


IRISH AUGUSTINIAN NEWS



ONGOING FORMATION

**“As you go,
proclaim the
good news”**



**The Gospel and
the Land
FEB 24-26 2011**
with
Seamus O’Connell
and
Jonathan Kearney
Horse and Jockey Hotel
Thurles
Co. Tipperary

This course is open to Augustinians and to lay people who work with Augustinians in their various ministries.

The closing date for receiving applications is Friday 11th February 2011.

Cost: €120. This is a reduced cost, thanks to the generous subsidy from the Irish Provincial Council.

To reserve a place, send name, payment and contact details to Rev. Flor O’Callaghan OSA, Augustinian Friary, Lower Main St, Dungarvan, Co Waterford.

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Day of Suicide Awareness - Sunday 6th February 2011

I don't think there can be any Irish person whose life has not been touched in one way or another by suicide. This is a very difficult topic for those who have been touched by it. Every year we are encouraged to unite in solidarity with those who are the living victims of suicide. This year on Feb 6th there will be a special televised Mass from the Augustinian Church in Drogheda to mark the day of special awareness of suicide.

All those involved in Augustinian churches in Ireland are being invited to join on this day with the rest of the Irish Province of Augustinians in praying for those affected by suicide.

Why not do something in your local area? It can be something simple like shaping the prayers of the faithful to focus on this awful tragedy or it may be something more ambitious like inviting a speaker to talk at the Masses.

Whatever you decide to do please let us know so that we can encourage others to learn from your experience.

It would be lovely to think that this message might be taken up by Augustinians beyond our shores as this is a plague that affects life in every corner of the globe.

- Posidius www.augustinian.ie (youth ministry)



Where does one begin in sketching the life and ministry of Fr. Jackie Power O.S.A.?

A native of Dungarvan, he left his home-town in 1938, to join the Augustinian

Novitiate. An accomplished handballer and hurler, who by then had worn the Waterford jersey with pride, he now answered the call to serve God. Jackie was ready.

He spent the next seven years, the years of World War II, in Dublin, studying at U.C.D. and John's Lane. And then, after Ordination, headed for Good Counsel College, New Ross, as Dean and senior teacher of History and Religion. In 1949, he returned to U.C.D. where he completed his M.A. thesis on J.K.L., the Augustinian Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, who had been prominent in promoting the cause of Catholic Emancipation.

In Good Counsel College, Jackie's main ministry was in Education, at first as a teacher and then as Rector. On both he left his distinctive mark. In an era when corporal punishment was the norm, his style was respect for the pupil, and reasoned argument..... Small wonder, that when the present Administration set up a state-of-art facility in the school for Counselling, it was named after him.

A new phase in Fr. Jackie's ministry opened up when he was appointed to Galway. A good communicator, and fluent Gaelic speaker, he soon became a well-known figure on Merchant's Road, and the Docks, and was honoured by Bishop Brown to be selected as first parish priest for the area.

His talents as a preacher and communicator were still developing and soon he was in demand for Parish Missions, Retreats, and all-night Vigils. No journey was too long or too tiring. He knew how to pace himself, and his attitude was summed up in two words: NO PROBLEM.

You could say that these two words summarise his life, whether in Cork as Prior, in Fatima leading the Blue Army, or saying a Sunday Mass in Ballykelly. For Jackie always "No Problem".

Although never assigned to the Mission fields, he had a keen Missionary spirit, in promoting Mission Sales of Work, in leading pilgrimages to Rome, Cascia, Lourdes or Fatima, he led the pilgrims in prayer and song for the Missions. But it was in New Ross that Fr. Jackie has become a legend. For families in trouble, for the sick and the dying, he has always been available. In GAA circles he masterminded the resurrection of the Geraldine O'Hanrahans club, and the O'Kennedy Park has often heard him lead the National Anthem.

Educationalist, preacher, pastor, a man for all seasons. That's Fr. Jackie Power. A legend.

Columba O'Donnell OSA.



A little girl celebrates her "Quinceañera Mass" for her fifteenth birthday. The colour of the day is always pink. Note the little 'shoe-bearer'. The priest has to bless the shoes, a symbol of the road she is beginning. In the past the fiesta meant that she was ready for suitors!!

Coming to Mass with an entourage of fifteen boys and fifteen girls -- one for every year, plus a caballero, is a tradition here on a girl's fifteenth birthday and is called La fiesta Quinceañera. Some make a big splash out of it that would get on your nerves. One girl decided that she would come in glory after a wedding group had already marched up the aisle! She had to make her state entrance. The little one in the photo did not even have a photographer: Declan did the needful. Paul O'Connor OSA

ST AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE DUNGARVAN

Farewell to Mr. Liam O'Mahony

Mr. Liam O'Mahony (Maths & Science) has retired from teaching after 39 years of service to the profession. He started teaching in the Friary when the new school opened at Duckspool in 1972. Mr. O'Mahony is the longest serving staff member in St. Augustine's and will be missed by his students and colleagues. We wish him well in his retirement and hope that he has many fruitful years ahead.

OPEN DAY 2011 INVITATION

Our Open Day takes place on Saturday January 29th 2011. This is your opportunity to see the school and meet the students and staff. All prospective students are welcome. St. Augustine's College is proud of its history and has cared for and educated the young people of Dungarvan and Abbeyside since 1874. We have what you need for a bright future! Come and visit Waterford's top performing Coed School (Irish Times Dec. 2010).

GALWAY - NEWSLETTER

On Wednesday night next, we will launch this year's Week of Christian Unity with a Service of 'Healing and Hope' in St. Nicholas' Church. This new departure, instigated by Gary Hastings, is to be welcomed, and for various reasons.

Forty years ago, the Ecumenical Movement was endorsed and encouraged by all the main Churches. Indeed, in the early 1970s, Archbishop Michael Ramsey of Canterbury forecast that the Anglican and Catholic Churches would have achieved full union within ten years.

So the union of the Churches was but a matter of time. However, such optimism proved to be naive. The movement soon lost its momentum. The annual prayer gatherings are now painful exercises in tokenism. But fatigue is not the only factor undermining ecumenism. Changes of doctrine and discipline within the Anglican communion have made life difficult for ecumenists.

From Rome's point of view, the 'litany of woes' is extensive: women priests, openly gay priests and bishops, the recognition of same-sex unions as sacramental, and so on. Anglican traditionalists regard these developments with alarm also. There was a real danger that the Anglican Church would fragment.

But the cavalry arrived from unexpected quarters. *"Rome goes fishing in Anglican pond"* proclaimed one headline. The Holy See decided to facilitate those Anglicans who wished to join Rome 'en masse'. They will be permitted to retain their own liturgical, spiritual, and pastoral traditions within Catholicism.

In effect, they will become 'a Church within a Church'. The only discernible change for them will be their recognition of the primacy of the Pope. In all other aspects of Church life, they will continue as they were. Romans will argue that the Holy See is not fishing for Anglicans. Rather, Anglicans came knocking at the door and Rome obliged by opening it!

Some accuse Rome of changing the rules. In the pre-Vatican II days, 'Church Unity' was a one-way-street: Protestants were encouraged to 'come home to Rome'. After Vatican II however, a new-found mutual respect emerged. Certainly, differences exist, some serious enough to be considered obstacles to full communion. Nevertheless, *"it remains true that all who have been justified by faith in baptism are members of Christ's body, and are correctly accepted as brothers and sisters by the children of the Catholic Church."*

With this understanding, the Catholic Church committed itself to defining its relationship with other Christian communities not as a matter of full unity or no communion, but as a distinction between full and incomplete communion. Is it possible that recent developments represent a return to the old 'Come home to Rome' policy of pre-Vatican II days? Rome will quickly point out that it was the Anglicans who made the first move. If ecumenism hasn't been damaged by this move, it has certainly been complicated. Dick Lyng OSA.

GOOD

COUNSEL

COLLEGE



The ski group on Loon Mountain with Mr. Coffey

The annual ski trip took place over the Christmas holidays, and by all accounts was a huge success. The group travelled to Loon and Cannon Mountains in Lincoln, New Hampshire, USA, where groups from Good Counsel have visited for the past number of years and reports received here suggest the boys enjoyed a great week, proved highly proficient at skiing and were excellent ambassadors for the school. Well done to them and to the teachers who travelled with them, especially Mr Teague, chief organiser.

6th year student, Seamus Sutton, travelled to the National Library of Ireland on Friday to compete in the All Ireland final of the Poetry Aloud, poetry reading competition. Reading from the works of Siegfried Sassoon, Paula Meehan, Wilfred Owen and W.B. Yeats. Seamus made it to the final eight, a considerable achievement given the huge entry nationally. Well done to him and thanks to his English teacher, Ms Cushen, for her work and support.

VOCATION DRIVE 2011



At the Vocation Promotion Team meeting; Bro Colm O'Mahony, Francis Aherne, Gerry Horan, Pat Moran, Niall Coghlan and Noel Hession.

Brothers, the time for talking is past and the time for action has arrived. Our average age is increasing, our numbers are decreasing and, unless serious action is taken now, the Irish Province of the Order is on the road to extinction.

Thanks be to God for the enthusiasm with which the current Vocations initiative has been greeted. Thanks to those who have agreed to form the Vocations Drive Core Group (N. Coghlan, P. Moran, F. Aherne, G. O'Halloran, N. Hession). The next meeting of the group will take place in Dublin on Monday, February 21st, when progress to date will be reviewed and a short-term strategy to the Mid-Chapter agreed.

All of us are called to be promoters of vocations. Please contact any member of the Core Group before February 21st with suggestions which might benefit the crusade.

Gerry Horan OSA, Chairman of Vocation Drive Team.

DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

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

- 01 1971 Fr K. O'Flynn
- 02 2004 Fr P. Killian
- 04 1961 Fr N. Fitzhenry
- 04 1990 Fr H. Sheehy
- 09 1969 Fr T. Hoyne
- 11 1969 Fr T.L. McCabe
- 12 2006 Fr L. Lyons
- 13 2007 Fr F. O'Shaughnessy
- 13 2000 Fr F.X. Martin
- 16 1982 Fr L. Meagher
- 18 1982 Fr C. Roche
- 20 2006 Fr B. Baldwin
- 25 1989 Fr J. Anderson
- 26 2004 Fr P. Tinney
- 27 1995 Fr D. Treacy
- 29 1960 Fr P.G. Byrne
- 29 1992 Fr T. Cooney

Please remember in your prayers Fr Charlie O'Reilly OSA who died in John's Lane 19.1.11 and was buried in Glasnevin Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

VOCATION CORNER

Dungarvan: Flor O'Callaghan OSA has set up a new webpage for St Augustine's, Dungarvan (town house). Do have a browse: www.thefriarydungarvan.ie Have a look at "Vocations" - Becoming an Augustinian. Flor also says: have a look at the www.augustinian.org website and click 'what we do' and open the video on the right hand side called God's footsoldiers. It is brilliant, from the Villanova Province. What about something like that for here?

Cork: Pat Moran has used Flor's ideas and script to form the basis for a local Cork Vocation Flyer. It's just A4 page folded in three. See www.staugustinescork.ie (Augustinian Vocation Drive Jan – June 2011). Francis Aherne is working on some large posters and a "Kind of Business card" with contact details of Vocation Director and Promoters.

Limerick: Frank Sexton was on his way back to Limerick from a holiday in West Cork. He took away a copy of the Cork Vocation Flyer and is going to adapt it for Limerick.

New Ross: Pat Codd OSA has been in touch and on receiving a "Draft Copy" of Vocation Flyer, made a few observations and little adjustments that have now been taken on board and The "Flyer" is with the printer. Pat also suggests that other houses might like to print and distribute copies with changes to suit their own place.

John's Lane: Bro Giles OSA together with Noel Hession OSA, has been working on up grading the Vocation Pages in the Augustinian website. Browse:

www.augustinians.ie and if you see need for updating any information, contact Giles – michaelohalloran25@gmail.com

Francis Aherne from the Cork group, has been invited by Tony Egan OSA to preach at weekend Masses in mid February.

Ballyboden: John Lyng OSA has asked Francis Aherne again to preach on Vocations some weekend later on in the month of February.

Fethard: Martin Crean OSA is working on a Vocation Day in upcoming Triduum.

Other Houses coming on Board?

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK.

Welcome to Vol. 4 No 8. Thanks to all who have contributed to this February edition of IAN. Special thanks to David Moran, Francis Aherne, John O'Connor for their invaluable help, and to Paul O'Connor and Philip Kelly for photos. All past editions of IAN available on: Cork Web page: www.staugustinescork.ie

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