

IRISH OFFICE FOR PADRE PIO
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Affiliated Centre - authorised by the Capuchin Friary, san Giovanni Rotondo

July, '09

Dear friends of St. Pio,

Our annual pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Knock takes place this year on September 19th and 20th.

As you know it is a very special year as we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of our St. Pio Pilgrimage. Our first Sunday was organised one week before the visit of Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul to Ireland in 1979. Many of you, I know were present on that first day and have arranged groups every year since then in order to make this weekend the success it always is. Ceremonies on Saturday commence at 2 p.m. in St. John's Rest and Care Centre.

Our visitor this year from San Giovanni will be Fr. Antonio Pompilio O.F.M. Cap. He was with us last year and is very involved with the shrine of St. Pio. Fr. Bryan Shortall O.F.M. Cap. will represent the Irish Capuchins on Saturday.

We are pleased to announce the attendance of our Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Giuseppe Leanza who will be the celebrant and homilist on Sunday. We hope also to be joined by Fr. Terence Harrington, Capuchin Provincial and many others.

Thanks to all of you who travel each year with a group. There is a lot of work involved, however, many who are unable to travel to Italy welcome the opportunity of celebrating his anniversary here at our own shrine of Knock. By organising a group from your area you are helping all of your people to come and join us.

Please let us know in advance if you wish to pick up your calendars on Saturday or on Sunday morning. This is a great way of avoiding postage.

If you require further details please ring the office at the above number. I look forward to meeting you all and again thank you for your help and hard work.

God Bless,

Eileen Maguire