ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN

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Adiutorium nostrum in nomine Domini

Share Appeal Sunday 2026

In November each year we take the opportunity, on **Share Appeal Sunday**, to remind ourselves about the second collection taken up at weekend Masses throughout the year. **Share**, the diocesan development fund, depends on the generosity of parishioners. It reflects, practically, our mission, service and solidarity, responding to needs felt in parishes across the Archdiocese.

In the parable that Jesus recounts today, those who were wise brought extra oil, but the unwise did not have enough oil to keep their lamps lit into the evening (Matthew 25:1-13). In our world, through no fault of their own, some parishes will not have 'enough oil for their lamps'. We share from what we have so that no parish is left behind, none is overlooked. I appeal to you today, then, if you can, to increase your contribution to **Share** throughout the year so that we can enhance our response to the needs of all.

Because of your generosity to **Share**, a wide range of skilled personnel are available to parishes from the diocesan offices. They offer consultation, training, formation and guidance concerning local pastoral, education, strategic leadership, safeguarding and communications initiatives. A particular focus currently is training for Pastoral Councils using a new handbook, *Being a Synodal Pastoral Council*. Assistance is provided, too, for ongoing parish and partnership conversations, *Building Hope* in a synodal manner.

Parishes are also helped in meeting regulatory and statutory obligations in administrative and operational matters, such as finance and fundraising, property, sustainability, health and safety, and data protection. This year we are expanding our support for health and safety compliance, with a full-time person provided from the diocesan offices to assist parishes. Through our new sustainability officer, we are also helping parishes to look at alternative energy sources, aligned with *Laudato Si'* and care for creation. Speaking in September, calling for a wise and far-sighted vision of humanity, Pope Leo insisted that, 'the climate question is not merely an environmental challenge, it is fundamentally a question of justice, human dignity and solidarity between people and generations'. (24th September 2026). We must all be engaged in reflection on what we can do to care for our planet and all its people.

The **Share** collection has evolved over the years and continues to evolve. It is a significant source of funding and support across the Archdiocese. Importantly, **Share** provides much needed financial relief to disadvantaged parishes where alternative funding cannot be secured. This year, for example, numbers of parishes that could not fund compliance with all-important fire-safety regulations have been assisted by **Share**.

Thank you in anticipation for giving what you can on this **Share Appeal Sunday**, and for your continued support for **Share** at the second collection every Sunday throughout the year.

May we be a people blessed with wisdom, humility, generosity, and great hope.

+Dermot Farrell
Archbishop of Dublin