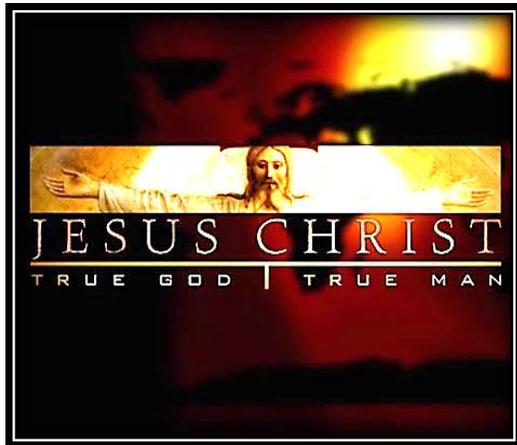




OUR COMMON HUMANITY IN IRELAND NEEDS US (2:00 P.M. Tuesday, 21 August 2018)

“Son of man, you are living with that set of rebels who have eyes and never see, ears and never hear, for they are a set of rebels” (Ezekiel XII:2).



A few months back, on 17 March 2018, the Church in Freeport prayed for (and with) the Church in Ireland as She sought in her defense of (much more than) Amendment 8 of the Irish Constitution, to give birth to a message that could and would be (in the fashion of Saint Luke 1:26-55) received, embraced, and proclaimed by all hearers: Catholics and non-Catholics, men and women, young and old! That message took shape collectively at the Conference of Irish Bishops in the words of a Pastoral Letter entitled Our Common Humanity, and individually throughout the Irish World in the words of her Bishops such as Bishop Denis Nulty of Kildare and Leighlin, Bishop Alan McGuckian of Raphoe, and Bishop John Buckley of Cork and Ross.

Many hearers did in fact open their minds and their hearts to the word that became flesh and voted to save the 8th (and much more). Others chose not to listen – similar in vain to the “closed minds” and “closed hearts” of the Catholic World in 1968 when His Holiness Pope Paul VI gave birth to the Encyclical Letter *Humanae Vitae* – and instead chose with Free Will to *reach for the forbidden fruit which that ancient snake of old falsely promised would make them like gods!* (cf. Genesis 3:1-5) – which has “given birth” to the so-called “Me Too Generation”.

It is time now for all of us – in Ireland and outside of Ireland – to unite as a family and pray that what takes place at the upcoming World Meeting of Families in Ireland (21 August 2018 – 26 August 2018), will conceive a Pastoral Plan that all who hear it within and outside the womb of Ireland, will open their hearts and minds to receive, embrace, and proclaim so that new Life will be born to better serve our common humanity everywhere in the world.

To that end, the Church in Freeport will be joining forces with the Church in Ireland where Bishops John Oliver Barres and Robert John Brennan will soon arrive with other missionary disciples from Long Island to participate in a weeklong celebration of families known as the *World Meeting of Families*. Their list of scheduled events includes Holy Mass on 21 August at 7:00 P.M. (IST) in the Mullingar Cathedral of Christ the King where they will be joined by Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious and members of the lay-faithful from throughout the Diocese of Meath. At the same moment in time (2:00 P.M. EST), Holy Mass will be offered in the Freeport Church of Our Holy Redeemer and united through that timeless offering, the Church here and abroad will continue to bring about the restoration of all things through, with, and in the One Who makes it all possible: Jesus Christ!

AVOID HAVING TO CRY OUT: “ME TOO”

“Another effect that gives cause for alarm is that a man who grows accustomed to the use of contraceptive methods may forget the reverence due to a woman, and, disregarding her physical and emotional equilibrium, reduce her to being a mere instrument for the satisfaction of his own desires, no longer considering her as his partner whom he should surround with care and affection.”

(Humanae Vitae, 17)