

IRISH AUGUSTINIAN NEWS



**Augustinian Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine at Knock
Saturday 17th July 2010**

Thanks Pat, for the opportunity of saying a word of appreciation to all who put their shoulder to the wheel and made our annual Augustinian Pilgrimage to Our Lady's shrine at Knock on Saturday 17th last such a prayerful occasion. For many of our people it is their only way or opportunity to make such a pilgrimage. As somebody said to me, the Augustinians, in having a pilgrimage, are offering a social service as well as providing a religious occasion.

Our Provincial Gerry Horan was the chief celebrant and Tony Egan gave an inspiring homily on the role of Mary for the Christians today. The choir this year was from St. Augustine's in Dungarvan and provided a very prayerful atmosphere for the occasion. Pilgrims came from many parts of the country, besides all who came with the Augustinians from Dungarvan, Abbeyside, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Fethard, New Ross, Grantstown and Dublin. It was truly a family day as we joined with the Christian Family pilgrims in prayer for all those present and remembering all who had asked for prayers, and for those who are no longer with us. Fr. Denis Mason who had just died in Cork got a special mention.

The friars present included Gerry Horan, Provincial, Des Foley Galway, Liam Ryan Limerick, Michael Kelly New Ross, Columba O'Donnell Abbeyside, Tony Egan and Tom Cooney, Martin Crean Fethard, Sean Dowling, Colm O'Mahoney, Juan Antonio (Mexico) Cork, and Aidan O'Leary Grantstown.

We were also joined by 3 Polish priests from the Polish parish in Dublin and Fr. Donal Neary SJ the PP of Gardner St., in Dublin who was leading a group of pilgrims. Groups of deaf pilgrims were also at the shrine that day with a chaplain who provided sign language throughout the celebrations.

Yes a very prayerful occasion, and thanks to all who assisted in any way in making it such a success. Some people are already asking about next year already. Again 3rd Saturday in July, 16th. 2011. Mark it in your diary.

Tom Cooney OSA John's Lane, Dublin.



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GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION



Martin Nolan, Joe Walsh and Gerry Horan OSA

On Sunday 11th July, Fr Joe Walsh, who has spent most of his priesthood ministering in Australia, celebrated his Golden Jubilee of Ordination in Fethard. He was the Chief Celebrant at the 11.30 Mass in the Abbey and was joined by his nephew Fr Joe Walsh, Tom Breen the Parish Priest of Fethard, and by the Parish Priest of Holy Cross also Fr Tom Breen and by 15 Augustinian colleagues. Fr Gerry Horan was the homilist and afterwards there was a celebratory lunch in the Minella Hotel, Clonmel.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Fr Shem Furlong who celebrated his Silver Jubilee of Ordination in his home Parish, Horeswood, Co Wexford on 18th July, 2010.

Best wishes also to Frs Declan Brennan and Mike Walsh who are celebrating 30 years of Ordination this year. Ad multos annos.

Please remember in your prayers Fr Michael O'Sullivan OSA (John's Lane), who is recovering from extensive surgery in St James' Hospital and Fr Timmy Walsh OSA (Fethard), who is undergoing chemotherapy in Clonmel.

FR DENIS MASON OSA R.I.P. (16.07.2010)



On Tuesday evening of July, 13th, I had my last words with Denis. It was like this: “Gor, Mike, we gave ye a queer fright on Sunday! (Munster Hurling Final Draw). How can you say that Din, when Cork have failed to overcome Waterford over the past five years? Ye were favourites, Mike” was the reply. Soon afterwards he went into a coma from which he never returned up to the time he passed away on Friday morning, 16.07.2010.

The prayers at the funeral home on Sunday evening were led by his fellow novice Jerry Hickey OSA. His remains were received at St Augustine’s by Pat Moran OSA, who had received him with open arms into the Cork community and treated him with kindness and concern over the past five months.

“Nihil de mortuis nisi bonum.” This was certainly the case in the words of Tom Sexton OSA in his homily at concelebrated Mass led by his other colleague in Kenya, Francis Aherne OSA. Tom emphasised his great enthusiasm in his ministry and apostolate in Ballyboden, Jos, and Nairobi. He pointed out how his extraordinary dedication to learning and teaching never excluded a great dedication to helping those in need.

Martin Nolan OSA, reiterated this in his own humours but sincere way at the concelebrated Mass later in the day, led by Gerry Horan OSA, at the Friary Church, Dungarvan.

The chief mourner, Michael Mason, brother, spoke eloquently of Denis’ (Tom) life in the family circle, which was represented by local relations from Cappoquin and further afield.

The burial prayers in the adjoining cemetery were led by John Kiely, Parish Priest of Cappoquin.

Denis was well known for arranging things, as he did immediately he was told of the short few months he had to live. He lived those few months to the full.

“Ni bheidh a leitheid ann aris.” Michael Leahy OSA Cork.

SOME COMMENTS:

Dear Fr. Pat,

Greetings and the peace of the risen Lord be with you. This afternoon, I got the shocking news of the passing of Glory of Fr. Denis Mason, OSA. I never thought he was going to leave so soon after the encounter in Rome last May.

He was cheerful and looking good despite his health condition. God’s ways are not ours.

I thank God for the privilege of concelebrating with him at Mass in St. Patrick during the Roman pilgrimage. May God grant eternal rest to his soul and reward him

infinitely for all the good works, the sacrifice and contributions he made in the growth of the Church in Nigeria. He will be remembered always for his outstanding exemplary life, dedication and commitment to teaching and pastoral ministries. May you find consolation in Christ’s victory over death. Be assured of prayers and Mass.

Edward Daleng OSA Rome

Sad news: Its really sad and shocking. May his gentle soul rest with the Lord. We continue to pray for the Augustinian family, especially his province. John Bogna (Bakeni)

I am saddened by the news of the passing away of Professor Denis Mason OSA. May he rest in perfect peace. I was delighted when I heard that he was in Rome after someone told us he was in bad shape. We thank God for that opportunity given him to come to Rome and participate at that Mass. May the Lord reward his labours among our people with eternal rest. I don’t know who is in Rome now. Please extend my sincere condolences to them. I will spread the message here among us his former students so that we will keep a Mass for him on a day I hear our alumni here will meet. All the very best. Cletus T.Gotan, (Vicar General of Archdiocese of Jos –student of Fr Denis and later became rector of St Augustine’s Major Seminary Jos after Fr Jim Downey).

It is indeed a sad news. May the soul of Professor Mason rest in peace. Amen. Fr Barkindo.

Professor Fr. Dennis Mason was a great priest, teacher and lover of wisdom in philosophy. May God richly bless him with eternal rest in his kingdom. I will offer masses for the eternal repose of his soul this week. May God console you too as an Augustinian and all the Augustinian family world wide, Amen.

Rev. Fr. Barnabas Sama’ila SHABAYANG
Pontificio Collegio San Pietro Apostolo, Roma

Thank you for sharing with me the sad news of the demise of the erudite scholar of Philosophy, Prof. T. Mason, who has succumbed to the way of all mortals. His death is a great shock to us knowing that he is still a valuable asset to future generations of would be priests. The time, talent and energy with which Prof. Mason gave to the tasks before him are unequalled and unparalleled. He will continue to live in the hearts and minds of all his students forever. May the Lord console the whole Augustinian community worldwide, who would definitely be heart broken, and to all of us who have been affected by the gift of this great priest of God.

May his soul rest in Peace.

Fr. Jonathan Yabiliyok - former student of Fr Denis.

Thanks again Pat for your patience and care. Congrats on the anniversary. The photo shows you are looking good, healthy and happy. Sad to learn of the death of Denis Mason who always challenged us. May his good works follow him. Tom Greally, Australia.



Born in Galway, Brother Nicholas spent his early years in Drogheda. It was there that he felt the call to become an Augustinian and so set out for Orlagh in 1947. He says he got his vocation after two years pumping the organ in the Augustinian Church loft for his aunty May, the organist. During his early years in the Order he had as formators, Father's Johnny Brown,

Dickie Coffey, Nicholas Duffner, Alympius Conway, and they made such an impression on him that he has continued to entertain his confreres and his many friends ever since with stories of what he suffered and enjoyed in those early years.

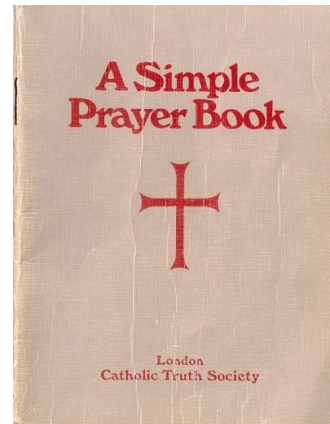
He has served the people of Grantstown, Clare Priory, Cork, Dublin and Galway for many years, with work in the Sacristy, in the Boys' Club, and above all for the missions. He was an untiring promoter of the missions. Brother Nicholas is gifted with a sharp wit and a wonderful sense of humour. His story-telling ability continue to brighten the breakfast, dinner and tea table with smiles and sometimes loud laughter. He can transform the events of his life, even when things were hard, with this humour, evoking chuckles in all who listen to him recount what happened to him in Cork, in Grantstown, in Galway, in Dublin and in other places.

Amongst Nicholas many initiatives, and indeed enterprises, was his establishment of the car draw in the sixties. This was in aid of our foreign missions, and it took courage, imagination, dedication and very hard work. Nicholas is no mere delegator but a hands on worker. However he is so gregarious that he never lacks friends and cooperators to help him. He even went to the Fairyhouse races to sell the tickets to the punters. On one occasion a detective demanded to see the licence for the car draw, which Nicholas did not have but acquired as soon as he could. The accusing detective became one of his best customers for all the raffles that followed.

Over 17 years Brother Nicholas raffled over 110 cars. These raffles not only drew in an amount of money for the missions, but was a very effective means of bringing the needs of the missions to the awareness of an ever larger circle of friends and supporters. Then this great work came to an end when he was appointed to Galway, where he looked after young people in need.

In recent years Brother Nicholas had come back to Dublin. You can't keep a good man down. Once again, as he approaches his eightieth birthday, he has, up and running, yet another car raffle, this time for a vintage Volkswagen, rebuilt with original brand new factory parts. He is claiming that this is Kearney's last stand. I just don't believe him.

Martin Nolan OSA John's Lane, Dublin.

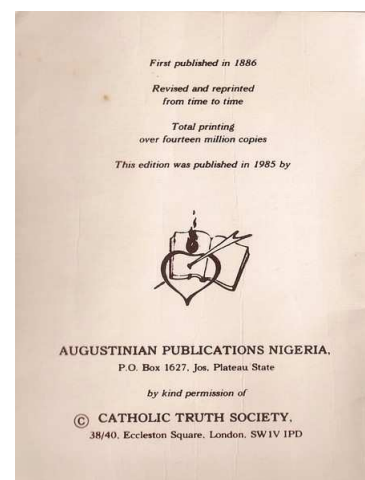


Recently I travelled with a group of pilgrims to San Giovanni. Some Friar told me to make sure I brought a book with prayers in it. So I put my hands on a booklet on my shelf. It was "A Simple Prayer Book," which has been published by Catholic Truth Society with over 14 million copies sold. What was different was that inside this cover I read that this edition was published in 1985 by Augustinian Publications Nigeria. I started reminiscing. Bro Cyril Counihan OSA, one night in our Monastery in Jos, said "How great it would be if we could get permission to print it."

I wrote to the publishers in London. On my way back from Nigeria I called in on them in Eccleston Square, London. I explained to the gentleman in charge how we could print the booklet out here much cheaper and distribute to a larger audience, but only in Nigeria. He explained that in the hundred years since they were founded they had never given such permission anywhere in the world. "But, as you are an Austin Friar, we give you the permission." He was an old boy of our school in Carlisle (or was it Elingham Hall or Bishop's Court?).

We got permission to change anything in it we needed to. The only change was a prayer for the Queen of England, which was changed into a prayer for Nigeria. It was a best seller in Nigeria, where we must have sold well over 100,000 copies.

Francis Aherne OSA Cork.



GOLF NOTICE
AUGUSTINIANS "PAST & PRESENT"
VINCENT LYONS CUP
RATHDOWNEY GOLF CLUB
AUGUST 23rd 12.00 – 1.00pm.

On Saturday night last, the Leinster U-14 A Football champions were presented with their medals at a function held in the college dining hall. Fr. Hennebry welcomed all the boys and their parents while team mentors Kevin Kehoe, Leigh O'Brien and Declan Wall introduced each player as he collected his medal. The team's feats were recalled anecdotally and through a photographic slide show.

5 students who each achieved international caps during the course of the year were also presented with awards in recognition of their outstanding achievement. Tadhg Furlong, Jack Allen, Nicholas Murphy, Jack Murphy and Luke Fitzgibbon represented Ireland in Rugby, Gymnastics, Badminton, Showjumping and Swimming respectively. To have 5 international athletes in 5 different disciplines attending the school at the same time is an incredible honour. We wish them all continued success.

Stop press! Make that 6 internationals! Eoin Power, 3CN, having won gold in the under 15, 100m hurdles in the Tailteann Games on Saturday last was today confirmed on the Irish Schools' team to compete in an international event in Scotland on July 17th. Well done to Eoin on his national title, achieved in a time of 13.7 seconds, a personal best, and best wishes to him in the Scottish event.

- Good Counsel College Newsletter

DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Please remember in your prayers the following members of the Irish Province who have gone home to God.

04 1988 Br A Murphy
06 1971 Fr JV Byrne
13 2005 Fr J Callaghan
14 1986 Fr C Hussey
16 1965 Fr P Doyle
18 1987 Fr TA Daly
19 1973 Fr J Phelan
19 1980 Fr T Hand
19 2003 Fr J Sheehan
22 2002 Fr M Cullen
24 1997 Fr C Ahern
26 1992 Fr J Grace
29 1997 Fr S Coffey
31 1965 Fr L Cotter
31 2003 Fr M Twomey

Please remember in your prayers Fr Denis (Tom) Mason OSA who died peacefully at Marymount Hospice, Cork on 16 July 2010. He was buried in St Augustine's Church grounds, Dungarvan.

NOTICE

Because of security problems, Giles O'Halloran OSA, John's Lane has had to change his e-mail address. His new e-mail is: michaelohalloran25@gmail.com

This year marks a milestone in the history of Augustinian presence in Drogheda. In the summer of 1860 - exactly 150 years ago - the foundation stone of the present Augustinian Church was laid and blessed. The exact spot is at the west corner facing Shop St (beside the Admiral's). As recorded at the time in The Drogheda Argus: "in a receptacle in the wall is a glass bottle containing an inscription giving the date of the laying of the foundation stone, the name of the reigning Pope Leo XIII, the Primate, Dr Dixon, some coins of the realm and a copy of the "Argus". Lord Bellew made a free gift of the site on which the church is built.

The prior of the Augustinian at the time and the man who undertook most of the work was a certain Fr Frank Doyle. He came to Drogheda in 1859 and remained here until his death in 1896. As the building of the church progressed Fr Doyle kept a record of events in a series of diaries which make for fascinating reading. As well as describing the work on the church Doyle also records many interesting happenings both locally and nationally. For example he notes the attempted Fenian rising in Drogheda in 1867, happenings in Drogheda Corporation, ecclesiastical intrigues and so on. In the coming months I hope to print some of these snippets from these diaries in an "Archives" series. Iggy O Donovan OSA, Prior, Drogheda.

THE MARIAN YEAR NOVICES (1954-55)

The Marian Year Novices are planning a get together. Most of us will be celebrating 50 years of Priesthood this year. (17th Dec.). Joe Walsh is back from Australia and returning there the end of August. It is hoped that we can get together for a shared Eucharist and a meal afterwards. Our dead brothers will be remembered during the Mass. It has been proposed that we meet on Monday 16th August (we joined on 15th), at the **Horse and Jockey Hotel**. We will have Mass a meal and stay the night in the Hotel. For those who travel by train to Thurles transport will be arranged. All Augustinians are welcome.

**Please let Jimmy Maguire know as soon as possible.
021 427 0410**

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK.

Welcome to Vol. 4 No 2. Thanks to all who have contributed to this edition of IAN. Special thanks to David Moran, Francis Aherne, John O'Connor and Peter Galus for their invaluable help, and to Colm O'Mahoney for photographs.

All past editions of IAN available on:
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