



Congress Finance and Budgeting

With regard to the question raised about the income and expenditure and financial controls around the congress I would like to confirm the following:

- Last year the National Diocesan collection generated a generous contribution of €877,726.74. Of this the congress office has spent to date €20,002.48 which relates to administration costs, (primarily on office supplies and equipment and communications).
- The 50th International Eucharistic Congress has been registered as a limited liability company and will adhere to all Corporate Governance Legislation including fully audited accounts each year.
- All expenditure will be backed up with correct tender and purchasing documentation. Monthly reports from the congress office will be submitted to the 50th International Eucharistic Congress Finance Committee, which in turn reports to the National Finance Committee, which has an external financial control remit. Both committees consist primarily of lay men and women.
- The costs for the advance pastoral preparation and the actual week of Congress for the 2008 Quebec Congress were approximately €9,000,000, We would expect that our costs may be higher for 2012, because Ireland is a higher cost economy.
- The expenditure is primarily related to the mission of the Congress, namely to support growth in understanding of the Eucharist and of what it means to be a Eucharistic people. While the costs of hosting the events of the Congress are certainly substantial, we will be catering for large numbers of people, and our costs will not be out of proportion to a series of major sporting fixtures or concerts. The Congress budget is currently being prepared and we will be endeavouring to get the best possible value for the money we spend.
- The 50th International Eucharistic Congress will, and has already begun to generate new employment for the period of the Congress Planning which will be 2 years. Not only will there be direct revenue to the economy generated in expenditure by the Congress office but also from our International Pilgrims who come to join us for the Congress in June 2012. Many will extend their stay to explore and experience the country before or after the congress.
- In the promotion of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress 2012 not only will we highlight the Congress message but we will also highlight Ireland to the world as a destination that can host an event of this size. This will greatly assist with the potential winning for Ireland other large Events, Congress and Conferences for the future.
- I hope that this assists you and if you need any further details or information please let me know.

Yours sincerely
Anne

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