

Definitory News

Issue No. 2012—4

Franciscan Province of Ireland

May 2012

The meeting was held in Merchants' Quay on 30 April - 2 May 2012. All members were present. Prayer and liturgies were led by Hugh McKenna, who also chaired the meeting.

Gormanston

Conor O'Brien and Luke Monahan of the Board of Management were welcomed to the meeting. Conor gave an update on the various issues facing the College at this time. Luke spoke about the work and plans of the Development committee which aims to engage the local schools, the parents and the PPU. Ulic Troy, Rector, also joined the meeting and reported on his work in the College. There is by and large a good spirit in the college at this time. The Graduation ceremony will take place on 25 May at 12.00.

Wexford

A letter was received from John Shaw, Solicitor, noting that the Conventuals have now set up a limited company and been granted charitable status so that we are in a position to apply to the Commissioner for Charitable Donations and Bequests for the transfer of our property in Wexford to the Conventuals.

Drogheda

Sister Marie Coyle, fmdm, forwarded the final statement for the renovation work done on the windows of Drogheda friary. All the work has now been completed.



Provincial Committees

Formation: The definitory discussed the present formation arrangement in **Canterbury**. It was agreed that members of the Irish Province need to visit Canterbury more often to provide support for the Post-Novitiate programme. A list of members of the definitory and formation secretariat will be drawn up to ensure that one friar visits each month for 3—5 days. Joe Condren reported on the postulancy programme in Killarney. Congratulations to Adrian McGrath who has produced an excellent booklet on the experience of the group. Pat Lynch reported on the recent **Vocations** weekend and on the number of possible candidates for September.

The programme for the Guardians' Meeting, 14 -16 May, was finalized and approved.

PSAG: The **Safeguarding Committee** met recently. Maranna Quinlivan monitored the friaries on the western half and Monica Dowling did likewise for the eastern side. The monitors recommend that the recording of incidents and child safeguarding ought to be kept in separate books. Inspections by our monitors do not replace those by diocesan monitors.



Provincial Resources Assessment

Shane Cowley and Tracy Comerford presented a power point presentation on the current personnel, property and financial resources of the province with a view to helping the definitory to plan for the future by ascertaining the extent to which the current resources available can be expected to meet future commitments. A detailed report will be presented to the Province at or before the next Provincial Chapter.

Joint Meeting of the English and Irish Definitories

The annual joint meeting with the definitory of the English Province took place. It was attended by Michael Capps (Minister Provincial), Edmund Highton (Vicar Provincial), Brian McGrath, Patrick Lonsdale, Séamus Mulholland, Reginald Gray and Daniel Convery from the UK as well as all the members of the Irish definitory. The topics covered were: Initial and Ongoing Formation, Challenges the friars face and respond to in passing on the faith, and safeguarding issues. All present felt that the meeting had been open, fraternal, honest and helpful.

Other Matters

The Autism Action Ireland launch at the Mansion House was very successful and there was a good representation of friars present. Hugh spoke and welcomed the organisation as a partner to the Multyfarnham Project. A photo of the friars with Keith Duffy appeared in the celebrity magazine, VIP.

Fr. Billy Cleary, C.S.Sp., Dean of Studies at Holy Trinity College in Harare, has been recalled to Ireland by his congregation. The Rector of HTC has recommended that Fanuel Magwidi be appointed to replace him.

Adrian Peelo has recently been elected Vicar of his fraternity in San Luis Rey following the Provincial Chapter.

ESC Meeting: Hugh gave a report on the recent meeting of the ESC Minister Provincial held in San Antonio, Texas. The meeting heard reports from different groups and interests (Franciscan Action Network, situation of the Franciscan Study Centres, the Holy Land, Yufra, taxation by the general curia, the Liturgy Commission, etc.) The updated Roman Seraphic Missal should be available by June of next year, pending approval from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. The new Missal will only contain the Franciscan celebrations, including those of newly beatified and canonized Franciscans. It will also contain the Proper of the Mass so it can be used independently of the regular Roman Missal. The sub-conferences of North America and Europe also held their meetings. In addition there was a study day conducted by Fr. Ray Carey, Psychologist. A Plenary Council of the order will be held in Warsaw in September next year and the General Chapter will begin on 3 May and end on 6 June, 2015.

Language School: Twelve applications have already been received for the English-Language school for foreign friars to be held in Gormanston in July. Applications close at the end of May. Edgewater College Drogheda has once again agreed to run the course at the same price as last year. A few other foreign friars have made personal arrangements to stay in friaries to learn English.

Award Medal: Liam Kelly on behalf of the Ennis fraternity has requested that Eileen Williams be awarded the Provincial medal for long and loyal service. She has been associated with the work of the FMU in Ennis for about twenty five years. The Definitory agreed to the request.

CORI AGM: Kieran gave an account of the opening session of the AGM of CORI which he attended. Both the Nuncio and Archbishop Martin spoke. Hugh will attend the AGM of the IMU next week.

Changes to Necrology: January 8 2005 Fergal Grannell - February 2 2006 Germain Mannion - February 16 2012 Leo Clifford - April 8 2009 Patrick McSweeney - April 28 1949 Adrian O'Connor - May 21 2003 Manus Campbell - August 12 2009 Thomas Byrne - November 12 2004 Robert Molloy - December 29 1967 David O'Callaghan, Birmingham.

Sick & Infirm: We remembered the sick friars especially those who have been ill or infirm over time: Alexis King, Matthew McDonald and Sebastian Tighe and those who have been ill more recently: Philip Deane, Paschal Slevin and John Harty.

Deceased: Bridget McCormack (sister of the late Eamon Masterson)

Next Meeting: 18 - 20 June 2012.