

Former Manchester United footballer ordained as priest

Philip Mulryne prostrate as he was ordained a priest in Dublin on Saturday - Image copyright PHILIP MCSHANE



Philip Mulryne prostrate as he was ordained a priest in Saint Saviour's Church, Dublin, on Saturday

The former Northern Ireland footballer Philip Mulryne has been ordained a Roman Catholic priest in the Dominican Order.

Fr Mulryne, who is reported to have once earned £600,000 a year, has also taken a vow of poverty.

He was ordained in Dublin on Saturday by Archbishop Joseph Augustine Di Noia, who had travelled from Rome for the ceremony.

Philip Mulryne had been ordained a deacon in October last year.

Belfast-born Fr Mulryne won 27 caps for Northern Ireland in a career that included spells with Norwich City and Leyton Orient.

Philip Mulryne was ordained by Archbishop Joseph Augustine Di Noia Image copyright PHILIP MCSHANE



Philip Mulryne was ordained by Archbishop Joseph Augustine Di Noia, a Dominican and Assistant Secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

He made his debut for Manchester United in 1997 after progressing through the youth team.

Unable to forge a lengthy career with the Premier League club, he moved to Norwich City in 1999, but his time at Carrow Road was plagued by injuries.

He officially retired from football in 2009 and began his journey to ordination, entering the Diocesan Seminary of Saint Malachy's Belfast.

Philip Mulryne playing for Northern Ireland - Image copyrightPACEMAKER



The west Belfast man was capped 27 times for Northern Ireland, scoring three goals

He spent two years studying philosophy at Queens University Belfast and at the Maryvale Institute before going to the Pontifical Irish College, Rome, to study theology for one year at the Gregorian University.

He entered the Dominican Novitiate House in Cork in 2012.

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