

## OUR NEW BISHOP'S COAT OF ARMS



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**The Coat of Arms** There is a long established tradition that a bishop has a coat of arms. It is not strictly necessary and some may wonder what purpose it serves. With its rich symbolism, a coat of arms can serve as a kind of contract with the people of the diocese and as a reminder to the bishop himself of what his mission is about.

In the heraldic tradition of the Roman Catholic Church, the Coat of Arms of a Bishop is normally composed of: a **shield** with its charges (symbols) drawn from family, geographic, religious and historical significance and/or related to the name of the Bishop;

a **golden processional cross**, with one traversal bar, to represent the rank of the Bishop, "impaled" (vertically) behind the shield;

a **green hat** with 12 (six on each side) attached tassels

a **scroll** with the motto, written in black, below.

In this case a **samitic** shape shield, frequently used in the heraldry of the Roman Catholic Church, has been chosen, along with a **celtic** processional cross with **five red stones** to represent the Five Wounds of Christ, reminding Bishop Kevin that he will be called upon to imitate Christ the Good Shepherd, in "laying down his life" for the flock.

**Motto** "UNUM CORPUS IN CHRISTO" (Romans 12,5)

For his episcopal motto Bishop Kevin has chosen these words taken from the letter to the Romans. While it reflects the theme of the 50<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress, it is primarily a reference to the ministry of the bishop to be the "servant of communion" and the vocation of the diocese to be *One Body in Christ*.

**Interpretation** In the right side of the shield (seen from the point of view of the one holding the shield) we find represented the **Coat of Arms of the Diocese of Elphin**; **two golden crossed croziers** surmounting a **lamb** as the central symbol reflecting Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. The imagery of sheep and shepherds is well understood throughout the diocese, as it was in the Judean and Galilean countryside of Jesus' time. The **red** colour is the colour of love, of blood; the infinite love of the Father who sent the Son to shed His blood for us, the ultimate act of love.

The personal arms of Bishop Kevin occupy the left side. This part of the shield is in **silver** (*argent*), the colour of transparency, truth and justice, which are fundamental to the Bishop's pastoral ministry. The **anchor**, symbol of hope, is taken from the Doran family motto, *Spes Ancora Vitae* (Hope is the Anchor of Life). It is important to distinguish between hope and mere optimism or wishful thinking. Hope is rooted in a realistic expectation of promises that will be fulfilled. As Christians, our hope is rooted in God who is always faithful to his promises. The anchor is in **green** the symbolic colour of hope.

The **blackbird** references the legend of St. Kevin and the Blackbird, which is so well captured in the poem by Seamus Heaney. It reminds Bishop Kevin of the importance of fidelity to prayer and the relationship between prayer, compassion and service. The blackbird carries in his beak a **copper pot**, symbol of St. Asicus, patron saint of the diocese of Elphin. St. Asicus was a coppersmith.

Fr. Kevin spent some years as parish priest of Glendalough, Co. Wicklow (*The Valley of the Two Lakes*). As he ministered to parishioners and pilgrims around the lakeshore, he was often reminded of the ministry of Jesus, much of which took place around the lake (or sea) of Galilee. It was a ministry of "launching out into the deep", inviting people to discipleship and "crossing over to the other side". As he undertakes his new mission in the Diocese of Elphin, (a diocese with no shortage of lakes, bounded on one end by the River Shannon and on the other by the Atlantic Ocean), he takes the ministry of Jesus as his model and inspiration. This is the symbolism of the **wavelets** in the lower part of the shield.

SUNDAY - JULY 6th 2014

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY - ORDINARY TIME

CATHEDRAL OF THE  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
SLIGO

HISTORICAL OCCASION

ORDINATION  
OF  
KEVIN DORAN  
BISHOP OF ELPHIN



JULY 13th 2014

## Over a thousand expected at historic ordination of new Bishop of Elphin

Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup> will see Fr Kevin Doran, a native of Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin succeed Bishop Christopher Jones, as Bishop of Elphin.

The ordination ceremony at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, in Sligo will commence at 5.30 pm. The congregation is requested to be seated by 5.00 pm.

Such has been the desire of people from all over the diocese to attend the historic event that the main body of the cathedral has been reserved for parish representatives and guests with tickets only.

In an attempt to accommodate those who do not have tickets, access is to be had on a first come first serve basis to the cathedral galleries. Access to this seating section is by a series of steep steps. There will also be an opportunity for people to participate in the celebration by coming to the nearby College of the Immaculate Conception, Summerhill where the Ordination will be relayed on a large screen and communion will be brought from the Cathedral.

The ceremony will be presided over by Bishop Christopher Jones assisted by Archbishop Charles Brown, Papal Nuncio to Ireland and Archbishop Michael Neary of Tuam. Cardinal Seán Brady will also be in attendance. Along with Fr Doran's family and friends over 150 priests, 30 Bishops, 25 Permanent Deacons and representatives from various Christian communities will also be present. These will be joined by over 500 hundred representatives from parishes throughout the diocese and from various diocesan organisations. A special effort has been made to recognise the contribution of various voluntary caring organisations and so over 50 members from these organisations will be present. The liturgy will be signed for the deaf community.

The ceremony itself will contain many unique features. It will begin with a procession of representatives carrying soil from each of the 37 parishes of the diocese brought forward in locally made Ben Bulbin Pottery bowls commissioned for the occasion. Especially composed musical pieces will be led by the Cathedral Choir who will provide the liturgical music.

A team of over 300 volunteers both local and from around the diocese will assist with car parking, catering and looking after those in attendance. The facilities of both the Gillooly Hall and Summerhill College are to be used and Sligo's Church of Ireland community have kindly made St. John's Hall available.

A Media Centre will be located in the Gillooly Hall with a live radio broadcast from Ocean FM and Shannonside Northern Sound. Another historical landmark will be achieved with the whole ceremony being streamed on the internet and can be viewed live or downloaded from [www.elphindiocese.ie](http://www.elphindiocese.ie)

On Thursday July 10<sup>th</sup>, in prayerful preparation for the event the entire diocese will unite with a holy hour of prayer held in each parish from 8 – 9 pm.

On the eve of the ordination itself, Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup>, there will be a unique youth led Vigil of Prayer in thanksgiving for the ministry of Bishop Jones and praying blessings upon our Bishop Elect Father Kevin at the Cathedral from 8.30 – 10 pm. This vigil will include music by the diocesan based spiritual music group *Elation Ministries* and a dramatic presentation of the History of the Diocese of Elphin by the Sligo based drama group – *For Your Soul Productions*. Both Bishop Jones and Fr Doran will be in attendance and people of all ages are most welcome to join at any time for what promises to be a very blessed evening.

**HOLY HOUR** - To mark the retirement of Bishop Christopher Jones and the Episcopal Ordination of Fr. Kevin Doran as Bishop of Elphin a Holy Hour will be held in the Cathedral on Thursday, July 10th commencing at 8.00 pm. All welcome.

**VIGIL OF PRAYER** - "A SOWER WENT OUT TO SOW..." (Mt. 13:3) Please join with us for a Vigil of Prayer led by young people on the eve of the Ordination of Fr. Kevin Doran as Bishop of Elphin on Saturday, July 12th commencing at 8.30 pm., and concluding at 10.00 pm.

**A MEETING** of all who have volunteered to help with Stewarding outside of our Cathedral and attending Car Park on the day of Ordination will be held on Monday, 7th July at 8.00 pm., in the Gillooly Hall. It is very important that all involved attend this meeting. Thank you.

**CLEAN UP OF CATHEDRAL AND GROUNDS** - All who volunteered to help with the clean up of the Cathedral and its Grounds are asked to assemble in the Cathedral at 7.00pm., on Tuesday, July 8th.

**MASSES NEXT SUNDAY—JULY 13th** - Please note that due to the Episcopal Ordination of Fr. Kevin Doran as Bishop of Elphin the 7.00 p.m. Mass next Sunday, July 13th will **NOT** be celebrated. Masses will be celebrated at 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 12.00 noon. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. The 12.00 noon Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Brian Conlon who is celebrating the Silver Jubilee of his ordination to priesthood. We congratulate Fr. Brian and wish health and happiness in his future ministry.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL** will close after the 8.00 a.m., Mass on Saturday next and will reopen after the 8.00 a.m., Mass on Monday. This is to allow for preparation of the chapel for vesting during the Ordination of our new Bishop on Sunday, July 13th. We apologise to all Adorers for interrupting their prayer time.

**ECUMENICAL SERVICE** - Remembering our dead in World War 1 will be held in the Cathedral on Friday, July 18th at 7.30 pm. All welcome to attend.

**LAUNCH OF WEBCAM** - We are delighted to inform our parishioners that all future ceremonies in our cathedral from next weekend can be streamed on the internet and can be viewed live from [www.sligocathedral.ie](http://www.sligocathedral.ie) Please note that the Ordination Ceremony for Fr. Kevin Doran will commence at 5.30 p.m.

**BINGO - GILLOOLY HALL** Please note that due to the Episcopal Ordination of Fr. Kevin Doran as Bishop of Elphin it will not be possible to hold the Bingo on Sunday, July 13th as the Hall will be required for our priests to vest. We apologise most sincerely to all our patrons for any inconvenience/disappointment and we look forward to seeing all on Sunday, July 20th.

**SLIGO CEMETERY SUNDAY** - takes place on Sunday, August 3rd at 4.00 pm., and not at 3.00 pm., as was mentioned in last week's bulletin. We apologise for any confusion.

### ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCES

DAY	8.00 A.M.	10.30 A.M.
TUESDAY, JULY 8	JAMES CALLAGHAN	HUGH, ROSE SMITH & deceased Family members
WEDNESDAY, JULY 9	FRANK KELLY	EILEEN & JACK McDERMOTT
THURSDAY, JULY 10	JAMES CONNOLLY	TOM & ENDA STAUNTON
FRIDAY, JULY 11		GEORGE (Ginger) McGARRY
SATURDAY, JULY 12		<b>MONTH'S MIND</b> FINTAN EGAN

**REST IN PEACE** - Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Very Rev. Cyril Haran, Streedagh, Grange. May God grant him eternal rest and comfort and console his bereaved family and friends.