

**Meeting with Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin  
6<sup>th</sup> July 2011, Archbishop's House**

**In attendance:**

**JFM Delegation:** James Smith, Katherine O'Donnell, Mary McAuliffe, Claire McGettrick

**Archdiocese:** Diarmuid Martin

- Diarmuid Martin said he asked his (new) archivist to go through the archives, but not a lot was found, but there was difficulty in the way the archives are sorted
- He was surprised there was so little
- There was one letter regarding the sisters refusing to take people on remand (later supplied to JFM), stating they didn't want children criminalised, suggestion that they go to Kilmacud.
- He said he gave the Murphy Commission around 7,000 documents
- McQuaid filed letters by year as opposed to topic
- He said that he was originally supposed to hand over documents to the Murphy Commission voluntarily, but there were concerns about litigation, so Judge Murphy arranged an order of discovery which solved the issue.
- He said there was a difference between asking for an apology versus seeking forgiveness. (We told him not to underestimate what an apology would mean to survivors)
- He said he understood the issue of "being believed"
- He said he will talk to the congregations (but hasn't done so yet)
- He said he hopes an environment would be created which would facilitate the congregations to cooperate with the minister.
- He is interested in bringing about restorative justice, has concerns about no solicitors – i.e. taking people's right to have legal representation away – we explained our suggested scheme would not preclude survivors from pursuing matters in the courts, but we felt most wouldn't go that route.
- He said he is happy to grant access to his archives if we can organise funding/personnel

- Katherine explained that it wasn't helpful if the congregations arrive with solicitors from the outset
- Diarmuid Martin said he disagreed with gagging orders on survivors.