



Cumann Ceol Eaglasta na h-Éireann

Irish Church Music Association

Newsletter – January 2005

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the New Year. It was intended to have another Newsletter out before Christmas but with little feedback from the members, it's had to wait until now. We send our Best Wishes for the year ahead to all members of the Association.

Chairperson: Majella Hollywood
Correspondence Secretary: Grace Lyons
Registrar Summer School 2005: Fr. Turlough Baxter
P. R. O. and Newsletter: Fr. Paul Kenny and Sarah Waldron
Membership: Gertie McCabe
Trevor Clarke, Gertie McCabe, Sr. Mairéad Ní Fhearain and Rev. Peter O Kane.

The year has started in the shadow of the terrible tragedy and loss of life in South East Asia. Let us remember all the dead, the bereaved and those many wonderful volunteers who so selflessly gave their time and energy in whatever way necessary and the great generosity of people throughout the country and indeed the world. I'm writing this on the Vigil of the Epiphany but already our musical thoughts should be turning to Lent and Easter, which will be upon us before we know it. This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 9th and the Triduum begins on March 24th and Summer Time commences on Easter Morning, March 27th. This issue will highlight some recent new music and make some recommendations for your consideration. The Scripture readings of this Year A give us the wonderful Gospels of the Scrutinies on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent and it presents a wonderful opportunity for us to use much of the music from Summer School 2004 in the RCIA programme.

ORGAN TRAINING: The Municipal School of Music in Limerick runs a Training Scheme for Church Organists on an on-going basis. The scheme trains organists in all the skills required for playing in church including accompaniment, leading congregational singing and the playing of voluntaries for all occasions. For further information or to receive an application form please contact the school at 061 417 348 or e-mail limerickschoolofmusic@eircom.net

Our friends at Oregon Catholic Press had reason to celebrate again recently. Five of their composers were presented with 2004 Unity Awards, among them **CHRISTOPHER WALKER** for his new collection **STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN** which received the *Children's Music Album of the Year Award*.

ORGANIST AWARD: **GEORGE MINNE**, who has been organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh since 1958, was

honoured with the Papal award *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* in recent months. We send him our congratulations. George was one of the organists at Summer Schools in the early days of the Association.

We offer our congratulations to Association member **MS. LISA GORHAM AND MR. JAMES MACGUILL** who were married on December 27th 2004. Some members of the Association were on hand to provide the music under the direction of Andrew Mackriell and to make sure the knot was tied successfully! Further to this, I note in the Irish Times the death of James' mother, Maeve, on January 16th. May she rest in peace.

Congratulations to Council Member **SARAH WALDRON** and her husband **STEPHEN** on the birth of their first child, **ADAM**, on January 7th. Mother and baby are both doing well. We offer them our best wishes for many happy years as he begins to walk, talk and, no doubt, sing!

Renowned jazz musician and composer **Dave Brubeck**, 84, received an honorary Doctorate of Sacred Music from the University of Fribourg in Switzerland recently. Best known for his Take Five, he has also composed a significant body of sacred music. In 1979 he was commissioned to write a Mass. In the process of this work, - *TO HOPE! A CELEBRATION*, - Brubeck was so moved by the experience that he became a catholic the following year.

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In our last Newsletter we asked your prayers for **SR. COLMCILLE** who was in hospital. Dear Colmcille left for the other side of life on November 26th last and she will be very much missed by the Association. We include the following appreciation by one of her sisters:

SR. M. COLMCILLE CUNNANE (NÍ CHONÁIN), beloved member of Westbourne Community, Limerick, died on Friday 26th November 2004 at Adare and District Nursing Home. Sr. Colmcille was born in 1922 on Aran Mór Island off the Donegal coast where her father taught for many years. She was the cherished daughter and sister in a family of ten. The family later moved to Kilnadeema, Loughrea, where he father was Principal in the local school and where the young Nóra Ní Chonáin was recognized as a brilliant pupil. From the Preparatory College in Turkmakeady, Nóra went to Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, where she qualified with distinction as a primary teacher. In 1941 she joined the Limerick Sisters of Mercy and became Sr. Colmcille. Having completed her novitiate, she obtained a B.Mus. degree and a Higher Diploma in Education at University College Cork. She taught for some years in Limerick city and in Newcastle West before being appointed to a post in the Music Department of Mary Immaculate College. She continued in this post until 1983 when she became Assistant to the Superior General of the former Limerick Congregation of Mercy. Sr. Colmcille was gifted with numerous talents and many wonderful human qualities. A musician to her fingertips, an ardent Gaeilgeoir and a poet of no mean stature, – a collection of her Irish language poems *Seóda* is highly regarded - she composed

liturgical music of the highest order, especially during her years as a valued member of the Irish Institute of Pastoral Liturgy. [We in the ICMA will remember her for her lovely setting '*S ón Tiarna féin 'tá mo chúnamh*, (in the last RTE Church Music Competition)] She also composed poems and songs published for primary schools. Her beautiful softly spoken Irish was frequently heard on RTE's morning programme *An Briathar Beo*. She was a deeply spiritual Sister of Mercy, full of love for her family, her Congregation, her country and for all who were needy. With her giftedness, she was gentle, generous and gracious, selfless and unassuming, never saying 'no' to any request. She was uniquely loved by her family, her Sisters in community, her students and a multitude of faithful friends. *Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís. Solas na glóire dá h-anam glégheal.*

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We also note the death of **RITA KEANE** from Newtownshandrum on Christmas night, December 25th 2004. May she rest in the Peace of Christ.

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Praying the Stations of the Cross is an especially powerful way to enter into the meaning of Christ's Passion. This longstanding Lenten devotion involves both our imagination and emotions, helping us to appreciate Christ's sacrifice, relating it to the struggles of our own lives. Children may be involved not only in the singing but also in the Scripture readings, with a teacher or catechist leading the reflections. An optional 'Resurrection' station is included which may be reserved for use after Easter or included in the series. Christopher Walker's new collection **STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN** will be a wonderful resource for the Lenten season.

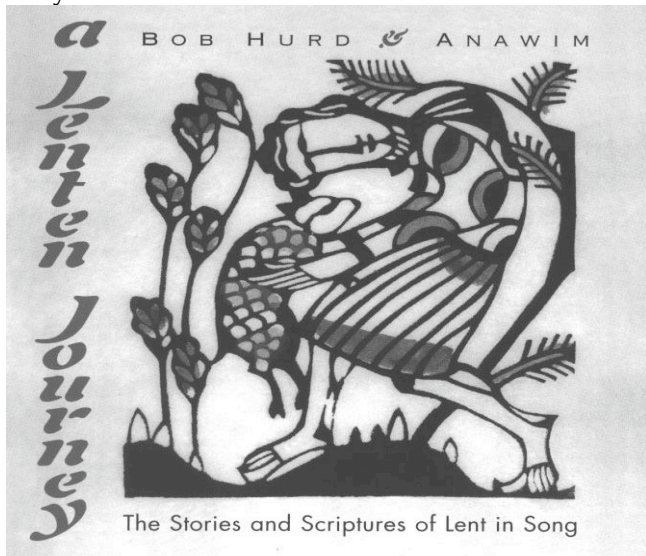
Produced in collaboration with Sr. Paule Freeburg, DC, with whom he also produced the excellent *Stories and Songs of Jesus*, this new resource, which is based on Scripture, selects events from the Gospel accounts rather than the traditional series which are familiar to us, and offers simple responses, scripture readings, reflections, artwork and songs for each of these 14 Stations of the Cross.

Paule Freeburg, DC — Christopher Walker



Illustrated by
Jean Germano

Available on compact disc (12077), Leader's guide/accompaniment book (12075) and an assembly book (12076). There is also a set of posters of the illustrations (12177), which may be useful since these are not the traditional set of pictures, and also a set of 50 bookmarks (12176). The CD recording has both the sung refrains and also a complete set of backing tracks, making it very useful for classroom or church services.



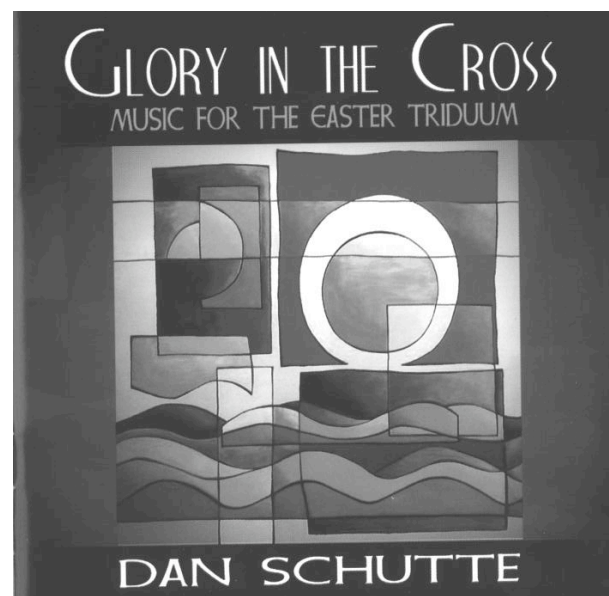
BOB HURD AND ANAWIM have again worked on a programme called **A LENTEN JOURNEY** – the stories and Scriptures of Lent in Song. It provides a comprehensive musical repertoire for the Lenten season from Ash Wednesday to the 5th Sunday of Lent. It offers songs for general use during the season, for gathering rites, preparation of gifts, reconciliation and settings of the seasonal psalms for each Sunday of the three year cycle, each of which also appear as assigned psalms for specific Sundays. There is also a Communion or preparation

song for each Sunday based on the Gospel and other readings. Songs are composed in both traditional and contemporary styles. If I had to select just one piece special mention, it would be the Taizé style ostinato *Turn Our Hearts*. Songbook (12081), CD recording (12082).

Also have a look at David Haas' GIA collections **WHO CALLS YOU BY NAME vol. 1** (G-3193)/CD195 and **vol. 2** (G3622)/CD G257. Volume 1 has his songs for the 3rd – 5th Sundays of Year A which focus on the Woman at the Well, the Man Born Blind (one of my favourite pieces) and the Raising of Lazarus, all highlighting the meaning of initiation and disclosing various dimensions of coming to Jesus as light and life.

CHRISTOPHER WALKER has also produced a series of music for the RCIA programme called **CHRIST WE PROCLAIM. OCP Book 11293** Available on 3 cds, each focuses on a particular period of the process: Vol. 1 is Precatechumenate through Catechumenate. (11295); Vol. 2 is Rite of Election through Holy Thursday, (11297); Vol. 3 is Good Friday through Mystagogy, (11299)

Also, remember to have a look in **FR. JOHN MCCANN'S** recently published collection **MUSIC FOR THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**, some of which we used at the Summer School last July. Kevin Mayhew 1450314



A resource which takes us through the Triduum is **DAN SCHUTTE'S** collection **GLORY IN THE CROSS**.

We have used some items from this in the Summer School and the collection contains some very powerful and appropriate music for these special days, including the title song, Glory in the Cross, As I Have Done for You, We Adore You, and the well known Behold the Wood of the Cross with additional verses. OCP CD 11482, Music Book 11480

For those seeking a sung version of the PASSION for use on Good Friday, you might consider a new setting by Christopher Walker.

**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO JOHN**



CHRISTOPHER WALKER

OCP CD 12044. Music Score 12045 This might also be useful as an aid to private meditation during Lent and especially during the days of Holy Week.

All recordings and music can be obtained from Joan in Veritas, from Calamus or directly from the publishers, via the web sites:

www.ocp.org www.giamusic.com
www.kevinmayhew.com

Decani Music Ltd. Oak House,
70 High Street, Brandon, Suffolk, IP27 0AU.
Phone +44 1842 819380

**ICMA REGIONAL DAY IN
BELFAST, Saturday, February
26th 2005.** (*Booking Form enclosed*)

The workshop is based on the new programme, **DO THIS IN MEMORY**, which aims at integrating the First Eucharist preparation in the school with the weekly parish liturgy. It suggests that one Sunday a month a parish liturgy that is child centred and reflects the Sacramental preparation be celebrated. **MARIAN GAYNOR**, a very successful and popular tutor at last Summer School, will lead the workshop in **St. Malachy's Parish Hall, Alfred St. Belfast**, (near the railway station), on Saturday 26th February. **Registration at 10.00, sessions 10.30-12.30; and 2.00-3.30, ending with a liturgy. Please bring a packed lunch. Cost for the day €20 / £15.** Tea/Coffee supplied. Travel information can be obtained from Iarnród Éireann (01-836 6222) or Bus Éireann (01-836 6111) Northern information 02890 66630. Or check www.aircoach.ie

CALLING ALL COMPOSERS

At our last meeting the Council met with John O'Keeffe, Guest Director for the Summer School. John shared his vision with us including the possibility of an especially composed piece to mark this Year of the Eucharist. John is going to seek out a suitable text and we intend having a small competition to set the piece. With this in mind, anyone interested in setting the piece should write in for a copy of the text to the following address: Fr. Paul Kenny, St. Nicholas of Myra, Francis Street, Dublin 8. **PLEASE ENCLOSE AN A5 SIZE STAMPED RETURN ENVELOPE. COMPLETED ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 29TH NEXT.**

Entry is open to all interested parties, not just ICMA members.

Items for the Newsletter and other correspondence for the Irish Church Music Association should be sent to the National Centre for Liturgy, Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.