



## ***Daring to Hope***

### ***Irish Religious Sisters Embracing the Unknown (1923-2023)***

Throughout the last 100 years, the focus of Irish Religious Sisters, underpinned by Gospel values, was to go where there was the most need. Their initiative and courage continue today as is evident in the pioneering responses and commitment of Sisters and their colleagues to “*the Cry of Earth and the Cry of the Poor*” (Pope Francis, *Laudate Si*:49), both in Ireland and overseas.

With the support of the AMRI Executive Council, a voluntary group has developed a photographic exhibition to share the multifaceted story of Irish Religious Sisters between 1923-2023, coinciding with the centenary of the Irish State. This is an opportune moment to reflect on the social history of the Sisters' journey throughout the past 100 years.

Working alongside committed colleagues, Sisters built schools, hospitals and social services, many of which they staffed, in response to social change and urgent need.

# Portable Exhibition

Told through photographs, videos and stories, the portable exhibition reveals how Sisters often worked within a context of poverty, war, racial discrimination, strict religious and social mores, political unrest and grave injustice.

The 100-year journey is shared via three phases:

- Pre-Vatican II (1923-1965) Pioneering Ministries
- Post-Vatican II (1966-2000) Era of Great Change
- Contemporary (2001-2023) Ongoing Ministries

*'I have come that you may have life and live it to the full' John 10:10*





## *An Open Invitation*

To realise the goal of the exhibition we are inviting all religious communities and friends to consider hosting it in their city or town.

### **What do you need to do?**

- 1) Identify a suitable space to host the exhibition
- 2) Make a booking (contact below)
- 3) Discuss arrangements for transportation
- 4) Promote the exhibition and encourage others to visit it

This is an opportune moment to reflect on the journey of Irish Religious Sisters and to share their historical story more widely. We suggest that it might be exhibited in a variety of venues such as community centres, libraries, schools, museums or sports clubs around the country.

For further information and to make a booking to host the exhibition in your area contact:

Toni Pyke or Sr. Denise Boyle fmdm, Project Coordinators at [2023agentsofchange@gmail.com](mailto:2023agentsofchange@gmail.com)



## *Gratitude*

We would like to express our gratitude to the congregations, orders, societies, organisations and individuals who have so generously contributed in a variety of ways to make this exhibition a reality.

The display reflects in varied forms, the dramatic changes in religious life from 1923 through the following ten decades up to the present day.

The launch of the exhibition is scheduled for early October 2023, details to follow.