**From:** RCAOB Communications <communications@rcaob.org.uk>
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**Subject:** **Exciting new developments at Maryvale Institute**

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Dear Father

Dear Deacon

We are delighted to share with you exciting new developments at Maryvale Institute.

In a new venture agreed between the Archdiocese and St Mary’s University, Twickenham, (SMU) three of Maryvale’s programmes (recently validated by the Open University and Liverpool Hope University) will move to a new ‘Maryvale at St Mary’s’.

Maryvale Higher Institute of Religious Sciences (HIRS), the first of its kind in the English-speaking world, will remain, serving the Archdiocese and the wider Church. Two flourishing Maryvale programmes, the Bachelor of Divinity and Licence in Catechetics degrees are recruiting for the academic year 2024-25. Demand for all Maryvale programmes has been strong and ahead of expectations.

Maryvale HIRS is also developing a closer relationship with St Mary’s College, Oscott, the inter-diocesan Seminary based within the Archdiocese. Current plans envisage sharing Oscott’s IT platform and facilities and holding face-to-face teaching there, as well as exams and graduations.

This is wonderful news for Maryvale and the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Please do share in your communities.

Full details of the developments will be available shortly on the diocesan website: [Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham (birminghamdiocese.org.uk)](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.birminghamdiocese.org.uk%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cadmin.ethnic.chaplaincy%40rcaob.org.uk%7C6f1041a62b68421bfe0a08dc96942fb5%7Cf594e61c4546432cb248cacae233b935%7C0%7C0%7C638550810394299500%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=41u%2FqfFFRp4%2BOTuAM0aNTOwCPbfbn%2FHg2kmkONyWrhk%3D&reserved=0)

Yours

Bishop David Evans, Vice-President of Maryvale Institute

Sophia Pain, Chair of Maryvale Institute

Fr Michael Cullinan, HIRS Director

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