

Novena of Grace

in honour of St. Francis Xavier

4th March to 12th March in Halston Street Parish

(where the Novena of Grace came to Ireland in 1712)

Fr. Donal Sweeney – <i>Opening</i>	4 th – Sun 12noon
Fr. John Kelly – <i>Healing Mass</i>	5 th – Mon 7:30pm
Fr. Bryan Shortall – <i>Tell it like it is!</i>	6 th – Tue 7:30pm
Fr. Peter McVerry – <i>Social Gospel</i>	7 th – Wed 7:30pm
Fr. B. McGuckian – <i>Francis Xavier today</i>	8 th – Thu 7:30pm
Fr. Des McNaboe – <i>Reconciliation</i>	9 th – Fri 7:30pm
Fr. Richard Hendrick – <i>Youth</i>	10 th – Sat 6pm
Fr. Kieran Shortan – <i>Mission Today</i>	11 th – Sun 12noon
Fr. Terence Harrington – <i>Closing</i>	12 th – Mon 7:30pm

The Novena of Grace and St. Michan's Parish

It is said the first Novena of Grace took place in 1615 in Goa, India, when a boy, crippled from birth, was cured. The Novena is also linked to Fr. Marcello Mastrilli, who in 1633 in Naples was on the point of dying from a head injury when St. Francis Xavier appeared to him and he was healed.

The Novena of Grace was first introduced to Ireland in our own parish of St. Michan, in 1712, by Fr. Cornelius Nary PP. He began it in a little chapel in Mary's Lane. When the present parish church of Halston Street was completed in 1817 the Novena continued there. It is celebrated there even today.

Generations of parishioners have with come with their needs for these nine days of special prayer. Over the years, countless graces must have been granted to them and to the parish through the intercession of St. Francis Xavier. This year we will once again renew this great tradition of prayer. Please come and join in praying for your own needs and for those of the parish.

Envelopes for petitions and offerings are available at the back of the church. The Novena masses will be offered for these intentions.