

# He puts his faith in healing the sick

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Wherever Danny Gallagher goes these days, people line up, waiting for him to touch them.

This Gallagher isn't a big-name movie star, rock musician or comic. Never wrote a book, never made a big score on a playing field. Nothing like that.

Except for an unruly mop of jet-black hair, Danny Gallagher is perfectly ordinary-looking. Medium height, nicely dressed, he's from a small town in County Derry in Northern Ireland. Still lives there, as a matter of fact.

But his fame has spread far beyond there, and his reputation has preceded him here.

Gallagher is a faith-healer, a layer-on of hands. To those he has helped, like Rose Murphy, he's a miracle worker. She suffers from high blood pressure, and "the day I went to see him I could hardly walk, my two feet were so swelled up," she said. "I had to wear men's shoes, hold onto things to walk. First time I saw him, I felt better. I saw him a second time a week later and I'm 99% improved."

Murphy is just one of those Gallagher has helped here. James Graig is another. A retired construction worker from Queens, he's been treated for arthritis by various doc-

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DANNY GALLAGHER

tors for almost a year, was in pain and could barely walk. He saw an ad that Gallagher was in town and called for an appointment.

"He lit a candle, took a crucifix and rubbed it on my feet, then up and down my legs, all the time praying over me. I went to see him three times, and I'm much better now, much better. Best thing I ever did. I thank God, and I thank Danny."

Gallagher has been seeing people in a room at the Fitzpatrick Hotel on Lexington Ave. and E. 56th St., where his walls are decorated with testimonials and newspaper clippings, attesting to cures in Europe, Canada, Australia and the U.S.

"I'm the seventh son of a seventh son," he said the other morning. "In Celtic legend, there is something special about that."

"But I truly believe my being a healer is a gift from God. However, I guarantee nothing. It's God's will who decides to be healed."

Gallagher, who's 44, says he never studied medicine and never went beyond the 12th grade. He says he's careful to advise anyone coming to him not to stop taking prescribed medicines without consulting their doctors.

He claims his power stems from a vision he had when he was 8 years old.

"I remember I could see a



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**HANDS ON HEALER:** Danny Gallagher believes his healing power is a gift from God.

young girl, in white clothes. I knew she was dying, there was a clergyman at her side. I felt God told me to touch her, and she was cured. Then the clergyman taught me a prayer which is the one I say when I treat people."

He did nothing about this gift until he was out of school and driving an ice cream truck in the summer.

A little girl, paralyzed from the waist down, would crawl to his truck every day for her treat. He touched her legs, prayed over her for three days, and he says she was finally able to stand. "She's well, she's healthy and she's

working in Germany," he answers.

Gallagher does not charge for his services, but he will accept donations, though no figure is asked. "The most generous donation I ever had at any time was about \$1,000," he says.

Of course, not everyone is cured. Chris O'Donoghue, the news reporter for Channel 9, went to do a story on him which was shown last year. O'Donoghue reports from a wheelchair. Gallagher prayed over him, touched his legs, prayed more.

O'Donoghue is still working from his wheelchair.