

The Dominicans erect memorial stone in city

By LAURA RYAN

A MEMORIAL stone bearing the names of 13 departed priests who are buried in the Dominican church grounds in Glentworth Street has just been erected.

The inspiration of the Dominican Pastoral

Council, the stone commemorates the burial vault which contains a veritable history of the Dominicans since their move to Glentworth Street. According to present prior and parish priest, Rev Dermot Brennan, who blessed the stone, many passers-by were unaware of "the venerable spot".

"All 13 Dominicans

died between 1818 and 1949 and are buried under the main church aisle or in the crypt," said Rev Brennan, who carried out a lot of research on the priests' lives.

"Not a lot of people knew about that, so it was decided to erect a memorial stone in their memory."

A number of Limerick

priests are buried including Fr Simon Harrigan, who is buried under the central aisle and built the present church. Also buried are former Priors, Fr William McDonnell, Fr Luke Conway and Bishop James Carbery, who was described as having "priestly zeal which made him extremely popular with all classes

and sects".

His wish was to be buried among his "beloved people" of his adopted city, Limerick, and his funeral was described at the time as one of the biggest ever seen in the city.

Other Dominicans remembered include Br Henry O'Carroll, Fr Michael Duhig, Fr John McGovern, Fr Stephen

O'Kelly, Fr Augustine O'Quigly, Fr Damian O'Connell, Fr Benedict Costelloe and Fr Jordan Noonan, a relative of Limerick politician, Michael Noonan.

"People of Limerick, as you pass by, pray for these faithful sons of St Dominic and the sons of Limerick who lie buried beneath your feet," concluded Rev Brennan.