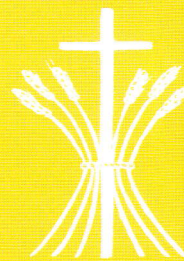


The Sheaf



ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

www.stjosephsyoungpriestssociety.com

23 MERRION SQUARE, DUBLIN 2, IRELAND, D02 XE02. TELEPHONE: DUBLIN 676 2593

WINTER 2015



20 February 2016 at RDS Dublin

The attendance at the Jubilee 25th Divine Mercy Conference at the RDS Dublin on Saturday 20 February 2016 during an address by Sr Briega McKenna OSC.

As in previous years St Joseph's Young Priests Society had a stand in the adjoining Exhibition Hall where volunteers from the Dublin Province were pleased to welcome and discuss matters of mutual interest with members and benefactors of the Society from around the country who were attending the Conference.

The Divine Mercy Conference Brochure set out a procedure for gaining the Year of Mercy Indulgence:

To assist all to gain the Jubilee Year of Mercy Plenary Indulgence on behalf of oneself or on behalf of a deceased person

1. Make a brief pilgrimage to a Holy Door in your area as a sign of a deep desire for a genuine conversion,
2. Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession,
3. Participate in the Mass and receive the Eucharist,
4. Make a profession of Faith (recite the Creed),
5. Pray for Pope Francis and for his intentions for the Church and the World, (normally suggested is an Our Father, a Hail Mary and another prayer of your choice such as a Glory be to the Father),
6. The Mercy Indulgence may also be gained each time you perform a corporal or spiritual work of mercy, following 2, 3, 4 and 5 above.

Corporal Works of Mercy

To feed the hungry
To give drink to the thirsty
To clothe the naked
To visit the imprisoned
To shelter the homeless
To visit the sick
To bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

To admonish the sinner
To instruct the ignorant
To counsel the doubtful
To comfort the sorrowful
To bear wrongs patiently
To forgive offences
To pray for the living and the dead

Saint Joseph

When Mary on the dark earth trod,
With feet unsullied by its sod,
Who guarded her young life for God?
Saint Joseph

When Mary heard her cousin's need,
And crossed the mountain land with speed,
Who shared her generous thought and deed?
Saint Joseph

When Bethlehem had no room to spare,
For Jesus or for Mary there,
Who cherished with a father's care?
Saint Joseph

When Jesus on the Virgin's breast,
Lay his infant shoulder's pressed,
Who worked in joy that they might rest?
Saint Joseph

When Mary from her home exiled,
Fled sadly with her royal Child,
Who guided through the trackless wild?
Saint Joseph

When Mary's infant older grew,
And took His share of labour too,
Who set the tasks He longed to do?
Saint Joseph

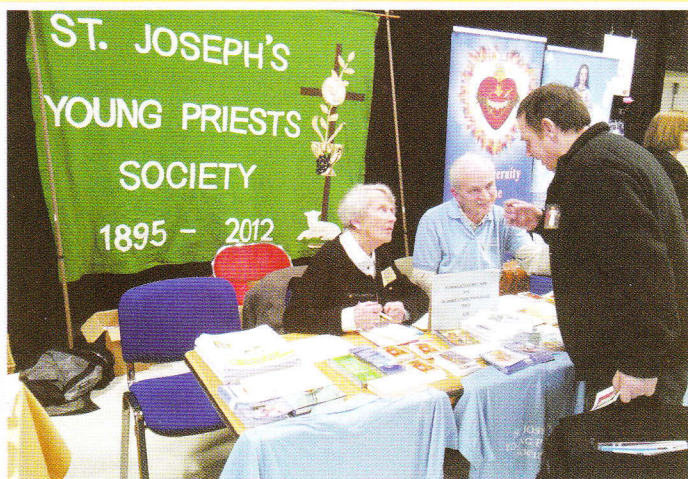
When Mary sought her Son in vain,
With agonizing heart and brain,
Who felt and shared her worthless pain?
Saint Joseph

When his own parting hour drew nigh,
Who laid himself in peace to die?
With Jesus and with Mary by?
Saint Joseph

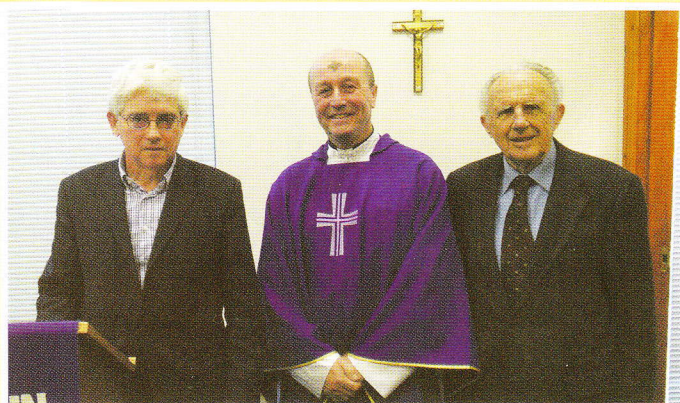
And who can love the Virgin blest,
The Child who slumbered on her breast,
Or dearly love who loved them best?
Saint Joseph

by Ellen Downing
in 'A Garland for St Joseph'
compiled by an Ursuline of Sligo.

BLESSED BE SAINT JOSEPH, HER MOST CHASTE SPOUSE



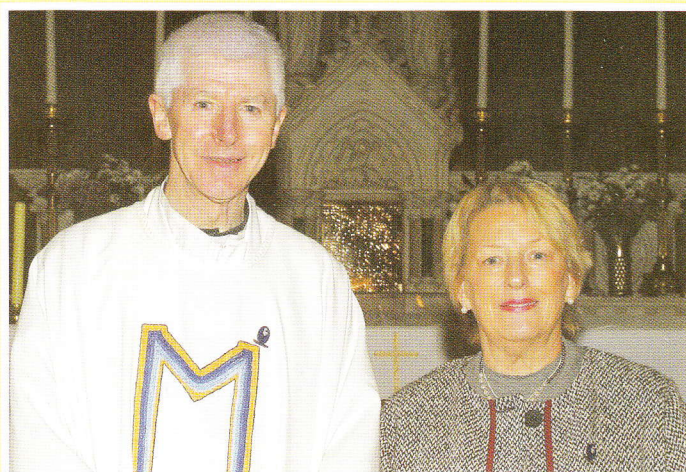
Bernie Bonar, Pharmacy Branch and John Murphy, Dublin Provincial President at the Society's stand in the RDS on 20 February.



The Electrical Industries Branch held their annual general meeting on Ash Wednesday when the Chaplain to the branch, Right Rev Msgr Eoin Thynne, Adm Mulhuddart, blessed and distributed ashes to all present. Seen here with Fr Thynne, who prior to his appointment to Mulhuddart was Head Chaplain to the Forces, are Frank Hamill branch treasurer and Joe Mathews.



The Bankers Branch arranged their Annual Mass for members, their colleagues, families and friends for noon on Wednesday 25 November at Wynn's Hotel Dublin. Seen here are Margaret Browne, Carmel Hughes, Fr Paul Kelly and Peter Tierney. Prior to his priestly studies and his subsequent ordination Fr Kelly was a banker at the National Bank 34 College Green, Dublin



Msgr Aidan O'Driscoll PP VG, Branch Chaplain and Theresa O'Donovan, President of Clonakilty branch, at the blessing and launch of the new St Joseph's Young Priests Society's 'Lapel Pin' in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Clonakilty, Co Cork. Msgr O'Driscoll urges all to wear it with joy. Contact phone number for pins is 086 8567145.

Here's how it's done in Bishop Boyce's diocese of Raphoe!



Fr Pat O'Hagan PP Moville and Eileen Harkin Treasurer, Moville branch



Eileen Harkin with bakes for the night of celebration in Moville

Moville Branch (Co Donegal) celebrated their 5th anniversary in November 2015. These two photos are from their celebratory Coffee Night and Dance preparations. Leslie Trott appeals to readers in Moville Parish to join the Society as active members - to pray together for young priests and for vocations to the monastic, contemplative and active consecrated life and to service as lay members of the Church; to plan together and hold events to raise funds for the support of the

education of our seminarians whilst highlighting the Society's aims. To any non-active member whose annual €12 subscription is due, please do give a contribution to Eileen Harkin pictured here. God reward all those people in Moville who took part in our Novena this year and all who have assisted the branch in any way during the past five years. Many thanks, Leslie Trott (Secretary - Moville Branch).

Cashel Provincial Council Report

The Annual General meeting was held on Sunday 4 October in the Millennium Centre, Raheen, Limerick with 17 attending. Patrick Hayes Limerick will act as President for the next year, Vice President Chris O'Sullivan Cloyne, Secretary Mary Dempsey and Treasurer Brigid Forde both from Cork & Ross.

Cashel & Emly Diocese

The AGM was held on the 14 May in Kilcommon with 30 members present. The Diocesan Chaplain Fr Gerard Hennessy was the chief celebrant at the Mass assisted by Fr Dan Woods PP and Fr Enda Brady. Mary Kelly Dundrum/Knockavilla branch was elected President replacing Joan O'Brien who gave seven years of faithful commitment. The quarterly meeting was held on the 1 October. Five branches have undertaken to do the Chalice Programme. Other branches have decided to do 120 hours of Adoration, it being 120 years since the Society was started. Tipperary Branch have Eucharistic Adoration every first Tuesday with Canon McNamara. Subsequent to a meeting with Fr Joe Walsh diocesan director of vocations there was a recommendation that promotional literature should be placed in all churches throughout the diocese. Members attended St Patrick's College Thurles for the Diocesan Eucharistic Apostolate Assembly, with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly followed by adoration and a talk by Frances Hogan. Borrisoleigh branch ran a bus to Knock for the annual pilgrimage on the 28 June. Fr Vincent Stapleton of Borrisoleigh was ordained on 4 July. Prior to his ordination members held an evening of prayer as a vigil, attended the ordination and took part in the liturgy for his first Mass.

Cloyne Diocese

The quarterly meeting was held in Glanworth on 4 September with five branches present. Some branches have a small membership and are struggling to survive. Blarney branch closed on the 30 June after 32 years of service to the Society.

Cork and Ross Diocese

The AGM was held in May and the quarterly meeting was held on Tuesday 22 September. The average attendance is 23 members representing 14 branches. Patrick Nugent was ordained Deacon on 31 May. Five buses travelled to Knock for the pilgrimage in June and a bus travelled to Our Lady's Island in July for the ceremonies there. West Cork District: Ardfield/Rathbarry and Clonakilty branches held their AGM with a great attendance at both. Bandon Branch invited Ronan Sheehan a third year student to their September meeting. The district held an afternoon of prayer in Myross Wood on Palm Sunday which was well attended, and another will be held prior to Christmas. Unfortunately two branches (Caheragh and Rosscabery) have closed due to death and illness of members.

City District: held their AGM in April with fifteen attending representing 9 branches. Christ the King branch had an afternoon of prayer on the eve of Vocations Sunday. The Annual Day of Prayer will be held in Ennismore Retreat Centre on 21 of November organised by Greta Lynch Ballinlough Branch.

South East District: Passage West and Tracton branches held Holy Hours on Vocations Sunday.

At the September diocesan meeting the question was posed on 'What are the positives of our Society that we can build on for the future at branch level?' Many said they attend adoration and there is an increase in prayer with many members involved in saying Vocation Prayer after rosary, before or after Mass. We need to have courage to ask friends and talk about vocations to people we meet. Some priests are very supportive with their attendance at meetings and encouragement to members, while other priests don't. A Vocations Congress 2016 will be held in Cork.

Kerry Diocese

The Diocesan AGM took place in Killarney in May with all officers re-elected. Thirty seven travelled to Knock for the pilgrimage day. The Autumn diocesan meeting took place on 28 September in St John's Pastoral Centre Tralee with an attendance of 16 members. The yearly diocesan seminar will take place on Saturday 10 October in St Brendan's Pastoral Centre, Tralee. The address will be given by Fr Jim Lenihan CC Killarney who is very involved with the Youth 2000 group. The focus will be on consecrated life and the consequences of marriage. Fr David O'Connor a native of Tralee who was ordained last April and who works in Peru will also speak at the event.

Killaloe Diocese

The quarterly meeting was held in Ennis on 20 September with 15 in attendance. Fr McCormack commenced the meeting with prayers and benediction. A vote of sympathy and a minutes silence was held for the repose of the souls of Fr Michael Collins, Fr Tony Cahir both very committed to the Society and of Helen McCabe all from Ennis. The late Helen McCabe gave 47 years of dedicated service to Ennis branch. Fr Michael Geraghty was ordained in Birr in June and is now ministering in Nenagh. There are two students in Maynooth for the diocese. All branches are holding meetings and praying for vocations. The AGM will be held in Quin on 15 November. A Holy Hour will take place before the meeting to pray for new officers and vocations.

Limerick Diocese

A vigil for vocations was held in Raheen Church on 25 April and was well attended. Fr Leslie McNamara the new vocations director gave inspiring talks and reminded us that we have hope as our strength is in the Eucharist, that nourishes, strengthens and energises us. A quarterly meeting took place in Newcastle West on 10 June with 14 in attendance representing seven branches. Mass was celebrated by Canon Duhig. Members were reminded to do 120 hours adoration. Three buses travelled to Knock for the national pilgrimage. The last quarterly meeting was held in Athea on 2 September. It was well attended with members from 9 branches present. Mass was concelebrated by Fr Liam Enright and Fr Bowen. Silent prayers were offered for the repose of the souls of Josie O'Keeffe, Tom Norris and Sr Seraphina three recently departed loyal members. The decline in membership was discussed. The AGM will take place on the 22 September.

PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES 2016

Dublin Province - Purcell House, All Hallows, Drumcondra 5th March 2016

Chief Celebrant: Fr Seamus McEntee, Chief Chaplain.
Keynote Address: Fr Michael Maher SM Dundalk.
Speakers: Dominic Dowling, John Murphy.

Tuam Province - St John's Rest & Day Care Centre, Knock 9th April 2016

Chief Celebrant and Speaker: Fr Willie Purcell. National Co-ordinator of Diocesan vocations.

Armagh Province - St Malachy's Church, Armagh, then The Armagh City Hotel 16th April

Chief Celebrant: Archbishop Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh.
Speaker: Sr Martina Purdy, Adoration Sisters, Belfast.

Cashel Province - Clayton Hotel, Silver Springs, Tivoli, Cork 16th April 2016

Chief Celebrant: Fr Ben Hodnett CC, Frankfield/Grange Parish, Cork.
Keynote address: Msgr Gearoid Dullea, Executive Secretary Irish Episcopal Conference.

Letters to the Editor

Struleen, Dublin 22

Dear Editor,
First Sunday of the New Year saw me celebrating Eucharist in Struleen, Clondalkin, Co Dublin, after a few days in Donegal with family and friends. A visitor to the sacristy as Mass was about to begin was a member of St Joseph's Young Priests Society. I was delighted to welcome him and some friends to the parish of Struleen.

Having worked in Formation for our community, the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (SS.CC), I had become familiar with St Joseph's Young Priests Society and their support for young religious in formation. Over some years help has come for the education and training of young men from Asia, especially Indonesia, India and Philippines. I was delighted to offer my thanks during the Mass, and here I am now putting a few words together for your quarterly review and newsletter.

I am delighted to say one of the young men is now in ministry in our parish in Acton in London, and others are in ministry in the US, in Indonesia and the Philippines. While we have few vocations here at home in Ireland, the work, prayer and support of so many people, like the Young Priests Society, helps to keep the focus on the missionary activities of the Church around the world. We have welcomed many priests from abroad in recent years and they have brought new life and much needed help to the Church here at home. Perhaps 2016 will see a renewed interest in men and women answering the call to Follow Jesus in this Jubilee Year of Mercy?

I will finish with some words of the Gospel for this first Sunday of 2016. Words that will live in our hearts and homes over the coming year.... "The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth". John 1: 14.

A Happy New Year and thank you all.
Fr Pearse Mullen SS.CC

Midleton, Co Cork.

Dear Editor,

Our branch in Midleton has suffered the death of one of our last founder members, retired Garda Sergeant Matt Kearns. He was laid to rest on his 96th birthday. He was a member of the Society for over 70 years.

Matt joined An Garda Síochána on 25th May 1943 and enrolled in the Garda Vocational Branch of St Joseph's shortly after. He arrived in Midleton on 6th August 1958 and maintained his membership of the Garda Branch until 13th May 1969 when he and some like-minded people here set up the Midleton branch.

He was active in all areas of the Society's apostolate and up to shortly before he died he attended our monthly meetings, always giving encouragement and advice. At one time Matt and his wife were the only members of the branch, but they continued to hold meetings each month, for Matt's mantra was 'keep moving and praying and the corner will eventually be turned'. How true!

One of his many legacies to our branch was, and still is, the collection of brown coins; one time it was pence and halfpennies, now it is 1c, 2c and 5c. His favourite collection points were outside our local schools, and the shop at the convent cross, a very fruitful practice.

Matt and his wife Peg celebrated 61 years of marriage in 2015. He was a great husband and father to their two boys and two girls. He was a truly Christian man, quietly spoken, firm in his beliefs and faith. He is sadly missed in our branch, but of course the greatest loss is to his family.

We the members of Midleton St Joseph's Young Priests Society take this opportunity to put on record our deep personal loss to a man held in the highest esteem and friendship by all our members, and we request that our letter be published in the Sheaf.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasail.
Tom Cotter, (Branch Secretary)

Recently Deceased

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

Bankers Branch

The 83 men and women from the banking industry who died during the year to November whose names were placed on the altar at the Mass of Remembrance in Wynn's Hotel, Dublin

Civil Service Branch

Donal Heffernan

Insurance Tom Ahern,

Arthur Agnew, Donal Killalea

LOCAL BRANCHES

Ardfield/Rathbarry John Callanan,

Finbarr Moloney, May Kavanagh

Armagh Joseph Oliver,

Catherine (Cassie) McCrilly

Ballagh/Ballyleague

Sally O'Donoghue

Ballyphehane Pat Burke,

John Calnan

Bohermeen Nan Fitzsimons,

Alice (Polly) Fay

Callan Stafia Walsh, Sr Alphonsus

Carrigaline Kitty O'Sullivan

Castletown/Kilpatrick Mary Ryan

Christ the King, Turner's Cross

Theresa O'Reilly, Seán Bannon,

Irene Dermody, Ann Murphy,

Mr Whooley

Coleraine (St John's Branch)

Harry Creelman

Derriagh Branch Don Canning

(First president of the Down & Connor Diocesan Committee)

Derrygonnelly/Botha Breeda Smyth,

Damien McGovern,

John Farmer, Melenie Evans,

May Gallagher, Elizabeth Foy,

Jacqueline Feely, Nellie Swift,

Mary Jane McCabe, Kathleen

Maguire, Gabriel Moohen,

John Higgins

Drogheda Joseph Coogan

Dundalk Maura Gerrard, Kathleen

Hallahan, Ida Lewis, May O'Hagan

Dundrum Elizabeth Irving,

Rose Hegarty, Matthew McIlvenna,

Marie Murray

Dun Laoghaire Helen Molony

Errigal Nellie Conway,

Kate Mullan, Paddy Cassidy,

Billy Robinson, Jim McCormick,

Annie Brolly, Patsy Deighan,

Mary E Deighan

Harold's Cross, Dublin

Harry McKeown

Knockninny Frank Brady,

Teresa Reilly, Eugene Martin, Mary

Burke, John Cassidy, Hubert Gunn,

Anna Teresa Gunn, Tom McBrien,

Adrian Power, Joe McAdam,

Maura Gunn, Mary Maguire

Larkhill Eleanor O'Boyle,

Kathleen Parsons, Kathleen Smith,

Michael Hickey

Limavady Brian McElhinney

Marino Mona Feeney, Anne Flynn,

Brendan Lynch

Midleton Irene Colbert, Sr Mary

(Phylis Neville), Sr Claire Clifford,

Matt Kerins

Mornington Clare Eagleton

Naas Margaret Mullaney

Navan (St Mary's Jubilee Branch)

Nell Jones, Rose Smyth, Phyllis

McNamee, Alison McCormack,

Vincent Bradley

Portadown Patrick Walsh,

Colette Toman, Thomas McCoee,

Ann McEvoy, James Coleman,

Eileen McKeever

Rathkeale Brid Hough

Rathgar Ita Little

Rathmines Eileen D'Arcy,

Margaret Byrne

Sandyford Geraldine Glasgow

Scotshouse (Currin) Mary Cassidy,

Aidan Quigley

Steelstown - Our Lady of Lourdes

Geraldine Payne

St John Vianney, Ardlea

Jenny Lloyd, Maureen Mulligan

Swords Hinda Duff

Templemore Sr Rosario Ryan,

Anna O'Brien, Bernard Ryan,

Mary Delahunty

Templeport Marie McGovern,

Seán McGovern, Maureen Greene,

Joe O'Reilly, Seán O'Reilly,

Margaret McManus, Pat Joe

McGovern, Aileen McGovern,

Frank Kavanagh, Maura Dolan

Terenure Peggy Deering,

Eileen O'Byrne

Trillick Jack McGrade, Stephen

McKiernan, Joseph Wilson,

Lily Doyle, Mac McCaughey,

Ethel Grainger, Aiden McCamey

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Anonymous Donation €20

The Wayfarer

by Padraic Pearse (1879 - 1916)

The beauty of the world has made me sad.
This beauty that will pass.

Sometimes my heart has shaken with great joy
to see a leaping squirrel on a tree
or a red ladybird upon a stalk.

Or little rabbits, in a field at evening,
lit by a slanty sun.

Or some green hill, where shadows drifted by,
some quiet hill,
where mountain man has sown, and soon will reap,
near to the gate of heaven.

Or little children with bare feet
upon the sands of some ebbd sea,
or playing in the streets
of little towns in Connacht.

Things young and happy.

And then my heart has told me -
these will pass,
will pass and change,
will die and be no more.

Things bright, and green.
Things young, and happy.

And I have gone upon my way, sorrowful.