

EUROPEAN PROVINCE UPDATE

European Province Update No. 5

June 2015



Edmund Rice Retreat- Mount Sion - May, 5th to May 8th - 2015.

This year the Brothers made a conscious decision to move away from the usual format of the retreat. We had a very strong desire to make the ceremonies more appealing to a wider group of attendees. This we achieved and we are very heartened by the response we received.

On Tuesday Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan celebrated the Eucharist at 8.00pm. The Edmund Rice Choral and Musical Society provided the music. A large number of people attended. This was the Bishop's first time celebrating the Eucharist in the Blessed Edmund Rice chapel.

On Wednesday night at 8.00pm the Edmund Rice Camp Leaders led the ceremonies. The ceremony consisted of sharing information re the work of the camps ; how they became involved in the camps, the training regime, how the participants are recruited, the timetable of the week on camp, the influence of the experience of both leaders and participants; testimonies from leaders, music and intercession prayers. Those present were deeply impressed by the idealism of the leaders and by how Edmund Rice was their inspiration. It was wonderful to have Brs Peter Dowling and John Casey, members of the CLT attending.



On Thursday, Fr John Treacy, former pupil of Youghal C.B.S, celebrated the Eucharist at 8.00pm. The Ballybricken Church choir under the direction of Mai McGrath provided the music. Br Paul Hendrick gave the homily. Br Paul took us on a journey with Edmund through the neighbourhood of Cherry Orchard. It was a most vivid description of the reality of the lives of the people there. Br Paul asked the question; how would Edmund respond to what was to be seen and experienced?

On Friday at 8.00pm we had Taizé Prayer. This was led by Phil Brennan. The All Ireland Peace choir was accompanied by the Waterford part of the Choir of Hope. There was a very large crowd in attendance. Members of the Choir of Hope, male and female, gave testimonies. These consisted of stories, of life experiences, of life challenges, of life's ups and downs; of paths to recovery. These were powerful sharings and made a deep impression on all. It was wonderful to hear them speak of how being members of the Choir enriched their lives.



Students from Mount Sion Primary and Secondary Schools, Transition Students from The Presentation Secondary School, Waterpark Primary School, Gaelscoil na nDeise Primary, took part in liturgies and tours of the heritage centre during the days of the retreat. It was great having youth taking part in the week of celebrations in honour of Blessed Edmund.

Ceremony to Conclude the Diocesan Process for the Canonisation of Alfie Lambe

The Diocesan process of Servant of God Alfie Lambe's Canonization has concluded and was marked by a special ceremony in the Basilica of Nuestra Sende la Merced, Buenos Aires on Thursday, 26th March 2015.

"The Church which "goes forth" is a community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice." (EG 24). Alfie has all of these qualities, being a perfect model for youth and an authentic disciple and missionary. He spoke many times of "living the Legion" which is what Our Holy Father Pope Frances refers to as "living the Church".

A native of Tullamore, Co. Offaly, Alfie Lambe left Ireland working tirelessly spreading the Legion of Mary in South America. After five and half years of hard missionary work and sacrifice for the salvation of souls, 'el corderito' - the little Lamb - , as he was called affectionately, gave his soul to God in the city of Buenos Aires, on the feast of Saint Agnes in the year 1959 when he was just 26 years of age. The Recoleta is where his mortal remains rest and is a constant witness to large groups of pilgrims, legionaries and non-legionaries who implore his intercession and have been granted very many favours.



**The official opening of
Bunscoil McAuley
Rice, Callan, took
place on the Feast Day
of Blessed Edmund,
5th May 2015.**

***Smaoineamh –
'A Thought'***

“Wisdom pervades and permeates all things... She is a breath of the power of God and a reflection of the eternal light, untarnished mirror of God's active power, image of his goodness... She, who is one, can do all things, herself unchanging, she makes all things new.”

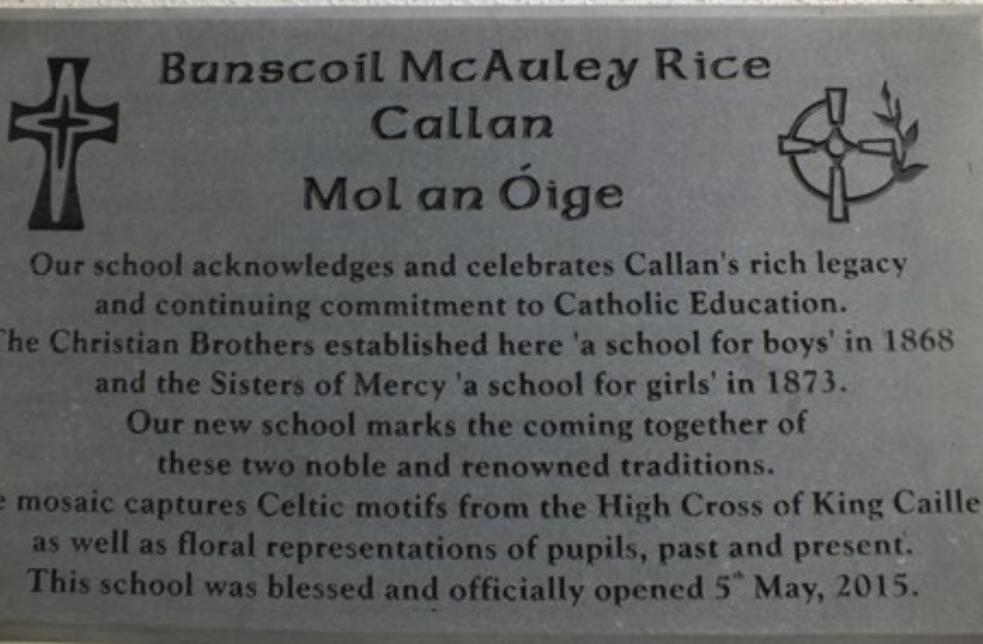
Wisdom 7:24-26

Clare's Wonderland



Br Sean McNamara with a copy of his newly launched DVD, *Clare's Wonderland, The Burren*. Photograph by John Kelly

The unique attractions of the Burren are highlighted in a DVD by Br. Sean McNamara (Ennis) which was recently launched in the Burren Centre.

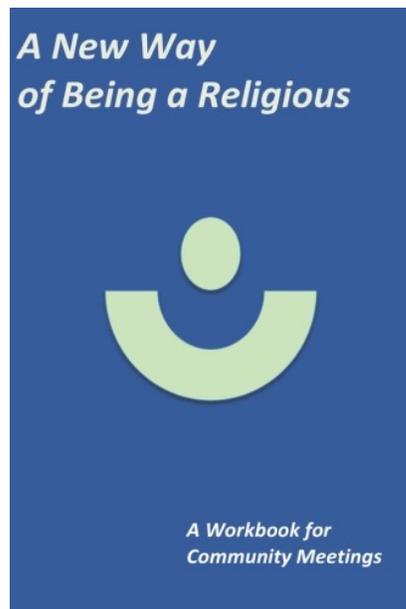


Request for Prayers

Your prayers are requested for Willie Walsh who is seriously ill in hospital. He is a brother of Br. Frank Walsh, Thurles

Br David Gibson has written a short booklet entitled “**A New Way of Being a Religious - a workbook for community meetings.**”

The content of the core of the book is the same as ‘A New Way of Being Brother’ with questions for personal and community reflection and, in addition, resources that a Brothers’ community could use either personally or in other community meetings. The booklet is written in the light of the fact that we are celebrating the year of Consecrated Life.



Prayers please for the repose of the soul of



Mrs. Patricia (Pat) O’Leary, mother of Don O’Leary of the Cork Life Centre, who passed away on 11th May.

Margaret Coker, sister of Br. Joe Mosely (Zambia) who died on 18th May.

Br. Colm McMahon, who died on 1st June at St. Patrick’s Nursing Home, Baldoyle.