

LIMERICK LEADER

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City of sorrow



ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT: Rt Rev Edward Darling, Church of Ireland Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, leads a procession of Catholic prelates including Bishop John Magee, Limerick's Apostolic Administrator, at the obsequies at St John's Cathedral. (LL)

By PADDY MORONEY

LIMERICK pays its final farewell to Bishop Jeremiah Newman this Friday afternoon, with the faithful of the diocese joining leaders of church and state at the funeral inside St John's Cathedral.

The Government is being strongly represented at the obsequies, along with local public institutions.

The concelebrated requiem Mass, led by Bishop John Magee, is being followed immediately by the funeral.

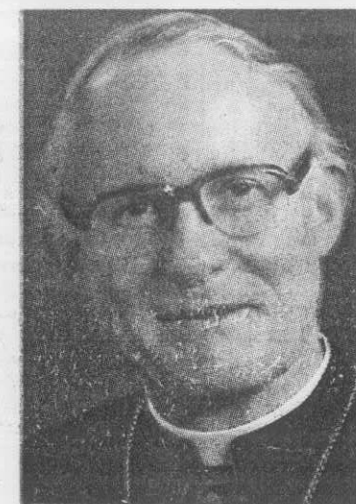
The Bishop's remains are being laid to rest in a burial chamber, which was being excavated during the past few days from underneath the cathedral floor, on front of a side-altar.

Throughout this Thursday, the people of the diocese filed past the open casket before the high altar, in tribute to Dr Newman, who was held in much affection in parishes all over the city, particularly those where he opened new churches and schools.

This Thursday night, at 8 pm, a brief but well-attended ceremony of hymns and antiphons—the Office of the Dead—was led by the Cathedral Chapter, coordinated by Archdeacon Michael Manning PP VF, St Munchin's.

The heavy attendance at the cathedral, since the removal of remains on Wednesday night, is

Cathedral funeral of Bishop Newman



A man with the courage of his convictions: Dr. Newman. (LL)

seen as a mark of esteem for the Bishop, who was seen as essentially a man of the people.

This was the central point of agreement by those who publicly paid tribute to. Although he had a strong academic background, as distinct from a pastoral one, prior to his appointment to Limerick from Maynooth, he was from the very

beginning a very approachable prelate to all and very far from being aloof.

All who spoke of him were united in acknowledging his absolute devotion to the Catholic church and its social dimension throughout Limerick city and county.

Bishop Newman died in a first-floor private ward in St John's Cathedral, only minutes before 9 pm on Monday, as he slept quietly, as the Rosary was being recited by priests of the diocese—close friends and a cousin, Mrs Dorothy Cantrell, seated around his bed. It is thought that he expired about the middle of the fifth decade.

He had quietly marked his 69th birthday only three days previously.

Dr Newman was one of the most outspoken prelates Limerick has had this century, being compared after his death to the late Bishop O'Dwyer beside whom his body is being laid in the cathedral.

Bishop O'Dwyer earned the gratitude of his people when he spoke out against the excesses of the British militia on the population during the Terror, 1919-'21.

But Bishop Newman's statements were more socially-aligned than political, not that he hesitated to speak out against any Government which, in his view, compromised the moral welfare of Catholics.

And when it came to the status of Shannon as an employer

• P7

Weather

HIGH pressure is set to dominate the weather trends in the Limerick city area over the weekend with

plenty of sunny spells. While there may be some mist or fog at night, no rain is predicted.

Limerick
bomb
squad
disbanded

THE LIFE AND DEATH
OF BISHOP NEWMAN:
PAGES 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Council comments

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