



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

Ethnic Chaplaincies

Newsletter: Sunday 25th April 2021

Dear All,

Yesterday evening, Tuesday 20th April, I took part in a wonderful Conference organised by Aid to the Church in Need to launch their Report on Religious Freedom 2021. I said “wonderful” because it laid bare the horror of religious persecution across the world today: about one third of people are persecuted for their Faith. Many of them are represented here in the Diocese by our Ethnic Chaplaincies, Eparchies and Missions. This persecution is clearly the story of our time, and the majority of the persecuted are Christian and Catholic. We need to pray and lobby our political leaders, and some of our Faith leaders too, to bring about concerted action across the world. It was good to see representation from Political Parties on the Platform. I am providing a link to the CNA account of the Conference, which was posted by Father Cecil Rogerson of Our Lady and St Brigid’s Parish, Northfield.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/247332/africa-seeing-dramatic-increase-in-jihadist-groups-says-global-religious-freedom-report>

I am attaching my Reflection for the 4th Sunday of Easter, Vocation Sunday; it will be on our website, as part of the Burning Bush VLOG on Friday. My Podcast on the Sacrament of Matrimony is already there; I hope you like it – my one regret is misspelling PALAZZOLA at the end. Since I stayed there so many times over the years, it is embarrassing!

Finally, I am going to pray livestream the Via Lucis, Stations of the Resurrection, on Thursday next 29th April at 8pm. It would be great if you could join me.

With prayers and all good wishes.

Mgr Daniel McHugh

Monsignor Daniel McHugh

Co-ordinator for Ethnic Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese