

CEIST is the trustee body for the voluntary secondary schools of the Daughters of Charity, the Presentation Sisters, the Sisters of the Christian Retreat, the Sisters of Mercy and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

### Feature

#### CEIST Education Conference 2011

The Sixth Annual CEIST Education Conference will be held on Thursday the 29th and Friday 30th of September in the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone. In many ways it is the highlight of the CEIST year and crucial to our efforts to underline the mutual understandings and shared ties that bind us together into a community of schools. The growing sense of comradeship, belonging and renewed orientation that School Principals, Deputy Principals and Board of Management Chairpersons invariably experience at the annual conference and this year will be no exception. If as the conference theme suggests – "For Everything there is a Season" – then Annual Conference time is the season for school leaders to pack up the bags and set the compass for Athlone.



This year we are delighted to have as keynote speaker, **Dom Mark Patrick Hederman**, OSB, Abbot of Glendal Abbey, who is a Benedictine monk, teacher, lecturer and writer and one of Ireland's leading intellectuals. Many people regard him as the most enlightened and imaginative church man in the land and the most insightful commentator on a range of crucial issues at a time of deep crisis in Ireland. Born in Ballingarry, Co. Limerick, he is a former pupil, academic dean and headmaster of the school at Glendal. Many will have already noted the intriguing title Mark Patrick has given to his talk to our conference: Catholic Education and the Deathly Hallows!

Our other esteemed speaker is **Cilian Fennell**, who is recognised as one of Ireland's leading communication advisors, media trainers and keynote speakers. Cilian specialises in media training, working with top television and radio presenters, businesspeople and political leaders. Cilian is a powerful keynote speaker and regularly speaks on Storytelling and Business Narrative, Leadership and The Hero's Journey at conferences, seminars and in-house corporate events in Ireland and internationally.

A number of very attractive workshops has been organised over the two day conference, which we hope our Principals, Deputy Principals and Chairpersons will find both informative and enjoyable.

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### CEIST News



#### Board of Management Renewals 2011

It is the time of year for renewal of BOM. At this time we extend our gratitude to all who continue to serve our schools in a voluntary capacity, particularly during these difficult times.

We have been working for the last while to secure the services of the Trustee nominees to the BOM which are due for renewal.

If your school BOM is due for renewal on October 15th this year please ensure that you submit the names and contact details of the Parent / Teacher nominees as soon as possible to enable us to complete the appointment process.



#### CEIST Induction Days for Newly Appointed Principals and Deputy Principals

CEIST invited newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals of CEIST schools to the education office in Maynooth on the 16th and 17th of August 2011.

The induction day provided a great opportunity for the newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals to meet staff in the CEIST Education Office and gain a stronger understanding of the Trust and of the services it provides to the schools.

It also afforded the opportunity to create networks with other newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals within other CEIST schools.

[MORE >](#)

### Don't Forget



#### CS-COP - Heating Oil Offer

When ordering your oil this autumn, remember to check the Members' Section of our website for weekly oil prices quoted by TOP Oil and avail of the discounted "CEIST RATE" this week of €0.736 cents per litre, based on a 1,000 litre order.

Click [here](#) to download spreadsheet detailing 2011 Top Oil prices and comparisons.

### Education Matters



#### Publishers help ease book cost burden for parents

PUPILS will again be able to pass their schoolbooks on to younger siblings under new measures being introduced to reduce the financial burden on parents.

Among the initiatives is an agreement by publishers not to revise any edition of a book within four years of publication, and that the book will remain in print throughout the four years.

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### Faith-related Issues



#### Prayer Services for CEIST Schools

The Faith Development Team in CEIST have prepared the following school prayer services.

A prayer to mark the opening of the school year for students and a reflection for school Principals along with staff prayer has been created by the Faith Development team in CEIST for possible use by our schools.

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#### The Friends of Nano Gathering

24 lay people met together and shared ideas from the 25th June to 2nd July, as part of the giant oak of the Presentation Congregation through out the world.

Delegates from Ireland, England, U.S.A, Chile, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Philippines, New Zealand, Pakistan, and India under the banner 'Friends of Nano' spent a week together with a very strong sense of purpose-going forward to a goal, set by Nano herself.

CEIST was represented at the seminar by Faith Development Co-ordinator, Margaret Farrell.

[MORE >](#)

### News from CEIST Schools



#### Presentation College, Carlow undertake massive tree-felling operation!

Over 140 trees have been cut down within the grounds of Presentation College, Carlow dramatically changing the landscape in this area of the town.

The trees were mainly leylandis and poplars, some of which are almost 30 years old and had grown to such an extent that they obscured the view of the school from adjoining roads.

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#### Navan Schola attend Church Music Summer School

A group of five students from St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan, attended the Irish Church Music Association Summer School in Maynooth from the 4th - 8th July.

The students are part of the Schola, a new programme in the school where they specialise in liturgical music, learning organ, cantoring, choral direction, Gregorian chant and liturgy.

[MORE >](#)



#### Students from CEIST Schools Receive Eight A1 grades in Leaving Cert!

Ten Students from across the country scored the perfect Leaving Cert, notching up a stunning eight A1s and we are delighted to report that two of the students were from CEIST Schools.

[MORE >](#)

### Reflecting CEIST Values



#### International Day of Peace 21st September Convention Centre Dublin

The Convention Centre Dublin is the venue for a special way of celebrating the United Nations' International Day of Peace this year.

This day could become a landmark day in the promotion of Peace from Ireland. If you're interested come along on **21st September 2011** for the UN International Day of Peace at the Convention Centre Dublin.

[MORE >](#)

### Reviews



#### Young Mercy Leaders Pilgrimage to Baggot St., Dublin

The inaugural Dublin Pilgrimage for 150 Young Mercy Leaders (10-12 August 2011) was most successful following a full programme held at Mercy International Centre, the Catherine McAuley School (Herbert Street) and the local Catherine McAuley School.

Participants from Mercy schools and universities across the globe have participated in this special Mercy event on their way to World Youth Day activities in Spain.

CEIST Faith Development Co-ordinators, Margaret Farrell and Lloyd Bracken were delighted to have been involved in the organising of some of the programmes.

On the final day of the August 2011 Young Mercy Leaders Pilgrimage in Baggot Street, Dublin, Aine Barrins rsm read a letter, addressed to the Young Mercy Leaders, which she composed in the style of Catherine McAuley's writing. Aine read this letter as a Communion Reflection during the Pilgrimage Mass.

In [this video clip](#), Aine is reading the letter in Catherine McAuley's room in Baggot Street and is sitting at Catherine's writing desk.

[The Irish Catholic](#) (Thursday, August 18) features an article [A journey towards Mercy](#), (page 23) in which journalist Mags Gargan reports on the first Dublin Pilgrimage for Young Mercy Leaders.

[MORE >](#)

### Technical Tips



#### 50 Awesome Ways to Use Skype in the Classroom!

The following is an interesting and thought provoking article on the innovative ways to use Skype in the Classroom.

[MORE >](#)

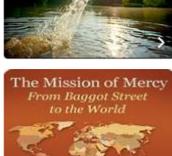


#### Daughters of Charity Service roll out virtualised IT to 300 workers

The [Daughters of Charity Service](#) has completed the rollout of a Citrix desktop, server and application virtualisation solution. This is providing applications and desktops to 300 employees around Dublin.

The Daughters of Charity Service has been providing services to people with intellectual disabilities and to their families since 1892.

[MORE >](#)



**Awareness Education Services (Presentation Congregation)**

The Awareness Education Services would like to invite you to attend a National Conference on Confronting the Psychological Torture of Bullying in the Workplace, Home and School on Tuesday September 27th from 9.00am – 2.00pm at the Regency Hotel, Whitehall, Dublin 9.

A team of professionals will deliver the lectures and answer questions from the participants. There will be no small group discussions.

Click [here](#) for further information.

**Young Social Innovators**

Young Social Innovators (YSI) is a great way for schools to engage students in social justice and action.

Its Social Innovation Programme gives young people an opportunity to select a social issue, work in teams to explore and understand it and come up with innovative responses.

- excellent teacher training provided.
- 370+ second level schools involved
- regional and national events
- project feedback given

Schools need to apply to participate by **September 7th, 2011**.

Click [here](#) to access website or you can apply via [email](#).

**Phone:** 01-6458030.

**Feast Days of our Founding Congregations**

Two of the five Congregations that founded CEIST celebrate their feast days in September. The [Sisters of Mercy](#), Mercy Day, is celebrated on the 24th September, while the [Daughters of Charity](#) Day is celebrated on the 27th September.

**The Feast Days of our other three Congregations are as follows:**

[Presentation Sisters](#), [Presentation Day](#) - 21st November

[Missionaries of the Sacred Heart](#) - 15th June

[Sisters of the Christian Retreat](#) - 19th November

**Send us your news!**

CEIST Education Office welcomes profiling of your news for our e-newsletter.

Please share with CEIST your news, events, photo's, etc, to [jwoods@ceist.ie](mailto:jwoods@ceist.ie).

The deadline for the next issue is **Friday 30th September, 2011**.

# News & Events

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## CEIST Sixth Annual Education Conference 2011

Monday 26th September 2011

The Sixth Annual CEIST Education Conference will be held in the [Sheraton Athlone Hotel](#), Athlone, Co. Westmeath on Thursday, 29th September, 2011 & Friday, 30th September, 2011. The theme for this year's conference is **"For Everything there is a Season" Ecclesiastes 3:1**

The CEIST Annual Education Conference provides an opportunity for our School Principals, Deputy Principals and Schools Boards of Management Chairpersons to network and share ideas and best practice.

The following is the Agenda for both days;

### Day 1: Thursday, 29th September 2011

11.30 - 1.00 p.m.	Registration
1.00 p.m.	Lunch
2.00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Welcome in Conference Hall.</li><li><b>CEIST Chief Executive Officer, Anne Kelleher</b></li><li><b>Opening Prayer and Meán Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál Choir, Roscommon.</b></li></ul>
2.30 - 3.30 p.m.	<b>Keynote Address: Dom Mark Patrick Hederman, OSB, Abbot of Glenstal Abbey - "Catholic Education and the Deathly Hallows".</b>
3.30 - 4.30 p.m.	Conference Workshops (see below).
4.30 p.m.	Tea / Coffee
7.00 p.m.	Sherry Reception / Social Gathering
7.30 p.m.	Conference Dinner

### Conference Workshops

**1) "The Catholic School as it says on the tin - current challenges". John O'Roarke, Principal, Mercy Secondary School, Mounthawk.**

School self-evaluation... In the educational landscape, Catholic schools are open to many factors that could modify the agenda for the education we provide in our CEIST schools.

In this context, it is important that we are clear on what is distinctive about the Catholic education we offer. We are then in a position to ensure that we continue to do 'what it says on the tin'.

This workshop will begin to explore a few of these factors, in particular WSE / MLL inspection, as a catalyst for school self-evaluation within the Catholic tradition.

**2) "Literacy & Numeracy Strategies". Department of Education & Skills.**

Following the directive from Minister Ruairi Quinn, many schools are challenged on the best way to implement improvements in literacy and numeracy. A task force within the Dept of Education would like to start a National Conversation on the most effective method with Principals, Deputies and Chairpersons.

This workshop will discuss practical strategies, which will assist schools in their planning and implementation.

**3) "Healthy Resilience - From me out". Paddy Hanna.**

#### Building Resilience for Me and My School.

- The training seeks to dispel some of the traditional myths about stress, and will focus on building resilience for Principals and their staff.
- It will provide an introduction to the concepts of Well-Being, Personal Well-Being and Organisational Well-Being.
- It will outline a model programme for creating healthier working environments in Schools.
- It will demonstrate how Principals can develop a personal plan to create energy and restore balance in their lives.

**4) "Shared Distance Learning - subjects being taught via innovative technology / fizzbooks instead of schoolbooks". John O'Donovan, Principal, St. Joseph's Secondary School, Ballybunion & Richard Wang, IT Eireann, Tralee.**

Speakers: John O'Donovan Principal, St. Joseph's School, Ballybunion, and Richard Wang IT Eireann, Tralee.

St. Joseph's Ballybunion teaches Agricultural Science to Mercy Mounthawk, Tralee, through video link.

Mercy Mounthawk teaches Chemistry to St. Joseph's through video link. This shared learning is to facilitate minority subjects in schools to enhance subject choice and improve school teacher allocation. The Principal, teacher and IT advisor will demonstrate and share their experience of this technology.

The workshop will cover the following themes:

- Increasing awareness around the use of technology
- Understanding the IT processes involved
- Identifying the costs involved in sharing of subjects
- The positive outcomes of shared learning.
- Discussion on the use of Fizzbooks over schoolbooks.

**5) "Employment Legislation - Best practice in relation to schools". Allianz plc. & Hugh Millar, Crowley Millar Solicitors.**

This workshop will focus on the current legislative issues in relation to the employment of staff in schools. Employment legislation is an area that has the potential to cause significant disruption to a school if not followed correctly.

The workshop will be sponsored by Allianz and presented by Mr. Hugh Millar of Crowley Millar Solicitors who will provide an update on employment legislation and offer guidance on best practice in this area.

**6) Impact of Inspections on Schools - WSE/MLL & Incidental Inspections. Department of Education & Skills. (replaces number 2 workshop on day 2).**

This workshop will share the latest findings and objectives of the WSE/MLL inspection.

There is an element of concern about the impact of incidental inspections and the workshop will focus on the best preparation and inform on the objectives of the visit from the inspectorate.

**7) Ensuring Integrity in Financial Management**

This workshop will discuss the financial challenges that may be encountered by Boards of Management, Principals and Deputy Principals as a result of poor financial management in schools. The latest "hot topics" in financial compliance will be presented along with recommendations and suggestions as to how your school can address/manage these challenges e.g. PAYE/PRSI Compliance, School Enterprises, OLCS, Supervision and Substitution, Cash Handling, etc.

### DAY 2: Friday, 30th September, 2011

9.15 - 9.30 a.m.	<b>Opening Prayer and Ardscoil Mhuire Choir, Ballinasloe.</b>
9.30 - 11.00 a.m.	<b>Keynote Address: Mr. Cilian Fennell, Director, Stillwater Communications - "On Myths &amp; Meaning".</b>
11.00 a.m.	Tea / Coffee
11.30 - 12.30 p.m.	Conference Workshops
12.30 p.m.	<b>Conference Hall</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Update from EDUCENA on property matters, Liam Bergin, CEO.</li><li>Open Forum.</li><li><b>Closing Prayer &amp; Mercy Secondary School Choir, Ballymahon.</b></li></ul>
1.30 p.m.	Lunch

### Keynote Speaker Profiles

#### Dom Mark Patrick Hederman

Dom Mark Patrick Hederman, OSB, Abbot of Glenstal Abbey, is a Benedictine monk, teacher, lecturer and writer and one of Ireland's leading intellectuals.

Many people regard him as the most enlightened and imaginative church man in the land and the most insightful commentator on a range of crucial issues at a time of deep crisis in Ireland. Born in Ballingarry, Co. Limerick, he is a former pupil, academic dean and headmaster of the school at Glenstal.

He studied philosophy and theology in France and earned a doctorate from UCD in the philosophy of education. He has lectured in philosophy and literature outside Ireland, most notably in the United States and Nigeria. Dom Mark Patrick is author of a formidable array of best-selling books covering a broad range of interests including art.

These books offer his unique perspective on modern life and the Irish Church and make a significant contribution to our understanding of contemporary issues in faith, spirituality and psychology. Ten of these books have been written since the new millennium and his latest volume, *Dancing with Dinosaurs, A Spirituality for the Twenty-First Century*, explores the dinosaur nature of all long-standing institutions, especially the Church.

Mark Patrick is a great believer in the workings of the Holy Spirit, not only for the promptings of his own life, but more significantly for so much of what is happening in church and world today. In a talk entitled: *Catholic Education and the Deathly Hallows* he will bring a focus to our Annual Conference on where the Holy Spirit may be leading us in Catholic Education today.



#### Cilian Fennell

Recognised as one of Ireland's leading communication advisors, media trainers and keynote speakers, Cilian specialises in media training, working with top television and radio presenters, businesspeople and political leaders.

Cilian is a powerful keynote speaker and regularly speaks on Storytelling and Business Narrative, Leadership and The Hero's Journey at conferences, seminars and in-house corporate events in Ireland and internationally.

He uses narrative and storytelling when working with clients to formulate a communications strategy, giving media training and speaking at conferences. Cilian's authentic, knowledgeable and highly insightful approach to his work has made him one of Ireland's most sought after and inspiring media trainers.

A native Irish speaker, originally from Connemara in the west of Ireland, he has worked as Head of Programmes for TG4 (Ireland's Irish-language television station). He has also produced some of the top-rated domestic programmes, including *The Dunphy Show*, *Saturday Night with Miriam*, *Rip Off Republic*, *Boom*, *The Time of our Lives*, *Where's My Job Gone* and *Test the Nation*.

He also produced the world's longest-running chat show, the *Late Late Show*, in the last four years it was presented by Gay Byrne.

It was here that Cilian's interest in stories was sparked; he recognised the power and value of stories, and how they create such a strong connection with audiences. Cilian became an avid student of narrative, story, religions and mythology. This study has taken him to the mythological sites of Ireland, Egypt and Greece. He has also travelled in the Far East and India.

Cilian has a first-class honour BSc in Marine Zoology from the National University of Ireland, Galway, where he studied marine life, evolution and migration. His special talent for relating to human stories can be attributed to further study in communications, psychology, mythology and world religions.

Keeping with the water theme, outside the world of Cork, Cilian enjoys fishing, sailing and journeying on his barge.



### Download Conference Brochure

[CEIST Education Conference 2011 Brochure](#)

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## CEIST Induction Days for Newly Appointed Principals and Deputy Principals 2011

Friday 19th August 2011

CEIST held Induction Days for our recently appointed Principals and Deputy Principals on the 16th and 17th of August 2011.

The induction day provided a great opportunity for the newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals to meet staff in the CEIST Education Office and gain a stronger understanding of the Trust and of the services it provides to the schools.

It also afforded the opportunity to create networks with other newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals within other CEIST schools.

Each day began with a Prayer Service from our Faith Development team. The CEO of CEIST, Anne Kelleher, then welcomed our guests and gave an overview of CEIST, which was followed by an overview of Educena by CEO, Liam Bergin.

The Directors of the three CEIST departments, Finance, Faith Development and School Support and the ICS Manager, were delighted to have the opportunity to inform the new Principals and Deputy Principals of the workings of each department and the services they each offer to our 110 schools.

The Induction day ended with a Conclusion and Blessing.

A most enjoyable day was had by all who attended and CEIST staff were very grateful that our new Principals and Deputy Principals allocated us some of their valuable time to attend the induction days.



Pictured above at the Deputy Principal Induction Day (Back Row - LtoR),

John Woods (CEIST), Michael Lane (CEIST), Lorna Dundon (North Presentation, Farranree, Cork), Áine Bourke (Scoil Carmel, Limerick), Ger Dowling (Presentation, Ballingarry), Roisín Moore (Presentation, Tralee), Eileen Kelleher (St Aloysius, Cork), Tom Rowan (St Columba's College, Stranorlar), Mike Higgins (CEIST) and Ned Prendergast (CEIST).

Front Row: Catherine Murphy (Scoil Bhríde, Tuam), Anne Kelleher (CEIST), Rita Meagher (St. Joseph's, Navan) and Bríd Herbert (Ardcoil Mhuire, Corbally). Missing from photo, Orla Forde, Coláiste Naomh Mhuire, Naas, Co. Kildare.



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## Publishers help ease book cost burden for parents

Tuesday 2nd August 2011

PUPILS will again be able to pass their schoolbooks on to younger siblings under new measures being introduced to reduce the financial burden on parents.

Among the initiatives is an agreement by publishers not to revise any edition of a book within four years of publication, and that the book will remain in print throughout the four years.

A recent survey found that books for a child in primary school cost an average of €125 a year, with the cost rising to €238 a year for a child in secondary school.

However, this is expected to fall from next year after the Irish Educational Publishers Association (IEPA) agreed a new code of practice that means pupils can pass on their books to younger siblings and parents can sell them on the secondhand market.

The Irish Independent revealed earlier this year that parents forced to fork out for new editions of schoolbooks found it hard to spot the difference between these and the old ones.

Comparisons confirmed that many of the changes were cosmetic.

Under the new initiatives, publishers have also agreed to assist schools in operating rental schemes.

And they have offered to work with the Department of Education and charities such as St Vincent de Paul to establish a schoolbook voucher scheme.

Meanwhile, in another cost-cutting move for parents, publisher Folens announced it would be offering free downloads of past exam papers from its website in a user-friendly e-reader format.

Previously, papers cost between €4 and €9 to buy.

The IEPA met Education Minister Ruairi Quinn in the past couple of weeks to discuss what could be done to help parents struggling with hefty back-to-school costs.

John Cadell, managing director of Folens, said the range of measures would help reduce the cost of buying schoolbooks for parents.

"It was only in the last number of weeks that the code went into the minister and it will probably be the end of this year before the full impact of it is seen," he said.

## Benefits

"The code has a number of key items: one is that publishers would not revise any print editions within four years of publishing and that they would continue to keep those editions in print for a further two years and that publishers would assist schools in running rental schemes.

"We also offered to work with the Department of Education, and maybe St Vincent de Paul, in bringing in voucher schemes that would bring further benefits to the consumer and make sure that their money went further," he added.

He said rental schemes had been running successfully in most schools.

"As a publisher, we have always supported that. For example, we haven't taken any primary book out of print in the last five years and we haven't had a revision since 2005.

"That allows those products to continue in rental schemes and allows the secondhand market to flourish, and that can only be good for consumers."

*(article courtesy of Irish Independent).*

## Fizzbooks instead of School books?

Is there an argument for using Fizzbooks instead of school books? It has already been introduced in schools in California and CEIST School, St. Joseph's Secondary School, Ballybunion, Co. Clare have recently offered Fizzbooks to students and you can read a brief account [here](#).

In our upcoming CEIST Educational Conference a workshop will be given on the use of Fizzbooks by St. Joseph's Secondary School, Ballybunion, Principal, Mr. John O'Donovan. John will discuss the work involved with the Fizzbooks along with issues encountered and benefits obtained from the technology.

We will very shortly be publishing our conference agenda within our [events](#) section on website, which you can check out for further details on workshops, conference speakers, etc.



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## Prayer Services for CEIST Schools

Wednesday 24th August 2011

The Faith Development Team in CEIST have prepared the following school prayer services.

A prayer to mark the opening of the school year for students and a reflection for school Principals along with staff prayer has been created by the Faith Development team in CEIST for possible use by our schools.

Click on the links below to download.

### Opening of school year prayer for students

[Student Prayer](#)

### Reflection for School Principals 2011

[Reflection for School Principals](#)

### Staff Prayer for the beginning of a new academic year

[Staff Prayer](#)



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## The Friends of Nano Gathering

Wednesday 17th August 2011

*"Now is the time to give birth to the dream.  
Gather the dreams, a new day is dawning."*

A new dawn is breaking.....Nano Nagle's faith-filled prediction, "Be assured it will flourish after our death" has come to pass in a unique way at Ballygriffin as 24 lay people met together and shared ideas from the 25th June to 2nd July, as part of the giant oak of the Presentation Congregation through out the world. Delegates from Ireland, England, U.S.A, Chile, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Philippines, New Zealand, Pakistan, and India under the banner 'Friends of Nano' spent a week together with a very strong sense of purpose-going forward to a goal, set by Nano herself.

The programme began with an opening ritual, to invoke Divine blessings upon our meeting through the four directions prayer, the lighting of the Rainbow candle and symbolic offerings placed in the Sacred Space accompanied by readings of the Sacred texts.

The theme of the seminar was unfolded in dance form-"AWAKENING TO THE MYSTERY OF GOD" performed by the 'Friends of Nano' in the locality. Formal introductions of delegates were made, but it was the language of the heart that prevailed and made us friends, all of us as one.



Through a variety of presentations the delegates

shared their idea of Nano's gift to the world and how the gift has been understood, experience and lived in their respective regions. The delegates of each region brought a symbol depicting the work of the Presentation Community in their country. To mention a few: New Zealand- a Kiwi bird, that moves at night and lays an egg 3 times larger than itself; India - a flute, hollow & dull to behold, but springing to life with a wiff of air being blown through it; Pakistan- a wooden slate, symbol of enlightenment & learning; Zambia - seeds depicting new life in abundance; a mud pot; hands raised in prayer & concern; pottery & works of art spoke clearly of Nano's Charism lived out in the world at large.

The facilitating team of sisters Terry Abraham, Mary Hamahan, Helen Hyland, Carmel, Fr Jerry & Noel Keating took us through the Presentation Charism & Spirituality in a well structured, informal & interesting way, using video clips, music, dance & discussions. Aspects of Nano's charism were introduced as five C's-- Compassion, Courage, Commitment, Confidence in God's providence, & Contemplation. Fr Jerry guided us in experiencing deep reflection on God's Kin-Dom values of justice, freedom & love, thereby opening our minds to what creative action Nano would have taken in life today, in the face of new challenges.

The third day's theme was 'Awakening to Wonder'. We learnt the sacred story of our Evolutionary Universe. Sr Anne Boyd a Bridgetine sister from Australia, gently led us to be "Be Amazed! Be filled with reverence! Contemplate! Fall in love! Be entranced by the wonder of the Universe, the uniqueness of each being & the Divine Presence in all of creation". To quote Hopkins-"The World Charged with the Grandeur of God".

Through the Tibetan walk & later the Cosmic walk we entered into a deep solitude, followed by an awakening into a New Consciousness. The message was loud & clear that we humans as species must embrace the planet as our spiritual home or perish.

The highlight of the seminar was the pilgrimage along the streets & bylanes of Cork. Starting at Ballygriffin Nano's place of birth we ended at her tomb'-a journey that can aptly be summed up in the words 'from the womb to the tomb' & back to the womb to symbolize the new beginning, we wanted to make in keeping Nano's charism alive in our own little corners.



The candle we carried back with us was the synergy of all we felt in our hearts at that moment.

The spark had been lit & back home in Ballygriffin a movement had been started-"The Friends of Nano Movement " with its newly agreed perceptives which are (1) Compassion for the poorest (2) Covenant with creation, and in everything (3) Partnership with the Divine.

The next day each delegate was handed her lantern & commissioned to go forth &, like Nano, become bread broken & wine poured out for the least of humanity, thus continuing to celebrate our 'Awakening to the Mystery of God.'

As I end this report I can almost hear Nano's voice, "Yes friend, you have started your journey - keep at it - Go one pace beyond your yesterdays".

**Margaret Rosair** (Chennai - India)

(article courtesy of [www.presentationistersunion.org](http://www.presentationistersunion.org))



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## Presentation College, Carlow undertake massive tree-felling operation!

Thursday 7th July 2011



Over 140 trees have been cut down within the grounds of Presentation

College, Carlow dramatically changing the landscape in this area of the town. The trees were mainly leylandiis and poplars, some of which are almost 30 years' old and had grown to such an extent that they obscured the view of the school from adjoining roads.

The massive tree-felling operation was carried out by local company Tall Trees.

The work also involved an extensive replanting programme, using shrubs and trees more suitable within the school grounds and the construction of a perimeter fence.

Ray Murray, Principal of Presentation College, Carlow, stated that the tree felling was necessary to allow this perimeter fence to be put in place and also to tidy the entire area.

"The trees were mainly leylandiis and poplars which were coming out onto the footpath on O'Brien Road and were really unsuitable," he said.

Mr Murray also pointed out that the trees created security issues for the school, with members of the public regularly using the school grounds as a short cut. "The school grounds are not a public park and I would appeal to people not to use the school grounds as a public park.

Of course we welcome people and various groups using the school facilities, but this has to be done on a formal basis with the support of the board of management," he said.

Mr Murray said the reaction to the tree felling has been very positive, opening up the school grounds and allowing the public greater visibility of Presentation College.





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## Navan Schola attend Church Music Summer School

Wednesday 27th July 2011

A group of five students from St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan, attended the Irish Church Music Association Summer School in Maynooth from the 4th - 8th July. The students are part of the Schola, a new programme in the school where they specialise in liturgical music, learning organ, cantoring, choral direction, Gregorian chant and liturgy.

Throughout the year they led the singing at masses in Navan parish, finishing in May with music for the confirmation ceremonies in St Mary's Church.



Pictured above The launch of Sing the Mass, a new collection of liturgical music.

The Irish Church Music Association runs its annual Summer School during the first week of July each year. This year, the director was Orla Barry, an internationally-renowned choral director. Over three hundred people from parishes throughout Ireland participated in the busy schedule of events, singing at Morning and Evening Prayer and Eucharist each day, attending workshops throughout the day in a variety of areas.

The Summer School is a vital way for church musicians and choirs to recharge their batteries during their summer break, meet up with other musicians and learn new techniques and repertoire. Church musicians from Ashbourne, Ballsgrove, Navan, Ratoath and Trim and other parishes in the Meath diocese met with colleagues from around the country.



The focus this year was on music for the new translation of the Roman Missal, the text of which will come into force in the entire English-speaking world in Advent. A new book and CD containing music for the new translations was launched during the Summer School.

Sing the Mass contains new musical settings by Irish composers Ephrem Feeley, Liam Lawton, John Columba McCann and Bernard Sexton, as well as revised versions of the settings which have been in use in the Irish church over the past forty years.

The students from St Joseph's were Cáit Cregan, Clodagh Herron-Rice, Brionna Meagher, Lorna O'Dea and Alison Pentony.

They were accompanied by their teachers David Burke and Ephrem Feeley who direct and co-ordinate the Schola. For more information, see [www.musicatmercy.weebly.com](http://www.musicatmercy.weebly.com).

Pictured above the students from St Joseph's Secondary School at the ICMA Church Music Summer School in Maynooth.



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## Students from CEIST Schools Receive Eight A1 grades in Leaving Cert!

Thursday 18th August 2011

Ten Students from across the country scored the perfect Leaving Cert, notching up a stunning eight A1s and we are delighted to report that two of the students were from CEIST Schools.

**Zoe Fannon** of [St. Aloysius School, Sharman Crawford Street, Cork](#) is bound for Oxford next Month where she will study politics, philosophy and economics.

"I had always hoped to do well but I'd never dreamed that I could get results of this magnitude. It is fantastic," she said.

Zoe credited her results to steady work over the past two years, great teachers, good classmates and a supportive family.

The other student from a CEIST school with the perfect results was **Ruth Cormican** of [Calasanctius College, Oranmore, Co. Galway](#) and with every possible university course now available to her, pianist Ruth has decided to keep her options open.

"I'm going to do arts at NUI Galway because I'm not really sure what I want to do so I want to do something broad," she explained.

The CEIST office would like to congratulate everybody concerned on the exceptional results received and acknowledge the work of the students themselves, the teachers and parents and the Principals of all our schools.

We wish all students well in the future and hope that next Monday's initial round of CAO offers will see all of you gain access to the courses of your choice and that your journey beyond secondary school is an enriching and fulfilling one.

To the Principals and Teachers we wish you well as you begin the process anew with the next class of Leaving Cert students.



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## International Day of Peace 21st September – Convention Centre Dublin

Monday 29th August 2011

The Convention Centre Dublin [that iconic building by the Liffey near the harp bridge] is the venue for a special way of celebrating the United Nations' International Day of Peace this year.

This celebration has been going on for the last 30 years in different countries all over the world, but in Ireland not many have heard about it. Instruments of Peace and Kairos did something last year in a small scale with 150 singers, students, teachers, artists, religious and lay leaders in a Peace Concert at The Helix.

It was a magnificent success and a video to immortalise it was created. The video is entitled: "FOUR SEASONS OF PEACE". Those who have seen the video have asked the organising groups to do it again this year and that many more people will be joining.



You might be interested to join this year's event. You may also be able to promote this event to your colleagues, your community, your friends and other institutions.

This day could become a landmark day in the promotion of Peace from Ireland. If you're interested come along on 21st September 2011 for the UN International Day of Peace at the Convention Centre Dublin.

For more information, visit this website: [www.peacebeginswithme.eu](http://www.peacebeginswithme.eu)

**IRELAND JOINS THE GLOBAL CELEBRATION OF UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE - 21 September 2011**





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## Young Mercy Leaders Pilgrimage to Baggot St., Dublin

Wednesday 17th August 2011

The inaugural Dublin Pilgrimage for 150 Young Mercy Leaders (10-12 August 2011) has just concluded most successfully following a full programme held at Mercy International Centre, the Catherine McAuley Building (Herbert Street) and the local Catherine McAuley school.

Participants from Mercy schools and universities across the globe have participated in this special Mercy event on their way to World Youth Day activities in Spain.

Click [here](#) to view the report of the Final Day of the Pilgrimage.

Congratulations to all those involved in organising, hosting, facilitating, leading and working on the rich and varied programme over these three marvellous days which were filled with the life and energy of the young people in attendance.

The new circles of energy for Mercy created during these days will continue to intersect and grow in the months ahead.

Twenty seven students from nine Irish Mercy schools participated in the programme. These were from St. Leo's College, Carlow, Ard Scoil na Tríonóide, Athy, Coláiste Bríde, Enniscorthy, St. Mary's College, Arklow, Scoil Mhuire, Carrick on Suir, St. Bridgid's College, Callan, St. Mary's Secondary School, Mallow, Mount Mercy, Cork and Meán Scoil Mhuire, Longford.

The participation of the Irish students was facilitated by the generosity of Ms. Mairead Redmond from Carlow, Sr. Nuala O'Gorman from Mallow, and Sr. Concepta Foley from Athy, all of whom not only accompanied their own students, but also acted as chaperones in the hostel for the Irish students from other schools.

Sincere thanks to them, and to Sr. Bríd Biggane, Mallow and Mrs. Della O'Connor, from Enniscorthy, who also participated in the programme and whose support was much appreciated by their students.

It was indeed wonderful to see all the Irish students and teachers taking time out of their summer holidays to attend this programme for Young Mercy Leaders.

CEIST Faith Development Co-ordinators, Margaret Farrell and Llyod Bracken were delighted to have been involved in the organising of some of the programmes.

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## Daughters of Charity Service roll out virtualised IT to 300 workers

Monday 25th July 2011

The Daughters of Charity Service has completed the rollout of a Citrix desktop, server and application virtualisation solution.

This is providing applications and desktops to 300 employees around Dublin.

The Daughters of Charity Service has been providing services to people with intellectual disabilities and to their families since 1892.



Pictured above: Thomas Mac Ardle, IT manager, Daughters of Charity Service; Niall Gilmore, country manager, Ireland, Citrix Systems; and Paul Sullivan, business development manager at Unity Technology Solutions

With 1,000 employees in Dublin, the Daughters of Charity Service provides a number of different residential options and community-based services to its service users.

The Citrix solution, supplied by Data Solutions and implemented by Unity Technology Solutions, a Citrix Gold Solutions Advisor and they are also ICT Supplier for the CEIST Schools Co-operative Purchasing Programme (CS-COP), has delivered such simplicity and ease of deployment that it is enabling Daughters of Charity Service to make significant savings in terms of IT resources.

The centralised delivery and management of servers and desktop applications using Citrix XenDesktop, XenServer and XenApp has enabled the IT department to save time and money, and allows the organisation to concentrate funding on improving client care.

"The diverse clinical needs of people with intellectual disabilities require a multifaceted workforce which includes direct care and support and multi-disciplinary teams," Thomas Mac Ardle, IT manager, Daughters of Charity Service, explained.

"It is essential these employees have 24 x 7 access to the most up-to-date applications such as client records, treatment notes and access to email to collaborate with colleagues."

"The Citrix solution allows us to provide a consistent experience for all of our employees, no matter where they are logging in from. They are not tied to being in one location and have the same icons presented to them, regardless of how or where they are logging in. They are never in doubt about what actions to take."

All of the Daughters of Charity Service's most critical applications are run on Citrix XenApp, such as its HR and payroll, client reports and its main communications tool, Microsoft Office.

The Daughters of Charity Service is also testing a new electronic client record system. This will eliminate the large amounts of paper records and will create highly accurate networks of information for its diverse teams. The simplicity with which this can be deployed using Citrix will remove all the time and pain from this process and any issues can be easily fixed from one location.

### Unified communications

"The main role of the Daughters of Charity Service is as a caring organisation for people with intellectual disabilities and while IT is essential to deliver an effective service, it is not its primary function," Niall Gilmore, country manager, Ireland, Citrix Systems, explained.

"Implementing virtualisation technologies has enabled them to reduce the cost of IT, as well as the time it takes to manage it. As a result, it has been able to direct resources to where they are needed most, in the care of its clients."

The service also plans to provide Skype to all clients to make the cherished contact with families easier. Skype and Citrix recently announced a strategic partnership which will expand Skype's business offerings by providing powerful collaboration features for organisations of all sizes to set up and hold video meetings.

As Unity is a leading voice and unified communications partner, the ability to integrate both the voice and data requirements for Daughters of Charity Service will be hugely beneficial.

"We looked at the latest Citrix Technologies, such as XenDesktop and XenServer, to leverage the existing Citrix environment at Daughters of Charity Service to make it more efficient and easier to manage for their IT staff," explained Paul Sullivan, business development manager at Unity Technology Solutions.

"Through this project we can see how desktop, server and application virtualisation can be used to help organisations and users at every level," Sullivan said.

"Seeing what the Daughters of Charity Service is planning to do, particularly in terms of the electronic client records and video conferencing, demonstrates the tangible business benefits this technology can offer."