



INVITATION TO CHOIRS TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE
50TH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS.
{10th – 17th June 2012}

I was appointed last week to co-ordinate the participation of choirs and music groups in IEC2012. I would be very grateful if you could pass on this information to the music directors of parishes in your diocese. If you are no longer the relevant contact person please forward this message to your successor and anyone else you think would be interested.

The Eucharistic Congress is an international gathering of people which aims to promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Catholic Church, to help improve our understanding and celebration of the liturgy and to draw attention to the social dimension of the Eucharist.

The daily programme for the **50th International Eucharistic Congress** from 10th - 16th June 2012 will take place in the Royal Dublin Society (R.D.S.). *Statio Orbis*, the Liturgy on the final day of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress, will be celebrated in Croke Park, Dublin on Sunday 17th June 2012.

The entire event will be a wonderful occasion and opportunity for participating in one of the biggest and most exciting events to take place in Ireland in our lifetime.

How can your choir/music group participate?

We would like to invite Choirs/Music Groups to participate in the main liturgical celebrations of the week **(10-16 June)** in the R.D.S. as members of the Pilgrim Choir. This Pilgrim Choir will be divided into groups and will be seated in designated areas throughout the R.D.S. Arena under the direction of a conductor. Because there are musicians engaged to accompany the liturgies it will not be possible to accommodate individual instrumentalists for these liturgies. If your Choir/Music Group is interested in taking part in the Congress in this way the Directors are invited to register as a group **no later than 4 April 2012** (you can book for 7 days, 3 days or 1 day). Book Online on the Congress website www.iec2012.ie/registration

What will happen next?

Your Choir/Music Group will start learning the repertoire of the particular day (s) which is available on the Congress website (www.iec2012.ie). In addition the members who have booked will receive a copy of the Pilgrim Choir Book which is in preparation at the moment at the first regional rehearsal of the Pilgrim Choir. The date and location of the regional rehearsals will be sent to Music Directors as soon as possible once the registration information has been collated.

During the Eucharistic Congress week, there will be another rehearsal on the day that your Choir/Music Group is involved. You will be provided with the relevant information on where to go, what to do and, most importantly, how to enjoy and to maximise this unique experience.



Musical Participation in the Statio Orbis at Croke Park – 17 June 2012

All those who register for 3 consecutive days of the Congress are entitled to a ticket for the *Statio Orbis*. Tickets are also distributed throughout the Dioceses of Ireland on a proportional basis. However to help realise the goal of congregational participation we will have a Croke Park Pilgrim Choir divided into groups and seated in designated areas throughout Croke Park under the direction of a conductor. The Congress Office has allocated (a substantial but limited number of tickets) for this Croke Park Pilgrim Choir and they can be booked and paid for as follows:

- Request a booking spreadsheet from Germaine Carlos at choirs@iec2012.ie
- Complete and return the booking spreadsheet to choirs@iec2012.ie
- When the tickets are allocated you will be invited to send a cheque to cover the total amount for your choir (€10 per person), made payable to IEC2012, to 50th International Eucharistic Congress, at Sandymount Building, RDS, Simonscourt Road, Dublin 4.

Rehearsals for the *Statio Orbis* will be incorporated into regional rehearsals mentioned above.

I look forward to hearing from your diocese

Ms Germaine Carlos
Co-ordinator of Choirs for IEC 2012 – 086 1973774

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