

Presentation Brothers e-letter 23/03/16

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PRESENTATION BROTHERS

Forming Christ in the Young

Welcome to the Presentation Brothers' Anglo-Irish Province e-letter! Remember, we can only share what we receive - so please do keep us up-to-date with events and stories from your part of the Presentation Family. You can [email us](#) with anything you'd like to see included.



The Presentation Brothers Anglo-Irish Province would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very blessed and joyful Easter. Thank you for reading our e-letter, as well as your continued support for us in all of our ministries. It is both a privilege and a challenge to be charged with 'Forming Christ in the Young', and we can only do it as one part in the wider Presentation Family. We truly are all in this together!

The Vision Statement of the 27th Congregation Chapter in 2011 noted that the Presentation Brothers were on the road to Emmaus; seeking to recognise the risen Christ on the journey with us. As we enter the final year of this Chapter, we strive to see in a new way, to renew our efforts to find new hope, and rejoice in being called anew to mission. In this most solemn and powerful of Church seasons, we re-dedicate ourselves to our journey, noticing our hearts burning within us as we walk, and seeking to share this message of hope and joy with others.



If you have been online recently, you may have noticed subtle changes to our [website](#) that we



hope will make your experience better, and your navigation of the site easier. The site is now optimised for use with tablets or smartphones, there's a sticky header to ensure you can't get lost on the site, and the search bar should also be easier to find at the footer of the page.



Holy Thursday

The Holy Week liturgies have a rhythm of their own. Between Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday, we experience the entire spectrum of emotion in the Christian story. On Holy Thursday, we sit with Jesus, transfixed by his humble, loving service, as he washes the disciples' feet, and prepares to give up his life for us. Invited to Supper with him, though sinners, we are allowed a glimpse of the loving God who will always offer us the necessities of life, even by giving completely of Himself. In the darkness and sparseness of a Church with the Eucharist put in a place of reposition, we are allowed to sample the fear the disciples must have experienced as Jesus was led away by the authorities, under arrest, believing that they may never see him again.



Good Friday

On Good Friday, we delve into the darkest depths of the Christian story. We follow our Saviour, wrongly accused and fiercely intimidated, as he trudges towards Calvary; the cross weighing heavily upon his back. As we kneel before the cross to venerate it, we are asked to think about Jesus' humanity, even as we attest his divinity. This can be a sad, harrowing experience, but it is in the liturgy of Good Friday that we truly come to know the Jesus who stays with us even in the darkest hours of our lives. This is the Jesus who has tasted suffering, who knows the bitterness of rejection and imprisonment. This is the Saviour of the afflicted and lonely.



Easter Vigil

The Easter Vigil is the perfect opportunity to place all our doubts and anguish into the hands of the risen Christ. The symbolism of fires burning brightly in the darkness brings with it the foundation of our Christian hope - that Jesus overcame death, and through that, we are aligned again with our Father. The truth of our faith is that Jesus rose from the dead, and won the eternal victory for each one of us. We are called to respond to the risen Christ with joyful hearts and eternal peace. As we hear the entire story of salvation, we are reminded that the price has already been paid, and Jesus wants us to remain free, in His name, forever.

