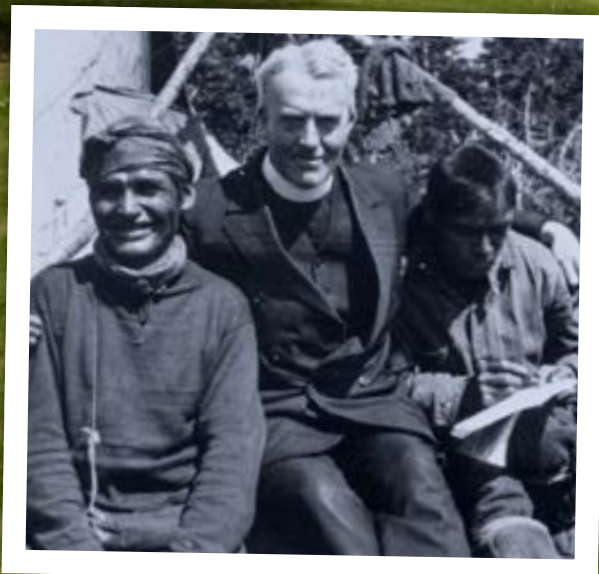


All Hallows College

174 years of Service and Faith



Georgina Lawlor.



Special feature on the heritage and legacy of a cherished institution

Unique All Hallows

On May 27, 2014, when All Hallows College in Drumcondra, Dublin announced plans to wind down its operations, there was a huge public and media reaction to the news. The college received volumes of phone calls, emails, letters, many in disbelief that such a stalwart institution of North Dublin was finally succumbing to financial and economic pressure and closing its doors.

Here we look at the rich heritage and legacy of All Hallows, which gives some insight into the affection and academic regard in which the college was held.



What was special or different about All Hallows?

From Go Teach All Nations in 1842 to Education for Leadership and Service in 2016 – the language may have changed but over 174 years the All Hallows mission remained routed in

educating students to serve those in need - the poor and the disenfranchised in our society.

The Vincentian values of ethical leadership and service to others translated into a care for and attention to the individual – and encouraged what former staff member, Jay Shanahan calls “a reverence

“If you want to educate people to make a difference, that difference is something they must find themselves”

for the person – reaching out to those less fortunate and nurturing those around you”. Other staff members echo this. Gillian O’Sullivan, Head of Human Resources says: “What is important is doing something that matters and has value – I always felt that in All Hallows, I was doing something that was

They came to All



Alan Bennett

Alan returned to education as a mature student and graduated from All Hallows with a degree in Theology and Psychology.

In his final year, Alan presented a comprehensive study on Vicarious Trauma that was commended at the 2014 National Conference of the Psychological Society of Ireland.

Following his degree, Alan pursued a Postgraduate programme in Psychotherapy at Dublin City University.

Alan’s work brings him directly to those most vulnerable in the community.

With the Peter McVerry Trust, Alan works with young people at risk of homelessness and the harm caused by drug misuse and social disadvantage. He supports adolescents in residential care with the HSE and Tusla, the Child and Family Agency. Alan also works as a Psychotherapist with the suicide prevention organisation, Sosad Ireland.

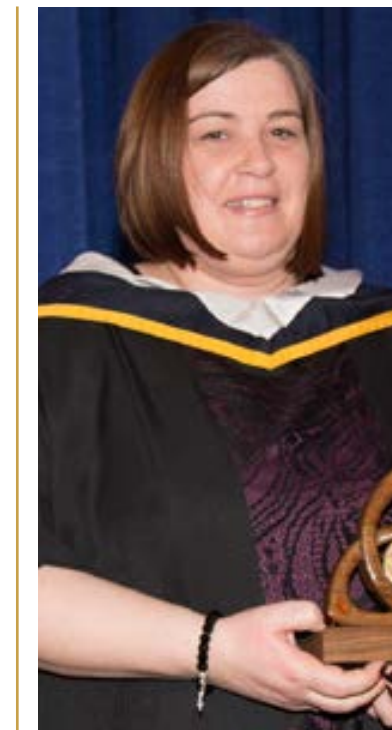
making a difference somewhere.”

Dean of Studies at All Hallows, Andrew O’Regan talks about its holistic approach to education. “If you want to educate people to make a difference, that difference is something they must find themselves – I would always be cautious about an education

Hallows... and made a difference!



A graduation ceremony and some of those who studied at All Hallows.



Anne Marie Whelan

Mary explains what attending All Hallows has meant to her: “I came to All Hallows College in 2009 taking a huge leap of faith as a mature student. I found in All Hallows not just an academic institution, but a real community – a family. The four years I spent there gave me the knowledge and courage to journey with others of all ages.

“I graduated in 2013 with a BA Hons in Theology and Psychology, and received the President’s Prize for Leadership and Service.

“The encouragement that I gained in All Hallows has led me to work with young adults where each day I make a difference to their faith journey.”

which tells people what that difference must be.” He continues, “The role of education must be to support people through that process. In All Hallows, there was an openness, a willingness to hear and to discourse. Here there was a meaning not available elsewhere.”

Christy Sheridan was a former seminarian at All

Hallows. He left prior to ordination and pursued a career in the Guards. “The Vincentian attitudes filtered down, the notion that everyone has a value, is worth listening to and has a contribution to make. I kept this in civilian life and it was a big help in my work and even in my family life.”

What contributed to the closure?

Although All Hallows adapted and reimagined itself through the years, it was impossible to weather the ‘perfect storm’ of the early 2000s. A combination of falling numbers, a downturn in the economy and changes in educational focus at

governmental level proved to be a tsunami too great for a small third level niche provider.

All Hallows did engage in various strategies to achieve increased and consistent income. John Keaveney, Finance Director, mentions work done to widen the course range, secure professional body accreditation, salary cutbacks

and fundraising drives that were all pursued in recent years. But such a large campus needed at least to double its student body to survive. He uses the analogy of a rolls-royce engine driving a mini car – it was just far too big for the student body it accommodated.

Jim Lillis, member of the Board

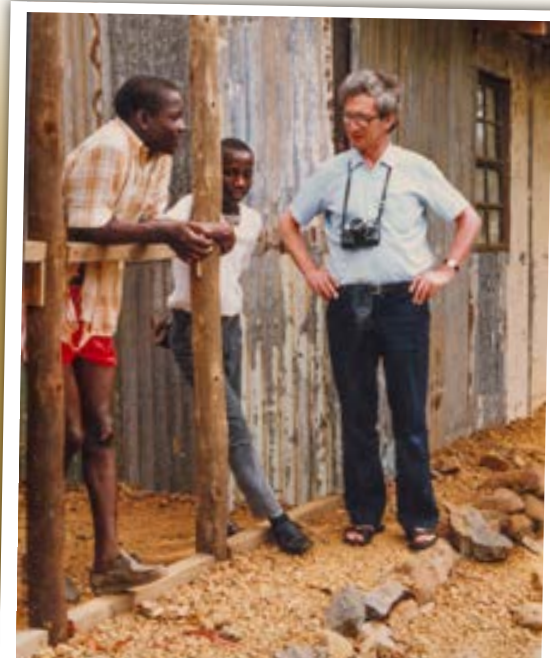
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Fr John Hand.



ALLA MAURIA, Roscommon.



Ava Battles

Ava Battles graduated from All Hallows with a MA in Management for Community and Voluntary Services.

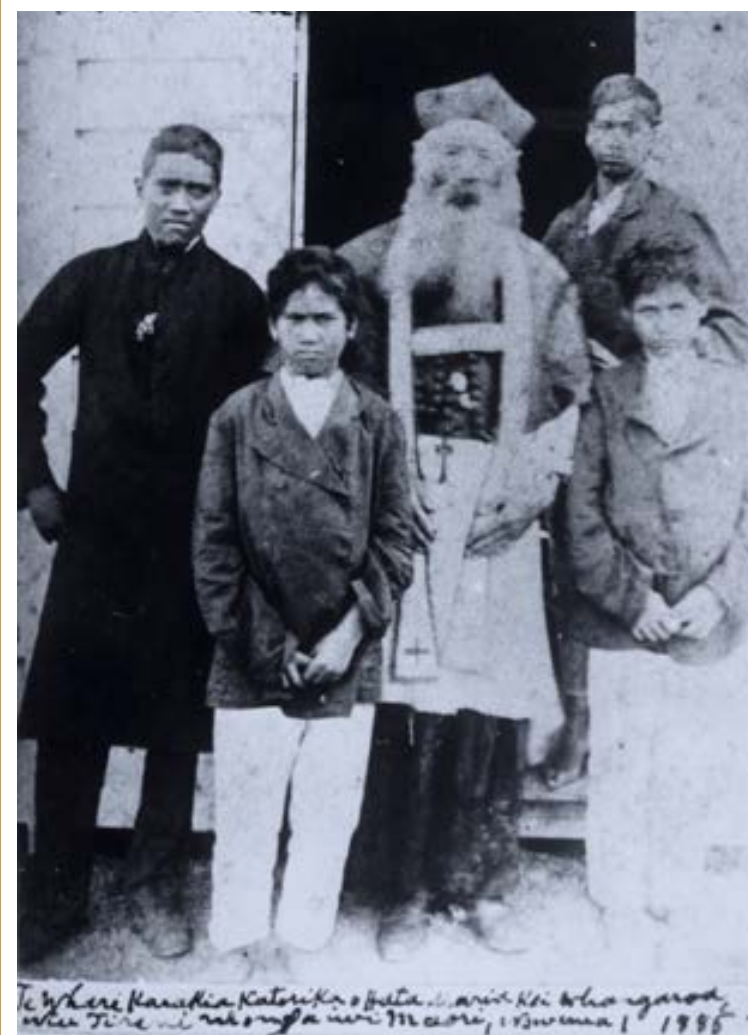
Having a background in health psychology, she has worked in the field of illness and health, determined to produce practical benefits for people and increase their quality of life.

Much of Ava's work with organisations such as ISPPC, Brainwave, the Irish Epilepsy Association and the Carmichael Centre for Voluntary Groups

involved volunteer and staff development, advocacy, outreach, and support services.

Most recently she was appointed Chief Executive of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland, which works with people with MS, their families and carers, health professional, and students.

Ava says that her education and the hands-on experience in the roles she's had have enabled her to make a difference.



James McDonald

James McDonald was ordained in All Hallows in 1851 and travelled to Auckland, New Zealand where he began a lifelong association with the Maori people.

He travelled long distances to visit Maori districts throughout the entire Auckland diocese. In 1883 he was appointed Vicar General for the Maori in the diocese.

Maketenara, the name given to him by his Maori brethren, baptised, married, celebrated Mass, but above all brought the comforts of a priest's presence to Maori Catholics who were almost totally neglected by other priests in the aftermath of the wars of the 1860s.

James is celebrated for being the bridge between pre-war Catholic Maori missions and the Mill Hill fathers who resumed this missionary work in the 1880s.



Robert Walwa and Geraldine Campbell from ALBA.



Fr Leo Close on his ordination day in All Hallows, June 1959 with his mother, Kitty

Fr Leo Close

Born in Dublin in 1934, Fr Leo Close was a young seminarian in All Hallows when he was paralysed in an accident whilst on holiday in France in 1956.

Determined to establish an organisation to support wheelchair users in Ireland, he became the principal energy behind the foundation of the Irish Wheelchair Association and the first wheelchair user in the world to be ordained.

In 1960 he captained the Irish team to the first Paralympic games in Rome, where he competed in archery, table tennis, javelin and shot-putt. He was offered a private audience with Pope John XXIII.

'Fr Leo realised that people in wheelchairs were hidden away behind closed doors and had no say in anything' said his sister, Bernie. 'He believed we had to do something about this'.

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of Governors, points to the focus of the authorities on educational consolidation.

"Many Catholic third level colleges were being absorbed by state institutions," he said.

"Outputs related to secular and profit-making activities were driving values. And there doesn't seem to be any sense of loss at diocesan level, that this is a last opportunity for Catholic education to engage with young adults."

Ruins...or foundations?

The college Trustees made a very deliberate choice in selling the campus to Dublin City University (DCU).

This ensures the continuation of the college as a seat of education in North Dublin. DCU is making significant investments in the campus to preserve the buildings and create a contemporary learning environment for students. The All Hallows campus of DCU now enters another incarnation for the future.



College archive

Greg Harkin devoted 14 years of his retirement working on the archives of All Hallows. The college produced annuals for many of its 174 years, which give a fascinating glimpse of ecclesiastical developments, as well as a snapshot of the economic and social history of the time.

There is also a rich archive of letters, penned by newly-ordained priests from developing dioceses around the world.

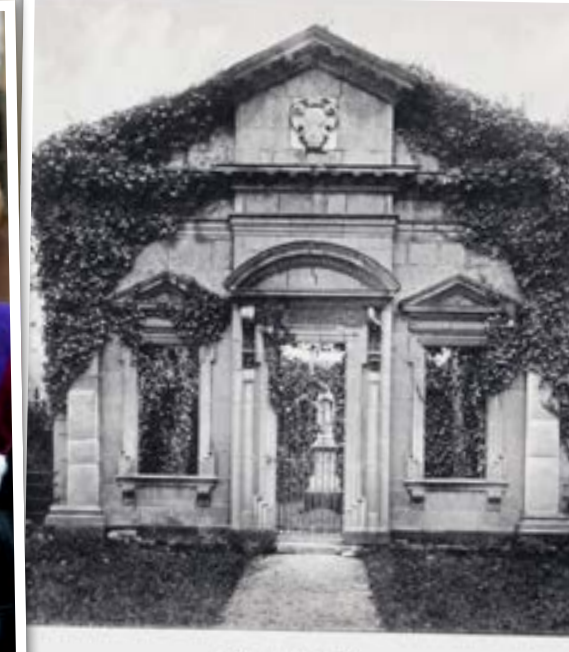
"Sometimes things we may think of as solid or lasting can modify, disappear or transform," says Greg. "There is a rich historical legacy in this correspondence, we are lucky to have this available to us."

The All Hallows College Archives 1842-2016 has been donated to St Patrick's College, Maynooth.

This secures their conservation and curation to full archival standards. Once the necessary cataloguing work has been completed the Archives will be available for academic research.



Michael Shanahan One of the 'greats' of Victoria. Born, Knocklong, 1837; ordained, 1864; died, PP for 47 years of Hamilton, Vic., on Dec. 7, 1934.

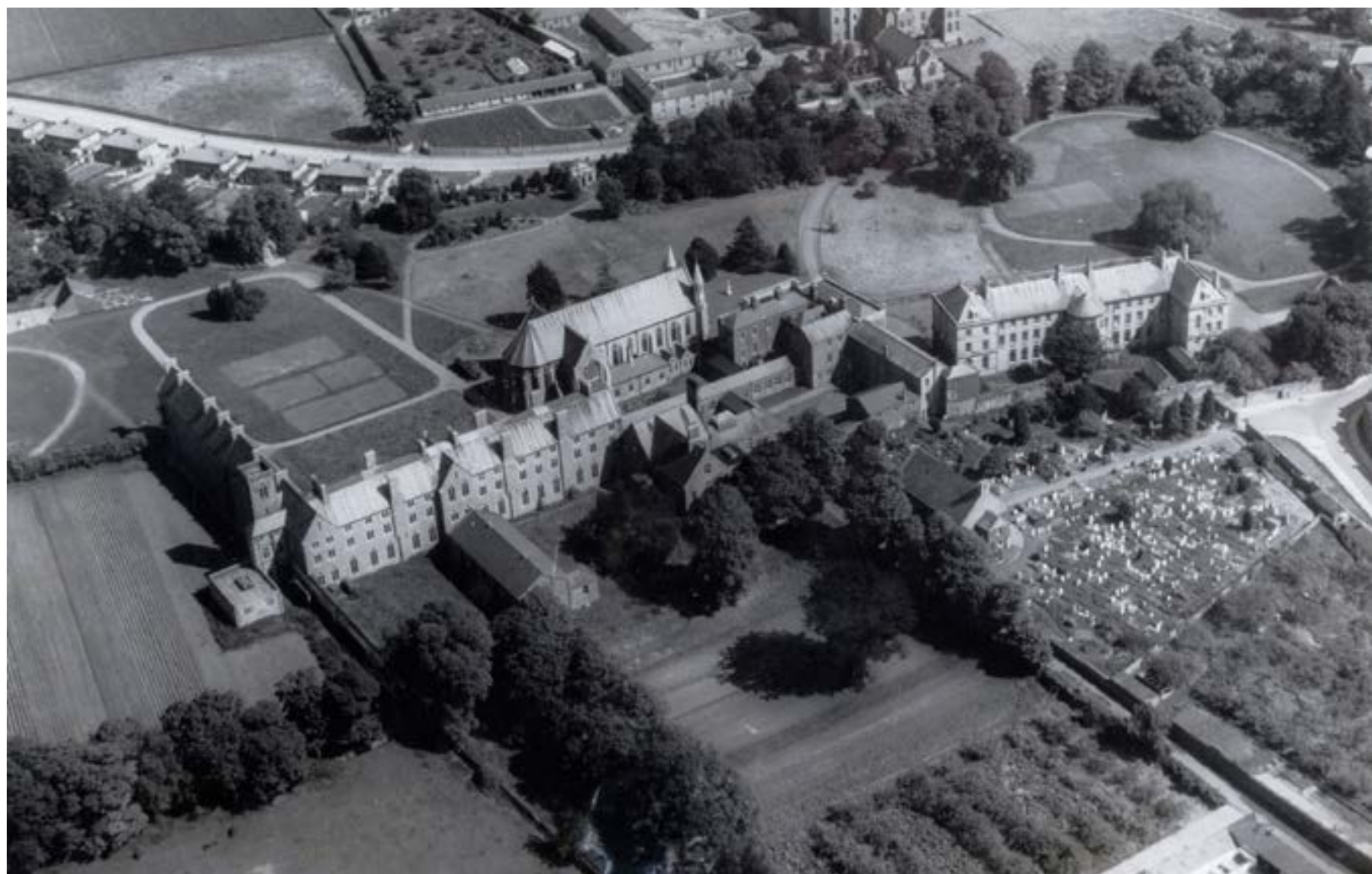


Origins and History

All Hallows was founded by Fr John Hand in 1842. He had a vision of establishing a Catholic Seminary for Foreign Missions. With the support of Archbishop Daniel Murray and Lord Mayor Daniel O'Connell, he secured Drumcondra House and opened the seminary in October 1842 with 11 students.

Fr Hand died in 1846, but the seminary continued to grow, with the increased demand for priests to minister to the Irish diaspora, burgeoning due to the Great Famine. Priests from All Hallows were sought by dioceses throughout the English-speaking world, particularly in America and Australia. By the 1860s, over half of all the priests in Australia were from All Hallows.

Fr Hand was followed by 12 further presidents. In 1892 the Vincentian order took administrative responsibility for the running of the college. From then on, all presidents were Vincentians and the Vincentian values of leadership, social justice and service begin to inform the educational focus of All Hallows.



The Missionary Life

Many priests from All Hallows wrote about their voyages and first impressions of new lands. Their letters contain accounts of long boat journeys, often followed by cross-country treks to their final destinations on horseback, by carriage and later by train.

They also wrote about their experiences, both as ministering priests and as observers of the social history of the day. Some All Hallows priests were witnesses to significant historical events.

Mission took many forms – ministering to those in the developing new worlds of America and Australia, working with the underprivileged or outcasts of society, educating black children during the apartheid regime in South Africa, and more recently, supporting migrants or those suffering from AIDS.



Fr James McDonald and Maori congregation.

Institute for Mission and Ministry

Vocations continued to grow through the first half of the 20th century, peaking in the early 1960s. However, during the 1970s All Hallows faced a major challenge to its mission to fulfil Church, society and community needs as fewer students were studying for the priesthood.

This dramatic drop in vocational applications during the 1970s and 1980s, coupled with increased lay engagement in ministry made All Hallows reimagine its missionary focus in the modern world.

In the early 1980s, the College opened its doors to lay people and to women and introduced a range of new programmes on pastoral leadership, lay ministry and adult faith formation. A sabbatical programme was also developed, offering people the opportunity to take time out and reflect. In the words of the then college president, Fr Kevin Rafferty, CM, All Hallows was finding "a new way of being Church".



Third Level College

In the 1990s, All Hallows completed a successful transition to a third level college. Dublin City University became the awarding body for the increasing range of full- and part-time undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. All Hallows became a linked college of DCU in 2008. The college also established links with sister Vincentian universities De Paul, Chicago, St John's, NY and Niagara NY in the USA.

All Hallows offered postgraduate programmes on Non-Profit Management, Leadership and Pastoral Care, Social Justice, Spirituality, Supervisory Practice, Ecology and Religion as well as research degree options.

Undergraduate degree courses in Theology, Philosophy, Psychology and English Literature all included work placements, often with organisations in the community and voluntary sector.

A School of Adult and Community Learning was established. This empowered students with the skills to promote fairness and equality in society. A new Adult Learning BA for Personal and Professional Development brought second-chance learners back to education.

Over 3,400 students graduated from BA, MA and PhD programmes up to 2016.

Fr Thomas O'Reilly

Fr Thomas O'Reilly, ordained in All Hallows in 1857, was sent to Atlanta, a city central to the American Civil War.

He was Chaplain to Catholics in the Confederate army, although he ministered to both Union and Confederate troops. He helped bring back the wounded and care for them. O'Reilly was known to the men of both armies as a friend to all.

Upon learning of General Sherman's intention to burn the city of Atlanta, he approached Sherman with a demand that all five of the city's churches, as well as its City Hall and Court House, be spared. Sherman acquiesced and, as a result, almost one-third of the city was spared.

A grateful Atlanta placed a monument to him in the grounds of City Hall where it still stands today.



Fr Matthew Gibney

Fr Matthew Gibney, ordained in All Hallows in 1863, was a pioneer priest in the Australian bush, noted for his energy and resilience. While collecting funds for one of his orphanages in 1880, his train passed through Glenrowan during the Kelly Gang siege. Gibney left the train and entered the blazing hotel. He heard Ned Kelly's confession and gave him and the other gang members the last rites.

He was appointed Bishop of Perth in 1886 and commenced an extensive expansion programme in the diocese, tripling its churches and schools and building a hospital, an asylum, a college and a monastery.

Gibney was a champion of the Aborigine people and secured land and resources to establish an Aboriginal mission. He was also a strong advocate for education and civic engagement for the working classes.





Four All Hallows PhD graduates relax with a cup of tea before conferring in October 2011 and, left, All Hallows was a very busy college.

Academic and educational programmes

With the formal closure of the teaching activities of All Hallows College on November 30, 2016, all the educational programmes of the College will cease. Over the last two years, the College has encouraged and supported the development of related academic programmes in other institutions or the direct transfer of some of its educational programmes in a number of instances:

MA in Applied Spirituality
A new Master of Arts in Applied Spirituality has been launched by the Waterford Institute of

Technology. This is delivered at Milltown Park, Dublin 6. The programme is a development of the MA in Christian Spirituality which was offered by All Hallows College from 2010 to 2015.

MA in Personal Leadership and Pastoral Care

A new Master of Arts in Personal Leadership and Pastoral Care has been launched by the National College of Ireland. The programme is a development of the MA in Leadership and Pastoral Care which was offered by All Hallows College from 1993.

MSc in Non Profit Management

A new Master of Science in Non Profit Management has been launched by the National College. The programme is a development of the MA in Management: Voluntary and Community Services which was offered by All Hallows College from 2002 to 2015.

BA in Adult Learning for Personal and Professional Development (ALBA)

The BA in Adult Learning for Personal and Professional Development (ALBA) has

transferred to Dublin City University for the academic year 2016 – 17. During this time the final group of students will complete their studies under the guidance of the ALBA leadership team.

Pathways Programme – Adult Faith Formation

With the approval of Archbishop Diarmuid Martin and his Council and the Trustees of All Hallows College the All Hallows Programme, Pathways: Exploring Faith and Ministry has been incorporated into the

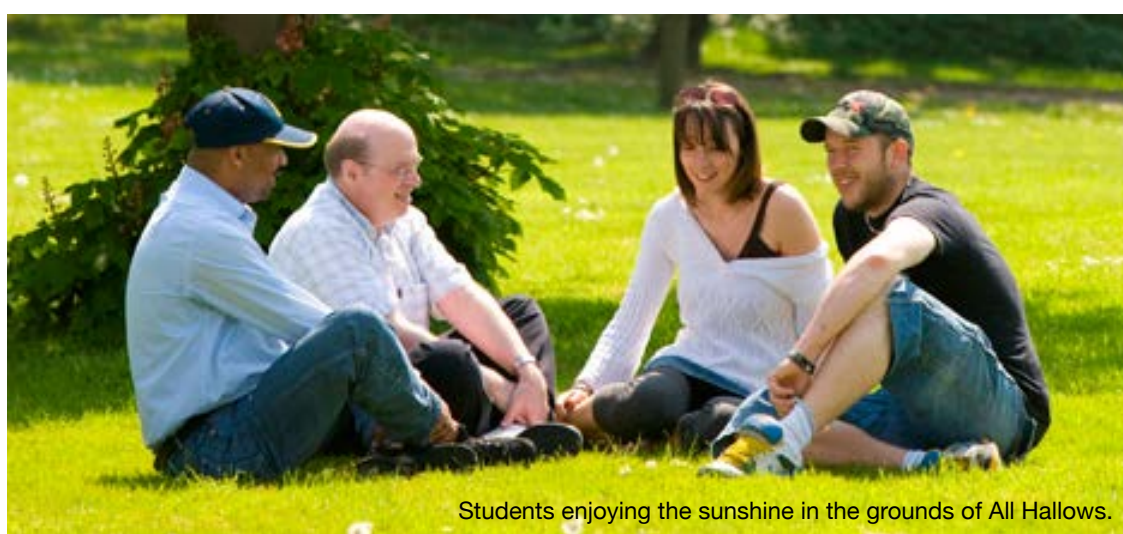
Dublin Archdiocese's Office for Evangelisation and Ecumenism. It has become part of Adult Faith Development part-time courses being offered by the Dublin Archdiocese since the beginning in the academic year 2015/2016.

Renewal for Ministry Programme

The Sabbatical Renewal Programme will be run in the future by the Presentation Sisters (Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary) and will take place in Mount St. Anne's, Portarlington.



Celebrating graduating at All Hallows.



Students enjoying the sunshine in the grounds of All Hallows.

