

CV for Father John Martin

Dear friend,

My name is John and I was born and raised in the Inner City of Dublin, Ireland. I am one of eight children. I have five sisters, one now deceased and two brothers, one now deceased. Dad and Mum left Ireland and moved to Nottingham in the summer of 1967. On arrival in Nottingham, we settled in Lenton, next to Lenton Recreation Park. I went to Saint Mary's School, on Derby Road, run by the Sisters of Mercy. From there I went to Bishop Dunn Secondary School, in Aspley, Nottingham.

When I left school I worked for the Sisters of Nazareth. The sisters offered to train me as a chef and after qualifying I left the Sisters of Nazareth to become a Brother of Saint John of God, at the age of 19 in 1978, the year of the 3 Popes. After completing my religious studies at Ushaw Seminary, Co Durham, I was asked by the Provincial to train as a social worker. I trained at the University of North London and obtained my degree in BSc Dip SW.

On qualifying in the field of social work, I worked in a number of the Saint John of God Brothers services in the UK in various settings; Day Care, Respite Care, Nursing and residential and then into administration and management. I was in the Order for over 33 years and for twelve of those years I served as the Order's Provincial here in the UK. This role took me around the world where the Order is present in 52 countries. I did not visit all but I did see around 12 and most of the Order's services in Europe.

I felt the call to Priesthood for many years so eventually I had to leave the Order to study for the Diocese of Nottingham because the Brothers did not want the Order to become clericalised. After studying for the Priesthood at Saint Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham, I was ordained to the Priesthood on 13 July 2013. Following my ordination, Bishop Malcolm appointed me as his Delegate for the Youth of the Diocese and as curate to Christ the King, Mackworth and All Saints, Ashbourne.

Bishop Patrick appointed me in September 2015 as Assistant Priest to Fr James Early, Dean and Parish Priest of Saint Pius, Saint John Fisher, Saint Mary's on the Sea, Grimsby; Our Lady Star of the Sea, Immingham; and Corpus Christi, Cleethorpes. In January 2017 Bishop Patrick, following my time in North East Lincolnshire, appointed me as Curate to Saint Barnabas Cathedral and has now appointed me as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell and Infant of Prague, Bestwood; and his Chaplain to our Sick and Retired Priests.

Please pray for me as I now take up my appointments.

I love every minute of my time as a Priest. I look forward to getting to know each and everyone of you in time. Please bear with me as I walk alongside you on your Christian journey and together we will build up the Kingdom of God. Thank you all for your warm and hospitable welcome. If there is anything you want to ask me about my background, please do not hesitate to ask.

I enjoy, walking, cycling, reading, Irish folk music, travel and socializing.

Fr John Joseph Martin