



Cumann Ceol Eaglasta na h Éireann

Irish Church Music Association

Newsletter – March / April 2006

Chairperson: Fr. Paul Kenny

Treasurer: Rita Lacey

Correspondence Secretary: Grace Lyons

Minutes Secretary: Sr. Angela Doyle

Registrar Summer School 2006: Fr. Turlough Baxter. **Assistant Registrar:** Fr. Peter O'Kane

P. R. O. and Newsletter: Fr. Paul Kenny and Sarah Waldron

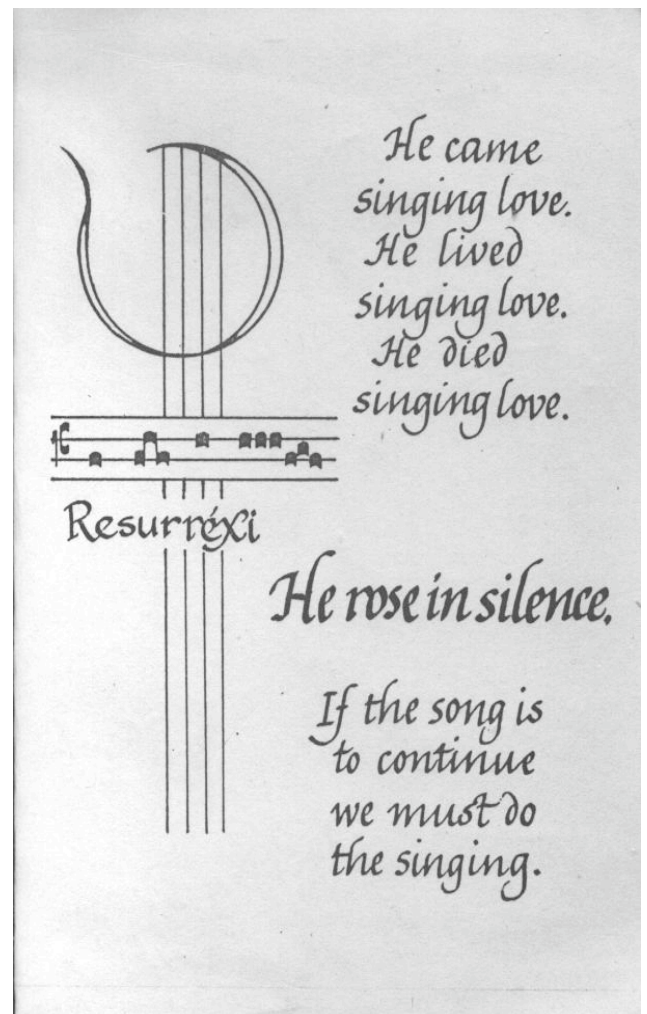
Membership: Gertie McCabe

Joy Bibby, Majella Hollywood, Gertie McCabe, Sr. Mairéad Ní Fhearain, Eoin Tierney

As you may notice above, we have co-opted **Eoin Tierney** to the Council to fill the vacancy created with the resignation of **Trevor Clarke**, who has gone on '*to higher things*'! We wish Trevor every success in his new career and know that he will continue to keep in touch with the work of the Association. Eoin has been a member of the Organ Tutorial staff for the past few years and is no stranger to those who attend the Summer School. His enthusiasm and skills are much valued by the Council as we prepare for the July gathering.

It's hard to believe that as I write this, Lent is more than halfway through its course and Easter is almost upon us once again. Many of us are probably unaware of the significance that falls this year. It was fifty years ago in 1956 that Pope Pius XII reformed the ceremonies of Holy Week and there was great involvement on the part of our congregations in the unfolding of the days of the Triduum: the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper including the Washing of the Feet, the Solemn Liturgy of the Passion with Holy Communion and the dramatic Easter Vigil as a night celebration after many centuries being celebrated at midday or early on Saturday morning. Perhaps this fiftieth anniversary year is a chance for us all to rediscover the enthusiasm of that occasion, to deepen our understanding of what we celebrate and the life to which it calls us.

May our celebration of the days and events of Holy Week and the Great Fifty Days of the Easter celebration be a source of strength and joy in our ministry as we strive to serve the Lord with gladness and come into his presence singing for joy. May we help our congregations to enter into that great hymn of praise to the Father which is the hymn of our very lives given in service one to another.



The National Association of Pastoral Musicians in the United States recently held an on-line survey to discover the hymns that have most fostered and nourished the respondent's life. Over 3,000 people responded and the Top Ten hymns chosen are:

1. On Eagle's Wings (Michael Joncas);
2. Here I am, Lord (Dan Schutte);
3. Be Not Afraid (Bob Dufford);
4. You Are Mine (David Haas);
5. How Great Thou Art;
6. Holy God, We Praise Thy Name;
7. Amazing Grace;
8. All Are Welcome (Marty Haugen);
9. Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace
(Sebastian Temple);
10. Ave Maria (unspecified).

I wonder what your Top Ten would include? Perhaps you might drop us a note and we'll see if we can come up with an Irish list for the next Newsletter. Please send your selection to the ICMA, C/O National Centre for Liturgy, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

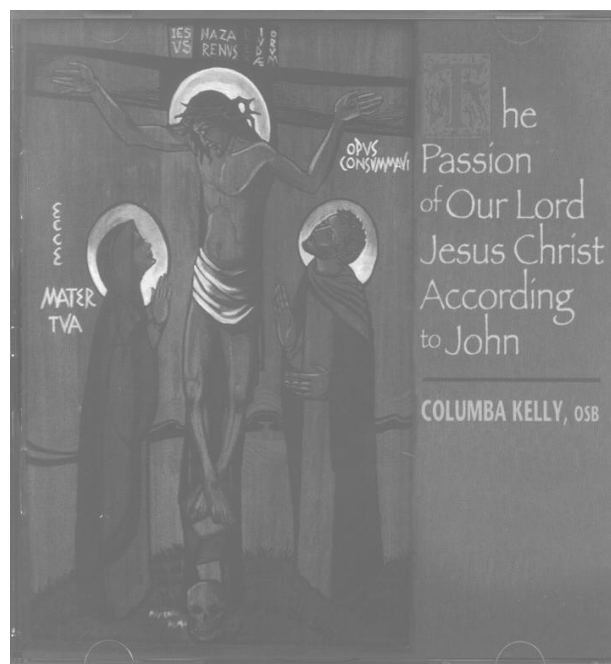


Thanks to Victor Victorino, Director of Music in Kilmore Diocese for the following information:

The Notre Dame Centre for Liturgy during its 34th June Conference from June 19th -21st this year

will present the **MATHIS AWARD** to **Father Jan Michael Joncas**. The Award is presented to a person who has made a significant contribution to the renewal of the Liturgy in the United States and is in Honour of Fr. Michael Mathis, C.S.C. who began the Graduate School of Liturgy at Notre Dame. **Michael is being honoured for his contributions as Teacher, Scholar and Musician.** We send him our congratulations and Best Wishes for his continued good health and recovery.

Some recently released recordings and music books may be of interest to our members:

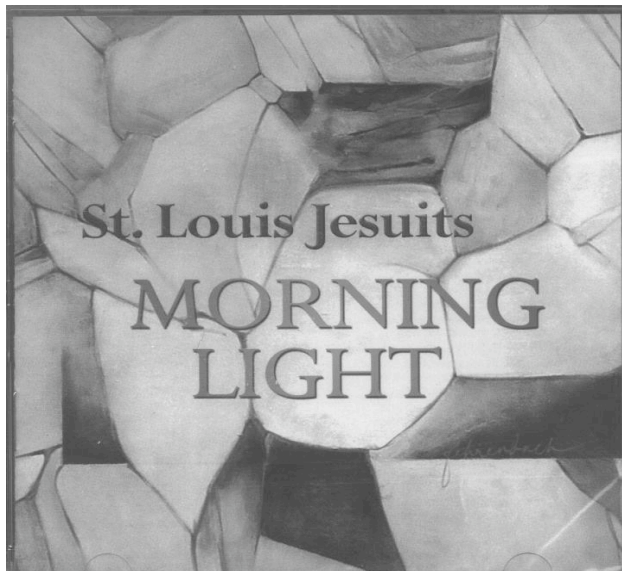


Father Kelly's setting stands out for its ingenious adaptation of the traditional chant to the inflections and rhythms of modern English. One of the world's most respected Gregorian chant experts, Dom Columba Kelly has set the text of St. John's Passion to the traditional, ancient tone for this proclamation. Combining ancient and modern styles, Father Kelly's setting stands out for its ingenious adaptation of the traditional chant to the inflections and rhythms of modern English. The music is conveniently divided into scenes to assist the singers when practicing and proclaiming the Passion. Singing parts are for two narrators (medium voice), Christus (bass), and various individuals (tenor or soprano).

Group parts, such as the crowd and the soldiers at the cross, may be sung in unison but have optional three-part choral settings, as featured on the CD. All parts are *a cappella*. An excellent rehearsal tool, **the beautifully recorded CD makes inspiring devotional listening, especially during Lent.**

"The words of the text should communicate the vitality and mystery of the Lord's Passion and Death," explains Benedictine Father Harry Hagan in the introduction. Simple, poignant and meticulously crafted, Father Kelly's setting does just that, showcasing the mystical power of St. John's Passion.

OCP CD 20016.



Twenty years after releasing their last collection, the **St. Louis Jesuits** are back! Composers of some of the most beloved liturgical music ever written, the group—Dan Schutte, Tim Manion and Jesuit Fathers Roc O’Connor, John Foley and Bob Dufford—has come together to produce *Morning Light*, a reunion collection of hope-filled songs for Sunday liturgies, funerals, retreats, prayer services and other celebrations.

Featuring 12 newly written songs, three by each member of the group (except Manion), they still have that uncanny ability to set Scripture-based texts to beautiful, accessible, innovative melodies that fit and enhance the liturgy—and touch the hearts of today’s worshipers.

Reflecting 20 years of spiritual and musical growth, these new compositions have a depth, maturity and humility that modern assemblies will appreciate. Suitable for gathering, preparation of the gifts, Communion, sending forth and other parts of the liturgy, the songs cover a variety of themes, including trust in the Lord, discipleship, light, hope, love and praise. Highlights include “Gather the People,” by Dan Schutte. A spirited, syncopated entrance hymn, it builds slowly toward a grand, full-choir finale that can’t help but draw the entire assembly—“the greatest and the least”—into full participation. Featuring gentle violin and acoustic guitar parts and based on a text by St. Augustine, “O Beauty, Ever Ancient,” by Roc O’Connor, challenges us to find renewal and “new life” in God. “Behind and Before Me,” by Bob Dufford, is an exquisite setting of Psalm 139. It reassures us of God’s intimacy—and recalls our limited ability to grasp it. Opening with a lovely prelude for trumpets, “Teach Us to Pray,” by John Foley, invokes the Holy Spirit’s help in prayer and all we do. Inspired by Romans 8, this simple hymn is a timely reminder that “all things work for good.”

The CD makes for inspirational and prayerful

listening. Just as sunlight in the morning dispels the darkness of night, so *Morning Light* uplifts and encourages—through both text and melody— offering hope in a sometimes dark and troubled world.

CD OCP12791, Music Collection OCP 12790

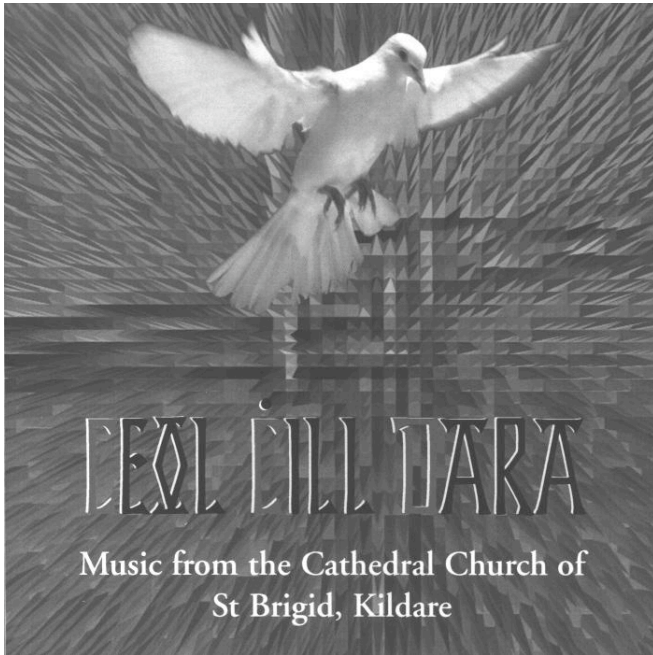


In the early 1970s, some handwritten, mimeographed songs by a group of young Jesuits spread from a chapel in St. Louis to churches around the world. “Here I Am, Lord,” “Be Not Afraid,” and many others have become some of the most beloved songs for worship ever written. Now for the first time, *The St. Louis Jesuits: Thirty Years* tells the fascinating story behind the five men who became the St. Louis Jesuits and the music of hope that is their legacy.

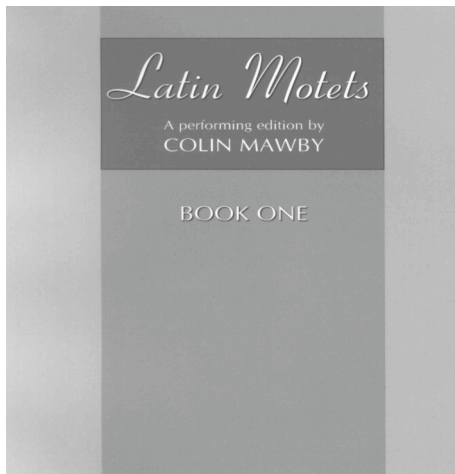
Packed with dozens of color and black-and-white photographs, letters, interviews, and other memorabilia on high-quality, glossy paper, this **beautifully designed coffee table book** is an intimate portrait of the group. “We’ve all prayed with their music, and so we know the gift it offers,” writes Rev. Virgil Funk in the introduction. “With this book, we catch a glimpse of the composers and their texts, both then and now.”

The St. Louis Jesuits: Thirty Years documents the magic of their past and present collaboration— and the changing face of the church that has supported them through three decades. An excellent gift for pastoral musicians, the book will be of interest to all who have been touched by their music.

OCP edition 6144

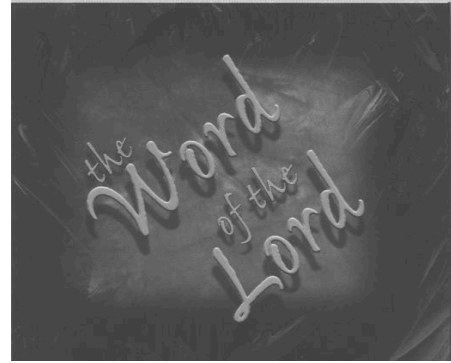


This recently released CD from St. Brigid's Church of Ireland Cathedral in Kildare is under the direction of Derek Verso, one of our Organ Tutors at last year's Summer School. It contains some interesting Medieval Irish Plainchant for the Feast of St. Brigid, some of the great standard repertoire from Stanford, Parry and Howells and it also contains an arrangement of O'Riada's Ag Criost an Síol by Mark Armstrong. The Organ also features in some solo tracks played by David Bremner joined by Constance Gardiner, Violin, on two tracks.



A two volume collection of Latin Motets has been edited by Colin Mawby and published by Kevin Mayhew Publications. They contain many jewels that will be familiar to some of our older members and which provide a wonderful treasury of simple four part motets which can add so much to our Choral contributions to the liturgy. The pieces are not beyond the average parish choir who will enjoy the challenge. This music was the staple diet of many Catholic choirs before the liturgical reforms after Vatican II, yet this music can still play a part in our

liturgical celebrations today. Between the two volumes there are 74 pieces including settings of Ave Maria by Elgar, Bach-Gounod, Bruckner, Max Bruch, Schubert and Arcadelt, Ave Verum by Elgar, Mozart, Gounod, Byrd, and Mawby, Regina Caeli by Lotti, Aichinger and Webbe, Cantate Domino by Pitoni and Croce plus many more. Well worth investigating as much of this music is not otherwise available and Colin Mawby is to be commended for bringing this project to print.



Cloyne Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation has produced a wonderful resource book for Ministers of the Word. The *Word of the Lord* provides brief information and a practical step-by-step guide on how to be a Minister of God's Word. It is a full-colour 32 page booklet published in the light of the recently issued General Instruction of the Roman Missal. There is a companion publication *The Ministry of the Word – A Compilation of Sources* which seeks to explain and give the source of many terms in *The Word of the Lord*. **Both books are published as a pack and cost just €8 plus postage.** These would make an excellent gift to all involved in the liturgy, not just those who are called to exercise this important ministry. Highly recommended.

Available from Cloyne Diocesan Centre, Cobh, Co. Cork. 012-481 1430, email: cloyne@indigo.ie

