



Four Altars, Edmondstown, Ireland

2012 Towey Gathering - Rochester, MN Friday August 10 to Sunday August 12, 2012

Tour of St Bridget's Church & Cemetery, Simpson, MN

Saturday, August 11, 2012

- 11:00 am to mid afternoon
- Tour St Bridget's Church and Cemetery in Simpson, MN, off I-90 on County Road 16, just 15 miles south of Rochester, MN
- Transportation for those without vehicles will be provided
- St. Bridget's is mother church of the Catholic faith in Olmsted County, MN
- St Bridget is a variant for Saint Brigid (451 to 525) of Kildare, Ireland. She is one of Ireland's patron saints along with St Patrick (387 – 493) and St Columba (521 – 597). She was founder of several monasteries, including one at 'Kildare' Ireland
- St Bridget's Church was built by Irish settlers in 1859 using locally quarried stone
- This beautiful stone church is set among gently rolling hills that must have reminded Irish settlers of their homeland
- Several Irish immigrants are buried in the church cemetery including many Towey's and Grady's from Ballaghaderreen, Co Mayo (now in Co Roscommon), Ireland
- Olmsted County encompasses Rochester and surrounding area where many Irish immigrants, including Towey's, settled to take up farming

