

An Tathair Peadar Ó Láimhín **18th October 1929 – 17th April 2020**

Canon Peadar was born in Ballyfarnon, Co Roscommon on 18th October 1929. Son of Peter & Delia Lavin and brother of the late Andy. He received his primary school education in Knockvicar National School and his secondary education in the College of the Immaculate Conception, Summerhill, Sligo. Following completion of his Secondary Education, he entered St Patricks College, Maynooth, as a student for the priesthood and he was ordained priest on the 19th June, 1955.



Following his ordination, the young Fr. Peadar studied for the Higher Diploma in Education. He then went on loan to the neighbouring Diocese of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise, where he joined the teaching staff of St Mary's College, Moyne. In 1959 he returned to his Alma Mater, Summerhill and joined its teaching staff. He was to be a teacher of Irish there for 21 years.

In 1980 he was appointed principal of St Mary's College, Boyle, and in 1988 he became Parish Priest of Boyle. In 1998 he moved to Maugherow, Co Sligo as Parish Priest serving there till 2001. In 2001 he became Parish Priest of Knockcroghery where he served till his retirement in January 2011.

Following his retirement, Canon Lavin moved to Roscommon Town where he lost none of his pastoral zeal and did not show any sign of a diminution in his energy. He provided weekend cover for colleagues and when not assisting elsewhere was present almost daily for Mass in the Sacred Heart Hospital con celebrating there with Fr Sean.

Despite the challenges of ill health over the last number of years, he never let it beat him, but faced it down in his usual style and determination, always returning to his home in Sleevinagee to live independently. Up until recent weeks, he was still regularly visiting the sick in hospital and in their homes and those who had suffered bereavement's. Part of his weekly routine consisted of driving out visiting each of the schools in Knockcroghery Parish on a sperate day of the week and also the Gael Scoil in Roscommon, where he loved to use his Gaeilge. This love of the teanga was nurtured each year for almost 55 years with his yearly visit each July to Inis Meain. Despite official retirement in 2011, he never left the vineyard of the Lord.

Peadar had a deep and close relationship with his family, which he nurtured daily with phone calls and visits and the cup of tea. He will be deeply missed by his nephew and nieces and grand nephews and niece and wide circle of friends. To all who knew Peadar he had a deep grá for his birth place of Ballyfarnon and the club of St Ronan's, both of which were central to the lifelong friends he held and cherished from there.

He died in the gentle and loving care of the staff of the Sacred Heart Hospital, gently giving up his spirit and returning to the house of the Father on the 17th of April 2020.

Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís.