

5<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Dear Friends,

The needs of the Archdiocese of Dublin are changing. We have to seek new ways of winning the minds and hearts of our young people for the Gospel.

Exciting things are happening. There is a wonderful willingness on the part of lay men and women to take up their place and responsibilities in Church life. Parishes are renewing themselves. We have great priests, who though fewer in number, take on ever wider commitments.

We need, however, to intensify our catechesis of young people; we need to reach out to those who were baptised but have drifted away from their faith in Jesus Christ; we need to work together to deepen the knowledge and the experience of faith of all of us who are called to be missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.

Almost 40 years ago, at another time of great change in the Church, the Diocesan Development Fund **Share** was launched to address the needs of that time. **Share** enabled Churches to be built in newly developing areas and these Churches became true focal points of community and have remained so until our times.

Today we are called to share resources not just with new parishes or parishes with financial difficulties. The Diocesan Offices provide services to support parishes in such areas as child-safeguarding, human resources, education and schools and financial administration, as well as training priests and lay men and women to become agents of evangelisation in today's society.

The Diocesan Development Fund **Share** provides the financial support for all these services, thus enabling parishes to reach out to the coming generation, leading them to know Jesus Christ and what Jesus Christ can mean to them in their lives.

I am aware of the challenges that all have to face in these difficult economic times. At the same time I appeal to you to give generously today to **Share**. Your help is an invaluable contribution to the work of renewal in the Church. Such evangelization and renewal is urgent.

With sincere thanks and prayerful goods wishes

Yours very sincerely  
+Diarmuid Martin

+Diarmuid Martin  
Archbishop of Dublin