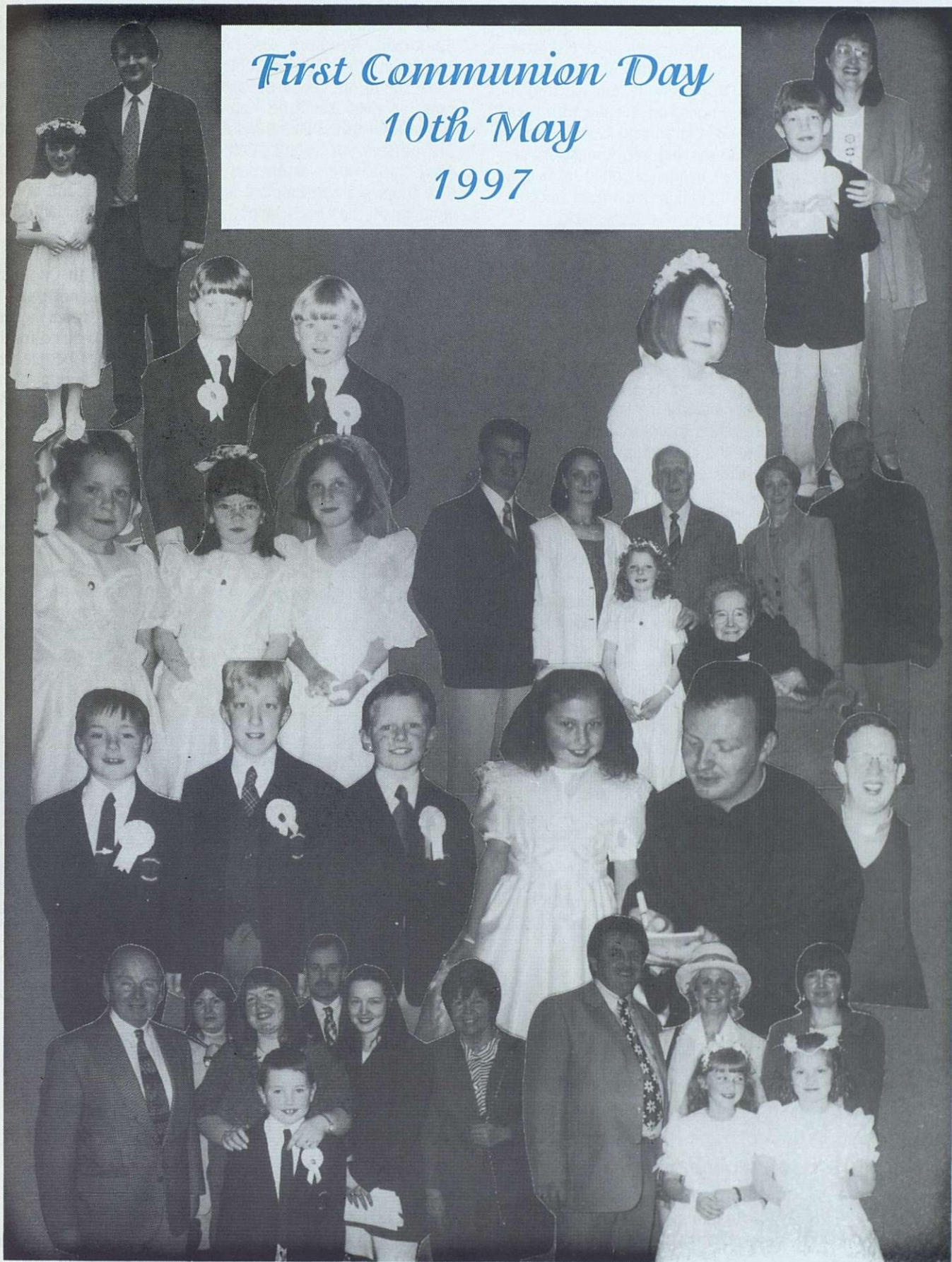




*First Communion Day
10th May
1997*



Brid O'Connell - Working for our Community



When Brid O'Connell and her husband Tony came to live in Knocklyon, it must have seemed a very different world to the exciting one which they had left behind. Tony's professional life had taken them to far off lands and indeed the early years of their marriage were spent in Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan before they returned to Templeogue and settled in Knocklyon Avenue with their

four children, Anne Marie, John, Ciaran and Colm. At that time, little did Brid know that in moving into Knocklyon she was also moving into the field of helping to build up a new community and Parish, a work in which she would become very actively involved.

One of the first things that Brid did in those growing years was to open her house one morning each week for a Prayer Group meeting. Everyone was welcome especially mothers and young children. In fact she even organised a crèche in another room in the house which was supervised on a rota system. A special Mass was celebrated at prayer meetings several times during the year. This prayer group was a wonderfully peaceful experience and over the years of its existence brought help and happiness to the many people who sought its blessings. It is interesting to note that many of the help services still available to the community at large, were started by former members of this group. They include Parenting Programmes, Baptism Team and Church Shop Helpers, just to name a few.

Getting to know other people is surely the nucleus of a strong community and Brid did not fail us. The first of many happy days together occurred when she invited many families in and around her home to a barbecue in her back garden. It was a glorious summer's day - the games, the laughter, the smell of sizzling sausages, the children's shrieks of delight and the friendships formed, are still fondly remembered.

Brid has worked away quietly through the years never seeking thanks or recognition for her dedication to the well being of our community, temporal and spiritual, but I do know that she is particularly grateful for the growth in the number of Eucharistic Ministers in the parish. In the beginning there were 12. Today there are 80.

The Parish of Knocklyon still continues to grow and because of this, Fr. David saw the need for a permanent centre to provide for the pastoral needs of this growing community. This building would be a Centre for education, culture and spirituality, counselling and support. A friendly place, a meeting centre where people may find hope and in which the laity will continue to build up the Christian community by caring and sharing. Providing for all the needs and interests of the community is its aim.

Over a long period of time, Brid has completed courses in Spirituality, Scripture, The Enneagram, Meditation and Lay Ministry in other Pastoral Centres throughout the country. This challenge of our very own Pastoral Centre gave her the opportunity to make use of the knowledge she had gained. The use of the refurbished Pre-fab as a temporary Pastoral Centre has proved very successful. Already 40 courses have been run since the Centre was opened in 1995, with Brid as Director. The courses are researched and planned by Brid and in their running she has been helped by Aoife O'Tierney, Mary Doyle and Anne Quinn.

Recently the Centre offered a Parent to Parent Drug Prevention Program which was run in conjunction with Coolmine House. It proved of such interest to parents it was necessary to repeat the Program on two more occasions. A further meeting for those who have completed the course is scheduled for the near future when it is hoped to enlist a group of people who would give their time and energy to grapple with the problems of Drug and Alcohol abuse within our area. *Theological Coffee Mornings, The Grieving Process, Pondering Faith and The Church at Prayer* were some of the courses offered; also a variety of parenting programmes. Later on in the year Brid will whet your appetite with further titles, in the Autumn schedule.

The Pastoral Centre also provides a place for such activities as the Mother and Toddler Group where mums can meet once a week, enjoy a cup of coffee and still be able to keep an eye on their little charges as they play happily together. A Nurse's Clinic is available for pre-school children, run by the Eastern Health Board, and the Centre is also the venue for meetings of all the various Service and Support Groups in the Parish.

Despite her never ending work, Brid and Tony are still fond of holidays abroad. Their most recent journey was an epic one, but one they could not miss. It was a flight to New Zealand to attend the wedding of their son John. "Would you like to live there"? I asked. She looked at me in horror. "Oh no", she said. "I wouldn't live anywhere else in the world but Knocklyon". And for that we are very glad.

Eileen Casey

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GAELSCOIL CHNOC LIAMHNA

A Success Story by Creasa Ní Chinnéide

Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna is a new all-Irish school which opened in Knocklyon in September 1996. Since then the school has gone from strength to strength.

The founding committee of the school had well defined aims and objectives as to the sort of education they wanted for their children. They sought a high standard of education through the medium of Irish with emphasis on music, culture, drama and sports. The school is living proof of a dream come true.

Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna opened with forty pupils and two teachers. The school received full Department of Education recognition prior to commencement. At present the school is situated in temporary accommodation in 'The Scouts Den, Knocklyon'.

The school when fully established will be a small one stream, eight teacher school. The common bond of: an interest and love of the Irish language; a well rounded education system, and the small numbers ensures that Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna has a warm friendly atmosphere.

One of the main skills the school seeks to develop in the children is good communication – a must in today's world. Huge emphasis is placed on developing a positive self image among the children, confidence, good listening skills and the ability to concentrate on the task in hand. The children are involved in school concerts, entering competitions, drama and public speaking. Irish dancing is taught in the school as part of our school curriculum and violin is also taught to the older children if their parents so wish.

The parents have organised numerous 'Margadh Cisti' (Cake Sales) in the area. The school has hosted a number of highly successful 'Céilís' and at the moment the Finance Committee, which plans to build prefabs for the coming academic year is busy planning a 70's night to be held before the end of June. These events are much more than mere school fundraisers – they are highly enjoyable social occasions and the chance for parents to brush up on their 'cúpla focail'.

It is not essential that parents of pupils are fluent in Irish, but this is of course a great help. What is of vital importance is that parents and their children have a great love and interest in our 'Teanga Dúchais' and a commitment to education through the medium of Irish.

For further information about our school contact Creasa Ní Chinnéide (Driomhoide), Fón 4939262 or 4932586.



(L.-R.) Peter Farrell, his wife Catherine and son Conor, David O'Driscoll with his mum Margaret, dad Pat after the recent Confirmation



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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity through the Newsletter to say 'thank you very much' to **Bookworld at Superquinn Shopping Centre** and **Centra at Orlagh Shopping Centre**. Both of these stores are currently selling copies of 'Knocklyon Past and Present' at no profit to themselves. Their generosity and community spirit are much appreciated by the Guild.

Pauline Sheedy, P.R.O. I.C.A. Knocklyon

Dear Editor,

On reading last month's Newsletter I couldn't help thinking how quickly the politicians are at getting in their piece. Well, it's clear that the elections are coming up!

I would like to ask them when are they going to get white lines marked out for turning left and right from the Ballycullen Road onto the Firhouse Road. It's road rage every morning at this junction from 7.30 to 9.30.

On a happier note I would like to congratulate Thomas Carter of Glenvara Park who was another contributor to Terenure's win in the Leinster Schools Senior Cup Final.

Thanking you.

Name and address with Editor

Editor's Note: Our sincere apologies and congratulations to Tom Carter, wing forward of the winning Terenure College Team. Our previous article (omitting Tom's name) was submitted by a Knockcullen parent who obviously was not aware that we had another rugby champ in the parish. Well done Tom.

~ Comment Line Reply ~

In response to a welcome letter to our "Comment Line" from a parishioner writing on behalf of some disappointed newly Confirmed young people, we would like to clarify our policy with regard to photos appearing in the Newsletter.

Firstly, we try as far as is practicable (given our voluntary status) to cover (photographically) as many events in the parish as possible during the period being reflected in any particular issue. Important occasions such as Confirmation and First Communion are always given priority because of the large numbers of children and families involved. Although a large quantity of photos are taken it is not always possible to print all because we are limited in the size of the Newsletter and the space allocated to various events. Photos chosen for publication are those considered to be the best quality for reproduction.

With over 200 children Confirmed in March, the best we could and can do is print a representative sample. We are printing two more in the current issue (which we had already planned), and trust readers will understand our position.

Our sincere apologies to those disappointed by non inclusion. We greatly value the work done by the 6th class pupils in distributing the Newsletter throughout the parish – without their co-operation you wouldn't be reading this now.

Editor

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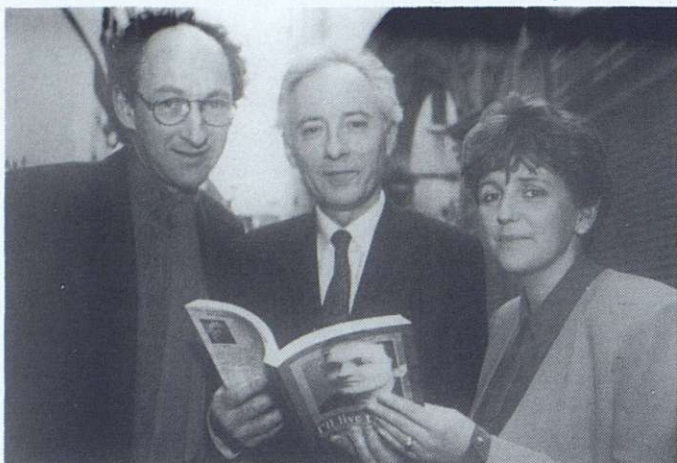
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Launch of "I'll Live till I Die – the Story of Delia Murphy"
L. to R.: Leo Cullen, writer and nephew of Delia Murphy, author, Aidan O'Hara (Ashton) and Betty Duignan, Drumlin Publications.

Biography of Delia Murphy written by parishioner, Aidan O'Hara

"Her main contribution was that she made us all feel that we could respectably sing our own songs." That is how Liam Clancy of the Clancy Brothers summed up the impact Delia Murphy's recordings made in bringing about the revival of Irish Music. His statement is taken from *I'll Live till I Die – the Story of Delia Murphy*, a biography of Ireland's most famous ballad singer, recently published by Drumlin Publications. The amazing story of this girl from a farm in the west of Ireland who became the toast of the international diplomatic circuit was written by parishioner, Aidan O'Hara, writer, broadcaster, and a friend of Delia's during her last years in Canada.

Delia Murphy became the first real home-grown pop star that Ireland produced, and she did it singing the songs of Ireland. This was at a time when Irish music was regarded as definitely inferior by some, and less than respectable by others. But the achievements of the girl who had the whole country singing *If I were a blackbird* and *Three lovely lassies from Bannion* did not stop there.

At the height of her popularity she left Ireland with her ambassador husband, Dr. T.J. Kiernan, to charm diplomats and government leaders in many countries. In Rome during the second World War she got herself involved in the underground network set up by the famous Monsignor O'Flaherty to help escaped Allied POWs, anti-Fascists and others on the run from the Gestapo and the SS. Meanwhile she was entertaining Il Duce himself, Benito Mussolini, and top German generals.

The book tells her fascinating story in the chatty intimate way that Delia would have told it herself. It will revive fond memories for those many thousands who remember her distinctive singing style and vivacious personality. Through her songs, Delia Murphy brought a bright and shining new hope in the 1930s, '40s and '50, and people gained a renewed pride in their rich heritage of Irish Song.

Editor's Note: We wish Aidan much success with this book and hope parishioners will enjoy reading it.

FOCUS ON PARENTING

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- The Family Education Group offers one of the most extensive support programmes for Parents in Dublin.
- Participants in our courses travel from Ballinteer, Walkinstown, Stillorgan, Firhouse, Terenure and Dundrum.
- The Family Education Group in association with the Parent Support Group run a Lecture Series on Topical Family Issues in response to **your** needs.
- There are crèche facilities for the 0-6 Parenting Programme (morning course).
- The Parent Support Group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month 10-12 noon. Next meeting June 18th in the Toraigh Room.
- Our Autumn Programme will appear in the June issue of the Newsletter. Places are limited so book early.

Family Education Group: Mary Byrne Ph. 4942130

Parent Support Group: Maureen Coffey Ph. 4942512

ST. COLMCILLE'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Parents' Association wish to thank all parents and children who contributed to the recent "Colour Day" in the Junior School. We are also grateful to Mr. Dalton and his teachers for their assistance with this event.

The £487 raised is a welcome boost to our finances which have run low recently. The money will be used to run lectures and various school events.

The Parents' Association committee continue to meet monthly. The main topics on the current agenda are developments in relationship and sexuality education (R.S.E.) and preparations for our Annual General Meeting in September which all parents are invited to attend.

T. J. Walsh, Chairman

Rathfarnham Parish Fete

Sat. 24th May

The High School, Rathgar

12 noon – 4 p.m.

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16th June - 27th June; 30th June - 11th July;

14th July - 25th July; 28th July - 9th August.

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Four of the many "hopefuls" who lined up at the Athletics Finals in Cherryfield (before the rain).

The Cherryfield sports day went ahead as planned on April 27th. It served two functions i.e. to run off the area athletic finals, and end the drought! Despite the rain we got results in 22 events, distributed medals and sympathy, and tried to convince Brendan Murphy that he probably would not get laryngitis from his afternoon's "broadcasting". Congratulations to all children who competed, I hope you all enjoyed the afternoon. Several parents helped on the day, especially on the "finish line", and we are most grateful for their help. Jim Mulkerrin of Coolamber Park ran the ball throw and long puck with his usual efficiency and patience, aided by his son Fergus. We thank them both most sincerely. Tommy O'Raw took up position on his ladder as official scrutineer. Winners were declared "alright". Thank you Tommy. Mattie Maloney oversaw the running of the hurdles events on Tuesday night, with his usual attention to detail, and we thank him also.

Of course nothing can happen in Cherryfield without proper preparation. Bill Tyson, Coolamber Park, marked out the running area superbly. Bill does this long and laborious job every year and the committees are most appreciative of his efforts. I don't think it remiss at this stage to thank committee members for their work on the day. Some started work as early as 11 o'clock in the morning on the grounds, and continued throughout the day.

Winners and runners up of events are in the process of being signed up for the Dublin finals which will run in Santry, on 28/29 June, and 5/6 July. **Children must bring their birth certificates as these can be checked any time, but definitely will be checked on finals day.** Children competing in Santry will be issued with singlets on the day.

There is a lull in competition for team events at the moment, as most will be run later in May. This however does not mean lack of activity. Managers throughout Knocklyon are eagerly knocking teams into shape for their forthcoming competitions.

The girls U.13 Basketball team had their round robin competition in the Basketball Arena, and 'though they did not win had a very enjoyable evening. Apologies to parents who were kept late into the evening!!!

Good luck to all competitors and enjoy yourselves.

Ina Butterly

The sad news of our Treasurer's death (Cyril Cogan, R.I.P.) was a big blow to us in K.A.R.A. Apart from his diligence and efficiency in the voluntary position, he was, in every sense, a "Perfect Gentleman". He will be sorely missed by all. May his gentle soul Rest in Peace.

May promises to be a very busy month for us - we hope to avail of most of the BEALTAINE celebration of creativity in older age that renews and refreshes. This celebration features Music, Film, Literature, Theatre, Art, etc. We will be attending either as a Group or individually. BEALTAINE is organized by AGE & OPPORTUNITY together with many national and local arts groups throughout the country.

Sile O'Neill (Sec.)

Knocklyon Historical Group

Knocklyon Historical Group held its first public talk on Wednesday 16th of April in the Iona Room of the Pastoral Centre at 8.30 p.m. It was an illustrated talk, the subject 'Templeogue House, its History and Architecture'. The speaker was Úna O'Tierney. Her many slides and depth of historical research along with the lively question session which followed made for a stimulating, enjoyable evening. The slides brought home to one the very poor condition this house is in at the present time and the challenge its refurbishment will be. Many skills are now required to transform Templeogue House into a community amenity. The evening ended with a cupán tae.

Feast of Saint Colmcille 9th of June

The Knocklyon Historical Group has decided to host a talk concerning Saint Colmcille on the 9th of June, his feast day and the 1400th anniversary of his death. It is being held in conjunction with Parish week.

KNOCKLYON HISTORICAL GROUP

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Knocklyon community council

Our most recent meeting was held on the 1st of May 1997.

Our annual Church Gate collection will take place this coming weekend - 24/25th May. We would ask local people to give as generously as possible to their local Community Council.

"Environmental Week" is under way since the 19th and will continue until the 24th of May throughout the parish. Saturday (24th) is tidy up/clean up day. Teresa Clarke, the Convenor of the Environment Committee, outlined her plans for the coming year at our last meeting. They include the Environment Week in which all Residents' Associations were asked to participate if they did not already organise a similar event in their own estate. All Associations who are members of the K.C.C. will have their estates included in the Tidy Estate competition. You will remember that Orlagh Grove Estate won this competition last year. The criteria for this competition will be on display on the noticeboard in Superquinn. The Environment Committee aims to raise the consciousness of everyone in Knocklyon to their local environment. Also included is a schools participation programme.

A priority of this group is to have Knocklyon Road resurfaced from the traffic lights at the junction of Firhouse Road all the way up the hill to Dargle Wood Estate. This road is in a bad state of repair. Representations will be made to our local councillors regarding Tree Pruning and cleaning of gullies etc. We would appeal to residents not to dump rubbish in open spaces or land adjacent to housing.

A public forum will be held regarding the Southern Cross Route and traffic management proposals for same in late June. Details in next issue.

The Representative to the K.C.C. from Knocklyon United, Mr Finbarr Dolan, has stepped down from the K.C.C. due to business and other commitments. Finbarr has played a very central role on the executive for the last six years. We wish him and Knocklyon Utd. well in the future.

K.C.C. compliment Dublin Bus for its extension of the 49 Bus route into the new Ballycullen developments and surrounding areas.

Planning permission has been granted (subject to 18 conditions) to the Esso station on Knocklyon Road for a major refurbishment job. The K.C.C. will be examining these conditions to see whether there is a case for appeal to an Bord Pleanála.

The K.C.C. has contacted the County Council in relation to the trees in the area that are protected by law from being felled. We are anxious to have a list prior to the construction of the Southern Cross Route.

Damian Fee, Chairman

John Lahart, Secretary

Contemplating Entering the Caring Professions? — please read on VINCENTIAN VOLUNTEERS

The Vincentian Volunteers are a group of young adults who take a year out to work amongst the marginalised in the spirit of St Vincent de Paul, whilst living in a lay Christian community. Their work is with the homeless, young people, prisoners, inner city community work and the disabled. The scheme offers a very real opportunity for people considering a career in the caring professions to gain vital experience. It is also a very positive way to take a year out from study or a current career path. They are now seeking new members from September 1997 to July 1998 for their communities in Liverpool, London, Manchester and Newcastle. Enquiries to Sr. Kathleen Hogg DC, National Director, Vincentian Volunteers, St Michael's, 40 George Leigh Street, Manchester M4 5DG. Tel: 0161 236 9360.

More details on Church Notice Board.

CATHOLIC YOUTH COUNCIL EVENTS "Summer Horizons"

Perhaps some of our younger readers may be interested in the following:

- 1. Phoenix Challenge:** On Saturday, June 14th 1997 a giant outdoor event consisting of orienteering, music, bands, fun and games will be organised for young people who have made their Confirmation this year or last year. The day costs £3.50 per person and is an ideal way for parishes to keep in touch with its young people. Leaders need to contact CYC by May 30th. Tel: 872 5055.
- 2. Le Chéile:** Are you 17+ and interested in spending some time in Glendalough this summer? CYC have organised a series of events, weekends and days to suit most peoples interests. From pilgrimage walks, to looking at dreams – a weekend of music, sound and spirituality, and learning to pray with scripture and lots of time to relax. **Dates:** The whole month of July. **Contact:** CYC at 872 5055.
- 3. World Day of Youth:** A celebration of life and faith by young people in Paris. Travel overland from Dublin with people from all over Ireland to Paris. **Dates:** August 18th - 24th. **Details:** CYC at 872 5055.

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SCHOOL NEWS

SENIOR

5TH CLASS TRIP TO THE WICKLOW MOUNTAINS' NATIONAL PARK

"It was 8.30 a.m. on the 17th April. The bus had just started. An hour and a half later we stopped in the car park of The Wicklow Mountains' National park. I stepped out and breathed in the clear, fresh air. I looked around. Before me lay beautiful mountains and forests.

When we arrived we put our bags down, and went into a little room. There, we found glass cases with stuffed animals such as hares, foxes and falcons. There were little tadpoles in a mini pond. The guides told us about all the animals in the park. A population of deer occupies the open hills of the Park. Foxes, badgers and hares are all found in the Park uplands. Birds of prey are well represented with peregrine falcons, merlins, kestrels and sparrow-hawks all occurring within the Park.

We all went out in groups for the treasure hunt. Running around the forests we found lots of clues, then we came back to a crossword on woodland plants and animals. My group came second. Afterwards we had playtime and lunch. Next we were grouped again. We hiked through forests and found lots of things such as stones like quartz and granite, droppings of badgers and bats!

After the hike we came down the mountainside. We grabbed our bags, said goodbye to the guides and climbed aboard the bus again."

(This lovely report of an exciting day was written by Anita O'Sullivan from 5th class. Well done Anita.)

- Congratulations to Anne-Marie Caden of Westbourne who participated recently in the World Dancing Championships in Leisureland, Galway. Every success to her in the future.
- Well done to Rachel Scully (R. 6) who has joined the Dublin Youth Orchestra. No doubt, we have not heard the last of this budding musical talent.
- Preparations are underway for the selection of teams to represent the school in Santry at the Primary School Sports.

• CAMOGIE NEWS •

Despite some very impressive displays that have brought two wins and a draw to date, the junior girls' team did not qualify for the semi-finals of their League. Well done to all the girls on the panel for representing their school with pride.

Congratulations to the senior girls who have qualified for the semi-finals of the Purcell Cup with an unblemished record. The best of luck, girls!

• SENIOR HURLING: HERALD CUP •

The Senior hurling panel have, at the time of going to press, reached the Semi-finals of the Herald Cup (Div. 1) Hurling competition. In the matches to date those who shone included Michael Griffin, James Duffy, Brian Kennedy and Brian O'Connor. The Senior hurling and Senior camogie panels travelled on Sunday April 27th to Kilkenny and had a series of games against Kilkenny opponents. Teachers who accompanied the group included Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Kearney, Ms. McCann and Mr. P. O'Neill.

• JUNIOR HURLING •

A large group of boys took part in the Junior Hurling Leagues this year. With over eighty boys taking part we were able to field two teams. All the boys played enthusiastically and showed some skilful touches. Boys who showed particular promise were Paul McGillian, Shane Durkin, Eugene O'Callaghan, Kevin Donnelly, Ciarán Twomey, James Duffy, Mark Ryan, Keith Parkes, Ralph Brogan, and Michael Connery.

Player of the Season was James Duffy and the most improved player was Kevin O'Dwyer.

Well done to all. Keep practising.

JUNIOR

Looking to the Future



Our congratulations and best wishes to all our First Communicants. This year we have 175 boys and girls receiving their First Holy Communion. We would like to thank all the teachers for the way they have prepared the children for this important occasion in their lives. Our gratitude also to the parents who generously gave of their time – helping out with the reception etc.

• INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE •

The final of Mr. Sweeney's indoor football league took place recently between 'Liverpool' and 'Pumas'. The victors were all the children who derived many hours of enjoyment playing sport with one another under the supervision of Mr. Sweeney. We thank him for the many hours given to the children beyond the call of duty!

Ms. O'Connor has organised all the first and second classes to partake in Basketball sessions in the National Arena. The children are enjoying the experience.

The second classes are being introduced to the computer (see photo above) and eagerly look forward to computer lessons. From September on, all classes will be scheduled to partake in regular lessons. Again I invite you to come and view, at anytime, what your generosity has provided for our school.

SCHOOL CLOSURES for the remainder of this term are as follows:
May 29th & 30th; June 2nd & 9th; June 28th Summer Holidays. Olé!

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- UPSTYLING •



Colmcille

After a life devoted to the service of God, St. Colmcille while in exile on Iona went to his eternal reward on June 9th, 597. The 1400th anniversary of his death is being marked in various ways throughout Ireland and Britain. Naturally enough most of the events are in places associated with St. Colmcille but there is widespread recognition of the very significant role which he played in spreading the Christian faith both here in Ireland, in Scotland, and indirectly, in Northumbria. In the Parish of Knocklyon the Church, the Primary School and the Pastoral Centre are named after the saint. The Holy Well on Ballycullen Road is associated with Colmcille. This year in particular it is hoped that many parishioners will participate in the annual celebration at the well which will take place on Sunday, June 8, at 4 p.m.

CELEBRATIONS IN DERRY

In the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe special church services, including novenas, are to take place in parishes associated with Colmcille. In Derry novenas are to end with a Tridium of Prayer in St. Columb's, Waterside; St. Eunan's Cathedral; and St. Columba's Church, Long Tower. The Papal Legate, Cardinal Winning, will preach at Mass in St. Columb's and the ceremony will be televised on UTV. At 9.30 p.m. on Monday, June 9th, a service will be held in Guildhall Square, Derry. Civic dignitaries and Christians of all denominations have been invited to attend. Members of the Methodist Conference and Anglican pilgrims travelling from Rome and others associated with St. Augustine have declared their intention to do so.



CONFERENCE IN DERRY

A Conference in Magee College, University of Ulster, Derry, will take place from 4th to 7th July. There will be about 25 speakers on various aspects of the life and times of Colmcille.

A pilgrimage from Derry to Iona takes place this month.

Icon of Colmcille by Anne McVeigh, Sister of Mercy, Derry

The statue at St. Colmcille's Well, Ballycullen Road, was unveiled on June 9th, 1920. Eoin Mac Néill gave an address in Irish to the gathering of priests and laity. In earlier years Dádraig MacDiarais visited the Well. The annual celebration takes place on Sunday, June 8th at 4 p.m.



EXHIBITION AT TRINITY COLLEGE

To mark the 1400th anniversary of the death of Colmcille Trinity College Library mounted a very special exhibition which brought together three superb examples of Celtic illuminated manuscripts associated with Colmcille, namely the Book of Kells, the Book of Durrow and the Cathach and its shrine. The gospel books produced in Durrow and Kells were made in honour of their founders – the former in the early 8th century and the latter in the early part of the following century. The Cathach containing folios of Psalms was encased in the ornamental shrine made in Ceanannas (Kells) in the late 11th century.

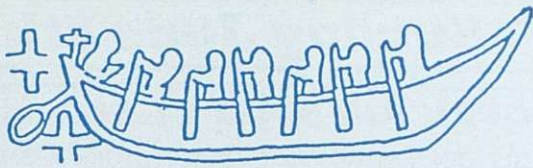


ST. COLUMBA'S COLLEGE

St. Columba's College in Stackallen House, Rathfarnham, was opened in 1843. It was a governor named Todd who suggested that the college should be named after Colmcille. In the chapel there is a fine stained glass window depicting the saint. He is also depicted on the college notepaper and on medals. The college's motto derives directly from him.

THE NAMES OF THE SAINT

In his Life of Colmcille Mánuis Ó Domhnaill says that Colmcille was baptised Criomhthain (the old Irish for fox) but that he was subsequently named Colm (a dove) and that children added 'cille' (of the church) to his name. This story is repeated in An Leabhar Laigh-eanach (The Book of Leinster). Adhamhán, Abbot of Iona in his Life of Colmcille, says that he had the same name as Jonah the prophet ... in the Latin tongue translated Columba (dove) ... and that it was appropriate for one with his dove-like disposition.



IN THE WAKE OF COLMCILLE

On the first weekend of this month a specially built currach sailed from the coast of Donegal to Toragh. On June 9 the currach Colmcille will leave for Iona. It will have a crew of thirteen drawn from various religious backgrounds, nationality, gender and age. The boat was built by Eddie Hutch of Dingle and the design was based on the Kerry naomhóg. This project is being organised by the Portrush-based Causeway Coast Maritime Heritage Group. Robin Ruddock believes that if we study the life and legacy of Colmcille we will find much of relevance to us today. Through the voyage and use of the currach those behind the project hope to build bridges between communities and help the process of peace. Voyagers of the currach will link up the coastal communities of Donegal, Derry and the Inner Hebrides.

In 1963 a crew of thirteen made the voyage from Portrush to Iona to commemorate the 1400th anniversary of the voyage made by Colmcille.



Down District Council is holding a four day Conference at the Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down from June 8 to 11. It will discuss St. Patrick, St. Colmcille and the wider legacy of the Celtic church in Europe. There will be visits to Saul and Inch Abbey.

The Oideas Gael Archaeological Summer School (August 2 - 9) in Gleann Cholmcille, Co. Donegal has been expanded to feature lectures and visits to places associated with Colmcille.



COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS



When the Royal Mail in the UK issued stamps to commemorate Colmcille questions were asked about the intentions of An Post. A spokesperson said that it would not be commercially viable to issue a stamp in memory of Colmcille. Under pressure from public opinion it was eventually decided to issue a Colmcille stamp, later this year.

CELEBRATIONS IN DONEGAL

On June 7 President Mary Robinson will visit the Heritage Centre in Gartán, believed to be the birthplace of Colmcille. On June 8 the Diocesan Celebration will take place in the Cathedral of St. Eunan and St. Colmcille in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. There will be an Evening Commemoration Service in St. Columba's Church, Gartán. In the mid-afternoon the Donegal County Council will host a reception at the Colmcille Heritage Centre, Gartán. In the late afternoon there will be an Interdenominational Commemoration. In the evening there will be a programme of music and entertainment. During September, October and November a Colmcille Exhibition will be on view in the Donegal Museum, Letterkenny.



BIRR THIRTEEN HUNDRED

BIRR THIRTEEN HUNDRED has organised a 'Celebration of Cain Adamnain' which will take place in Birr, Co. Offaly from June 26 to 29. Adhamhnán, an Abbot of Iona, intervened on behalf of women and children in violent society and the legislation which he inspired and which became known as Cain Adhamhnáin had a significant impact in Europe. The Birr Conference will be opened by President Mary Robinson. A full programme of lectures and discussions will follow. On Sunday, June 29 there will be a coach and boat trip from Birr to Clonmacnoise and back.

(We hope our readers with an interest in history and heritage will find something to partake in from the above.)

— Knocklyon Parish Week – Sunday June 8th to

You've heard them! I've heard them!
The cribbers!

— "Wouldn't you think they'd put on something
for the teenagers"!

— "There's nothing in this parish for the young
people ... the elderly ... single parents etc. etc."!

— "Somebody ought to ..."!

"Well, what about you? Couldn't you do
something"? "Me"! "I haven't time"!

Ignore them! Prove them wrong!
Make community happen!

● PROGRAMME ●

Sun. June 8th:

11.30 a.m. Open Air Mass
2.30 p.m. Family Fun Sports

Mon. June 9th:

and throughout week – Soccer Competitions for
Ladies, Men and Young People, Tug-o-War,
Talent Competitions – Preliminary Rounds.

Tue. June 10th:

7.00 p.m. Youth Table Quiz

Wed. June 11th:

7.30 p.m. Pet Show

Thur. June 12th:

7.30 p.m. Talent Show – Final

Fri. June 13th:

8.30 p.m. Table Quiz for Adults

Sat. June 14th

2.30 p.m. Fancy Dress Competitions
Art & Craft Exhibition
+ Presentation of Prizes.
4.00 p.m. Tug-o-War Finals
8 p.m. - 1 a.m. Big Top Barbeque and Barn
Dance

Sun. June 15th:

2.00 p.m. Sponsored Walk
5.00 p.m. Soccer Finals

OPEN AIR MASS 11.30 a.m.

in School Yard beside Community Centre.
Principal Celebrant: Bro. Philip, who is due
to be ordained in Knocklyon on
Saturday June 7th at 4 p.m.

Masses in Church: 7 p.m. (Sat.), 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
only (i.e. **No Mass at 10, 11, 12 or 1**).

FAMILY FUN SPORTS on the Green

Sprints, Sack Races, Potato & Spoon,
Wheel Barrow
3-legged, 4-legged, Obstacle
Penalty Shoot, Football Skills, Wet Sponge
etc.

**Special Feature for Perpetual Trophy
Family Relay** for 4 members of one family.
1 adult male, + 1 adult female, + 2 children
(1 male, 1 female) whose combined ages
do not exceed 25 years).

SOCCER ■ SOCCER ■ SOCCER

5-a-side

Men's teams are coming in fast and
furious

Ladies are more cautious, but we're
getting there

Young mixed (U.18, 3 boys, 3 girls) – get
your teams organised.



Contacts:

Men – Francis Brennan 4941870

Ladies – Maria Scollard 4935678

Young: – Robert Woodcock 4941641

Competitions will begin before Parish Week
and continue each night throughout the
week.

Finals and Presentation of Trophies
Sunday June 15th, commencing 5 p.m.



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- Make an appointment to see our qualified Florist who will
offer advice and service

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**ALL BEDDING PLANTS NOW IN
Great selection for Hanging Baskets**

- FUCHIAS • GERANIUMS • PETUNIAS • LOBELIAS
- MILLION BELLS • BACOPA • BIDENS • BUSY LIZZIES
- & THE NEW • **TRAILING ANTIRRHINUM**

LARGE CAR PARKING AREA



YOUTH TABLE QUIZ

in Lower Hall, Junior School for
3rd - 6th class pupils.
Teams of 4 or 5 - 50p per person.



PET SHOW



on the Green in front of the Pastoral Centre.
Dogs, Cats, Birds, Rabbits, Hamsters, Mice
... whatever. Entry fee 50p.



FANCY DRESS

in the Big Top or outside it.
1 - 4, 5 - 7, 8 - 10 year olds.
Come along on the day and enter. Fee £1

TUG-O-WAR

Early rounds throughout the week.
Finals on Saturday June 14th at 4 p.m.
More news to follow.

**KNOCKLYON PARISH WEEK
TALENT COMPETITION**

for Boys & Girls between 10 & 16 years
Conditions of Entry: Entrants must be
residents of Knocklyon Parish.
Entries accepted from Solo Artists, Duos or
Groups (3 or more people)
Entry Fees: Solos & Duos £1.00, Groups £2
Entry Forms available from St. Colmcille's
Presbytery, Knocklyon.

**BIG TOP BARN DANCE &
BARBECUE**

inside and outside the Big Top on green
outside Pastoral Centre
8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Family Ticket £10 (for 2 adults + 3 children)
Adult £4 Child £2
Band, Disco and Entertainment
For Tickets contact
Liam Cleere at 4933065, Loretto McSherry
at 4935959, Gerry O'Connor at 4932740
or Presbytery



ADULT TABLE QUIZ

Friday 13th June 1997 at 8.30 p.m.
Ballyboden St. Enda's G.A.A. Club
£15 per table (max. 4 persons per table)
Great Prizes, Great Fun. Share a Table -
Book One!
Contact: Anne at 4941535 or Alan at
4947738
(after 5.30 p.m.)



SPONSORED WALK

leaving Superquinn Car Park at 2 p.m. on
Sunday June 15th.
5 mile circuit via Scholarstown, Stocking
Lane and Ballycullen.
Get your Sponsorship Cards in School,
Church or Presbytery.

▪ **Any queries: Phone Presbytery
at 4941204 or 4944986** ▪



Knocklyon Camp Colmcille

- **Week 1:** July 14th - July 18th
- **Week 2:** July 21st - July 25th
- **Week 3:** July 28th - August 1st



COURSES LAST FROM 9.30 A.M. TO 3.00 P.M. DAILY

An action packed week with many exciting activities and trips.

• **SWIMMING • ART & CRAFT • SOCCER • BASKETBALL • FUN FACTORY • TREASURE HUNT etc.**

All coaches are highly experienced in dealing with children.

We cater for Boys and Girls from Senior Infants to Sixth Class.

Application forms are available at St. Colmcilles Senior School office.

For further information contact: Neil O'Reilly at 4934753 after 6 p.m. or Robert Maher at 4943078 after 6 p.m.

~ KILTALOWN HOUSE ~

Kiltalown House in Jobstown is a centre offering help and assistance to those unfortunate enough to have an alcohol or drug problem. These problems usually create despair and emotional anxiety among their victims, who very often feel isolated, helpless and worthless.

Kiltalown House which celebrated its tenth birthday on May 8th with an Open Day attended by President Mary Robinson and a host of local public representatives opens its doors and welcomes anyone who wants to avail of their counselling services.

This local facility can be contacted through the Knocklyon Community Council or directly at 4522466 or 4598341.



Fr. Joe with a group of happy newly Confirmed 6th Class pupils

A.A. INFORMATION

Alcoholics Anonymous is a worldwide fellowship of men and women whose common experience is alcoholism. A. A. has a one item agenda - sobriety - freedom from alcohol through the teaching and practice of its 12 steps of recovery. Each A. A. group has one purpose, the maintenance of sobriety of its members and the carrying of the A. A. message to alcoholics who are still suffering.

The only requirement for A. A. membership is a desire to stop drinking. A. A. is self supporting through the voluntary contributions of its members.

The first meeting in Ireland of Alcoholics Anonymous took place in November 1946. Since that time A. A. has grown and at present there are over 12,000 members in Ireland. In Dublin alone there are now some 200 groups holding about 320 closed meetings per week.

The Rathfarnham Group of Alcoholics Anonymous is holding a Public Information Meeting in Sancta Maria College, Ballyroan Crescent, Dublin 16 on Tuesday 27th May 1997 at 8.00 p.m.

Speakers at the meeting will include A. A. members, a member of Al Anon and a professional person working in the field of alcoholism. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Knocklyon Parish Development Fund, 1996

Thank You

Dear Contributor,

Very many thanks for your continued support to the Development Fund whether by *Standing Order* or through the *Envelope Collection*. Your generosity provides the essential finances that enable the Parish Structures to be maintained and developed. Without your help many of the activities of the Parish just couldn't happen.

Should you wish confirmation of the amount of your 1996 Contribution, please either notify your Collector or contact the Presbytery, Tel. 494 1204 between 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., Mon. - Fri., and we will be happy to issue you with a receipt.

Again many thanks and every good wish.

The Committee

— ADVERTISING FEATURE —

KNOCKLYON VOTES WILL COUNT ...!

Are you aware ...?

that the government is spending over £3 million of your money on extensions to schools in neighbouring areas rather than build our own long sought Post-Primary School where it's needed ... IN KNOCKLYON

that within ten years Knocklyon will be bursting at the seams with even more 12 year olds seeking secondary school places than are at present ...

that Fianna Fáil and the Progressive Democrats have guaranteed to build our school as soon as they are elected ...

For years we have campaigned for a post-primary school for Knocklyon on a non-party-political basis, without success. For this General Election we asked all our elected representatives to sign a pledge supporting our campaign,

Guess who wouldn't sign ...?

**This Time Make Your Vote Count
VOTE for our Post-Primary School and
Support those who do ...**

Issued by: Knocklyon Post-Primary Committee

A Big "THANK YOU"



This Easter, I took part in the IHCPT Pilgrimage to Lourdes. It was my third year to do so. For over twenty-five years now, IHCPT have been bringing groups of young people with special needs on a very special pilgrimage to Lourdes during Easter week. This year over 400 young people travelled from Ireland on the pilgrimage meeting up with other groups from England, Scotland, Wales, Slovak, and the West Indies. This year we were really blessed with the weather. The pilgrimage is made up of small groups usually consisting of about twelve young people and twelve adult companions. I was part of Group 64. Our Group has a reputation for packing as much activity as possible into a day. We visited the Forest Park, a small Zoo, an aquarium, went on a day trip to Gavarnie up in the Pyrenees, went shopping, had parties, picnics and sing songs all apart from the visits to the Baths, the Stations of the Cross and the other activities that

make Lourdes so special. The visits to the Grotto were really special, there is such a beautiful peaceful atmosphere in this holy place, it cannot be put into words. By the end of the week there was a lovely bond of friendship between us all.

This year, for the first time a Group called Cairdeas took part in the Pilgrimage. The name means Friendship. The group was made up of Transition Year Students. They helped the other groups in all sorts of different ways, like organising parties, going shopping with the young people and as their name implied just being there as friends. One of the Cairdeas Group was Lisa Glynn, from Idrone. The group was tremendous and their energy and generosity was amazing.

Thanks to the magnificent generosity of the people of Knocklyon, the Parish was able to sponsor three young people for the IHCPT Pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter. Glenn, Shane and Andrew have all written to the Presbytery to thank you and let you know they had a really great time. All the money collected goes directly to pay the expenses of the young people themselves whose only personal expense is pocket-money for souvenirs and gifts to bring home.

I want to pay special tribute to our Group Leader, Annette McDermott, who comes from Ballyroan. She is a woman of amazing energy and generosity. Apart from all the responsibility of the week in Lourdes, she also works through the year to raise funds for next year's pilgrimage. When I first went on this pilgrimage I was told it was addictive. I don't know, all I do know is I hope and pray that I'll be privileged to get back again to Lourdes next Easter.

Fr. Joe

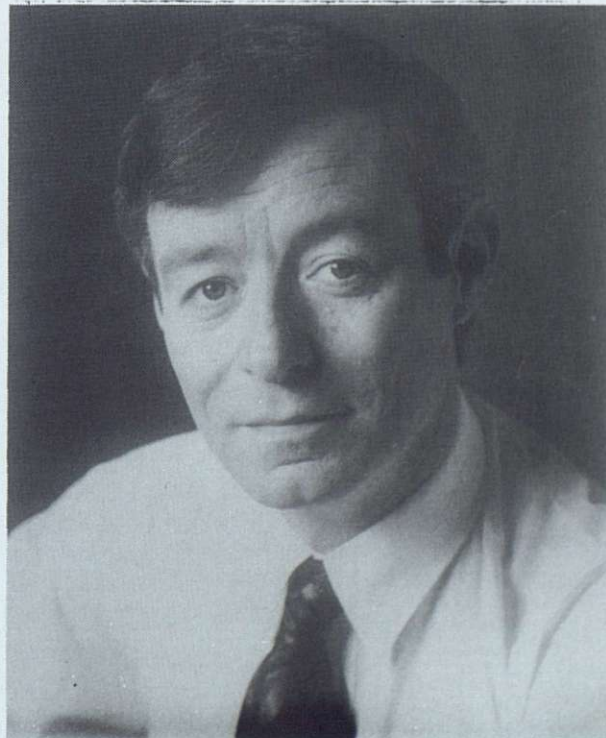


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- ... and other issues*

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An Understanding Heart

That's the gift that King Solomon asked from God. And God was so pleased with him for asking that He gave him riches and gifts beyond measure, besides.

An understanding heart! Something way beyond wisdom or cleverness or knowledge or insight. Rather are we dealing in empathy, compassion, acceptance, real love! Understanding breaks down barriers, heals wounds, brings comfort. And when understanding is full and mutual in a relationship, you have the nearest thing to heaven on earth.

Kahlil Gibran, as usual, says it beautifully: "Your neighbour is your other self dwelling behind a wall. In understanding, all walls shall fall down". For, as the Little Prince insists: "It is only with the heart that one sees rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye".

If only we could accord to others, even the level of tolerance, forgiveness and acceptance we rightly give ourselves, not only would we be living the truth, but we would savour the peace and inner freedom that truth alone can bring. Listen again to Gibran: "Who knows but that your neighbour is your better self wearing another body? See that you love him as you would love yourself".

Ask yourself, what quality do you most admire in others; most appreciate in your friends (without which indeed, you would not hold your friends 'real' or 'true'). The answer, infallibly – an understanding heart!

Fr. David



L.-R.: Martin Nolan, Brid O'Neill (Board of Management Snr. School), Gerry Boland – Spokesperson on the Environment, Green Party, Patricia McKenna M.E.P. and Pat Kelly Principal, Senior School.

The recent visit by Patricia McKenna, M.E.P., Green Party, to the Senior School provided an ideal opportunity for the pupils to meet their Dublin representative in Europe and to ask questions about the role and workings of the European Parliament. The standard of questions from the pupils was excellent and ranged from concern over Sellafeld, recycling, to the thorny issue of the likely impact of entry by Ireland into the E.M.U.

The question which left a deafening silence was why, if environmental problems exist, are laws not passed to overcome them. Over to you, the adults!

● **WOMEN'S FORUM** ●

A meeting of the Women's Forum will take place on Monday 26th May in the Toraih Room.

The Diocesan Forum would like to receive a report on the views of the women of Knocklyon on the following two topics.

- 1. COMMUNICATION 2. YOUTH**

Please come along and give us your views.

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Model questions and sample answers.

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*June – 3 Weeks
9th – 27th incl.*

*July – 2 Weeks
30th June – 11th July incl.*



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Computer training courses for students and young adults

Weekly Courses

Hotlyon ...

● FEIS CEOIL SUCCESS

Congratulations to Ruth Cahill from Glenvara and her friend Suzanne Miller who won first prize in the Feis Ceoil Vocal duet under 18 section. Ruth and Suzanne also came second in the piano and voice competition. Out of the 157 winners, Ruth and Suzanne were among the five chosen to feature on the Gay Byrne Show, so their voices have been heard nationwide. Ruth, who is a third year student in Sancta Maria College is a prominent member of our Folk Choir and we wish herself and Suzanne every success in the future.

● MICHAEL IS GRANTED A PRIZE FOR HIS TALENT

Well done to Michael Grant from Mount Alton Court who was a prizewinner in the recent Texaco Art Competition. Michael who is 16 and a fourth year student in Terenure College, was presented with his prize in the Burlington Hotel on 8th May. We hope you will continue with your art Michael.

● TENNIS DOWN UNDER

We send our heartiest congratulations to Noel Lennon from Knockaire who represented Ireland in the Veteran Tennis Championships in Australia recently. Noel played a total of 19 matches in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra, and did his country proud. Well done Noel.

● DAFFODIL DAY DONATION

On behalf of the Irish Cancer Society 'Thank You' to all those who supported or helped out on Daffodil Day 1997. This year our group collected **£5,821**. Special thanks to the children in St. Colmcille's Senior School who collected **£211**.

Máire O'Donnell

● ROSEMOUNT ART GROUP EXHIBITION

Congratulations to the local artists whose work featured in the above exhibition on 9th and 10th May in Rathfarnham Parish Hall. We were particularly impressed with the work of Noreen Drumgoole, Mary Bates, and Maurice O'Boyle, all from Knockcullen.

● ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

Anybody who had the pleasure of seeing the production of this new musical drama on the life of St. Thérèse was overwhelmed by the acting and singing of a talented team of adults and children. The musical, written by Barbara O'Hanlon and directed and produced by parishioner Eva Coffey was staged in Terenure College on 7th, 8th and 9th May. It was a spectacular piece of theatre involving many local children, all of whom performed wonderfully.

Special congratulations must go to two of the principals Carol Cusack of Beverly and our own Bro. Philip, both of whose acting and singing were superb.

Don't Forget

**Knocklyon Youth Club A.G.M.
on Tuesday 27th May at 8 p.m.
in Community Centre**

CHIROPODY & REFLEXOLOGY

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Recent Baptisms

Lydia Jane Redmond, 25 Templeroan Way
Sean Patrick Clancy, 6 Templeroan Way
Ross Adam Bealin, 27 Templeroan Drive
Joel Breslin, 29 Beverly Drive
Emma Mary Neue, 17 Beverly Downs
Luke Samuel Galloway, 190 Woodfield
Shannon Finn Bower, 13 Beverly Downs
Eimear Elizabeth Grinsell O'Connor, 2 Orlagh Lodge
Naoise Sudway, 8 Ashton Grove
Ciara Joanne O'Brien, 10 Orlagh Downs
Sophie Ellen Mary Peelo, 3 Castlefield Way
Rachel Irene Burke, 12 Castlefield Green
Shannon Conlon, 241 Woodfield
Eve Margaret Lawler, 14 Castlefield Grove
Shauna Jayne McIntyre, 21 Orlagh Avenue
Sophie Lauren Plant, 169 Glenvara Park
Maria Nicole Coffey, 49 Coolamber Park
Peter Brendan Thomas Flynn, 26 Orlagh Downs
David Joseph Hamill, 25 Knocklyon Court
Hollie Christina Hamill, 25 Knocklyon Court



NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS/CONTRIBUTORS

Items for inclusion in the next issue should be handed into the Presbytery by Sunday 1st June. The Newsletter will be circulated from 19th June. As advertising space has become so popular we are accepting adverts on a first come, first served basis only, with payment, so make sure to book your space in good time. Enquiries re advertising to June at 4941204, Fax 4942343 (10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon) Monday to Friday.

PRINTOUT: 4,000 copies. HAND DELIVERED: about 3,600 copies. Copies also available at Superquinn and Scruples, Knocklyon and at back of church.

~ Invitation ~

Dear friends, it gives me great pleasure to invite you all to be present in St. Colmcille's Church on Saturday, June 7th when I will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Eamonn Walsh. My Confrère, Br. Paul Horan, O.Carm. (*Terenure College Community*) will also be ordained at the same ceremony which begins at 4 p.m.

The two of us would be delighted if as many of you as possible could join us for this happy occasion, and to partake of some light refreshments afterwards.

The following day I will celebrate a Mass in Thanksgiving for my Ordination at **11.30 a.m.** (*please note the time*).

This will be a very special Mass as we plan to celebrate it in the Open-Air (*weather permitting of course ... so please start your Novenas now!!*) As well as marking the beginning of "Parish Week", this Mass will also commemorate the 1400th anniversary of the death of St. Colmcille, the patron of our Parish. So once again I would invite everyone to come along to this Mass on Sunday, June 8th and to join me in giving thanks and praise to God for His call to serve Him as a priest.

To echo the words of Mary's song: "The Almighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His name".

Philip Brennan, O.Carm.

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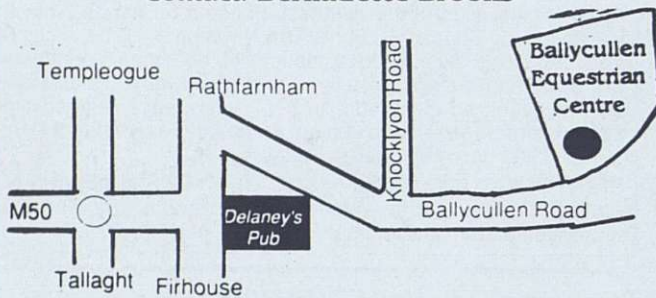


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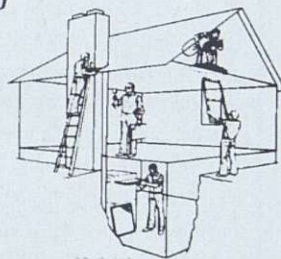
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