together with the Governance Committee set the pay for all staff and benchmark this against The Wheel's salaries survey.

Governance Committee

The Executive appointed a Governance Committee to work on Governance matters. The following were appointed:

Aidan McGrath, Canon Lawyer
Joseph 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 a meeting 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.

The company has AMRI and Association of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland as registered business names.

Per the constitution, Trustees must be nominated by a member of the company and must be a nominated representative of a Member Organisation, the Major Superior of a Religious Institute in Ireland or the Major Superior of a Society of Apostolic Life in Ireland. The election of members to the board will be at the Annual General Meeting. They must be chosen on the basis of their willingness to serve, ability, governance experience and support of the values, ethos, mission and philosophy of the Company. The board of

Trustees must consist of between 8 and 12 persons with at least three male and three female members of Religious Institutes or Societies of Apostolic Life and one lay person.

Company Directors are invited to take part in an induction programme which includes the vision, mission, values, current strategic objectives and future plans.

Structure

The day to day running of the charity is the responsibility of the Secretary General and the committed staff. However, major strategic decisions are always discussed with the Directors who bring their skills and perspectives into play. The Directors meet formally throughout the year. The Directors have established a Finance Committee to oversee the planning, reporting and control of the finances of the charity. The Directors are always kept updated and informed of all developments throughout the year.

Human Relations Management

Advice on policies and procedures for day-to-day operations is provided by Adare Human Resources, Blackrock, Co Dublin. To date a staff handbook has been developed incorporating all aspects of current employee legislation.

Location of Offices

The main administration office is 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 learning space and facilities for the one-year Religious Formation Ministry Programme.

Member Organisations

The members comprise of 148 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, Leadership Development and Support, Education policy and advice, Justice and Ecology programmes (divestment, housing, migrants, refugees and interfaith development), Act to Prevent Human Trafficking, Research on Missionaries, Missions Awareness Programme, Advocacy on Minister of Religion Visas, Engagement on Synodality, Vulnerable Adults policy development, Vocations ministry and Religious Formation Ministry Programme. Communication is provided through its website which features media statements, relevant documents, and regular e-newsletters. A new communications coordinator was recruited in 2022.

Strategic Planning

The strategic plan (2022–7), *A Future with Hope*, outlines the Vision, Mission, Values, Aims and Objectives of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee. The Plan was launched at the AGM in 2022, and implementation is under way.

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 in the areas of leadership, member services, governance, synodality and social and environmental justice.

Covid

Over the course of the year, there was a gradual return to the office with the development of a hybrid model of working. The Executive Council resumed in-person monthly meetings.

Justice Peace Integrity of Creation (JPIC)

Key initiatives undertaken in 2022 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, 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 number of webinars on ethically aligned investment for leaders and bursars.

APT (Act to Prevent Trafficking)



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: the launch of an all-Ireland anti-human trafficking awareness education programme called cAPTives for senior secondary school students. APT is part of the National Stakeholders Forum at the Department of Justice which creates awareness of trafficking.

Included in the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee accounts for 2022 is the following in relation to APT: income of €170 (2021: €900), expenditure of €18,406 (2021: €10,380) and at the balance sheet date, cash at bank amounts to €82,174 (2021: €100,410).

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 ran successfully in 2022 with a staggered commencement of 19 students after Covid.

Included in the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee accounts for 2022 is the following in relation to RFMP: income of €98,670 (2021: €24,767), expenditure of €138,388 (2021: €66,175) and at the balance sheet date, cash at bank amounts to €181,020 (2021: €170,247). Included in the balance sheet is deferred income of €96,833 (2021: €49,553).

Education

The majority of AMRI members with schools have transferred them to new trustee bodies. Nevertheless, AMRI continues representation on a number of Catholic Education bodies in association with the IEC, affording opportunity to influence education policy. AMRI's long serving Education Coordinator, Sr Eithne Woulfe retired in 2022.

Communications and Member Services

The Communications Coordinator role was redesigned to include member services, in aligning it more closely with the new strategic plan. The 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. Under member services, work was advanced on scoping exercise on the need for a shared archives for a number of AMRI members.

Leadership Development and Support

A new part-time role of Coordinator for Leadership Development and Support was created. Planning was put in place for a number of regional meetings of AMRI members to provide a forum for support and to ascertain how AMRI might be more responsive to members' needs.

Synodal Pathway

The Synodal Pathway is a global consultation in the Catholic Church initiated by Pope Francis. There is also an Irish consultation initiated by the Catholic Bishops. Both processes are now operating together. AMRI is an active participant in the synodal processes. The AMRI secretariat engaged with AMRI members in drafting the synodal submission to the Irish bishops synodal pathway and to the universal synod in Rome. AMRI also made submissions from the dialogue with women religious leaders and bishops, and from the lay mission committee.

Mission Awareness Programme

The Mission Awareness Programme (formerly CPPP coordinated parish promotions programme) resumed in 2022. The programme 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 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 Institutes (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 2022, showing income of €51,910 (2021: €4,250), expenditure of €35,569 (2021: €168) and bank balance of €73,905 (2021: €57,564). ABRI's income and expenditure largely relates to the annual conference they hold every year.

Vocations Ireland

Vocations Ireland has now joined the 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, 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. The conference was held online in 2022. The Vice President of AMRI was elected a member of the UCESM board. 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 met 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.

AMRI and IEC 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, its co-sponsors two companies: COIMIRCE (Company No. 465899), the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church, and CCSS (Company No. 493738), 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 2022 contribution amounted to €118,556 which is shown as an expense in the accounts. The total contribution for 2022 from Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is €118,556.

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 2022, Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee holds €20,036 (2021: €109,671) 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.

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 2022 contribution amounted to €18,181 leading to an expense in the accounts of €18,181.

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 NBSCCCI to undertake a review of policies on vulnerable adults with a view to developing a template policy. An accrual for the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee's contribution amounted to €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's President serves on the board of Missio Ireland.

Details of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee Achievements and Performance in 2022

This was a challenging year as the Covid-19 restrictions were gradually lifted. 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, Communications Committee, RFMP on-going work; and a dialogue between women religious leaders and bishops. Work was progressed on a review of Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee's work and a new strategic plan was put in place. The charity uses all the items above to assess the success achieved in the financial year. The achievements during the year are in line with the objectives of the charity.

The Charity made a loss in the year of €(51,639) (2021: €(101,503)). The net assets of the charity at the year-end were €1,510,694 (2020: €1,562,333). Since the year end the Finance and Risk Committee continue their budget and financial planning work for 2023 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, Kevény 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 19th July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Joseph Coffey

**Joseph Coffey – Chairperson and President
Director**

Mary Hanrahan

**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 19th July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Joseph Coffey

Joseph 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 2022 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 2022 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 12, 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: 19th July 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €
Incoming Resources					
Charitable activities					
Membership and course fees	5.1	669,781	669,781	426,678	426,678
Investments	5.2	–	–	4	4
Total incoming resources		669,781	669,781	426,682	426,682
Resources Expended					
Charitable activities	6.1	711,120	711,120	528,185	528,185
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		(41,339)	(41,339)	(101,503)	(101,503)
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		(41,339)	(41,339)	(101,503)	(101,503)
Reconciliation of funds					
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2022	16	1,562,333	1,562,333	1,663,836	1,663,836
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2022		1,520,994	1,520,994	1,562,333	1,562,333

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 19th July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Joseph Coffey

Joseph Coffey – Chairperson and President
Director

Mary Hanrahan

Mary Hanrahan – Vice President
Director

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	10	1,484	2,934
Current Assets			
Debtors	12	37,351	6,181
Cash at bank and in hand		1,838,352	1,891,949
		1,875,703	1,898,130
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(356,193)	(338,731)
Net Current Assets		1,519,510	1,559,399
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		1,520,994	1,562,333
Funds			
Unrestricted designated funds		156,079	157,974
General fund (unrestricted)		1,364,915	1,404,359
Total funds	16	1,520,994	1,562,333

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 19th July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Joseph Coffey – Chairperson and President

Director



Mary Hanrahan – Vice President

Director

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds		(41,339)	(101,503)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		2,150	1,975
Interest receivable and similar income		–	(4)
		(39,189)	(99,532)
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in debtors		(31,170)	(542)
Movement in creditors		17,462	159,079
Cash generated from operations		(52,897)	59,005
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		–	4
Payments to acquire tangible assets		(700)	–
Net cash generated from investment activities		(700)	4
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(53,597)	59,009
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2022		1,891,949	1,832,940
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2022	20	1,838,352	1,891,949

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

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 charity is Student Wing, Cypress Grove House, Cypress Grove Road, Templeogue, Dublin 6W which is also the principal place of business of the charity. The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the charity.

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 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'.

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 2022 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 IA of that Standard.

Fund Accounting

The following are the categories of funds maintained:

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds consist of General and Designated funds. General funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the board, in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that the board has, at its discretion, set aside for particular purposes. These designations have an administrative purpose only, and do not legally restrict the board's discretion to apply the fund.

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

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until

earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is analysed between costs of charitable activities and raising funds. The costs of each activity are separately accumulated and disclosed, and analysed according to their major components. Expenditure is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, a transfer of economic benefits is required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured. Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but cannot be attributed to one activity. Such costs are allocated to activities in proportion to staff time spent or other suitable measure for each activity.

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 financial 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 valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

The Government has introduced a Value Added Tax (VAT) Compensation Scheme for Charities. This scheme aims to reduce the VAT burden on charities and to partially compensate for VAT paid by the charity. The scheme applies to VAT paid on expenditure on or after 1 January 2018.

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.

Foreign Currencies

The financial statements are prepared in Euro (€) which is the functional currency of the charity. Foreign currency transactions are recorded in Euro at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the balance sheet date. The resulting gains and losses are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Annual contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate

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

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

Useful Lives of Tangible Fixed Assets

Long-lived assets comprising primarily of property, plant and machinery and intangible assets represent a portion of total assets. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and, in certain circumstances, estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these useful lives and change them if necessary, to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives management consider technological change, patterns of consumption, physical condition and expected economic utilisation of the assets. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charge for the financial year. The net book value of Tangible Fixed Assets subject to depreciation at the financial year end date was €1,484 (2021: €2,934).

4. PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR AUDITS OF SMALL ENTITIES

In common with many other charity of our size and nature, we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements. Our auditor assists with the preparation of our corporation tax and form 46G returns and the subsequent filing to Revenue.

5. INCOME

5.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2022 €	2021 €
Income from Charitable Activities	669,781	–	669,781	426,678

5.2 INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2022 €	2021 €
Investment and Other Income	–	–	–	4

6. EXPENDITURE

6.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Direct Costs €	Other Costs €	Support Costs €	2022 €	2021 €
Costs of Charitable Activities	–	374,676	336,444	711,120	528,185

6.2 SUPPORT COSTS

	Charitable Activities €	2022 €	2021 €
Salaries and Wages	314,223	314,223	266,679
Audit Fees inclusive of VAT	8,664	8,664	7,995
Legal and professional inclusive of VAT	13,557	13,557	17,803
	336,444	336,444	292,477

7. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2022 €	2021 €
Salaries and Wages	314,223	266,679
Audit Fees inclusive of VAT	8,664	7,995
Legal and professional inclusive of VAT	13,557	17,803
	336,444	292,477

8. NET INCOMING RESOURCES

	2022 €	2021 €
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	2,150	1,975
Auditor's remuneration:		
Audit services	8,664	7,995

9. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of Employees

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

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Religious Formation Ministry	3	3
Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee	6	6
	9	9
The staff costs comprise:	2022	2021
	€	€
Wages and salaries	281,961	240,746
Social security costs	25,340	22,903
Pension costs	6,922	3,030
	314,223	266,679

The key management personnel are the directors and have not received any remuneration for their services in the period.

No expenses were paid to directors during the financial year.

No employee received employee benefits of more than €70,000 in the financial year.

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Total €
Cost		
At 1 January 2022	34,532	34,532
Additions	700	700
Disposals	(26,633)	(26,633)
At 31 December 2022	8,599	8,599
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2022	31,598	31,598
Charge for the financial year	2,150	2,150
On disposals	(26,633)	(26,633)
At 31 December 2022	7,115	7,115
Net book value		
At 31 December 2022	1,484	1,484
At 31 December 2021	2,934	2,934

11. INVESTMENTS

	Other investments €	Total €
Investments		
Cost		
At 31 December 2022	63	63
Provisions for diminution in value:		
At 31 December 2022	63	63
Net book value		
At 31 December 2022	–	–

12. DEBTORS

	2022 €	2021 €
Trade debtors	1,063	3,560
Other debtors	27,500	–
Prepayments	8,788	2,621
	37,351	6,181

13. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 €	2021 €
Payments received on account	1,090	–
Trade creditors	2,377	5,414
Taxation and social security costs	23,375	20,987
Other creditors	20,222	110,802
Accruals	212,296	143,855
Deferred Income	96,833	57,673
	356,193	338,731

Other creditors include amounts held on behalf of the funding congregations who are members of the charity which amount to €20,036 (2021: €109,671) and credit cards. These amounts are also held in bank balances at the year end. Accruals include amounts accrued in respect of Coimirce of €118,556; Towards Peace €18,181; Council for Healthcare €5,473; Vulnerable Adults €37,500 and accrued overhead expenses and governance costs.

RFMP runs a course from September 2022 to August 2023. The income from this which relates to 2023 (€96,833) has been deferred in the financial statements as the service it relates to has not been delivered by the company. Deferred income released in the year was €57,673 as the service this related to was carried out in 2022 by the company.

14. PENSION COSTS – DEFINED CONTRIBUTION

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. Pension costs amounted to €6,922 (2021 – €3,030).

15. RESERVES

	2022 €	2021 €
At 1 January 2022	1,562,333	1,663,836
Deficit for the financial year	(41,339)	(101,503)
At 31 December 2022	1,520,994	1,562,333

16. FUNDS

16.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds €	Total Funds €
At 1 January 2021	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
Movement during the financial year	(41,339)	(41,339)
At 31 December 2022	1,520,994	1,520,994

16.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 January 2022 €	Income €	Expenditure €	Transfers between funds €	Balance 31 December 2022 €
Unrestricted funds					
Act to Prevent Trafficking	100,410	170	18,406	–	82,174
ABRI	57,564	51,910	35,569	–	73,905
Donations	1,404,359	617,881	657,325	–	1,364,915
	1,562,333	669,961	(711,300)	–	1,520,994
Total funds	1,562,333	669,961	711,300	–	1,520,994

16.3 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets – charity use €	Current assets €	Current liabilities €	Total €
Unrestricted designated funds	–	156,079	–	156,079
Unrestricted general funds	1,484	1,719,624	(356,193)	1,364,915
	1,484	1,875,703	(356,193)	1,520,994
	1,484	1,875,703	(356,193)	1,520,994

17. STATUS

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

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one financial year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding €1.

18. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

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

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There was no transactions with related parties in the year ended 31 December 2022.

20. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2022 €	2021 €
Cash and bank balances	1,056,699	1,110,296
Cash equivalents	781,653	781,653
	<u>1,838,352</u>	<u>1,891,949</u>

21. POST-BALANCE-SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant post balance sheet events.

22. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 19th July 2023.

Notes

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