



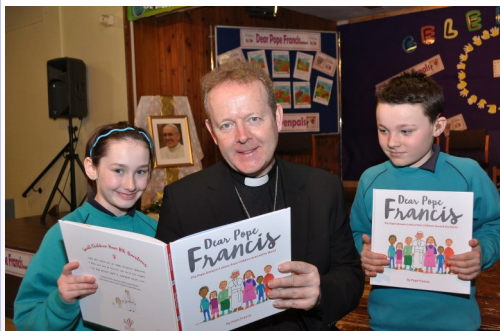
SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Monthly newsletter for dioceses & parishes. Issue 27 - March 2016
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference
Columba Centre, Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co Kildare



Contact details for the Catholic Church's spiritual support service for survivors of abuse are available on www.towardspeace.ie

Archbishop Eamon Martin launches *Dear Pope Francis*

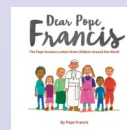


Dear Pope Francis is a unique anthology of letters from children seeking answers from Pope Francis. It is published by Messenger Publications and includes a letter in Irish from Clara (11) who asks Pope Francis if he feels like a father to the whole world. The book was launched in Ireland on 1 March by Archbishop Eamon Martin in Saint

Patrick's Primary School in Loughall Road, Armagh. Speaking at the launch Archbishop Eamon said: "I have been struck by many of the questions in the book because they show in the children a concern for the world in which they live, a natural childlike curiosity and inquisitiveness, but they also show a profound understanding of why faith is important to so many people. The love that the children of the world have for Pope Francis also shines through in these letters and in the beautiful images which accompany them. While this is being offered as a children's book, I think it appeals to the child in all of us.

"While this is a book for children, teachers, parishes and schools, I particularly recommend it to the families of Ireland as a beautiful gift directly from Pope Francis. I invite families to read it together and to talk to each other about the matters of faith it raises – whether they be great or small!"

See www.catholicnews.ie for more information.



Dublin priest Paul Tighe ordained Bishop in Rome

Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin ordained Dublin priest Mgr Paul Tighe as bishop in Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome, on Saturday 27 February. Family members, friends, Archbishop



Diarmuid Martin, bishops, and priests from Ireland were present. In

December Bishop Tighe was appointed Bishop and Adjunct Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Culture by Pope Francis having previously worked in the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Apparition Mosaic unveiled in Knock Basilica

On Sunday 28 February a new mosaic of the 1879 Apparition at Knock Shrine was unveiled at a special Mass in the recently refurbished Basilica.



It is one of Europe's biggest pieces of mosaic on a flat surface. It was crafted from some 1.5 million individual pieces of mosaic and has been inlaid on the wall behind the sanctuary in the Basilica.

Visit Knock in 2016 and see www.catholicnews.ie for updates.

NEWS SNIPPETS

- See our 'Lent' Facebook page with prayers, resources and events or join our Instagram and Twitter #lentwordsofmercy challenge.
- www.catholicnews.ie is a new "news" website from the CCO featuring material from the Irish Bishops' Conference, *Intercom* magazine, dioceses, parishes, and other Church sources. Catholicnews.ie is also on Facebook and Twitter.
- *The End of All Things Earthly* is a new book from Veritas edited by David Bracken from the Diocese of Limerick. It offers a series of essays which profile the 1916 leaders and their faith. See www.veritas.ie for info.



Pope Francis Tweet of the Month:



"Earnings and capital are not more important than the human person, but should be at the service of the common good. Follow Pope Francis on Twitter @Pontifex and @news_va.

Produced by the Catholic Communications Office. See catholicbishops.ie.