The Autumn season is coming to an end and we are now heading into the short days and long dark nights, a time when we remember our dead and the great men and women who have gone ahead of us and made a difference.

Recently I have had a number of conversations with people about how they are becoming more barricaded into their own homes because of fear. The sense of community is being corroded and people are feeling disempowered and very vulnerable and isolated. Violence, robberies, anti-social behaviour, drugs, etc raise the level of fear and helplessness.

Then I was confronted by the story of the 14 year old girl, Malala, who was shot by the Taliban in the Swat Valley. Malala was and is passionate about the rights of girls to an education. What degree of fear did she and her family have to work through to take the stand they did? Today we are amazed by the effect one young girl can have on the whole world because she believed in something and would not let herself be paralyzed by fear.

As nature goes underground during the winter months perhaps we as individuals and Servites could reflect on what we believe in and how we can help break the stranglehold of fear that imprisons so many good people. As we remember our dead let us also be mindful of our sick brothers and sisters.

Best wishes

Bernard Thorne  prior provincial osm

Excuse the levity, but life can be stressful at times…courtesy of Oldie Magazine

Contents at a glance…

Priory & Friars Changes Appointments…

Ongoing Servite Formation

Knock Pilgrimage…

Goodbye and Hello… Moves

London Church Renovation…

Provincials’ Meeting Canada

Unifas November Assembly…

Bennurb Stables Project…

Allan Satur in London…

Justice & Peace…

Prayers Please…
ELECTIONS
PRIORS - PARISH PRIESTS - OFFICIALS

PRIORS
In September The Provincial Council elect the following priors:

LONDON  Fr Patrick M. Ryall OSM
KERSAL  Fr Peter M. Conniffe OSM
BENBURB  Fr Colm M. McGlynn OSM
MARLEY  Fr Liam M. Tracey OSM
KILTIPPER  Fr Timothy M. Flynn OSM

PARISH PRIESTS
The Provincial Council proceeded to elect the following PPs:

LONDON  Fr Patrick M. Ryall OSM
KERSAL  Fr Peter M. Conniffe OSM
MARLEY  Fr Jim M. Mulherin OSM

PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS
The Provincial Council elected the Provincial Officials

Provincial Secretary  fr Paul M. Addison OSM
Formation Director  fr Chris M. O’Brien OSM
Provincial Treasurer  fr Chris M. O’Brien OSM
Vocations Director  fr Jim M. Mulherin OSM
Prov. Archivist/Historian  fr Chris O’Brien with Mr Paul O’Brien, fr Colum McDonnell OSM
Missions Secretariate  frs Thomas M. Robinson OSM & Camillus M. McGrane OSM
Justice & Peace Secretariate  frs Gabriel M. Bannon OSM & Allan M. Satur OSM
Secretariat Secular Order & Lay Groups:  frs Paul M. Addison & Liam M. Tracey OSM
Co-ordinator Peregrine Ministry:  fr Sean M. Lennon OSM
Communications Officer  fr Paul M. Addison OSM

ASSIGNMENTS OF FRIARS
On advice from the Provincial Council regarding composition of communities and assignments of friars, the Prior Provincial made the following assignments:

fr Allan M. Satur OSM  London Community
(his Vicar Provincial in Manila is happy with the arrangement; our Province will help Formation development in the Philippines Vicariate in gratitude.
fr Patrick M. O’Connell OSM  London Community
and no longer assigned in the East Africa Delegation. His medical care and serious surgery are taking place.
fr Brother Gabriel M. Hooper OSM  Kersal Community
and no longer assigned in the Province of the Annunziata, Swaziland community.
fr Jim M. Mulherin OSM  Marley Community
Dublin, being presented to the Archbishop of Dublin as Parish Priest at Divine Word Parish, Marley.
fr Chris M. O’Brien OSM  London Community
elected by Council as Director of Formation.
fr Colm M. McGlynn OSM  Ben Burb Community
as Prior.
fr Paul M. Addison OSM  Kersal Community
from 1 Dec 2012.

NEXT YEAR’S PROVINCIAL CHAPTER 2013
The Provincial Council elected to hold the Provincial Chapter of Renewal on 24-27 June 2013. The venue will be Swords, Emmaus Centre, if available.

FORMATION MATTERS
SPIRITUAL GROWTH FOR THE FRIARS

1 ONGOING FORMATION I:  The Council received his Sabbatical Programme from Fr Vincent M. Coyne OSM – comprising space-time + local help Bognor Regis Nov-Feb; USA Redemptorists Renewal Center Tucson Arizona March-June 2013; USA Summer School for Priests Set Hall NJ July-Oct 2013. A budget was presented and approved.

2 ONGOING FORMATION II:  European Province’s Meeting on Formation 30 April to 3 May 2013 at either Florence or Pietralba. * The Council appointed frs Chris O’Brien and Jim Mulherin to participate with the Prior Provincial at this gathering.

3 ONGOING FORMATION III:  UNIFAS ASSEMBLY
at High Leigh, Hertfordshire, 12-15 November 2012. Several friars have signed to attend, with other branches OSM..

4 INITIAL FORMATION:  The Council heard reports on formation and study arrangements for new arrival Mr Kerry Moran in the London Community, attending Philosophy courses at the diocesan seminary Allen Hall.

5 FORMATION COMMITTEE:  The Council elected the following to the Provincial Formation Committee: Frs Paul M. Addison OSM (Co-ordinator), Patrick M. Ryall, Christopher M. O’Brien (Formation Director), Liam M. Tracey (Regent of Studies).

6 ONGOING FORMATION IV:  Yearly Retreat:  The Council urges attention to restoring the annual retreat for friars and communities. As part of this movement, the Council urges friars to set up Community Orientation Day or Chapter to be held by newly formed communities; Priors to urge annual retreats by members of the community; to investigate having a ‘Retreat Day’ at the Provincial Chapter 2013; 10.6.4:  promote a retreat for the community at Benburb, opening it to all friars of the Province and even to other members of the Servite family.

7 ONGOING FORMATION V:  Preparation for the General Chapter 2013: at the Provincial Council meeting fr Paul Addison noted that the Acts of the Provincials’ Meeting in Canada give many indications of developments in the Order that will surface at the General Chapter. These need preparation, he noted, especially in matters of re-structuring, possible centralisation (under a call to global thinking), and a more expressive contribution from the newer jurisdictions.
PROVINCIALS’ MEETING IN CANADA Sept 2012

Fr Bernard Thorne attended the Provincials’ Meeting in Canada, even though he was hospitalised for much of the meeting... a stones problem was operated but still needs care.

From the Provincials’ Meeting he offers the following ten points:

1. Key phrase on global Servite attitude: “Vocations are to the Order not just to a Province”.
2. Financial clarity on aid across the Order is still a problem.
3. The Philippines Vicariate was highly praise; another place has some discord.
4. Indonesian Foundation is sending 8 professed to USA or Canada, a contribution from the older provinces to the new foundations.
5. Mozambique is still ‘floating’ after Spanish Province regressed to a Delegation; but it is still linked with Spain and Brazil – questions about its links with other Africa areas of the Order.
6. There is still variation of attitudes regarding pre-Solemn Pro-fessed going to Rome, Sant’Alessio.
7. The ‘younger places’ of the Order are maturing in confidence.
8. The General Chapter 2013 will have the General Council as its Preparatory Commission.
9. Three Bulletins have been circulated to the friars in Prov.Isles on the Canada Meeting. Minutes/Acts of the Meeting are yet to be circulated – they’re quite long and requiring translation.
10. European Provincials will meet in Florence or Pietralba at the end of April 2013 (30 April to 3 May 2013), and will discuss Vocations and Formation among other items. Formators frs Chris O’Brien and Jim Mulherin are called to that meeting.

KNOCK SERVITE PILGRIMAGE 29 Sept 2012

Knock Pilgrimage to be continued? Yes, writes Father Colm McGlynn, clearly the people want it to continue. I was listening to a ‘vox populi’ feedback after the Saturday pilgrimage this year. The pilgrimage was attended by Fr Tim Flynn, Chinese Father Antony, and myself. Fr Tim reminded me that it started in 1993 as a ‘one-off’ celebration for a wider Servite celebration of the Order to honour Our Lady, and it has really been the people who have called to keep it going. I was the celebrant on Saturday, with the Mass of Our Lady of Knock. I based my homily on Servite Sr Joyce Rupp’s poem The Invitation. We had a bus from Benburb, people from Blakestown and Servite Oratory, Rathfarnham and Servite Parish, Marey, as well as Fr Tim’s family from West Meath, and a bus from Carmelite Parish, Berkeley Road in Dublin who have joined us down the years through Servite friend Sile Dunne. Phil Clarke fo the National Secretariate for our Secular Order did a fine job in organising involvement on the day, for Stations of the Cross, Rosary and Eucharist, which included the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick…

GOODBYE AND HELLO...

SERVITES are good at celebrations. Never better than when some unfortunate friar is being moved to another community. Servite Priory and Divine Word Parish in Marley, Dublin gave a heartfelt farewell to fr Colm McGlynn after his valid service there as Prior and Parish Priest. The weekend of 12-14 October 2012 was full of parties and prayer. A farewell celebration of Mass on Sunday 14 October combined the departure of fr Colm for Benburb and the arrival of fr Jim Mulherin from London. The Servite Secular Order did much of the organising with their customary skill and affection. Present at the Mass as a welcome guest was Bishop Eamon Walsh.

LEAVING LONDON after 9 years generous service was an act of faith for fr Jim Mulherin, moving to Dublin. The parishioners at Our Lady of Dolours insisted on a party, which fr Jim did not want but thoroughly enjoyed. It followed a parish celebration of Mass on Sunday 30 September 2012 with the church overcrowded with people happy to express their gratitude to a good priest, whose enduring saying has been “God is to be found ever new in everyday people”.

BENBURB priory said farewell to fr Chris O’Brien in September, as he moved to London Priory as member of the community and Master of Formation. A small party was attended by hundreds of well-wishers, as vans trundled across borders and oceans between Benburb, Dublin and London.
SOLEMNITY OUR LADY OF SORROWS

on 15 September 2012 Archbishop Vincent Nichols of Westminster, London and the Prior Provincial fr Bernard M. Thorne OSM were part of a splendid celebration at our London priory church. It was the titular feast of the church for Our Lady, and a festival to honour the extensive renovation of the church over the past several years. Local people and well-wishers (benefactors!) covered all the cost of the project with a Renovation Fund and kept the church open and clean throughout the works. The church always was a gem, but now it gleams like a very precious gem! The people welcomed their bishop, and shared a grand party.

UNIFAS

The Servite Family Union for the Isles is holding its 3-day Assembly at High Leigh Conference Centre, Herts. England on 12-15 November 2012. Here is the programme:

Monday 12 November:
Opening liturgy: prepared by OSSM Dublin; Group work - Getting to know each other, prepared by Sister Catherine Ryan OSM; Supper

Tuesday 13 November:
Morning Prayer: prepared by Sr Ann Ballard OSM; Mary as a Model of Expectation Presentation by Sister Margaret Crinyion OSM; Coffee; Personal time for reflection; Small group time with guide questions for reflection; Plenary session; Concluding prayer prepared by Sr Margaret. Lunch 3.30 pm Tea
4:00 pm Mary and the preferential option for the Poor Presentation from fr Paul Addison OSM 17:45 Mass, main celebrant: fr Patrick Ryall OSM (Mass of “Mary the new Eve”)

Wednesday 14 November:
Mary, the First Disciple of the Lord Presentation from Sr Felicity McKeon OSM; Coffee; Personal time; Small group time with guide questions for reflection Plenary Session; Concluding prayer from Sr Felicity OSM. Lunch 3.30 pm Tea
4:00 pm Mary, Mother of the Church Presentation by fr Liam Tracey OSM; Mass, Main celebrant: fr Bernard Thorne OSM (Mass of “Mary, Mother of the Church”) + Social Evening

Thursday 15 November: Departures after breakfast.

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Fr Pat Ryall wrote, “The fund was greatly helped by a number of large legacies from parishioners, e.g. the Donovan Sisters and an endowment from the estate of Mr & Mrs Bosche. In addition many parishioners gave very generous donations to the Fund, and the faithful parishioners contributed generously to the weekly second collection for this FundThis enabled former Parish Priests, Fr. Nicholas Martin RIP, Fr. Bill McLoughlin and Fr. Thomas Robinson, assisted by many Servite Friars to continue caring for our Parish Church. This attentive care was continued by Fr. Dermot MacNeice, Fr Chris O’Brien and Fr. Jim Mulherin, the then Parish Team and Finance Committee”.

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**Fr ALLAN SATUR OSM in LONDON**

**MY IMPRESSION IN LONDON**

LONDON is a huge city with multi-cultural society. It's a lovely city. It's hussle and bustle lifestyle. I find the people helpful, polite and friendly. I love the beautiful parks of London. How lucky the Londoners are to have so much open space, that too in a crowd metro. Running through Battersea park and along the River Thames is fantastic.

I must admit, I have been very lucky to experience the Olympics and Paralympics games in this city. I am greatful to God for being part of the Fulham road community. They are welcoming and supportive that they really made me feel at home. Their witnessing to the Gospel and dedication to the Spirituality of the Order enrich me. I look forward to spend more time with them and be of service to the parish. I thank Fr. Bernard Thorne, prior provincial, Fr. Pat Ryall, prior and parish priest and the community.. I extend my gratitude to all the friars of the Province of Isle. May God bless us.

Fraternally yours,

Allan

**BENBURB STABLES PROJECT**

“OVER the last two years, The Servite Trust, with the valued advice & support of Prof. Gerry McKenna, Madeline Coyle, Sr. Meabh Ni Uallachain, Gemma Brolly and Joe McLaughlin, with many others, has researched the future development of the Stables Block. It became apparent that the area needed a new focus where people could meet, develop and learn. Much work ensued, direction changed and momentum grew. One main application, of many, made to the Belfast branch of the Heritage Lottery Fund has been successful in its entirety and a grant totalling £772,600, in two stages, has been offered to the Trust. Our plan is to tastefully renovate and restore the entire Stables Block. Groups from the local community will have comfortable and appropriate accommodation to pursue their activities. This will include a small bespoke theatre. Commercial units will provide a steady income and our unique library and archive collection will be recognised and valued and made available to the wider public. The next step is to put all required Servite and local government permissions in place and initiate the necessary reports and drawings. This will complete Phase 1 over a 15 month period. But the work is only just begun! Report : Noilin Mullen & Fr Ray O’Connell

**JUSTICE AND PEACE ...**

**DISABILITY CHAMPION RIP**

Memorial service for Lord Morris of Manchester

Lord Morris (“Alf Morris”) was a MP in the city for 33 years. A memorial service was held for Lord Morris of Manchester, who died in August 2012 aged 84. The Mass was at St Anthony's RC Church in Wythenshawe, the constituency he served from 1964 to 1997.

Lord Morris was an MP in the city for 33 years and the driving force behind the UK's first disability rights legislation. The service was Lord Mayor Elaine Boyes, said he had "made a very real difference to people's lives". Following his successful introduction of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act in 1970, the first act to recognise and give rights to people with disabilities, Lord Morris became the world's first Minister for the Disabled in 1974. The recent Paralympics bear witness to great progress in respect for people with disabilities. In 1997 he was made a life peer in recognition of his work.

**PHILIPPINES PEACE PROCESS**

Another important Justice and Peace item is the major break-through in the Philippines with a Peace Agreement signed in Manila on Sunday 14 Oct 2012 between the Government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

President Benigno Aquino and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) chief Murad Ebrahim witnessed the signing of the accord, which aims for a final peace pact by 2016, in a landmark ceremony at the presidential palace in Manila “We extend the hand of friendship and partnership to the president and Filipino people,” Ebrahim said. Ebrahim became the first MILF chief to visit the presidential palace, signifying the optimism from both sides about finally ending a conflict that has claimed 150,000 lives and the priority Aquino has put on achieving peace. – note from The Hindu 16 Oct 2012

The London Citizens’ Group in our Servite London parish sent a team into the World’s End Estate by the River Thames, to promote “Safe Haven”, where people may feel safe and have help if they are under threat. This practical act of Justice and Peace has already been reported from the North London group, working with Servite Our Lady’s High School.
YOUR PRAYERS...

Fr Pat O’Connell is awaiting major surgery on 26 October 2012 for extensive facial cancer. He is peaceful about the long operation at Charing Cross Hospital, London, but glad of everyone’s care and prayers.

Fr Philip Allen is undergoing further exploratory surgery at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London, on Monday 22 October 2012. Prayers for him, too, please.

Fr Eoin O’Malley is doing well in the Care Home near our Benburb Priory, well visited by the friars of the community.

Frs Andrew Walls and Ignatius McCafferty (recent photos by Paul) are comfortable at Wellburn House, Dundee - address: St Joseph’s, Wellburn House, 116 Liff Road, Dundee DD42 2QT - they will welcome correspondence, now that Fr Vincent Coyne is finalising the handover of the Dundee Priory and moving away from Scotland.

Tragic Death in Indonesia

ONLY 3 months, on 20 June 2012 ago 8 friar-novices made their vows in Indonesia. One of them suffered a heart attack and died on 2 October 2012, aged just 21. Fr Oktavianus M. Nahak OSM was a temporary-professed friar, son of the Mexican Province and a member of Tuju Bapak Pendiri (Seven Holy Founders) Priory in Malang, Indonesia, died at Pantai Waluyu hospital in Malang. The whole Servite Order feels the pain of this strange call from God, and prays for the communities in Indonesia, friars and sisters, and for our deceased brother.

RUBY JUBILEE

ON A brighter note, the family, friends and fellow-friars of fr Patrick M. Ryall OSM are gathering in Cork, Ireland, to celebrate his 40th Anniversary of priestly ordination. The Jubilee Mass will be in fr Pat’s home parish, where he was ordained all those years ago. It was there in County Cork that he came across the Servites frs Patrick and James O’Connell on their home visits. That part of the world has given many good gifts to the life of the Church…

God bless you, and may the Blessed Virgin Mary watch over us with Christ her loving Child!

Bernard Thorne prior provincial osm