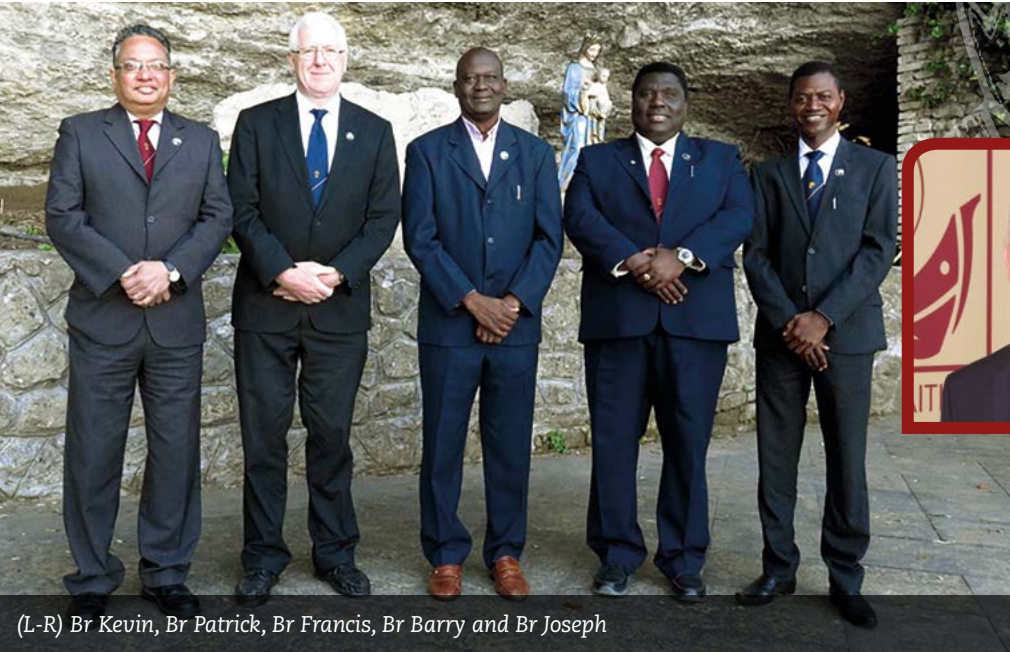




# PRESENTATION BROTHERS

## Connections



### A Message from Br Andrew Hickey



Fr James Mallon is a priest of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth in Canada. He has transformed his parish, St Benedict's in Halifax, by using the Alpha course. He has written a widely acclaimed book called Divine Renovation. The good news is that Fr Mallon is coming

to Ireland later this year to share his experience and hopefully motivate people here to follow his example.

I heard Fr Mallon speak at the Alpha Leadership Conference in London. He said that 'we are more committed to our model than to our mission'. This expressed so succinctly the predicament of the church at this critical time.

I would like to think that we, in the Presentation Brothers and Presentation Family, are more committed to our mission than the models that we have inherited.

Over the past six years, we put our mission of 'forming Christ in the young' at the top of our agenda. We developed PBYM - Presentation Brothers Youth Ministry - based in Mardyke House in Cork.

Along with our emphasis on youth ministry is our commitment to Evangelisation using, like Fr Mallon, the Alpha course to provide a hospitable environment for people who wish to explore their questions about the Christian faith.

I am deeply grateful to everyone who is involved in the Presentation Family. We are blessed to have such colleagues and friends. People express their sense of belonging to this community of faith at various times. You will read about them in this edition of Presentation Connections.

I wish Br Ray Dwyer and the rest of the Province Leadership Team every success in continuing this important work.

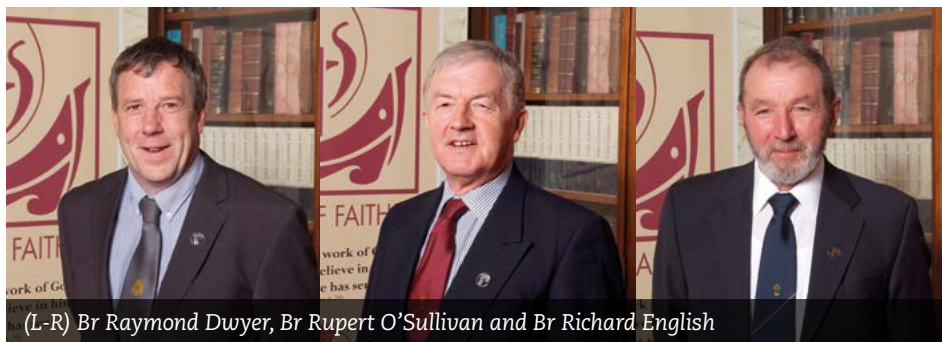
Brother Andrew Hickey | July 2017  
AndrewHickey@PresentationBrothers.org

### Presentation Brothers' new Congregation Leadership Team

Following a time of discernment at the Congregation Chapter in Rome over Easter this year, the Presentation Brothers' new Congregation Leadership Team was elected. Br Francis Agoah (centre) was elected as the new Congregation Leader, with Br Patrick Fitzgibbon the Deputy Congregation Leader. The rest of the team is comprised of Br Barry Noel, Br Joseph Musaka and Br Kevin Mascarenhas. Ahead of the Congregation Chapter, a few short videos were produced. Outgoing Congregation Leader Br Martin Kenneally reviewed his years in leadership, as well as detailing the precise process of a Chapter, while various Brothers gave their input and what they were looking forward to. Each video can be watched via our website, or on our YouTube channel for free. [www.PresentationBrothers.org](http://www.PresentationBrothers.org)

### New Anglo-Irish Province Leadership Team

There are leadership changes in this Province too. Brother Raymond Dwyer is the new Province Leader. His leadership team includes Brother Rupert O'Sullivan (Deputy Province Leader) and Brother Richard English. This team of Brothers will lead the Anglo-Irish Province for the coming six years from 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017.



(L-R) Br Raymond Dwyer, Br Rupert O'Sullivan and Br Richard English



**Youth Ministry remains a vital part of the mission of the Presentation Brothers' Anglo-Irish Province. This year has seen so many young people across the Presentation Family engage in active service, while PBYM continued to provide teens with opportunities to explore faith – and have their questions heard – in a vibrant, fun way.**



*Pres Bray boys with some esteemed guests*

## **Celebrating the Presentation Family**

Over 70 people from the Presentation Family in Dublin gathered last November to celebrate Presentation Day. The evening featured contributions from Presentation College Bray students, who had recently returned from a week-long immersion trip to Ghana. We were also joined by An Cathaoirleach of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Council, Cormac Devlin, who is a past pupil of Presentation College Glashule, Councillors Patricia Stewart, Mary Fayne and Senator Ronan Mullen. A video about the Presentation Family made for the night is available on our YouTube channel. This year, Celebrate will be held in the River Lee Hotel, Cork on Thursday, 16th November.

## **PBYM Update**

It has been another busy year in Presentation Brothers Youth Ministry (PBYM), as Coordinator Jemma Halpin continued to establish the space in Mardyke House as a genuine youth ministry centre. Many retreats, activities and meetings have been held there, and new relationships have blossomed. Among the retreats held were ones for First Year students from Colaiste an Spioraid Naoimh (CSN) and Coláiste Chríost Rí. Jemma was helped by TY students from CSN, who were also doing Youth Alpha at Mardyke House, and were a wonderful addition to the team. The 1st Year students had time to talk about their expectations of secondary school compared to the reality and what they can expect in the coming years. Once again, the prayer stations and the guided meditation proved popular, which shows the need to provide these opportunities and spaces for our young people. None of these events could happen without the generous support of our volunteers and the PBYM Youth Advisory Committee, capably led by Joe O'Keefe.



*TY Students who experienced Youth Alpha*



*Jemma with some of the first year students on retreat*

## **ERA Camps**

In November, the PBYM Centre hosted a Mass of thanksgiving for the young leaders of the Cork Edmund Rice Action Camps, which was organised by Anne Cleary and celebrated by Fr Tom Clancy. The ERA Camps will take place this summer, both in Cork and Cobh, and so we keep these efforts in our prayers. Keep an eye on the website and on PBYM's social media channels for more great events!



*ERAC leaders get Safeguarding training*

## **SHARE**

The then Minister for Housing Simon Coveney opened the newly-renovated SHARE homes for the elderly at Ard Fhearta in Blackpool, Cork earlier this year. SHARE students Evan & Megan spoke eloquently about SHARE's work. It was a wonderful occasion with everyone from the Lord Mayor Des Cahill to Bishop John Buckley and the Brothers showing their support.



*Refurbished SHARE homes opened*



## PresLink

In October, Br Martin Kenneally hosted a Leadership Seminar for the PresLink Committee. The group consisted of 4th Year students from Presentation College, Cork, who were involved in awareness raising and fundraising for the Presentation Brothers' work in Africa over the last academic year. Among their fundraising efforts were the Preslink Christmas Concert and a 'bagpack' at the Bishopstown Shopping Centre. We congratulate them on all their hard work.



Br Martin with the PresLink team



The group received the latest updates in training

## Safeguarding Update

In January, 18 people gathered in the Commons Inn, Cork, for the Presentation Brothers' Safeguarding Training Day, led by trainer Treise Lenihan. The group received updated training about the new safeguarding standards and policies of the Catholic Church in Ireland. The group included those who work directly with children and teenagers. The ongoing developments of PBYM and the hard work of the Presentation Brothers' Safeguarding Committee shows the Brothers' enthusiasm for their charism, with young people's safety and wellbeing at the forefront of everything they do.

## PBYM Needs You!

There are big plans for PBYM to become known as a place of welcome and acceptance for all young people, and we are looking for help from the Presentation Family! If you would like to volunteer some time to help on one of the many projects coming up, please express your interest in an email to Jemma at [youth@PresentationBrothers.org](mailto:youth@PresentationBrothers.org). Jemma will then contact you to see how your gifts can help PBYM. It is so important that we show young people exactly the type of community and family we are offering. Each and every one of you can play a part in creating this special community! Keep your eyes peeled on the fortnightly e-letter too, as we will be requesting specific donations that will help PBYM Centre become a place where young people love to come (e.g. donations of pre-loved comfortable sofas and armchairs). We appreciate all your support.



## Youth Alpha

Throughout the year, PBYM teams ran Youth Alpha in different PBST schools in both Bray and Cork. The Holy Spirit Retreat Days for the Transition Year students of Presentation College Bray and Colaiste an Spioraid Naoimh who experienced Youth Alpha were well received. These retreats could only take place thanks to the generous support of volunteers, who ensured that everything ran smoothly. The days were both fun and insightful. More Youth Alphas will be run for the students next year.



The retreat team for Pres Bray's Youth Alpha Retreat

## Leadership Conference 2017

Over the May Bank Holiday weekend, four members of the Presentation Family travelled to London to join 6,000 others for the Alpha Leadership Conference 2017. Taking place over two days in the Royal Albert Hall, the conference featured some amazing, inspirational speakers and wonderful worship leaders. The theme of the conference was 'Leading in Love'. Particular highlights of the Conference came from Cardinal Tagle from the Philippines, who spoke of taking Jesus seriously, but all else lightly, while Jean Vanier's interview was moving and challenging in equal measure. Videos from the conference can be viewed on the Alpha website, while PresCast episodes 9 & 10 were recorded at the conference.



Cardinal Tagle leading in love

**Communication is one of the areas that we are trying to improve every day in the Presentation Family. We seek to present the Gospel in everything we do, and are always looking for new ways to express our mission. Below are just a few of our efforts from the past year:**



Volunteers & Staff at ISU

## ISU on the Radio

Jemma and John travelled to Waterford earlier this year to speak with the staff and volunteers at the Integration Support Unit (ISU) in Waterford, which is under the direction of Br Kevin Mascarenhas. The ISU is doing some amazing work with refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants in the Edmund Rice International Heritage Centre. Interviews were recorded during the visit, and played in segments on the Spirit Radio Morning Show during April. These interviews can also be heard on Episode 8 of the PresCast.

## Colaiste Muire at 40

Colaiste Muire, Cobh celebrated 40 years as a school this year. To mark this great occasion, PBYM made a short film with the Transition Year students about the history of the school. 22 students were involved in filming short interviews with each of the former principals of the school: Br Bede Minehane, Sr Ann Lenihan and Paula Sweeney, as well as current principal Fergus O'Brien. The students themselves were in charge of every aspect of production, and everyone who was involved made a fantastic impact on the film. The project was a wonderful celebration of four decades of selfless service from so many people!



## Presentation Family Podcast Series Continues

PresCast is a series of podcasts created for and about the Presentation Family, which began during Lent this year. New episodes have been published regularly, and can be heard either on the website, or via the Presentation Brothers' AudioBoom page. Some of the highlights of the series so far include speaking to Jonny Somerville of the NUA Film Series, and Peter Rigney of Alpha Ireland about Church Unity in Ireland today. New episodes will be available in September. If you have a topic you think would work well as an episode of PresCast, just let us know!

**PRESCAST**  
A PRESENTATION FAMILY PODCAST

## Br Andrew on RTE

Br Andrew Hickey took to the airwaves from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> May, as he recorded the Living Word segment on RTE Radio 1. His two-minute meditations were broadcast over the whole week, in the morning and again in the evening time. The reflections included thoughts on vocation, the Presentation Family and finding inspiration today in Blessed Edmund Rice's life. The talks can still be heard on the RTE website, or through our own website.

## Vocations Strategy Team

Presentation Brothers' Vocation Strategy Committee promotes the vocation of the Presentation Brother. In February, they undertook a Media Training Day, led by Michael Kelly of the Irish Catholic. The training day included a mix of theory and practical skills, which have since been put to work! The team also had a stall at the Divine Mercy Conference in the RDS, and the Fortify Youth Ministry Conference in Dublin. The Committee hopes to have representatives at more conferences and events throughout the year, so do keep an eye out for them!



Well-trained smiles



Br. Andrew on RTE Radio 1



YOU ARE EAGER TO SERVE GOD.  
YOU FEEL THAT HE HAS CALLED YOU TO DO SOME DEFINITE  
SERVICE THAT NOBODY ELSE ON THIS EARTH CAN DO.  
YOU WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT IS.  
COME, JOIN US, AND...

## EXPLORE YOUR WHY



DISCOVER YOUR PURPOSE &  
ENCOUNTER BROTHERHOOD  
AS A WAY OF LIFE

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF DISCOVERY AND  
LEARN WAYS TO IDENTIFY YOUR TRUE PURPOSE IN LIFE.

PRESENTATION BROTHERS, GLASTHULE, CO DUBLIN  
FRIDAY SEPT 22ND (6PM) - SATURDAY SEPT 23RD (4PM)  
EVENTS@PRESENTATIONBROTHERS.ORG

My  
greatest  
adventure



Alpha is back!

The ever-popular series comes to Glasthule for the 11<sup>th</sup> time in September. This free, informal 10-week course is a brilliant opportunity to ask the big questions about life, while meeting some amazing people along the way! Visit our website for details.

[www.PresentationBrothers.org](http://www.PresentationBrothers.org)

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

## CELEBRATE 2017

A PRESENTATION FAMILY EVENT

RIVER LEE HOTEL, CORK  
THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2017

SAVE THE DATE!  
[WWW.PRESENTATIONBROTHERS.ORG](http://WWW.PRESENTATIONBROTHERS.ORG)

## TRANSFORMED PARISH CONFERENCE

*Bringing your parish from maintenance to mission*



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: FR. JAMES MALLON

WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER  
Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

THURSDAY, 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER  
Vienna Woods Hotel, Co. Cork

TICKETS €40

EARLY BIRD €35  
UNTIL 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER

GROUP BOOKINGS (4 OR MORE) €35pp

Booking: [www.transformedparish.ie](http://www.transformedparish.ie)



Conferences co-sponsored by Alpha Ireland and Tine Catholic Leaders Network Ireland. There will be an exhibition area at both venues. Tea, Coffee and lunch will be provided.

# The 2016-17 school year was a busy one for the Presentation Brothers Schools Trust (PBST) as it began work on the implementation of its strategic plan for the coming five years. Some of the highlights are below.

## New PBST CEO

Michael Sexton, Principal in Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh, took over as CEO at the start of the year from Paul Scanlan, who retired having served the Trust since its inception in 2009. All of the PBST and in the wider Presentation Family send our best wishes to Paul as he begins the next chapter in his life and thank him for the tremendous work he did with Jack O'Sullivan and others in 'passing the baton' from the Presentation Brothers to the new lay Trust.



Michael Sexton

## New Appointments

PBST welcomed a number of new school leaders this year with Roseanne Neville taking over as Principal in St Joseph's National School. Michael Foley is currently in charge at Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh while Michael Sexton is on secondment to the Trust, and Brenda Moriarty has recently been appointed Deputy Principal. A second Deputy is to be appointed shortly. There was also change at another of our schools, Presentation Brothers College, where Aiden Twomey stepped in as Acting Principal for the year. A new Principal, David Barry, has now been appointed on a permanent basis and Marian Carey has been appointed Deputy Principal and will join David and Aiden as part of a new three-person leadership team. The Trust thanks Ken Whyte and Kieran Kelly for their contributions in PBC and St Joseph's and wishes them well in their new positions.

## UCG President Visits Alma Mater

Professor Patrick O'Shea, a Corkman and past pupil of Coláiste Chríost Rí, returned home to Cork this February to undertake his new role as President of University College Cork. As a past pupil Professor O'Shea returned to his Alma Mater to share his experiences with the current students, old friends and past teachers in familiar surroundings. Professor O'Shea was greeted at Críost Rí by some of his former teachers, members of our Presentation family and the current school community.



Professor O'Shea with a student



(L-R) Michael Sexton, Professor O'Shea and Br Martin Kenneally

## New PBST Teacher Inductions



The future is in safe hands!

31 teachers who began teaching in PBST schools during the last 3 years gathered in PBYM Centre late last year. A wide variety of topics was explored, providing an insight into the Presentation ethos in education. There was input from PBST directors, Br Andrew Hickey, current teachers, past pupils and the PBYM team. There was also a bit of fun had along the way! A second induction was held in Pres Bray a few weeks later. The enthusiasm and positivity of the new teachers was truly inspirational.

## PBST Seminar

The Principals and Deputy-Principals of all the PBST schools gathered on Spike Island recently for what turned out to be a very memorable seminar. Trust CEO, Michael Sexton, updated the group on progress made on implementing the strategic plan that the Trust developed following a lengthy consultation process involving all the partners in the schools. Plans were shared for a Leadership Development Programme to be offered to teachers this autumn, and for an Arts Festival for schools with a Presentation Brothers tradition. The day will live long in the memory - not least because the group found themselves stranded on the island for a number of hours owing to rough sea conditions that forced the cancellation of the return ferry!





**Spreading the Good News is a key part of the work that the Presentation Brothers are doing. A key demographic for our work is young adults – those aged 18-40. We are trying many different ways to engage in the New Evangelisation, some of which are described below.**

## Monday at the Monastery

This was by far the most successful series yet of Monday at the Monastery. Over 500 people attended the Lenten series, whose speakers were George Hook, John McAreavy, Marianne Quinn and Maria Steen, all of whom spoke on Faith and Life. We thank all who attended over the 4 weeks, as well as St Joseph's Parish Glashule for opening the Church to us to accommodate the large numbers. We look forward to returning with more excellent speakers for our Advent series of Monday at the Monastery. If you missed these talks, you can always hear them for free on our AudioBoom page, or by searching Monday at the Monastery on our website.



Br Andrew with George Hook

## Alpha Runs for Tenth Time!

Earlier this year, Presentation Brothers in Glashule ran Alpha for the tenth time. The informal, ten-week course concluded with another brilliant group of people delighted to have invested time and energy into learning more about their faith! The Holy Spirit Retreat days once again proved to be powerful and moving experiences. Alpha will return to Glashule in September, and the team of volunteers are looking forward to another wonderful journey.



The Glashule Alpha Crew

## Vocations Update

Two young men were received into the Brothers at our International Novitiate in Killarney, Co Kerry in May. Br. Raj Selvarathinam, from Sri Lanka, was received as a Novice, while Simon Fernandes from Pakistan was received as a Postulant. We thank God for the gift of these new Presentation Brothers, and we are grateful to all the Brothers and members of the Presentation Family who encourage, pray for, and nurture new vocations.



Simon, Br Raj, Fr Niall and Br Barry

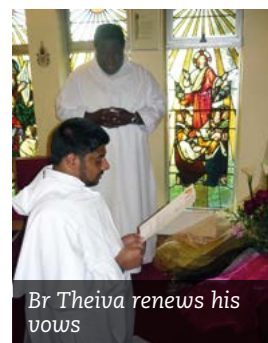
## Explore Your Why

Presentation Brothers are hosting an overnight retreat for men seeking to discover their true purpose. The retreat will be held in Glashule, Co Dublin on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017. Ideal for those who feel like God is challenging them, the weekend will feature practical ways to identify your true purpose in life. It will be an informal and reflective time. For more information, email [events@PresentationBrothers.org](mailto:events@PresentationBrothers.org)



## Br Theiva Renews Vows

Br. Theiva Sebastiyam Pillai renewed his Temporary Vows as a Presentation Brother in the chapel of the Novitiate in Killarney in June. Br. Theiva is our first Sri Lankan Brother and has just completed his first-year studies at St Patrick's College Maynooth. The whole Presentation Family offer support and encouragement to Br. Theiva as he continues his journey with us.



Br Theiva renews his vows

## Connect Groups

The post-Alpha follow-on small group, called Connect Groups, meet every fortnight in Glashule. The Monday morning Connect Group has just completed the Prayer Course, speaking of how it positively impacted their prayer lives. Meanwhile, on Wednesday evenings, the Young Adult Connect Group is currently enjoying the NUA Film Series. Both groups are open to new members, and if you would like to join, please do just get in touch.



IN MEMORIAM

## Brothers Enda, Michael and Terence, RIP

In October, we sadly said goodbye to three of our Brothers. Brother Enda O'Donovan died peacefully in Marymount Hospice, Cork on Friday, 14th October, 2016. Brother Enda was an inspirational teacher who taught in various National Schools, notably in Greenmount National School and Scoil Chríost Rí, Cork. He coached boys who became accomplished athletes and hurlers. Brother Michael McAuliffe died peacefully on Sunday 16th October 2016, also in Marymount Hospice. Brother Michael spent over fifty years in Canada. He taught in schools in Montreal but he never lost his love for his home in Knocknagashel. He returned to Ireland in 2001 and lived happily in Maiville, Cork until his death. Brother Patrick Terence Hurley died peacefully in Killarney Community Hospital, Co. Kerry on Thursday, 20th October, 2016. Brother Terence was a gifted teacher of science and mathematics as well as being a capable school principal. The news of his death evoked tributes from people who were influenced by him in Carrick on Shannon, Bray, Glasthule, Presentation College, Cork and from Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh where he was on the Board of Management. We give thanks for the lives our Brothers gave in service to the Lord, and pray that they may rest in peace.



Br Enda, Br Michael and Br Terence



Fr. Tom Denihan, Frank Steeke, Aine & Colm O'Brien

## Christian Leadership in Education Office (CLEO)

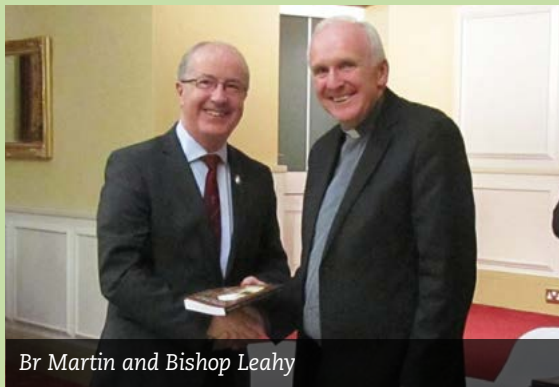
The CLEO Annual Reunion 2017 was held in the PBYM Centre at Mardyke House in June. This year the format of the formal session was of a colloquium rather than that of a lecture. The topic was Faith Leadership in Catholic Schools and the focus was on how faith-leaders in primary and post-primary Catholic schools might best support one another as faith leaders. Overall, there was an emphasis on the importance practitioners attach to a proper preparation for, and on-going support in, the exercise of faith leadership in Catholic schools today in the Republic of Ireland. The Last Word was spoken by Rev. Dr. J. M. Feheny, FPM, Founder and first Director of CLEO, who reminded the gathering that it was precisely to provide training for faith-based leadership in faith-based schools that CLEO had been established 25 years ago.

## Good Seed, Fertile Soil

Br John Matthew Feheny's book *Good Seed, Fertile Soil*, about religious vocations in West Limerick, launched in November 2016 in Rathkeale House Hotel in Co Limerick.

Bishop Brendan Leahy performed the launch, and presented a copy of the book to Br Martin Kenneally, Congregation Leader of the Presentation Brothers (pictured).

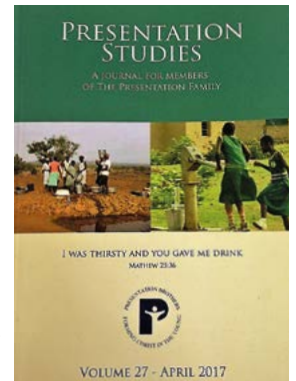
Contact Br Matthew if you would like a copy of the book.



Br Martin and Bishop Leahy

## Presentation Studies

The 27<sup>th</sup> edition of *Presentation Studies: A Journal for Members of the Presentation Family*, has been published by Br J.M. Feheny. This edition focuses on ministry, and features 13 articles about the range of international ministries in which the Presentation Family is currently involved. You can contact Br Matthew to get your copy.



## Keep in touch!

Check out our website, [www.PresentationBrothers.org](http://www.PresentationBrothers.org) for all our latest news and events. Subscribe to our fortnightly e-letter and keep up to date!



Find us on Facebook (Presentation Brothers) for daily updates on our ministries.



We are also on Twitter: @EvangeliseIRL and @PBYouthMinistry

