

Keeping in Touch

SSHJM



January 2022

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Front cover: the effects of Typhoon Odette in Cebu.

A Word from the Editor

A very Happy and blessed New Year is our wish for the whole of creation. We enter with great expectations having completed the 19th General Chapter and with our New Leadership Team. We are being inspired anew with the Acts of the Chapter which I am sure all sisters will have read by now.

So, we start by presenting, once more, our new Team who will be taking up the reins in February and then, we hope, will write a little of themselves personally for the next edition.

Once more the population of the Philippines and, in particular Cebu, where our sisters are, are suffering the effects of a terrible typhoon—we try to reach out to help them in whatever way we can especially in prayer and thank the sisters there for reaching out to the poorest when they themselves are also suffering.

A great event for us all to celebrate is the 100th Birthday of Sister Christine in Cork and, believe it or not, we also have one of our SHCs, Eddy from Worksop, celebrating his 100th Birthday so there are plenty of photos to enjoy.

Sister Teddy in Mukono wrote to me in November just a few days after posting the last edition of KIT and sent us some inspiring photos of the work that the sisters are doing there. She tells me that the pandemic limited their work but I fail to see how much more a small community can do.

These days, here in Chigwell, we say goodbye to Sisters Mary Mangan, Lorna, Eileen, Angelo and Mary Ita, we will miss them very much and thank them for all that they have done for the Congregation for the past seven and a half years. We pray that they will all have a good rest before moving into their new ministries.

With love and prayers

Anne

Welcome to our New Leadership Team



Sister Julie Rose, Congregational Leader (2nd Lt.) together with the four councillors; Lt. to Rt. Sister Mary Dargie, Sister Yvonne Mwila, Sister Elizabeth Mooney and Sister Trinitor Putapo on the day of the elections. They will have the handover in February and then I hope they will each write a little about themselves for us in the next KIT so that we get to know them a bit better. Sister Julie has spent most of her life here in England in Pield Heath School as well as being a member of the General Council for 12 years up to 2014. Sister Mary is at present in Colwyn Bay and has experience in our houses in Sheffield as well as spending some years in Cebu. Sister Yvonne is Regional Superior in Zambia where she also specialises in Special needs education. Sister Elizabeth who is a nurse/midwife has experience in UK, Ireland and the past 37 years in Zambia. Sister Trinitor, like Yvonne is from Zambia and has never missioned outside of Zambia, she also is a nurse midwife.

VISION

*Joyful co-creators sharing God's unconditional
love in our wounded world.*

I am sure you have all now seen the Congregation's Vision as written on the first page of the Acts of the Chapter . Put together with the Mission Statement we have a wonderful expression of who we are and who we aspire to be. Like every simple but powerful statement this evolved through much work and prayer. Looking around us we can easily recognise our wounded world, but it takes great faith always to recognise God's unconditional love and even more faith to see ourselves as co-creators. The miracles happen when we enter all with JOY.

MISSION

*We, Sisters of the Sacred Hearts
of Jesus and Mary,
urged by the compassion of Christ
and responsive to the
anguish of peoples and planet,
are called to help shape communities of
gentleness, justice and peace
that witness to the healing,
liberating and empowering
love of God*

Typhoon Odette (International name: Typhoon Rai)

On December the 16th 2021, Typhoon Odette devastated the Visayas (a region in Cebu) of the Philippines. The death rate still has not been confirmed and the last we heard there were over 400 with many persons still missing. Of course many, many more were injured and traumatized by the event.



Sister Marissa helping with emergency food distributions to the elderly.



Even now after nearly a month there are still areas in Cebu that have no running water or electricity. The telephone and internet connections were damaged and difficult to find. This made communications with the outside world and, in particular, with our own Sisters in Chigwell very difficult.

As all these connections were damaged, the government has asked assistance from Luzon (another island of the region) to assist in restoring electricity for the whole region.



Here in Basak Convent, our electricity was only restored last Saturday the 8th of January in the evening. We previously had to wait in line for drinking water and gasoline among other essential items.



Some people (private individuals) from around the parish donated food packs, and clean water was distributed to as many as possible in the local area. We were able to distribute some food packs like, rice, noodles and canned goods but these were very limited and depended on what was donated, what was available in the shops and what we could afford.

There is an immediate and urgent need for housing materials, food, water and clothing. We are so grateful for the donations coming in from

Chigwell but much more is needed and needed NOW.

The government had promised to give as much as Php 5,000.00 (£75.00 per family) for the repairing or rebuilding of their damage houses, but until now they haven't received anything and it may never happen as we are used to unfulfilled promises. As we know £75.00 is not enough for the repairing and rebuilding required.



Presently many families and particularly children are suffering from hunger, skin disease and diarrheas (due to the poor sanitation and lack of clean water supplies) and many now have no shelter in this climate of rains and typhoons. The COVID 19 pandemic only serves to further complicate an already complicated situation with rates of infection increasing alarmingly. As most of the areas have no electricity, there were several fires reported in Cebu City, mostly due to the poor use of candles and /or oil lamps.

Families living in the Barangays mountains (where many of the children with special needs and disabilities live) have limited access to any relief efforts arriving from the private sector. They were badly affected by the typhoon as most of their houses are made of light materials.



In Bohol, an area made up of small islets, which is also part of the Visayas Region, many of the houses were washed out to sea and the whole area flooded with sea water and for several days no relief services were able to get to the people.

The islands in Bohol and Siargao (a very famous tourist area) that were affected by the typhoon still have no means of transportation of goods and emergency supplies. This left the population hungry and there were even reported cases of some of the people dying of hunger and lack of drinking water.



If you would like to help the sisters to respond to these needs please send

Donations to :

HSBC Bank, Account Name: GENERALATE SSHJM.

Account Number—41857088. Sort Code—40 13 22.

Reference : Typhoon

For an acknowledgement please email: treasurer@sacredheartsjm.org

With your details.



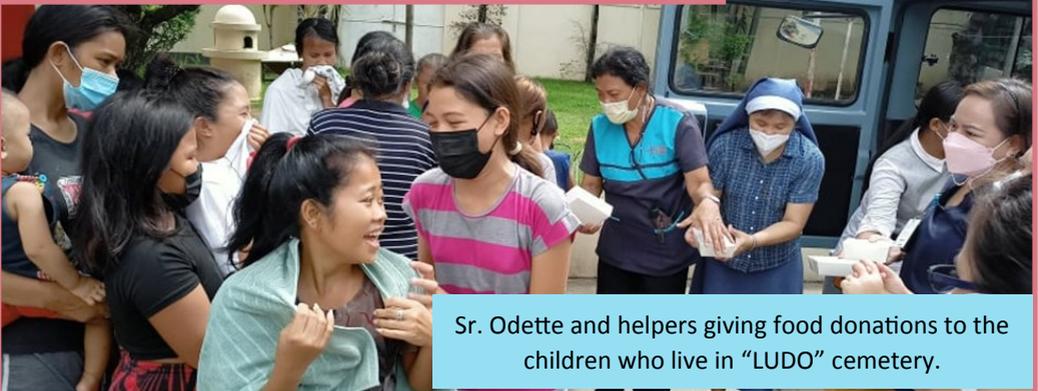
With Ma'am Fannie, our social worker, Archie and his mother.



Thank You



Visiting the sick in the hospital. & "Street dwellers"



Sr. Odette and helpers giving food donations to the children who live in "LUDO" cemetery.

The Rose.

The rose simply is. It serves no functional purpose and is only there for us to enjoy. The rose begins as a bud that enfolds layer upon layer of petals. The process cannot be hastened. The delicate unfolding speaks of patience, respect and letting be. We step aside, watch, wait and allow it to happen.

As the rose unfolds it grows in beauty until its centre is revealed – the centre from which each of the petals radiates. Then the rose reaches its peak. It is open, alive, awake and centered. It is there for us to enjoy and admire. To each of us it speaks its message of life.

“My life began as a bud, just as yours. I grew and blossomed in response to the world around me. The moist earth, the gentle rain, the storms and wind, the warm sunshine, the cool nights, the painful pruning, otherwise I would never have blossomed to become who I am called to be. As you admire me, see also my unfolding petals emerge from my centre. Without that centre I would not exist. I would be a scattered collection of disconnected petals.

Allow yourself to be touched by your everyday experience, to unfold and blossom forth into the beauty that is yours. In reflective self-presence discover the centre that holds together the many disjointed facets of your life, making of them the unique masterpiece that you are.



Allow that masterpiece to unfold gently and slowly. Allow the gift that you are to become a gift for others”

Taken from Reflective living

Claire M. Brisette

Submitted by Sister Elizabeth Mooney

Children in Distress (CHIN) Uganda

From our project in Mokono, Sister Teddy sent us these updates late last year, a bit too late for the last edition for KIT but a great start for this first edition for the New Year of 2022.

Although Sister Teddy tells me that their activities have been limited due to the Covid Pandemic, you would hardly credit it looking at the results.



Above; Sister Teddy and Madam Josephine, the tailoring teacher, visiting Christine who has received classes in Tie-dye. Here she receives more materials to continue working from home. Tie-dye training courses for young persons with disabilities and a Two groups of unemployed women and young people is an ongoing process as is the tailoring course with a total of 30 members. Madame Josephine appears to be doing a very good job. This project is funded by the Meyer Foundation who have helped now for several years.

Right; Sister Teddy went to visit Amos and his mother who were badly affected by Covid and in need of food relief. It looks like both Mum and Amos are delighted to see Teddy and to be the beneficiaries of a very needy meal at a very difficult time. Like them, we pray for an end to the pandemic and a return to greater independence and normality for all.



Left; Another group of unemployed young people who received training in the making of energy saving stoves and the possibility to turn their education into a good source of income generation for themselves and their families. Some of the youth also have disabilities.



Indigenous Micro Organisms (IMO) Training

Three Women's groups of 55 beneficiaries are training in the use of IMO and its applications to vegetables, bananas as well as animal rearing. Above we see Sister Jane Frances supervising one of the training sessions. And below



Left; Richard is feeding the chickens. Along side this we have a demonstration garden with many different tree varieties and a plant nursery. Groups of 30 students are learning bakery and cooking, tailoring, embroidery and other crafts.



Above Carpentry classes for 15 unemployed young people and 15 more young people with disabilities.

The Credit and Savings groups are growing and there are now three groups with 63 members who have all received training!

Out reaches and Home Based Education and Rehabilitation continue; we can see here one of the physio's showing parents how to help the child by doing daily exercises at home. We strictly observe the covid-19 preventive measures. CHIN is now waiting for the government to fully reopen the Schools.



Silence is Golden.

“Speech is silver, silence is golden” is a proverb extolling the value of silence over speech. It’s modern form most likely originated in Arabic culture where it was used as early as the 9th century. It has been described as perhaps the best known proverb concerned with silence.

Silence can have very different effects depending on the circumstances. In certain situations it is best to stay silent than to speak with disastrous consequences.

*“Silence in the heat of the moment is smart because
it allows the Holy Spirit to sooth the soul”*

At other times silence can provide solace especially when accompanied by a gentle touch when a person is troubled. It communicates acceptance and empathy whereas words may irritate

In many spiritual writings we find reference to solitude where we are encouraged to be silent to make that long inward journey, to come to know the depths of the interior world within us, our true self.



John O’Donohue Author of Anam Cara in his work “The Four Elements” reminds us that:

“Our world is becoming busy and noisy. We are pushing silence out of our lives at a rate that suggests a fear of

what it has to say to us about ourselves. Silence is the voice of the mystery. Silence lets us dream again”

A visit to Knock shrine this summer has made me think a lot about silence. The silent apparition of Our Lady, St Joseph, St John the Evangelist and the Lamb of God powerfully conveys God “uniting things in Heaven and things on earth”. The apparition gave hope, solace and a real sense of peace to the people who witnessed it in 1879 and it still gives that same message to the thousands of pilgrims who come to the shrine each year. St Joseph by the side of Our Lady Queen of Knock, who took care of the holy family in stressful times played a significant role in our salvation, yet there is not one word that he spoke recorded in scripture. The figurines of the Sleeping St Joseph on sale in most of the souvenir shops here in Knock give a powerful message of his union with God, as he got his guidance from God in dreams and he acted in



accordance with it to keep safe Our Lady and the child Jesus in very difficult circumstance. Pope Francis has dedicated this year to St Joseph and the prayer to him said daily at the shrine is most inspiring.

St John the Evangelist whose main message in his gospel to us is “Love one another:” Jn. C13:34 and again he tells in 1 Jn. C4:16 “God Is love”. Bishop McGuckian in his opening talk of the Jesuit retreat stressed that we understand that God loves each of us immensely. St Ignatius came to realise this when he spent time in retreat at Manresa and the Bishop related that Chiara Lubich who founded the Focolare movement was told the same by a priest that knew her well. As the Bishop gave the

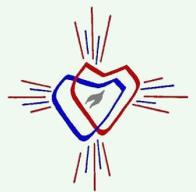
daily inspiring talk during the retreat urging us to be true disciples of Jesus he insisted that we live daily in the knowledge that God loves each of us immensely and this gives us the strength and courage to live for God alone.

The Lamb of God surrounded by the angels gives a feeling of heavenly awe at the shrine, invoking a strong sense of wonder and adoration

Like all concepts in life there is a time to be silent and a time to speak. If we are aware of abuse or injustices in any form we are obliged to speak. That is another chapter to be penned at some stage. Amen.

Sister Elizabeth Mooney





At last the long awaited day arrived and our dear Sister Christine Hawkins reached the goal of 100 years young! She spent the day surrounded by sisters and family and the wonderful staff in Sacred Heart Convent in Cork, Ireland. Sister Christine spent most of her years in Religious life in the U.S.A. where she worked in several parish schools and, after retiring worked for many more years in parish ministry and catechesis. Sister Christine eventually retired back in her beloved Ireland 8 years ago now where she is living a life of prayer and is eager to join in as many community activities as her health and strength allow.



Nieces and Grandnieces travelled over from England to celebrate the Big Day. More visitors came on other days. The celebration continues.





The Highlight of the day was the very special Mass celebrated in the community with Father Colum who, at the end, presented Sister Christine with a Papal Blessing



Everybody wanted to share the joy of the day but none of them managed to perfect and maintain the Sister Christine 'photo smile'.





Many blessings on you, Sister Christine and more years to enjoy your life to the full.



My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.



Above Lt. to Rt. Sr Laura Ryan, Sr Marian Hogan , Sr Margaret Shanahan, Sr Brigid Finn, Sr Dayssi (visiting) & Sr Eileen Henneby with two staff members.

Below Lt. to Rt. Sr M. Ignatius, Sr Celine de Jesu, Sr Margaret Gallagher, Sr Christina Doona, Sr Christine Hawkins, Sr Bridget Ryan, Sr Annie Mary (standing) and Sr Nora Hogan.





Above Lt. to Rt. Sr Mary Carmel, Sr Bridget McCourt , Sr Mary Jo, Sr Catherine Kennedy.

Below Lt. to Rt. Sr M. Sarto, Sr Myra Brennan, Sr Mary Clare, and Sr Austin.



Happy 100th Birthday Eddie SHC



100 years old today 1st January 2022

Thanks to the efforts of the parishioners of St Mary's and St Joseph's Worksop, I had an unforgettable birthday celebration!!

Holy Mass celebrated by Frs. Paul O'Hara and Eugene McGill began the day with a congratulatory certificate from the Holy Father and a telegram from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. What more could I ask?

My sincere thanks to those who provided a magnificent buffet plus a superb Birthday cake and to whoever arranged for long lost friends and past pupils to be present at the event.

God has been extremely good to me. I grew up in a very happy family. I got my wish to become an operational member of R.A.F. Bomber command and was the sole survivor of a crew of seven when our aircraft was destroyed.

For months He saw me through the rigours of P.O.W. camps and “The Long March”.

Not satisfied, He allowed me teach the faith to many hundreds of children and to be successful in my profession.

My marriage to a loving wife lasted for Seventy Years!

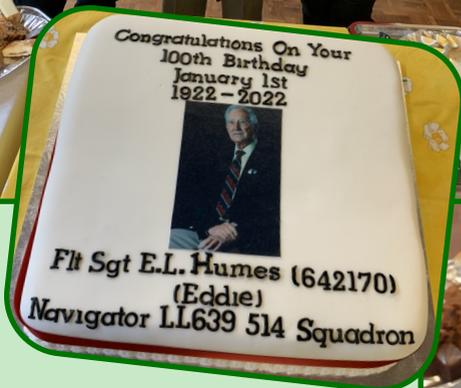
I can only repay all those concerned by remembering them in prayers. This I will surely do.

Edward Humes.

Below Left: Eddie with his ‘parish family’ celebrating a special day.



And with Sister Elizabeth Buckley SHC coordinator.



Happy 90th Birthday Sister Christina Doona



Congratulations Sister
Christina and may
God bless you always.

Edited by Alan Hilliard
Foreword by Bishop Éamonn Walsh

CHAPLAINS

Ministers of Hope



Chaplains: Ministers of Hope

presents chaplaincy as a living out of the utterly gratuitous love of God as seen in the resurrection of Jesus and it is an invitation to acknowledge and celebrate God's love in the various chapters and events of life. The background to chaplaincy is covered in contributions that focus on the theological evolution of chaplaincy, its ecclesial history and its place in a

contemporary ecclesial model. Further consideration is given to the scriptural origins of the ministry and its role in contemporary society. The practical evolution of chaplaincy is well covered in various contributions.

The final section of the book contains contributions from Chaplains who go about their daily work as Ministers of Hope. There are contributions from a variety of chaplaincy perspectives: hospital, prison, hospice, sea-port, army, school, university, migrants, those with special needs, Travellers and the homeless.

Sister Siobhan O Keefe has contributed a chapter in this new book.

It has been published by the Jesuits and is available directly from:

www.messenger.ie or other bookstores.

LOVING GREETINGS FROM CORK AND KERRY

JEWELS IN CORK: Rubies, Diamonds, Sapphires

JEWELS IN KERRY: Pearls, Emeralds and Ivory

What treasures we have, with scholars and saints too.

Here in cork we like to share so much and even boast, and in Kerry too we are proud of telling you of our beauty spots, mountains, lakes and their historical, religious, legacies.

One wonderful feature I will tell you about now as we drive home. We enjoy our beautiful scenery but on entering our town we cannot miss the masterful sculpture of a bronze boat with a group of monks sailing to their new monastic home on Skelligs Rock. The history of the expedition is so inspiring. Each year there are boat trips out to the Rock, and on one such year dear Nora joined the group but nearing the Rock the group have to leave one boat and get into the another. The sea was a bit choppy and the boat rocky! Poor Nora got nervous and hesitant to lift her leg up! Then the impatient fellow on the boat shouted “for Gods sake woman lift your *~#* leg and get in here”, which she did. If he knew she was a holy nun he might have said “dear sister, let me lift your lovely leg and we’ll both climb the Rock together”!!



Now back on dry land and no rocking boats.

For the past year we have enjoyed the morning liturgy from the Dominican Priory in Pope’s Quay. Many mornings four or five priest concelebrating and

three lovely novices with them. The music liturgies and homilies are inspiring.

Twice a week we still have Mass from there but with only one priest and we do miss the group of priest concelebrating.



The next theme is from No. 2 Kerry woman. Sometimes we are nicknamed 'Chalk and Cheese'. Have you already guessed?

In preparation for the feast of the Sacred Heart we had a joy-filled and profound triduum conducted by a Dutch Dominican—Fr. Luuk.

His talks were all based on his own conversion—how he became a catholic and eventually a Dominican priest and his vocation in life.

He is the only catholic in his family. It was a layman who introduced him to the Bible, and it was through the Bible that he got to now the God he now preaches and believes in.

In one of the talks he said "The light shines in who we are, and who we have become".

He spoke about our 'yes' to God which can be hard to imagine and difficult to experience, but it shapes our lives as we say at Mass—"Through Him, with Him and in Him".

Each of us, I'm sure, has had experiences in life of letting go and saying 'Yes' to God.

Looking back now we can see how many blessings we received and how many lives we have touched by responding to that 'Yes'.

Some of us are now less active in works, but we can still by our prayer life be a support for others through our struggling and suffering.

WE can share with each other our own vocation story and also Thank God for the support and prayer that we receive from each other throughout the Congregation and from our wonderful, caring staff here in Cork

29 October 2021



Sister Mary Genevieve
(Margaret Mary Butler)

Margaret Butler / Sister Mary Genevieve

Margaret Butler was born to John and Winifred Butler on the 24th of April 1938, in Foilnamuck, Dolla, Nenagh, Co Tipperary, Ireland. She was one of six children and was brought up in a very loving connected Family on their Family Farm. She often spoke of the freedom and carefree days spent there.

Margaret was baptised in Templederry Parish Church on the 24th of April 1938 and Confirmed in the same Church on the 3rd of May 1950. She attended the local Primary School and then went to the Mercy School in Nenagh for her Secondary education.

Margaret entered Chigwell Novitiate on the 30th of July 1955. She received the habit on the 2nd of February 1956 and took the name Sister Mary Genevieve. Sister Genevieve made her first Profession of Vows on the 2nd of February 1958 and made her Final Vows on the 2nd of February 1964.

She then embarked on her life of Ministry in our Congregation, spending the following 30 years giving loving care to children with Special Educational needs. She commenced her Ministry in Buntingford,

Sussex, a Residential School for Boys. She then moved to Pontville in Lancashire, another Residential School for Boys. While there she completed a Course and received a Certificate for “Residential Care of Children and Young People” at Liverpool Polytechnic. Genevieve`s next move was to Mount Olivet in Surrey, a Residential School for Boys with Health issues.

During the 1990 Chapter Genevieve was elected to the General Council. Not being a Delegate, she was not present at the Chapter and when informed she moved to Chigwell. She served the Congregation as a General Councillor for 12 years. In this Role she served in many capacities. Link Councillor for Communities throughout the Congregation, Novice Directress in Homerton from 1997 to 1998, and as the Leader of the 1st International Postulancy in Pield Heath in 2000 - 2002. She was greatly loved and respected as she gave of her best in all of these Roles.

Having completed her two terms as a General Councillor, Genevieve remained in Chigwell as the Superior to the Chigwell Community. She fulfilled this Office until 2017. Genevieve was well known and loved for her wonderful hospitality and generosity. She was held in high esteem by all whose lives she touched.

Genevieve finally retired and moved to our Community in Knock, Co Mayo, Ireland on the 29th of November 2018. She was not in good health at this time but settled in and became part of that Community. She was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 2021. She was admitted to the Hospice in Knockaphunta, Castlebar, Co Mayo, where she died peacefully in the presence of her Community and Family on the 29th of October 2021.

Sister Genevieve`s Family requested that she be buried with the Family in Tipperary. Her Requiem Mass was celebrated in the Silvermines

Church and her remains are interred in Kilboy Graveyard, Dolla, Co Tipperary. Her Community from Knock and some Sisters from Cork were present. The Ceremony livestreamed so that those who could not attend because of Covid restrictions could participate. It was a truly Celtic celebration of Genevieve`s life with the Uilleann Pipes and poetry, the eulogy being delivered by her nephew.

May her gentle soul rest in peace.

Family Eulogy to Sr. Genevieve

Margaret, Peg, Genevieve, Sr. Mary Genevieve, you`d confuse a nation! I think for today we will stick with Genevieve.

We started this celebration today with a conversation. I`d like now to continue that conversation and with your permission, Genevieve, be your voice for the next few minutes. I`m going to tell all gathered here and those joining us online about your life and times.

You were born Margaret Butler on 24th April 1938, the 7th child of Winifred and John Butler of Foilnamuck, Dolla. Maureen and Jimmy are here with us and Sr. Imelda, Lily to you, is watching on line from Newcastle under Lyme.

With you today up there are Eamonn, Norah, Tomas, Brendan, Kathleen, Phil and Reuben. I wonder do you remember being back in Killineave National School and even St. Mary`s Secondary School?

Going into the religious life we would think is not hereditary but in your case I wonder....Your aunt Sr. Mary Bridget Butler in Nebraska on your father`s side, your two aunts Sr. Martha Cash and Sr. Mary Cash in Bunclody, Co. Wexford on your mother`s side and your mother`s aunts Sisters Genevieve and Jacinta Lee were in Chigwell in the same order

that you joined. It wasn't just you. Your cousin, the late Canon Reuben Butler and your sister, Sr. Imelda, also joined the religious life.

Let's take you back to Foilnamuck for a moment. You used to cycle to Nenagh every morning and you would leave a stone at Griffin's Cross for your friend to let her know that you were gone and she used to do the same for you. This was your early encounter with mobile messaging! The phones, Genevieve. The mobile phones. I think we should have stuck with the stones!

When you left for Chigwell, your kind and caring nature was sadly missed by all in Foilnamuck. You carried this kindness and caring to all of your work in Chigwell where you worked with children with special needs, people in anguish and many more. You always said that there were only two things in this life: Jesus Christ and the poor.

Your abilities and talents were recognised, leading you ultimately to the position of Sister superior in Chigwell. No matter what role you occupied, you were always watching out for how you could lend a helping hand to those in need. A lot of this you might think went unseen and that is exactly how you would have wanted it. The common denominator, however, in what we have heard from those who knew you, tells us otherwise.

On our trips to visit you in Chigwell, we would arrive at the gate lodge to find a fully stocked larder and fridge. The only thing was we didn't get to open the door of the larder or fridge because when it came to meal times, we were summoned to the big house to savour three course breakfasts not to mention the choice offered at lunch and dinner times. We weren't even allowed to wash up!

Family for you, Genevieve, was central to your life. You travelled to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and obviously home to Ireland on many occasions to visit your family. While here, you always stayed at Tomas and Mary Ann's in Curryquinn.

The children in our wider family circle loved you. They spotted your warmth, your kindness, your funny nature and responded in kind. Children are very good at spotting the good ones.

Your infectious smile never left you right up to the end even though for years we all knew that you were experiencing a great deal of pain in your knees and in your back and ultimately when you received your diagnosis in September.

Finally, you retired, even though it was a miracle that you did. You came to join Sisters Marie, Gerald and Catherine at Fatima House in Knock. How fitting that your final home was a place dedicated to Mary who herself always looked after the poor and the afflicted. The Lord works in mysterious ways.

**Compiled and delivered at the Funeral Mass by her nephew,
Sean Butler.**



25 October 2021



Sister Mary Spain

(Sister Mary Paschalina)

1927 ~ 2021



Sister Mary Spain was born to John and Teresa Spain in Kinnitty, Birr, Co. Offaly on 24.3.1927. She was the eldest of the family, the arrival of her beloved brothers William and Pat completed the family.

Mary entered Chigwell on 16th July 1955 and at reception was given the name, Sister Paschalina. She made First Profession on 2nd February 1958. Perpetual Profession followed on 2nd February 1964. These sacred celebrations were shared with Sister Genevieve Butler and Sister Mary Angela Long.

The very warm relationships that had been fostered in Mary's family home sowed the seed for a happy community life in Chigwell, Roscrea and Cork over the following years.

Sister Mary trained as a Chef and the outstanding meals that she served to all shone with the love with which they were infused. Special attention was paid to the nutritional needs of the 110 Special Needs Children in Roscrea whom she loved deeply and served with her whole being. The community, family and visitors looked forward to scrumptious apple tart and other delights.

St. Anne's Field Day attendees sought out her homemade jams and other organic produce from St. Anne's garden.

Sister Mary was a woman of deep prayer who fostered her relationship with Jesus through her daily reception of the Eucharist, her love of the Divine Office and devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. The Apparition of the Angel of Peace to the little shepherds when they were taught the following prayer had great significance for her:

'My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love you. I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you.' She enjoyed listening to Liam Lawton music and attended one of his concerts in Limerick Cathedral in 2005.

The very deep affection that she had for her family and they for her continued to grow and deepen throughout her life. She was always there to listen, love, pray, encourage, support. She looked forward to their regular visits to Roscrea and Cork and kept in regular contact with her friends.

In her spare moments she enjoyed caring for flowers, knitting and sewing. Her great love of Gaelic Sports and rugby was well known.

Like all of us, Sister Mary lived within the limitations of human weakness; the cross of suffering often lay heavy upon her body and spirit and she endured much illness in the closing years of her life; however, she did her best to cope with these challenges and was grateful for the love and support of her community and staff in Cork, as one carer said, 'she left footprints on our hearts.'

God called her home to Himself on 25th October 2021. May she now enjoy eternal life in the beautiful garden of the Lord.

Sister Siobhán



29 October



Sister Mary Dominica

(Ellen Smith)

1929 ~ 2021

Sr. Dominica, our Aunt Eily was born in 1929, the youngest of 5 children, Ned, Jim, Nora and Maura. Her parents were John and Mary and they lived in Mohera, Castlelyons. Sadly, John died when Eily was very young. She entered the convent at the age of 16, just at the end of world war 2. It was 10 years before she was allowed home and then 10 years after that again. During this time life in Ireland had changed - her sister Nora had married and had 6 children. Soon she would come home every year, and we greatly looked forward to her visits especially as she brought us medals and holy pictures. She always loved Castlelyons and would stay in her family home in Mohera. Eily was always interested in what was going on in the area and how the extended family and neighbours were keeping. She kept in close contact with a wide range of family members. Her sisters, Nora and Maura loved her visits as they went on day trips and visited many cousins in Castlelyons, Ballyhooley and Kilworth. She always came home for family events, to be with us in good and bad times. It was great to have her living in Cork for a short period, especially in 1999 as her sister Nora was going through cancer treatment before her death on 18th November 1999. In 2014 her nieces and their families went on a pilgrimage to Knock with Aunty Eily and her sister Maura. It could only be described as the best of both worlds - spending quality time together and

carrying on a tradition of going to Knock. It was wonderful to witness Aunty Eily's devotion to her religion. We had always admired how Auntie Eily had received her calling to the religious life at the age of 16 and lovingly continued that devotion for 73 years. Not only was she Aunty Eily on that trip, she was also Sr Dominica. Aunt Eily had a long and happy life and we will always remember her for her good humour and pleasant manner. She had a ready smile, twinkly eyes, was quick to laugh and had a great singing voice. She has now gone to her eternal reward to be with her parents, brothers and sisters. We sincerely want to thank the staff of Marian House who looked after our aunt. We appreciate all their love and care. Thank you to all the Sisters for all their help and support and the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary for their lifelong friendship. We will keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

And from her sisters of the congregation:

We thank Sr Dominic's family for their beautiful remembrance of her.

From our Marian House Community I will share a short reflection.

On the cover of her funeral booklet there is a picture of Sr Dominica taken at her 90 birthday celebration. It is a lovely photo and reflects what Dominica was as a person. She was indeed very gentle, had a beautiful smile and reflected the presence of Christ within her.

Sr Dominica entered our Congregation in February 1946 and made her Religious Profession on August 28th 1948, seventy seven years given to the Lord in loving service, quite a record!

Sr Dominica trained as a teacher and taught in several schools connected to our Congregation. In St John Fisher's School in Loughton she taught for many years and during that time formed a lifelong friendship with Sr Edwina who also was in St John Fisher. The school was in the parish of St Edmund and was at that time served by the Claretian Fathers. There was a great relationship between the parish and the convent. Perhaps it is very fitting that Father Chris is celebrating her Requiem as he too is a Claretian Father.

When Dominica retired from teaching she was Community Leader in Cork and also Chigwell.

She retired to Chigwell Community and lived a very fruitful life there. She had another great friend, Sr Sebastian who was here in Marian House. Sr Dominica came on public transport to visit her regularly, at this time she was in her late 80's!

Sr Dominica moved from Chigwell to Marian House and shared a great friendship with Sr Pauline whom she had taught with in the past.

Sr Dominica had many friends over the years and was greatly loved by both her family and friends.

I would like to end with two very fitting quotes from Saint Dominic her patron.

'You are my Companion and must walk with me, for if we hold together no earthly power can withstand us.'

'Do not weep, for I shall be more useful to after my death and I shall help you then more effectively than during my life'

On behalf of Sr Dominica I would like to thank the Community and all the staff at Marian House for their support and care of Dominica during her time her. Although Sister had been unwell for a while she certainly went to the Lord very quickly and peacefully in the presence of some of the community.

We thank you, Dominica, for the blessing you were to us and know that you are at peace with the Lord you loved and served so well. May you now rest in peace.



Dates for 2022

Golden Jubilees, 28th August :

Sister Elizabeth Mooney & Sister Edith Woods

Diamond Jubilees, 02 February: Sister Mary Jo

28th August: Sister Laurentia, Sister Brigid Finn &

Sister Elizabeth Frances.

Platinum Jubilees: 28th August:

Sister Maria Goretti and Sister Kathleen Buckley

90th Birthdays:

Sister Mary Sarto: 28th February

Sister Maria Goretti : 01 December

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