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“The only criticism I felt constrained to make was of prison conditions, which I termed a “disgrace to a Christian nation.” Having worked with unfortunate men and boys throughout the entire 34 years of my priestly career, the rehabilitation of these unfortunates is very close to my heart.”

- Fr. Flanagan in a letter to

Hon. Robert Brennan, Envoy, Irish Legation, December 6, 1946



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DONATIONS

**We are a federally recognized  
501c3 nonprofit charitable organization  
For religious purposes.  
Donations may be made out  
to FFLSD and sent  
to the address above.**

Photos, prayers, writings of Father Flanagan  
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**Father Steven E. Boes, Executive Director**



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**Father Edward J. Flanagan**  
**Founder of Boys Town, Nebraska**

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*Father Flanagan League*  
*Society of Devotion*

Prayer Leaflet

Year Five—November

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*Father Flanagan's Prayer*

Continue to bless, Dear Lord, this Home, that Boys Town may continue to carry on its sacred mission of bringing hope and love to the neglected and unloved little ones of the nation. Elevate the spirit that made Boys Town possible during the past years. Strengthen that spirit that ...we may be able with your grace to overcome the hardships and discouragements that always accompany this work.

Make us more worthy and more responsive to Your grace, that the work we do here in Your name and under the special patronage of Your Immaculate Mother, may be more and more acceptable to You—the God of Heaven and Earth--and pleasing to Your Immaculate Mother—Our Patroness and Protectress. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

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*Protect them that you may be the joy  
Of those who love your name.  
For you, Lord, bless the just;  
You surround them with favor like shield.*

Psalm 5.12a-13

## From Fr. Flanagan's writings

*Father Flanagan's trip to Ireland, June, 1946; Source: report on his trip*

Father Flanagan arrived by Pan-American Clipper at Rinneanna, Ireland, Saturday, June 8, having left New York June 7. Accompanied by his brother, Rev. P. A. Flanagan, pastor of Holy Angels Church, Omaha.

Met at the airport by their sister, Mrs. Kate Staunton, Ballymoe, Castlerea, and by nephews, Dr. W. P. Staunton, Ballymoe, and Mr. Edward Norton, Ballygar, where another sister, Mrs. Mary J. Norton, resides. Also welcomed by three representatives of the Past Pupils' Union of Summerhill College, Sligo, where he received his early education.

The family later drove to the family home at Leabeg, Ballymoe. Welcomed in a simple and joyful homecoming. Hundreds of children gathered around the car that brought him from Rinneanna to Ballymoe. Bonfires blazed outside Ballymoe. Scrolls bore the simple inscription "Welcome", and bunting and tricolors spanned the streets. At Fuerty, a few miles from Ballymoe, he was met by a procession of cars which escorted him to Ballymoe.

He visited Belfast, where 50,000 people lined a two-mile route into the city. With Most Rev. Dr. Mageean, Bishop of Down and Connor, drove in an open motor car, escorted by 3,000 members of the Catholic and Gaelic youth organizations. Reception and dinner.

- June 17- Press conference at Grand Central Hotel, Belfast.
- June 17- Address before meeting convened by the Belfast Children's Guardians' Committee.
- June 17- Visited Milltown Industrial School, Belfast. Received gold medal for best all-around athlete at Boys Town. Also a gold medal to be presented to the Mayor of Boys Town.
- June 17- Visit to St. John Bosco Boxing Club, Belfast.
- June 18- Address at Corrigan Park, Belfast. Opening of Youth Week at Corrigan Park.
- June 19- Press conference at Theatre Royal, Dublin.  
Met Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, Most Rev. Dr. Cohalan. Met Bishop of Limerick, Most Rev. Dr. O'Neill.

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- June 20- Visited President of Eire, Mr. Sean O'Kelly.
  - June 21- Presented with model of Cross of Cong and four Celtic knobs, by Lord Mayor of Dublin
  - June 22- Visited Artane School, Dublin
  - June 23- Appeared on radio program.
  - June 23- Lecture in Theatre Royal, Dublin.
  - June 24- Spoke at Mansion House, Dublin.
  - June 24- Met Mr. Eamon de Valera, Prime Minister of Eire.
  - June 24- Presented with three sets of hurleys. Presentation made by Dublin Primary Schools League.
  - June 28- Visited Summerhill College, Sligo. Visited Bishop of Elphin, Most Rev. Dr. Doorly.
  - June 30- Reception at Castlerea, County Roscommon.
  - July 6— Family reunion at Banba Hotel, Salthill, Galway.
  - July 6— Lecture in Waterford.
  - July 7— Lecture at Savoy Cinema, Limerick, Cork. Met with his Grace, Most Rev. Dr. D'Alton, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland. Also His Grace, the Most Rev. Dr. McQuade, Archbishop of Dublin and Primate of Ireland.
- Visited the Borstal in Belfast, and prisons, reform schools, and industrial schools throughout Ireland.

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## FATHER FLANAGAN PRAYER

**G**od of mercy, love and compassion, we are grateful that You gave Father Edward Joseph Flanagan special graces to love, protect and guide neglected, vulnerable and oppressed youth. Thank you that the work he began with the foundation of Boys Town, has continued to spread throughout the world. We pray that you inspire many to adopt his caring, loving ways as mentor and protector of youth.

Loving Father, we bring our own needs to you now, asking that through the intercession of Father Flanagan, in accordance with your Holy Will, you grant us these special favors: \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank You for Your Faithfulness and Providence, and for hearing these petitions which we ask in the Name of Your Son, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**