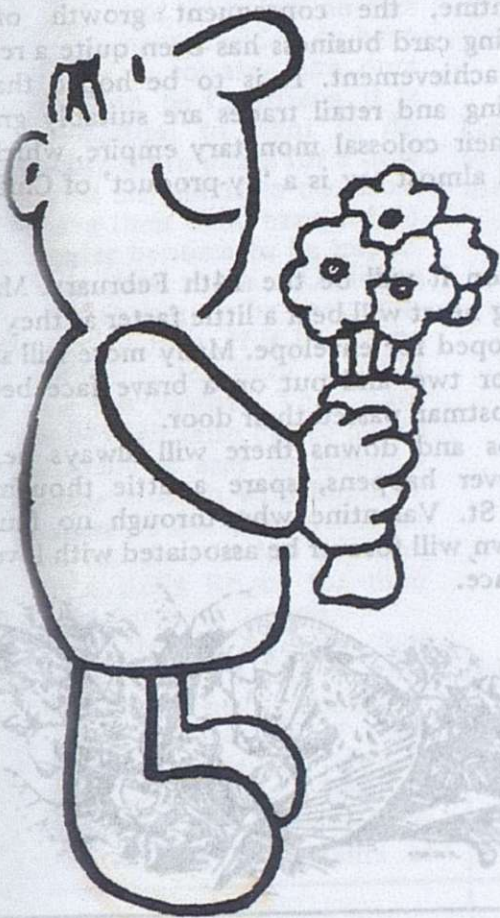




ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 1987

Help remove Loneliness from the community by



Visiting and Caring

WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE . . .



. . . says Karl Dorman to Maeve Ryan.

"Hope", they say, "springs eternal in the human breast" and ever since Pandora managed to imprison this special virtue, people have always been ready to look on the bright side. Yes, from time immemorial, the human race has on the slightest provocation, tossed aside their worries to celebrate a feast or a festival. Indeed, almost any occasion can be an excuse for merriment or jubilation and as we await the next exciting event, someone, somewhere, is ready to cash in on it.

By now the Christmas cards have left their place of honour over the mantelpiece. Hoarders have tucked them away in a safe place, dumpers have put them in the dustbin and dutiful people have despatched them to schools, playgroups and other sources to be cut up and recycled into 'objets d'art'.

However, do not despair. There is always another collection of greeting cards waiting to fill the empty mantelpiece, be it New Year's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduation, Hallowe'en, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Religious occasions, Congratulations, Get Well, Bon Voyage, and Thank You's - to mention but a few. The greeting card business is a multimillion pound Empire and St. Valentine was the one who started it all. The Valentine card was the forerunner of all greeting cards and the custom of calling oneself a Valentine is at least as old as the Pastoral Letters.

In the pre-Christian era, the Romans celebrated the festival of Lupercalia which was held on the 15th February each year. On that day, boys would draw girls names out of a box and be paired off accordingly. In Christian times the date was changed from the 15th to the 14th. Later the Church tried to make the occasion a purely religious one by asking people to draw Saints' names from the box,

but by the 16th century girls' names were in the boxes again sealing the fate of St. Valentine for good and all.

Some say there were two St. Valentines, one the Bishop of Terni who was martyred in Rome and the other a Roman priest, martyred during the reign of the Emperor Claudius, but most scholars believe that both accounts refer to one person.

By a quirk of fate, Ireland, who never saw or even sheltered a refugee from the Great Roman Empire, is now the proud possessor of the authenticated relics of St. Valentine himself, in our own Carmelite Church in Whitefriar Street. The remains of the Saint, venerated and treasured in the church, were presented by Pope Gregory XVI to Fr. John Spratt, O. Carm., the Prior of Whitefriar Street in 1835.

The Valentine card reigned supreme for hundreds of years. Paper Valentines were common in the 16th century and became more elaborate as the years went by. The use of lace paper, delicately ornamented, were popular and so were the lovely floral tributes, both of which proclaimed their messages of sentiment and love.

Whatever the connection of love with St. Valentine, the consequent growth of the greeting card business has been quite a remarkable achievement. It is to be hoped that the printing and retail trades are suitably grateful for their colossal monetary empire, which one could almost say is a 'by-product' of Christianity!

Soon it will be the 14th February. Many a young heart will beat a little faster as they open the hoped for envelope. Many more will shed a tear or two and put on a brave face because the postman passed their door.

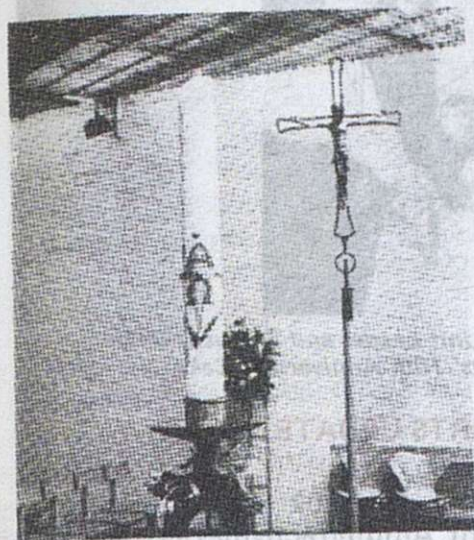
Ups and downs there will always be, but whatever happens, spare a little thought for poor St. Valentine who, through no fault of his own, will forever be associated with love and romance.



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BAPTISM



Receive the Light of Christ



reconciliation and the Eucharist. It is only in such an atmosphere as this that a child can hope to grow in the new life of Jesus Christ.

For some this is an easy decision, for others it is not so easy, but the one thing it's not is an automatic decision just because it's a custom or tradition.

When are Baptisms held in our Parish?

SATURDAYS: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Individual Baptism)
SUNDAYS: 3.30 p.m. (Communal Baptism)

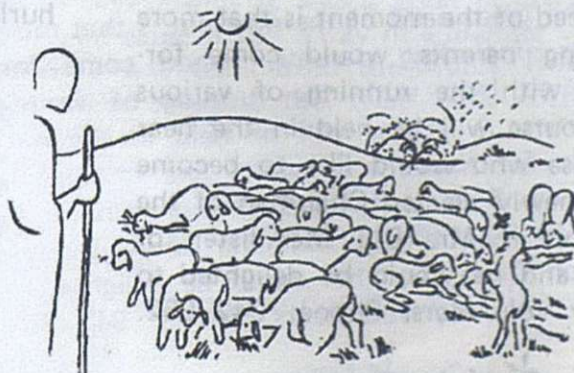
What do I need?

One or two people act as sponsors to the child. Being sponsor at Baptism is also a responsibility. You take on the responsibility of bringing up the child in the Catholic Faith, if the parents cannot fulfill this obligation. To act as sponsor for a Catholic Baptism, you must be a Catholic. The Church supplies the Baptismal candle.

What must I do?

Parents must call personally to the Presbytery to meet one of the priests, collect a form for the Baptismal register and arrange the date.

Chris Conroy



After fourteen years our Parish of Knocklyon is still very young. We have over one hundred baptisms each year. Some families are coming for the second or third time but for many it's their first experience. It's a very common occurrence to answer the 'phone in the Presbytery and be asked "What do I have to do to have my child baptized"? Usually people just want to know the time and place and what they need. But Baptism is more than time and place.

First of all, we would like to congratulate you on the birth of your child. Our Parish community shares with you your joy on this happy occasion. So you have decided to have your child baptized. In a country like ours where so many profess to be Christians, it is very automatic and natural to want to do this. But we would like you to pause for a time and think of what you are about to do. Most people who ask to have their child baptized do so because they consider baptism to be important. They want their child to be a Christian and they understand Baptism to be the sacrament which makes this happen. It is becoming more common nowadays to want a child baptized because it's the custom. They have given up the practice of their faith but to please their parents or to make it easy to attend a Catholic school they go through with Baptism. The child becomes what we call a "fourwheeler Christian". Wheeled to church for baptism, driven to church in a Rolls Royce for their wedding and in a hearse for their funeral.

When Christian parents ask to have their child baptized they stand before God to take on a great responsibility. They promise to support their child in the new life of Jesus Christ received at Baptism. This they will do through making a home where there is love and caring, peace and forgiveness and where there is prayer and reception of the Sacraments of

SPONSORS

MORNING DRESSMAKING

Home Economics Teacher Holds Classes for Small Groups Locally - 10 a.m. to 12 noon weekdays.

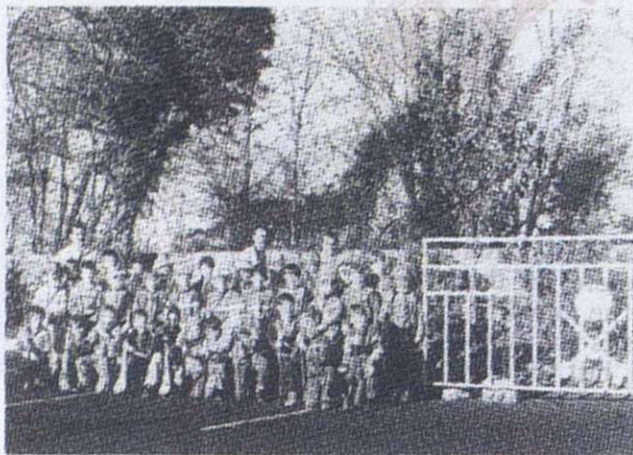
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Future All-Ireland Stars

The huge growth in the youth population of Knocklyon and surrounding areas has posed many challenges to local clubs and organisations. One of the clubs which has attempted to cope with the huge task of providing facilities for the youth of the area is Ballyboden St. Enda's G.A.A. Club.

A measure of the success of the club can be gauged from the fact that each weekend the club fields up to 20 teams in hurling, football and camogie from U-10 to U-16 level inclusive. In addition, approximately 250 young boys and girls are coached in the Saturday morning coaching nurseries held in the Cherryfield pitches opposite the Clubhouse.

The club works in very close co-operation with the local school, and indeed Mr. P. O'Neill and Ms. T. Cooney of St. Colmcille's S.N.S. are closely involved in the organisation of hurling and camogie in the club.

The great need of the moment is that more adults, including parents, would come forward to help with the running of various activities. A course will be held in the near future for those who would like to become involved. The newly elected Chairman of the Juvenile Section is Mr. Bill McAllister of Ashton Close, and he would be delighted to hear from any volunteers. Phone: 942 952.



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CONTACT 942516



Noel Geoghegan, Unit Leader and Fergus O'Brien cut the Scouts' 10th Anniversary Cake.

SPORTS UPDATE

Outdoor sports are enjoying a well-earned break at the moment. Autumn activities included hurling, football, camogie and basketball. Mrs Cooney leads the camogie players in their first year. They are very enthusiastic and hope to participate in the inter-school leagues in the Spring. The senior football team performed well but just failed to make the play-off. Jimmy Donnelly, Roy O'Carroll, Mark Mc Guire and Carlo Pelosi were among the better performers, but Mr. Mc Gabhann was satisfied with the efforts of all. A young junior panel had a slow start but under Mr. Anglin's astute guidance they recovered to notch some victories towards the end. Gearoid Fitzgerald, Alan Douglas, Kevin King and Frank Moran gave their all, and more can be expected from this team in the future.

The Spring will see the big ball being replaced by the small one, and let's hope our hurlers will produce the same effort.

WINTER SPORTS



Thomas Coyle, Gary Selby and Dara Connors on a slide

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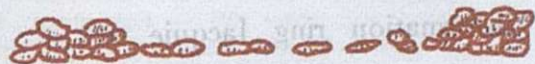
BEAUTY, EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW . . .

No doubt about it, praise the Lord, hope springs eternal. The after-Christmas Day period is a little like no-man's land, but even in early January the break-through is imminent. There is just that little sniff of Spring in the air. Not to worry if that sniff was temporarily snuffed in that mid-January Arctic embrace.

I'm still on the New Year resolution bit, and so far things are going reasonably well, even if somewhat shaky at times. Big deal, do I hear you say, what will it be like come next December — that's it, always the knockers! None the less undaunted, let us inflict a few samples of my resolutions on you. Number one is anti-procrastination (thief of time!). I have sorta nightmarish recollections of the not so distant Christmas Eve — left too much to be done too late. I started off on the wrong foot, lifting, (literally of course!), with one hand, three unfortunate frozen turkeys, as part of an act of charity, leading to immediate back trouble. A confrere here suggested, wickedly, it was the shock of doing something charitable that caused my back-ache. With friends like that . . .! Anyway, the Lord relented, and as the day wore on the old back eased off, and, come Christmas Day, it was forgotten.

Number two resolve might be: less talk and more doing. That one should evoke a good horse laugh from those who know me! But the strong silent type are right, better fitted, I suspect, to cope with the bard of Avon's "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune".

Yet another comes to mind: Don't worry about little things, as a matter of fact, don't worry about anything. "Martha, Martha, you worry about many things . . .". Just do your best, leave the Result to God, and He sure does deliver. When all seems lost and impossible, He will certainly come to the rescue.



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In Knocklyon Junior School

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I was in my native place recently enjoying an after-Christmas break. At the time, I called to the local Cottage Hospital, to see a few old friends. Many of us, and that includes me, do not do nearly enough of that, and mark our words, we are the poorer for it. Annie is going on 93, Polly trumps that at a cool 99, while Maggie is a mere 86! As I came away from a lively and enjoyable session with them, a jumble of wholesome messages were tapping at, what I am pleased to call, my brain; the principal one, we live until we die, and God surely expects us to be up and doing, within, of course, the various limitations of our health and the like. In a word, He expects us to live and not just to exist. Not to be saying, it's too late for that now — better late than never and anytime is a good time to begin. To succeed, all that's needed is plenty of patience, perseverance, and trust in God. God Himself shows us the way, always renewing Himself. "Beauty ever ancient, ever new". Nature, His mirror, is at the same game — Winter sleep the ever exquisite Spring reawakening. So 1987, rise and shine, for the Lord!

Pat F.

"A FRIEND IN NEED"



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SPECIAL NOTICE TO PARENTS OF YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS

Each week the Youth Club caters for up to 200 children. In order to entertain them and provide instruction on new recreational skills, we need much more help. Apart from our wish to keep the children occupied, we also have to provide basic supervision, man a busy tuck shop – and stow all the gear and clean up – leaving the school ready for normal activity. We have an obligation under our insurance policy to have in attendance X number of adults for X number of children. On one or two occasions before Christmas we were close to sending children home because we were short of supervisors. When you consider that a high number of our supervisors are single people – you can easily see that we are not getting the assistance of many parents to run the club.

Please don't leave it to others. If sufficient people volunteered to help, it would be more fun for the children and the burden on adults would be more evenly spread.

Come along Friday or Saturday next and see for yourself, or Phone Con O'Grady (613643) to find out more. DO IT NOW!!! Thank you!

Paddy Ryan,
Secretary Knocklyon Youth Club

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

The weekly envelopes have been distributed to all the areas of the Parish. If you have been missed out, please let us know by ringing 941204.

Our present debt on Church and Schools is £20,000. To meet our repayments to the Bank each week we need £1,689. We would be able to achieve this if everyone contributed at least £2 per week. We would appeal especially to those who have children at our schools. The Parish has to pay £6 per child each year to the Government for the running of our schools. There is no such thing as free education. We also have to pay for all children who attend primary schools outside the Parish.

AN HOUR TO SPARE?

Did you know that all over Ireland there are what we could call 'little pockets of Prayer'? They are groups of ordinary people who gather together once a week to give thanks, to pray for the needs of others, for their families and for the Church.

Have you ever felt you would like to give a little of your time to prayer? If you do, then why not come along to the Prayer Group meeting, which takes place on Wednesday morning each week. There you will begin to learn more about prayer, you will learn to pray and find a deeper strength and knowledge of what prayer means in our lives.

The group was started in 1982 and has grown from strength to strength. All ages are welcome and there is a creche available for pre-school children. When the meeting is over there is time for a chat, a cup of coffee or tea and the opportunity to get to know many other mothers in your area.

10.20 am - Each Wednesday

11 Knocklyon Avenue.

O'Connell's,
Why not come along – any Wednesday, or ring 510490 for more information.

KNOCKLYON COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

The first term at the Community Playschool has been a tremendous success.

Christmas saw our first attempt at our production of the Nativity. All went very well, the shepherds giggled in the corner and the Innkeeper lost his voice, but for eighteen little 3-year olds it was a great effort. When the end came with "Away in a Manger", there were a few tears from the Mums. However, we soon stopped the tears - with coffee all round.

There is one vacancy left now and enrolment for children wishing to start in September is in the Parish Centre each morning at 10 a.m. until 12.30.

For further information ring Jacquie at 942260.

Lady in Idrone available to take care of toddler, in her own home – has special interest in care of young children. Ph: 941114.

HOME help required, 3 mornings per week, Knocklyon area. Cleaning, no cooking, no young children. Ph: 942085 (after 6.30 p.m.)

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HOTLYON !!!

are very pleased to hear that a computer has been donated by the Senior School. Well done to all concerned for collecting the necessary tokens and writing a catchy slogan.

BRING AND BUY

The sum of £600 — proceeds of the bring and buy — was sent to St. Vincent de Paul Society before Christmas. Thank you to all the boys and girls who donated the books and toys for the sale.

SCHOOL TOUR

A number of children from 6th classes and some teachers will leave on 15th February and spend a week visiting Rome and Venice. Lucky you! Have a great time.

The Senior School is not alone in winning prizes these days! We must congratulate Mrs. Doody from the Junior School on winning a terrific prize of electrical equipment, in a recent competition sponsored by The Evening Press.

Rumour has it that the Stork will be kept busy in the Junior School in the coming months!

CHANGE OF DATE

The Pantomime "Red Riding Hood" will be staged at the Junior School on Sunday 8th Feb. at 3 p.m. Tickets available at the door or Tel. 941165. Adults £2. Children £1. All profits will go into the school funds. We look forward to seeing sisters Lisa and Anne Kelly in this excellent production by the Orchard Players.

DOG IN THE MANGER!

One of the many visitors to our Church during the Christmas Season was a very large, frisky Golden Retriever. He took a shine to the Crib, but his motives were entirely hedonistic — he was looking for someone snuggly to lie down and have 40 winks. Climbing into the Crib and scattering all before him, he found a ideal spot for this purpose, in the straw. Needless to say he was quickly shown the door in no uncertain manner. Undaunted by the lack of hospitality, however, our canine friend made several further but futile attempts to gate-crash. It really is a dog's life!

GIFTS WITH CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION IN MIND . . .

Then call to our Church Shop and see the wide variety of gifts available. The prices are right too. Look in our display cabinet and see what good value we offer. The shop is open after all Masses on Sundays and during the week.

TEENAGERS MEETING FOR ALL TEENAGERS

Discussion on Confession — We want your views. Monday 1st February at 8 o'clock in the Parish Centre.

CHRISTMAS DUES

The priests of the Parish would like to thank all those who have contributed so generously to the Christmas dues. These dues go to the support of our clergy and the running of the Presbytery throughout the year. The Priests have no independent income. They rely on the generosity and help of the people.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

at St. Colmcille's Church, Knocklyon, March 6th,

will be held every first and third Tuesday of the month in the Community Centre pre-fab at

Anybody interested in joining us is very welcome. The C.A. is not all Stork Margarine and Knitting. We have lots of other interesting activities and guest

THINGS CULINARY

After all the excesses of the Christmas fare, what you need now is something very basic and simple. We won't go to the raw vegetable, brown bread and carrot juice just yet but start with a touch of good old Irish quality cooking, a currant bread. This is a recipe my mother has been using for over 50 years and in all my travels I have not come across a better one.

1½ lb. self-raising white flour
1 egg

2 tbs. sugar
1 oz. butter

Total liquid, including the egg, to come to approx. ¾ pint, just enough to make a soft yet firm dough, definitely not hard — this indicates too little liquid or wet and sticky indicates too much liquid. Mix all the dry ingredients together and rub in the butter. Beat the egg, add the milk to bring up to above ¾ of a pint. Pour into a well in the middle of the flour. Stir with a spoon from the centre out, working in a circle. When it becomes quite firm use your floured hand to bind the entire mix together. If too hard, add more milk. If too soft, add more flour.

Put into a greased cake tin and bake in the oven at 190°C for one hour and 15 minutes. Absolutely superb with plenty of Irish butter and Knocklyon homemade jam.

Paddy the Chef

KNOCKLYON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The A.G.M. of the Knocklyon Community Association will be held on Thursday 29th January in the Knocklyon Parish Centre at 8 p.m.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Emma Cynthia Branigan	70 Lansdowne Park
Jack Berry	42 Knockaire
Carrie Eileen Murphy	7 Knocklyon Avenue
Ronan Seamus Malachy McElhinney	97 Dargle Wood
Gary Patrick Byrne	6 Knocklyon Close
Sinead Josephine Mary Allen	26 Delaford Drive
Niamh Maura Cummins	142 Glenvara Park
Orla Marie Basquille	Glenard, Firhouse Road
Mark Patrick Gallagher	19 Knocklyon Avenue
Kate Noelle Geoghegan	148 Glenvara Park
Jennifer Margaret Mahon	32 Ashton Lawn
Niamh Orla Griffin	33 Glenvara Park
Robert Martin Ellison	33 Knocklyon Park
Gordon James Brennan	86 Ashton Avenue
Ciara Mary Kelly	15 Beverly Heights



THE LADIES' COMMITTEE

The Ladies' Committee has been going in this Parish now for 10 years. The work this Committee has done over the years, and still does, is invaluable to the whole of the Parish.

The A.G.M. will be held on Tuesday 10th February at 8 o'clock in the Parish Centre, so come along ladies and give us new ideas. Don't leave it to the same few who have worked long and hard for the good of the Parish.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Items and advertisements for inclusion in the February issue should be handed into the Presbytery by Monday 16th February. The newsletter will be circulated from 26th February. Enquiries re advertising to Pat at 947493 or telephone the Presbytery at 941204.

If you have any news for our Hotlyon just drop a

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