

IRISH AUGUSTINIAN NEWS

MISSION GATHERING



Bishop Michael Campbell OSA, Bishop Louis O'Donnell OSA, Gerry Horan OSA, Provincial, Bishop Francis Sheehan OSA and Franz Klein OSA, Assistant General.

"The Mass last evening was a celebration of the courage, bravery, sweat and wonderfully fulfilling years that we were privileged to experience in Nigeria, Ecuador or Kenya". That was in an e-mail which arrived today from one of our lay missionary volunteers. On the evening of July 4th, 65 of us came together in John's Lane for a celebration, by the Province, for its missionaries and those who worked with them. So, a sizable number of Sisters, Brothers and Laity were in attendance.

Gerry Horan was the main celebrant flanked by Bishops Sheehan, O'Donnell, Campbell and the Assistant General Franz Klein. The Mass began with Ray Hickey giving a very well researched and interesting paper on the history of our missions. A copy was given to all present, plus a page with the names of all OSA who have served in Ecuador, Kenya and Nigeria. And the length of their stay.

Congratulations to the John's Lane community. They did us proud. From the guidance and promptings of Tony and Pius, Peter leading the singing with great voice, the background arrangements by Giles, the Mass brochure by Noel, it had to be a very joyous occasion.

During the Mass a few letters of those who would have liked to attend, but were unable to, were read out. Of particular interest were those of Columba Heffernan and Pepe (a Spanish OSA, now living in La Vid, who spent 10 years with us in Yola).

Tributes were paid to Michael O'Sullivan and Nicholas Kearney - both present - for looking after our missionary needs over the past years. And to all who served on the missions, those others who worked with and for us, and all those at home who helped us by their prayers and contributions.



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We got together after Mass and re-lived old times. There was Sr. Finbarr FMDM. Don't ask her age. And Sr. Philomena, the Mercy Sister from Dungarvan. And John Moore and his sister-in-law Claire. Tadgh Crowley graced the occasion as did Catherine Jensen and Breda Boyle. Presentation Sisters and some nurses who helped in Chone. Yea. Great people. Nostalgic was the word.

Afterwards we all adjourned to the Aisling hotel, where again Giles had everything under control and many memories were re-lived, laughs abounded. Thanks to all who came, and to those who did all the homework on our behalf to make it such a memorable occasion.

Francis Aherne O.S.A.



Peter Haughey OSA, Sr. Philomena RSM, Sr. Patricia RSM, Ray Hickey OSA and Sr. Kathleen Lynch FMDM

FRIARY CHOIR DUNGARVAN EXCELS

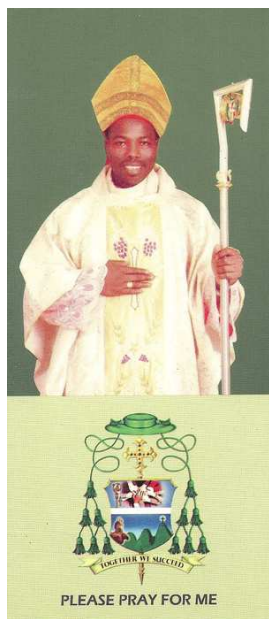
"For those of us who made it to the 11 o'clock Mass in the Friary Church last Sunday there was to be a memorable treat in store.

The Friary Choir, which traditionally performs at this particular Sunday Mass, this time sang an all new Mass composed by the choir's own Musical Director Michael Casey which he has dedicated to his late parents John Joe and Ester Casey of St Garvan's Terrace.

It truly was the most memorable of occasions and no words of praise are too generous for this wonderfully talented choir and it's equally and gifted Musical Director."

(- Munster Express 10.06.2011)

THE FOURTH BISHOP OF YOLA



Yola is associated with the Augustinians in Nigeria in much the same way as Kiltegan is to St Patrick's Missionary Society and Killeshandra to the Holy Rosary Sisters. Further afield we have the examples of Verona for the Comboni missionaries and Lyons for the SMA. It was to Yola that we were called when the Province applied for a "mission field" in 1936, and to Yola that Frs Dalton, Broder and J.B. Power made their way in January 1940. No wonder, therefore, that the ordination of a new bishop for Yola attracted more than 20 Augustinians, from all over Nigeria, on Thursday, 7th April.

The Diocese of Yola had given three of her diocesan clergy to be bishops of other dioceses. Two of them, Ignatius Kaigama and Matthew Ndagoso, were subsequently called upon to guide the archdioceses of Jos and Kaduna, while the third, Charles Hammawa, was ordained Bishop of Jalingo in 2008. Now it was Maiduguri's turn, as Fr Stephen Dami Mamza, a Margi from Bazza (to be exact, Biang), was ordained for Yola Diocese and took up the challenge to build on the work of Bishops Dalton, Sheehan and Abba.

It was a glorious occasion, celebrated inside St Theresa's Cathedral in Jimeta, and attended by 24 bishops, over 200 priests, the Augustinian Sisters from Shuwa and Jalingo, and members of our Third Order (with their Prior General, and resplendent in their habits). There were so many present – 'twas like leaving the old Croke Park after an All-Ireland final! – that I could not even meet Colin Fives and Michael Walsh afterwards. There were also two priests from Ireland among the concelebrants, one sent by Diarmuid Martin to represent him at the ordination, the other the Parish Priest of Ballinteer, where the new bishop had served while on study leave in Dublin. The ubiquitous Julie Doran (OLA) was also there, as was a lady from Ballinteer parish. It was a joy to be back and to meet some old hands, who have served in Yola for many years, in particular Sr Celsus FMDM and Sister of Mercy Maire McGann.

The Papal Nuncio, who was baptised Augustine in his native Uganda and who served the Church in Algeria for some seven years, was the principal celebrant. He was flanked at the altar by the bishops of Maiduguri and Jalingo, thereby showing the common background of the three dioceses. Archbishop Matthew Ndagoso of Kaduna gave the homily and, as on other occasions, he was lavish in his praise of the Augustinian missionaries. Bishop Stephen performed in style and with confidence, belying his youth (he is just 41 years old) and giving solid hope for the future. And his mother, Mary Dami – the first to embrace him, must have been the happiest Mum in the world. What a day it was for Bazza...mmm, sorry, Biang!

Raymond Hickey OSA, Abuja, Nigeria.

PROVINCIAL INTERMEDIATE CHAPTER



Bro Colm O'Mahony OSA Deacon, and Gerry Horan OSA, Provincial

Our Provincial Intermediate Chapter was celebrated during the last week of June, from Sun. 26th to Friday 30th in Ballyvaloo, Co Wexford.

The location was very well chosen, and we all appreciated the wonderful facilities provided by the Sister's of St John of God at their Retreat Centre. Even the weather lived up to the reputation of the "Sunny South East."

At this stage you may very well ask what is a Provincial Intermediate Chapter all about? It is a special time for the Augustinian Friars to meet and discuss our living and working together in the Order, for the glory of God and his Church.

To facilitate the maximum participation of the Friars in our discussions, it was agreed on this occasion to have two identical sessions – each having the same agenda. Attendance was open to all members of the Province.

"Our main concern for the future can only be meaningful and successful to the extent that it is guided by some sense of vision and mission." This was the challenge put before us by our Provincial, Fr Gerry Horan, in his opening address. I recall another of Fr Gerry's exhortations "The living and the preaching of the Gospel has to be our first priority and whatever action we take must be taken in order to honour that priority." The coming two years will be very interesting, with much reflection and hopefully action, in respect of the future."

Our sharing of ideas was excellent over the week, and please God we will go forward with courage and hope in our hearts. We are only too aware of the problems facing the Church here in Ireland at present. This realization calls for much generosity and good management from all of us in the years ahead. Sean Dowling OSA, Cork.



Fr Peter Haughey OSA

ST COLUMCILLE'S WELL 2011



By a strange coincidence the first meeting of the committee to organize the annual Ecumenical Service at St. Columcille's Well in Ballycullen was scheduled for May 10th, the day Brother Columba died. When the committee met that evening all wanted Columba's many years of dedication to the well to be acknowledged. It was decided to erect a memorial to him at the well. Pentecost

Sunday was the Sunday closest to the feast of St. Columcille, and the day of the service. Bright sunny days preceded and followed that day, but the Sunday itself was marked by persistent steady rain. Despite that, about seventy people were present in the wet field adjacent to the well, including Columba's sister Rita, with other family members, friends of Columba, some local clergy and Horace McKinley, rector of Whitechurch Church of Ireland parish. We sang lustily to cheer ourselves up in the rain. Kieran O'Mahony remembered Columba in the context of the theme of the day "Celebrating the Gifts of the Spirit". At the end of the service John Byrne blessed the memorial stone. A leaflet commemorating Columba was distributed to all present. A copy is attached. John Byrne OSA, Orlagh.

During his time in Orlagh, Columba took a great interest in the Well at which his namesake, St Columba, is remembered. His interest was translated into practical action in a number of ways.

He wrote a book about the Well and its history. He revived and promoted the annual pilgrimage and ecumenical service at the well in June. For this he gathered people from local parishes to form a committee to prepare the service each year.

He also took on the care of the Well and its surroundings. In later years, as his physical health deteriorated, his role in this was overseer. He showed great interest in every detail of improvement. This made Columba, Paddy and his helpers a very effective team. To them we offer our thanks.

John Byrne OSA, Orlagh.



ZING NIGERIA

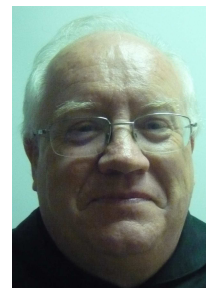
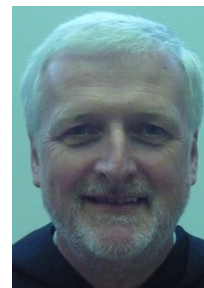
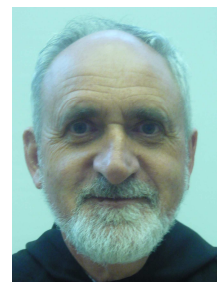
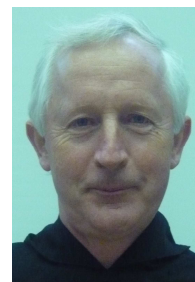


We are two priests here in Zing: Fr Christopher S Patrick OSA who was ordained a year ago. And yours truly. Michael Walsh OSA. In 2010 we had 558 baptisms, of whom 98 were RCIA. 181 First Communions and 60 Confirmations. Confirmations were (a) mature adults who came to the end of the catechumenate, (b) adults who

are about to be married and (c) others who were very sick or near death. In the parish there are 19 centres where Mass is celebrated regularly. This includes the Parish Centre and the Carmelites where Mass is celebrated daily. The others receive Mass about once every three weeks. Our various grades of catechist number 26. I have put the Catholic population at about 7,000. Financial support includes the Sunday collection in every church of the parish whether the priest, and Mass, is there that Sunday or not. It also includes the annual harvest thanksgiving and bazaar from each church, an annual poll tax on each youth and adult as well as income from stole fees. Mass stipends go to the Order in Jos. In the Diocese of Jalingo, Zing St Thomas is moderately well off. In OSA-Nigeria, Zing is one of the poorest. However, there is another contribution the parish is making: the parish continues to be a source of vocations to the priesthood. In June/July 2011 there are three deacons to be ordained priests who were born and grew up in the parish. There are several young men in training for the priesthood. Very few Sisters, however.

CONGRATULATIONS 35 YEARS ORDAINED to

- Flor O'Callaghan, Tony Finn, Kieran O'Mahony and Paddy O'Reilly who celebrated on 27.06 2011



SPEEDY RECOVERY

We wish Bro Paddy Lennon OSA a speedy recovery from a recent heart operation. One of his school athletes, Kate Veale won the Gold medal in the 5,000m walk at the World Championships in Lille, France 08.07.2011



Fr Jackie Power OSA celebrating his 90th birthday in Ballyboden, with his sister Rita, Niece Anne and her husband John Mullins. Also in photo John Lyng, Michael O'Sullivan and Padraig Daly.



At Timmy Walsh's month's mind Mass in Fethard



Father Pat, I was pleased to read that you are back in circulation once more and all is well thank God. Your production is a real gem. Thank you for your postal copy. My computer plays up a lot and cannot be trusted to do the job. I would be grateful if you post future copies to the following address: Tim O'Donovan, 18 Grosvenor Court, 1 Rosemary Road, Clacton on Sea, CO15 1NY. ESSEX

Dear Fr Pat, just had an e-mail from Dermot Kavanagh, Toby's son advising me of the date for the Brosnan and Toby Kavanagh Cups at New Ross Golf club on Friday the 19th of August 2011. Please put him on your mailing list for IAN. His e-mail address is kdermot47@yahoo.com.

His home telephone number is 051-423852 and his mobile is 0851043761. I sent him the April copy of Ian which had your new e-mail address. Hope everything is well with you. God bless your work with Ian.

David Egan 1947 to 1952.

Vincent Lyons perpetual trophy.

Last year, for the second time ever, I was very happy to play in this competition held in Rathdowney. When it was over, I noticed a tinge of relief - even happiness - on the face of the previous winner, Ben O'Brien. Now I think I know why. The winner has to organise the following year's competition. So please. Come and relieve me, like I relieved Ben.

All OSA are invited to Rathdowney, on the Tuesday before St. Augustine's day (23rd August). We have tee-off times for an hour from midday and a meal will follow. All just for €30. Invite any golfing friends as well. They also can win a prize. It's not far from any of us. So, come and experience the alluring sands, gushing streams, beckoning forests of Co. Laois. Francis Aherne OSA



Please pray for Fr Nick O'Brien OSA who died 26.06.2011 and was buried in Glasnevin Cemetery.

DURING THE MONTH OF JULY

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

- 07 2000 Fr B Delaney
- 14 1966 Br J Caples
- 14 1990 Fr A Kennedy
- 15 1980 Fr F Madden
- 16 2002 Fr D Brosnan
- 16 2010 Fr D Mason
- 19 1962 Fr P Donegan
- 20 1989 Fr T Butler
- 21 1968 Fr P J Bolger
- 21 1987 Fr B Power
- 22 1992 Fr C Kehoe
- 22 2002 Fr CN McCarthy
- 27 1996 Br G Flatley

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK.

Welcome to Vol. 5 No. 1 Thanks to all who have contributed to this edition of IAN. Special thanks to Peter Galus, David Moran, Francis Aherne, John O'Connor for their invaluable help, and to Noel Keane and John Byrne for photos.

All past editions of IAN available on: Cork Web page: www.staugustinescork.ie

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