



Family Fun Day at Flancare Park

Sunday August 7th was Family Day at Flancare Park organised by Pascal Flaherty, Padraig Farrell and a host of willing volunteers in aid of the Cathedral Restoration Reserve Fund. Cathedral sacristan Gerry Reilly and his helpers prepared a lovely altar that had been erected by Frank McKiernan for our Sunday Mass on the hallowed pitch of Longford Town Football Club.

Following Mass celebrated by Bishop Colm O'Reilly the day swung into action under the baton of MC Benny O'Brien, with a wonderful line up of talent from the region. Children enjoyed bouncy castles, had their faces painted, munched on tasty food and then with their families danced, clapped and sang to the music. And what a line up we had! Chart topper Larry Cunningham wowed the crowds with his familiar country songs and the Wee Amigos stole the hearts of all with their 'Galway Girl' and 'Say you Love me'. Seamus Moore the JCB Man did his JCB song and had everyone rolling in the stand with 'My Little Honda Fifty'. Tiernan Dolan's



photos capture some of the atmosphere of enjoyment. Many other artistes regaled the crowds and the success of the day was due in no small measure to the hard behind the scenes work of many people. Our heartfelt thanks to members of Longford Town F.C., Brendan Gilmore, Security, all the entertainers and all who attended. It was a wonderful Family Day and over €1500 was raised for the Reserve Fund on the day.



Faithful to the past - building for the future

Restoration Reserve Fund

As the Cathedral Restoration Project continues to develop it is evident that we will have to carry some costs which will fall outside our insurance claim.

While the fire was a great disaster, it is also an opportunity to develop the building for the future. Such improvements are known as enhancement or betterment. Examples include - improved toilet facilities, improved landscaping, provision of lifts, etc.

We have continued to receive generous donations from the public throughout 2011. These funds are held in the name of 'Friends of St. Mel's Cathedral' and are overseen by the Parish Finance Committee. Donations have now reached €542,000.

If you wish to donate, you can do so:

**By Post to Friends of St. Mel's Cathedral,
The Presbytery, St. Mel's Cathedral, Longford.**

**By Bank Transfer to
Bank of Ireland, Longford Sort Code: 90-17-73 Account No: 41420562**

Please let us know you have made a donation as we would like to acknowledge your contribution. You can contact us at stmelcathedral@eircom.net

Longford Parish Finance Committee: Pat Chapman, Mary Donlon, Francis Hanley, Fr. Thomas Healy, Tom Mulligan, Evelyn Quinn

"Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart, and wait for the LORD" (Psalm 27:14)

St Anne's Parish Community
In association with Friends of St. Mel's Cathedral, Longford
Dance and Social
on
Saturday 26th February 2011
at
St Anne's Parish Centre, Alcester St, B12 0PB
Dancing to **LITTLE JIMMY**,
and friends
Tickets £4 Doors open at 8pm
Tombola and Raffle during the evening

Birmingham Dance

Monsignor Pat Browne originally from Ferbane, Co. Offaly is a priest in St. Anne's Parish, Alcester Street, Birmingham. In the Springtime, his parish hosted a fundraising dance in their local Parish Centre in aid of St. Mel's Cathedral Restoration Reserve Fund. It was fantastic to see so many warm hearted people getting together to help raise money for the Restoration Reserve Fund.

Fr. Tom Healy attended the function on behalf of the Parish and proceeds amounted to €2,442 - sincere thanks to all.