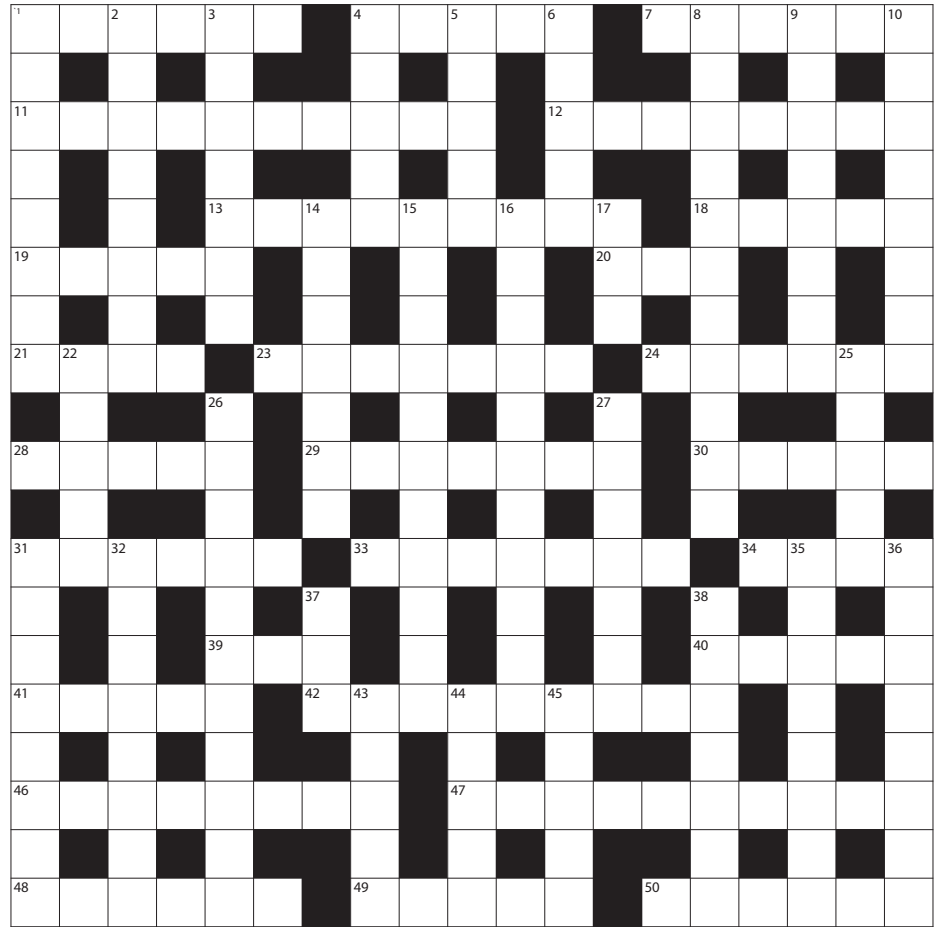


Across

- 1** Ancient city whose "Holy Land College" recently returned to the Franciscans (6)
- 4** One of Dublin's patron saints, founder of pilgrimage monastery at Glendalough (5)
- 7** Polish city whose former archbishop later became Pope John Paul II (6)
- 11** Of a Victorian character and fictional characters (10)
- 12** One deserves another, it is said (4,4)
- 13** See 36 Down
- 18** See 8 Down
- 19** "Long to ----- over us", National Anthem (5)
- 20** Acronymic reference to a "sixth sense" (1.1.1.)
- 21** Frans, Dutch painter of such as the *Laughing Cavalier* (4)
- 23 & 28** Across: The seasonal dance piece composed by Émile Waldteufel (7,5)
- 24** Elaborate clasps used to fasten priests' copes (6)
- 28** See 23 Across
- 29** Piece of medical item used to counter a virus (7)
- 30** "This is the ----- of the Queen", hymn by Fr Caswall to Our Lady (5)
- 31** "Lord keep us safe this night, ----- from all our fears", hymn by John Leland (6)
- 33** Relating to writers (7)
- 34** Arvo, contemporary Catholic Estonian composer (4)
- 39** Bd Joan of ---, mother of St Dominic (3)
- 40** Symbol of St John the Evangelist (5)
- 41** Italian composer whose last work was *Stabat Mater* (5)
- 42** Christmas represented by Scrooge's third ghost (3,2,4)
- 46** Conqueror from this French region crowned on Christmas Day 1066 (8)
- 47** Australian cardinal now exonerated and received by the Pope in Rome (6,4)
- 48** Shortened name of Rule founder given to medieval order of friars and canons (6)
- 49** "----- tuus Maria", St John Paul II's motto taken from St Louis de Montfort (5)
- 50** North-east town of important synod in 664 and the novel *Dracula* (6)

Down

- 1** "Heaven --- -----", Ukrainian Christmas carol (3,5)
- 2** El -----, town and name of world heritage monastery near Madrid (8)
- 3** ----- *Peasant*, popular Overture and operetta by von Suppé (4,3)
- 4** Gustav, Austrian artist of the Symbolist School: works include *Judith and the Head of Holofernes* (5)
- 5** ----- *malum bono*, from Romans 12, "overcome evil with good" (5)
- 6** Desert in the Holy Land (5)
- 8 & 18** Across: "*Alma* -----", seasonal antiphon to the Blessed Virgin (11,5)
- 9** Katherine E. Price, ----- of the Roman Catholic Church, a title bestowed on her by Pope Pius XI (8)
- 10** "And through all his ----- childhood", "Once in Royal David's City" (8)
- 14** The ----- day of 2020 is 21 December (7)



- 15** Academic believing natural laws govern events determining social and cultural phenomena (11)
 - 16** "-- ----- *erat Verbum*", opening of John's gospel at end of traditional Latin Mass (2,9)
 - 17** "Make not your rosary of ...-berries", Keats' *Ode on Melancholy* (3)
 - 22** "Christians -----, salute the happy morn", carol by Mancunian John Byrom (5)
 - 25** Composer of "A Christmas Greeting" set to a poem by his wife Alice (5)
 - 26** National of country in the border area of Europe and Asia (11)
 - 27** Name of page Viola disguised as in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* (7)
 - 31** Central European country where majority celebrate Advent and Christmas (8)
 - 32** World heritage site cathedral in France, early thirteenth century with two quite different towers (8)
 - 35** Collection of reasoned statements promoting theological or other idea (8)
 - 36 & 13** Across: Classic Christmas carol (3,5,3,3,3)
 - 37** Jesus declared himself to be the --- in John 14: 6 (3)
 - 38** "And he ----- for our sadness", "Once in Royal David's City" (7)
 - 43** *The Flight Into* -----, depiction of the Holy Family's escape from Herod (5)
 - 44** "Goodnight, Sleep -----", children's song popularised in the Fifties by Danny Kaye (5)
 - 45** "In the ----- is life", ["*in cruce vita*"], Thomas à Kempis] (5)
- Answers: See Page 55**

SUDOKU | Tough

3								2
	7	5		1				4
	6			9	8		1	
	1				4			
2	4						1	3
				1				8
		4		6	8		5	
	3			9			6	2
6								8

Each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9.

Solution to the 28 November puzzle

4	6	7	8	2	3	9	5	1
8	3	9	4	5	1	2	6	7
1	5	2	7	9	6	3	4	8
2	4	8	5	1	9	6	7	3
5	1	3	2	6	7	4	8	9
7	9	6	3	4	8	5	1	2
3	2	1	6	8	4	7	9	5
6	8	5	9	7	2	1	3	4
9	7	4	1	3	5	8	2	6