



From the Vatican, 24 June 2025

THE MOST REVEREND DENIS NULTY
BISHOP OF KILDARE AND LEIGHLIN

HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV WAS PLEASED TO BE INFORMED THAT THE “XXVI COLUMBANUS WEEKEND” IS BEING HELD IN CARLOW FROM 11 TO 13 JULY THIS YEAR, AND HE SENDS HEARTFELT GOOD WISHES TO THOSE TAKING PART. IN A PARTICULAR WAY, SAINT COLUMBAN, SPEAKING ACROSS THE CENTURIES, CAN STILL TEACH OUR WORLD TODAY ABOUT HOW LOVE FOR GOD AND NEIGHBOUR REQUIRES US TO CARE FOR CREATION AND TO CULTIVATE OUR SOULS IN THE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUES, FOR EVERY ASPECT OF OUR WORLD REFLECTS IN SOME WAY THE GRANDEUR AND GOODNESS OF ITS DIVINE MAKER. HIS HOLINESS PRAYS THAT, BY CELEBRATING AND REFLECTING ON THE WITNESS OF THIS “BEST KNOWN IRISHMAN OF THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES”, WHO CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO NOURISHING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE EUROPE OF HIS DAY (CF. POPE BENEDICT XVI, CATECHESIS, 11 JUNE 2008), THE PRESENT EVENT WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT FOR THE BUILDING UP OF GOD’S KINGDOM IN IRELAND AND BEYOND. UPON ALL THE PARTICIPANTS, THE HOLY FATHER INVOKES AN ABUNDANCE OF DIVINE GIFTS, AND CORDIALLY IMPARTS HIS APOSTOLIC BLESSING AS A PLEDGE OF JOY AND PEACE IN CHRIST THE LORD.

CARDINAL PIETRO PAROLIN
SECRETARY OF STATE