

## Lourdes Invalid Fund 2002

Each summer our parish helps send sick people to Lourdes during the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage from 7th to 12th September. Last year the amount collected in our parish totalled €3,873 (£3,050).

If you would like to help you can make a contribution at the back of the church any weekend. The intentions of all contributors will be prayed for during the Pilgrimage Masses in Lourdes in September.

## Repository

*St. Padre Pio* medals, rosary beads, pictures and statues are available in the repository at the back of the church.

Also if you wish you can order a copy of the *Irish Catholic* every week at a cost of 75 cent. If interested please contact Harry in the repository.

## Copper Coin Collection

If you have any old Irish currency coins - or notes! - we will only be too happy to take them! You can leave them into the sacristy (8554078) where they will be put into the Copper Coin Collection.

# PARISH OF ST. AGATHA NEWSLETTER

7th July 2002



Welcome Fr John Galvin

We warmly welcome Fr John Galvin as curate to the parish of St. Agatha. Originally from Grand Canal Street in the South City Centre, Fr John was a Sergeant in the army and he also worked in hotels. Fr John was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Southwark, London in 1974 and worked as a priest in South West London.

For the past fourteen years Fr John has been a curate in Harrington Street Parish and is now a priest of the Dublin Diocese.

He has a life-long interest in Shelbourne Football Club where he is the official chaplain. Fr John now does not have far to travel to Tolka Park !!! And good news for our choir - Fr John is a baritone singer with a keen interest in music.

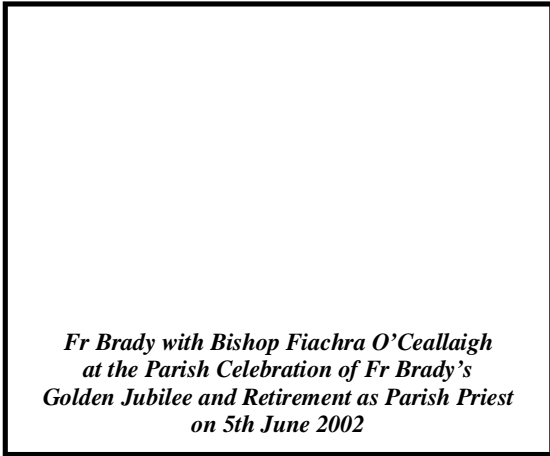
*We wish Fr John Galvin every blessing and happiness.*

If you know of any housebound parishioner or anybody else who might be interested in this NEWSLETTER please give them a copy.

You can visit our parish Website at: [www.dublindiocese.ie/parishes/northwilliamstreet](http://www.dublindiocese.ie/parishes/northwilliamstreet)

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# Change of Priests in Parish of St Agatha



Congratulations to Fr Frank Brady who celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his Ordination on 25th May 2002. He has retired as Parish Priest after fourteen years in the parish. Now that he has retired he has been given the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus to North William Street.

Fr Brady has been replaced by Fr Liam Rigney who has been appointed as Administrator of North William Street Parish.

Fr Patsy Kelly has been transferred as curate to Harrington Street Parish and is being replaced as curate by Fr John Galvin from Harrington Street Parish.

Fr Paddy Devitt - whose main work is in Mater Dei Institute - continues as Parish Chaplain.

This in effect means that the Parish of North William Street has had a reduction of one priest. Instead of a parish priest and two curates there is now an administrator and one curate .

## *Update on Organ Restoration*

*Stage 2 of the Organ Restoration Project is well underway - the sound boards are being installed and the restoration of the original wooden casework will commence during the coming week.*

*The restoration of the organ will be completed before Christmas.*

## **Work to begin on re-pointing and stone-cleaning exterior walls of church and conservation of statues**

Following a *Report on the structural appraisal of North William Street Church* by **Barrett Mahony Consulting Engineers** in November 2000 much work was completed on the church building, for example

- the repair of the roof slates and ventilation stacks in the roof,
- gutters and windows,
- the removal of dry rot and refurbishment of the church porch on the North William Street side of the church.

**Starting soon**, work will be carried out on re-pointing the exterior walls of the church. The walls are a coarsed dressed limestone with a cut grey limestone and are in need of re-pointing in several areas.

Damp penetration is evident in certain areas of the church.

The stone will be cleaned to look like a church which is 100 years old—and not cleaned to look as if it were newly built!!

*The three portland stone statues on top of the front of the church are very eroded. The plan is to conserve the statues against further deterioration rather than repair them.*

*An example of pointing to copings in need of immediate attention.*

- Full details were given at the last **open meeting of parishioners** on 27th May 2002
- **Approval** given by the Finance Committee in Archbishop's House
- **Supervisor** - Barrett Mahony Consulting Engineers
- **Contractor** - Skyline Steeplejacks Ltd
- **Cost** - will be met from the parish deposit with *Share* ( after the sale of the presbytery at No 88 Ballybough Road) and a grant from the *National Conservation Grants Scheme*.
- **Time** - estimated at 18 weeks after the scaffolding goes up.