

Sharing the Good News

Monthly newsletter for
dioceses and parishes
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News Snippets

- ◆ Archbishop Diarmuid Martin delivered the homily at the Requiem Mass of Cardinal Desmond Connell RIP. Read the text on www.dublindiocese.ie. 
- ◆ Read the Pope's message for Lent 2017 on www.catholicbishops.ie.
- ◆ Faithcast is a new weekly faith podcast which can be subscribed to or downloaded from www.catholicnews.ie.
- ◆ Bishop Michael Smith of Meath recently presided at the canonical establishment of a new monastery at Silverstream Priory in the Diocese of Meath. This marked the first formal establishment of a monastic community in the diocese since the suppression of the monasteries by Henry VIII in 1536.
- ◆ To receive the free CatholicNews.ie news feed on your parish or diocesan website please contact the CCO by email to info@catholicbishops.ie.

Archbishop Eamon Martin encourages faithful to #LiveLent 2017

Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh has launched a special web resource, and a Twitter and Instagram #LiveLent initiative, for Lent 2017. Launching the resources Archbishop Eamon said, "In his message for Lent 2017, which I encourage everyone to read, Pope Francis invites the faithful to return to God with all their hearts, to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. The theme for the Pope's message for Lent 2017 is 'The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift'. Pope Francis describes Lent as a favourable season for deepening our spiritual life through fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

"For Lent 2017 we continue to provide online resources to assist in our spiritual preparations for the joy and hope which comes with the Easter season. I encourage everyone to visit and avail of our online resources and to consider taking part in our #LiveLent initiative", Archbishop Martin said. The #LiveLent initiative will involve short daily suggestions shared on Twitter and Instagram based on the theme of the Holy Father's Lenten message on how to best #LiveLent 2017. These will include suggestions on fasting, prayer and almsgiving, which are the three pillars of the Lenten season. For more on #LiveLent see www.catholicbishops.ie.



Trócaire targets "unprecedented" humanitarian need during Lent

Schools, communities and parishes will come together to pledge their support for the poorest people in the world as part of Trócaire's Lenten campaign. The Lenten campaign, which is in its 44th year, has transformed the lives of millions of people around the world. This year's campaign highlights the scale of humanitarian need across the world. The family pictured on this year's Trócaire box is from a village in Honduras that faces regular flooding from storms and rising sea levels. Trócaire's project in the village keeps people safe by providing for safe evacuation and access to safer homes. See trocaire.org.



New data for Accord finds that communications issues are of most concern to couples



New figures for 2016, released by Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service, show that communications problems tend to predominate among issues most relevant to couples counselled by Accord. Counselling figures also show that money worries still continue to be a factor for those who seek counselling with 38% of those who accessed Accord counselling services citing it as a factor in their marriage.

The counselling figures for 2016 were launched on Saint Valentine's Day by Bishop Denis Nulty, President of Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service, at the Shrine of St Valentine in Whitefriar Street Church, Dublin City. Bishop Nulty blessed engaged couple Carol Dignam from Kilcock, Co Kildare, and Tim Boylan from Foxrock, Co Dublin (pictured) at the shrine. See www.accord.ie.