

\*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* LOST (or strayed) black lady's Christy McGinn and Family wish Raliegh bicycle from Fortfield all their friends, neighbours Park Shopping Centre. Reward. and customers a very happy Tel. 904822 Christmas and New Year. \*\*\*\*\*\* \* WANTED Shorthand-Typist (Part-time) Templeogue area. Box TG 74 Templeville Drive. COMMUNITY DIARY

 Mon Jan 7 St. Pius X National Schools re-open
 Sun Jan 13 Application for membership of Pioneer Total Abstinence Association will be received (St. Pius Church, 10 15 - 11.15
 Mon Jan 14 Deadline for material for Telegraph (Jan. issue)

THE TEMPLEOGUE TELEGRAPH IS PUBLISHED BY THE TEMPLEOGUE PARENTS' ASSOC-IATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY. THE VIEWS EXPRESSED THEREIN ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE TELEGRAPH OR OF THE TEMPLEOGUE PARENTS' ASSOC IATION. COMMUNICATIONS AND MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION SHOULD BE SENT TO TEMPLEOGUE TELEGRAPH, c/o 74 TEMPLEVILLE DRIVE, DUBLIN 6.

The Cover Picture is based on a design submitted by Deirdre Kelly

## TYPEWRITING CLASSES

for

## BEGINNERS, INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED LEVEL

Beginners: This course is suitable for girls who are taking their Leaving Certificate in June, 1974 (or anyone who wishes to learn typewriting). There is no age limit.

Intermediate Suitable for anyone with previous knowledge of typewriting.

and \* Advanced \*(Students who have entered for the Department of Education's

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Advanced Examination in Typewriting may, in the Summer Term, enrol for the Teachers' Diploma in Typewriting - Theory Class).

Classes will be held on Monday evenings 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. (January to Easter).

For further details call to see: Mrs. Kelly, 35 Wainsfort Park.

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1	HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO LAY YOUR HANDS ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FANTASTIC PRIZES
NO 1	COMPLETE HOME ENTERTAINMENT
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00	HOLIDAY FOR 5 IN A SPANISH VILLA Return Air Fares Rent of Villa for 2 weeks 3. Grocery Bill Paid 4. £200 Spending Money.
NO. 3	A FIVE-BERTH CARAVAN
NO <sub>e</sub> 4	A.FITTED KITCHEN
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NO. 5	£500 IN CASH
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2	
	2100 TO THE PERSON WHO SELLS THE WINNING TICKET EACH WEEK. TICKETS 50p EACH 1 BOOK (11 TICKETS) 25

## REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS MEET TO DISCUSS THE TELEGRAPH

Nineteen local organisations, including political, social, religious and educational, were represented at a recent meeting (St. Pius X Schools Hall, 26/11/73) called to discuss the Templeogue Telegraph. As a result, the flow of news and features should be very much improved in the New Year.

Several bodies who were unable, due to members' commitments elsewhere, to be represented, got in touch to assure the Telegraph of their interest and willingness to help.

The meeting appeared to be reasonably satisfied that the Telegraph is fulfilling its role. Mr. Paddy Heneghan on behalf of the Templeogue Parents' Association, explained how the Telegraph is produced and distributed. He said that the options as regards reporting were that individual bodies should send in reports of their own activities (as is encouraged at present) or that the Telegraph should get together a body of reporters to present the news as they see it. The present system seemed preferable if the organisations in the district co-operated. The representatives were accordingly asked to get their organisations to appoint "press officers". The intentions was to ask these officers at regular (e.g. quarterly) intervals to submit reports, although it had to be stressed that such an arrangement should in no way prevent organisations sending in news items every month if they so wished.

A suggestion that the Telegraph be sold at local newsagents was put forward and is to be considered, provided the interests of the young distributors could be safeguarded.

Schools were urged to use the Telegraph not only for reporting their successes and activities, but in connection with pupils' projects. They might consider sponsoring projects which could be published and encourage students to submit essays, line drawings and the like for publication. A word from the schools could give an enormous boost to the Telegraph.

It was reported that the initial response to the request for material for the Directory of Templeogue was very good, and that January should see the initial issue.

Delegates were asked to ring in dates for the Community Diary, and were told that they were welcome to check up about entries, so that clashes of fixtures could be avoided as far as possible.

Attention was invited to the existence of an Advice and Information Centre (operated by the Labour Party).

It was proposed that delegates should meet again in about 3 months - say mid-February - to review the success of the arrangements discussed.

## TEENAGE SOCIAL GROUP

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At a recent meeting of Association representatives, Mr. Daniel Carey of Templeville Drive developed an idea for Teenage Social Groups which had been discussed on a few previous occasions by parents and others. He . writes as follows:

Only very limited facilities are available for teenagers of the district. Most of our young people are working hard at school and at homework during the week and some social activity should be provided, especially at weekends, for them.

With this in mind the proposal beneath is put forward. It would provide controlled social activities for the youth of the area and allow themselves to play a leading role. Parents will have only fringe association and only one parent in every twelve (approx. 8%) will actually be involved but this involvement is essential to the control and operation of the scheme.

- 1. The group will be confined to the teenagers of the district between the ages of 13 and 18 years. Membership will be free.
- 2. Members will be registered and will carry an identity card to each function organised by the group.
- 3. The group will be divided into teams of 6 members made up of 3 girls and 3 boys, each team having a parent leader or manager. Teams will be formed by age groups, i.e. 13 to 15 and 15 to 18.
- 4. Each team will entertain another team on one night (possible Friday) every second week, and will be entertained by some team every other week.
- 5. The parents of each member will agree to entertain a visiting team at their home, in turn, and agree that at least one parent will be at home on that evening while the function is in progress. The parents will not take an active part in the programme, which must be left to the teenagers but will be present in the home to assist in any way required. A function will be held in any one home only one night in every twelve weeks.
- 6. The functions will be held from 8 to 11 p.m.
- 7. Each member of the entertaining team will contribute not more than 50p each towards refreshments and such refreshments (non-alcoholic) will be managed by the entertaining team only (Parents not to be involved).
- 8. The entertaining team will arrange the programme for the evening i.e. musical evening; guitars, piano, singsong etc., film show or possibly dancing to records or perhaps just the latest pop. The entertaining team will be responsible for the provision of record player, records etc. (Contd.)

#### TEENAGE SOCIAL GROUP

9. Teams will report the success of each function to their team manager and suggest ways to improve them.

10. Parents of members entertaining another team will report any unseemly conduct and offenders will be dealt with by a committee of team managers.

11. A bi-monthly Social and Record Hop will be held for all members This Social will be supervised by the team ma agers.

## The Templeogue Telegraph invites young people and their parents to comment on the idea. Arrangements will be made as soon as possible to hold an inaugural meeting to discuss the proposals and depending on the interest shown it will be taken from there.

## CYPRESS NEWS

by The Cypriot.

Did you ever see Santa Claus in a boat? Well if you didn't it is your own fault. Because that very well-known gentleman, accompanied by some of his young friends, paraded through Cypress Grove and Templeville to mark the opening of the Christmas Fair at the White Fathers on Sunday, 2nd December at 3 p.m. Santa having disembarked safely made his way to the students' recreation room where he distributed parcels to his many admirers. throughout the afternoon. The scene was thus set for a wonderful afternoon of enjoyment for both old and young as the Christmas Fair got under way. In the Dining Room of the main building the ladies of the Committee presided over a lavish display of cakes which were quickly bought up. Here, too, teas were served and the poor feet rested, while old friends were greeted and new ones introduced. In the hall was the delph stall with great bargains in seconds from Arklow. In then to the Boys' Club where the Wheel of Fortune spun merrily and wonderful prizes were waiting for those lucky enough to win. Here were all the stalls with the vendors doing a roaring trade and believe me they had to roar to be heard above the din. By six o'clock everything was sold, auctioned, raffled or given away and the White Fathers' Mission Fund was some six hundred pounds richer than it had been a few hours earlier. In a few well-chosen words Father Eyrne thanked all who had helped to organise the event and most particularly. the local people whose support had made the Fair such a huge success.

By the way, I wonder what happened to Santy in his boat. I hope he made his way home safely to the North Pole. But don't worry children he will be back again - in a sleigh this time - on Christmas Eve.

## WEBB HARDWARE Templeogue Village Tel 909831

# WALLPAPER SALE 1/3 RD OFFALL BRANDS

## THE PATRICIANS

The first Patrician Meeting of Our Lady of the Eucharist Praesidium of the Legion of Mary was held in the White Fathers' House, Cypress Grove, Templeogue on 15th November at 8 p.m.

Fr. Buckley, Spiritual Director attended. The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Curran who explained the procedures to be followed. The Patrician prayer was recited by all. Dr. Mulvey, the guest speaker, read an interesting paper on Faith, titled "Keeping your Balance in the Modern Church".

After a short pause the discussion ranged from a query about the Church's acceptance of Teilhard de Chardin's scientific and religious views; the practical application of faith in our lives; the impact of theologians; the influence of the clergy; the authority of the Pope criticism of present day teaching methods of the fundamental truths of catholicism to school children; the role of parents in the home.

After a tea interval, Fr. Buckley summed up the discussion, quoting from St. Paul and the Old Testament, to emphasise some of his points.

#### THE PATRICIANS

## /Continuation

The discussion resumed with Dr. Mulvey who cleared up some points raised earlier. Further deliberations covered such areas as lack of respect for authority, to preparation of children for Holy Communion and Confession.

The meeting was concluded with all standing to recite the Creed.

A promising start for the Patricians. Our sincere thanks to Dr. Mulvey for his encouraging support and our thanks to the 22 people who attended despite a threatened E.S.B. power strike, and competition from other organisations who had meetings arranged for the same evening.

Apologies were received from the nuns from Our Lady's who were unable to attend.

Thursday 20th December, 1973 - Date of next Patrician Meeting.

#### INSECTS

Go away you dirty flies! Why don't you realise Stings hurt, and we don't like them? Go away you noisy bees! Fly around some other trees -Please!

> Ian Bowden, Age 7 St. Pius X School.

### ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS' SOCIETY

The monthly meeting of the Saint Joseph's Young Priests' Society was held in the White Fathers' on Tuesday 11th December. The meeting began with Mass celebrated by Father Kingston and was well attended.

The following officers were elected:

President: Mr. Phil Jones. Treasurer: Mrs. K. Byrne.

Secretary: Mrs. Moira O'Brien

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY ISSUE: January 14th (Monday)

THE LAW AND YOU - "FIRE INSURANCE" ..... by Mervyn Taylor

Mervyn Taylor Secretary of The Labour Party Community Advice and Information Service.

Question: I bought my house three years ago for £6,500 and it is covered for fire damage at £7,000 through the Building Society. Is this sufficient?

<u>Answer</u>: For a house to be fully and properly covered against loss or damage by fire the Policy must be for an amount that would be sufficient to rebuild it at present day costs. As building costs escalate substantially each year every house owner should ensure that the amount of the fire insurance cover is increased at least every two years. The consequence of leaving the house at the same insurance figure as when it was bought could be very serious if there was a fire. The Insurance Company would only pay a proportion of the damage costs - possibly as little as half. It is surprising how many people are apt to overlook this important matter. Anyone in this situation should write to their Building Societies immediately to bring their cover into line with current day values.

I should think that in your case the fire insurance cover should be increased now to at least £10,000.

If you have an enquiry which you believe would be suitable for Mervyn Taylor's column i.e. legal points arising from home or property ownership, family affairs or the like, you are invited to submit it. Details can be altered to ensure anonymity. Please see notice beneath about Advice and Information Service.

### LABOUR PARTY ADVICE & INFORMATION SERVICE

The free Advice and Information Service of the Labour Party is available to all the residents of Templeogue and adjoining areas.

A Panel of experts is available including a Social Worker, Solicitor, Architect, County Councillor, etc.

The Panel attends on the 1st Friday of each month from 8 - 9 p.m. at 8 Orchardstown Avenue, Ballyroan, or at other times, contact the Secretary who is Mervyn Taylor, 4 Springfield Road, Templeogue. Telephone 904569.

The Service is free, confidential and, of course, is not confined to members of the Labour Party.

## TOMAS LOFTUS CUMANN / FIANNA FAIL

## TELLOW LINES AND THINGS

## Wainsfort Road / Drive - Traffic Problem

We have been working on this problem for some time now, and we are happy to report that some concrete successes (excuse the pun) have been achieved.

. . . . . . . .

We have a letter from the Minister for Justice stating that "it has been decided to introduce a parking prohibition at all times on the west side of Wainsfort Road from Fortfield Road to a point clear of the bend opposite Kavanagh's licenced premises". We also have a letter from Dublin County Council stating that "it is proposed to prohibit parking on the eastern side of Wainsfort Road in the vicinity of Wainsfort Drive". This is very pleasing.

If that is not enough, we also have a letter from Richard Burke, Minister for Education (and our opponent in the Dail) to the effect that he "hopes the results of counts which have been taken will lead to the provision of pedestrian crossings". It is a matter of satisfaction to us in Fianna Fail, and, we understand, to the Minister, that in matters of the common good, there can be a basis of communication and understanding between political parties.

#### DIVORCE

## Policy making Convention .

We are pleased to report that at the Fianna Fail South County Dublin Policy Making Convention, which was held recently in the Montrose Hotel, the Tomas Loftus Cumann achieved a great deal in that two of our resolutions were overwhelmingly adopted:

- 1. That Article 2 of the Constitution be basic to Fianna Fail Policy
- 2. That the prohibition of divorce be deleted from the Constitution and that divorce be introduced in Ireland.

While we knew we would be successful with our first resolution, we were a little more apprehensive about the second. We were therefore elated when both resolutions were carried by the great majority of the large number of representatives present at the day-long convention. We should point out that we consider that the provision of divorce is only necessary for a very small, but very unhappy, minority in Ireland. It is for this minority (not a Catholic or a Protestant minority, for a change) that we must be brave enough to legislate. Perhaps we are seeing the seeds being sown of Fianna Fail, the Republican and Social Reformist Party! Who knows<sup>\*</sup>

If you wish to join Fianna Fail (and you are welcome, regardless of age sex, race, creed or colour), or if you have any problems about which you think Fianna Fail may be able to assist contact The Honorary Secretary, Tomas Loftus Cumann, 22 Templeville Road, Dublin 6.

## The G-A-S (Goods and Services) Page ..... by Con Somerville

Inflation? - you've seen nothing yet! It is reported that certain Irish interests wished to establish an office in Tokyo. The only place they could find was on offer at £20 per square foot - per annum! (Downtown Dublin runs to from £1 to £2 per square foot per annum). Further snag - the Tokyo landlords wanted a deposit of £50,000 which would be paid back at the end of 10 years. After much soul-searching and some delay, Dublin gave the O.K. to their man in Tokyo to close the deal. But time is money. By the time Dublin had spoken, the Tokyo office had been taken by another tenant.

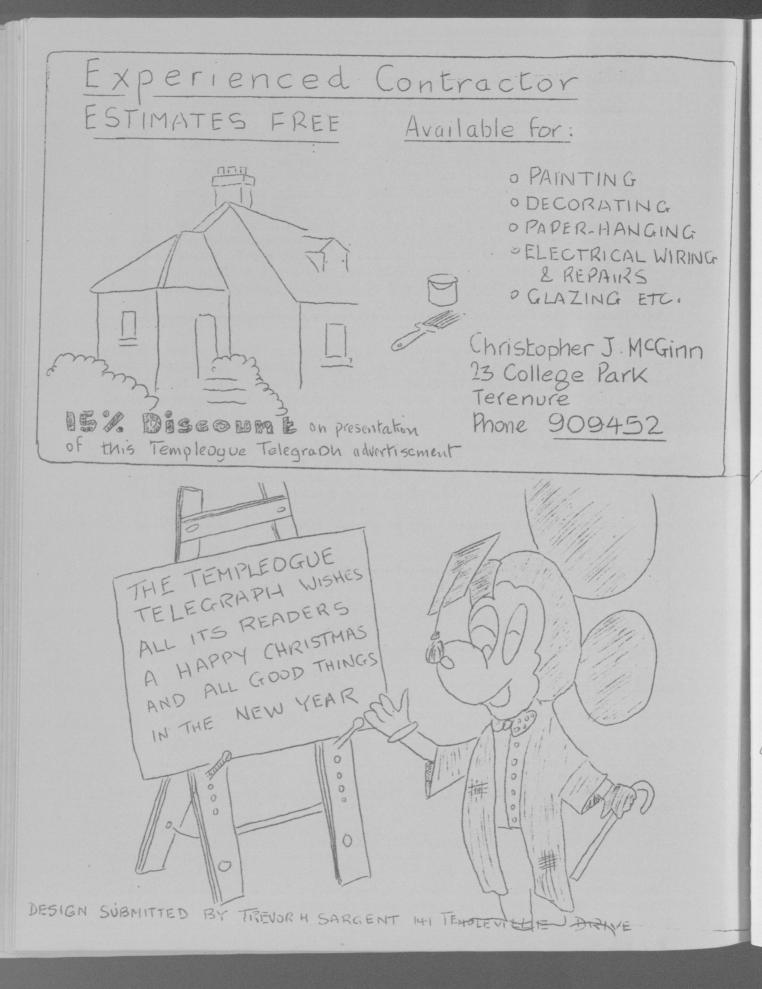
The recent energy crisis has brought experiences reminding older members of the community of wartime conditions. Both consumers and traders have been displaying the whole spectrum of human failings. The "I'm all right, Jack" brigade has been tanking up on motor fuel, leaving stranded workers who are critically dependant on supplies to keep their businesses going. Local garages have reacted with a bewildering array of strategies. The bouquet goes to the station which kept queues down by offering £2 worth of petrol - no more, no less! This was later reduced to £1.50 a time. A certain garage must have lost many customers by giving daily "ration" of 50p, thereby encouraging long queues: they also closed for lunch leaving motorists waiting for over an hour. Needless to say, most if not all garages stopped giving stamps.

ADVERTISERS

Good and bad news for advertisers!

First the good news: The Telegraph proposes by way of experiment to accept Small Ads (see inside front cover) free of charge where they concern private or domestic matters. Commercial advertisers taking a half or full page will also get free of charge an insertion in the small ads column in the same edition.

And the bad news: from January 1974 there will be revised rates for commercial ads. Hitherto these have been available at "Bargain Basement" prices - indeed the charge have not covered the cost of production. The basic costs will be:  $\pounds$ 1.50 for a half-page and  $\pounds$ 2.75 for a full page. There will be extras for selected positions and graphic work. Full details on request.



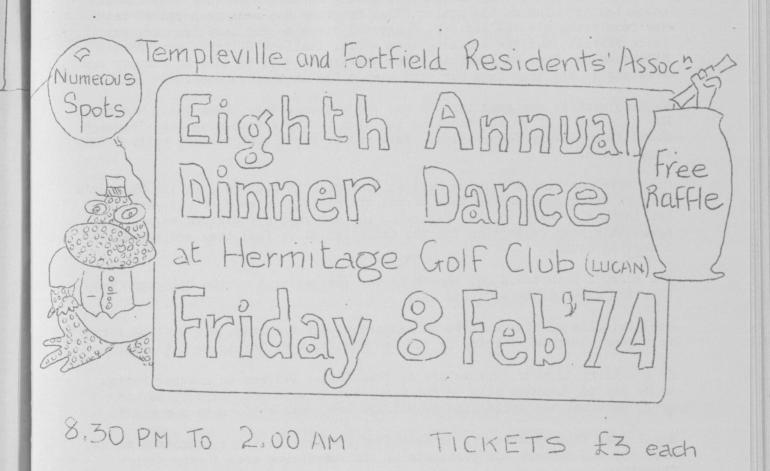
## TEMPLEVILLE AND FORTFIELD RESIDENTS & ASSOCIATION (Hon. Secretary's Report)

Following representations from our Association, the Road Safety Section of Dublin County Council have appointed a traffic warden for Templeville Road to take up duty on Monday, 10th December.

Complaints of rowdyism near the television mast site on Templeville Road have been reported to the Gardai who are keeping the matter under surveillance.

The annual subscriptions are now being collected.

The Annual Dance will be held on Friday 8th February, 1974 in the Hermitage Golf Club



November proved a busy month for our Club. At our Club Meeting we held an Open Night with a number of guests who included founder members who had moved out of the Templeogue area, the Secretary of the Irish Federation of Ladies' Clubs, Mrs. Mary Phillips, and her two Committee members, Mrs. B. Ellis and Mrs. M. Monnelly, Mr. E. Malone, who presided at the inaugural meeting of the Templeogue Ladies' Club in February, 1965, Rev. Father Diffney, Fr. Carey, Fr. Buckley and Fr. Kingston. Members also brought along guests. It was an extremely enjoyable night with entertainment provided very ably by our Choir who gave a beautiful rendering of a selection of songs accompanied by Mrs. Kitty Bowden. Our Drama/Variety Group were very entertaining with their impressions of T.V. ads and an extremely funny preview of the Royal Wedding complete with 'horse'. We discovered surprise talent in Mrs. Geraldine O'Rourke.

In November also the Debating Group came through the first round of the Federation Debating Competition with flying colours when they beat Castleknock Ladies' Club on the motion "That Progress has made us happier" with our team being for the motion. Congratulations to our Lead Speaker, Mrs. Josie Farrell, and her talented team - Mrs. Kathleen Elliott, Mrs. Sheila O'Donovan and Mrs. Mary Kernan. The next round will be held in January and needless to say they have our good wishes for another success.

We also wish to say good luck to our two members, Mrs. Clare Carty and Mrs. May Coan who will be representing the Club in the forthcoming Bord Iascaigh Mhara Fish Cookery Competition. This is the first time we have entered this competition.

Our Christmas Dinner will be held on Monday, 10th December, in the Mariner's Cove in Balbriggan and as this is one of the 'big' nights of our year we are looking forward to it. Following in last year's footsteps we are once again this year collecting for the Old Folks as we feel they are a very deserving cause.

I'm sorry a report did not appear in the last edition of the Telegraph but this was unavoidable as I was ill.

Our next Club Meeting will be on Wednesday, 5th December, and we look forward to a demonstration of icing by our own member, Mrs. Geraldine O'Rourke.

We are sorry to hear that we are to lose Father Diffney to another Parish as he was of enormous help to the Club, but we wish him God's speed and every success, and would like to welcome Rev. Father Lee into our midst.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of the President and Committee to wish all our members and residents of the Templeogue area a very Happy Christmas.

#### REPORT FROM ST. PIUS X SCHOOLS

By the time the December issue of the Templeogue Telegraph appears our School Manager, Rev. Fr. Diffney, will have departed from the Parish of St. Pius X. We congratulate him on his appointment as Parish Priest of Sutton, but we regret his departure from our midst. As a School Manager he knew that parents and teachers should work together in a spirit of friendly and responsible co-operation. At all times he strove to maintain this goodwill and thus earned the respect of teachers and parents. The Parish was closely knit together through the aegis of the many Societies. He fostered and inspired them all and gave allegiance to none. He never failed to uphold the professional status of the teacher. At any function or 'meeting he spoke in the highest terms of the work of the Primary Teachers. This confidence and goodwill on the part of a Manager did much to make a contented staff. We wish Fr. Diffney good health and length of years and pray that the Lord will bless his pastoral work. To our new Parish Priest and School Manager, Very Rev. Cornelius Lee, P.P., we extend a very sincere welcome. May we assure him of our loyalty and co-operation.

We congratulate our pupils on their generous contribution to the Ethiopian Fund. Some of their parents availed themselves of this opportunity to share their good fortune with their deprived brethren. In all we sent a cheque for £260 to the Irish Independent Ethiopian Relief Fund.

Our Carol-singers, accompanied by their teachers, will start on their annual round of the Parish on Monday, 17th December. We ask all to contribute generously when the collectors call to you. All the money collected will be handed over to the Altar Society to defray the cost of decorating the Church for Christmas. Your generous contribution is the only reward these children seek for their nightly rounds.

Arrangements are being made for next year's excursions for the Senior boys and girls. The boys will travel to Stratford-on-Avon. This trip was made by the girls in 1972 and was voted a great success. With Shakespeare's plays still on the Secondary School curriculum a visit to his birthplace should be a worthwhile project. The girls will venture further afield. They hope to spend two days sightseeing in London.

Mrs. O'Rourke, 5 College Crescent, presents a beautiful Iced Christmas Cake to the School each year to be raffled to raise funds for the School. Rising prices and shortages have not affected the quality or size of this year's cake. Tickets at 5p each are now on sale in the school. As tickets are sold only to the children attending the school the winner must be one of our own pupils so make sure your child's name is in the drum.

There was not a Sodality Mass for the schoolchildren in December. Our next Sodality Mass will be in February, 1974. Parents are asked to remind their children to receive the Sacraments of Penance and the Blessed Eucharist in the intervening period.

The School will close for Christmas holidays on Friday, 21st December and will re-open on Monday, 7th January, 1974 D.V.

Nollaig faoi shean and faoi shonas dibh.

## FATHER CON LEE

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Fr. Con Lee was ordained in St. Patrick's College. Maynooth in 1942 and was first appointed as Chaplain to the Carmelite Convent, Mount Tallant, Harold's Cross. He then ministered at Portland Row (St. Joseph's) and was appointed Assistant Priest in Corpus Christi Parish. Three years later he became curate in Greystones Parish but after two years returned to the City as curate in St. Andrew's Parish, Westland Row. Here Fr. Lee ministered for 16 years and during that time he was the first organising secretary of the Pre-Marriage Course in the Diocese. During two years of that period he was also external chaplain to Trinity College, Dublin. Fr. Lee's next transfer was to Rathgar Parish where he remained seven years until his present appointment as Parish Priest of Templeogue.

## FINAL PROFESSION OF SR. O'LOONEY, R.C.E.

On 21st November, 1973 Sr. Rosemary O'Looney R.C.E. made her final profession in St. Pius X Church in the presence of Mother Rosemary Alexander, the Superior of the Community and Most Rev. Dr. Kavanagh, Auxiliary to the Archbishop of Dublin.

Not often in the past have the laity participated in this impressive ceremony, and indeed as Dr. Kavanagh remarked the ceremony itself has changed greatly: perhaps the greatest change being that the occasion was now one at which the whole community could be present. He went on to elaborate on the importance and relevance to the world of today of the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience by which religious bind themselves. The ceremony took place during concelebrated Mass at which Dr. Kavanagh was the chief celebrant.

Music was rendered by the girls of Our Lady 's School, with Miss Cahill at the organ and under the direction of Mr. Leonard.

We wish Sr. O'Looney every blessing in her work.

## PARISH OF ST. PIUS X, TEMPLEOGUE

## A New Parish Priest for Templeogue

On last Monday night (3rd December) The Very Reverend Con Lee was inducted as Parish Priest of St. Pius X Parish, Templeogue, by the Right Reverend Monsignor Cecil J. Barrett, P.P., Vicar General of the Diocese of Dublin. The Ceremony of Induction and Concelebrated Mass were most impressive and symbolic, reflecting a real celebration of commitment and welcome by the community to its new Parish Priest.

All community organisations, agencies and associations were represented at the ceremony and joyfully participated in the informal reception which followed in St. Mary's Rugby Club Hall. Many parishioners were also present and the youth were significantly involved at the ceremony of induction.

The actual ceremony of induction stressed and effectively indicated the functions and duties of the new Parish Priest. The decree of appointment which designated Fr. Lee as Parish Priest of Templeogue was read. Then there was the Profession of Faith by Fr. Lee which reminded him - and all his parishioners - of his responsibilities to profess and teach the Faith by word, action and prayer. In reciting the Apostles' Creed Fr. Lee professed his firm belief in the total teaching of the Catholic Church.

Then the new Parish Priest 'took possession', as it were, of the church and parish by being placed in the presidential chair at the altar, and receiving his decree of appointment. Fr. Lee was then given the stole - sign of jurisdiction and authority - and the Book of the Gospels and was told to "Receive the Gospel and preach the word of God, always teaching with the greatest patience".

The Vicar General then presented the key, charging the new Parish Priest to "guard and protect your Church and watch over the flock that has been entrusted to you". Thus were the Templeogue people symbolically committed to Fr. Lee's care.

This was a splendid and history-laden ceremony. The carefully followed formulae echoed mediaeval times while the community and choral singing were very much of the present era.

All felt as members of a family sharing together with hearts full of joy and faith a most happy occasion of welcome to and acceptance of the new Parish Priest, Fr. Lee.

## A Story of Christmas Long Ago

Many, many years ago At Christmastime, when cold winds blow, A little boy went out to play In a country town not far away. He got tired playing with the snow And wondered where he next should go. He did not want to go home yet, Although by now his shoes were wet. His hands were now as cold as ice, The open church door looked so nice. The stained glass windows seemed to glow, Throwing colours bright onto the snow. He knew the church so very well, What's more he liked the incense smell. The candles flickered, the oil lamps shone, But people praying there were none. Into the crib he next did peep To see if Jesus was asleep. But no, and they gazed at each other Then at his smiling holy Mother. Saint Joseph, who was standing by Didn't seem to moan or sigh When this small boy who was no stranger Lifted Jesus from the manger, And said "I'll take you home with me. We have no baby there you see, And my old pram and cot are there And Mam will give you loving care". This little boy went home that night Holding Baby Jesus tight. His mother wondering where he'd gone On seeing him said " ou've done wrong". But Father John said "He's not bold, He thought the baby looked so cold. This little child has done no harm In keeping Baby Jesus warm". This story may seem strange to you But it has happened and it's true!

> Sheila Whittle. (Copyright)

When we asked Sheila Whittle for her Christmas wish, this is what she said: My wish is that they should stop modernising Cribs! For instance, that lovely old-fashioned one in Clarendon Street - it was much more true-tolife than the new one is.

## SO FATHER DIFFNEY'S LEAVING US

So Father Diffney's leaving us For Sutton's sandy shore, And after his long years with us Could any priest want more? We hear he'll have his little house With neighbours quiet and kind: We wonder who'll disturb the peace And bring us back to mind?

O happy priest! No more he'll have Those awful Springfield nobs, The College/Wainsfort/Fortfield lot The Greenlea/Cypress mobs; But most of all he now escapes - he's surely had his fill -The greatest gougers of them all The crowd from Templeville!

Perhaps he'll have a school or two With PTAs galore, Who're ne'er around when drains get clogged Or rain through classrooms pour. If not, we'll take a trip ourselves Right out to Dublin Bay, And scrawl up slogans on his wall Like - "Parents Rule O.K.?"

But no, he'll have a lovely church With everything brand new, No saintly pusses on the wall, And pillars very few, No money troubles with the bank, No fears 'twill come to pass Like here, the time we nearly had The banker saying Mass!

We hope he'll be a Canon soon
With stripes and pinky socks
Or even a Monsignor with
His own Confession Box.
'Deed, who can tell he yet may wear
The little purple hat,
With people calling him "My Lord..."
But no - he'd soon stop that!

## SO FATHER DIFFNEY'S LEAVING US

/Continuation

Yes, Father Diffney's leaving us For Sutton's sandy shore. We hope it doesn't mean that we'll Be seeing him no more. For, Father, if you don't come round On Confirmation Day Your name is always in the pot For a friendly "cuppa tay"!

It seems fitting that, having been responsible for the foregoing piece of light versification, I should also add a few words about Father Diffney's achievements while at Templeogue.

When Father Diffney came here in late 1966 the Parish was still sorting itself out. From the beginning he made a deep impression. His attention to pastoral visitation was immediate and thorough. Then having got to know his people he began a great social innovation, known as "Father Diffney's Parties" when all residents - and not merely parishioners - were invited area by area to supper and a social evening. Needless to say, these evenings were a huge success, for in addition to organising an excellent supper, Father Diffney could muster a host of brilliant artists for the night's entertainment. He was himself an accomplished pianist and his own "spot" was always an item one looked forward to.

Father Diffney was a forceful member of the St. Pius X Musical Society, and indeed was "Colonel-in-Chief" to almost every Association working in Templeogue to which he could lend a hand. He was the only member of the Ladies' Club in Holy Orders and the only unmarried member of the Templeogue Parents' Association! Could one say more?

In the latter part of his ministry he was Acting Parish Priest and Manager of St. Pius X National Schools. Others better qualified than I have paid tribute in these spheres. One would need a full Telegraph to do justice to his zeal and energy but if I have to confine myself to one last point I would mention that it was with his encouragement and in response to his frequent promptings that the Templeogue Telegraph was "resurrected" in December, 1971: his article in that edition was the first of many contributions.

We congratulate Father Diffney, and wish him every blessing in his new Parish.

Paddy Heneghan.

LEGION OF MARY

#### HOLY INNOCENTS December 28th



"Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child' he said 'and when you have found him let me know'."

It was then that the words spoken through the prophet Jeremiah were fulfilled: A voice was heard in Ramah, Sobbing and loudly lamenting: It was Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted because they were no more. (Matt. 2. 16-18).

Reflecting on the Holy Innocents calls to mind the countless thousands of infants who are being slaughtered in our own days. These are killed before birth by abortion - carried out by various techniques. Life begins at the moment of conception when the ovum is fertilized and God creates the soul. When a fertilized ovum is destroyed it is a person who dies.

For example: Intrauterine devices (I.U.Ds) cause abortion of the tiny embryo and so are morally wrong. Things are morally right or wrong according as they help or hinder a person in the achievement of the purpose of his existence. The purpose of our existence is "to know, love and serve. God here on earth and to see and enjoy Him forever in Heaven". How do we know? We know because God revealed it. How do we 'now that God has revealed it? The Church teaches us - the bishops are the successors of the apostles and what is taught by the bishops as a body with the Pope as their head cannot be wrong! God always prevents false doctrines from being taught by them, lest we, the members of the Church, be led into error.

Another reflection on the Holy Innocents is this. As parents we are under obligation to instruct our children in prayer and the faith. The lessons must be very short and examples given to help them understand. Cardinal Wright has called the teaching of the catechism the most important work of the Church today. Unless children are well instructed in their faith, there will be no vocations, no good parents in the future.

Holy Innocents, pray for us.

Cosmas.

