



Issue No. 49



Newsletter

Nov 2024

A New Beginning!



November ... what does that have to do with A New Beginning? Everything around us looks and feels more like “Ending”: the days are getting darker, the trees are losing their leaves, we remember our dear ones who have gone home to their Creator, the liturgical year is soon coming to its end, the Christian faith in Ireland and many other countries seems to be in decline. Yet, if we look more closely at the almost bare branches of a tree, we can notice that even while the last old leaves are still lingering, there are fresh buds getting ready and only waiting for the spring sun to make them burst open and thrive.

To mark the Season of Creation, we have held a tree planting ceremony in front of our newly built and recently blessed Monastery at Kylemore Abbey on the 1st of October. The little tree was already bare at that time and yet it speaks to us of new life and hope, and the young grass is beginning to grow around it.

The plans of our Creator and God are much greater and more far-sighted than our human mind can grasp. A popular Benedictine (but not exclusively) motto comes to mind: “Succisa Virescit” (Latin for “that which gets cut down grows back stronger”). I am reminded of God’s promise in Jeremiah 29:11 “I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope.” *Sr Jeanne Bott*



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Pilgrimage To Rome

ROME & JUBILEE

Are you interested in traveling to Rome for the Jubilee 2025?

We are offering two unique pilgrimages for Religious.

Youth Jubilee - 28 July - 3 August

Jubilee of Consecrated Life 8-9 October

(Dates are approximate and will change to suit pilgrims)

We need to hear from you by mid-November

Express Your Interest with AMRI

BE A PILGRIM OF HOPE IN 2025!

01 -5310055
www.amri.ie



AMRI are planning to organize two pilgrimages to Rome next year as part of the Jubilee Celebrations. Are you interested in travelling and bringing others?
Please complete this Expression of Interest form at the link below before mid-November so we can start the planning together

<https://forms.gle/FSms5BcJs7RN7f986>

NOTE: Vocations Ireland office will be closed from 16th October and will re-open on the 19th November to facilitate Margaret's long awaited annual leave.

If anything urgent should arise during this time please contact Gerard Gallagher at sec.gen@amri.ie

COFFEE & CHAT GATHERINGS FOR VOCATIONS AND FORMATION PERSONNEL.

******NOTE – NEW ZOOM LINK FOR NOVEMBER MEETING******

This month only, there will be a different Zoom link for our Coffee and Chat on Thursday 7th November at 7.30pm

Vocations Ireland is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Vocations Ireland Coffee and Chat
Time: Nov 7, 2024 07:30PM Dublin

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83862563898?pwd=Zn4ly7af5ZsjlGrqMYBaMg0RddeKXa.1>

Meeting ID: 838 6256 3898

Passcode: 933277

2025 is a Jubilee Year and a very significant year for our Church.

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

During the year there will be events in Rome - two of these we will be hoping to take groups. The Jubilee of Youth - 28th July to 3rd August and the Jubilee of Consecrated Life 8th-9th October.

Please come prepared to discuss your interest in being part of these celebrations and any ideas you may have to celebrate the Jubilee here in Ireland - particularly on the World Day for Consecrated Life on Sunday 2nd February.

NRVC International Members Webinar

Takeaways from *Christus Vivit* through the Lens of Vocation Ministry
with Gerard Gallagher, Secretary General AMRI



Thursday, November 21, 2024, 9:00 – 10:30 am US CST

Event is FREE but you need to register

LINK TO REGISTER

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpcOqhqTgjHtS8VUIXj7wOe6H18gk707mK#/registration>

Please join the NRVC International members along with Vocations Canada and Vocations Ireland for 90 minutes on Thursday, November 21st. This Zoom gathering will include time for a presentation, breakout groups, and dialogue with the presenter.

IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER....



You are invited to join AMRI & Vocations Ireland for a Remembrance service for all our Religious who have died during the year.

Date: 14th November 2024

Time: 2.00 p.m.

Venue: Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 20 Batchelors Walk, North City Dublin 1

Live feed on Facebook – link will be available on the day.

Event for Sisters under the age of 65 years.



A HYBRID EVENT OFFERED IN
ENGLISH | SPANISH | FRENCH | ITALIAN | PORTUGUESE

JUNE 3 - 7, 2025
ROME AND VIRTUAL

Religious life today is a global witness to the transformative power of relationships. Following the mission of Jesus, we endeavor to cultivate authentic relationships of inclusivity and trust. We seek meaning and understanding. We hold space for what is essential and what is emerging. We are all collaborative leaders, creating our future together. At HOPE 2025, the global sisterhood will gather to explore our life, our future, and our gifts. Join us in HOPE as we listen, dream, and transform our capacity as leaders.



Opening session – Tuesday, June 3 at 5:00 pm (Rome)
Closing session – Saturday night, June 7
Departures – Sunday morning, June 8

In-Person: Fraterna Domus Sacrofano Retreat Center (Rome)
Virtually: From anywhere...

Registration Fee \$150 USD (non-refundable) for virtual and in person attendance. Overnight accommodations and meals at Fraterna Domus Sacrofano Retreat Center are approximately €95 per day for a private room and €70 per day for a shared room and will be invoiced separately.
Limited financial assistance is available.



For more information and to register,
scan the QR code.
<https://l.ead.me/HOPE2025>



**PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR
YOUNG ADULT GROUPS AND PARISHES**

DIOCESE OF CORK & ROSS

**SUNDAY
17
NOV**

CONNECT 5

In a troubled world,

DARE TO HOPE

FAITH GATHERING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 18-35



GUEST SPEAKERS

FR COLUMBA JORDAN CFR

KATIE ASCOUGH

FOUNDER, CALLED TO MORE



9.30AM - 4PM

**Student Centre,
University College Cork**

Register here



€10

*incl. food &
refreshments*

SEARCH FOR CONNECT 5 AT EVENTBRITE.IE

YOUTH 2000 CHRISTMAS RETREAT



Do you get enough opportunities during the year to engage with and meet young adults?

Do your congregation feel that young adults are no longer engaged in the practice of their faith?

If the answer to either of these questions is NO then start planning now to attend one of the young adult highlights of the year.

The Youth 2000 Christmas retreat will be held from 6th to 8th December in Newbridge College.

This is an incredible opportunity to engage with, accompany, pray with and have lots of time for conversation. Religious Congregations are always welcome to attend, and if you would like to organize or be part of the vocations workshop please think about this.

What can we offer to these young people who come together to prepare for Christmas? If you would like to be part of the workshops, contact Margaret and have a chat about what we could offer. There is always space for meaningful and interactive workshops over the weekend and Religious Congregations are always welcome to share ideas with the Youth 2000 Leadership team.

There is also space for promoting vocations material. Why not arrange a stand for your congregation or even share with others. We have done this over the past few years and shared the cost between the congregations and Vocations Ireland/AMRI. If you are interested in this please let Margaret know.

There is also a need to support the mission if you are unable to attend by offering a donation. All of their retreats and events are by donation only, so if you can, please support them.

Details can be found on their website <https://youth2000.ie/donate/>



INFORMATION & BOOKING FORM FOR ORIENTATION WORKSHOP

19th January-24th January 2025

Workshop description

This foundational workshop is essential for all newly appointed vocation directors and teams. It is also open to new formators, or leadership teams interested in upskilling in knowledge & understanding of new entrants today. The goal is to provide participants with the foundational skills, context, theory, challenges, and practicalities of contemporary vocation ministry. Topics will include accompaniment with inquirers, assessment of discerners, application and admission processes, vocation promotion, canon law, boundaries, animating vowed membership, relevant resources, current research, and establishing resiliency and promoting self-care of the vocation director.

Arrival and departure days/times

Please note this five-day workshop begins on the evening of Sunday 19th January with supper at 6.00p.m.. and ends with lunch on Friday 24th Rooms must be vacated by 11.00a.m. If you do not wish to stay for lunch on the Friday, please let us know at the time of booking.

Venue

The workshop will be held in Mt St Anne's Retreat Centre Portarlinton. There is free parking available.

If coming by Train, you can get a taxi from Port Arlington station which must be prebooked. Information for taxi bookings can be obtained from Margaret on 08678290149 no later than Friday 5.00p.m on 17th January 2025.

Liturgy

Eucharistic Liturgy for workshop participants will be offered each day at 8:00 a.m. in the chapel. Each workshop includes communal prayer. Priests booking the workshop please bring your own Alb's and stoles.

Presenters



Sister Deborah M. Borneman, SS.C.M. began working for the NRVC in 2011 and presently serves as the Director of Mission Integration. A Sister of Saints Cyril and Methodius, she previously served as vocation director for her community and on her congregational leadership team. Sr. Debbie has ministerial experience in pastoral care, youth ministry, college campus ministry, and immigration advocacy. She has presented on various topics in vocation ministry in Ireland and throughout the United States. Sr. Debbie holds a Master of Divinity degree and a Master of Arts Degree in Pastoral Studies (Loyola University, Chicago).



Margaret Cartwright began working for the Vocations Ireland in 2017 and is currently Director of Vocations Ireland/AMRI. Margaret is a lay woman married with three adult daughters and 4 grandchildren. Margaret has had experience of religious life and missionary life. She has ministerial experience in hospital pastoral care, parish ministry, Pastoral supervision for B.A. & MA students, Coordinated All Hallows College Lay ministry program, and has experience in Vocation and Spiritual accompaniment. Margaret holds a Master's Degree in Pastoral Ministry and a Master's degree in Pastoral Supervision. Trained in Spiritual Direction in Manresa Jesuit Centre of Spirituality.



Michelle Robertson - Michelle is a seasoned digital communication professional and social media specialist who has been designing and coding websites since the early 90s. With a fervent passion for leveraging technology as a catalyst for significant social change, she serves as the Communications Officer for the sisters of Our Lady of Apostles. Committed to continuous professional development, Michelle ensures she remains at the forefront of advancements by actively upskilling herself with emerging technologies. Michelle is also a member of CWR(Communicators for Women Religious)



Gerard Gallagher Gerard has worked with the Catholic Church for over thirty years. He worked in the Archdiocese of Dublin with Catholic Youth Care and Office for Evangelisation & Ecumenism. He has worked mainly with young adults. He has been involved in many local, national and international faith events during a time of major change and adjustment of the Church's role in Ireland. He is currently Secretary General of AMRI (Association of Missionary and Religious Leaders Ireland). He is an accomplished author with seven books published, most recently Faith – In Search of Greater Glory in Sport. He is married and has three young adult children.

Other speakers to be confirmed.

Workshop fees

Workshop fees include all materials including a full vocation manual, speaker stipends, speaker's travel, facility fees, all meals, and breaks. The workshop fee also includes overnight accommodations for 5 nights, arriving for 6.00p.m supper on 19th January and checking out with lunch on Friday 24th January. Please let Margaret know when you book if you do not require lunch on the Friday. The workshop ends with graduation ceremony at 12.noon.

Workshop fees

Vocations/AMRI member: €1000 Non-member: €1,400

Early booking is essential to secure accommodation on site.

Registration is now open Complete booking form and return to Margaret Cartwright, Vocations office, AMRI, c/o Missionaries of Africa, Cypress Grove, Templeogue, Dublin D6W YV12

Late Fees

All workshop registrations received after December 30 incur a €100 late fee.

Cancellations

Cancellations for workshops must be received in writing to info@vocationsireland.com before December 30th to receive a full refund minus a €100 processing fee. After December 30th, all fees are non-refundable.

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME BOOKING FORM
19th January-24th 2025

NAME

SURNAME.....

CONGREGATION.....

MOBILE.....

EMAIL.....

Food allergies.....

PLEASE TICK POSITION YOU HOLD

- Vocation director
- Vocation Team Member
- Formation
- Leadership

Please enclose €100 booking deposit with form.

PAYMENT BY BANK TRANSFER

BOI Ranelagh Branch

A/C 81984354

IBAN IE65BOFI 9001 7281 9843 54

BIC NO BOFIE2D

Ref AC24 OP

Please ensure you put YOUR NAME AND CONGREGATION ON LODGEMENT

Or CHEQUE BY POST TO : Vocations Ireland, AMRI office c/o White Fathers, Cypress Grove Rd
Templeogue, Dublin6W YV12