



MOZAMBIQUE GROWS

Redemptorist Provincial, Dan Baragry (second from the left) visited Redemptorist seminarians in their new formation house in Mozambique. *See page 4.*

REDEMPTORISTS 'AT THE PLOUGHING'

The Redemptorists set up shop at the Ploughing Championships. *Read the story on page 3.*




REDEMPTORIST PROFESSION DAY

May 12 was a day of celebration as Ryan renewed his vows

On Sunday 12th May 2019, Br Ryan Holovlasky CSsR renewed his vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. The renewal of vows took place during the 11am Mass in Clonard Monastery Belfast and Provincial Fr Dan Baragry CSsR was present. This event coincided with Vocations Sunday and was a great witness to the

Redemptorist Vocation. Br Ryan continues his studies for the priesthood and is currently finishing his theology studies in the USA.

If you are interested in the Redemptorist way of life as brother or priest please contact the Vocations Director Fr Derek Ryan CSsR at vocations@cssr.ie . 



Provincial Fr Dan Baragry CSsR and Br Ryan Holovlasky CSsR



Fr Tony Rice CSsR, Br Ryan Holovlasky CSsR, Fr Dan Baragry CSsR, Fr Peter Burns CSsR and Fr Neol Kehoe CSsR



Fr Willie McGettrick CSsR, Br Ryan Holovlasky CSsR and Fr Sean Moore CSsR

JOINING THE RANKS

Sr Máire Bríd and Sr Helen Mary write about landmark days on their journey to become Redemptoristines

Sr Máire Bríd

I made my First Profession as a Redemptoristine Sister on August 31, 2019. It was a very blessed day surrounded by my Redemptoristine community, family and friends. I am so grateful to God for the whole journey and to each one who helped me through their prayer, kindness, support, advice, patience and understanding.

As of yet, I do not have adequate words to express what this day meant to me. The Profession of the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience for three years is a formal and public expression of something much deeper and I'm not sure that I've plumbed the depths of it yet. It is a journey of going deeper into God – the ground of my being, discovering there who I am, how I am deeply loved by God and then

responding to such love. It is about being present to the moment and fully alive, giving all of myself, becoming the 'viva memoria', having a fixed gaze on Him, holding each one in their pain and joy and lifting them up to God, knowing deep within that we are all one in God, our Creator.....and all this is a journey, I'm not quite fully there yet.

This is an opportunity for me to thank those who had any part in my First Profession, to my sisters who put so much preparation and effort into the day and for all their support and love. I am very grateful for their faithfulness and example. To my family who have shaped me in so many ways and to all my friends who have supported me along the road. To Rev Mgr John Dolan (Vicar for Religious), Fr




Peter Burns CSsR for his support and for the powerful homily and Fr Dan Baragry CSsR (Provincial) who kept it all flowing. Thank you to each one for your support to me personally and to our community.

FURROWING A NEW FIELD!

It has been ten years since the Redemptorists last exhibited at the Ploughing Championships, so in September Fr Gerry O'Connor CSsR, Fr Michael Forde CSsR, Fr Seamus Devitt CSsR and Claire Carmichael packed their wellies and set off to the 2019 Ploughing Championships. The event this year took place in Fenagh, Co Carlow.

Our stand was in the main business section, surrounded by the best of Irish produce we set up our stall. We were unsure what to expect. There was a presence of other religious orders and organisations so we were not alone in our mission.

The event attracts over 100,000 people each day over the three days. The sun shone very brightly for the week and certainly helped to enhance the atmosphere. Over the week we connected with many people both young and old who shared their experiences of Redemptorist missions and novenas over the years. There was reminiscing of Redemptorists who had returned home to God. We met family members of Redemptorists past and present. People shared their views of church and life with us. On our stand we had the relic of St Gerard Majella and many people asked to be blessed with it. There was also the opportunity to write petitions and thanksgiving and our basket filled over the three days.

It was a great opportunity to share the Redemptorist mission and way of life with many people. The experience overall was one of positivity and a great way to share the Redemptorist story with many people. 



Frs Michael and Gerry enjoying ice cream on a hot day



Frs Michael Forde and Seamus Devitt



2019 Rose of Tiralee Sinead Flanagan with Fr Gerry O'Connor



Some of the religious present at the Ploughing Championships

Sr Helen Mary

October 6 was an important, joyous and blessed day in my continuing journey with God, with allowing him to seduce me and of me trusting in him more each day. October 6 was the day of my clothing, when I asked the community of the Monastery of St Alphonus to teach me to follow Jesus, the Redeemer, so that I may become a living memory of Christ according to the teachings of Blessed Maria Celeste Crostarosa. It was the day of my entry into the Novitiate of the Order of the Most Holy Redeemer, when I received the red habit of a Redemptoristine and the white veil of a novice, as well as my religious name Sr. Helen Mary of the Most Blessed Sacrament of Love, (my full name from baptism with a predicate of my choice).

It was a big day as well because I had visitors from England who had come over to celebrate with me this wonderful and blessed day. Two from my parish in Middleton, England, my spiritual director, one from another parish (and connected with the Visitation Sisters in England) and one friend representing all my dancing friends. For the ceremony I was also joined by many people from Church, dancing and my old work, who were able to watch via the webcam.

I had chosen some of my favourite hymns for the ceremony including: Come down O love divine; Listen, let your heart keep seeking; Father hear the prayer we offer (my parents' favourite), and Bless the Lord my soul (Taizé). And I was blessed to have Fr



Stan, a Redemptorist brother, at the ceremony, who preached a beautiful homily.

It was a day of great joy, happiness and celebration for all. A truly blessed day. 

SIGNS OF HOPE IN MOZAMBIQUE



Provincial Dan Baragry writes about his recent visit to the our newest mission field, Mozambique

I was privileged to be present last September in Maputo the capital of Mozambique, at a gathering of the Redemptorists working in that country. I found the meeting inspiring and uplifting and was filled with a sense of hope for the future of this young mission. Nine Redemptorists are currently working in Mozambique, five from Argentina, two from Ireland and one from Brazil in three large and challenging parishes. Though from diverse cultures and backgrounds they are making serious efforts to collaborate more closely together and to strengthen the Redemptorist Mission in Mozambique. They are convinced that the future of the mission depends on developing the local church and fostering local vocations to the Redemptorists. As people will remember Mozambique experienced very serious flooding earlier in the year which impacted on the lives of hundreds of thousands of people; while the Redemptorist



Fr Marcelo Pomar CSsR Provincial of Buenos Aires with Fr Dan Baragry CSsR

parishes were not affected by this terrible tragedy we were happy to be able to offer some help to those who were.

The highlight of the visit for me was the blessing of the new Redemptorist formation house on the outskirts of Maputo. This was a common project of the three Provinces involved in the mission and is a tangible sign that the Redemptorists are putting down

roots in Mozambique which will hopefully produce a harvest that will bring many blessings to the people and church of this troubled country. Currently there are 11 young men in the formation programme, all at the very early stages, however one made his 1st Profession during the summer, the first Mozambican Redemptorist and it is hoped that four others will be ready to being their Novitiate in



The new formation house


2020; a great sign of hope for the future.

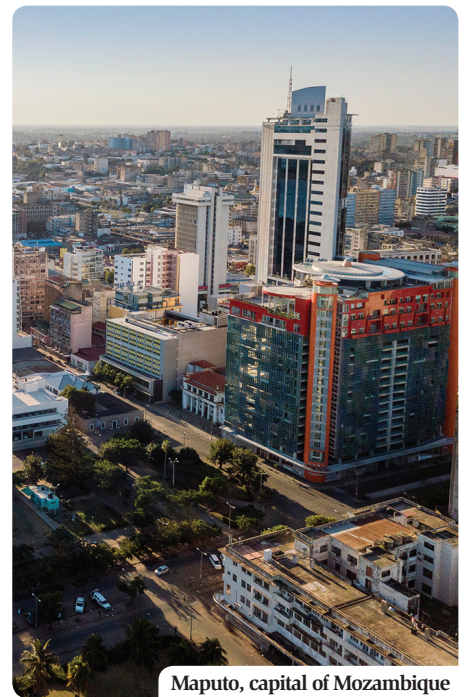
Our Irish confreres along with Fr. Eridian from Brazil, continue to minister in Furancungo Parish. Since taking responsibility for this large rural parish in 2012 they have established strong and firm roots with the local people. The building of the new church, thanks to the support and generosity of so many here in Ireland, was a significant achievement and it is now the centre of a vibrant and lively faith community.

This year has seen some changes in the Irish personnel in Furancungo, after four years of dedicated service Fr. Derek Ryan has returned to the home Province and is currently curate in St. Joseph's parish in Dundalk. Fr. Brian Holmes, after four years as Vice-Provincial Bursar in Fortaleza (Brazil), has returned to the mission in Mozambique. Fr. Brian was part of the original group to arrive in Furancungo in 2012 and we wish him well as he settles back into life and ministry there. Fr. John Bermingham continues as Parish Priest.

An important development in the life of Furancungo was the decision earlier this year by the Sisters of

Our Lady of Consolation to open a house in the Parish. Since then three Mozambique Sisters have taken up residence and are already making their mark. They have been fully intergraded into the Parish Team and have opened new possibilities for reaching out to the local people, especially to the women.

While still a very young mission, facing huge challenges, there are real signs for optimism as we look to the future. I take the opportunity of thanking all who have supported this mission in Mozambique, either materially or spiritually, over the past years, and confidently hope that we can continue to rely on your generosity and prayers. 



Maputo, capital of Mozambique



Blessing of the Icon for the new Formation House.



Fr Brian Holmes CSsR, Fr Eridian CSsR and Fr John Bermingham CSsR



Cake to celebrate the blessing of the new Formation House.

MEET THE MINISTRIES

St Joseph's monastery, Dundalk, opened its doors to all parishioners to experience the new building and meet the people behind the parish ministries. By Julie Bellew

The blessing of the new building in St Joseph's Dundalk presented a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many and varied ministries that help to make 'The Reds' such a special place of belonging.

Throughout the new corridors, fabulous giant posters prepared by each ministry were on display; they explained what was involved in each ministry, the history, the basis in scripture, what participation looked like and how people could become involved.

Ministers were delighted to chat to everyone about what they do and all surpassed themselves with brilliant and insightful glimpses into their ministry.


Indeed, in some cases there was a chance to really get into the spirit, ringing 'the church bells', sounding gongs and getting photos as an altar server, to name but a few. Wonderful photographic slides were shown at some stands, to the delight of all.

A detailed 'Memory

Lane' photographic and historical display created huge interest in the hall, where it was great to find photographs of family and friends past and present through the decades.

No celebration is complete without a 'cuppa' and cake. An army of volunteers provided delicious home-baking and a beautiful cake to mark the day for the Redemptorist family. A recital by St. Joseph's choir, a display of Irish dancing, hand massages and a free

raffle were thoroughly enjoyed throughout the afternoon. Children were treated to face painting, balloon modelling and 'Mini Athletics' coaching. A specially commissioned fingerprint tree formed a lasting reminder of the event.

Everyone involved was overwhelmed with the energy and enthusiasm on the day. A vibrant church community alive and thriving, thank God. A special thank you to all who made this day possible. 



Looking at the memory wall



Members of the Youth Ministry Group

A cake to mark the day



Volunteers Paul Lambe, Barbara McCabe
Yvonne Gregory



Tom Fegan and Gerry Nixon



Seán and Jean Watters



The gathering for the blessing of the hall



The Connolly School Of Dance at the Open Day

LEAD ME LORD

The Redemptorist Choir, Dundalk, recently released their first album during St Gerard's Novena. The choir has been in existence since at least 1894 but this is the first time they have released an album. This prompted their current director, Trevor Clarke, to consider such a project when he was appointed to the position five years ago. "Although the choir has been in existence for a very long time and has had huge success over that time, I couldn't find any recordings of the choir, which I thought was a real shame", explains Trevor. "In the past the choir had upwards of 50 members, all men and boys, but unfortunately this number had dwindled over the proceeding few years. So I set about trying to recruit new members and restore the choir to its former glory.

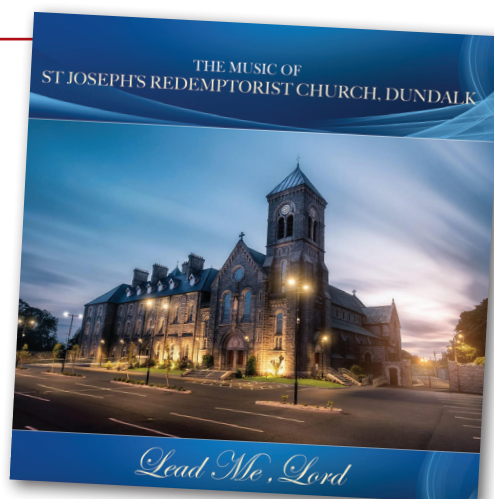
Having built the choir back up to over 45 members, male and female, and installed our brand new Viscount church organ, the time felt right to embark on this ambitious project".

After a long period of preparations and planning, recording took place live in St Joseph's Church over two days in early July. The church was closed up after the morning masses and reopened for the evening mass. "In the months leading up to the recording we undertook a survey among our parishioners to find out what kind of an album they would like to hear. The result of that survey is a 12 track album of sacred music and organ music, featuring some

well known hymns such as *How great thou art* and *Hail Redeemer, King divine*, as well as some more contemporary choral pieces such as John Rutter's *Look at the world* and Lori True's setting of the Irish blessing *May the road rise to meet you*. We felt it was important that the album was a true representation of what we do, so we recorded it in the church and all of the music on the CD can be heard regularly sung by the choir at Sunday mass". The choir are accompanied on the album by Trevor on the Viscount organ or by assistant director of the choir, Anne Quinn, on piano. It was produced by Mark Cahill of MPC Productions, Slane.

Lead me, Lord was released during St Gerard's novena in October and proved to be such an instant hit with parishioners that it sold out within 4 days! "We were overwhelmed by how well the CD was received and how quickly it sold out", says Trevor. "Unfortunately we were unable to keep up with the demand for it during the novena but we have since received a large order of CDs so hopefully those who were not able to purchase one during the novena will now be able to get their hands on a copy. It would certainly make a lovely Christmas present!"


The album was recently reviewed by Dr. John O'Keeffe, head of sacred music at St Patrick's College, Maynooth, who described the choir's singing as "all that one could wish to hear in a church - comforting, assuring, inspiring, without ever sounding forced".




In congratulating the choir on their achievement, Dr. O'Keeffe says "St Joseph's Parish has a real treasure here - one to be carefully cultivated and protected for the future".

Copies of *Lead me, Lord* are available to purchase from the new religious good shop at St Joseph's monastery, Dundalk, priced at €10, and from usual online digital music outlets. All proceeds from sales of the album will be reinvested into music in St Joseph's allowing the choir to further enhance their musical offering to the parish.

The choir are actively recruiting a few more men at the moment. No previous choral experience required. If you are interesting in joining please leave your details at the reception in the monastery.

The next major event for the choir will be their hugely popular Carol Service, which will take place on Sunday December 22 at 7pm. 

BOOK LAUNCH - UNITY PILGRIM

Unity Pilgrim: The Life of Fr Gerry Reynolds by Dr Gladys Ganiel of the George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queen's University, Belfast, was launched in Clonard Church on May 22 last. The book was launched by Gerry's great friend and long-term partner in the peace ministry, Rev Dr Ken Newell. In a very warm address, Ken traced many of the basic themes of Gerry's life. Dr Ganiel, who had worked previously in the Irish School of Ecumenics, traced the history of the writing of the book and her use of Gerry's primary sources. The book has been warmly received by those who knew him longest and best. Present at the launch were some members of the Reynolds family, especially his sister Noreen Castle. Noreen took a lively interest in the production of the book and was able to provide a large stock of the pictures from the family albums, including some of her other Redemptorist family members, Gerry's uncles, Fr Gerard Senior and Fr James, as well as the late Fr Pat his brother. The launch was very well attended, by Gerry's many friends from across the religious divides of Belfast. It was a most pleasant evening in early summer and conversation continued along the corridors of the monastery and into the garden. The following week saw a second celebration of the book, this time in Mount St Alphonsus on May 27. Again, there was a great turnout of family members and friends from across the city and back to Mungret, the Reynolds family home. Gerry had spent three years in Limerick as rector before going to Clonard. The speaker at Limerick was Ed Petersen who worked with Gerry for many years in the peace and reconciliation ministry in Belfast. He recalled especially Gerry's prayer life and his Limerick roots. While not quite a launch, another session was devoted to the book at the Belfast Feile in August at which both Gladys Ganiel and Ken Newell spoke. 



Noreen Castle, (Fr Gerry's sister) and Dr Gladys Ganiel, author



Dr Gladys Ganiel and Rev Ken Newell



GONE TO GOD



Br. John Long CSsR

Br John was born on May 22, 1923 in Maree, near Oranmore, Co. Galway. He was professed a Redemptorist brother on November 26, 1950. John died on Sunday June 30, 2019, in St. Patrick's Monastery, Esker, Co. Galway. At the time of his death, he was assigned to St. Patrick's Monastery, Esker, Athenry.



John entered the Redemptorist community of Cluain Mhuire, Wellpark, Galway in 1946 as a postulant and entered the novitiate in January 1947. He received the Redemptorist habit on November 25, 1949 and was professed on November 26, 1950. Brother John spent most of his years tending the farms, between our communities of Esker, Athenry and Cluain Mhuire, Galway. He spent some time also in Limerick and was for short periods in Liguori House, Dublin and St. Joseph's Monastery, Dundalk.

He was always a most willing confrere, ready to turn to anything that needed to be done. A man of deep faith and prayer, he was a jovial man and a great confrere to live with, engaging easily with those around him. John was particularly well known all around the area of Esker Monastery and our former student house of Cluain Mhuire, Galway.

Fr Joe Naughton CSsR

Fr Joe was born on April 5, 1930. He was professed on September 8, 1949 and ordained on August 21, 1955. Fr Joe passed away on Saturday July 13, 2019, in the Abbey Nursing Home, Blackrock,



Dundalk. At the time of his death, he was assigned to St. Josephs Monastery, Dundalk.

Fr. Joe Naughton was born on April 5, 1930 in Breaffy, Co. Mayo. He attended St. Clement's College, (the Juvenate), in Limerick city before being admitted to the novitiate in Dundalk and was professed on September 8, 1949 and was ordained on August 21, 1955. Fr. Joe was assigned to the Philippines from 1957 to 1971 and on return to Ireland was a member of the Mount St. Alphonsus Community in Limerick from 1972 to 1984 and of the St. Joseph's Community Dundalk from 1984 to the time of his death. In all these appointments he was engaged in Church work and the giving of parish missions.

A gentle and friendly confrere he was much appreciated by those he lived and worked with. He died in a nursing home outside of Dundalk where he had spent his final year on July 13, 2019.

Fr Phil Dunlea CSsR

Fr Phil was born on July 5, 1935

His profession was held on September 24, 1954. Ordination followed on January

21, 1962. Fr Phil died on July 23, 2019, at Clonard Monastery, Belfast. At the time of his death, he was assigned to that community.

Fr. Philip Dunlea was born in Cork city on July 5, 1935. His family moved to Rathkeale, Co. Limerick and Phil went on to enter the Juvenate in Limerick in 1948. In August 1953 he joined the novitiate in Athenry and took vows on



September 24, 1954. On January 21, 1962 he was ordained in Cluain Mhuire, Galway.

He was soon appointed to the Philippine Mission, where he taught in the new House of Studies and continued teaching in the Juvenate in Iloilo. He later worked in the parish in Dumaguete then in the Cebu retreat house.

In 1981 he returned to Ireland due to his parent's ill health. He was assigned to Limerick Retreat House. In 1984 he was appointed chaplain of St. Clement's Redemptorist College, Limerick. From 1986 to 1993 he was curate in Brookfield Parish, Dublin. From 1993, he was curate at St. Gerard's parish, Belfast and then moved to Clonard Monastery in the autumn of 2002 where he remained until his death.

In Clonard he was very much part of the church ministry team and the chaplaincy team at the Royal Victoria Hospital (RVH) and in recent years was assistant priest in Saint Paul's Parish. Following his death, the chaplaincy team said: "Phil was a much loved and respected part of our chaplaincy team in RVH for almost 17 years. He was a lovely, gentle, caring and supportive man of God."

Phil lead a weekly Christian meditation group in the Oratory in Clonard. He was also interested in listening to classical music, reading theology and bird watching. His sudden and unexpected death came as a shock to all those who knew and loved this gentle and caring confrere.

