

Visit of the Eucharistic Congress Bell to Dungarvan, 31st December 2011.



Stations where people are invited to ring the Bell

Please God, we will welcome the Eucharistic Congress Bell to Dungarvan on Saturday, December 31, 2011. Ireland last hosted the International Eucharistic Congress in 1932 and so the visit of the Bell will begin at Congress Villas which is called after the 1932 gathering. The Congress Emblem can be seen on the front of the houses.

The Bell will arrive at Congress Villas at 3.00 pm on December 31st. It will then be brought to a number of places/stations in Dungarvan.



- 3.00 pm - Station 1: Congress Villas.**
- 3.15 pm - Station 2: Western Bay.**
- 3.25 pm - Station 3: Childers Estate.**
- 3.35 pm - Station 4: Boreenatra.**
- 3.50 pm - Station 5: Youghal Road Junction Mitchell Street.**
- 4.00 pm - Station 6: Wolfe Tone Road.**
- 4.10 pm - Station 7: Byrneville Junction, Shandon Street.**



- 4.30 pm - Station 8: Shopping Centre.**
- 5.15 pm - Station 9: Grattan Square.**
- 5.45 pm - Station 10: The Friary Church.**
- 6.15 pm - Vigil Mass in The Friary Church.**
- 7.15 pm - Station 11: St. Mary's Parish Church.**
- 7.30 pm - Vigil Mass in St. Mary's Parish Church.**
- 9.00 pm - Hour of Prayer and Thanks in St. Mary's.**



TO WELCOME THE BELL AND SAY A PRAYER, PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO BE AT THE STATION NEAREST TO YOU.

On the 17th of March last, the day on which the Eucharistic Congress Bell began its pilgrimage throughout Ireland, Cardinal Séan Brady said in Armagh: "The Congress Bell is not a megaphone shouting for attention above all the other noise of our lives. It is not even a special ring tone designed to stand out from the crowd. It is a simple bell that tolls softly. It invites each one of us to quietly think again about the faith that brought courage, peace and hope to so many generations of Irish people at home and across the world. For those who have forgotten or rejected their faith, it is a gentle call to give faith in Jesus Christ and in His Word another chance."

1932 and 2012.

The 31st International Congress in 1932 was a most important event in Irish life. For many years afterwards, people often dated events and personal happenings either before or after the Congress. Nobody ever had to ask what 'The Congress' meant. We pray that the 50th International Eucharistic Congress in 2012 will be such a turning point in Irish life, a great moment of renewal of faith for the people of Ireland.

The Bell in Irish History

Over the centuries the bell has been used to ring out our faith. It is said that St. Patrick gave a bell to each local church, and according to legend, a bell was instrumental in bringing St. Declan to Ardmore. Church bells still ring out to invite us to Mass. The Angelus Bell tolls each day, inviting us to reflect on the Word made Flesh and living among us. During the visit of the Congress Bell we will ring out the old year and ring in the new. May each one of us take to heart this greeting: 'Keep the smile, leave the tear. Think of joy, forget the fear. Hold the laugh, leave the pain. Be joyous, because it's the new year.'

'Lord Jesus....May the Holy Spirit inflame our hearts, enliven our hope and open our minds, so that together with our sisters and brothers in faith we may recognise you in the Scriptures and in the breaking of bread.'
(from the Eucharistic Congress Prayer)

Jesus says: 'Do this in memory of me'...
He invites us to recognise what He has done for us. He loved us to the end, to the extent of remaining with us in every time and place in the Eucharist. This is the incredible gift He has left us. This is the promise He has made us.

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Invitation

We are delighted to invite the people of Dungarvan and surrounding areas to join with us in welcoming the Eucharistic Congress Bell to our parish. The sound of the bell is an invitation to gather, to pray, to say thanks for the gift of Holy Communion and to look forward to next year's International Eucharistic Congress in Dublin, June 10 – 17, 2012. We invite you to welcome and ring the bell at one of the 11 stations around the town.

Fr. Paul Waldron, Fr. Matthew Cooney OSA, Fr. Willie Ryan

