

The Tierney Family

CATHERINE TIERNEY (1857-1933); born at Mountbridget and educated at Churchtown National School, Charleville Convent of Mercy and Doneraile Presentation Convent. She entered the Convent of the Bon Secour Sisters in Cork in 1879 and as Sister Saint Urban, was professed at the Mother House in Paris in 1881. She served as Superior in London, Detroit, Baltimore and Washington. During her Baltimore Supremacy she organised the first novitiate of the Bon Secours in America, modernised and enlarged the Order's Day Nursery and built and administered the Order's first hospital in America. Devotion to the care of the poor and the sick was a feature of Mother Saint Urban's long vocation. She is commemorated by a plate glass window in the Order's Baltimore Convent and is the subject of a biography 'Life of Mother Saint Urban' by Rev. T. D. Williams.

MICHAEL TIERNEY (1859-1931); born at Mountbridget and educated at Churchtown National School, Saint Colman's College, Fermoy and Issoudun, Chézal-Benoit, France. He entered the novitiate of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Saint Gerand-le-Puy, France on 11 November, made his final profession in the Congregation on 21 November 1882 and was ordained in Brogues, France on 29 March 1884. During his ministry at Randwick, Sydney (1885-1898), he was the first MSC to give a Mission and Retreat in Australia and was responsible for the building of the Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and Presbytery, a girls' school, a monastery and convent. As Rector of St Alban's, Hertfordshire, England (1899-1909), he oversaw the building of the church of St Alban and St Stephen and a school. He is acknowledged as the architect of the establishment of the Sacred Heart Missionaries in Ireland (Cork, 1909) and the building of its Sacred Heart College and Sacred Heart Church in which a plaque and the Lady Altar are dedicated to his memory.

JEREMIAH TIERNEY (1867-1944); born at Mountbridget and educated at Churchtown National School, St Gérard-le-Puy, and Issoudun, Chézal-Benoit, France, Tilburg, Holland and Saint Patrick's, Thurles. Ordained (1895) for the Dioceses of Maitland, New South Wales, he was appointed Chaplain to the Coast Hospital, Little Bay (1904) and served in Randwick Parish (1905-1911) during which time (1907) he took his final vows as a Sacred Heart Missionary. He ministered at St Alban's (1912-15) prior to his returning as Assistant to the Novice Master at the Queenstown (Cobh) Novitiate. Fr Tierney is described as "exuding venerability and graciousness and a beloved figure for colleagues and students who was ever assiduous about liturgical procedure and practice." During his latter years he regularly travelled from Cork to Burton Park in Churchtown to celebrate Sunday Mass.