

6 Drumbrae Place,  
Edinburgh,  
EH12 8TQ.

Archbishop Leo Cushley,  
Archdiocesan Office,  
100 Strathearn Road,  
Edinburgh,  
EH9 1BB.

4<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Dear Archbishop Cushley

I would like to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> May sent in response to my letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> April. I have to say that I am deeply disappointed in the brevity of your response and that you did not see fit to respond to any of the issues or questions raised in my letter. I wrote to you after much thought and reflection and had hoped for a response which addressed my deep concerns about your recent pastoral letter 'We have found the Messiah' and the direction of travel you are taking for this archdiocese.

After only two years here you could not have had sufficient time to have listened, understood and discerned the hearts and voices of the faith communities in this archdiocese. Have you considered the vulnerability of our faith communities which you intend to bring together in their cluster groupings where potential parish closures could bring fellow believers into conflict with one another? Surely you can see that this is not the best vehicle of communication to strengthen the faith communities of this archdiocese?

It is better that we engage in genuine discussion and dialogue where we can seek the views of the people and thus be attentive to the *sensus fidelium* which adds authenticity to the way forward.

I would therefore urge you again to engage in an archdiocesan wide process of discernment and consultation focused on gospel values and the recent encyclical from the Holy Father 'Evangelli Gaudium'.

Yours sincerely in Christ

Rosa Murray

