

November 10, 1989.

Dear John,

I wish to convey to you my warm approval of the untiring work of Father Alex Reid and Father Raymond Murray for the promotion of justice, peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. It is with these objectives in view that the two priests have now drawn up the enclosed "Pastoral Response to the Present Conflict".

I believe that when a conflict like the one in Northern Ireland is causing untold suffering and bloodshed, it is the pastoral duty of the Church to do all in its power to bring this conflict to an end. Fathers Reid and Murray are men of vast experience in dealing with the problems of Northern Ireland and they are convinced that their proposal for a common strategy would make a notable contribution towards ending the bloodshed.

I pray that the God of peace and justice may crown their endeavours with success.

Le gach beannacht,

+Tomás Cardinal Ó Fiaich

+ Tomás ofinich