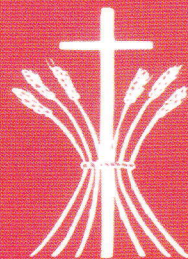


# The Sheaf

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

[www.stjosephsyoungpriestsociety.com](http://www.stjosephsyoungpriestsociety.com)



SAINT JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY, 23 MERRION SQUARE, DUBLIN 2. TELEPHONE: DUBLIN 676 2593

AUTUMN 2012

## The Society's new Chief Chaplain

**Very Rev John Gilligan, Adm of St Andrew's parish Westland Row Dublin, in which parish the Society's House is located, has taken over as Chief Chaplain to the Society from Father Eamonn Bourke, who has been appointed Co-Parish Priest, Esker/Doddsboro/Adamstown Parish, Co-Parish Priest, Lucan Parish and Co-Parish Priest, Lucan South Parish. We wish Fr Eamonn every success and happiness in his new ministry.**

We asked Fr Gilligan to introduce himself to the members and benefactors of the Society, and he has written as follows:

*Dear Friends,*

*Archbishop Diarmuid Martin recently appointed me to take over from Fr Eamonn Bourke as Vocations Director for the Dublin diocese and also as Chief Chaplain to St Joseph's from 15 September 2012. I wish to thank Fr Eamonn for all his support to me and for all his work for vocations over the years. I wish Fr Eamonn all the best in his new assignment. I will continue as Administrator of St Andrew's Parish, Westland Row and working with the Permanent Diaconate.*

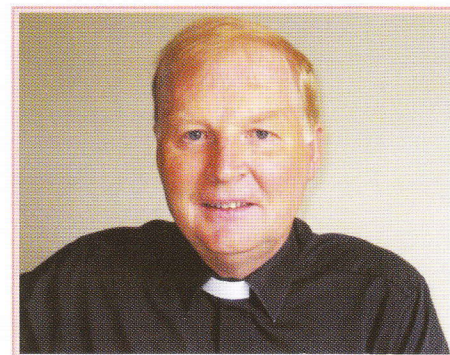
*I am very familiar with the St Joseph's Young Priests Society. When I was a student in Clonliffe College, the Society was most supportive to me and many of my colleagues. My mother, Mary Gilligan, is a member of the Rathgar branch of St Josephs and has fundraised for many years. She enjoys the monthly meetings in the Parish.*

*I am the eldest of seven and grew up in Rathgar where my parents live. I served Mass as an Altar Boy there and Monsignor John Moloney, the then Parish Priest, was a great support to me. He was the one who asked me one day: did I ever think of becoming a priest. It turned out to be the nudge I needed. Monsignor Moloney is now in his 97th year and was Chaplain to the St Joseph's branch in Rathgar up to two years ago.*

*I entered Holy Cross College, Clonliffe, in September 1978 and spent seven years there. I was ordained in Clonliffe College on the Feast of Corpus Christi, on 6 June 1985. My first appointment was Priest Teacher in Arklow Vocational School, Chaplain to the Sisters of Mercy and Chaplain to the Arklow Youth Club. I spent very happy years there. In 1991 I was appointed Chaplain to Dublin City University, where I spent 16 very happy years. It was a great Ministry working with so many young people from all over the Country and beyond. During my time in DCU I did some teaching of medical ethics to the nursing students and was Priest Director of Accord, Phibsboro. I counselled with Accord for almost 12 years.*

*In September 2007 I was appointed Administrator of St Andrew's Parish, Westland Row, where I still continue. I was also appointed Director of Formation for Parish Pastoral Workers in Mater Dei Institute. It is great to see over 30 Parish Pastoral Workers working in the various Parishes around the Archdiocese of Dublin. Last year I was asked to assist Fr Kevin Doran, a former Vocations Director, with the Permanent Diaconate programme and I will continue with this work for the year ahead.*

*I have just returned from Lourdes where we had 2,000 people from all over the Dublin Diocese. It was a wonderful five days, where we were blessed with great*



Very Rev John Gilligan, Chief Chaplain

*Liturgies and lovely sunshine. I had the privilege of being Director of the Lourdes Pilgrimage for the past 10 years and recently asked the Archbishop to let me go, so that I can give more time to take up the challenging post of Vocations, together with the Permanent Diaconate and Administrator of Westland Row parish. The past 27 years as a priest have been most rewarding and I was very fortunate with the appointments I have had to date. I have met so many wonderful people and am very hopeful we will continue to build up the Church with good people who are willing to serve as volunteer lay people, Parish Pastoral Workers, Deacons, Religious and Priests.*

*We all need to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood, so that we continue to celebrate the Eucharist and receive the Sacraments. I wish to thank all the members of the St Joseph's Young Priests Society and benefactors and together let us pray that the Lord of the harvest may send good labourers to His harvest in order that they may reveal Christ to all and the generations yet to come. I look forward to meeting and working with you all in the time ahead.*

*Best wishes,  
John Gilligan*



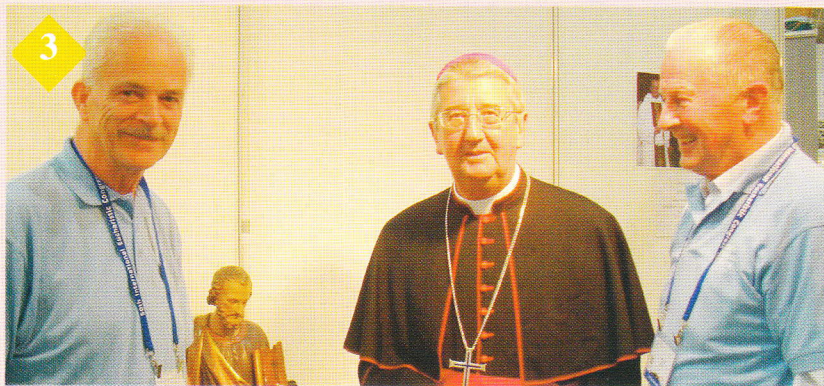
1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



- 1 Colette Furlong, Pastoral Services Manager for the International Eucharistic Congress in June (centre) was the Guest Speaker at a briefing meeting held prior to the Congress for representatives of various branches of the Society.
- 2 Bishops visiting Dublin for the International Eucharistic Congress were invited to celebrate the Evening Masses on Saturday 16 June. Mourne Road branch were delighted to welcome two brothers originally from Galtymore Park in the parish. Bishop Brian Farrell secretary to the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity in Rome and Bishop Kevin Farrell Bishop of Dallas Texas USA, whose Blog may be read at [www.cathdal.org](http://www.cathdal.org)
- 3 Archbishop Diarmuid Martin was an early visitor to the Society's stand at the International Eucharistic Congress. With him in this photo are (L) John Murphy, Dublin provincial president, and (R) George Dee, President of the Society.
- 4 During the Congress on Saturday June 16, some members of the Society undertook an hour of prayer for vocations to priesthood and consecrated life, in Cardinal Newman's University Church, St Stephen's Green, Dublin
- 5 Fr Eamonn Bourke, then Chief Chaplain, chaired Dominic Dowling's Congress talk on 'Supporting the Call to Ordained Ministry – a Lay Response' and led the assembly in prayer for priestly, religious and missionary vocations.
- 6 Fr Willie Purcell, Ossory Diocesan Director of vocations with Sr Briege McKenna OSC and Fr Kevin Scallan CM with Gemma and Triona King from the Pro-Cathedral, Dublin were welcomed to our congress stand by Pat Hayes, Cashel Provincial President.
- 7 At the Congress John Murphy, Dublin provincial president, and Rev Kieran McDermott, Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation shared their mutual concern regarding the scarcity of suitable young Irish men willing to commit themselves to clerical studies for life-long service to the Lord in the Ordained Ministry.
- 8 Pharmacy Branch AGM - (standing) Rita Russell, Bernie Bonar, Nora McCall, Michael McAuliffe (President), John McCormick, Mona Kerins and Noel MacManus, (seated) Seán Ryan, Willie Meagher and Mary MacManus.
- 9 On the occasion of the Society's pilgrimage to Our Lady's Island on 22 July 2012, Very Rev Patrick Cushen PP VF, Ferns, imparted Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament to the pilgrims before their departure home.



# *Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday 23 June 2012*

*In the course of his homily, Archbishop Charles J Brown, Apostolic Nuncio, said:*

Since my arrival as Nuncio in Ireland some four and a half months ago, countless people, including a number of Bishops, have spoken to me in glowing terms about the St Joseph's Young Priests Society and the extraordinary work which you do in promoting the vocation of the priesthood through prayer, financial help and the radiant witness of your Christian lives.

I can think of no more necessary or noble task in our world today than that of supporting priests. It is of vital importance, because for us as Catholics every priest is an image of Jesus himself; every priest is an icon of the Lord, who is both the Lamb of God and the Good Shepherd. And in every age of the Church's two thousand year pilgrimage on this earth, the strategy of the Church's opponents is the same, though the details may differ: destroy the priesthood in order to destroy the Church. How clear that was in course of the twentieth century. Think of the hundreds of heroic priests who suffered and died in the concentration camp at Dachau under the Nazis; think of how the Communists in Russia strove, and almost succeeded, in creating a world where there were no more priests, no more Eucharist, no more Church, a world where human values, purged of any influence of Christianity, were supposed to flourish.

In our own time, the priesthood is undermined not by means of imprisonment and execution, but because of scandals and failures. These create a negative image of the priesthood, which then becomes predominant, leading to discouragement, divisions and the formation of factions. It is no accident that the Greek word for the devil in the New Testament is diabolos, meaning the one who divides, who sets people against each other.

And what can be our response in this situation? Last September, Pope Benedict XVI met a group of Catholics in the Cathedral of Ancona in Italy, a group composed of Catholic families and priests – just like our gathering here today – and Pope Benedict said to them that day: "Love your priests; tell them of your appreciation for the generous service they carry out. Be supportive of them despite their limitations and never cease to ask them to be exemplary servants among you, who speak to you about God and lead you to God" (11 September 2011). As Pope Benedict's representative here in Ireland, I repeat his call: "Love your priests; tell them of your appreciation for the generous service they carry out". Stand with them against their critics. Encourage your priests to lead you to God, to show you the face of Christ; indeed, to be the face of Christ for you.

In that same talk to that group of priests and married people, the Holy Father also mentioned "the beauty of the harmony and complementarity of your different vocations. In sharing the same faith, your mutual knowledge and esteem lead to an appreciation of each other's charisms and to a recognition that we are in one 'spiritual household' (1 Pet 2:5) which, with Jesus Christ as its cornerstone, develops in a well-ordered way to become a holy temple in the Lord" (cf. Eph 2:20-21). The Holy Father here takes an image from the first Letter of Peter, in which Peter describes the Church as a household – an *oikos* in the original Greek. There are many beautiful images for the Church in Sacred Scripture and each image highlights something important about the Church. The Church is the Mystical Body of Christ. She is the People of God. She is the Bride of Christ. But she is also described as the 'spiritual household' of God, and that is a very significant image for us. The image of the household was a defining one in the Early Church. It is, of course, essentially a family image. Strictly speaking, the term 'household' referred to everyone living together under a common roof in the world of the Ancient Near East, and would have included mother and father, grandparents, children, possibly even sons and daughters-in-law, and their children. What it reflects is a group of people living together in harmony on the basis of family relations. And it is an important image for us of the Church. The Church is like a family.

Indeed, the Church is a family. Yes, there is a radical equality of human dignity in a family; no single member of a family is more a part of the family than any another. But equality of dignity does not mean identity of roles; a mother's role is not the same as a father's, nor a son's the same as a grandmother's. This is true for

the Church as well. A married couple's role in the Church is not the same as a consecrated religious sister. A priest's role is not the same as an unmarried woman's. There is equality of dignity, but diversity of roles. And the Holy Father's point here is that there is a beautiful complementarity among these different roles – married people can help priests in their vocation to be holy and priests can help families in theirs. Our tasks are different, but our aim is the same – to live holy lives and prepare ourselves for 'the life of the world to come'. As Mother Teresa used to say: "You can do something I cannot do. I can do something you cannot do. Together let us do something beautiful for God".

Of course, this idea of complementarity is not something new. Olivia Mary Taaffe, the foundress of the St Joseph's Young Priests Society, gave witness to this teaching more than a hundred years ago. Olivia Mary was not a priest; she was a courageous young woman who had lost her husband and her only son. But she loved Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, and for that reason she loved the priesthood. The organization which she founded supported the education of priests by means of prayer and economic help. We see the results of her love for the Lord today almost one hundred years after her death: countless priests who were brought to the altar of God by the prayers and generosity of the Saint Joseph's Young Priests Society.

It is immensely appropriate that we are celebrating this Holy Mass of St Joseph here at Knock, at the feet of Mary our Mother and our Queen. Mary appeared with St Joseph, for whom Olivia Mary Taaffe had a deep and beautiful devotion. So let us – like Olivia Mary – entrust the work of finding priestly vocations to St Joseph. As I mentioned in passing at the beginning of my homily, in today's world there is a lot of hostility to Catholic priests, and at times, we can be tempted to discouragement. But, dear brothers and sisters, let's remember the unspoken message of Knock – 'the Lamb will conquer and the woman clothed with the sun'. The Lamb on the altar is the sacrificial Lamb, the Lamb who once was slain (Rev 5:6), but who now lives forever and is victorious. Jesus, who is both the Lamb and the Shepherd, has not abandoned his Church, far from it. He is here with us in the Holy Eucharist and he calls us to holiness of life and to supernatural courage in the face of all adversity. A new springtime is breaking forth for the Church. All of us could feel the indications of that springtime during the recently-concluded International Eucharistic Congress in Dublin. In hastening that springtime, our priests have a central role. Indeed, they have an irreplaceable role. So let us thank God for the gift of the priesthood, and show our appreciation for these great men who have left everything to follow the Lamb.

## *Quiet Man*

A quiet man: his name was Joseph  
A quiet man: you'd hardly notice  
Came from a town you wouldn't boast of  
Said the Lord, 'that's the man of my heart'  
A man you'd trust in every weather  
You'd call him just, not over-clever  
He never fussed – well, hardly ever  
Said the Lord, 'that's the man, now we'll start'

*In Galilee a lovely lady  
In mystery a new-born Baby  
And quietly, no but, no maybe  
'I'll love them, I'll do what I can'*

A man instilled with adoration  
A man who filled his given station  
A man who held the world's salvation  
Thank you, Joseph, the Lord's quiet man  
A man who prayed, quite angel-haunted  
A man who stayed where he was wanted  
A man who paid the price appointed  
Thank you, Joseph, the Lord's quiet man.

*Stephen Redmond SJ*



# Scéal Olivia

*le Caitríona Uí Chatháin (as iris An Timire, Earrach 2012, le caoinchead an tUadar)*

Nuair a thosaigh mé ag obair mar státseirbhíseach óg sna seascaidí, chuala mé den chéad uair faoi Cumann Ábhair Sagart le Seosamh Naofa (St Joseph's Young Priests Society) a bhí ag cabhrú le fir óga bheith ina sagairt anseo in Éirinn agus thar lear. Ghlac mé le cuireadh síntiús rialta a thabhairt chun cabhrú leis an obair fhiúntach a bhí idir lámha acu. Ba í Olivia Mary Taaffe a rugadh i nGaillimh a bhunaigh an Cumann thart ar 1895, agus tá an Cumann beo agus faoi bhláth fós leis na céadta brainisí ar fud na tíre. Eagraíonn an Cumann cruinnithe urnaí ar son gairmeacha chun na sagartóireachta, agus bíonn oilithreachtaí, adhradh na hEocairiste, seimineáir, agus cúrsaí spioradálta ar siúl chomh maith. Is ar bonn paróiste is mó a oibríonn an Cumann, le cead an tsagairt pharóiste. Buaileann an brainse le chéile gach mí chun guí agus chun na himeachtaí a eagrú. Cabhraíonn an Cumann le mic léinn ó dheoise ar bith sa tír, tar éis moladh ó Bhord Sagart atá ceaptha ag Ardeaspáig na hÉireann. Cabhraíonn an Cumann freisin le hábhair sagairt ar fud an domhain, pé áit ina bhfuil cabhair de dhíth. Is cabhair airgid agus urnaí atá i gceist.

Rugadh Olivia Mary Blake in 1832. Fuair a máthair bás go gairid tar éis a breithe, agus ba iad a seanmháthair agus a haintíní a thóg í. Bhog siad go Baile Átha Cliath nuair a bhí sí óg. Tógadh í i dtimpeallacht an-reiligiúnach, agus fuair sí oideachas próbháideach, den chuid is mó ó mháistreás cónaithe ón Fhrainc. De bharr sin, bhí sí go mór faoi thionchar na hEaglaise sa Fhrainc agus san Iodáil le linn

a hóige. Chríochnaigh sí a cuid oideachais i bPáras na Fraince agus í go luath ina fichidí. Sa Fhrainc chonaic sí Mórshiúl na Naomh-Shacraiminte, agus chuaigh an deabhóid a bhí ag an bpobal di i gcion go mór uirthi. D'fhás grá mór inti freisin do Naomh Seosamh.

In 1867 phós Olivia John Taaffe, duine a raibh suim mhór aige, amhail í féin, sna Íosánaigh, agus deabhóid aige do Naomh Seosamh. Bhí cónaí orthu i gCo Lú. Saolaíodh mac dóibh in 1871, ach fuair eisean bás faraor in 1893 in aois dhá bhliain is fiche dó. Fuair a céile bás cúpla bliain roimhe sin. Tar éis bhás a céile agus a mic, bhog Olivia go Dún Laoghaire agus níos déanaí go Domhnach Broc. I rith a bpósta thaisteal Olivia agus John ar fud na hEorpa. I Maranville sa Fhrainc, bhí gluaiseacht a bhunaigh An Canónach Seosamh Roy do chairde Naomh Seosamh, mar Chosantóir na bhFíréan, agus bhíodh i gcónaí cúpla buachaill ó theaghlaigh bhochta sa pharóiste ag cabhrú leis an liotúirge agus ag ullmhú chun bheith ina sagairt. Fuair siad oideachas sa Laidin agus ábhair eile agus thug daoine cráifeacha cúram dóibh ó thaobh cúrsaí airgid agus spioradálta de. Thug Olivia féin cúnamh do cheann de na buachaillí sin.

Chuir sé seo smaoinemh i gceann Olivia. Tar éis bhás a céile agus a mic, chuir sí a croí isteach i gComhbhráitheachas (Fraternity) Naomh Seosamh, brainse Éireannach den ghluaiseacht in Maranville. Chabhraigh an sagart Íosánach, Joseph Darlington, a bhí féin ina iompaitheach

(convert) chun leagan Béarla den nuachtlitir Francach, La Gerbe, a chur ar fáil faoin ainm St Joseph's Sheaf. Foilsíodh an nuachtlitir den chéad uair ar fhéasta Naomh Seosamh in 1895. An chéad achainí a bhí ann ba ar son buachaill altóra i nDún Laoghaire í a raibh na tréithe cearta aige don tsagartóireacht ach nach raibh a dhóthain airgid ag a thuistí chun íoc as a chuid oideachais. Chomh maith le cuid dá cuid airgid féin a chur ar fáil dó, d'iarr Olivia cúnamh ó léitheoirí na nuachtlitreach. D'éirigh leis an achainí, agus bhí ar chumas an leaid óig freastal ar Choláiste Mungairit, Co. Luimnigh, lena chuid oiliúna a fháil. Ag éirí as an toradh seo, d'iarr Olivia cúnamh chun cabhrú lena lán fir óga eile agus faoi chríoch an dara bliain bhí na léitheoirí ag tabhairt cúnamh do dheichniúr mac léinn. Bhí Cumann Naomh Seosamh ar an saol. Chomh maith le cúnamh a thabhairt do mhic léinn a bhí ag ullmhú don tsagartóireacht chun obair in Éirinn agus i dtíortha mar Mheiriceá, an Astráil agus an Afraic Theas, iarradh ar an gCumann cabhrú leis na misin sa tSín agus san Chianoirtheath (Far East), agus ghlacadar leis an dúshlán nua seo ag am nach raibh aon dream Éireannach eile ag cabhrú sna críocha sin.

San lá atá inniu ann, tá an Cumann ag cabhrú le níos mó ná ocht gcéad mac léinn san Afraic, san Áise, i Meiriceá Theas, in Oirthear na hEorpa agus in Éirinn. Más mian leat bheith páirteach sa Chumann, breathnaigh ar [www.stjosephsyoungpriestssociety.com](http://www.stjosephsyoungpriestssociety.com) nó cuir scairt ar 01-6762953.

## Recently Deceased

### VOCATIONAL BRANCHES

**Insurance Branch** Josie Meagan, Haulie Garde, Liam Stack

**Licensed Trade** Paddy Madigan, Anto Moroney (president of the branch) Frank Gleeson

**Motor Trade** Michael B English

### LOCAL BRANCHES

**Abbeyfeale** Gretta O'Rourke, Murt Keating

**Armagh** Séamus Kearney

**Ballyroan** Bill Doherty, Joe Hendrickson

**Ballinlough** Agnes Singleton, Kitty Buckley, Joe O'Flynn, Mona O'Brien, Michael McCarthy

**Ballyphehane** Gretta Barry, Nancy Doolan, Mary Martin, Kevin Buckley

**Beaumont** Marie Fanning

**Beechwood Avenue** Carmel Freeman

**Bekan** Pat Comer, Sarah Forde, Eileen Sloyan

**Bishopstown** Alice Quigley, Carrie Keane

**Blackpool** Paddy Gilly, Paddy Daly, Kitty O'Brien

**Blarney** Patrick Twomey, Dick Haslam, Alan Cahill, Diarmuid Flynn, Nellie Heelan, Adrian Hickey, Liam Milner, Danny P. Murphy, Brenda Mulcair

**Bohermeen** Kathleen Brady, Christy Bennett

**Caheragh** John O'Sullivan, Paddy Connolly, Connie Minihane, Joe Connolly, Mary Goggin, Niamh Cadogan, Niamh Burke, Jimmy Keohane, Tessie O'Shea, Pearl Goggin,

Eoin Sweeney, Mr Hodnett

**Caherdavin** John Hogan

**Callan** Rose Kerwick

**Christ the King - Turner's Cross**

Helen Hallahan, Tom Burton, Kathleen O'Sullivan

**Clonakilty** Dominic Coakley, Johnny Barry, Denis Coakley, Teresa Coakley, Nora Brickley, Jer White

**Dundalk** Olive Clarke, Margaret McCann, Mollie Hoey, Monsie McCabe, Agnes Brady

**Dundrum** Frank Smyth, Pauline Byrne, John J. Coughlan

**Gilford** Eta Fox

**Galmoy** Betty Scott, Paddy Sherman

**Graigueanamanagh** Mary Lyng, Sarah McCabe

**Holy Family - Ballymagroarty** Robert Gorman

**Holy Family - Ballsgrove** Olive Markey

**Kilkishen** Tess O'Brien

**Killeenterna** Nora Dignan

**Killorglin** Abbey McMahon

**Knockninny** Terence Owens, Gerry Donnelly, Molly Collins, Packie Gillece, Margaret Lee, Eugene Martin, Joe McNabb, Sheila Doherty, Eileen McBrien, John McKiernan, Seán McDonagh, Mary Curry, Ellen Maguire, Joe Flanagan, Rose Duffy, Lily Curry, Madge Caffrey, Johnny Cox, Dermot Reilly, Maura McCaffrey, Ellen O'Hara, Phelim Brady, Josephine Curry, Helena Kearns

**Lurgan** Ena Greery, Leo Greery, Bríd Greery, Joseph Loughran

**Marino** Margaret Cahill, Mary Kelly

**Melmount** Gerry McDonnell and his son Fr Ciarán McDonnell

**Midleton Branch** Jimmy Colbert (founder member), Rita Williams

**Monkstown** Anna P. Tisdall (President of the branch)

**Mullingar** Brian Delamere

**Our Lady Crowned - Mayfield** Eileen Hurley, Sr Julia, Graham Tilke, Haddy Walsh

**Portadown** Anne Tuite, Bernadette McCann, Kitty McAlinden, Anthony McGuigan, Josephine Mulvaney, Carmel Breen

**Portlaoise** Vera Downey

**Skibbereen** Maura O'Regan

**SS Peter & Pauls - Athlone** Kathleen Quinn, Rena Doherty

**St Anthony's - Clontarf** Kathleen Murphy, Maureen Glacken

**St Canice's - Kilkenny** Eamon Gregan

**St John the Baptist - Clontarf** Brendan H. Nichol, Laurence Marron, Rosena Flanagan

**St Joseph's - Limerick** Nora Hanly

**St Kevin's - Harrington Street** Molly Neville, Leo Martin

**Steelstown** Fr Vincent Kerr

**Stranorlar** Mary O'Donovan

**Templemore** Thomas Walsh, Sadie Fitzpatrick

**Tullamore** May Cunningham

**General** Christina Igoche, Kevin O'Sullivan, Dr Jack Moloney (Dun Laoghaire)

### IN MEMORIAM

Kevin O'Sullivan a resident of the Legion of Mary's Morning Star Mens Hostel for the last 8-9 years has died. This poor man, rich in God's love, was a familiar face in Dublin, praying and attending several Masses in many city-centre churches. His only concern was to love God and neighbour, for the salvation of souls. He loved and lived for the Church and had great reverence and concern for the priesthood and religious life. He was a kindly and prayerful benefactor of many charities, including St Joseph's Young Priests Society, where he contributed no less than €14,544 to the Licensed Trade Branch over a period of four or five years. He was a friend to many. He inspired love of God in me and in many others. May he continue to intercede for us and may his holy soul rest in peace with Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Amen. *David Moroney, Morning Star Hostel, Brunswick Street, Dublin 7.*



### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Anonymous Donations  
€130, €1,000, €50, €20, €15