

The Sheaf



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ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

www.stjosephsyoungpriestssociety.com

23 MERRION SQUARE, DUBLIN 2, IRELAND, D02 XE02. TELEPHONE: +353 (1) 676 2593 Email: editor@sjyps.org

SPRING 2019

Nine months into my new job.....

Recently I had the privilege of meeting Vocations Directors from 21 of Ireland's 26 dioceses. I was greatly struck by the optimism, confidence and palpable sense of purpose that permeated our gathering. This echoes the experiences I've had during my first nine months as Rector of the National Seminary.



Fr. Tom Surlins - Rector of the National Seminary

There's a vibrant and healthy community life within both the seminary and the wider College. Coupled with the enthusiasm, commitment to prayer, study and pastoral outreach that is evident among our seminarians, I can confidently affirm that St Patrick's College, Maynooth has a bright future.

To that end, an exciting initiative is underway. A committee has been given the task of developing a new programme for the formation of priests in Ireland – here it's called the Ratio Nationalis.

A process of consultation has begun with Parish and Diocesan Pastoral Councils; Bishops, Priests and Religious; Third-Level Chaplains; Youth Ministers and Groups and of course Seminarians themselves.

All of these groups are being asked to describe and define the human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral qualities they consider desirable and necessary for those who would embark on the great voyage of discovery that is initial formation for the diocesan priesthood.

Our goal in the National Seminary is to provide a welcoming milieu where well-rounded, highly-educated men of prayer and pastoral zeal prepare for a life of priestly service in Ireland and further afield. A new Ratio Nationalis will be of great assistance in this regard.

Fr Seamus, chief chaplain to the Society, attended World Youth Day in Panama in January with 30 young people from the Dublin diocese and other parts of Ireland. The Irish, who were there with hundreds of thousands of other young people from around the world, stayed with families in Fr Rolando's parishes called Parroquia Santiago Apostol, Panama City.

The hospitality, openness and welcome they received helped make it a life changing experience for the pilgrims, many of whom had been to World Youth Day in Krakow three years ago.

During the week-long event, with the theme 'Dare to say Yes', following Our Lady's example at the annunciation, the Irish men and women experienced a new culture and grew in their faith through prayer and in the sharing of their lives with local youth and parishioners, and in the sharing of common experiences as Catholics who face day-to-day challenges.

They continue to say 'Yes' to Jesus, as Mary did, to whatever opportunities that come in their way since returning home.

As Fr Seamus says "Here's looking forward to the next World Youth Day in Portugal in 2020!"



Fr Rolando Aparacio and Fr Seamus McEntee vested for the closing Mass at World Youth Day in Panama 2019.

Dear Brigid,

Thank God we had a great response to our church gate collection on 28th April.

We covered five Masses in total and we handed out the Thank You cards which we felt were most informative of the Society's great works. We got new signs printed and they were very effective, but most importantly of all we got a Permit from An Garda Siochana enabling us to stand outside, rather than inside, the church railings. The banner was printed previously.

In total the parishioners of Trim/Boardsmill contributed €988 towards the Society's charitable funds. It was a great response with so many contributing.

Thank you all in the office for your assistance throughout the year, always so pleasant and efficient.

Sincerely, Rita



Rita Sheridan, Secretary of Trim Branch, with Charlie Bloomer the Branch President.

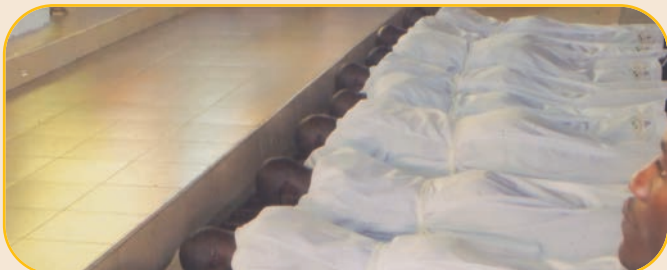
Kenya Ordinations 21st December 2018



Candidates for Diaconate processing for ordination



The candidates prepare to prostrate for The Litany of Saints



Prostration during The Litany of Saints



The laying on of hands by the Bishop



The newly ordained deacons fully vested



The newly ordained deacons acknowledging greetings from the congregation

St. Mathias Mulumba Seminary Tindinyo, P.O. Box 900,
Kapsabet, Kenya 6-1-2019

Dear Benefactors,

I am Deacon Leonard Kandia Chandeche from the Catholic Diocese of Kakamega; a student of Theology in the above mentioned institution. I am in the fifth year of seminary formation in which we have been ordained on 21st Dec, 2018.

I want to sincerely thank you for the spiritual, moral and financial support since I started my formation. I thank God I am in my last year of formation, and I still need your support to complete my formation.

I will continue praying for you and your families that the Good Lord may continue blessing you all.

Yours in Christ

Rev Deacon Leonard Kandia Chandeche



St. Mathias Mulumba Seminary, P.O. Box 900
Kapsabet, Kenya

January 2019

Dear Benefactors,

Greetings. I am Geoffrey Stanley Osidi. I am in third year theology and if all goes well I will be completing my seminary formation in 2020 May.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your unfailing support for all the time I have been in the seminary during my formation. Thank you for your support both spiritually and materially. May almighty God Bless you and grant you your deepest hearts desires.

On my part I promise to work hard in my academics and in all aspects of my formation. Continue praying for me and I also assure you my prayers.

Yours sincerely

Geoffrey Stanley Osidi



St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary, P.O. Box 30517
Nairobi, Kenya

6-1-2019

Dear Benefactors,

May the grace and blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. I hereby write this letter to sincerely appreciate your spiritual and financial support.

I am now in fourth year theology, having been newly ordained as a deacon last year 21/12/2018. I humbly request that you continue supporting me; and on my side, I also promise you my prayers.

Yours faithfully

Rev Deacon Charles Simiyu



St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary, P.O. Box 30517
Nairobi, Kenya

Jan 6, 2019

Dear Benefactors,

May the Grace and Peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. It is my humble request to extend my sincere and inner most gratitude for your continuous extended financial and spiritual support to my formation to the sacred order of priesthood.

I am currently doing my theology at St Thomas Aquinas National Seminary in Nairobi capital of Kenya, in my third year. I am grateful and thank you so much. May God's blessings always be with you.

Yours in Christ

Andrew Omondi Joachim



Nowadays many people who have spent maybe up to 40 years at their lifetime's work have the option of retiring at 60 or 65. This is something to which they can look forward, as it is a natural transition in life. In retirement they may choose to spend their time at leisure or part-time or full time work in other areas – a welcome change from the daily routine of the workload built up since schooldays. This is the story, compliments of Christy M Kelly of Bushypark Branch in Galway, the story of one who made a choice of what he would like to do at retirement; but we let Christy tell the story of Sean Coyne (1922-2017)

Born in Islandeady, Co Mayo, in August 1922, Sean Coyne was one of four children born to John and Bridie Kilcoyne. His younger brother Colm who became a priest was a well known journalist having a weekly column in the Irish Times. After leaving school, Sean spent 3 years in the army before working in the hat factory in Castlebar and from there joined the Department of Post and Telegraphs (later Eircom) as a technician in Galway. While working there he met and, in 1951, married Rita Monaghan from Caherlistrane, Co Galway. Sean and Rita were married for thirty years, during which time Rita became ill and following a long illness she departed this earthly life in December 1981.

When young, Sean had always thoughts of becoming a priest, and following the death of Rita, these thoughts returned once more. He knew that within two years he would be retiring from the P & T and wondered what would be the next step in his life. Following his retirement and after having sought advice from many including his brother, Fr Colm, and Bishop Eamonn Casey, Bishop of Galway, Sean decided on the priesthood at 62 years of age. He went to Rome where he studied for four years before returning to Galway to be ordained a

priest. He was ordained in Galway Cathedral on Sunday the 19th of June 1988, by Bishop Eamonn Casey.

Following his ordination Fr Sean was appointed curate of Mervue parish in Galway and from there to Claregalway parish. He then left Claregalway to become administrator to Kilchreest before moving to Bushypark Galway as curate in 1996 where he became a founding member of the Bushypark Branch of St Joseph's Young Priests Society. He remained an active member of the branch until his appointment in 2005, as Chaplain in the Bon Secours Hospital, Renmore, Galway, where he celebrated Mass every morning in the little chapel in the hospital. As his health was beginning to fail, he celebrated his last public Mass in the hospital on the 7th October 2015.

However he continued to celebrate Mass at our quarterly meeting of the Galway Diocesan Committee in the hospital chapel, as the meetings of the branch took place there. His final Mass for the Diocesan Committee took place just a month before his death.

Fr Sean had a great love and devotion for Our Blessed Lady and organized a yearly mini-vigil to Knock. It was attended by many from far and wide. One of his last

wishes was that the annual mini-vigil would continue to take place.

The main celebrant at his funeral Mass in St Oliver Plunkett Church, Renmore, was Canon Michael McLoughlin, PP Moycullen, Diocesan Administrator, assisted by Archbishop Michael Neary, Archbishop of Tuam, Dr Martin Drennan, retired Bishop of Galway, Bishop Brendan Kelly, Bishop of Achonry, and Bishop Fintan Monahan, Bishop of Killaloe, together with over 30 fellow priests from the Diocese of Galway. As his remains were taken from the church, the joint choirs of Claregalway and Bushypark churches sang the beautiful hymn 'Our Lady of Knock' as a reminder of Fr Sean's devotion to Our Blessed Lady.

Following his funeral Mass, members from the various branches of Saint Joseph's Young Priests Society, formed a guard of honour beside the hearse as it made its way from the church on its final journey.

Fr Sean was laid to rest with his late wife Rita in Caherlistrane cemetery.

Our Society's loss is heaven's gain, may his gentle soul rest in peace.

Christy Kelly

2019 PILGRIMAGE DATES

Our Lady's Shrine, KNOCK Saturday 22 June.

Our Lady's Island, WEXFORD Sunday 28 July.

Celebrating 25 years



3 Burrenreach Park,
Castlewellan
Co. Down BT31 9HU

Dear Sir/Madam

Recently the Newcastle/Bryansford Branch of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society celebrated 25 years since the Society was established in our Parish.

To mark the occasion we were joined by some members from the neighbouring Parishes of Castlewellan and Downpatrick when we celebrated Mass and had light refreshments in our Parish Centre.

Photographs were taken and I enclose one of them in hope that you would kindly publish it in your next edition of the Sheaf.

Yours sincerely

B.E. McAuley
President of the Newcastle/Bryansford Branch



FORM OF BEQUEST

**Please remember St. Joseph's Young Priests
Society in your Will**

*I give and bequeath to St. Joseph's Young Priests
Society, 23 Merrion Square, Dublin 2
the sum of €..... for the charitable purposes
of the Society and I declare that the receipt of the
General Secretary of the Society shall be sufficient
discharge to my Executor*

Recently Deceased

LOCAL BRANCHES

- Abbeyfeale** Eileen O'Brien
Ardfield / Rathbarry Mike Deasy, Eileen O'Donovan, Marie Hogan Christy McCarthy
Arklow Margaret Tyrrell
Armagh Leo Murphy, Margaret O'Neill, Eithne Quinn
Ballyphehane Maureen Clinton
Ballinteer Dympna Harpur
Bayside Teresa Bowers
Bellaghy Dolores Mulholland
Bohermeen Madeline Harrison, Josephine Kavanagh, Hilda Conlon, Sean Gantley, Betty Curry, Margaret Brady, Johnny Henry, Mayphil Reilly
Caherdavin Bridie Fox, Eileen Farrell
Carrigaline Billy Hogan. Maura Stack
Cashel Mary McInerney
Cleenish Kevin DeLacey, Anne Fogarty, Dympna Lilly, Eileen Tobin, Gerry Scallon, Mary Maguire, Jonathan Philip Cole, Catherine Gunn, Maura Cullen, Margaret Johnson, Pauline Kilkenny, Larry McCaffrey, Margaret McGovern, Nancy Scott, Tom Stewart, Hugh Terence Nolan, Terry Cullen, Aidan Murray, Paddy Guinness
Clonakilty Margaret (Peg) O'Sullivan
Curraheen Road Jack Terry
Derrygonnelly/Botha Tarry Hoy, Tommy Jones, Lawrence Magee
Drangan Mary O'Carroll
Drogheda Mary Murray, Kathleen Vaughey, Josie Judge, Maureen Coyle, May McCullough, Fr Phelim McKeown
Dunboyne Maura O'Donoghue
Dundalk Sr Mary Berchmans Flood
Ennis Maureen Frawley
Enniskillen Maura Curran, Teddy Henderson, Ronan Lunney, Colette McCann, Tom McCloskey, Mary Corrigan, Ben Donnelly, Sheila McCaffrey, Terry Campbell, Moyra Burns. Sheila McCaffrey, Terry Campbell, May Duffy, Veronica Earley, Mary Hassard Maeve Gibb, Maura Curran, Maura Burns
General William Ryan
Kill-o-the-Grange Christine Lawlor (late president)
Maghera Gerry O'Kane, Christopher Flanagan, Moira Neeson, Bernadette O'Kane, Anna Fullerton, Tommy Donnelly, Francis Gallagher, Josephine Molloy, Mary O'Doherty, Robert Hanna, Mary Costello, Mary Teresa Carley, Gerard Dempsey, Bridie Convery, David McGuckin, Patrick Molloy, Patrick Hugh McGuckin
Mallow Rita Roche
Monaghan Raymond McGreevy
Mountnugent/Balinacree Noel Lynch, Margaret Lynch, Maureen Hussey, Jim Lynch, Tommy Smith, Anne Hussey, Peggy Smith
Our Lady Crowned (Mayfield) Helen Thornhill, Maura Ryan
Portadown John McNally, Martin Hagan. Michael Sherry, Sarah Fox, Brendan Litter, Sheila McConville, Anna Rowney, May Bunting
Portlaoise Joseph Duff
Rathmines Maureen Cahill
St John the Baptist – Clontarf Sheila O'Mahony, Marie McCauley, Aidan Golden.
St John Vianney – Ardlea Philomena Gargan, Paddy McCluskey. Tom Berry, Hal Ryan
Templemore Bridget Sexton, Patrick Nolan, John Geary, Lar Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Egan
Templeogue Brid Nolan
Trillick Etha Harte, Thomas Farry, Joseph Colton
Trim Eileen Hughes, Margaret Gaughran

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Anonymous Donations
 €25, €250, €40, €40, €50, €100 €1,000