



Sharing the Good News

Monthly newsletter for dioceses & parishes. Issue 28 | April 2016

Archbishops welcome publication of *Amoris Laetitia*

Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin have welcomed the publication of *Amoris Laetitia* (*The Joy of Love, on love in the family*) the post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation from Pope Francis which was published on 8 April. Speaking at the launch in Archbishop's House, Dublin, Archbishop Eamon said: "the document has a warm, distinctive and familiar style that speaks to the reality of ordinary life. It is very much in tune with the concrete realities



Archbishop Eamon Martin with Tom, Helena, Cathal, Meave and Tilly.

of everyday life as lived by married couples and families. The document reflects the vision of Pope Francis in that we cannot resort to doctrine without considering the complexities of married life. The content is also challenging, and includes a call for all of us to reflect on how we live our lives."

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin said: "*Amoris Laetitia* is an encyclopaedic document and like all encyclopaedic documents much of its most valuable content runs the risk of being by-passed by a preoccupation with one or two of its aspects. All of this is situated within a process which began in 2014 when Pope Francis asked bishops around the world to consult with their own priests and lay men and women on the situation of the family today. That process continued with the celebration of two sessions of the Synod of Bishops. Each of these Synods produced its own Report which was published at the time. These Reports constitute the backbone of the Pope's document. But the document is also full of very personal reflections of Pope Francis. *Amoris Laetitia* reflects faithfully the thoughts of the Synod and it is yet completely infused with the original pastoral style of Pope Francis".

Amoris Laetitia is available to download from www.catholicbishops.ie and in hard copy from Veritas book stores nationwide - www.veritas.ie.

AMORIS LAETITIA

The following quotes from *Amoris Laetitia* are suggested for use in parish newsletters:

- The Joy of Love experienced by families is also the joy of the Church.
- The family is the place where parents become their children's first teachers in the faith.
- The family is a good which society cannot do without, and it ought to be protected.
- Our teaching on marriage and the family cannot fail to be inspired by the message of love and tenderness.
- Open and caring families find a place for the poor.
- The family is where we first learn to listen and share, to be patient and show respect, to help one another.
- In our families, we must learn to imitate Jesus' own gentleness.



Eliza (4)

Mass for Vocations Sunday 2016

Mass for Vocations Sunday will be broadcast on RTÉ One Television at 11.00am on Sunday 17 April. The celebrant and homilist will be Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan, Chair of the Bishops' Council for Vocations. For more see www.vocations.ie.

Meeting with NI political parties

Ahead of Assembly elections on 5 May Archbishop Eamon Martin led delegations from the Northern Ireland Council on Social Affairs (NICCOSA) to meetings with the SDLP, DUP and Sinn Féin. See catholicbishops.ie for related statements.

Tweet of the Month
"It is essential that children see that prayer is something truly important for their parents."
 - Pope Francis