

SUNDAY MASS

Vigil 7.30 pm; 7.00am; 10.00am; 12.00noon; 7.30pm

Weekday Mass

7.30am; 10.00am; 7.30pm; Dominican Convent 10 am

Confessions

Saturdays 12 noon to 1 pm; 7 pm to 7.30pm

Otherwise, ask in Church or at Parish Office.

Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office)

Morning prayer (Lauds): Monday to Saturday at 9.45 am. Sun at 9.30am

Evening Prayer (Vespers): Monday to Sunday at 6.45 pm

Rosary daily after 10.30 am Mass and at 7.10 every evening.

Mass in honour of St Martin de Porres: Thursday's at 7.30 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction: Friday 8 pm to 9pm

Priory Office : Receptionist and Parish Secretary: Noreena McDonagh

To make arrangements for Weddings, Christenings, Funerals etc.,

phone 091 582884 – Office hours: Mon–Fri 10 am–2 pm, 3–5.30pm.

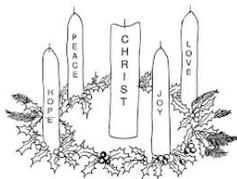
Email <claddaghweddings@hotmail.com>

Advent

Advent marks the Church's New Year as we begin preparing for Christmas. It is a time of waiting, not just for the Christmas festivities but at the personal level for the coming of Christ once more into our lives.

During Advent, we reflect on Christ becoming one of us (taking flesh, thus incarnation) and also on the Second Coming when he will return to claim his kingdom and present it to his Father.

Let us wait quietly and try not to become too distracted with the many activities associated with this time of year.



Claddagh Letter

30 November 2014 – 1st Advent



St Mary's Dominican Church and Parish

A word from Fr Tom Jordan op, Prior

A number of years have passed since the last *Newsletter* from the Priory appeared. We are happy to announce that we are back in print, and hope to appear from time to time, though not yet weekly.

Since the last *Newsletter* was in your hands, there have been some changes in personnel in the priory. I came to Galway in January 2013, and a short time afterwards Fr Albert – or Fr Al as he is known – arrived. Up to the time of our arrival, the Prior was also the Parish Priest, but now the two offices have been separated, Fr Al having been appointed PP by Bishop Martin in February 2013.

We lost Fr Noel Meade on 4 March last (Shrove Tuesday). His death left a big gap in our Community. There are 5 other members of our Community: Fr John O'Reilly, Br Christy O'Flaherty, Fr Terence McLoughlin, Fr Denis Murphy and Fr Marek Cul, who is Parish Priest of the Polish Parish which is attached to St Mary's. — Fr Tom

A word from Fr Albert Leonard op, Parish Priest

I am very happy to be here with the support of the Dominican Community and to accept a new challenge in the Claddagh Parish where we also welcome people from all over Galway. Before coming here I have worked in one of our Dominican Parishes in Tallaght for 16 years and in Dominick St., our Inner city Dublin Dominican Parish for 4 years. Thank you for your warm welcome for the one and a half years I have been here.

With the help of a few busy people, already fully involved in the church, we have been building up volunteers to help with Baptisms, the monthly First Holy Communion Masses and visiting the homes of the Parish. With the good help of Fr Denis and volunteers from the parish, we have been able to visit about 350 houses of the parish – mainly in the older part of the Claddagh during October and November. People have been very welcoming. I am sorry we missed many who were out when we called. We hope to continue visiting the rest of the houses in the parish in the Spring. Fr Al

A word from Fr Marek op, Polish Parish Priest

There are many Polish people living in Galway, most of them Catholic. Although some are involved in local parishes, there are many who prefer to worship God in their own language. That is why Bishop Martin asked for a Polish priest to take pastoral care of the Polish people using their own language. I was appointed. My brothers from the Irish Dominican Province and the local community have shown me great hospitality. I am very happy to be here and share in the life of my brothers.

Every Sunday (5 pm) and Wednesday (6 pm) I celebrate Mass in my own language for my compatriots. There are many baptisms of Polish children every year. With my friends, I look after pre-marriage courses for couples. There is also a biblical discussion and a St Joseph's Group. I also celebrate Mass in English. Fr Marek

Activities



Choir: Tuesdays 8 pm to 9pm for Rehearsals

Sundays: 12 noon Mass every Sunday up to Christmas

Choirmaster: Norman Duffy; Organist: Fiona McGuire

Ministers of the Eucharist and of the Word, Collectors, Altar Society

Groups:

Lay Dominicans: 3rd Thurs at 4 pm in Oratory

Legion of Mary: Tuesdays at 5 pm in Oratory

St Vincent de Paul: Mondays at 8 pm in Priory

Prayer Groups:

Monday at 8 pm in Tertiary Hall.

Ark Group, Tuesdays 8 pm; Marian Group Thursdays 8 pm Oratory
Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous.

St Nicholas National School, Claddagh. Principal: Michael Gallagher

Dominican Penny Bank

A letter from the Trustees of the Dominican Penny Bank:

It is with deep regret that we inform you that the Dominican Penny Bank will not be in operation in 2015, due to circumstances beyond our control.

Unfortunately, the financial institutions we rely on to facilitate the Penny Bank can no longer guarantee the safety of the funds on deposit, and we cannot expose the savers in the penny Bank to any type of risk to their

savings. The financial institutions are currently relying on the Irish Deposit Guarantee Scheme, which only covers total deposits up to €1000,000. This is insufficient to secure the deposits of the Penny Bank which are considerably more than this figure.

We would encourage savers to present their cheques for cashing as soon as possible to enable us to facilitate the wind down of the Penny Bank.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the last number of years and hope to be in a position to recommence the Penny Bank in the future. Yours faithfully. The Trustees

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The Penny Bank was the brainchild of Fr Jim Harris, Prior. It opened its doors in January 1988. The first volunteers were Tom Cox, Brod Long, Michael O'Farrell, Brian Carpenter, Paddy Doherty, Teresa McNamara.

The Prior and Community wish to thank all those who over the past 26 years have supported the Penny Bank but especially the volunteers who gave so generously of their time to make it the tremendous success it became. The proceeds that came to the Dominicans were for the upkeep of the church and priory and grounds.

Coming Events:

1. Triduum: On Tues, Wed and Thurs – 2-4 December – there will be a triduum of prayer in honour of Our lady of Fatima whose pilgrim statue has been with us for the past number of weeks. Rosary each evening at 7.10 followed by Mass. Preacher: Fr Terence. From here the statue will go to the Abbey for 8th December.

2. Galway Gospel Choir will give a concert in the church on Wednesday 17 December at 8.30. Proceeds in aid of charity

