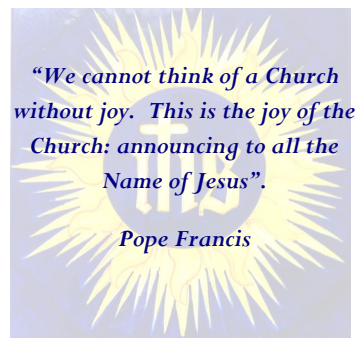


## Centenary Plaques

Holy Name plaques to commemorate the 1914 initiative are now available. The reproduction plaque is based on the original design of St. Bernardine and includes the Latin text around the edge. The template for the plaque was produced by the Boccali ceramic art workshop in Vecchia, Italy.



An artist at work in the Boccali ceramic art studio in Deruta, Italy.



The reproduction plaque costs: €20

For details on how to obtain Holy Name plaques, contact:  
Bothar Emmaus Bookshop ,Dominick Street, Galway at:

(091) 562175 or see:([www.holynome.ie/ordering-holy-name-plaques](http://www.holynome.ie/ordering-holy-name-plaques))

**For more information:** on the spirituality of the Holy Name of Jesus devotion, the special 2014 centenary, various resources for individual and group instruction or reflection and much more see:

[www.holynome.ie](http://www.holynome.ie)

This leaflet, as well as a promotional poster suitable for parish churches, can be downloaded from this site.

Franciscan Friary  
Merchant's Quay  
Dublin 8



## HOLY NAME PLAQUES



*A short explanation*

## Devotion Renewed

St. Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444) popularised the practice of placing the



An example of a Holy Name plaque over a door in Galway.

Holy Name of Jesus, in the form of its Greek monogram, over the doors of houses as a means of encouraging the occupants to be people of Christian charity and peace and of invoking God's

protection upon them. A new wave of this devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus was initiated in January 1914

in Ireland by a Franciscan priest, Fr. Francis Donnelly.

### RELIGIOUS SYMBOLISM

The IHS monogram represents the first three letters of the Name of Jesus in Greek. Depicted as it is in the centre of a blazing sun, we are reminded that Jesus is the Light of the world who

brings His light and peace into our lives and fills us with hope in times of darkness and trial. The twelve large rays and the seventy-two smaller rays surrounding the Name of Jesus, represent the apostolic and missionary mandate of the Church and show forth Jesus as the foundation stone of the Church and of our lives. It prompts us also to 'go out' and to bring the Good News to others.

St. Bernardine chose a text from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians, chapter two verse ten, to surround his original design:

***In nomine Iesu omne genu flectatur caelestium et terrestrium et infernorum***

*'at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth'*

This text was written in the context of the self-emptying love of Jesus and challenges us to likewise leave behind selfish inclinations and to give of ourselves for others after Jesus' example. Holy Name plaques are not only an expression of Christian identity; they are reminders to all the baptised of their calling to be witnesses to the message of Jesus in their daily lives.

### RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE

It is important to remember that St. Bernardine wasn't advocating a superstitious practice. The Holy Name plaque is not for 'good luck'. For St. Bernardine the Holy Name plaques would bring to mind and make present to those who

would call on the Name of Jesus in faith, the

Son of God, 'Jesus'

whose name means 'the one who saves'.



St. Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444), the Italian Franciscan on whose original design the Holy Name Plaques are based.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says:

*The invocation of the Holy Name of Jesus is the simplest way of praying always... This prayer is possible 'at all times' because it is not one occupation among others but the only occupation: that of loving God which animates and transfigures every action in Christ Jesus.*