

The Knocklyon News



ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 1983

O.K., O.K.! Are you happy now? The 'K' is back in 'Knocklyon'. Such moans and complaints. And me thinking I'd had a bright idea. "Drop the 'K'," sez I to meself "and they'll know we're not being too serious; they'll realise from the word 'go' that we're taking a kind of lighthearted approach."

But not a bit of it! Out they all came crawling: The snobs: "It doesn't do justice to a refined place like Knocklyon" (I ask you!) and then the education-conscious: "The children will thank we can't spell, or else we'll confuse them". (Did you ever hear the beat of that one? And me having carefully inserted the ' ' to replace the 'K'!)

Anyway there's no point in going on about it. You win! I give in . . . grudgingly, mind you.

Say, how about something completely different? (Getting positive now.) Why not suggest a snappy eye-catching title for the newsletter. We'll even award a prize for the winner. Let me see. How about your own complementary copy of the newsletter in perpetuity. (Now if that doesn't spring you all into action, nothing will.) Not to mention the honour and glory of knowing that having christened the parish newsletter you must surely be the proud possessor of the highest I.Q. in the parish.

So, off you go, now, let's hear from you.

Talking about hearing from you, eventually. at the last minute in response to my grovelling appeals for contributions the bits and pieces have begun to trickle in. In fact, I'd already carried out one or two diplomatic armtwists on a couple of unwary parishioners for fear I'd have been doing a solo from cover to cover. *Continued on Back Page*

Jesus said to Philip,
"Whoever has seen me has seen the
Father . . .
I am in the Father and the Father
is in me."
JOHN 14:9



GENIAL EDITOR
AWAITING YOUR CONTRIBUTION

THINGS SOCIAL

BIG DAY FOR SCOUTS

Attention all Scout & Cub parents! On Saturday 22nd January at 3.00 p.m., we are having an Investiture Ceremony, with Mass, for over 50 members of the 112th (Knocklyon) Unit, C.B.S.I. New Cubs, Scouts and Venturers will be invested, and *all* Unit parents are urged to come along to this important occasion – and join us for refreshments afterwards in the school (mums could help by bringing along a cake, sandwiches or suchlike).

The 112th Unit has had outstanding growth and success in recent times, and your continued support is essential to its future. Please note again:

Saturday Jan. 22nd, 3.00 p.m.
at the Church

– AND GUIDES

On Sunday 23rd January at 10.30 a.m. there will be a special Folk Mass for all uniformed members of the Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. This looks like being a really memorable celebration – better be there early or it may be a case of “standing room only”!

C.B.S.I. 112th Dublin Unit – Knocklyon
‘300’ Club

Would you like the opportunity *every month* to be included in the draw for prizes of £125, £100, £50 and £25 for only £3 – 75p a week – and help a most worthy cause.

The above unit – *our* local parish unit – now numbers over 100 boys in five troops, 1 Venturer, 2 Scout and 2 Cub and is in desperate need of funds. The unit is growing all the time and is very much an on-going thing. Boys become cubs, who become scouts who become venturers. There is a constant financial requirement for the unit which has to be met to ensure its survival and growth.

We are looking for 300 participants in this scheme. This will bring in £900 every month; of which we will offer £300 in prizes.

In fact we have already had one month’s involvement. Our initial “Marketing” was directly through the parents and friends of the boys themselves and we were just able to meet the required prize money for that month – December. The winners were as follows:

- £125 Mr. Buckley, 6, Knockaire.
- £100 Mrs. Malone, 47, Idrone Drive.
- £50 Mr. Curran, 6 Firhouse Avenue.
- £25 Mrs. Coghlan, Sandymount, Dublin 4.

However, we are still well short of the 300 required and now is the time to go public and ask for your help. The intention is to have the draw each 3rd Sunday of the month after 10.30 mass (as we did in December). However for *January only*, in order to receive and administer the new influx of participants, the draw will take place on Sunday 30th. Details can be sought from any of the following.

John Donnelly, 3 Delaford Park. Tel: 942260

Maura Keogh, 57 Knockaire. Tel: 942809

Maria Bainbridge, 8 Firhouse Avenue.

Tel: 511435

N. Byrne, 15 Coolamber Court. Tel: 945839

– All members of the Fund Raising Committee or the 112th Unit Council.

– Please make contact before January 23rd.



BRIDGE

The Knocklyon Bridge Club Christmas party was held on the 13th December. It was a happy affair with a draw for partners. Though some tried to play bridge the Christmas spirit seemed to have got to some others. Each player was given a number before the game commenced and from these numbers a draw was made for spot prizes. As there were fifty prizes almost everyone got a spot. After the game an excellent spread of cakes, buns and tea provided by the participants was enjoyed by all. This was followed by a spontaneous concert — a happy occasion in keeping with the spirit of Christmas.

Winners of the competition were:

Group I N/S Mrs. Rita Molloy and Mrs. Tina Dowling. E/W Mrs. Lily Garvey and Mr. Frank Doolin.

Group II N/S Mr. and Mrs. Brendan Sherry E/W Mr. Frank Crummy and Mr. Pdraig Cullinane.

M.A.B.

LADIES KEEP FIT CLASS

Ladies get into shape for those summer holidays by attending your local keep fit class with exercise to music every Thursday night 8 p.m. — 9 p.m. in Knocklyon Junior School.

Blessed are those
who count their calories,
for their efforts
shall not go to waist.



HAVING A BABY?

Professional care and advice available for mother and baby post-natally. For further details please contact:

Trish Eustace R.S.L.N., S.R.N., R.M.
at 941179

LA LECHE LEAGUE, TEMPLEOGUE GROUP

Mothers who are breastfeeding their babies, or who are planning to breastfeed a new baby, may be interested to know more about La Leche League. A non-sectarian, non profit making organisation, the League's purpose is to give information and encouragement, primarily through personal contact, to women interested in breastfeeding.

While doctors agree that "breastfed is best fed", nonetheless a woman's ability to breastfeed successfully can be helped by meeting other nursing mothers. Through the League mothers may find answers to their questions about breastfeeding, share information and have easy access to reading material on breastfeeding and related subjects. All La Leche League material of a medical nature is read and approved by medical consultants before publication.

The Templeogue Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month in a member's home (the group is meeting currently in the Knocklyon area). Expectant and new mothers are welcome — as are their babies!

La Leche League began twenty six years ago when one mother, who had successfully nursed her baby, helped another who wanted to breastfeed. This is still the basic, approach although the League is now an international organisation with more than 4,260 groups helping women in 49 countries all over the world — 38 of these groups are in Ireland.

For further information please Tel: 944420.

KNOCKLYON POST PRIMARY SCHOOL

The post primary committee are at present awaiting a reply from the Minister for Education confirming the proposed date for the building of a Community School on the 11 acre site at Scholarstown Road. The committee are anxious that parents should know the full intentions of the Department with regard to the early provision of a post primary school in Knocklyon and intend to call a public meeting as soon as concrete information is available.

ANNUAL FASHION SHOW

It is hoped to hold the fashion show again this year. Tentative date February 23rd. Venue: St. Colmcille's Junior School Hall.

PLEASE KEEP DATE FREE

Watch next newsletter for further information. Advertisements will be received at the presbytery at any time.

"It's still the same old story . . ."

In some respects at least, Christmas climaxes on Christmas eve. It may be when the shops close, when the last of the myriad chores are complete such as the stuffing of the poor unfortunate turkey, or when the over excited kids are finally coaxed, bribed or, in spite of the time that's in it, even threatened into some kind of sleep. They make valiant efforts to stay awake but somehow the Lord mercifully gets them into happy dreamland before the momentous event of Christmas night, for them at least, occurs. Again for many, very fittingly, the climax may be the Midnight Mass or the Christmas Day mass of one's choice. Very quickly the hangover sets in but let us hope it is essentially a holy hangover! Quickly we say — for me there were signs of it even early Christmas Eve afternoon as I looked across to our schools from the presbytery. There was a strange stillness there bordering on sadness, earlier that morning it had been teeming with life and eager anticipation. Now only the Christmas decorations remained stoutly on the school windows, but with the children and staff gone to their respective homes, there was no heart, a terrible emptiness. And as if this were not bad enough, the business people, in a kind of indecent haste, were even now via the media crowding us with Sales and holidays in the you know where. And now here we are right plump in the after Christmas low ebb, and there is only one way to go from there — upwards, so rise and shine, because New Year Resolution time is here again. O.K. we never keep them, so join the club. But the human condition needs New Year Resolutions, needs challenge, otherwise we stop living. Instinctively we know this is true, I don't have to prove it to you, and if good on the natural level, then it is good for us on the spiritual level also, because grace builds on nature, and that makes good sense too, even though for the life of me now, I can't recall where first I came across that spiritual maxim. But, ye gods, you plead, why should I go on fighting, making resolutions, facing up to challenge, why the heck should I? Well man, don't expect all the answers from me here and now, but there are good reasons and incentives. And how about for starters the following little food for thought in that direction.

Back in 1932 things were not so good either. This was a headline from a paper 31st December 1932: "Few if any persons in this country or any other, will shed tears for the past year — for it has been a year of depression, and trade disorganisation". Evidently in '32, we had more than 90,000 unemployed. And elsewhere things were rougher. For instance in the U.S. there were 13 million unemployed, and banks and businesses collapsed like ninepins. Despite the gloom of '32, Christmas was still Christmas. Get a load of these prices here at home for that year. In our present currency, Christmas puddings were selling from 7½p to 25p, youngsters bicycles were £1.45 to £2.45, tea 10p to 20p per lb., cigarettes were 12½p for 50, Fords were selling new 30 cwt. tipper trucks for £215. For those who wanted to get away from the gloom of '32, a case of vintage champagne could have been delivered to their homes for £2.50 or they could have had a two week skiing holiday in Switzerland for £14.75. But why pile on the agony? '32 has gone and now '82 is quickly fading into the background and we're still rolling along.

I heard it said recently that Christmas, like the Olympic Games should occur only once every four years. But there is the other all-important side of the story. Christmas is God contacting us in the most intimate way possible, in the person of his Divine Son, Jesus Christ and that same Jesus Christ is alive among us today: "Behold I am with you all days . . . Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, today and forever", come what may depressions or boom. When you think of it that way, everyday is Christmas Day. It's still the same old story — but it sure is one heck of a story.

Patrick Fitz.



THINGS PAROCHIAL



THE ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

“Confession is a Joy” was the title of an old C.T.S. pamphlet by Daniel A. Lord S.J. It was also the experience of 600 – 700 people who attended the Penitential Service in the church on the Thursday evening before Christmas. And isn’t it so right that that should be their experience? After all, the Sacrament is simply the celebration of God’s forgiveness; and God’s mercy is a joy for the confessor to give and a joy for the penitent to receive.

“Confession was never intended to be a burden”. Fr. Chris O’Donnell said in his introduction. To confess THAT I am a sinner is so much more important than going into detail as to HOW or IN WHAT WAY I have sinned. In fact such going into detail can be detrimental as often as beneficial to the penitent. At best it creates a healthy sensitivity of conscience; at worst it leads to scrupulousness or even an abandoning of the sacrament in shame or despair.

A semi-dramatised reading of *The Prodigal Son* from St. Luke’s Gospel helped to bring home to us that we are — all of us — really sinners and in need of God’s mercy. We were invited to come forward to receive the Lord’s absolution, confessing our sinfulness either in completely general terms or indicating specific areas of sin as appropriate and in a spirit of freedom and joy.

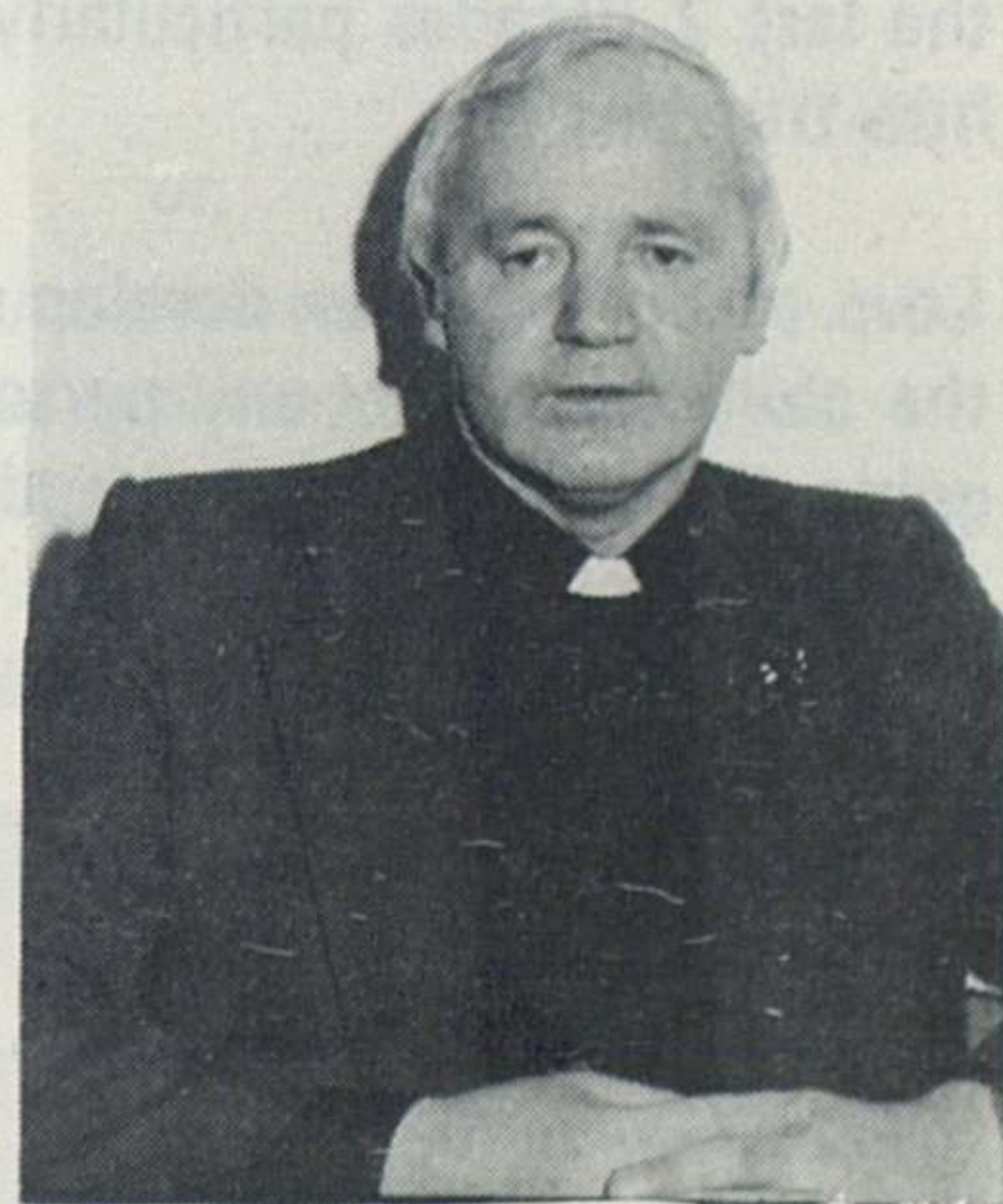
Truly, as the Psalmist says repeatedly, “His mercy is above all His works”

THE CHRISTMAS MASSES

It was a great joy, too, to see such throngs of people attending the Christmas masses. Mass after mass saw the church packed to capacity. And what more fitting way to welcome and greet Fr. Paddy Staunton who celebrated the 10.30 and Bishop Joseph Carroll who celebrated the 11.30 mass.



*A WELCOME
AND A WELCOME BACK*



There was, also, food for thought as to why the numbers attending were so vastly greater than on the average Sunday, even allowing for the fact that several people go to a second mass on Christmas Day. There seems to be no escaping the conclusion that many people were at mass on Christmas day who are no longer regular attenders. So as a christian community, let us rejoice that so many did come to mass at Christmas and at the same time support by our prayers — and perhaps a discreet word of encouragement — those who feel weak or lazy or estranged. That they be strengthened in fidelity — Lord hear us.

A CHILDREN'S MASS

Sometime very soon, it is hoped to introduce a children's mass on a regular Sunday morning basis.

It's not meant to be a mass for children only; parents will be very welcome to come along with them. Nor is it expected that all the children will come to this mass; that wouldn't be even physically possible in a parish with so many children in it.

What then is intended? Simply that one, at least, of our Sunday Liturgies should SPEAK DIRECTLY to young children. 8 – 12 is a highly impressionable age. Habits and attitudes are established which in all probability will be life-long. It is, therefore, a vital time for instilling an abiding love of the Eucharist.

A child's attendance at mass, no matter how regular and faithful, says absolutely nothing about future practice. If children are bored at mass in their early years, there is a strong possibility of permanent alienation later on. Simply to ensure attendance at mass, without taking care of the quality of prayerful participation, is not a training in fidelity but – more likely – a preparation for teenage rebellion. There is an abundance of evidence – in the experience of the last 2 decades particularly – to prove just how true this is.

Love of the mass can develop and grow, only if the child (as indeed any person) knows what's going on, is able to understand and follow what

is said, likes to pray and sing and feels involved in the celebration.

But an adult liturgy is largely unintelligible and uninteresting to the child. True, the essence of the mass is a mystery for all of us; but readings, hymns and homily should be meaningful and – as of now – they are so to the adult only. Simplified readings, appropriate hymns, one of the Eucharistic prayers specially designed for children's celebration and a homily directed to the young mind – these will be the main features of the children's mass, and no effort will be spared in getting the children vitally involved, really participating.

So parents, do make a special effort to send your children, or come along with them, to the children's mass. If you come yourselves, you won't lose out. For whereas children get very little out of adult liturgies, adults can benefit very well indeed from masses for children.

The hour of the mass has yet to be decided; representatives of the adult choir, the folk group, the teachers from St. Colmcille's who will be helping to "launch" the mass will meet together, and they and the Parish Council will advise on how the interests of all may best be served.

Finally, a cry for assistance! If you feel you can help IN ANY WAY in the planning or conduct of the children's liturgy, please give your name to Fr. Weakliam.

ESPECIALLY FOR YOU

*"I made it 'specially for you,"
He said, and handed me
The dubious daub of colour
He had made for me to see.*

*A horse? A cat? A fish? A shoe?
Who quibbles with such art?
No matter what it was I knew
It came straight from his heart.*

*I told him it was beautiful –
I loved his big surprise!
And a million pounds just
couldn't buy
That pleased look in his eyes.*

*'Especially for you' – three
words
Such potent magic hold.
They turn the smallest gift on
earth
To one of purest gold.*

HELEN LOWRIE MARSHALL



PRAYER GROUP

meets

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS 10.30

at

11, FIRHOUSE AVE.
(creche facilities)

ALL ARE WELCOME

You've been looking at this notice throughout the last year every time you entered the church. Before you dismiss it again from your mind and say 'Not for me', let me tell you a little bit about our prayer group.

Do you remember January 8th 1982 and the awful blizzard? That was the day when a very small group gathered for the first time to pray together. There was nothing new in this idea, we were simply doing what the first christians did when they gathered in their homes to pray in small groups. Since then, our group has grown in numbers and harmony and we continue to meet each Wednesday.

We usually start with a hymn and sometimes we are lucky enough to have guitar accompaniment. Under the guidance of our musical director, we often surprise ourselves with our musical ability! We then read a little scripture and, perhaps, share a thought or two on its meaning for us. We pray for all the needs of our community, for the sick, the old and the lonely, for our families and friends, for peace in our homes and throughout the world.

At 11.30 somebody boils the kettle and over a cup of coffee we enjoy a friendly chat. We take it in turns to look after the children in the creche so that mother can relax. There is no obligation to attend each week - you come when you can.

If you would like to join us any Wednesday morning, you will be very welcome and we hope you will find us an ordinary likeable group.

If you have no successful routine of morning prayer, why not make one or other of these yours for the month.

O God, our Father, help us all through this day so to live that we may bring help to others, credit to ourselves and to the name we bear, and joy to those that love us, and to thee.

Help us to be,

*Cheerful when things go wrong;
Persevering when things are difficult;
Serene when things are irritating.*

Enable us to be,

*Helpful to those in difficulties;
Kind to those in need;
Sympathetic to those whose hearts are sore
and sad.*

Grant that,

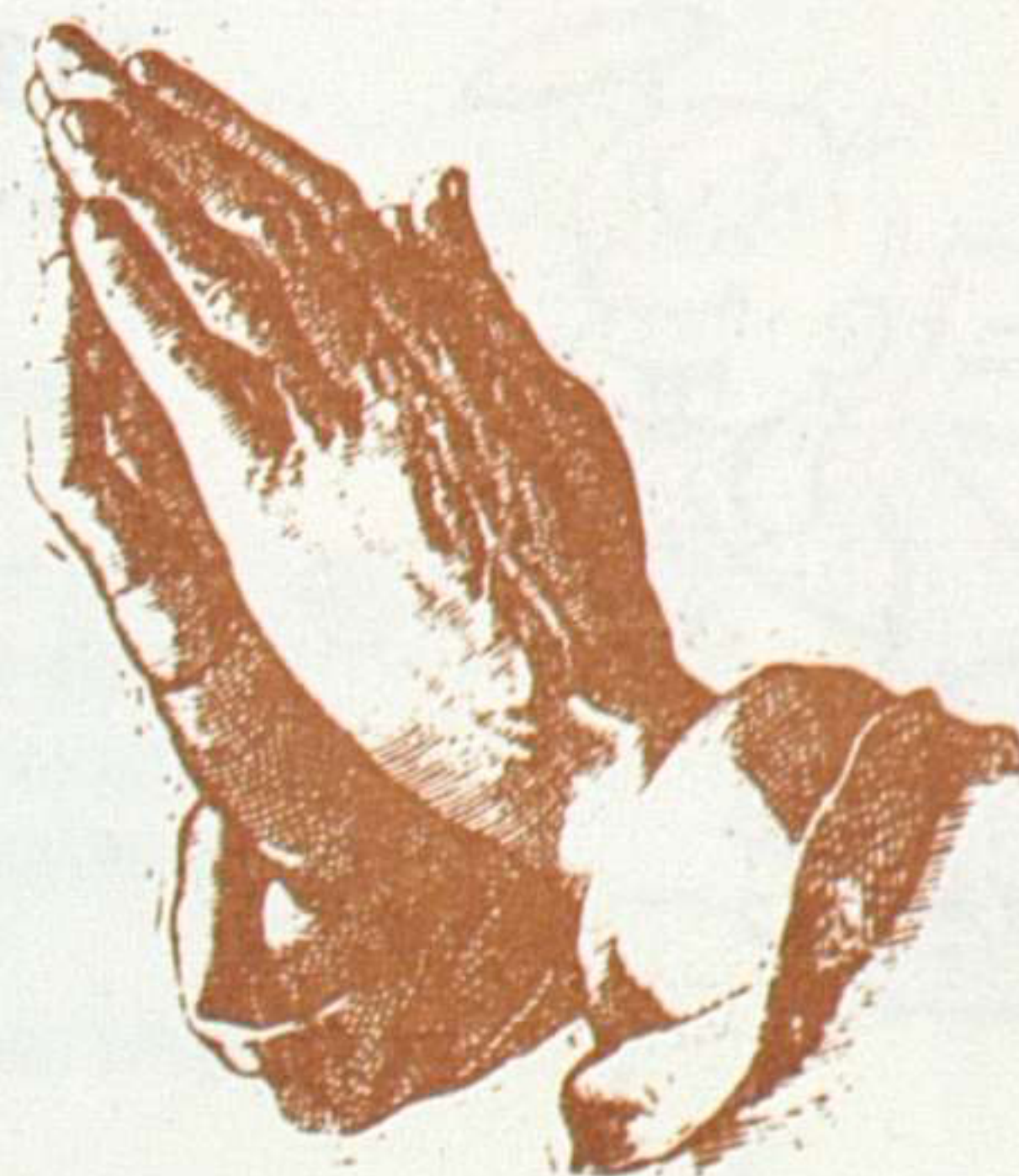
*Nothing may make us lose our tempers;
Nothing may take away our joy;
Nothing may ruffle our peace;
Nothing may make us bitter towards any
man.*

So grant that through all this day all with whom we work, and all those whom we meet, may see in us the reflection of the Master, whose we are, and whom we seek to serve. This we ask for they love's sake.

William Barclay

or

Lord, so many people are bright in the morning and full of praise and joy. I am just dazed and sleepy. Accept my stumbling greeting and look after me as I plunge helplessly into the turmoil of daily living. Amen.



Continued from front cover.

Not that I've any objection to twisting a few arms — if only I knew whose arms I ought to be twisting. Maybe you'd help me here. We need creative writing. If you don't feel up to contributing yourselves, maybe you'd enlist as a spy or informer. Just drop along and whisper someone's name to me, someone who'd be good for an article or written piece of any kind. I'll be happy to pile on the appropriate pressure.

The confidential phone no. is 941204.

By the way, that brings me to something that just isn't funny. That number is far too confidential! It's new, so naturally you won't find it in the Directory. But Directory Enquiries don't appear to even know that it has been changed, and no amount of pleading with the Powers that Be in the P and T has so far succeeded in getting an intervention on the old number (which continues to ring away if you dial it as if no one was bothering to answer).

So, again, please note and spread the word. New presbytery phone no. 941204.

And, as I said before getting side-tracked. D.A.C. Dial a Contribution (to the Newsletter).

FROM THE CHURCH NOTICE BOARD

Present routine of services — for reference purposes.

Parish of St. Colmcille, Knocklyon. Telephone: 941204

In care of the Carmelite Fathers

Fathers David Weakliam	Parish Priest
Patrick Fitzpatrick)	
Arthur Fitzpatrick)	Curates
Michael McConvey)	

TIMES OF MASSES

Sundays: 8.30, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30, 7.00

Holy Days: 7.20, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 7.00, 8.00

Weekdays: 9.00, 10.00, 7.30

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays and eves of Holy days and First Fridays

10.30 — 11.30 a.m. 6.30 — 7.30 p.m.

BAPTISMS

Sundays: 3.30 p.m. (Communal)

Saturdays: Afternoon (Individual)

Other times by arrangement.
(Prior consultation required)

MORNING PRAYER

Monday to Saturday 9.30 a.m.
