



Letter to parishes of the Archdiocese re. visit of Bishop Barron

Edinburgh, 11 April 2018

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ brings a tremendous joy, peace and wisdom into our lives because in him the fullness of grace and truth has come into the world (cf. John 1:17). This is the beautiful reality that we proclaim in this Easter season.

But how can we communicate that joy and wisdom of the Risen Christ to those around us – especially to those who seem indifferent or even hostile to Christianity? How do we even communicate this wisdom and joy to our families, when many of our children and grandchildren have fallen away from the practice of their Catholic faith?

Earlier this year I invited the acclaimed Catholic author, speaker, and theologian, Bishop Robert Barron of Los Angeles, to visit Scotland in an attempt to help us answer these vitally important questions. I am delighted to inform you that Bishop Barron has accepted our invitation.

So I am writing today to let you know that Bishop Barron will be speaking at the Usher Hall in Edinburgh on Thursday 6th of September on the topic of "Proclaiming Christ in Our Culture." The event will begin at 7.30pm and will finish at around 9.30pm.

Tickets (which will cost £10 or £6 for concessions) will go on sale to the general public on the 1st of May. However, I would like priority to be given to parish groups. And so, the parishes of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh can book tickets in advance from the Usher Hall box office from 9am tomorrow.

I've already had an enthusiastic response from many of our parishes who are keen to make a parish outing of the event. I heartily encourage all of you to think about doing the same. It promises to be an inspiring night on a subject which ought to be close to the heart of every believer and I very much look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ Leo Cushley

✠ Leo Cushley
Archbishop of St Andrews & Edinburgh

Archbishop Cushley wrote the letter below to his clergy to accompany the Pastoral Letter overleaf:

Dear Brother Priests and Deacons,

You will now have received my pastoral letter announcing that Bishop Robert Barron of Los Angeles has agreed to speak in our Archdiocese later this year. Already the feedback from parishes has been exceptionally positive. Like you, I am hoping that it will be a really great event which will inspire and, to some extent, galvanise us and our people. I would now like to give you some advice on the ticketing logistics for the event.

Tickets for the event go on sale to the general public on 1 May. There has already been quite a degree of interest expressed by parishes in the west of Scotland, however as said, I would like this to be primarily a diocesan event. Therefore, from now until 1 May, our parishes will be able to book tickets on an exclusive basis through the Usher Hall Box Office. How to do that?

Contact the Usher Hall Box Office by telephone at 0131 228 1155 or online at usherhall.co.uk or in person and give them the code "Fire 18" prior to booking your tickets. That lets them know that you are a parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. Tickets are £10 and £6 for concessions.

Can I ask you, therefore, to think about organising a parish trip to the Usher Hall on 6 September?...To help you, posters and postcards advertising the event should be with you this week.

It is my hope that Bishop Barron's visit to our Country will be an important moment in the life of our diocese and a great opportunity for us to come together to celebrate our faith. Please come and please try to bring a group from your parish.

+Leo Cushley
Archbishop of St Andrews & Edinburgh

Fr Jock writes:

'Do feel free to order a ticket for yourself. Alternatively, ask Karen in the Parish Office to order one for you.

We hope to have a bus to take those who wish to attend.'