

St. Augustine's, Galway.

Sunday, October 10th, 2010.

Web: <http://www.augustinians.ie/galway>

Masses Today

6.30: Patrick Tyrrell, (Anniv).

11.00: John Crean (Long Walk), (Anniv).

6.30: Annie Conneely, (Anniv).

Masses for next Sunday, October 17th: 6.30: Bridgie & Martin Murray; 11.00: Mary Margetts; 6.30: Tom Darcy (recent).

† **COLLECTION:** The collection last Sunday amounted to €1,340.00. Thank you.

† **RECENT DEATH:** Remember in your prayers the late Tomas Tierney, Cloghans Hill, Tuam, who died tragically in a farmyard accident on Wednesday last. Tomas was a nephew of Sean and Mary Tierney, daily Mass-goers at the Augustinian here. May he rest in peace.

Items of some Interest

† **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** ACCORD (Catholic Marriage Care Services) plan to establish a panel of suitable volunteers to man their Galway Centre at Newtownsmith. Hours: 5pm to 9pm, Monday to Thursday, as required. For further details, see www.accord.ie or call 562331.

† **NEW ALTAR SERVERS:** This photo was printed three years ago this Sunday, on October 7th, 2007. **Back row:** Sam Ashmore, Emma Beuster, Benedict D'Costa and Georgia Ryan. **Centre:** Amy Byrne, Lauren and John Margetts. **Front:** Thomas Hayes and Dominic D'Costa. Just four of that strong team are still standing. (The rest obviously secured more favourable terms-of-contract at other churches!) We are looking for Altar Servers, girls and boys. (As you all well know, this church is an equal opportunities organisation!) Our target is ten, because, with the rugby season pending, our present crew will be reduced to three on most Sundays! Those who have made their First Holy Communion are invited to apply. We have plenty of Servers' robes, kindly bequeathed to us by retiring or expelled members. When we have the desired numbers, we will begin our Training Programme.



As I Was Saying...

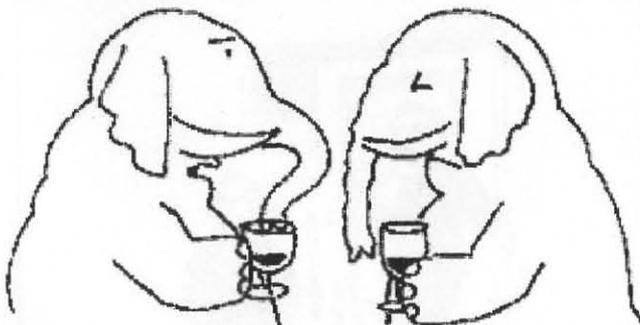


On the first Sunday of Advent, 2011, English speaking Catholics throughout the world will be confronted with a new translation of the Mass. Various committees and congregations have been working on this project for ten years now. (John Paul II introduced it in 2000 as a worthwhile 'Millennium Project!') Promoters of this new translation tend to present it as a panacea for a malignant disorder called 'secularism'. "Swallow this", they urge, "and all will be well!" Supporters of this new translation maintain that the people's response "*and with your spirit*" is infinitely superior to "*and also with you.*" It is superior because it literally mimics the original Latin, which, of course, is exactly what is wrong with it. The acclamation after the Consecration is another example of this folly: "*Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again*" will be replaced by: "*We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.*"

In tinkering with the text in this pointless way, 'the powers that be' are driving another wedge between people's experience of life and its spiritual, or sacramental, expression in their religion. The faithful are thereby denied the energy of a sacramental system to ground them in, and guide them through 'the overwhelming and entralling mystery' of existence. While religious leaders like to blame this cleavage on 'secularism - as Pope Benedict does of a Europe that leaves religion out of its official declarations - the responsibility may lie with the same religious leaders who, out of touch with the mythic depth of sacramental life, cannot keep their people in touch with this vital source of their spiritual lives.

American writer Joseph Campbell described the Church and its sacraments as 'a mystical mirror in which the beleaguered world can see a reflection of its profound longings and strivings'. But the sacraments are now spoken of as static objects to be regulated rather than living symbols to be celebrated. Those in charge are uncomfortable speaking of sacramental depths, but are endlessly preoccupied with their surfaces. How much have you heard about the Eucharist as a Mystery that symbolises the life-death-resurrection rhythm of human existence, rather than the Eucharist regarded as a weapon of clerical control? "Take this all of you and eat it....(but the following people and groups should ignore this invitation.....)".

In this spurious 'Reform', our sacramental system is policed by authority, not emergent from life, because (again in the words of Campbell) "there is no poet's eye to see, no adventure to be lived, where all is set for all, and forever." The new texts, in effect, sunder our everyday experience of struggle from their sacramental symbolisation in the renewed liturgy of Vatican II. In playing unreal language games, they are reducing the liturgy to something artificial and precious. This "new" translation turns us back to another world in which the sacraments were dry remedies for the house-bound, rather than dynamic sources of spiritual strength and encouragement. These new texts, drafted by men more interested in controlling the crowds than in feeding them pastorally, are the real sources of the secularism which so appalls the present Pope. The Titanic and the moving chairs come to mind! -Dick Lyng.



'Notice how everyone is avoiding talking about the mouse in the room.'