Archdiocese of Tuam

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To the Priests of the Archdiocese of Tuam

17th April 2024

Dear Father,

As you may be aware, last week, upon the retirement of Bishop John Fleming, Pope Francis appointed me as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Killala.

Firstly, I thank the members of our Diocesan Pastoral Council, our Council of Priests and those who are familiar with various aspects of diocesan work, for their participation in the consultations carried out by the Apostolic Nuncio as the future configuration of dioceses in this province was being considered.

During the consultation process it became clear to me that our dioceses have more in common than we might have realised. What really shone through for me was the understanding that the proposed union between Tuam and Killala would allow each diocese to be enriched by the heritage and culture and the variety of practices brought by the other.

I am excited about the opportunities that this process presents, and I look forward to working with both Tuam and Killala in preparing our dioceses for formal union by the Holy See in the not-too-distant future. This is an an opportunity for us to look to the future with great hope and to enthusiastically follow the synodal pathway as promoted by Pope Francis.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our steps.

Yours sincerely,

+ Francis Duffy

Apostolic Administrator of Killala
Archbishop of Tuam