



In 1992 Joseph Sloan was commissioned to create a memorial sculpture for the Irish Air Corps. This was unveiled at Casement Aerodrome Baldonnel, Co.Kildare on 19th July 1992 by the then President of Ireland, Mary Robinson.

THE AIR CORPS MEMORIAL

With silver granite, quarried in the foothills of the picturesque Dublin Mountains which stand guard over the eastern approaches to the historic airfield at Baldonnel; and dark Liscannor stone, hewn from the towering cliffs of Co. Clare on Ireland's rugged western seaboard: Joseph Sloan, artist and sculptor, has created a unique memorial for the Air Corps.

This impressive work, beautifully designed and crafted, comprises an imposing central sculpture forming a Roman cross, mounted on an elevated base and guarded by four sentinel pillars, representing the provinces of Ireland.

At the centre of the structure, the twin vertical lines of the cross rise to join with the graceful upswept curvature at the top, forming a symbolic chalice which reaches heavenwards in Offering and in Supplication. In similar fashion, graceful curving patterns adorn each of the guardian pillars.

The central cruciform opening, aligned on an east/west axis, is designed in the manner of our Celtic ancestors for the transmission of sunlight through the heart of the memorial during the solstice days of mid-summer and mid-winter.

This ingenious combination of evocative shapes, symmetrical lines and elegant curves, conveys a wonderful impression of flight, grace and movement which, together with a symbolic content of remarkable breadth and diversity – Celtic, Christian, aeronautical, military – constitutes a work of rare quality and originality.

The Memorial is located in a tree-lined, landscaped area to create a Memorial Garden beside the Garrison Church at Casement Aerodrome. The Entrance is marked by a granite plinth with a bronze plaque bearing the Air Corps emblem and the following inscription:

Cuimhnimis

This Memorial Garden is
Dedicated to those who
Served the Air Corps.
Their names are contained
In a Memorial Book in the Church.

Let Us Remember