

# Zion Parish Notices

Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> November

Issue 20 2016

## Services



### Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> November

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Advent Service

### Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, St. Andrew

10.30am Holy Communion

### Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> December

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion

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## Confirmation Classes



Classes will begin on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the library at the High School, Zion Road. Generally classes take place weekly and the Rev'd. Farrell will share his plans at the first session

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Margaret will make contact with those who have been in touch already. If you would like to be added to the list of candidates please contact the Parish Office at [zionparish@gmail.com](mailto:zionparish@gmail.com)

## Refugee Accommodation

Read about the Archbishop's plan to help accommodate Syrian Refugees, overleaf.

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You may contact the Parish Office at [zionparish@gmail.com](mailto:zionparish@gmail.com)



# Advent

adventus parousia

**Advent is a time for reflection, preparation and prayer** - On Sunday next, 27<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am we will mark the start of Advent with a special service of seasonal readings, carols and poetry, which will include works from Rosetti, Donne and Kavanagh.

**Advent Study** – The theology of Advent and why we are watching and waiting will be the subject of two short talks taking place in the Rectory on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December and Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December. All are welcome – we meet at 10.30am for coffee.



# Be Part of the Solution

## Diocesan Appeal to Raise Funds for Asylum and Refugee Accommodation Programme

**A new diocesan fundraising project which seeks to support the provision of accommodation for refugees and those emerging from direct provision is being launched in November. The dioceses plans to raise €300,000 over the next three years to assist in an accommodation programme being put in place by the Irish Refugee Council (IRC).**

The seeds for the new fundraising project were sown at Diocesan Synod 2015 when there were passionate speeches calling for 'something more to be done' about the housing crisis, homelessness and the refugee situation. In response to the request, Canon Horace McKinley, the Revd Olive Donohue and Dr Sharee Basdeo were appointed by Diocesan Councils to explore possible projects. The sub committee worked on identifying something specific since they felt it was not possible to do everything – 'start small and think big' was their motto.

After extensive research and discussions, the committee recently made a proposal to councils on a project being advanced by the Irish Refugee Council. This proposal was accepted unanimously.

The IRC is Ireland's only national non-Governmental organisation specialising in working with refugees and people in the asylum process.

In collaboration with the Association of Missionaries and Religious in Ireland, AMRI (formerly CORI and IMU), the IRC is in the process of acquiring several properties, both in Dublin and nationwide, that are being donated by the various AMRI congregations. These properties will all require very extensive renovation and modernisation and this is where the money raised by the people of Dublin and Glendalough will be utilised. It is hoped that the initial work on some of these properties will commence in June 2017.

AMRI has requested that properties they donate be used for two purposes. Firstly they wish to provide new, first time accommodation for people waiting to come out of the various Direct Provision Centres nationwide. At present, 3,500 people, one third of whom are children, are housed and waiting in this way. When they are granted leave to remain in Ireland, finding accommodation then becomes the next major obstacle.

Secondly, AMRI also wishes to contribute to providing accommodation for refugees, for example Syrian people, coming here under the Government's recent emergency response. This whole initiative is entitled 'A Transitional Housing and Resettlement Programme in Ireland'.

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In partnership with various State Agencies, the IRC has set out three core areas to underpin and resource the project: Accommodation, Employment and Education. The ultimate aim is to move people on to independent living. The IRC is very happy and willing to visit and give talks in schools and parishes, and their organisations if you would like more information.

Responding to the proposals by the Diocesan Councils sub-committee, an IRC official stated: "AMRI is really delighted to have received this contact from the Church of Ireland's Dublin and Glendalough United Dioceses. The support of inter-Church bodies is quite essential for this project, as is the whole Church's public support and voice for those marginalized in our society".

Commending the project Archbishop Michael Jackson said: "We in these United Dioceses would wish to be part of this Project's truly Christian response by AMRI. I shall therefore be contacting every parish and school (Primary and Secondary) in the United Dioceses in early November, asking that an appeal for this project be made before Christmas. This can be done by a direct local appeal or through a fundraising event. The sub-committee has proposed a diocesan target of €100,000 for this year's appeal and the same figure to be targeted for the two following years of 2017 and 2018".



## Jerusalem Link visit

The Archbishop of Jerusalem, the Most Revd Suheil Dawani, his wife, Shafeeqa and his Chaplain, Canon David Longe, will visit Dublin & Glendalough from December 1st to 7th. Their visit is part of the **Jerusalem Link** partnership between the dioceses and people from all over our dioceses are invited to come and meet our guests.

Throughout the visit there will be opportunities to meet the Archbishop and learn about life for Christians in the Middle East. One of the key events will be a fascinating seminar '**Christians in the Middle East: their plight, and the challenge for the West**', taking place in Clontarf Parish Centre on Seafield Road on Monday December 5th at 7.30 pm.

Another of the highlights of the week will be an **ecumenical service in Christ Church Cathedral** at 5.00 pm on Saturday December 3. Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church of the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland and the Dublin Council of Churches will be in attendance. The service will be followed by walk to Khachkar, a memorial to those who died in the Armenian Genocide which started in 1915, in the cathedral grounds.

