

THE KNOCKLYON NEWS



ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS 1994

BEANNACHT



A. BRÍOSCÚ

NA NOLLAG

Christmas Services

St. Colmcille's Church, Knocklyon

Penitential Service - Tuesday 20th December 8.00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Confessions - 10.30 a.m. until 12.30 p.m.,
3.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m., 7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.
Christmas Eve Carol Service - 9.30 p.m.
"Midnight" Mass - 10 p.m.
Christmas Day - 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon, 1 p.m.
(Church closes at 2 p.m.)
St. Stephen's Day - Mass at 10 a.m. only
Dec. 27th - Jan 5th - Weekly Masses: 10 a.m., 6.10 p.m.



Church of Ireland

Rathfarnham
Sunday 18th Dec. 7 p.m.:
Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve 11.30 p.m.:
Midnight Communion
Christmas Day:
8 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
with Children's Service
12 noon Holy Communion

Whitechurch

Services in Whitechurch
Church are as follows:
11.30 p.m. Christmas Eve,
Holy Communion

Christmas Day:
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.15 a.m. Children's Service
11.15 a.m. Holy Communion

COULD YOU FOSTER CHILDREN?



Have you ever thought of fostering a child ... or even children? Margaret never had – that is until one afternoon when the local “Lifetimes” dropped through her letter box. “I hadn’t much to do that day” she remembers, “so I sat down and thumbed my way through it”. I never read the ads but there was

one that caught my eye – it said “Could You Foster Children?” “Somehow, I kept coming back to it. ‘For more information contact Eileen or Philie’ it said. When John came home that night I told him about it. We talked about what it would involve, caring and sharing your home and family life with unknown children. John thought there was no harm in finding out more about it. I couldn’t get it out of my head. I kept thinking – I NEVER read the ads.” The next day Margaret rang Philie who invited her to the next open evening. These are held each month. She took home a “Questionnaire” and after more discussion with John they agreed to fill it in.

If you apply to become a foster parent you are required to do a training course with other foster parents, a programme which also carries out a series of interviews with your family. In this way the social worker gets to know the applicant and their families and the family is learning more about fostering and finding out if it is the right thing for them. Sometimes an emergency situation arises when a child needs urgent care and it was during such an emergency that Margaret and John were asked to take two little girls aged two and three and four years whose mother was incapable of looking after them. Emergency situations usually mean short term fostering but Margaret and John eventually became involved in helping the social worker to make long term plans in the children’s best interest ... and that was how they became long term foster parents. The children settled in very quickly and later were joined by their younger sister. The three little ones are now part of a loving and caring family.

As the Christmas preparations get under way, many people feel an inexplicable urge to help people less fortunate than themselves. We remember the famine victims, the war torn countries – and most of all the children of these tragedies. Human hearts are touched and we dig deep into our pockets in order to contribute to these more than worthy



causes. But have you ever stopped to think about the neglected and uncared for children in our own country. We do not need to give money to help these unfortunate children whose parents are unable to cope or care for them as they would wish. We must ask ourselves many questions for instance ... *Why do children have to leave their own “birth” families and be put into care?* There are many reasons which bring about these situations – medical or psychiatric problems, drug abuse, child abuse or utter neglect. Often there is unemployment, poor housing, bad health or mental handicap – all stresses which add to the trauma. The ages of children who require care can range from infants to late teenage years. Do you know that at any one time, the Health Boards provide care for approx. 750 children? Some are in children’s homes, others are in long term foster homes, short term foster homes, day care, or holiday or weekend breaks. In fostering too, it is an important factor that the child or children do not forget their “birth” family, and regular visits to their parent or parents take place either in the foster home or if inadvisable, at the local Health Centre. These visits may or may not be supervised by the health worker – sometimes a foster parent may be involved as a child or children often find it comforting that both families can meet in this way.

Once applicants are accepted as foster parents, the Eastern Health Board offer the services of a social worker to help with any problems that may arise. They offer regular support meetings with other foster parents which include advice, and guidance. A range of training videos are made available through the Irish Foster Care Association and opportunities are given to exchange views on the work and joys involved in fostering.

Foster families are paid a regular maintenance for children by the Health Board. Each child is also entitled to Children’s Allowance and a Medical Card. For a child with special needs, extra payments are available and for every child a twice yearly clothes allowance is given.

Fostering is open to any person, married or single who has a secure home base. It is not necessary to own your own home. It is preferable though that the age gap between the carer and the child’s age should not be more than 40 years.

If you are interested, you could contact your local Health Centre in Rathfarnham, at 4933431 or 4931366.

Eileen Casey

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This year Knocklyon Guide Company has twenty-four members between the ages of 11 and 14 who meet on a Friday night at 8 p.m. in the Scout Den. Each week the Guides participate in many activities including first aid, pioneering, outdoor and camping skills.

During the summer the Guides attended a camp in County Tipperary where they had an opportunity to meet other Guides from around the country. Since the beginning of September the Guides have taken part in a sponsored walk to raise money for The Irish Girl Guide Association, a great afternoon was had along the Dodder while meeting other Guides from the area. At the beginning of November the guides headed to the Outdoor Centre in Baltinglass, County Wicklow for an adventure weekend where they tried their hands at abseiling, canoeing, orienteering, rockclimbing and archery. The weekend was enjoyed by all and everyone came home tired and dirty! We will hopefully be having an enrolment ceremony soon to invest our new Guides while we hope to organise a trip to the I.G.G. cottage at Enniskerry in the New Year.

For further information contact:

Valerie Hollingsworth 4942405

Louisa Richardson 4945676 after 7 p.m.

The Tomlin Cup for Drama was deservedly won by the Ballymun Guild of the I.C.A. Our Drama group took part in the Festival and did very well. The acting was terrific. Congratulations to Bridie Maher who got the award for Best Producer.

The Candlewick Embroidery demonstration was very well attended. The samples of work were beautiful. Each member got the opportunity to try their hand at embroidery. There was so much interest in this subject that when classes were suggested they were booked out within minutes.

As 1994 draws to a close the Knocklyon Guild of the I.C.A. would like to wish all the residents of Knocklyon a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

Mairead Duggan

Knocklyon Credit Union

It is projected that the Knocklyon Credit Union will reach over £100,000 in Assets (members' savings) in the next accounting period. Over 100 of the members are children under 16 years of age. The total membership at present is 452. The projected membership is 600 before the next A.G.M.

Frank McLoughlin, Auditor for the Credit Union gave a clean bill of health at the A.G.M., which was held on Wednesday 23rd November. He complimented the board on accounts well kept and presented.

The Credit Union wishes all our members a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Don't forget opening hours!

Friday Nights 7.15 to 9 p.m. Saturday Mornings 10-11 a.m.

Christmas Opening

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Friday 30th 7.15 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Sat. 31st CLOSED

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Editorial Note

We were very pleased to hear from the readers whose articles are published here, and hope this will encourage more letters and articles from individuals, who have an interest or issue they would like to bring to the attention of other parishioners. A name and address should accompany these submissions but will be withheld on request.

~ ~ ~ SELF ESTEEM ~ ~ ~

"But what if I should discover that the enemy himself is within me,
that I myself am the enemy who must be loved.
What then?" C. J. Jung

Our self-esteem refers to the way we value ourselves and generally varies from one area of life to another. This is because of our ability to define who we are and then decide if we like it or not. We may feel "good" about ourselves as parents and "bad" about ourselves at work. We may credit ourselves with intelligence, but not with beauty, or we value our bodies, but not our minds. We are constantly assessing and judging ourselves.

Often we seek self esteem in achievements, relationships, possessions etc. as if it were something to be earned or proved. Our culture is convinced that self esteem is to be found by being, doing and having certain things, and by avoiding being, doing and having certain other things. And it has successfully convinced us of same.

Self esteem actually exists in spite of and not because of what we own, look like, or achieve. We esteem ourselves truly when we have nothing to prove.

True self esteem is born of ongoing self acceptance and forgiveness, and the understanding that our worth was and is our birthright.

When we stop trying to be perfect, we can allow ourselves to be the ordinary people that we are, capable of doing extraordinary things with what we have.

M. Hegarty (Parishioner)

ANIMALS AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas is getting near and the annual excitement is building. In the excitement animals are often forgotten.

When deciding on presents this year please think twice before giving pets for Christmas. Remember, the furry little puppy or kitten you give on Christmas day will grow up to need daily walks and feeding, vaccinations, other expensive veterinary treatments and lots of love and attention. Unlike toys, when the novelty wears off you can't put the animal back on a shelf.

Also, when buying cosmetics as presents it's well worth a bit of extra effort to find products which are not tested on animals.

Make this a happy and cruelty-free Christmas.

Karen Doherty

NEW RESIDENTS' COMMITTEE

A residents committee has been formed in Westbourne Lodge. This committee wishes to thank Mr. Seamus Brennan, T.D. and Councillor Mary Muldoon for their help and interest in the estate and looks forward to their continued support in the future.

Many thanks to all residents who turned out in June to help clean up the estate. Their good work on that day and since has resulted in the award for the Tidiest Estate (mentioned in the previous newsletter). We hope we can rely on the support of all residents for our new committee.

Editorial P.S.

Dear Reader,

We see this Newsletter as a vital link in the chain of communication within our parish and as such endeavour to have it delivered to every home. Our delivery teams are comprised of boys and girls from the 5th and 6th classes in our Senior School, whose parents have consented to them being involved.

Over 100 children do this important work throughout the year and they are generally responsible for deliveries in their immediate area, or one very nearby. With over 24 distinct estates of varying size in the parish, unfortunately it is not always possible to get a delivery person for each address, as the personal security of the child must be considered, especially in dark winter evenings. To provide for this fact extra Newsletters are made available at the back of the church and in Superquinn.

If you are unable to collect a copy from any of these sources or know a neighbour/friend in this situation please let us know, via a note to the Presbytery and we will endeavour to make some suitable arrangement.

Also if your home is being omitted in your estate please do contact us so that we can rectify the matter before the next issue.

We can only serve you better if you communicate with us. We welcome and invite your comments, (positive or otherwise).

Write that note!

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Year of the Family

Hopefully you all know by now that K.A.I.E.S. is your local Adult Education group. Just to refresh your memories, we are a voluntary committee, beavering away in the Knocklyon Community Centre, running day and evening classes in subjects such as Counselling, Personal Development, Art, Reflexology, Psychology, Computer Studies, Interior Design and Flower Arranging.

This year is the *International Year of the Family*, and to celebrate, funds were made available for projects that would benefit the family. As most of our classes take place in the morning time, our "students" are mostly mothers working in the home. We feel our classes provide these women with a much needed outlet, whether it's giving the old self-esteem a boost by attending a Personal Development class, or learning Aromatherapy Massage and practising on the husband or kiddies back home!

Anyway, on this basis, we were delighted to receive a grant from the *Year of Family Fund* to further our work in Adult Education in Knocklyon. It gave us a much needed boost, our finances as well as our morale!

We used some of the money to buy our first piece of Equipment, an overhead projector and screen, which has already been put to use on our Women's Studies course, and will be seen by our Psychology students in the next term.

With the remainder, we were able to partially fund the Second year of the Extra-Mural Diploma in Counselling Skills, accredited by Maynooth College, thus enabling us to offer a small reduction on the hefty course fee. We feel this is worthwhile as families in our community will ultimately benefit from the skills of course participants, for example the class includes people involved in voluntary work, nursing and teaching. Mary Bird from Idrone, one of the course participants, is a volunteer with La Leche League, and feels the course has been of invaluable help to her. The Counselling course has been extremely popular in Knocklyon, and this year we started another class, at Certificate Level, in the evening.

We'd like to wish all Knocklyon families a Happy Christmas, especially our students and tutors. Watch this space for our 1995 programme!

Anne Gillen
Chairperson K.A.I.E.S.
Phone 4939424

A great night was had at the recent Cheese and Wine party held as a gesture of gratitude to all the Managers and Mentors of the different sports for 1994.

A special thank you to Aileen Millane and other committee members for organising and getting sponsorship for same. Superquinn, being the main sponsors, deserve a special word of praise.

We regret the A.G.M. for the coming year has had to be postponed as two separate Committees must be formed for 1995. This is as a result of an instruction from the National Community Games Authority, that any area where the population exceeds 6,000 residents be divided. Knocklyon will now be split into two areas, North and South. The boundaries will run approximately from the roundabout on Scholarstown Road to Knocklyon Road, turning left up Knocklyon Road to Ballycullen Road and left up Ballycullen Road. Everything to the left of this boundary will be Knocklyon South and to the right will be Knocklyon North.

When this is ratified by the Dublin Executive a map will go on display on Notice-boards in Superquinn and Knocklyon church and a date will be set for the A.G.M. Watch out for the announcement in order that your area is organised for the coming year.

The Committee opposed vigorously and deeply regrets our community being split, but sport has no boundaries or limitations and we look forward to a successful 1995 for Knocklyon 1 and 2, North and South.

Again the outgoing Executive of Brendan Murphy, Tommy Cunniffe, Aileen Millane, Paddy King, Michael Hunt and Aiden Nevin, would like to sincerely thank the Managers and Mentors of all the different sports for making 1994 the most successful Community Games ever for Knocklyon.

See you at the A.G.M.

Aiden Nevin, P.R.O.

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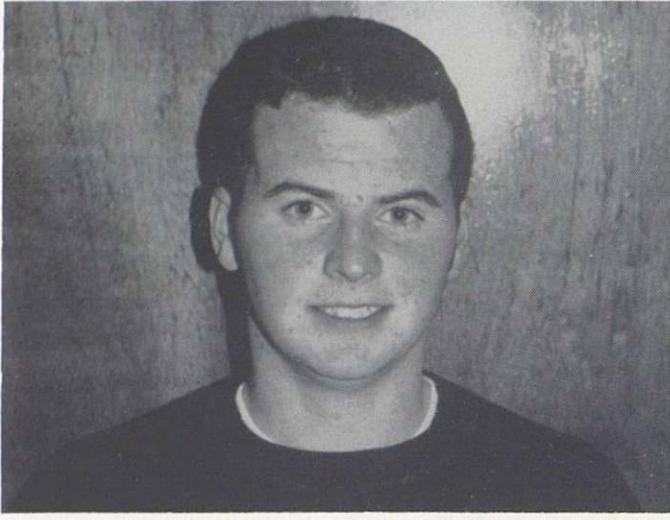
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THE TWO EXPLORERS



Ciaran Daly

As mentioned in the last issue of the Newsletter two Venturers from the 112th Scout Unit took part in the Explorer Belt which took place over July/August '94 in Scotland. They were Liam Curran from Knocklyon Avenue and Ciaran Daly from Lansdowne Park. Liam is in 4th year in Templeogue College and Ciaran is in 6th year in Terenure College.

The Explorer Belt is one of the highest awards that a Venturer can achieve in Scouting. The Explorer Belt expedition is made up of a 10 day 200km. hike in a foreign country. Each team comprises two people and they are given a budget of £60 per team. They are given a map, list of projects to complete on route and emergency phone numbers etc. The lads now tell their story.

"Our original team was comprised of Paul O'Carroll and Ciaran Daly. About three weeks before the expedition, Paul broke his ankle on Summer Camp in a football match (thanks Jimmy). Liam Curran stepped into the fray and got into some serious training. Preparation of equipment etc., was carried out over the 3 weeks beforehand.

We arrived in Scotland at around 11 a.m. on 27th July 1994 after a Ferry Trip from Larne where we had spent the previous night. There were 28 teams from all over the country taking part in the Explorer Belt. We boarded buses and set out for the drop off. None of the teams had any idea where they would be dropped off, it could be anywhere in Scotland.

At around 2 p.m. our turn came to be dropped. We were left on the side of the road with a big brown envelope and absolutely no idea where we were. It was only then we realised what exactly we had gotten ourselves into. We finally realised that we were just outside a town called Loans near the coast. Our object was to reach Bathgate in 10 days time in one piece.

After a long day's hiking we finally found a place we could pitch our tent and spend the night. In total we stayed in two different Scout Dens along the route, pitched our tent in a barn, stayed on numerous farms and one person actually gave us the keys to their house which they were not using that night and told us to make ourselves at home.

The people of Scotland were very friendly and accommodating. We had no problem getting people to talk to us.

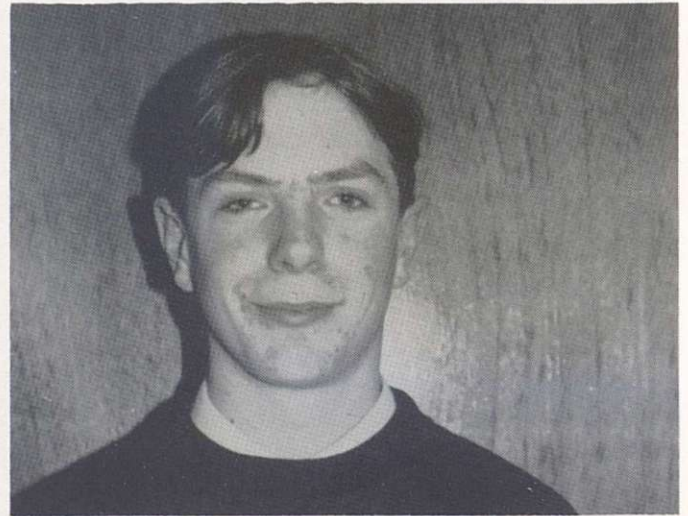
Along the route we had lots of different learning experiences including being made sing a nursery rhyme by the guide of a Castle we were visiting.

All week we looked forward to reaching base Camp, yet on the night before we were due back, we felt sorry it was all coming to an end. The adventures we had experienced over the expedition would never be forgotten.

Tired, weary, and smelling badly, we reached base Camp safe and sound. After spending 3 days in base Camp the presentation of the Explorer Belt took place in a nearby Restaurant.

To our relief, we were judged to have completed successfully the tasks and received our Explorer Belts.

The Belt was a time of learning about how to survive with the very bare necessities of life. It was an experience that will live on with us for the rest of our lives."



Liam Curran



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THE STAGES OF PLAY

Drama and Music are, as always, alive and well in Knocklyon, and many boys and girls have been displaying their talents in school productions of *Macbeth* and *My Fair Lady*, to name just two.

MACBETH

Two local girls from Our Lady's school, Aoife Bird and Sarah Ling, came to the assistance of the Terenure lads for this fine production. The play was a good choice and attracted many sixth year pupils from various schools since it is on the Leaving Cert. course this year.

Powerful performances were given by John Martin as Macbeth and Gavin Graham as his son Donalbain, while Robert Coffey played an excellent Macduff.

Other Knocklyon boys included Brian Hughes, John Keane, Kieran O'Neill, Garrett Casey and Danny Wallace. Well done and congratulations to all the production team.

"Fair Ladies in Our Lady's" MY FAIR LADY

"Words, words, words, I'm so sick of words", sings Eliza in the Our Lady's School presentation of *My Fair Lady* by Lerner and Lowe. The standing ovation and riotous applause given at the final curtain on Friday night said perhaps more than mere words could about this particular production which was vibrant, heart-warming and funny.

Every member of the cast, from principals to the ladies and gentlemen at the Opera and in the ballroom, the chorus of flower sellers, peddlers and sweepers, the street entertainers, the dancers with Dolittle, the Ascot Gavotte chorus and dancers, the dancers at the ball – every single girl gave her all – to an extremely high standard. The director, producer and choreographer had a back-up team of students who took charge of management, design, costumes, sound and lighting to produce a top class show.

Our Lady's School can be justly proud of its participating students, many of whom are from Knocklyon. Thank you for such a joyous experience!

Porcelain Stalls

Well done to the five young Knocklyon girls who participated in the recent Porcelain Painting Exhibition at the Conrad Hotel.

This was an impressive display of beautiful hand-painted plates, vases, jewellery and a variety of other exquisite pieces.

The girls (Joanne and Ruth O'Riordan, Miriam Clarke, Clara Nevin and Sarah Maune) have been taught and encouraged by Catherine Donohoe from Idrone who is President of The Irish Association of Porcelain Artists.

Catherine has been sharing her knowledge with the girls, of the technique involved in porcelain painting which has to be fired at a high temperature in a special kiln.

The adjudicator of the exhibition, Yvonne Steele from England remarked that hundreds of adults are pursuing this interest, but it was the first time she had come across a children's section at an exhibition and was delighted with their efforts. Another first for Knocklyon! Well done Catherine and girls, and we look forward to hearing news of your progress in the future.



L. to R.: Clara Nevin, Joanne O'Riordan, Ruth O'Riordan and Miriam Clarke with some of their beautiful work. Unfortunately Sarah Maune was absent for the photo.

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KNOCKLYON PARISH

On Saturday, 26th November, about 70 members of the Parish took part in the "Knocklyon Parish Assembly". Fr. David Weakliam, donning the robe of Facilitator, discussed with the gathering, the task before them.

Based on about 90 replies to the Questionnaire, they were to consider the REALITY of the Parish – the positives and the negatives, the problems and the resources – and identify the main problem areas. Having done this, they would then turn to the positive **suggestions** and **proposals**, and having read these thoroughly see what ones could and should be taken on board immediately or in the short term. Finally, they would seek to establish a planned approach towards both solving the outstanding problems and implementing the more creative and long term suggestions and proposals. All was to be agreed by consensus.

The conclusion of the gathering was to form "Action Committees" in seven distinct areas. Each Committee would meet separately, draw up terms of reference in the light of the Assembly, consult with existing interested groups, and set about putting in motion ideas, plans and projects towards solving or alleviating problems and fostering new life in the respective areas.

Many of those present committed themselves to work on the Action Committees. The numbers offering help are as follows:

Youth: 9 Contact & Communication: 22

Parish Finances: 2 Social Events: 2

Liturgy & Spirituality: 14 Church Structures & Organisation: 4

Development of Pastoral Centre: 6

It was stressed that these Action Groups were open to **all those interested in helping out**. Meetings of some of the groups have since been held e.g.

Contact & Communication, Development of Pastoral Centre.

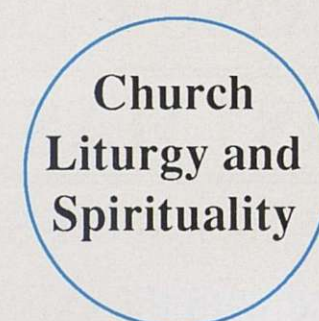
Parish Youth, Liturgy and Spirituality.

Anyone interested in joining any one of the groups should hand in their name in the Church or Presbytery.

A further Assembly is to be called in May 1995, to review progress and make further plans as required.

A word of congratulations to the Church Structures and Organisation Group, who have already got off to a flying start by rearranging the seats and so facilitating a more orderly reception of Holy Communion.

Thanks, too, to the Collectors who have responded so positively to the challenge of a reorganised system of collecting as recommended by the Assembly.



'LYON'S DEN

New "AFTER SCHOOL" service

This new service will be based in Knocklyon Community Centre.

Experienced child care workers, with recognised qualifications in Montessori, Speech & Drama, and Nursery Nursing, will collect children from school and care for them in a fun and learning environment.

This service will be provided between 1.30 and 6.00 p.m.

Lunch will also be provided.

The daily programme will include Speech & Drama, Arts & Crafts, Music and Dance, Fun and Games, Cooking for Fun, and a Weekly Outing.

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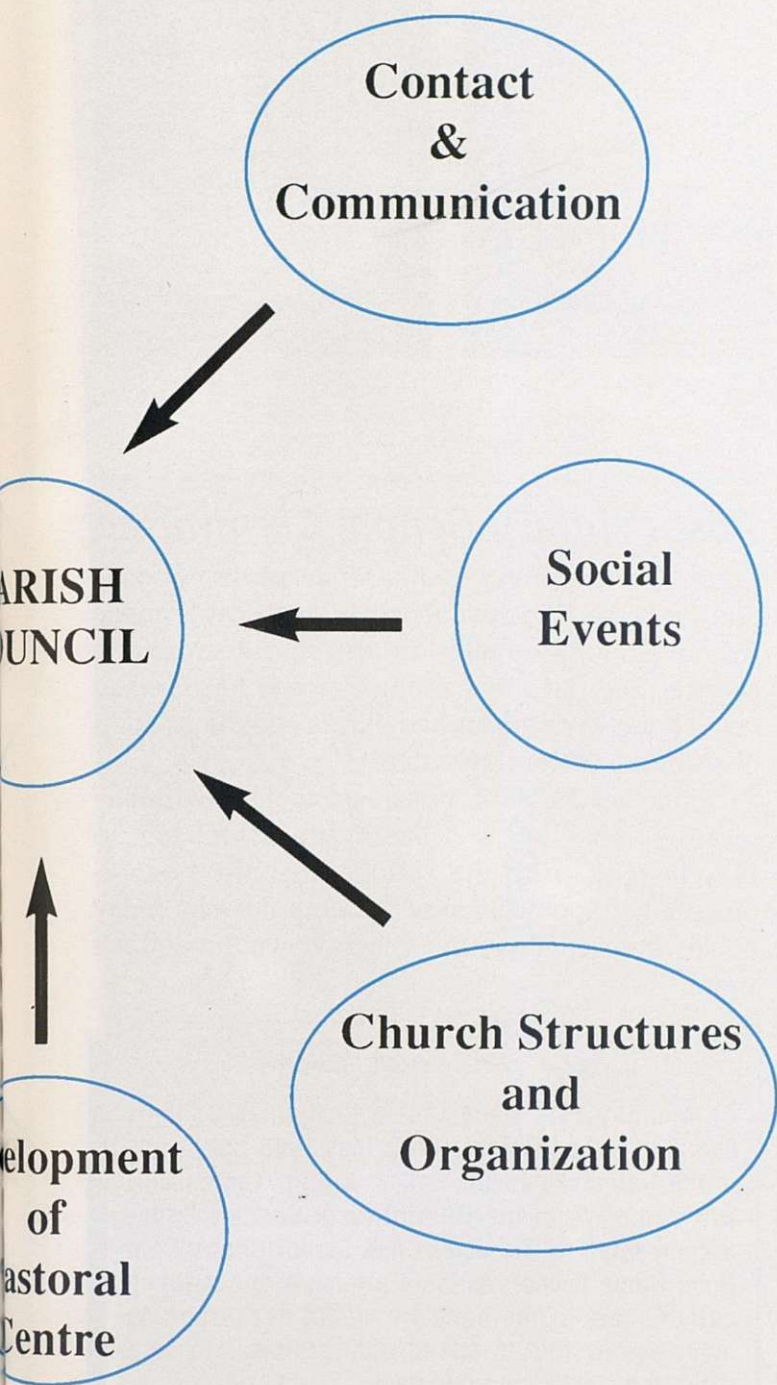
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- ASSEMBLY REPORT



Samples of replies to Parish Questionnaire

Comments:

- It is a vibrant parish with all ages well catered for from the aged to the young - youth clubs etc.
- Not many people taking part in parish work and no involvement with teenagers.
- I like the way the parish is run with *emphasis on building community*. I feel that the priests are a part of that community and not set apart or a step above the people.
- There is little or no house visitation by Priests or Parish Council. People are not welcomed to the parish.
- I dislike the occasional sermon which seems to tell us what to do!
- Lack of Missalettes, Confession on a haphazard basis.
- Sunday Masses are run like a conveyor belt.
- Parking outside the Church is still bad.
- Parish overgrown and becoming impersonal. Has lost its Community Spirit.
- Noise at all Masses.
- Newsletter excellent, informative and friendly.
- A very modern, lively Parish, am very happy to be part of it.

Suggestions:

- Adult Faith development groups.
- Parenting support/classes/groups.
- A new Parish Council - to give visible input into parish, liturgy, activities, etc.
- No more extensions to the primary school; attendance far too big.
- Much more involvement of laity, with a real say in how our parish is run.
- How about an occasional lay person delivering a homily?
- Some sort of counselling service.
- Help Team (Carers) - to help young mothers and sick people.
- Better Parking facilities. Improved lighting outside Church and Schools.
- A new crying room for babies.
- A more prayerful atmosphere in Church.
- Coffee Shop open more hours to facilitate the need for a meeting place.
- Renewal of Parish Week.
- Service of Reconciliation once a week.
- Ask for volunteers for church collections, cleaning, readers, choirs, liturgy, etc.
- What about a Knocklyon Festival Weekend?

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LIFE AFTER SCHOOL



This month's contributor is Catherine Bates (Knockcullen) who recently completed a 4 year course in Graphic Design at the N.C.A.D.

After the Leaving Cert. I started in the National College of Art and Design. I wasn't sure what I wanted to specialise in although I had an idea that Graphic Design was the course to do to get a job. Students do a common first year, which I loved after the first terrifying two weeks. First year really opens up your mind, with great tutors and loads of drawing and modelling. In June I decided on Craft Design rather than graphics, because I enjoyed three-dimensional work so much.

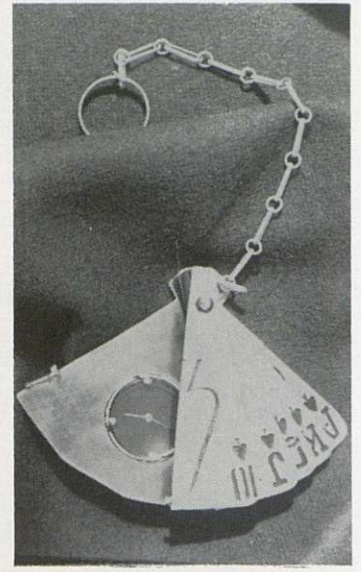
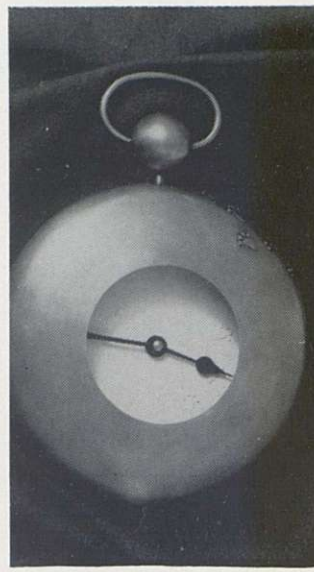
Craft offers a choice of ceramics, glass and metal, and I picked metalwork after trying all three. I loved the different scales and techniques which metal offered – it's amazing how easily you can make a piece of metal take any shape you want. I also love the hands-on aspect of metal – sawing, forging or soldering – not like glass or ceramics, where all the excitement happens behind the kiln doors.

To graduate, in fourth year, I had to produce an exhibition of work in metal, which I mixed with other media. I chose Alice in Wonderland as my theme and made a series of moving timepieces, most of them wearable, based on the story. Getting all the work finished was a nightmare, but it was worth it in the end.

As well as metalwork, I opted for an extra course in Irish art and design, including exams and a thesis, to get a Joint Honours Degree in Craft Design and Art History.

On leaving college I was lucky enough to get a paid apprenticeship with two Dublin goldsmiths. It's hard work but I'm getting great training in traditional jewellery skills. In any spare time I have I'm doing my own work and commissions in a mini workshop I've set up at home. You could say I'm very busy but very happy.

Catherine Bates



Some samples of Catherine's beautiful work this year.

Left: Giant Pocketwatch in Brass.

Right: Silver Fan Pocketwatch.

Post-Primary School Committee

Councillor Mary Muldoon has tendered her resignation from the Knocklyon/Ballyboden Post-Primary School Committee after almost seventeen years' service. She feels that at this stage a new person could bring fresh vigour and purpose to the position of secretary of the committee.

Councillor Muldoon considers that, as a public representative, she still has an important role to play in relation to the school site. She has expressed her appreciation of the work done by many public representatives and others down through the years.

Date for your Diary

On Monday 19th December a Christmas Concert entitled "Let's Celebrate Christmas" will take place in the National Concert Hall at 8 p.m. The concert will comprise of the Rathfarnham Concert Band, accompanied by the Junior and Senior Choirs from Notre Dame School. As there are many of our young parishioners in the band we would encourage as many as possible to attend what promises to be a very good night's entertainment.

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The Legion of Mary – What is it?

Many people in Knocklyon Parish have asked us this question in recent times. It would appear that there is something lacking in our P.R. system. The Legion has been in our parish for the past eighteen years.

At the recent Parish Assembly, discussion centred around lay involvement in the Church. The Legion was founded seventy-three years ago for this express purpose – to enable you and me to play our part in the Church.

Our organisation is now the largest apostolic organisation of lay people in the Catholic Church with over two million members. It has been approved by five popes and endorsed by the 2nd Vatican Council.

The Legion gives Catholics from 8 – 80 years an opportunity to do something positive for the Church while at the same time deepening their faith.

Members meet once a week for prayer, planning and discussion in a family setting. They do a couple of hours work in pairs each week.

How do I start? By being a guest at the meeting. You are invited to come and see the Legion from the inside. All you need is a willingness to sacrifice a little of your time i.e. 2% of the week for the love of God. In the company of Our Lady, it will amaze you how much you will accomplish in that time.

Junior Meetings: Wednesday 7 p.m. in the pre-fab beside Community Centre. (boys and girls over ten years)

Senior Meetings: Wednesday 8.15 p.m. in the pre-fab. (men and women over eighteen years)

For further information please ring Vera at 4941444.



**KNOCKLYON UNITED
FOOTBALL
CLUB**



As I rambled up to Scholarstown last Sunday the still air of a beautiful sunny morning was suddenly shattered by "Come on Knocklyon, put them under pressure". Bill Leckey, our under 17 team manager was willing his lads on against Peamount United in division 17B of the Schoolboys' League.

This was a great game, played at a cracking pace with both teams utilising the wide open space of this patch. This season has been a little frustrating for Bill. "Some of my lads are not performing as they should" says Bill, a point I noted when a great build up was wasted with a poor finish. However, soon after he was euphoric – a screaming volley from fully 30 yards left the Peamount 'keeper beaten all ends up.

Bill epitomises Knocklyon United Football Club. He has been with the club since the early days, taking charge of his first team in 1984. In 1987 he took over the under 10 team and most of these boys are now playing with him at under 17's. During this time Bill has won League and Cup honours and last season was again successful in the League.

Managing a team is not Bill's only contribution to the club. He has worked tirelessly at Committee level, was Treasurer for many years and has been actively involved in many fundraising activities. "He puts many domestic jobs on the long finger because of football" says his wife Marie but manages to get them done in the end. With a friendly smile she adds, "Bill eats, sleeps and drinks football", showing me his "library", a collection of memorabilia of all matches his teams have played down through the years.

Bill's team lost to Peamount last Sunday, 1-3 but with a shrug of his shoulders added "Beidh lá eile ag an Baorach".

Our traditional mid season break is now upon us and it is a welcome opportunity for both players and managers to put the feet up for a little while. The pitches will also benefit from the break, weather permitting after the wear and tear of the previous three months. The break period is usually one month from mid December to mid January. Some managers will keep the boys occupied by participating in 5-a-side indoor tournaments or by arranging training sessions on all weather pitches.

Finally, on behalf of our club I wish everybody in the parish a very Happy Christmas and the very best of luck in 1995.

Jim McGonigle, P.R.O.
Tel. 493 1046

KNOCKLYON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

As Chairman of Knocklyon Community Council, I avail of this opportunity to thank the local community for the financial and moral support they have once more afforded me personally and the Council generally over the past year.

The Annual General Meeting for 1994/1995 will be held on 25th January 1995 at 8.30 p.m. in the Community Centre. It is extremely important that all who can turn up on the night in question to play their full part in the democratic process in so far as it applies to Knocklyon.

My sincere good wishes to you all for a Holy and Joyous Christmas and every success in your endeavours in 1995.

Michael F. Brennan
Chairman



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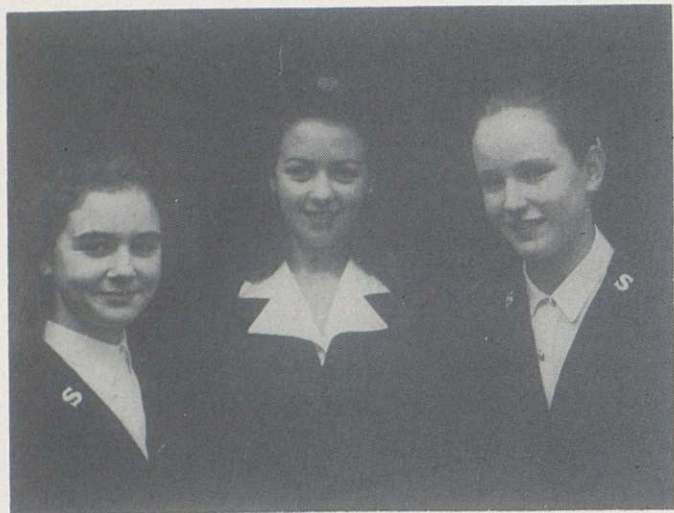
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YOUNG STARS JOIN SALVATION ARMY



*Ruth Cahill, Joanne Kelly and Aishling Lovett
in the musical Guys and Dolls*

Last month saw the 20th production from the Goodwin Drama School presented in Sancta Maria College. This year's musical was "Guys and Dolls" which contains many popular numbers, such as "Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat". The female lead, Sarah Brown, was played by Joanne Kelly, who was ably assisted by two other parishioners, Ruth Cahill and Aishling Lovett. Louise O'Shea played the female lieutenant Brannigan while Krista Glynn was a "Doll" called Mimi.

The Salvation Army also recruited Jane O'Neill and Yvette O'Neill, while Jennifer Hughes was a "Hot Box Dancer".

The other "Guys and Dolls" of the parish were Conor Cahill, Dearbhla Garrett, Lisa Glynn, Evelyn Hughes, Helen Kelly, Deirdre Lovett, Vincent Mulvey, Linda Mulvey, Nicola MacLachlan, Catherine O'Neill and Aoife Ryan.

All of these contributed to a most enjoyable and lively production with full credit to the production team of Eileen and Xavier Goodwin and Maureen Harold the Musical Director.

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K.A.R.A. BEREAVEMENT MASS

We extend a hearty welcome to all the new members who joined our Club since we re-opened in September. Many of us participated in the Knocklyon Bereavement Mass on Tuesday evening, 15th November. It was a very impressive ceremony, greatly appreciated by everyone present. Miniature lighted candles were placed on the Altar by each member of the Congregation. It was like a scene from Fairyland as we united in prayer for our deceased relatives and friends.

We poignantly remembered Patricia Troy who was called to her Eternal Home rather suddenly early in August, only weeks after she had enjoyed a holiday with us in Dunfanaghy, Co. Donegal. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dílis.

We were delighted with the tea and biscuits served after the Mass. Thanks to all concerned.

Christmas Dinner

Twenty-four of us got together for our annual Christmas dinner which was held in the Oak Room in Comans, Rathgar on Wednesday night, 23rd November.

Monica Doyle, our "old reliable" tinkled the ivories, Sr. Therese provided the sheet music and we had a very enjoyable sing song after the lovely meal. A very successful night's outing.

Some vacancies still exist in our Club. Do join our united gang. Call to the Knocklyon Community Centre Tuesdays 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon or phone Lyla 4942830 or Carmel 4517568 for further information.



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Christmas

Every year, amidst the parties, shopping sprees, commercialism and material excesses of Christmastime, we are encouraged and reminded, sometimes gently, sometimes stridently, “not to lose sight of the real meaning of Christmas”. I’m sure you find the phrase familiar. This year I began to find it a little irritating. Not that I don’t agree with it. I do. But somehow it has become weak and anaemic. Almost like a “conscience saver” for the one who uses it.

It’s not good enough “not to lose sight of” the significance of Christmas. We need rather to live with the power of its message. The popular Carol puts it best of all, I think:

“That man will live forevermore, because of Christmas Day”.

Is it real for us that God became Man? That is to say, do we truly believe it? Do we see, as we recall the Christmas story of the baby Jesus, the power and depth and reality of God’s abiding love for us? And so seeing, do we live secure in that knowledge of God’s true and practical love for us?

If we can say “yes” to these questions, then we don’t have to fear a conflict in our celebration of Christmas. It’s not a matter of “playing down” the material and “playing up” the spiritual. Jesus would have had no time for that. His coming has underlined the Holiness of the material. He who came, “that we might have life, and have it to the full”, would approve of parties, of presents, of being happy together. For he is always in the midst of people happy together. For being happy together is an expression of love. And God is love!

Fr. David



Aisling Durkan (6) from Coolamber was very pleased with her present from Santa given to her by Lynn, his assistant for the day.

Santa in Knocklyon



Santa was in attendance in the Senior School from 10.30 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. on Sunday 4th December which was well past our official time, but such was the queue and such was the dedication of Santa that every important visitor was seen to.

Santa’s visit was organised by a community playgroup fundraising committee who would like to thank everyone who helped.

Both Senior and Junior school were most co-operative for this venture as were the sponsors of the Raffle. (see names of winners on page 15) Santa’s hut was kindly supplied by Tinakilly Garden Sheds.

A big thanks is due to each and everyone of the parents who gave a lot of precious time and effort in preparing for the day. Their efforts were directed towards the development of a Community Playgroup which would act as a resource to the community, but more of that in the next issue.

An open meeting will be held towards the end of January for all interested in a Community Playgroup, or for those who want to find out more. A large turnout on the night would highlight the need for facilities and provision for our toddlers and pre-schoolers.

The date and venue for this meeting will be confirmed through Church notices and, time permitting, in the Knocklyon News.

Thanks for your support and let’s hope that Santa arrives soon to all the children in Knocklyon.

A Very Happy Christmas.

WHERE IS THE CHURCH IN KNOCKLYON?



Where is the Church in Knocklyon? In one sense it is just behind Superquinn, at the top of Idrone Avenue. But is this the only answer?

- Where two housewives meet over a cup of coffee, sharing problems, listening to each other, supporting each other – **the Church is there.**
- Where people are trying to work with honesty and integrity – **the Church is there.**
- Where children hold a jumble sale on their road to raise money to help the hungry in Rwanda – **the Church is there.**
- Where someone is sick or housebound and perhaps praying for others – **the Church is there.**
- Where someone is coming up, week after week, to help run a club or association which builds up community – **the Church is there.**
- Where people are trying to make sense out of their lives in the face of disappointment or hurt or failure – **the Church is there.**

In short, the Church is primarily not a building of bricks and stones, but the Body of Christ. Wherever Christians are trying to live out their faith, that is the Church.

We, with the whole of our lives are the People of God. What might happen if we took ourselves seriously, if we believed in ourselves as Christ believes in us? What might happen if we brought the whole of our lives to our celebration of the Mass, offering everything with Christ to the Father?

Jesus’ words are: “You are the light of the world, a city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden, in the same way your light must shine in the sight of all so that seeing your good works they may give the praise to your Father in heaven”.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

The second half of this term has flown by in a flurry of great activity and we find ourselves facing the Christmas season with great joy and expectation.

The highlight of these last few weeks was of course our trip to Croke Park.

MATCH REPORT

On Thursday, November 24th six double-decker buses drove down Idrone Avenue, and lined up in a snakelike fashion outside St. Colmcille's school. Minutes later, 500 cheering pupils boarded these buses in an orderly manner, and headed off to Croke Park to give support to the senior football team. They were playing, for the first time in the Division One Under 13 final against St. Bridgets of Blanchardstown.

In the opening few minutes of the final, it looked as if it was going to be easy for St. Colmcille's. David McAllister, Stephen Fee and Conal Keaney were playing superbly. Eoghan Fitzmaurice, Oliver Pugh, and young Paul Kirwan had many chances. Bernard Donohue had Knocklyon's first score with a fistful goal. Slowly but surely the Northsiders clawed their way back into the game. At half time people were wondering if Colmcille's had blown it, because of so many missed opportunities.

Five minutes into the second half, Robert Kane, Knocklyon's roving full-forward, scored a spectacular goal. However, the pattern of missed chances continued. Some staunch defending by Ronan Hopkins, Kevin Edge, Colm Hennebry and James Nevin kept the opposition at bay. Paul Egan and David Noonan were constantly solid and Alan Keane, the goalie, made, what turned out to be, a vital save in the last few minutes.

When the final whistle blew, St. Colmcille's had won by two points. Ronan Hopkins proudly accepted the cup and the rest of the squad mounted those hallowed steps to receive their medals. All the long hours and the numerous training sessions had finally paid off. After leaving Croke Park, the players returned to the school for a well earned party. The subs were Michael Caulfield, D. Reape, S. Murray, S. Hennebry, B. Quinn, C. Duffy, R. McDermott, M. O'Dwyer and P. Roche. All the panel had played their part throughout the whole competition. However, it is only fair that the names of Ronan Hopkins and Conal Keaney be mentioned again. They were the engine of the team and great credit must be given to them.



The victorious team who won the Under 13 Final in Croke Park

DR. PETER ROTH

*Wishes all his patients
a Very Happy Christmas
and every good fortune
in the New Year*

On the cultural front some of our children paid a visit to No. 29 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2. There they acquired first hand experience of what life was like in Dublin, exactly two hundred years ago. They were amazed to discover that sugar was delivered to the house in the shape of a cone and that water was delivered daily by water tank. They had a guided tour of the house, entering at basement level and finishing in the enchanting surroundings of the nursery. They also saw a video depicting the harsh lives of the servants. They grieved for Emily, the servant girl, as she left her bed of straw in the poorer section of the city and trudged through the dark, dirty streets of the city, on her way to No. 29.

Another class visited the National Museum where they got great inspiration for their Arts and Crafts class on Bronze Age Jewellery.

E. U. STUDY

One of our teachers, Yvonne Keating, recently participated in an E.U. Intercultural Education Project in Wales. Thirteen primary teachers and twenty-five Welsh teachers participated in the study which examined the educational needs of, and provision for children whose home language is not English. The project, which consisted of lectures and workshops as well as observation and teaching in Welsh schools, provided participants with an opportunity to exchange ideas and make comparisons between Welsh and Irish systems of primary education. The intercultural study was particularly relevant to catering for the specific cultural and educational needs of the small but significant number of our current pupils here in St. Colmcille's whose home language is not English.

Finally, on the musical front Mr. Gearty and the Senior Choir have been doing trojan work in preparation for the Christmas Carol Service. The spirits of both staff and pupils alike have been lifted by the angelic sounds emanating from the environs of Mr. Gearty's room. A date for the Carol Service has as yet, not been fixed, but you shall be informed in due course. Do come along and enjoy the choir's performance under the baton of the enigmatic Mr. Gearty.

Both the principal and staff would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a happy and a holy Christmas.

E. Broderick

JUNIOR SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Gremlins, elves, Santas and various assorted animals abounded. Frazzled teachers and howling microphones competed to make this a concert to remember. Our concert dates were the 12th, 13th and 14th December and were a huge success, as always.

We are, once again, twinning with another school, less fortunate than ourselves, this December. It's time to clear out those wardrobes and bring to the school any unwanted (but good) clothes for adults and children. Last year we had a wonderful response and we hope this year will be as good.

The 20th of December is this year's date for our Christmas Carol Service in the Church. It's during school hours and the children are asked to bring a small (new) wrapped gift (under £2.50) to the altar, which will then be given to underprivileged children.

All that is left to say is that everyone here in the Junior School wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. School closes on Friday 23rd at 12 noon and re-opens Monday 9th January.

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STUDENT AND SENIOR CITIZEN REDUCTIONS MIDWEEK

Ear Piercing also available £4.50 (incl. earrings)

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*Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and
a Prosperous New Year!*

Hotlyon ...

● MORE FUNDS FOR RWANDA

Edel Quinn, Michelle Clear, Ciaran Hale, Dara Kenny and Éanna Kenny of Beverly Grove held a Cake Sale in aid of Rwanda. They raised £47.26. Well done.



● IRISH BASKETBALL FINALIST

Congratulations to Eoin Cunningham (14), Knockaire, who helped Dublin South win the Schools Under 15 Provincial Title in Ballymena, Co. Antrim, recently.

As a result of his excellent performance over the weekend, Eoin was selected for the Irish Team Panel for next year's Championship.

Eoin attends Coláiste Eanna and is also a member of the local Delta Notre Dame Club.

● SCOUT DRAW RESULTS

October '94

£100 L. & A. Fee, 3 Templeroan Close.
 £50 G. & P. Cuddy, 2 Beverly Heights.
 £25 B. & M. Conlon, 53 Orlagh Park.

● TRAFFIC LIGHTS (Courtesy Cllr. M. Muldoon)

Coming soon: Lights at Templeogue Bridge (Blue Haven) which will eliminate right-hand turning difficulties from Firhouse Road into Ballyroan Road.

Under Consideration: The provision of Traffic Lights at the junction of Scholarstown/Ballyboden Road.

KNOCKLYON YOUTH CLUB

Closed on 10th December and will resume activities on 13th January '95. The Committee would like to wish all our members, helpers and friends a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

Mary Coleman, Secretary

● BROS. PEARSE A.C.

The Leinster Championships have just finished with two of our athletes winning gold. These are Bronwyn Kiernan U.12 and Dearbhla Stynes U.14. Congratulations to all who took part and best wishes to all who are taking part in the All Irelands.

The club's A.G.M. was held on November 8th in Ballyboden St. Endas and the following officers were elected:

Chairman: Mr. Matt Moloney; **Secretary:** Mr. Sean Smyth; **Treasurer:** Mrs. Ann Fox; **Asst. Sec./P.R.O.:** Mr. Larry Kiernan.

The new sub-committees were also set up (a) Disciplinary, (b) Fundraising. The main items for discussion on the night were: Insurance - the premium is £6 per subscription per year; Discipline - hence the new sub-committee; Senior Club - this needs to be rejuvenated.

Some months back when writing about the Community Games Finals I neglected to mention two of our athletes who have been stalwarts of the club for the last few years. These are Susan Tyson and Sean King. To these and all the other athletes that I forgot to mention during the year, I apologise. The committee would like to wish all our athletes, their parents, and friends a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Yours in Sport,

Larry Kiernan, P.R.O., 4941320

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Recent Baptisms

James Joseph Anthony Doherty, 16 Glenlyon Grove.

Jonathan Alexander O'Driscoll, 4 Templeroan Close.

Katie Anne Greene, 215 Glenvara Park.

Harry Ronald O'Brien, 224 Woodfield.

Jack Lawler, 15 Castlefield Way.

Mark John Twomey, 41 Orlagh Park.

Sean Daniel O'Connor, 6 Knocklyon Close.

Conor Patrick Fitzpatrick, 5 Orlagh Lodge.

Catherine Brenda Donnelly, 6 Templeroan Close.

Ciara Kate Finnegan, 13 Templeroan Drive.

Karl Joseph Corbett, 154 Glenvara Park.

Grace Leanora Dunleavy, 27 Beverly Drive.

Hannah Olivia Amy Donnelly, 9 Castlefield Lawn.

Aislinn Maria Dunne, 14 Cremorne.

Darragh Marc Conroy, 94 Scholarstown Park.

Kate Elizabeth Kelly, 140A, Woodfield.

Gary Michael Keane, 27, Templeroan Court.

Kate Camilla Dowling, 12 Beverly Crescent.

Sean Martin Mullarkey, 166 Woodfield.

Edward John Stephen Davis, 11 Templeroan Green.

Mark Andrew White, 28 Beverly Downs.

Cathal John Flaherty, 86 Woodfield.

Kelleigh Greta Elizabeth Duggan, 172 Glenvara Park.

Emmet Michael Corrigan, 1 Templeroan Court.

Isabelle Mathews, 13 Orlagh Court.



Lucky Winners of Community Playgroup Fundraising Raffle

Anne Doyle	- Hamper	M. Fitzgerald	- Wine
Walsh Family	- Brandy	Moran Family	- Perfume
O'Byrne Family	- Whiskey	Seery Family	- Toy Items
Walsh Family	- Smoked Salmon	John Brown	- Ties (Men's)
Griffin Family	- Bacardi	E. Flood	- Toy Items
T. Kelly	- Wine	A. Pardeya	- Beauty Voucher
R. Kenny	- Chocolates	<i>(Raffle overseen by G. Ebbs)</i>	

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS/CONTRIBUTORS

Items and adverts for inclusion in the next issue of the Newsletter should be handed into the Presbytery by Sunday 15th January 1995. Enquiries re advertising to June at 4941204 (10-12 Mon. to Fri.). The Newsletter will be distributed from February 2nd.

The Newsletter Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped make the production of the newsletter possible during 1994 - our Printers, Lantz Ltd., whose advice and assistance is invaluable, contributors, advertisers, the teachers and boys and girls in the Senior School - we hope the children will continue the good work of distributing the newsletter to nearly every home in the parish each month. We would also like to thank the Management of Superquinn and Shape in Hair for the use of their information desks as a further means of distribution.

May we wish all the above-mentioned people and you, our readers, a very Happy Christmas and healthy and prosperous 1995.

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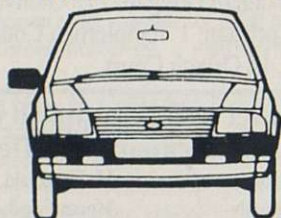
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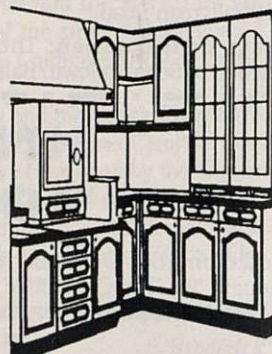
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