

## **NEWSLETTER**

### **13<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

#### **WELCOME NEW FATHER PRIOR**

Fr. Matthew Farrell, OP has been elected by the Claddagh St. Mary's Dominican Community as the Prior, succeeding fr. Donal Sweeney, who has completed his term of office. Fr.

Matthew, a native of Daingean, Co. Offaly, was ordained priest in 2019. Fr. Matthew, had a varied career before joining the Dominican Order in 2012. Immediately after secondary school he worked in the bar trade in Tullamore and in his native Daingean. Attending Athlone Institute of Technology as a mature student, he gained a degree in applied chemistry, working for seven years as a laboratory analyst. After the death of his father, he returned to Daingean to work in the family business with his brother. Since then, he has ministered in Holy Cross, Tralee and recently in St. Mary's, Cork.

We know that he will receive a warm welcome as he begins a new chapter of his Dominican life as Prior of the Dominican Community in Galway.

#### **CHURCH DIARY**

##### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 10.00am: 'Do this in Memory' Mass**

This Mass is part of the preparation programme for First Communion. These children and their families need our full as they take their uncertain steps in the practice of the faith in very challenging times.

##### **CEREMONY OF LIGHT (Confirmation class) Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm:**

This ceremony highlights the Parents handing on the faith to their young boys/ girls when they pass on the Baptismal Candle to their young people. It marks the occasion when the young people take further steps in their journey of faith. Our prayers and support will be much appreciated by all involved.

This year's Confirmation class can look forward to their Confirmation Ceremony on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 1`1.30am in Claddagh Church. The first time in three years for a Confirmation Ceremony to be celebrated without many of the recent restrictions.

##### **ST. PATRICK'S DAY : Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

Masses at 7.20am; 10.00am and 12.00noon!!

##### **FIRST CONFESSION: Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.30pm**

First Confession is a special occasion for the Parish and for the families of the children involved. The children appreciate already the choices they make with their knowledge of good/bad; right/wrong. First Confession invites them to engage fully with a loving God who will strengthen their goodness.

#### **LENTEN DEVOTIONS**

Fridays of Lent at 7.30-pm

**CONFESSIONS:** Every Saturday at 10.30am (after 10.00am Mass)