



**St Mary's  
Parish  
Haddington  
Road**

**Serving  
the  
Community**

**Serving  
the  
Family**

**Serving  
the  
City**

## COMPETE WELL FOR THE FAITH

The end of September and beginning of October are marked by a series of memorials and commemorations that vividly illustrate how universal the Church really is: Bohemian ruler, Wenceslaus, and Filipino husband and father, Lawrence Ruiz, and his martyred companions from Japan (both on September 28) ... great biblical scholar and Father of the Church, Jerome (September 30) ... the cloistered missionary-at-heart, Thérèse of Lisieux (October 1) ... Indiana foundress, Theodora Guerin (October 3) ... beloved Francis of Assisi (October 4) ... Louisiana pastor and missionary, Francis Seelos (October 5) ... Carthusian founder, Bruno (October 6). These days remind us that holiness isn't limited to one way of life, gender, or historical period.

In this Sunday's second reading, we hear St. Paul urging his young disciple Timothy to "pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession - that his position within the Church demanded total dedication to God and a faithful witness to Christ.

Although few of us have the pastoral responsibility that Timothy did (cf. 1 Timothy 1:3), each of us does have a part to play in the mission of the Church. We see this vocation lived out in the lives of the saints we celebrate in these days. Because of this, we understand that Paul's words to Timothy are also addressed to each one of us: we must seek those things that are of God and "compete well for the faith."

This means that we are called to persevere in living out our individual, unique vocation of service to God and the Church. Paul, Timothy, and the saints mentioned above understood that this dedication demands something of us. This probably won't mean we will be martyred like Wenceslaus and Lawrence Ruiz or be called to a cloistered life like Thérèse or Bruno, but it does mean that we have to be willing to go out outside of ourselves and live lives of service and sacrifice.

This Sunday's Gospel — the Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man — offers us an insight into what this sacrifice and service mean. Pope Benedict XVI reflected on this in his encyclical *Spe Salvi* ("Saved in Hope"): "Jesus admonishes us through the image of a soul destroyed by arrogance and opulence, who has created an impassable chasm between himself and the poor man; the chasm of being trapped within material pleasures, the chasm of forgetting the other, of incapacity to love, which then becomes a burning and unquenchable thirst" (no. 44).

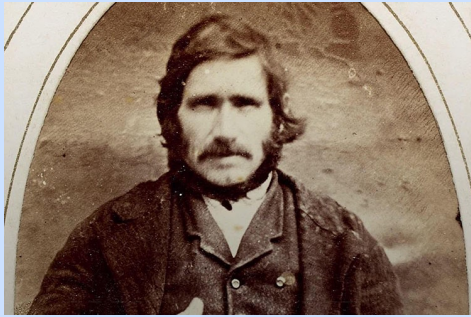
The saints, who have oriented their lives toward the Other, realized the fullness of our capacity for love and were able to see brothers and sisters in the Lazaruses of the world. This call to be *with* and *for* others isn't a mandate intended only for those who have been canonized or beatified. The Communion of Saints includes each of us: you and me together. Because, after all, "what is the Church if not the gathering of the saints?" (St. Nicetas of Remesiana).

Competing "well for the faith" — living our call to be disciples and to manifest the presence of Christ in the world — doesn't allow for selfish ambition, apathy, complacency, or indifference to the plight of others (cf. Amos 6:1a, 4-7). This isn't about political agendas, government budgets, or some radical ideology. In the end, this call is grounded in the Gospel, which forms the starting point and is the focus of our faith.

*Br. Silas Henderson, SDS*



**Patrick Finn Memorial Lectures**  
Haddington Road



**Professor Margaret Kelleher:**  
***“The Right to be Heard: then and now”***

**Margaret Kelleher** is Professor and Chair of Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama at University College Dublin. Her book *‘The Maamtrasna Murders’* (UCC Press), was awarded the Michael J Durkan Prize by the American Conference for Irish Studies in 2019. Her book explores the events and impact of the Maamtrasna murder case.

The trial would become notorious for the court’s failure to provide interpreter and translation services to the accused, a group of monoglot Irish speakers.

The case has long been considered by many historians as one of the greatest miscarriages of justice in British legal history.

On August 17, 1882, five members of the same household in the townland of Maamtrasna on the Galway/ Mayo border were murdered.

Five men were imprisoned for life for their part in the killings, and three were executed, one of whom, Myles Joyce, was demonstrably innocent.

In 2018, he was granted a posthumous pardon by President Michael D Higgins – the first granted by an Irish president in a case predating the foundation of the state, when Ireland was still part of the United Kingdom.

**FRIENDSHIP  
CLUB**

**Now Meeting Weekly**  
**Every Monday @ 2pm**  
**Parish Centre**

**All Are Welcome**

**Parish Diary**

**Autumn Schedule 2019**

**Thursday 17 October:** Finn Memorial Lecture: Professor Margaret Kelleher: “The Right to be Heard: then and now” 7:15pm

**Sunday 20 October:** World Day For Missions

**Friday 1 November:** Feast of All Saints

**Saturday 2 November:** All Souls 10qm mass

Requiem Mass: Order of Malta: 11:30am

**Sunday 3 November:** Mass for the Deceased: 11:00am

**Saturday 9 November:** Remembrance Mass: Great War Memorial: 10:00am

Remembrance Concert: Adult Lassus Choir

Conductor: Ite O’Donovan: 7:30pm

**Monday 18 November:** Pastoral Council Meeting: 5:45pm

**Sunday 24 November:** Ecumenical “Walk of Light”. Begins: St. Finian’s Lutheran Church: 4:00pm

**Thursday 28 November:** Finn Memorial Lecture: Francis Campbell, former UK Ambassador to the Holy See.

**Advent Saturdays:** Night Vigil, 7, 14, 21 December: 7pm - 8pm.

**Sunday 8 December:** St.Vincent de Paul: Collection

**IN MEMORIAM**

11am:Theresa Mullery-Gray (Anniversary)

**Masses on 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

6pm... Ruben Taphouse (Anniversary)

11am... Theresa Benson (Months Mind)

**Masses and Confession**

**Sundays:** Vigil, 6pm (Saturday), 9.30am, 11am, 5pm

Croatian Community Mass 6.30pm

Messe en français 12.30 (2<sup>e</sup> et 4<sup>e</sup> dimanche du mois)

Daily masses 10am and 12.40pm, Saturday 10am only

-Rosary daily after 10am mass

**Adoration Blessed Sacrament, Weds 10.30-12.40**

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection: €1,000

Share Collection: €855

THANK YOU