

For whom the bells tolls

DONAL O'REGAN

donal.oregan@limerickleader.ie

THE BENEDICTINE monks of Glenstal Abbey installed four new bells that will be tolling long after all of us are gone to our God.

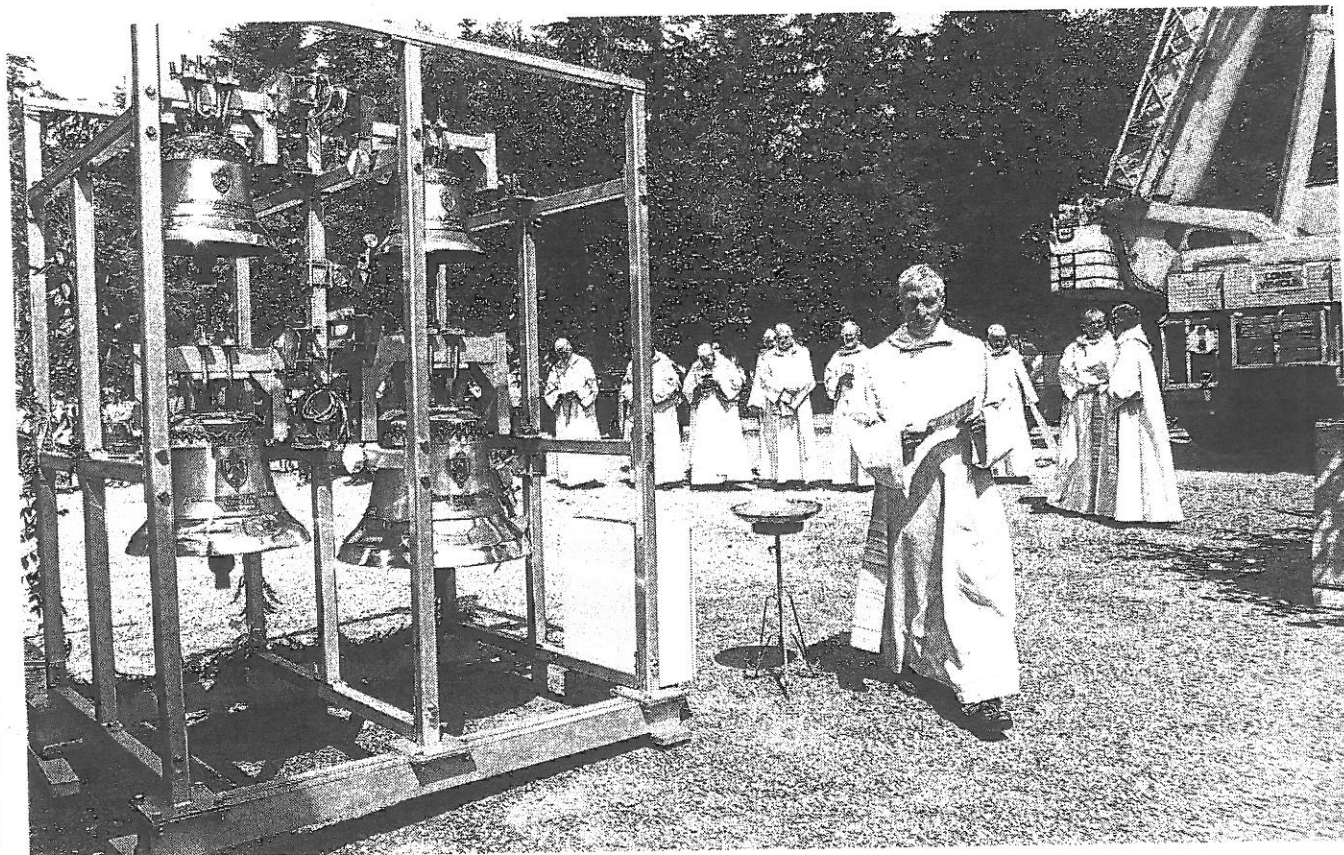
The custom made set were blessed by Abbot Brendan Coffey on the perfect day - the feast of St Benedict last Wednesday. Br Martin Browne, bursar, said bells are important instruments in a monastery!

"There was quite a lot of excitement in the community about the new bells. Bells do, after all, play a big part in ordering the day in a monastery. They call us to prayer several times a day; they are pealed at times of joy on big feasts and at professions of monks; and of course they are tolled solemnly to mark the deaths of monks.

"We've had a number of bells in the church for many years that were acquired at different times and weren't ever intended to ring together. When they are all rung together they can sound a bit like a lot of pots and pans being clattered! So it is wonderful to now have a set of four bells that were made for us and that sound well together," said Br Martin.

After the blessing ceremony they were lifted by crane and placed on top of the library, beside the church.

"The bells look very beautiful, and because they are outside, we can see them easily. It is traditional for



Fr Simon Sleeman, headmaster of Glenstal Abbey School, at the blessing ceremony of their custom made bronze bells PICTURE: DAVE GAYNOR

bells to be named. The four are called Benedict after the author of the Rule followed by us and all Benedictines, Scholastica, his sister, Joseph and Columba, the two patron saints of the monastery," explained Br Martin. Each bell is adorned with an image of the saint whose name it bears. A short phrase connected with the saint or with the bell's function of calling the people of God to worship is placed beneath the image.

A lot of work has been completed on their church in recent years and it was Abbot Brendan's idea to further enrich their common prayer by getting a set of new bells. A frequent guest and very generous donor to Glenstal from America readily agreed to cover the cost.

"One of the very few bell manufacturers in Europe, the Jan Felczynski Bell Foundry in Poland, have an agent in Ireland, and after some discussions a plan was

put together for a set of four bells, to be cast in bronze. The moulds were created just before Christmas last year and the bells were cast in the spring, but we decided to wait until St Benedict's Day to install them," said Br Martin.

The bells are fully automated. All four can be swung, and two of them can also be struck to create single chimes. On ordinary week days, only one bell at a time will be rung - to call the

monks to the church for each of the offices that they sing each day, to ring the Angelus three times a day, and also, for the first time, to chime the hours and half-hours throughout the day. On Sundays, two, and sometimes three bells will be rung at a time, and on important feasts all four will be rung together.

"We are hopeful that they will be ringing out over Glenstal and Murroe for many years to come," said Br Martin.

"Nutritious, convenient and delicious" meals for a good cause

ANTHONY GEOGHEGAN

anthony.geoghegan@limerickleader.ie

THE OWNER of Go Gym in Coonagh and the Good Food outlet have launched a campaign to raise funds for Cliona's Foundation.

Leanne Moore, an ambassador for the Limerick-based charity, was eager to incorporate her healthy lifestyle to help others.

"I am passionate about taking care of myself, and as a trainer, I am also passionate about taking care of other people," she said.

Moore and Good Foods have prepared "nutritious, convenient and delicious" meals, where for every one of the meals sold, one euro will be donated to Cliona's Foundation.

The meals will be available for purchase in the months of

August and September.

Brendan Ring, the co-founder of Cliona's Foundation was delighted with Leanne's unwavering support.

"Funds generated will help us support some of the 18 families we currently have on our waiting list along with increasing our profile to the Good Food Outlet customer base and Leanne's many followers," he explained.



Pat and Mary Power, Good Food Outlet, Leanne Moore, Go Gym, Brendan and Terry Ring, co-founders Cliona's Foundation (back) with fitness model Eamonn Baggott, rugby star, Richard Lynch and Cliona's Foundation ambassador Joy Neville and fitness trainer Colm Moran (front)

PICTURE: ZOE CONWAY/LOVELIMERICK

INDEX

ABBEYFEALE	23
ADARE	19
AHANE-CASTLECONNELL	30
ANGLESBORO-KILBEHENNY	29
ARDAGH-CARRICKERRY	21
ARDPATRICK	28
ATHEA	24
BALLINVREENA	28
BALLYBRICKEN-BOHERMORE	32
BALLYLANDERS	28
BALLYNEETY	32
BROADFORD	24
BRUFF	25
BRUREE	25
CAHERCONLISH	32
CAPPAGH	20
CAPPAMORE	31
CASTLEMAHON-FEONANAGH	22
CASTLETOWN-BALLYAGRAN	25
CLARINA	19
CORPUS CHRISTI	34
CROOM	26
DROMCOLLOGHER	24
DROMKEEN-KITEELY	31
DROMIN-ATHLACCA	26
FEENAGH-KILMEEDY	22
GALBALLY	29
GLENROE-BALLYORGAN	29
GLIN	23
GRANAGH	26
HERBERTSTOWN	27
HOSPITAL	27
KILCORNAN	19
KILDIMO	19
KILLEEDY	22
KILFINANE	28
KILLALOE-BALLINA	33
KILMALLOCK	25
KNOCKLONG-GLENBROHANE	29
LATTIN-CULLEN	27
LOUGHILL-BALLYHAHILL	20
MEELICK-PARTEEN	33
MITCHELSTOWN	29
MONAGEA	21
MONALEEN	34
MOUNTCOLLINS	23
MURROE	30
NEWCASTLE WEST	21
NEWPORT	30
OOLA	31
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY	34
PALLASGREEN	31
PALLASKENRY	19
PATRICKSWELL	20
RAHEEN	35
RATHKEALE	20
ST JOHN'S	34
ST MARY'S	35
ST NICHOLAS'	34
ST PAUL'S	35
TARBERT	24
TEMPLEGLANTINE	22
TOURNAFULLA	23

**HAVE AN
ITEM FOR
THE NOTES?
CONTACT US**

community@limerickleader.ie
061 214510