



Irish Episcopal Council for Emigrants

*A Council of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference
Columba Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare
Tel: 01-5053155 Fax: 01-6016401 Email: imelda.ashe@iecon.ie*

President of Ireland, Mary McAleese to formally launch Irish Pastoral Centre's Senior Citizen Outreach Programme.

Message from Bishop Seamus Hegarty, Chair of the Irish Episcopal Council for Emigrants (IECE).

27th May 2009

President McAleese, Dr McAleese, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

My best wishes to you today as you officially launch your Senior Citizens Outreach Programme.

I know I speak for many when I say how happy and pleased I am with the good work that has been carried out by the Irish Pastoral Centre in Boston over many years and most especially during the tenure of Fr. John McCarthy and Sr. Marguerite Kelly.

I am keenly aware of the great spirit of solidarity and collaboration that exists within the various Irish clubs and associations in Boston.

While ever appreciative of the ongoing efforts made on behalf of our undocumented, it is pleasing to know that you are equally mindful of the more senior members of the Irish community. Having served the Irish community of Boston so well for over twenty years, this comes to me as no surprise.

What could be a greater endorsement of your activities then a visit by President McAleese today. The support of community and voluntary organisations has been a constant during her Presidency and for this we are all deeply grateful.

Your work and engagement with the Irish community of Boston grounded as it is in the selfless and caring support of others, makes manifest the best qualities of your Irish heritage and of which this Senior Citizens Outreach Programme is a shining example.

I thank you for your commitment and may God bless you in your pastoral work.

Yours sincerely,

†Seamus Hegarty