

IRISH AUGUSTINIAN NEWS

Jubilee of Pius Joe Kirwan OSA

It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge the recent Golden Jubilee of Pius Joe Kirwan OSA. Joe was born in Drogheda in 1941, one of eleven boys. He entered the Novitiate in 1958. After completing his formation years in Orlagh and Ballyboden, he was simply professed in 1961. His first appointment was to Limerick as Sacristan where he spent ten very productive years. He was solemnly professed in Limerick in 1963. In 1970 he was appointed to John's Lane as assistant Sacristan to the renowned Bro. Joseph O'Sullivan.

Pius, as he is known to all his confreres, is noted for his willingness to adapt to all situations, no matter how tedious or difficult. His kind personality and unassuming manner with people in the sacristy has won him many friends and benefactors. For many years Pius has organised a very successful trip to Lourdes with pilgrims coming from all over Dublin. Despite the many years of pressure and hard work he can boast, 'not one grey hair on his head'.

May he have many more years of service to the Order through his service to the People of God. If you have a bequest do, "talk to Joe". Ad multos annos. Bro. Nicholas Kearney OSA., President of the College of Brothers.



Bro Pius with his brothers



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Gerry Horan, principal celebrant



Bishop Sheehan, Bro Pius and Bishop O'Donnell



Fr Tony Egan, Bro Pius and Gerry Horan



CELEBRATING VATICAN II

October 11th was the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. To mark the occasion we invited our Sunday

Mass congregation in Orlagh to watch the Radharc film (*Vatican II—A council in the likeness of Pope John*) made to mark the Silver Jubilee of the Council. Thirty people watched the film and exchanged reactions afterwards. There was an animated discussion. The film evoked a variety of responses. Some remembered the enthusiasm the Council generated. Others were sad that some of the reforms had not been implemented. Quite a number said they would like to look again at key council documents and the outcome was that we decided to study two council documents over the coming months. The ones chosen were *Dei Verbum* (Revelation) and *Gaudium et Spes* (The Church in the Modern World). We are starting with *Dei Verbum* on November 18th.

That Radharc film is worth watching and is thought-provoking in the light of our current situation in the Church. It can be ordered online from the Radharc Office. (€30)

ST AUGUSTINE'S CORK



Left to Right: Brendan McDonnell, Sean Dowling, Peter Galus Polish Chaplain, Michael Leahy, Pat Moran, Francis Aherne and Jimmy Maguire.

On Friday last 26 October Fr Michael Leahy OSA, celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of his Ordination. He was ordained in the Leonine College, Rome by Archbishop Confaloniere, Secretary, Congregation of the Clergy, on 26.10.1952. Mick is still an active and valued member of the Cork Community.

We marked the occasion with a Concelebrated Mass at 11.00am, and later that evening we joined him in

IL PADRINO Italian Restaurant for dinner.

Ad Multos Annos.

An Interesting link received from Fr Robert Billing, Secretary, Bishop Michael Campbell OSA: Read the Catechism in a Year

For this **Year of Faith**, Pope Benedict has encouraged us to study and reflect on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Well, here's an easy and free way to do it. Go to:

<http://www.flocknote.com/catechism>

and simply enter your email address and - starting October 11, 2012 - you'll start getting a little bit of the Catechism emailed to your inbox every morning. Read that little bit every day and you'll read the whole *Catechism* in a year.

The Rev Robert Billing, BD (Hons), STL

Bishop's Secretary & Secretary to the Diocesan Trustees

Diocesan Coordinator for the Year of Faith

Diocesan Communications Officer & Diocesan Website Administrator

The Catholic Diocese of Lancaster

Bishop's Office

The Pastoral Centre

Balmoral Road

LANCASTER

LA1 3BT

01524 596050

robertbilling@yahoo.co.uk

I wish to let you know that our **Year of Faith** section of the Lancaster diocesan website has been developed recently and will be added to over the next few weeks.

http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Groups/187799/The_Diocese_of/The_Catholic_Faith/The_Year_of/The_Year_of.aspx

This section is divided into various subsections, which I hope you will find both interesting and informative.

Within the **Year of Faith** area there are practical suggestions, ideas and resources to mark the Year:

- as **Parishes**:
http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Groups/200328/The_Diocese_of/The_Catholic_Faith/The_Year_of/What_we_can/What_we_can.aspx
- we can do as **Families**: http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Groups/200329/The_Diocese_of/The_Catholic_Faith/The_Year_of/What_we_can/What_we_can.aspx
- and as **Individuals**:
http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Groups/200330/The_Diocese_of/The_Catholic_Faith/The_Year_of/What_we_can/What_we_can.aspx
- In **Schools and Colleges** - lots of things:
http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Groups/201196/The_Diocese_of/The_Catholic_Faith/The_Year_of/Ideas_and_Resources/Ideas_and_Resources.aspx

There are also details of 2 series of **Talks in the Diocese on the Second Vatican Council**:

http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Groups/203397/The_Diocese_of/The_Catholic_Faith/The_Year_of/Vatican_II_Talks/Vatican_II_Talks.aspx

Personal Prayer Intentions for the Year are to be found at:

http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Groups/201889/The_Diocese_of/The_Catholic_Faith/The_Year_of/General_Resources_and/Prayer_Intentions_for/Prayer_Intentions_for.aspx

All good wishes,

The Rev Robert Billing, BD (Hons), STL

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Seventy Five years of Augustinians on the Coast of Ecuador

On Monday the 15th of October The Augustinians celebrated seventy five years of Augustinian presence in Chone, Manabí, Ecuador and thirty five years of Irish Augustinians in the same country. The Archbishop of Portoviejo for Manabí was the principal celebrant at the commemorative Mass, aided by the Ecuadorian Provincial, Patricio Villalva and Fr. Ted McCarthy.

Practically all the diocesan priests serving in the Chone Zone attended and the church was full with people who have been our helpers and pastoral agents during the years. (Ted McCarthy was able to greet them all by name!).

Fr. Carlos Julio Urbino, O.S.A. invited the whole congregation to dine in the Augustinian residence in Tacheve where many people gave glowing reports of the Augustinian presence in the area.

Fr. Amable O.S.A. gave a brief account of the history of the seventy five years, remembering all the Quito Augustinians who worked in the area when there were not even roads in the county. However most of his talk dealt with the Irish Augustinians simply because we have been the most recent and more easily remembered group.

Those who have served in the Santa Rita parish would hardly recognise the church which has been totally 'made-over' and definitely has an Augustinian flavour with statues and paintings of our saints covering every possible wall.

This renovation was the brain-child of Padre Pedro, the previous parish priest. A rather unusual detail which can be seen on the right hand side of the 'interior' picture is of the ambo, which is made of statues of the four evangelists side by side.

There were photos of a young John Grace and a young Kevin McManus among the memorabilia and just as the church ceremony came to a close Fr. Chris Fitzgerald sent his greetings by phone to the celebrating congregation.



Fr. Patricio Villalva (provincial); Mons. Lorenzo Voltolini (Archbishop),
Frs. Paul O'Connor, Ted McCarthy and Declan Brennan

Toronto cardinal 'becoming a parish priest' as honorary pastor in Rome



Cardinal Thomas Collins of Toronto leaves the sacristy to celebrate Mass as he takes possession of his titular church of St. Patrick in Rome Oct. 23. - CNS photo/Paul Haring

ROME - Cardinal Thomas Collins of Toronto took possession of his titular church Oct. 23, celebrating an evening Mass at St. Patrick's Church in Rome. "Now, after 40 years of ordination to the priesthood, I am, in a certain sense, becoming a parish priest," the cardinal said in his homily.

Cardinal Collins, who became a cardinal in February, was assigned to be honorary pastor of the Irish national church in Rome, which is entrusted to the Augustinian Order. All cardinals are given honorary titles to a church in Rome, as a reminder that the early popes were elected by the city's pastors.

"Although a cardinal relates to the universal church, he is also a parish priest, and that's something very, very beautiful," the cardinal told the congregation, which included pilgrims from Toronto and his former Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alberta, as well as Anne Leahy, Canada's ambassador to the Vatican. The church is universal and the church is always local, like concave and convex, the universal and local," he said. "Those two must go together." The cardinal concelebrated with about 20 priests, including Archbishops Gerald Lacroix of Quebec, Gerard Pettipas of Grouard-McLennan, Alberta, and Richard Smith of Edmonton, president of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops; and Bishop Lionel Gendron of Saint-Jean-Longueuil, Quebec.

"As Christians, we need to be solid as a community of faith in building the temple of the Lord," the cardinal said. "But it's not enough to be stable, solid, joined together. If we were only to do that, we would miss the point of who we are." "We need to have that fire, that zeal for evangelization," he said, pointing to the example of St. Patrick, the apostle of Ireland. "We are called to spread that life, that light, that fire, and kindle fire in the hearts of others."

Wake up and smell the Incense Stick



The Orlagh Community team and Sunday Mass group decided again to volunteer to take part in the Mind, Body and Spirit Festival held in the RDS on the bank-holiday weekend, October 27th-29th 2012. As our programme runs from September to June we thought it would be better to be a presence at the October event rather than the one we attended earlier this year during the St. Patrick's weekend.

The advertising for these festivals – which are held all over the world – say that this is an opportunity to “expand your mental, emotional, physical and spiritual horizons”. It is they say “opportunity to discover more about the world of spiritual and holistic healing and self-development”.

The show features over 75 workshops/lectures on alternative subjects and healing practices. It may seem strange that an Augustinian Catholic retreat centre wanted to be among the 150 stalls with exhibitors who were offering all kinds of alternative healing therapies from reiki to raw food, crystals to NLP, angels (in great numbers), to yoga and dance classes not to mention psychic, tarot, palm or aura readings.

Indeed, many came to our stall and asked “Are you Catholic”? We answered in the affirmative, of course, and went on to explain that it is our belief that in our Christian tradition and in the message of the gospel we possess a message of healing and wholeness. Some were surprised as we spoke about mindfulness and Christian meditation and how much we wanted to promote an awareness of the power of the word of God to transform our lives.

Undoubtedly, some of the “therapies” on offer could be, in my opinion and I think generally agreed by the Orlagh group, damaging for people but it must be said that the whole thrust of the event is to help people to move, to become, not to be stuck in some unhappy situation but to achieve inner happiness and harmony in their lives. They may not be consciously aware of the need for God but as Paul Graham pointed out in his recent article in The Tablet, secularism is not nearly as widespread as we might think. The language or the spirituality of the other exhibitors at the Mind, Body, Spirit Festival may be somewhat different from our own but we also want people to know that they have been invited to the feast, to the banquet and to that fullness of life which Jesus wishes for us. If Jesus were around today I think he might well find himself at a Mind, Body and Spirit Festival.

Bernadette Toal, Orlagh Team Member.

DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

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

03 1985 Br J Hodson
03 1971 Fr EC Madden
04 1979 Fr P Cummins
05 1991 Fr A Berrill
06 1990 Fr J Buckley
08 1978 Fr P Foley
11 2009 Fr H Leahy
13 1991 Fr TA McCarthy
15 1977 Fr T Conlon
19 2003 Fr PA O'Mahony
20 2002 Fr J Cosgrave
26 1976 Fr D Geary
27 1992 Fr F Leddin
27 1978 Fr W Wallace
29 1969 Bp P Dalton
29 1995 Fr D Whelton
30 1984 Fr D Loughran

KADUNA BOMB BLAST



On Sunday, 28 October, 2012, there was a bomb blast in St Rita's Catholic Church, an outstation in Kaduna. Four people, plus the suicide bomber died and about a hundred were injured. Fr Michael Boni OSA was presiding at the Mass, and was slightly injured. Francis Aherne built the Church and opened the parish of St Monica's. He says “the church was built on a slope and the side of the church that the suicide bomber tried to go through had a two foot concrete raised foundation which he hit and the bomb went off outside the church.” Burial Mass has been arranged for the victims, in St Rita's Church 8 November.

- info from Ray Hickey, Kanu Ikechukwu Anthony OSA, Province Secretary, Nigeria and Francis Aherne OSA, Cork

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK.

Welcome to Vol. 6 No. 5. Thanks to all who have contributed to this edition. Special thanks to Peter Galus, David Moran, Francis Aherne, John O'Connor, for their invaluable help with this issue, and to John Byrne, Tony Finn, Ray Hickey and Paul O'Connor for photos.

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

Note new e-mail address: pmoran404@gmail.com

Pat Moran OSA, Editor, St Augustine's Priory, Washington St, Cork. **Old E-mail: sacw@iol.ie**

Tel. 021 427 04 10. 087 235 25 82