

One in Heart and Mind

Patrician Generalate  
Newsletter



Dear Brothers,

In a statement issued to all Brothers, the Extended Council which met at Newbridge, Ireland in 2007 said, *“Bicentenary 2008 invites and inspires us to look back in gratitude on the legacy we bear, acknowledging the great faith and fidelity of the generations of Brothers who have preceded us, and on the encouragement and friendship of families and supporters who have journeyed with us. This time of Bicentenary is also a favoured time to share our story with school students and a variety of fellow-travellers who will join with us in the celebrations ahead”*.



The Congregational Celebration of the Bicentenary of our foundation in Ireland very meaningfully celebrated just that. From Monday 7 July to Wednesday 9 July the celebrations in Tullow, the birth place of the Congregation focused on looking back in gratitude and celebrating the achievements of the last two hundred years. It was in every sense of the word an international celebration with Patrician representatives from each of our Provinces and Regions along with the Loricans, affiliates, former Patricians, principals, teachers, past students, Brigidine Sisters, clergy, religious, relations of our Brothers and friends and supporters of the Patricians being present at all the functions organized to mark this historic occasion.

The one-day seminar titled **“Holders of the Flame”** provided a wonderful opportunity for principals, staff, Brothers and past pupils to share their experiences of the Patrician story and ethos. There was tremendous appreciation and support for the work of the Brothers and their commitment in particular to reaching out to the poor and marginalized.

The gathering of our friends and supporters at the **Ceremony of Remembrance and Thanksgiving** on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> July was a clear indication of the love and respect our forebears were held in. It was also wonderful to see a packed church at the **Bicentenary Concert** and the **Mass of Thanksgiving**. The messages and letters of thanks and appreciation received during and after the celebrations were all very positive. Patrician hospitality was widely acknowledged. It was certainly a time for every Patrician to be proud of belonging to a small but wonderful religious family.

This Bicentenary special tries to capture all those wonderful moments. We had every reason to celebrate and by the grace of God and with His blessings the celebrations were a grand success.

One in Heart and Mind,

Bro. Jerome Ellens

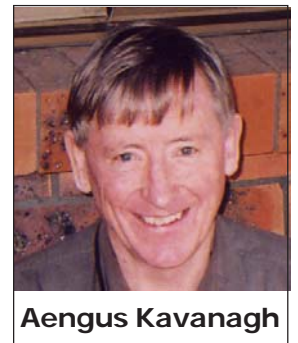
Superior General

{Editor’s Note: We are indebted to Bro. Aengus Kavanagh for undertaking the task of writing up an account of the events of the week that marked the high point of the Bicentenary Celebrations in Ireland .}

# International Celebration of Bicentenary in Ireland

## Calendar of events in an historic week in the Patrician Story (Aengus Kavanagh)

The first six months of 2008 have witnessed affirming and inspiring celebrations of the Patrician story at local and Province level in places of past and present Patrician living and ministry. There has been a great outpouring of gratitude and goodwill towards the Brothers across a variety of settings and contexts. We of the present generation are truly blessed to be the recipients of such recognition and good wishes, earned for us by past generations of Brothers. Let us gratefully remember them at this time, at the same time let us reflect on the appreciation our lay colleagues and friends have for the role of Religious Brotherhood in our Church and in society. So many of the tributes throughout the celebrations have echoed this latter theme.



Aengus Kavanagh

An so to July, where the spotlight turned to Bicentenary celebrations with an international flavour, in Ireland, and at the birthplace of the Congregation, in Tullow. The six-weeks’ Loric program which preceded July was symbolic in that it brought together Brothers from Ireland, India, Australia, California, Papua New Guinea and Kenya at Carlow College, co-founded by Bishop Delany, in a period of ongoing development and reflection on Patrician Brotherhood in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. As well as being a time of renewal for the Loricans, these Brothers brought a supporting and international flavour to the many June-July BC celebrations.

### National Education Seminar at Maynooth

The first formal national and international initiative to mark the Bicentenary was a Patrician sponsored and organised education seminar at St Patrick’s College, Maynooth. For centuries, Maynooth has been the Catholic heartland of Ireland, the setting for Ireland’s most famous seminary, and the place where the Irish Bishops still hold their major conferences and gatherings. Apart from its magnificent buildings, it was thus a most appropriate venue in which to pay tribute to the role of the Patricians in Catholic school education for two centuries.

The two-day education seminar on 3 & 4 July was titled: **What Matters Most In Schools NOW** and focused from different perspectives on the continuing need to keep religious faith, along with spiritual and moral values at the heart of Catholic education in the midst of more pluralist and secularist societies. There were six keynote presenters of excellent calibre, Fr Harry Bohan, parish priest and highly regarded sociologist; Dr Anne Looney, CEO National Curriculum and Assessment, Ireland; Sr Elizabeth Maxwell, Provincial, Presentation Sisters, Dr David Tuohy, Jesuit author and education consultant; Greg Whitby , Executive Director of Schools, Parramatta



Fr. Harry Bohan addressing the Seminar



Cormac introduces Dr. Anne Looney

Diocese, Australia; Dr Andrew McGrady, Director, Mater Dei Institute, Dublin. Additionally, there were special interest workshops. Bro Cormac Commins bore the main responsibility for recruiting the top speakers and for the promotion and organisation of the seminar. He was assisted by Bro. Aengus Kavanagh and Pat O’Leary, Deputy Principal at Patrician Secondary, Newbridge. It was a brave venture to hold the seminar given that it was in the early weeks of Ireland’s summer school holidays. Nevertheless, the 75 participants found the experience rewarding and challenging. A goodly number of those in attendance had strong Patrician connections, including the six Sydney principals: Michael Krawec and John Killeen, Fairfield; Tim Logue, Liverpool; Peter Wade, Delany College, Granville; Garry Williams, Ryde; Santo Passarello, Blacktown. A leading Indian educationalist, Dr Amrita Dass also came over especially for the seminar.

The seminar was a high profile signal of the Patricians’ desire to honour our legacy in education and of our continuing commitment to an holistic education which keeps enduring values at its core.

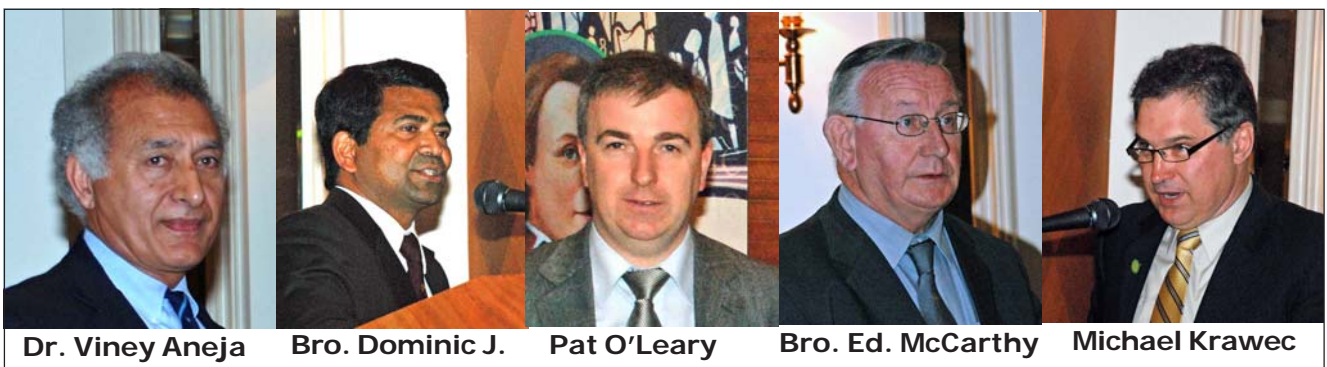
### Patrician Seminar at Tullow

On Monday, 7 July, over one hundred gathered in the delightful setting of Mount Wolseley for another education seminar. The beautiful hotel-golf-course complex had nostalgic memories for all the Irish Brothers present. For almost seventy years this place, known as Mount St Joseph (“The Mount”) was home to generations of Brothers and generations of postulants in their first stage of preparation for Brotherhood. In addition to the many Brothers present for the seminar there was a large contingent of participants from India, mainly teachers and ex-students from St George’s College in Mussoorie (Manorites); as well as teachers from St Patrick’s, Chennai. Ex-student from St George’s, Affiliate and long-time friend of the Brothers, Bishop Patrick Nair was in attendance. Another famous Manorite present was Dr. Viney Aneja from the North Carolina State University. He is the Head of Environmental Studies and Earth Sciences at the University and in 2007 was awarded the State’s top honour to a scientist for his research and development in his area of expertise. Dr. Aneja named the Brothers who had a profound influence on his life in his early education and spoke glowingly and affectionately of them.

People in leadership roles in schools still under Patrician Trusteeship in Ireland were present as well as representatives of schools where Brothers served previously but are no longer Trustees there –Carrickmacross, Mallow and Fethard. The six Sydney ‘Patrician’ principals were active participants as well as the Loricans and a generous turn-out of Brothers generally, Local parish priest, Monsignor Brendan Byrne, and his assistant Fr Andy Leahy attended. Brendan Byrne extended a hearty welcome to all visitors to Tullow.

The seminar was opened by Cormac Commins who reminded all that the place at which we gathered had been made holy by the toils, the dreams, and the prayers of so many Brothers, and trainee Brothers, over the years. Michael Krawec former principal at Patrician College, Fairfield led the gathering in prayer which recalled aspects of the Patrician story and St Patrick’s Day Bicentenary liturgy in Sydney.

An informative and inspiring address was given by Bro Jerome, weaving together themes relating to past, present, and future. There followed inputs on the unfolding Patrician stories as follows: Kenya, Bro Ned McCarthy; Ireland , Pat O’Leary; India, Bro Dominic Jacob; Australia, Michael Krawec, along with a short intervention on behalf of the Californian connection by Affiliate member, Ron Knowles.



The seminar provided a wonderful forum for exchange across cultures and contexts on the education legacy we bear and on the potential to keep Bishop Delany’s vision alive in a changed and changing world. Themes throughout the day reflected the seminar title—*Keepers of The Flame*, inviting those in leadership and support roles in Patrician-linked schools at present to continue to give creative expression to what is best in our tradition

The day’s proceedings were facilitated by Aengus Kavanagh.

### Dinner and History Launch



**Bishop Moriarty launches History**

On the evening of 7 July, seminar participants were joined at Mount Wolseley by other close friends and supporters of the Brothers for a delightful Bicentenary Dinner. Features of the evening were the launch of the Congregational history and a program of attractive entertainment by young, local dancers and musicians. The history —*By The Narrow Gate*, the fruit of years of research and writing by Bro Linus Walker, was launched by local Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, James Moriarty.

### Ceremony of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

On the morning of 8 July Brothers and friends gathered in the parish Church at Tullow to remember in prayer the Founder, the pioneers, and the many Brothers buried in Tullow.

The prayer, prepared by Bro. Jerome Ellens and led by Bro Peter Ryan, had three ‘movements’. All came together

first in the part of the Church above the burial place of Bishop Delany. Bishop Patrick Nair recalled the influence of Brothers on his life and expressed gratitude for the impact of Daniel Delany’s vision on



**Blessing of the graves by Bishop Nair assisted by Dominic Xuereb**

service to the Church in India. Bro Jerome placed a wreath on the place where Bishop Delany’s remains are interred. Next, all moved outside the Church to the large wall panel naming the early Brothers who were buried adjacent to the parish Church. A prayer was said for those who are buried ‘in this hallowed place’, and Irish Provincial, Bro Camillus Regan, laid a wreath at the site.

Next, all processed half a kilometer towards Tullow Hill to St Patrick’s Cemetery where all the Brothers previously interred at ‘Mount St Joseph’, and those who have died since the sale of that property, are now buried. Again, Bishop Patrick Nair led the prayer. As a decade of the rosary was recited, selected representatives laid red roses on the graves of the departed Brothers. The ceremony concluded with the singing of the Salve Regina.

This simple ceremony of remembrance and thanksgiving was an appropriate testimony to the men whose remains lie at the birthplace of our Congregation, ‘where it all started’.



**Wall Panel at Church commemorating earlier burials**



Liam Lawton in Concert

### Concert of Sacred Music

The parish church at Tullow was comfortably full on the evening of Tuesday, 8 July for a concert of sacred music and song led by Kildare and Leighlin priest, Fr Liam Lawton. Fr Lawton is nationally, and internationally, acclaimed as a leading liturgical composer and singer. His compositions and recitals are available on DVD and on a range of CD's. The appreciative audience enjoyed his stories and songs on the evening as well as the support act provided by singer and harpist Finuala Gill

Among the audience was the small pilgrim group from Australia led by Brothers Mark Ryan and Bernard Bulfin. There was no entry fee for the concert but all were invited to make a contribution towards Patrician missions.

### BICENTENARY MASS OF THANKSGIVING

On Delany Day, 9 July, a great gathering of Brothers, clergy, international guests, friends, supporters and well-wishers from Tullow and from throughout Ireland, assembled in the Church which rests on the remains of Daniel Delany, for the high point in a week of life-giving celebrations, a Mass of Thanksgiving. Newly appointed Papal Nuncio to Ireland, Archbishop Guiseppe Leanza was the chief celebrant and he was accompanied on the altar by Bishop James Moriarty, Bishop Patrick Nair, Monsignor Brendan Byrne and Fr. Andy Leahy.

Before the commencement of Mass, representative Brothers placed the flag of each country on a large map of the world at the front of the altar. The map was a 'work of art' by Bro James Murphy. Placement of each flag on the map triggered the glowing of a light in the corresponding country.



World Map & Flags of the Nations



At The Consecration

Superior General, Bro Jerome, gave a snapshot of the Patrician story in his usual eloquent and inspiring manner at the outset. Bishop Moriarty was also affirming and inspiring in his well-crafted homily. Apart from the generous sprinkling of international guests in the church, the celebration of Eucharist had a distinctly multi-cultural flavour. Prayers of intercession were read in Irish, English, Hindi, Swahili, Pidgin and Gurune (Ghana). At the consecration, a group of sari-clad Indian women stood at the foot of the altar and honoured the Sacred Presence in a ritualised raising of flower arrangements and incense sticks.

A disappointment was experienced in that the participation of a Kenyan liturgical dance troupe was not possible as the Irish government had refused visas to the Kenyans. The Tullow parish choir provided music and song in a classic rendering of hymns and sacred melodies, mostly composed or arranged by Fr Liam Lawton. Fr Lawton himself sang his own arrangement of the Breastplate as a Communion reflection.

After Communion, all the Brothers assembled around the altar for Renewal of Vows, a ceremony which drew a spontaneous and warm round of applause from the congregation. Before the completion of Mass, Bishop Patrick Nair blessed Bicentenary candles which were distributed to representatives of the Provinces by Bro Jerome.

At the conclusion of Mass, Irish Provincial, Bro Camillus Regan, thanked all who had contributed to the uplifting



At the end of Thanksgiving Mass--Camillus says "Thank You".

liturgy, he thanked all who had joined with us in the happy and historic occasion, and invited all to meet socially over a buffet meal in the adjacent marquee.

All who were privileged to participate in the Bicentenary Mass at the birthplace of the Congregation were inspired and delighted with the experience. It was a truly historic occasion, fittingly honouring the Founder, the pioneers, and the generations of men of faith and generous spirit who kept the dream alive in the past two hundred years.

Likewise, it was a fitting closure to week of special Bicentenary celebration in Ireland.

### In appreciation

The Bicentenary celebrations placed huge strains on the Brothers in Ireland. Brothers from overseas, as well as many other overseas visitors had to be picked up at the airports, transport and accommodation provided as well as on-going 'looking after'. Thanks to the many Brothers who really put themselves out in showing true Patrician hospitality in so many ways.

Special thanks to Bro Jerome for his leadership and practical support in the whole process. A main burden devolved on Bro Camillus, Provincial of the host Province and 'man-on-the-spot' in Tullow. Camillus did us all proud and for this we are very grateful

*Aengus Kavanagh* [on behalf of all the visitors]

## What Others Thought

### BICENTENARY MESSAGES AND APPRECIATION

Brother Jerome,

Thank you for including Priscilla and me in the celebration of 200 years. Everything went fantastic. Each event was well planned and elegant. My compliments to Camillus, James Murphy and Linus Walker for all of their efforts. Everyone was so impressed with each address that you gave.

The Mass on Wednesday was a reflection of all the good works of the brothers.

You are always in our thoughts and prayers.

*Ronn and Priscilla* (Knowles)  
California

Dear Jerome,

I did enjoy the celebration and the hospitality of your Brothers. The crowd at the mass is testimony of how much you are appreciated as Brothers. It was a privilege for me to be there and to meet some of your Brothers and especially meeting yourself. Yes, I hope we'd have time someday for a longer chat.

God bless, Jerome.

*Bro. Francis Agoah.*

Dear Jerome and Camillus,

Thank you for the beautiful celebration of your bicentenary on Wednesday. I am always inspired and consoled when I encounter a religious group that began with so few and continues to grow and flourish-something for us all to remember to-day. It was wonderful to see representatives there from all your provinces and all continents- there only remains Antartica now for you!

With warmest congratulations and wishing you and all your Brothers every blessing for the next two hundred!

*Marianne osu*  
CORI

Dear Bro Jerome,

How can I thank you for the very memorable and happy few days that we spent in Tullow. Everything went so well and you must be thanked for the efficiency and reverence that went into all the celebrations.

God Bless & thanks again,

*Bill Lethorn*

London Manorites

Dear Jerome

I want to congratulate you on the grand success of the Jubilee celebrations. The arrangements, the programmes, the accommodation, food etc. were excellent and God blessed us with good weather. Let us praise the Lord for all His blessings. God bless you. I am really proud of you.

*Bro. Benedict Mavelil* (California)

Dear Bro General,

A line to say thanks for your work to mark the bicentenary of our foundation and especially for this week's celebration at Tullow. A wonderful few days altogether, with your own addresses of Monday and Wednesday serving as marvellous high-points. Very well done indeed, eloquent and inspiring. Thank you for giving us just reason to be proud and for so fittingly marking a special occasion in the Church of God.

Gratefully yours,

*Bro. Linus Walker* (Galway, Ireland)

Bro. Jerome

'Thank you for the wonderful 3 days in Tullow' to Celebrate the 200 years of the start of 'The Patrician Brothers'. The journey to Tullow for my wife Surrinder and me was a 'Pilgrimage' to pay our Respects to the founder, Bishop Daniel Delany. We, the 'Manorites', salute his vision to establish The Patrician Brothers to provide the need of the hour to help all those unfortunate children who had no one to look after and he did all this, with very little resources to under take this massive task. As I can only speak as a 'Manorite', The Patrician Brothers in whose care our parents left us, were very dedicated, responsible, who led by example and taught us the basics of life and how to live life as good human beings. The records speak for themselves of those Manorites, who have achieved great success in any profession they under took later in life were well prepared in their foundation years spent in St George's. For this, Bishop Delany, Thank you to you and all the Patrician Brothers and to you Bro. Jerome. Keep up the good work.

Kind Regards.

*A P Singh*  
7750 Government Road,  
Burnaby, BC, V5A 2C8  
C A N A D A

Dear Jerome,

Just a few lines to personally thank you for the wonderful experience we all had in Ireland this time. It was all positive, the hospitality, the camaraderie and the generosity we experienced both within and without the family, was overwhelming and par excellence. Congratulations to you for the wonderful way the Bicentenary Celebrations were conducted. It leaves a lot for us in India to emulate for the October celebration. All the communities in Ireland were very outgoing to provide us the best and for this we are extremely grateful and appreciative. Please convey our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all the members of the communities we stayed in.

*Bro. Chris Dawes*

July 16, 2008.

Dear Rev. Bro. Jerome:

Greetings. Poonam and I were delighted to meet with you, and want to sincerely thank you for your very gracious hospitality. I want to compliment you for orchestrating the wonderful Patrician Brothers Bicentenary celebrations. Not to mention the weather really cooperated. It was a very memorable event, and we will carry these memories for ever and ever. Please find attached the remarks that I offered at the celebrations. It was very nice of you to have me on the program. I really enjoyed speaking. Rev. Bro. O'Rourke looked after us really well after the celebrations. Thanks for arranging that part of our visit. He took us to Galway, and we were very fortunate to meet with some of his family on the way. He and his brother showed us part of western Ireland.

It was simply beautiful.

Thanks again, and best wishes.

*Viney Aneja*

Dear Br. Jerome

On behalf of Jim & Shirley D'Silva, Mervyn & Rita Ledlie and ourselves we would like to thank you and everyone involved with the organisation of the wonderful celebrations. From beginning to end everything was perfect. It was great to meet the visitors from Australia etc.also. We also were able to spend valuable time reminiscing about old times in school with Bishop Patrick Nair. We think there cannot be anyone with bad memories of St Georges.

Regards and thanks to you all

*Victor & Thelma Isaac*

London Manorites

Bro. Jerome and Brothers,

Congratulations on your wonderful celebrations in Tullow last week. Everything was so well planned and the whole event expressed your spirit and your dedication over the years. Congratulations to all who helped to prepare the event. God bless you and continue your good work.

*Sisters Kate, Elizabeth, Eileen and Maureen*

Holy Family Convent, Newbridge

Dear Jerome:

In the last week or so I've been hearing nothing but compliments and expressions of appreciation from Aussie BC pilgrims regarding the welcomes and hospitality extended to the visitors from downunder. It makes me ever prouder to be a Pat. Having met all the principals and some of the pilgrims, I can assure you they felt really at home up there. With your thinning and ageing numbers, like ourselves, hospitality tasks can be burdensome and often fall to a willing few. James O'R, James M, Camillus, Jerome, David were some of names mentioned. It means alot to us down here when you people respond so graciously to visitors such as these.

*Bro. Charles.*(Barry)

Fairfield

Dear Jerome

Just a quick note to thank you for your invitation to Liam Lawton's concert in Tullow. Also just to say how well all the bicentenary celebrations went. You must be very happy with it all.

Fr. *Liam Merrigan*

Monasterevin, Co. Kildare

Dear Bro. Jerome,

Greetings from Manor House! THANK YOU and all the Brothers in Ireland for the wonderful time Shobit and I had while we were therre. I really did enjoy my stay there. The food was fantastic as were all the other arrangements that you had made for us.

Please be kind and thank all the Brothers on my behalf

*Anil Marks*

Teacher, St. George's College

Mussoorie, INDIA

Dear Bro. Jerome and Brothers

Our trip to Ireland and UK was fabulous--we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Of special mention was the hospitality extended by the Patrician Brothers--indeed touching to say the least. Thank you all!

(Major General) *Kuldip Sindhu*

Gurgaon

INDIA