

# IRISH AUGUSTINIAN NEWS

## TRIP TO ITALY

A few weeks ago fifteen young people from our church in Cork joined other young people from Augustinian houses and parishes from all over Ireland to travel on the pilgrimage to Italy following the footsteps of St Augustine.

The pilgrimage began in Milan from where St Augustine led us to Pavia, where his tomb is. Next day we visited San Gimignano and we joined the enclosed nuns in Lecceto for evening Mass and where we could listen to the full of spirit vespers sang by them.

The following day we started with St Nicholas. We visited his shrine and celebrated the Eucharist in the little chapel where his tomb is. After that we spent all afternoon in Assisi, the town of St Francis and St Clare.

Next step of our Augustinian pilgrimage was lovely town of Montefalco, where we visit the cloistered nuns and the tomb of St Clare of Montefalco, who was a famous Augustinian Mystic. Her preserved heart is said to contain forms of the instruments used in the passion of Christ.

The following evening we spent in Cascia where St Rita had spent her life and where we could see her tomb in the beautiful Basilica on the top of the hill. The views were very picturesque and the atmosphere of that little town was very peaceful and calming.

The last stop of our pilgrimage was Rome, where we visited Irish national church of St Patrick and we celebrated the last Eucharist in the international house of studies of the Augustinians called Collegio Santa Monica, which is located just next to St Peter Basilica in Rome.

During these few days we had a great time full of joy and prayer. Together we could discover different places and could now attach the history to almost all the pictures or statues of saints in our local church in Cork. From now on these saints will have much deeper meaning for us. We have also been able to get to know more about the teaching and preaching of St Augustine. These days together enriched us with the power of friendship, strength of prayer, and the amazement of believing in God.

Malgorzata Wiecek



## Vol. 2 No 6 DECEMBER 2008

The Augustinian Province Youth Ministry organised a pilgrimage which visited places of significant Augustinian interest in Italy. The pilgrimage ran from 27<sup>th</sup> of October to 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2008. This event was organised so that friars and young people could spend time together sharing their journeys and reflecting on Augustinian heritage and spirituality. 43 people travelled; representing New Ross, Galway, Cork, Ballyboden and Drogheda.

We visited the tomb of St. Augustine at Pavia and also the site of his baptism in Milan. From there we called to the community in San Gimignano where there is a centre of Augustinian studies. Our time with the cloistered Augustinian nuns in Lecceto was a wonderful experience and from there we visited the two great Augustinian saints; Nicholas of Tolentine and Clare of Montefalco.

We continued to Cascia where, as well as taking care of our religious obligations we also took time out for a party in which we enjoyed the wonderful musical talents of all those who travelled with us. Our last day was spent in Rome where we enjoyed the hospitality of both St. Patrick's and St. Monica's.

We returned exhausted but enthused by the fact that we had so much in common. In Rome the Provincial of the Irish Province invited the young people to present him with a plan relating to what might be possible to achieve at local level. Many thanks to everyone involved. Noel Hession OSA



## OSA RENEWAL AT HORSE & JOCKEY



Just over 40 people, Augustinian Friars and several of our lay associates from around Ireland gathered in Co. Tipperary for the weekend of November 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>. The occasion was the opening phase of the province's on-going formation renewal programme, 'Hearing the Gospel Again for the First Time'. The venue was the very fine and comfortable Horse & Jockey Hotel, on the main Dublin-Cork road.

The theme of the weekend was centred around the issue of faith and the culture of the times we live in. Helping us through this process were our two guest speakers, John Waters, well-known columnist and commentator with the *Irish Times* and Eugene Duffy, priest and theologian from Tuam archdiocese and lecturer at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick. Facilitating the group for the weekend was Sarah Barry, lecturer in the Pastoral Theology Department at Milltown Institute in Dublin.

John Waters' presentation was a very personal account of his own journey from a Catholic upbringing, to rejection of this in his late teens, through the difficulties of alcohol addiction – all of which led him to question the Catholic upbringing of his childhood (including the 'God' question) and the overall cultural setting in which this upbringing had taken place. The intense honesty of his presentation – lasting about an hour – made a great impression and we were certainly left with food for thought. One point that came through for me was the difficulty of making a journey which entails a critique of the culture that one was reared in. We are part and product of that culture and so we bring culturally-formed assumptions and presumptions to the very same culture that we seek to critique and perhaps eventually reject. All of this has implications for how we hear the gospel in our culture and time. All the more reason why we need to hear the gospel again for the *first* time.

If John Waters' presentation was personal and individual, Eugene Duffy's presentation was more global and ecclesial as he charted the progress in awareness of the challenges faced by the Irish Church over the past two decades especially as the institution struggled to understand the rapidly-changing cultural context in which it has tried to operate. Together with John Waters, Eugene helped us to situate ourselves and the times we live in, in both a personal and a communitarian context – the setting in which we are called to hear, live and proclaim the Good News.

Sarah Barry led us through the process part of the weekend with great energy and enthusiasm and helped us to feel at home with the process at the same time. With her guidance, we surfaced in group settings questions about the Ireland we now live in and wondered about the Ireland we want. How do we find our voice in all of this and what is it we want to say? Hopefully we will begin to find the answers to these and other questions as we continue the programme into the next phase. Do come and join us on February 19-21, 2009!

David Kelly OSA



Group at Horse and Jockey



Iggy O'Donovan, Martin Nolan, Niall Coghlan, Noel Hession and John Lyng.



Michael Collender, Michael Boyle and Pat Moran at the Tomb of St Nicholas of Tolentine



Pauline French presents Celtic Cross to Sr Maria Rosa



## ST PATRICK'S ROME

Recent visitors to St Patrick's Rome will have seen these pictures below of our Lady – Our Lady Link.



### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

1656 – 1866. It came into our possession in San Matteo. It was then in Santa Maria in Posterula until 1886 when it was restored to its original site, now San Alfonso served by the Redemptorists.

### OUR LADY OF GRACE

The Irish Augustinians inherited this image in 1819 when it took possession of Santa Maria in Posterula. This 15<sup>th</sup> Century painting of Our Lady is painted on slate, and is situated on the Lady Altar in St Patrick's Rome.



### OUR LADY DEL CAMPO

This image at San Pio in Genazzano became the property of the Irish Augustinian Province with the purchase of the monastery in 1880

### OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Centre piece of the Augustinian Shrine to our Lady in Genazzano since 1467. Patroness of the Irish Augustinian Province.



## DROGHEDA

### REMEMBRANCE MASS FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS

The third Sunday in November has been designated as the United Nations world day of commemoration for road traffic victims.

Representatives of the Gardai, fire brigade and families of road crash victims attended a special remembrance Mass which took place in the Augustinian Church on Sunday 16 November.

This was the third year the Mass has taken place in Drogheda and the church on Shop Street was packed to the doors as families and friends gathered to remember their loved ones.

The ceremony was performed by Fr Iggy O'Donovan OSA who lost a brother in a traffic accident a number of years ago.

## ORLAGH

### DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR

### AUGUSTINIANS

### IN ORLAGH

### LED BY

### FR TOM COONEY OSA

11.00am – 4.30pm

18th Dec 2008

Overnight accommodation available

[john@orlagh.ie](mailto:john@orlagh.ie)



Left to Right: Michael Walsh OSA, Jacob Mado OSA, Most Rev. Ignatius Kaigama, Archbishop of Jos, and Very Rev. Hyacinth Kangyap OSA Nigerian Provincial.

## GOOD COUNSEL COLLEGE



By Anne Marie O'CONNOR (New Ross Standard)

Wednesday November 12 2008

SOCCKER ACE Kevin Doyle returned to his old alma mater last week to officially open the newly built astro-turf pitches and renovated sports centre at Good Counsel College.

The football star was among a host of invited guests who officially viewed the state of the art sports facilities which were developed through a public/private arrangement with Kehoe Brothers.

The renovation of the sports centre cost over €150000 and was funded completely by the Augustinian Order themselves.

Fr. John Hennebery this week described the development as 'very beneficial' to the 750 boys who attend Good Counsel. 'When the swimming pool is completed this whole area will be a state of the art facility for the entire town of New Ross to enjoy,' he said.

The sports hall was dedicated to the memory of former principal, the late Fr. John Cosgrave, and the stone in his memory was unveiled by his brother and sister, Frank Cosgrave, Ramsgrange, and Peggy Barden, Fethard on Sea.

The facilities were also blessed by another former principal Fr. Power, along with Fr. Michael Collendar, the school chaplain.

Prefects, members of the students council, past and present Board of Management and Parents' Council members and members of the Augustinian Order all attended the official opening.

### DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

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

- 01 1991 Fr. EN McGrath
- 02 1997 Fr. JA Ryan
- 05 1972 Fr. A Bell
- 08 1983 Fr. P O'Shea
- 08 2004 Fr. T Tevington
- 10 2004 Fr. B Dunne
- 11 1974 Fr. T Flynn
- 11 1998 Fr. F Twomey
- 12 1969 Fr. P Bowlby
- 14 1993 Fr. T Hartnett
- 15 1996 Fr. B O'Donnell
- 20 1985 Fr. S Flanagan
- 20 1997 Fr. J O'Connor
- 22 1970 Fr. JB O'Flynn
- 22 1972 Fr. PA Doyle
- 24 1989 Fr. E Clifford
- 25 1973 Fr. S Roche
- 31 1963 Fr. PA Stokes
- 31 2004 Fr. T Twomey

Please remember in your prayers Eileen Walsh (nee Fitzgerald) sister of Fr Chris Fitzgerald OSA. Ecuador, who died Nov. 18, 2008, and was buried in Ballylanders on Thursday Nov. 20



John Hennebery OSA and Kevin Doyle Reading F C



Polish Choir in Montefalco

### IRISH AUGUSTINIAN NEWS

Please give us your feedback:

-by Text 087 235 25 82

For those who are e-literate [sacw@iol.ie](mailto:sacw@iol.ie)

### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK.

Welcome to Vol. 2 No 6. Thanks to all who have contributed to this edition. Special thanks as always to Peter Galus, David Moran, John O'Connor, and to Martin Crean, John Byrne and Paul O'Connor for photographs.

Last year we had a special Christmas edition, and I would like to have the same again this year. If you have any items of news, poems or photographs, please forward same, as soon as possible.

I would also like to produce an updated list of all e-mail addresses, so if any of our readers have new ones, please let us have them, by December 8, for publication in our Holly Bough Edition.

All past editions of IAN available on:

Web page: [www.staugustinescork.ie](http://www.staugustinescork.ie)

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