

***Episcopal Ordination
of
Kieran O'Reilly SMA
as
Bishop of Killaloe***



***SS Peter & Paul Cathedral
29th August 2010***



Bishop Walsh congratulates Monsignor O'Reilly on his appointment—June 2010





YOUR WORD IS TRUTH

— JOHN 17:17 —

Bishop Kieran took his initial inspiration from John 17 "Your Word is Truth" - the Word is Jesus himself.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

"And the Word was made flesh, and lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

"I have seen and I am the witness that he is the chosen one of God" (John 1:34).

The Gospel of John is known as "The Gospel of Evangelisation" and its main theme is to proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God and that all who believe in Him will have eternal life.

Bishop Kieran chose the following symbols to depict Jesus' message:

Bread:

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life: he who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst".

(John 6:35).

"I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life". (John 6:47).

Candle/Light:

When Jesus spoke to the people again he said, "I am the light of the world: anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark, he will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

"If you make my word your home, you will indeed be my disciples; you will learn the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:32-33).

Shepherd's Staff:

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is the one who lays down his life for his sheep" (John 10:11).

"The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one." (John 10:27-30).





Kieran O'Reilly was born in Cork City on 8 August 1952, the first of five children born to Seán and Theresa O'Reilly. He attended the Presentation Brothers at Scoil and Coláiste Chríost Rí for his primary and secondary education.

In 1970 he began his studies for the priesthood with the Cork-based missionary group, the Society of African Missions. Following University studies in St Patrick's College, Maynooth he was ordained to the priesthood on 17th June 1978 in the African Missions Church, at Wilton, Cork.

Fr. Kieran was appointed to pastoral work in Liberia, Archdiocese of Monrovia, but was recalled, in 1980, to undertake studies in Sacred Scripture at the Biblicum Institute in Rome from where he qualified in 1984 with a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture. He was then appointed to the Major Seminary of SS Peter and Paul, Ibadan, Nigeria where he lectured in Sacred Scripture for five years. In 1989, the members of the SMA Irish Province elected him to the Provincial Council, the body which oversees the administration of the Society in Ireland.

Six years later, at the 1995 SMA General Assembly in Rome, Fr. O'Reilly was elected as the SMA Vicar General, part of a team that would lead the Society throughout the world. As a member of the General Council he was responsible for several matters: Formation of seminarians and priests; Justice and Peace issues; the development of the African branch of the SMA.

At an international level he has drawn attention to the needs of the poor and marginalised. In particular he has been involved in the work of the Africa Europe Faith & Justice Network, which lobbies for the rights of Africans, both in Africa itself and those who live in other parts of the world.

He has attended two Synods of Bishops – on the Word of God (in 2008) and the Second Special Synod for Africa (2009), as a member representing the Union of Superiors General, in Rome.

In 2001, Fr. Kieran was elected as the 11th Superior General of the Society of African Missions and was re elected for a second term in 2007. With three years remaining of his term of office, Fr Kieran has now been called to a different ministry of service in the Church, as Bishop of Killaloe.





St. Flannan,

Cistercian Abbey, Mount St. Joseph's , Roscrea
Patron Saint of Killaloe.

fáilte

Words of Welcome: Sarah Malone/Dan O'Connell

We take a few moments before the Liturgy of Ordination of Bishop Elect Kieran O'Reilly to acknowledge and welcome all who have come to celebrate with us.

Candles are placed in the sanctuary from the eleven Pastoral areas/Clusters of the Diocese of Killaloe, other candles are brought to represent the O'Reilly Family and other Churches and Groups who are present.

O'Reilly Family: Laura O'Reilly.

Brendan: Birr; Kilcolman; Kinnitty; Shinrone.

Marian Nixon, Kilcolman.

Inis Cathaigh: Carrigaholt; Cooraclare; Cross; Doonbeg; Kilkee; Killimer; Kilmihil; Kilmurry McMahon; Kilrush.

Kathleen McDonnell, Cross.

Cois Deirige: Borrisokane; Cloughjordan; Terryglass; Lorrha; Portroe; Puckane; Youghalarra. **Mary Tierney, Terryglass.**

Imeall Bóirne: Corofin; Tubber; Inchicronan; Ruan.

Carmel O'Connor, Tubber.

Cronan: Bournea; Dunkerrin; Kyle & Knock; Roscrea.

Nora Donnelly, Dunkerrin.

Mid Clare: Ballynacally/Lissycasey; Coolmeen; Inagh/Kilnamona; Kildysart; Kilmaley/Inch/Connolly; Milltown Malbay; Mullagh.

Marian Pilkington, Kilnamona.

St. Odhrán: Nenagh; Silvermines; Templederry; Toomevara.

Michael Hogan, Silvermines.

Tradaree: Newmarket on Fergus; Shannon; Sixmilebridge.

Puff O'Connor, Sixmilebridge.

East Clare: Bodyke-Tuamgraney; Feakle; Killanena; Scariff; Mountshannon; Tulla.

Carmel Moroney, Tulla.

South East Clare: Broadford; Castleconnell; Clonlara; Killaloe; O'Callaghan's Mills; Ogonnelloe. **Tony Fitzgerald, Killaloe.**

Abbey: Clarecastle/Ballyea; Doora/Barefield; Ennis; Quin.

Gerard Lynch, Clarecastle.

S.M.A. and Irish Missionaries:

Fr. Basil Soyoye SMA, Nigeria.

The Wider Irish Church:

Sr. Margaret Kiely, Mercy Sister, Cork.

Dolce String Quartet: Canon in D

Pachebel

Christ be our Light

B. Farrell

*Christ be our Light,
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our Light,
Shine in your Church gathered today.*



Processional Hymn

The procession enters the Cathedral and all are invited to stand.

Praise the Lord All You Nations

F.O'Carroll

Cantor: Tony Murray, Cathedral Choir

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations.

All: Praise the Lord, all you nations.

Cantor: Acclaim him all you peoples!

All: Acclaim him all you peoples!

Cantor: Strong is His love for us;
He is faithful for ever.

**All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

O sing a new song to the Lord,
Sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Proclaim his help day by day,
Tell among the nations his glory
And his wonders among all the peoples.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Bring an offering and enter his courts,
worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Praise the Lord, all you nations,
Acclaim him all you peoples!
Strong is his love for us,
He is faithful forever.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



Introductory Rites

Archbishop Clifford: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Archbishop Clifford: Peace be with you.

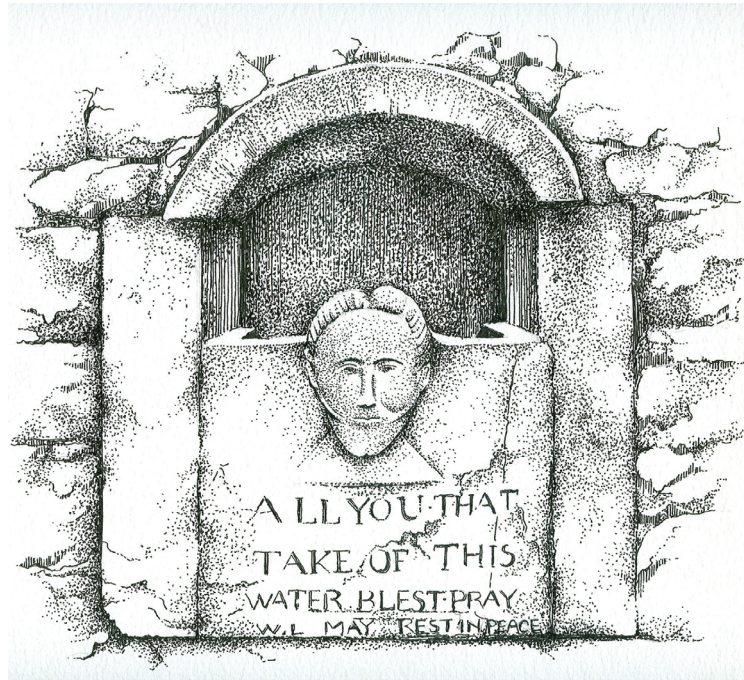
All: And also with you.

Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling of Holy Water

Water from Holy Sites in our Diocese: St. Thomas' Well, Cloon, by Billy Connolly, Castleconnell; St. Odhran's Well, Latteragh, by Mary Brosnan, Templeberry; St. Caimin's Well, Holy Island, by Noel Hogan, Mountshannon; Blessed Well of Drummelihiy in Cooraclare and St. Senan's Well, Scattery Island, by Mary Keane, Kilmurry McMahon; St. Brendan's Well, by Ethna Garahy, Birr; and from Gugán Barra in Cork, by Jenny O'Reilly, are brought forward for blessing.

Dolce String Quartet: Sarabande

G. F. Handel



Water Font, Newtown Church. - Hillary Gilmore

Archbishop Clifford: Dear friends, this water will be used to remind us of our baptism. Let us ask God to bless it, and to keep us faithful to the Spirit he has given us. God our Father, your gift of water brings life and freshness to the earth; it washes away our sins and brings us eternal life. We ask you now to bless + this water, and to give us your protection on this day which you have made your own. Renew the living spring of your life within us and protect us in spirit and body, that we may be free from sin and come into your presence to receive your gift of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Almighty God, We ask you to bless + this salt as once you blessed the salt scattered over the water by the prophet Elisha. Wherever this salt and water are sprinkled, drive away the power



of evil, and protect us always by the presence of your Holy Spirit. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

As Archbishop Clifford and his assistants sprinkle the Assembly.

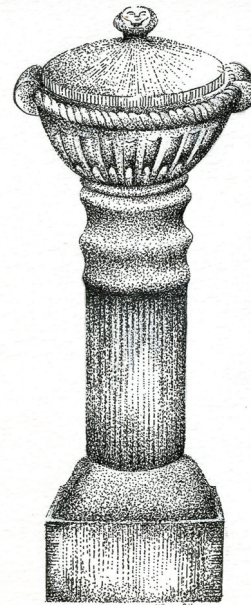
Edel O'Brien, Kilrush Parish, leads us in:

**Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.**

S. Furlong

Archbishop Clifford: May almighty God cleanse us of our sins, and through the Eucharist we celebrate make us worthy to sit as his table in his heavenly kingdom.

All: Amen.



Clooney Church

Gloria: **Mass of Our Lady of Lourdes** *J.P. Lecôt*
Cantor: Michael Cullinan, Cathedral Choir

**All: Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo**

Opening Prayer

Archbishop Clifford: God, eternal Shepherd, you tend your Church in many ways, and rule us with love. Help your chosen servant, Kieran, as pastor for Christ, to watch over your flock. Help him to be a faithful teacher, a wise administrator and a holy priest. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading *Isaiah: 61:1-3*
Read by Kieran O'Reilly, nephew of Fr. Kieran.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord,
a day of vengeance for our God,
to comfort all those who mourn and to give them
for ashes a garland;
for mourning robe the oil of gladness,
for despondency, praise.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Psalm

Psalmist: Aoife Bradley

R. McDonagh

**Sing a new song to the Lord; ring out your joy.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Sing a new song to the Lord for He has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen his salvation.
Shout to the Lord for joy! **R**

Sing psalms with the harp with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of horns acclaim the Lord. **R**



The shrine or the Cumdach of the Stowe Missal preserved at Lorrha Friary in medieval times — National Museum of Ireland

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:14-19

Read by Bridie Gallagher, Miltown Malbay/Moy Parish

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

This is what I pray, kneeling before the Father, from whom every family, whether spiritual or natural, takes its name: Out of his infinite glory, may he give you the power through his Spirit for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love, you will with all the saints have strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth; until, knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia

F. O'Carroll

Cantor: Gerry Dolan, Birr Parish.

Dancers: O'Rourke School of Irish Dancing.

Musician: Frank Whelan & Friends.



Gospel

Jn:17:11-19

Sung By: Brother Martin Browne OSB

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, Lord

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said,
`Holy Father,
keep those you have given me true to your name,
so that they may be one like us.
While I was with them,
I kept those you had given me true to your name.
I have watched over them and not one is lost
except the one who chose to be lost,
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.
But now I am coming to you
and while still in the world I say these things
to share my joy with them to the full.
I passed your word on to them,
and the world hated them,
because they belong to the world
no more than I belong to the world.
I am not asking you to remove them from the world,
but to protect them from the evil one.
They do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.
Consecrate them in the truth;
your word is truth.
As you sent me into the world,
I have sent them into the world,
and for their sake I consecrate myself
so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

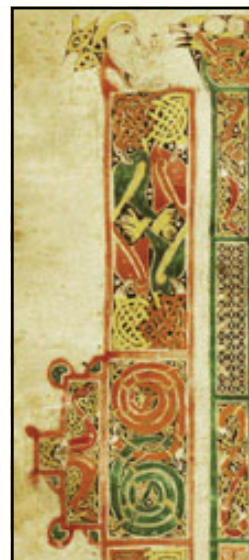


Macregol Gospels

also known as the
Book of Birr

is a manuscript copy of
the four gospels made
about 800AD, consisting
of 169 vellum leaves.

In 2006 Birr Historical
Society obtained a
facsimile which is
displayed in Birr Town
Library. We acknowledge
the generosity of Offaly
Library Services and Birr
Historical Society for its
use in today's Liturgy.



After the proclamation of the Gospel, the Book of the Gospels is revered by a number of people who reflect the journey of faith of Fr. Kieran. His mother Theresa, his father Sean; his parish priest, Archdeacon Kerry Murphy-O'Connor, his Primary School Teacher, Sr. Marie, Presentation Sisters; Fr. Fachtna O'Driscoll Provincial Leader of the Irish Province of the SMA. Finally the book is revered by Fr. Kieran and Archbishop Clifford.

Rite of Ordination

All remain standing for the hymn Veni Creator. Archbishop Clifford, Bishop Walsh, and Bishop O'Regan wearing their mitres, move to the seats at the front of the sanctuary. The Bishop Elect comes to the place prepared for him accompanied by his two assistant priests.

Veni Creator

**Veni, creator Spiritus,
mentes tuorum visita,
imple superna gratia
quae tu creasti pectora.**

Qui diceris Paraclitus,
altissimi donum Dei,
fons vivus, ignis, caritas,
et spiritalis unctio.

**Tu, septiformis munere,
digitus paternae dexterae,
Tu rite promissum Patris,
sermone ditans guttura.**

Accende lumen sensibus,
infunde amorem cordibus,
infirma nostri corporis
virtute firmans perpeti.

**Hostem repellas longius,
pacemque dones protinus:
ductore sic te praevio
vitemus omne noxium.**

Per te sciamus da Patrem,
noscamus atque Filium;
Te utriusque Spiritum
credamus omni tempore.

**Deo Patri sit gloria,
et Filio, qui a mortuis
surrexit, ac Paraclito,
in saeculorum saecula.
Amen.**



Mullagh Church

Presentation of the Bishop-Elect

The Bishop Elect stands before Archbishop Clifford with his two assistant priests.

Fr. Seamus Gardiner: *Vicar General of the Diocese of Killaloe addresses Archbishop Clifford. Most Reverend Father, the Church of Killaloe asks you to ordain this priest, Kieran O'Reilly, for service as bishop.*

Archbishop Clifford: Have you a mandate from the Holy See?

Fr. Seamus Gardiner: We have.

Archbishop Clifford: Let it be read.

Mandate from the Holy See

Everyone sits while the Apostolic Mandate is read.

Benedict, Bishop, Servant of the Servants of God, to our beloved son, Kieran O'Reilly of the Society of African Missions and Superior General of the same association, chosen to be Bishop of Killaloe, we send our greeting and Apostolic Blessing.

With the help of the Lord who said to his disciples, sent to preach the good news, 'In the world you face persecution, but take courage, I have overcome the world.' (John 16.33), we have no doubt that the faith of the Church, however it may be assailed by the onslaughts of a hostile world, will remain firm.

To sustain this faith, we indeed are eager to appoint Bishops who are able to promote it effectively by their preaching and by the example of their lives. To a pastor endowed with this character therefore we wish to entrust the Church of Killaloe, without a Bishop due to the retirement of our Venerable Brother William Walsh. You however, beloved son, we have judged to have the necessary virtues which will enable you to fill such a distinguished office. Having heard, therefore, the opinion of the Congregation for Bishops, we, by virtue of our Apostolic authority, name you Bishop of Killaloe, at the same time conferring on you all rights and duties which are attached to the same Episcopal rank in accordance with the sacred canons. Moreover, you can receive Episcopal Consecration from a Catholic Bishop of orthodox faith outside the city of Rome.

But before this, a profession of faith must be made by you and an oath of fidelity to Us and to Our Successors must be solemnly pronounced according to canonical rules. It will be your duty, in addition, to inform clergy and all the faithful appropriately of this Our will and we exhort them that they venerate you with filial devotion and remain united with you. Finally, beloved son, direct the steps of the faithful entrusted to you in the paths of the Lord so that, finding truth in His word, they may be able to enter the mansion of everlasting peace.

Given in Rome, at St. Peter's, on the eighteenth day of May, in the year of the Lord two thousand and ten, the sixth year of Our Pontificate.

All: Thanks be to God.

Homily:

Fr. Tim Cullinane SMA





YOUR WORD IS TRUTH
— JOHN 17:17 —

Examination of the Bishop-Elect

Following the homily the Bishop-Elect rises and stands in front of Archbishop Clifford who questions him:

Archbishop Clifford: An age-old custom of the Fathers decrees that a bishop-elect is to be questioned before the people on his resolve to uphold the faith and to discharge his duties faithfully. My brother, are you resolved by the grace of the Holy Spirit to discharge to the end of your life the office the apostles entrusted to us, which we now pass on to you by the laying on of hands?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved to be faithful and constant in proclaiming the Gospel of Christ?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved to maintain the deposit of faith, entire and incorrupt, as handed down by the apostles and professed by the Church everywhere and at all times?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved to build up the Church as the body of Christ and to remain united to it within the order of bishops under the authority of the successor of the apostle Peter?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved to be faithful in your obedience to the successor of the apostle Peter?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved as a devoted father to sustain the people of God and to guide them in the way of salvation in cooperation with the priests and deacons who share your ministry?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved to show kindness and compassion in the name of the Lord to the poor and to strangers and to all who are in need?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved as a good shepherd to seek out the sheep who stray and to gather them into the fold of the Lord?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am.

Archbishop Clifford: Are you resolved to pray for the people of God without ceasing, and to carry out the duties of one who has the fullness of the priesthood so as to afford no grounds for reproach?

Mgr. O'Reilly: I am, with the help of God.

Archbishop Clifford: May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to fulfilment.



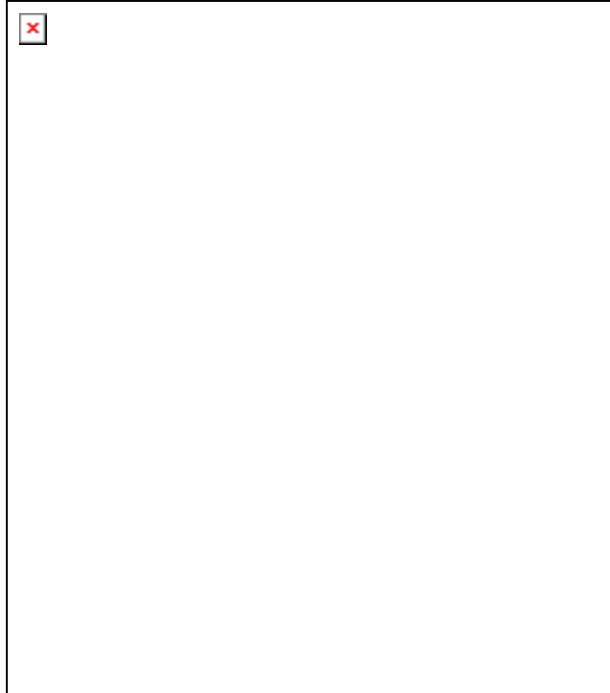
Invitation to Prayer

Archbishop Clifford: My dear people, let us pray that Almighty God will pour out his grace upon the man whom He has chosen to provide for the needs of the Church.

Deacon Ger Jones: Let us kneel.

The congregation kneels while the bishop-elect lies prostrate.

Cantors: Caroline O'Connor & Gerry Dolan



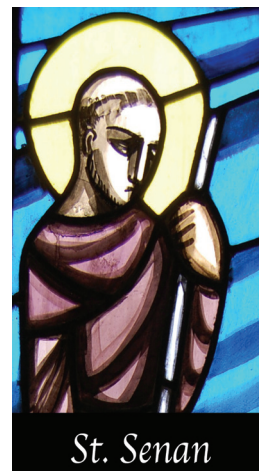
St. Tola's High Cross, Dysart.

Lord have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord have mercy

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Holy Mary, Mother of God
Saint Michael
Holy angels of God
St John the Baptist
St Joseph
St Peter and St Paul
St Andrew
St James
St John
St Mary Magdalen
St Stephen
St Ignatius
St Lawrence
St Perpetua and St Felicity
St Agnes
St Gregory
St Augustine
St Athanasius
St Basil
St Benedict

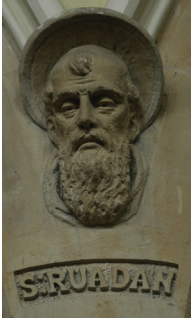


Pray for us
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Pray for us



St. Senan

Kilkee Church



St Francis and St Dominic	Pray for us	
St Francis Xavier	Pray for us	
St John Vianney	Pray for us	
St Catherine	Pray for us	
St Teresa	Pray for us	
St Thomas	Pray for us	
St Patrick	Pray for us	
St Brigid	Pray for us	
St Columbanus	Pray for us	
St Kieran of Clonmacnoise	Pray for us	
St Flannan of Killaloe	Pray for us	
St Senan of Scatterry	Pray for us	
St Lua of Kyle	Pray for us	
St Cronan of Roscea	Pray for us	
St Brendan of Birr	Pray for us	
St Imy of Killimer	Pray for us	
St Conaire of Rinanna	Pray for us	
St Tola of Dysart	Pray for us	
St Conlán of Youghalarra	Pray for us	
St Colum of Terryglass	Pray for us	
St Caimin of Holy Island	Pray for us	
St Ruadhán of Lorrha	Pray for us	
St Odrán of Latteragh	Pray for us	
St Finnachta of Sixmilebridge	Pray for us	
St Cuminin of Shinrone	Pray for us	
St Mochulla of Tulla	Pray for us	
St Finín of Quin	Pray for us	
St Luctighern of Kinnity	Pray for us	
St Lught of Terryglass	Pray for us	
St Conall of Drumclife	Pray for us	
St Céide of Tubber	Pray for us	
St Bláthmac of Rath	Pray for us	
St Donán of Toomevara	Pray for us	
St Mohunna of Feakle	Pray for us	
St Columba of Drumclife	Pray for us	
St Augh of Terryglass	Pray for us	
All holy men and women	Pray for us	
Lord, be merciful	Lord, deliver us we pray	
From all evil	Lord, deliver us we pray	
From every sin	Lord, deliver us we pray	
From everlasting death	Lord, deliver us we pray	
By your coming as man	Lord, deliver us we pray	
By your death and rising to new life	Lord, deliver us we pray	
By your gift of the Holy Spirit	Lord, deliver us we pray	
Be merciful to us sinners	Lord, hear our prayer	
Guide and protect your holy Church	Lord, hear our prayer	
Keep the pope and all the clergy		
in faithful service to your Church	Lord, hear our prayer	
Bring all peoples together		
in trust and peace	Lord, hear our prayer	
Strengthen us in your service	Lord, hear our prayer	
Bless this chosen man	Lord, hear our prayer	
Bless this chosen man		
and make him holy	Lord, hear our prayer	



Bless this chosen man,
make him holy,
and consecrate him
for his sacred duties

Lord, hear our prayer

Jesus, Son of the Living God
Christ, hear us
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer

Lord, hear our prayer
Christ, hear us
Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.

Archbishop Clifford concludes: Lord, be moved by our prayers. Anoint your servant with the fullness of priestly grace, and bless him with spiritual power in all its richness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Deacon Ger Jones: Let us stand.

Laying on of Hands

In silence, the Archbishop lays his hands upon the head of the candidate. After him, all other bishops present do the same.

Book of the Gospels

The candidate kneels before Archbishop Clifford.

Then the Archbishop places the open Book of the Gospels upon the head of the candidate; two deacons, standing at either side of the bishop-elect, hold the Book of the Gospels above his head until the prayer of consecration is completed.

Prayer of Consecration

Archbishop Clifford: God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of mercies and God of all consolation, you dwell in heaven, yet look with compassion on all that is humble. You know all things before they come to be; by your gracious word, you have established the plan of your Church. From the beginning you chose the descendants of Abraham to be your holy nation. You established rulers and priests, and did not leave your sanctuary without ministers to serve you. From the creation of the world you have been pleased to be glorified by those whom you have chosen.

The following part of the prayer is recited by all the consecrating bishops, with hands joined.

All bishops: So now, pour out upon this chosen one that power which is from you, the governing Spirit whom you gave to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the Spirit given by him to the holy apostles, who founded the Church in every place to be your temple for the unceasing glory and praise of your name.



Archbishop Clifford continues alone: Father, you know all hearts. You have chosen your servant for the office of bishop. May he be a shepherd to your holy flock, and a high priest blameless in your sight, ministering to you night and day; may he always gain the blessing of your favour and offer the gifts of your holy Church. Through the Spirit who gives the grace of high priesthood, grant him the power to forgive sins as you have commanded, to assign ministries as you have decreed, and to loose every bond by the authority which you gave to your apostles. May he be pleasing to you by his gentleness and purity of heart, presenting a fragrant offering to you, through Jesus Christ your Son, through whom glory and power and honour are yours with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, now and forever.

All: Amen

After the Prayer of Consecration, the deacons remove the Book of the Gospels which they have been holding above the head of the new bishop.



Blessing of the Holy Oils at the Mass of Chrism, Easter 2010

Anointing

All sit

Archbishop Clifford anoints with chrism the head of the new bishop.

Archbishop Clifford: God has brought you to share the high priesthood of Christ. May he pour out on you the oil of mystical anointing and enrich you with spiritual blessing.

Presentation of the Book of the Gospels

Archbishop Clifford hands the Book of the Gospels to the new bishop.

Archbishop Clifford: Receive the Gospel and preach the Word of God with unflinching patience and sound teaching.



Investiture with Ring, Mitre, and Crozier



The Crozier with its image of Michael the Archangel, used in today's ceremony was presented to Michael Flannery, Bishop of Killaloe in 1861 by the Director and Professors of the Catholic University of Ireland.

Members of the O'Reilly family now bring to the Archbishop the symbols of Episcopal office. Firstly, Archbishop Clifford places the ring on the ring finger of the new bishop's right hand.

Archbishop Clifford: Take this ring, the seal of your fidelity. With faith and love protect the bride of God, his holy Church.

In silence Archbishop Clifford places the mitre on the head of the new bishop. Lastly Archbishop Clifford gives the crozier to the new bishop.

Archbishop Clifford: Take this crozier as a sign of your pastoral office. Keep watch over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has appointed you to shepherd the Church of God.

Seating of the Bishop

Archbishop Clifford invites the new bishop to occupy the Chair in the Cathedral sanctuary. Archbishop Clifford sits on his right.

Kiss of Peace

Bishop O'Reilly sets aside his crozier and receives the kiss of peace from Archbishop Clifford and all the other bishops.

Greeting of Bishop Kieran

Dolce String Quartet: Largo

G. F. Handel

The Bishop is greeted by Fr. Michael Sheedy, Vicar General of the Diocese who says:

I welcome you on behalf of the clergy of the diocese, who as your co-workers share with you the pastoral care of the people of Killaloe.

The Bishop is greeted by Bernadette & Paul Madden with children Sarah, Cathal, Cathy, Allison and Fergus, Scariff.

We salute you on this your ordination day, and welcome you to our diocese.

The Bishop is greeted by Sr. Jo Cantwell, Mercy Sister, Shannon and Brother Denis Minehane, Presentation Brother, Birr on behalf of the religious women and men.



We welcome your leadership among us and promise to unite in prayer with you daily.

The Bishop is greeted by Leanne Loughnane and Keith Grimes, Roscrea.

Welcome Bishop Kieran. The young people of our diocese rejoice with you today and wish you every blessing.

The Bishop is greeted by Maura McKenna, Nenagh, representing the senior citizens of our diocese.

On behalf of all the older people of the diocese, I extend a warm welcome to you.

The Bishop is greeted by Deirdre Convey, a Catechist, Kildysart Community College, from Ballynacally/Lissycasey.

I welcome you in the name of those who serve in passing on the faith. May you help us to grow in understanding of the Word of God.

The Bishop is greeted by John Sweeney, a member of the Travelling Community.

On behalf of the Travelling community, I welcome you here among us.

The Bishop is greeted by Pablo Sans, a native of Madrid, representing all who have made a new home in Ireland.

I welcome you and promise you the support of prayer in your new role.

The Bishop is greeted by Ada Power, Clarecastle, representing people with disabilities.

I welcome you and promise you the support of prayer.

The Bishop is greeted by Bishop Trevor Williams, Church of Ireland Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe.

We welcome you and promise you the support of our prayers.

Bishop Kieran: I rejoice in the prayer pledged here today and thank you for your support.



The Pectoral Cross worn by Bishop Kieran today dates from the time of Michael Peter McMahon, Bishop of Killaloe 1765-1807

Prayers of the Faithful

Bishop Kieran: My brothers and sisters, we are gathered to celebrate the mystery of our salvation in Jesus Christ. Let us ask God our Father to hear and grant our prayers.

Peggy Kenny, Newmarket on Fergus.

For Benedict our Pope, Kieran our Bishop, Willie our retired Bishop and the faithful of our Diocese - that the Word of God may take root in our hearts and bear fruit in our lives.

Lord, hear us.

Peter Byrne, Bournea.

We give thanks to God for the gift of Bishop Kieran to our Diocese. Lord, bless his ministry, as we look to him for leadership in a difficult period for the Church.

Lord, hear us.

Anne Finucane, Kilmihil.

For all gathered here this afternoon, especially the parents of bishop Kieran, Sean and Theresa, his family and friends and those joining us through radio. May we be united in proclaiming God's Word as Truth.

Lord, hear us.

Bernard Houlihan, Borrisokane.

For men and women whom the Lord calls to minister to his people - that they may respond with courage, with faith and with trust to the Lord of the harvest.

Lord, hear us.

Marie Maher, Shinrone.

For political and civil leaders at national and local level - that they may lead and govern with wisdom and justice, and walk in the ways of harmony and peace.

Lord, hear us.

B. May Murphy, Cooraclare.

We pray for all the parishioners of our diocese, that they may experience a strong sense of belonging and inclusion in the faith community.

Lord, hear us.

Noreen Spain, Kilruane, Cloughjordan.

For those working for peace, justice and righteousness that they may be rewarded for their kindness and generosity of spirit.

Lord, hear us.

Seán Ó Broin, Kilkee.

For all our missionaries, especially those from the Diocese of Killaloe, working in different parts of the world, may their ministry be fruitful and may their communities bear witness with



courage to the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.
Lord, hear us.

Betty Houlihan, Lorrha.

For all who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again - may they experience the light of God's presence and eternal peace.

Lord, hear us.

Bishop Kieran: Father, hear these prayers, and the silent unspoken prayers of the heart. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist



Dawn Mass, Shannon Parish, Easter 2010

Dressing of the Altar:

A multicoloured cloth is carried by Felix Omorodion, Sandra Ovenserh, Benjy Ileozor, Patricia Ileozor, Blessing Njekwe, and Victor Akujobi, all members of the African Community. The cloth with its tapestry of colours symbolises the vibrancy and rich tradition of African Culture and the African Church.

The Altar Cloths are placed by Pat Clohessy, and Mai Fogarty, members of Cathedral Altar Society and Rita Ryan and Ann Kelly, Cathedral Sacristans.

The Altar Candles are put in place by members of the Killaloe Apostolic Workers: Mai Farrell, Shannon; Betty Kileen, Ballycommon/Puckane; Maureen Sanders, Corofin; Frances Keane, Doonbeg.

Halleluya

*Cantare Chamber Choir – Bill Derksen;
Traditional Zulu melody Lyrics by Jane Ndunda*

Presentation of the Gifts

Members of Bishop O'Reilly's family: Paul Herlihy, Nephew; Amy Ní Súilleabháin, Grand Niece; Aoife Morgan, Grand Niece; and Adam O'Reilly, Grand Nephew bring the gifts of bread and wine.



Be Still

David J. Evans

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One is here.
Come, bow before Him now,
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

Bishop Kieran: Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of the whole Church.

Prayer over the Gifts

Bishop Kieran: Lord, accept these gifts which we offer on this day of my ordination. Enrich me with the gifts and virtues of a true apostle for the good of your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Preface

Bishop Kieran: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

Bishop Kieran: Lift your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Bishop Kieran: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise

Bishop Kieran: Father all powerful and living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

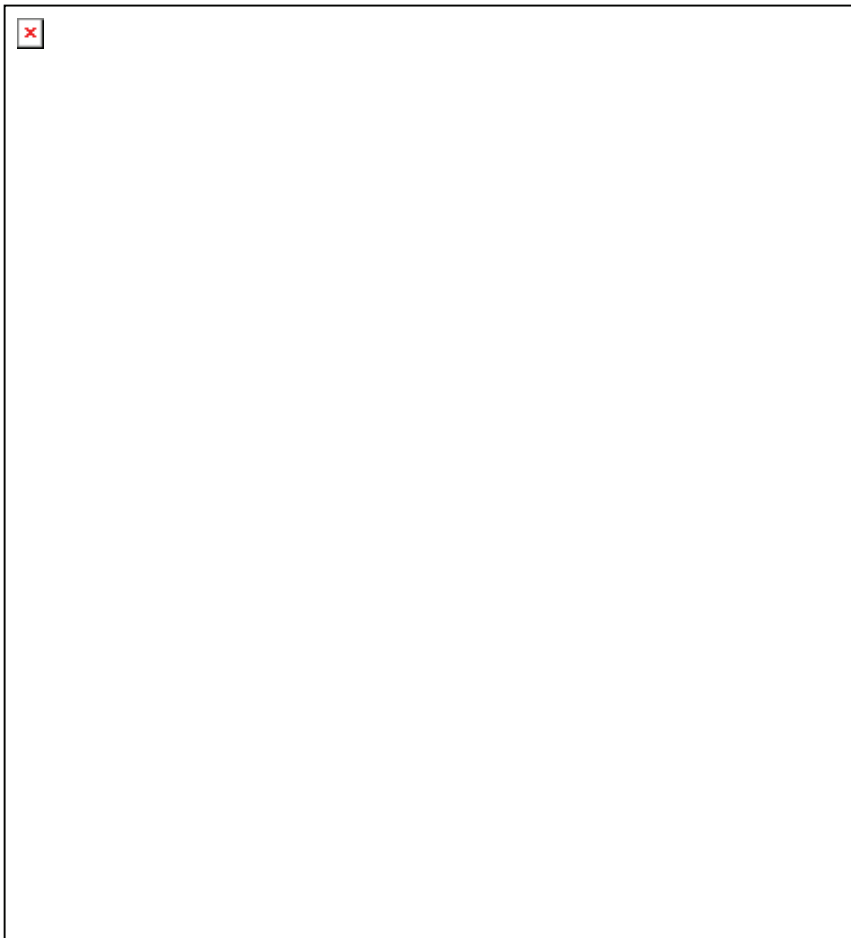


You are the eternal shepherd who never leaves his flock untended. Through the apostles you watch over us and protect us always. You made them shepherds of the flock to share in the work of your Son, and from their place in heaven they guide us still.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven we proclaim your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**Is naofa, naofa, naofa thú,
A Thiarna Dia na slua.
Tá neamh agus talamh lán de do ghlóir,
Hosanna 'sna harda.
Is beannaith' an té 'tá ag teacht in ainm an Tiarna,
Hosanna 'sna harda.**

S. O' Riada



The Romanesque doorway in the South wall of Dysert O'Dea church.

Eucharistic Prayer

Bishop Kieran: We come to you, Father, with praise and thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ your Son. Through him we ask you to accept and bless + these gifts we offer you in sacrifice. We offer them for your holy Catholic Church watch over it, Lord, and guide it; grant it peace and unity throughout the world.

We offer them for Benedict our Pope, for me your unworthy servant, and for all who hold and teach the Catholic faith that comes to us from the apostles.



Bishop Noel: Remember, Lord, your people, especially those for whom we now pray, N. and N. Remember all of us gathered here before you. You know how firmly we believe in you and dedicate ourselves to you. We offer you this sacrifice of praise for ourselves and those who are dear to us. We pray to you, our living and true God, for our well-being and redemption.

Bishop Willie: In union with the whole Church we honour Mary, the ever-virgin mother of Jesus Christ our Lord and God. We honour Joseph, her husband, the apostles and martyrs Peter and Paul, Andrew and James, Senan and Flannan, Lua and Imy, and all the saints. May their merits and prayers gain us your constant help and protection.

Father, accept our offering from your whole family and from the one you have chosen for the order of bishops. Protect the gifts you have given him, and let him yield a harvest worthy of you.

Bishop Kieran: Bless and approve our offerings; make it acceptable to you, an offering in spirit and in truth. Let it become for us the body and blood of Jesus Christ, your only Son, our Lord.

The day before he suffered he took bread in his sacred hands and looking up to heaven, to you, his almighty Father, he gave you thanks and praise. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which will be given up for you.

When supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Fógraímís rúndiamhar an chreidimh:

**A Íosa fuair tú bás ar ár son,
D'éirigh tú ó na mairbh,
A Íosa fuair tú bás ar ár son,
Tiocfaidh tú arís.**

L. Lawton

Bishop Kieran: Father, we celebrate the memory of Christ, your Son. We, your people and your ministers, recall his passion, his resurrection from the dead, and his ascension into glory; and from the many gifts you have given us we offer to you, God of glory and majesty, this holy and perfect sacrifice: the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation.

Look with favour on these offerings and accept them as once you accepted the gifts of your servant Abel, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the bread and wine offered by your priest Melchisedech.

Almighty God, we pray that your angel may take this sacrifice to your altar in heaven. Then, as we receive from this altar the sacred body and blood of your Son, let us be filled with every grace and blessing.



Fr. Jarlath Walsh: Remember, Lord, those who have died and have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially those for whom we now pray, N. and N. May these, and all who sleep in Christ, find in your presence light, happiness and peace.

Archbishop Clifford: For ourselves, too, we ask some share in the fellowship of your apostles and martyrs, with John the Baptist, Stephen, Matthias, Barnabas and all the saints. Though we are sinners, we trust in your mercy and love. Do not consider what we truly deserve, but grant us your forgiveness.

Bishop Kieran: Through Christ our Lord you give us all these gifts. You fill them with life and goodness, you bless them and make them holy.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All: Amen.



Communion Rite

Bishop Kieran: Guímis chun an Athair, faoi mar a mhúin ár Slánaitheoir dúinn a dhéanamh:

All: **Ár nAthair atá ar neamh**
 go naofar d'ainm, go dtaga do ríocht,
 go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh
 mar a dhéantar ar neamh.
 Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu
 agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha
 mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin
 agus ná lig sinn i gcathú
 ach saor sinn ó olc.

Bishop Kieran: Deliver us Lord from every evil and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Bishop Kieran: Lord Jesus Christ you said to your apostles I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins but on the faith of your church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live forever and ever.

All: Amen.



Bishop Kieran: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Deacon Ger Fitzgerald: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

**A Uain Dé a thógas peacaí an domhain,
dean trócaire orainn,**

**A Uain Dé a thógas peacaí an domhain,
dean trócaire orainn,**

**A Uain Dé a thógas peacaí an domhain,
tabhair dúinn síocháin.**

O’Riada

Bishop Kieran: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.



Communion Hymns

Amen to the Body of Christ

M. Guimont

Cantor: Ruth Kelly, Friary Choir.

Refrain:

*Amen to the body of Christ we receive,
bread for the fullness of life.*

*Amen to the body of Christ we become,
bread for the life of the world.*

The Servant Song

R. Gillard

Will you let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey
We are travellers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I’ll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
‘Til we’ve seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we’ve known together
Of Christ’s love and agony.



Ave Maria

F. Schubert

Soloist: Edel O'Brien

A Íosa

M. Ní Dhuibhir

Soloist: Caroline O'Connor, Cathedral Choir.

Communion Reflection

Read by Leonard Cleary, Chairman Killaloe Diocesan Pastoral Council

A Prayer for Leadership

May the gift of leadership awaken in you as a vocation,
keep you mindful of the providence that calls you to serve.

As high over the mountains the eagle spreads its wings,
may your perspective be larger than the view from the foothills.

When the way is flat and dull in times of grey endurance,
may your imagination continue to evoke horizon.

When thirst burns in times of drought,
may you be blessed to find the wells.

May you have the wisdom to read time clearly
and know when the seeds of change will flourish.

In your heart may there be a sanctuary
for the stillness where clarity is born.

May your work be infused with passion and creativity
and have the wisdom to balance compassion and challenge.

May you welcome your own vulnerability
as the ground where healing and truth join.

May integrity of soul be your ideal,
the source that will guide and bless your work.

John O'Donohue, Priest, Poet & Philosopher.

A Íosa, Mhic Mhuire *Trad/McDonagh; Played by Cathy Desmond*

Prayer after Communion

Bishop Kieran: Let us pray. Lord, by the power of these holy mysteries increase in me, your unworthy servant, the gifts of wisdom and love. May I fulfil my pastoral ministry and receive the eternal rewards you promise to your faithful servants. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



The Annunciation, Ennis Cathedral



Concluding Rite

Bishop Kieran, accompanied by Bishop Walsh and Bishop O'Regan, walks through the Cathedral and blesses the congregation for the first time as the new Bishop of Killaloe, as the Ennis Brass Band play Ode To Joy. When he returns to the sanctuary Bishop O'Reilly addresses the congregation.

Words of Thanks: Sarah Malone, Ennis Pastoral Council.

Solemn Blessing

Bishop Kieran: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Brother Martin Browne OSB: Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Bishop Kieran: Lord God, you care for your people with kindness, you rule over them with love. Give your Spirit of wisdom to the bishops you have made teachers and pastors. By advancing in holiness may the flock become the eternal joy of the shepherds.

All: Amen.

Bishop Kieran: Lord God, by your power you allot us the number of our days and the measure of our years. Look favourably upon the service we perform for you, and give true, lasting peace in our time.

All: Amen.

Bishop Kieran: Lord God, now that you have raised me to the order of bishops may I please you in the performance of my office. Unite the hearts of people and bishop so that the shepherd may not be without the support of his flock or the flock without the loving concern of its shepherd.

All: Amen.

Bishop Kieran: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Dismissal:

Brother Martin Browne OSB: Ite Missa est!

All: Deo gratias!

Recessional:

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven J. Goss & C. Walker

Praise my soul the King of Heaven,
To his feet your tributes bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven;
Whom am I his praise to sing?

*Praise him, praise him! Praise him, praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!*



Praise him for his grace and favour
To our forebears in distress;
Praise him still the same forever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless.

*Praise him, praise him! Praise him, praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness!*

Father-like he tends and spares us,
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hand he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.

*Praise him, praise him! Praise him, praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.*

Angels help us to adore him,
You behold him face to face;
Sun and moon bow down before him,
Everything in time and space.

*Praise him, praise him! Praise him, praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace!*



*Monaincha - The Holy Island of Roscrea
Hiberno-Romanesque Church C.1190
A monastic settlement since 7th Century used by St. Cronan of Roscrea.*

Bishop Kieran's Crest



The Coat of Arms of Bishop Kieran consists of, on the left hand side, the ancient arms of the Diocese of Killaloe, and on the right, the personal coat of arms chosen by the new bishop.

The arms of the Diocese consist of a Latin cross between four trefoils with the emblem of the key occupying the chief position. The arms connote the guardianship of Christ's Kingdom, with special reference to St. Peter.

The personal arms of the Bishop consist of representations that reflect the Bishop's love of Sacred Scripture and his new role as Bishop of Killaloe.

- The open Bible with the symbols of the A and Ω (the first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet) reminding us of Christ, the beginning and the end of all we are and do.
 - The sword is a reference to St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians 6:17: "*And then you must take salvation as your helmet and the sword of the Spirit, that is, the Word of God.*"
- The fish is an ancient Christian symbol. In the Bishop's coat of arms it recalls the bodies of water; the Atlantic, Lough Derg, the Shannon which are an integral part of the Diocese of Killaloe.

Behind the shield is a Celtic Processional Cross. The shield is surmounted by the *galero* (the pilgrim's hat) with cords and *fiocchi* (tassels). The traditional colour of galero, cords and fiocchi for a Bishop is green with six fiocchi on each side of the shield.

The motto ***Verbum Tuum Veritas*** (Your Word is Truth), chosen by Bishop Kieran is taken from the Gospel of St. John. (Jn.17:17) and is a further reflection of the new Bishop's love of Sacred Scripture and expresses confidence in the promises of Jesus Christ for His Church.

ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF THE DIOCESE OF KILLALOE

Up to the eleventh century the Irish church was basically a monastic church with the authority vested in the abbot. The synod of Rathbreasail 1111AD set up the diocesan system. For a time after the synod of Kells 1152AD, Roscrea and Inis Cathaig were independent dioceses.

Domnall Ua h-Enna	Died - 1098
Maol Muire Ua Dunain	1098 - 1117
Domnall Ua Conaing	1117 - 31
Domnall Ua Longargain	1131 - 37
Tadg Ua Longargain	1137 - 61
Donnchad Ua Briain	1161 - 64
Consantin Ua Briain	1164 - 94
Diarmoid Ua Conaing	1194 - 95
Conchobar Ua h-Eanna	1195 - 1216
Domnal Ua h-Eindi	1216 - 26
Robert Travers	1216
<i>never supported by the diocesan chapter or the pope.</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>1226-31</i>
Domnall Ua Cinneide	1231-52
Isaac Ua Cormacain	1253-67
Mathgamain Ua h-Ogain	1267-81
Muiris Ua h-Ogain	1281-99
David Mac Mathgamna	1299-1317
Tomas Ua Cormacain	1317-21
Benedict Ua Cosraig	1322-25
David Mac Briain	1326-42
Tomas Ua hOgain	1342-55
Tomas Ua Cormacain	1355-82
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>1382-89</i>
Mathew Mac Craith	1389-99
Donnchad Mac Craith	1400-18
Robert de Mulfield	1409
<i>Time of Great Schism Killaloe had two bishops.</i>	
Robert de Mulfield	1409-23
Eoghan Ua Faolain	1418-29
Thadeus Mac Craith	1423-43
Seamus Ua Longargain	1429-43
Donnchad Ua Briain	1443-60
Diarmait (Thadeus) Mac Craith	1460-63
Mathgamain Ua Griobtha	1463-82
Toirdelbach ua Briain	1483-25
Seamus Ua Cuirrin	1526-42
Conchobhor O Deaghoidh	1542-54
Torrdealbhadh O Briain	1554-69
Maoleachlainn O Maoldomnoig	1571-76
Conchobhor O Maolriaghain	1576-1616
John O'Molony I	1630-50
John O'Molony II	1672-89
<i>Bishops banished from country 1698.</i>	
Eustace Browne	1712-24
Terlagh McMahon	1724-28
Sylvester Lloyd	1728-39
Patrick McDonagh	1739-52
Nicholas Madgett	1752-53
William O'Meara	1753-64
Michael Peter McMahon	1765-1807
James O'Shaughnessy	Coadjutor 1799; 1807-29
Patrick McMahon	Coadjutor 1819; 1829-36
Patrick Kennedy	Coadjutor 1835; 1836-50
Daniel Vaughan	1850-59
Michael Flannery	Coadjutor 1858; 1859-91
Nicholas Power	Coadjutor 1864-71
James Ryan	Coadjutor 1872-79
Thomas McRedmond	Coadjutor 1889; 1891-1904.



Michael Fogarty
Joseph Rodgers
Michael Harty
Willie Walsh
Kieran O'Reilly

1904-1955
Coadjutor 1948; 1955-66
1967 - 1994
1994 - 2010
2010 -

Sources: *"The History of the Diocese of Killaloe", by Dermot Gleeson;*
"The Diocese of Killaloe" by Monsignor Ignatius Murphy;
Canon Reuben Butler, Newmarket on Fergus.



Bishop
Michael Peter MacMahon



Bishop
James O'Shaughnessy



Bishop
Michael Flannery



Bishop
Nicholas Power



Bishop
James Ryan



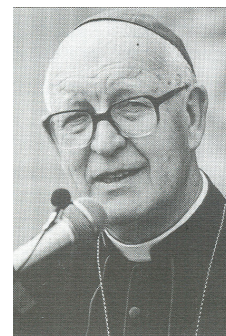
Bishop
Thomas McRedmond



Bishop
Michael Fogarty



Bishop
Joseph Rodgers



Bishop
Michael Harty



Bishop Willie Walsh



Society of African Missions



The Society of African Missions was founded by Bishop Melchior de Marion Brésillac. He was born on 2 December 1813 in Castelnaudary, in the south of France. He was ordained a priest in 1838. After three years of parish ministry, he dedicated his life to the 'foreign missions'. He joined the Paris Foreign Missions Society (MEP) and was appointed to Pondicherry (India) where he arrived on 24 July 1842.

After some months learning Tamil and the local culture, he was appointed to the mission at Salem. In 1844, he was appointed Superior of the Seminary. In 1845, he was appointed the first Vicar Apostolic of Coimbatore.

In 1853, he left India and he was to devote the rest of his life to the "most abandoned" peoples of Africa. On 8th December 1856, in Lyons, France he founded the Society of African Missions (SMA). He was appointed as the first Vicar Apostolic of Sierra Leone in 1858. The first three missionaries set off for Freetown in November 1858. Bishop de Marion Brésillac and two others joined them on 14 May 1859. Bishop de Marion Brésillac and three of his companions died prematurely from yellow fever in June 1859.

The Congregation of Our Lady of Apostles (OLA) was founded by Fr. Planque successor to Bishop de Marion Brésillac, the Sisters work in collaboration with the SMA members in Africa. Today the work continues.

SMA today:

The SMA is an international community of Catholic missionaries committed to the proclamation of the Gospel with priests, brothers and Lay Associates working in Africa and among people of African origin. Committed to the proclamation of the gospel to those who have not yet heard it (Primary Evangelization), and particularly sensitive to the cause of the most abandoned, the poor, the oppressed. Members of the Society also engage in caring for refugees and immigrants, especially of African origin.

In aiding churches of origin to respond to their missionary vocation SMA's cooperate with them in programmes of missionary animation, including the fostering of religious and missionary vocations for the universal Church.

For nearly 140 years, SMA missionaries came from Europe and North America. Since 1983, the Society has welcomed Africans, Indians and Filipinos as members. There was also a relaunching of the SMA in Poland. With young priests from these new areas the SMA today numbers nearly 1,000 members working in 16 African countries.

The SMA Superior General and his Council guide the Society at international level. Fr Kieran O'Reilly was elected as Superior General in 2001 and re-elected in 2007. He is the 19th Irish SMA called to serve the Church as a bishop, the first to do so in Ireland. Following his resignation as Superior General, French-born Fr Jean-Marie Guillaume, the SMA Vicar General, assumes responsibility for leading the Society until the next General Assembly in 2013.

The SMA in Ireland:

In 1877 Fr Francois Devoucoux came to Ireland seeking English-speaking missionaries for west Africa. He began his work in Cork where the headquarters of the Irish Province has been ever since.

There are 209 Irish SMA priests and brothers, working in Ireland, England, Egypt, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa and Zambia. Irish SMAs are also involved in pastoral work and training seminarians in the Philippines.

The Society has 5 houses in Ireland – two in Cork, one each in Claregalway, Dublin and the Dromantine Retreat & Conference Centre outside Newry, Co Down.

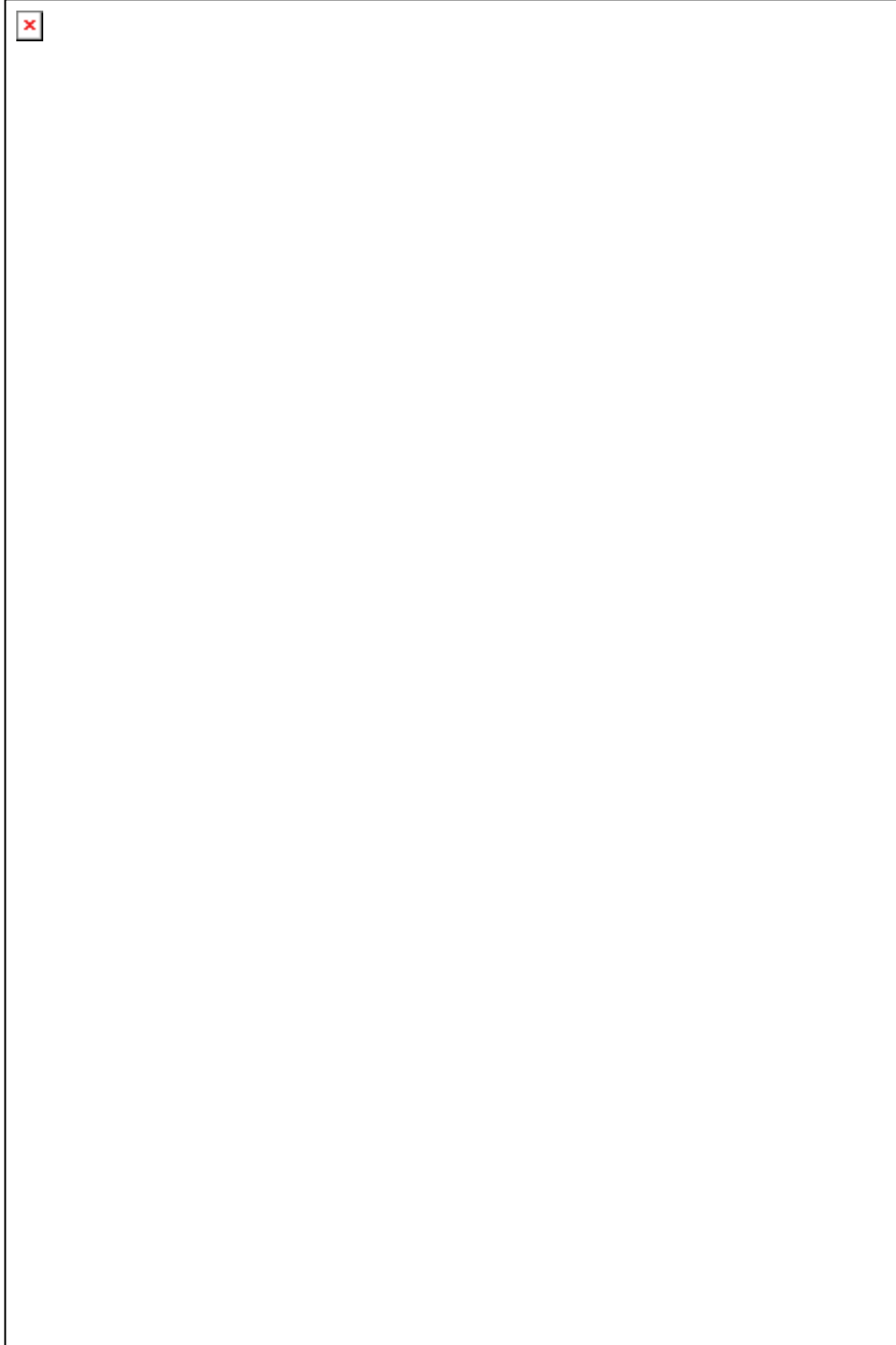
Faithful to the SMA Founder's vision of mission to the most abandoned, the SMA accompanies and supports the peoples of Africa in their struggle for a more just society and world.

For further information about the SMA visit: www.sma.ie



"Always
Preach the Gospel
and if necessary
use Words"

St. Francis of Assisi



*Ennis Friary: "The East window framed by the tower,
with insets ('St. Francis' and 'Ecce Homo')"; Doorway.*

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Musicians: Amy Kelly; Cathy Desmond; Liane Bradley; Elana Bradley; Cormac Hennessy;
John Hennessy; Sinead Brennan; Michelle Hennessy; Ailish Hennessy; Amy Kelly.

Traditional Musicians: Cois na hAbhna Comhaltas Group.

Liturgical Dancers: Aideen Kelly, Aileen Sexton, Siobhán Sexton, Aisling Dwyer

Irish Dancers from O'Rourke School of Dance: Mark Nestor, Zoe Griffin, Laura Chesser.

Radio Commentary for Clare FM: Fr. Brendan Quinlivan.

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Flowers: Cathedral Altar Society and Volunteers.

Grounds: Kathleen Clune; Paul Kelly.

Cathedral Sacristans: Ann Kelly; Michael Conlon; Rita Ryan.

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