

# The Knocklyon News



ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 1983

I refuse to give up! Your editor – you'll be glad to know – is none of your shallow, fickle, change-your-mind-on-the-minute types. Years of experience in the classroom has hardened his neck, thickened his hide and given him an overall stubbornness of character.

So, you ask, has the Presbytery been flooded with suggested titles for our Newsletter. Are you joking me?! *Three* was all you could muster. And I want a hundred at least before I pick a winner! And I'll get them if I've to squeeze them out of you!

Mind you, the suggestions I did get were good (patronisingly!) 'The Parish Link' was one. 'Who's calling, please?' another. And then, to cheer me up, a parishioner of evident taste, breeding and discernment wrote me the following letter (and provided our cartoon and verse).

*Dear Genial Editor,*

*I came across the verse below recently and hope you will print it. Seeing that your efforts to introduce a lighter vein to the parish newsletter by naming it the 'Nocklyon News, were met with such opposition, how about calling the next issue Knockers' News? (Make sure to keep the "K" in place so as not to offend anyone!)*

*Please don't publish my name and address as I might have too many people knock-knocking at my door to tell me what they think of my wittiness, or should I say, hy half-wittiness.*

*Keep up the good work as I think the Newsletter is great – whatever its called.*

My sentiments, too, might I add!

Now for the bouquets! You really rose to the occasion with the contributions. They came pouring in. So much so that I've simply had to hold some over until our next issue. Despite that we've had to go to 12 pages. But that'll have to be a "once off"! 8 pages will comprise the normal issue.

On that showing I can now afford to be demanding! Please make your items short and snappy. And where possible, try and send along an appropriate photo, cartoon or graphic. It'll make your particular piece far more attractive.

A final carrot! The earlier in, the better chance of publication. So don't wait for the deadline . . .

*When you hark  
to the voice  
of the Knocker,  
as you list  
to his hammer fall,  
remember the fact  
that the knocking act  
requires no brains at all.*

*Author Unknown*





## THINGS SOCIAL

### CHILD MINDING SERVICE

On Wednesday 2nd February, an open meeting was held to launch a Community Child Minding Service, but the attendance was very poor.

Mothers, if you have young children, and need a break, now and then, and if you are prepared to join such a group, please come along to the Church Meeting Room on Wednesday 16th February (Ash Wednesday) at 10.30 a.m. Your children will be welcome at the meeting.

We also wish to form a separate group for after-school hours, e.g. 3 – 6 p.m. Enquiries for this group – please ring 961433.



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### PLAYGROUP

Playgroup opening shortly in Idrone Close 2, 3 or 4 mornings weekly. Ring 941451 for details.



### DRUGS ACTION GROUP

Arising from the public meeting on Drug Abuse organised by Knocklyon Community Council, a Drugs Action Group has now been formed in the parish. The Group consists of parents who are concerned about the growing danger of Drug abuse and who believe that preventive measures should now be taken. It is hoped to draw up a programme aimed at making the whole community in Knocklyon more aware of the dangers of drug abuse and with particular emphasis on the possibilities of prevention. Lectures, leaflet drops etc. will be utilised to this end, and advice will be obtained on an on-going basis from professionals in this sphere.

The group has been much encouraged by the advice and assistance given by Coolmine Parents Association.

If you wish to become involved or if you require further information, please contact John Hannon – Tel: 942045.



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### KARATE

Ladies and gentlemen are welcome to our Karate class in Knocklyon Senior School every Tuesday at 8.30 p.m. Run by United Health Studios in conjunction with the Ladies Committee.

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### UNISLIM

St. Colmcilles Senior School every Tuesday 7 p.m. £4.50 to join, £1.10 weekly.





## MORE OF SCOUTS AND GUIDES

Well, last month we mentioned a forthcoming Investiture of "over 50" assorted Scouts, Cubs and Venturers; in the event, as it turned out, 70 were invested, as follows:

- 1 Assistant Cub Leader  
(Karen Handley)
- 9 Venturers
- 19 Scouts
- 41 Cubs

Unit Chaplain Fr. McConvey and Unit Leader Noel Geoghegan were looking pretty pleased about the whole thing — Noel reckons that at this rate of expansion, we'll soon have a scout in every home in the parish.

The ceremony was carried out with a nice mix of humanity, piety, pageantry and efficiency (necessary with such numbers) and this made it a really enjoyable occasion, for the parents as much as for the stars of the day. In the face of all the unhappier developments in our society, it is inspiring to see so many of our young people embracing a code that calls for such things as discipline, self-reliance and care for others.

The following day's Folk Mass for Scouts and Guides was a further affirmation of this spirit. Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Cubs and Venturers, in their various colourful uniforms, presented an impressive spectacle, and the solemn moment of consecration was marked by a stirring bugle salute from David Murray.

In the past year, the Scout and Guide units in Knocklyon have grown to the point where they are now a major focus for the future development of our parish youth. Something as important as this has to have considerable support from all of us. Right now there are large problems in relation to accommodation, equipment, and you could help in a practical way by joining the CBSI 300 Club; any Scout/Cub Leader or Unit Council member can arrange this for you.

January's winners in the '300' Club prize money draw were as follows:

- £125 Mrs. Greene, Limerick
- £100 Mr. Mulvey, 137 Coolamber Park.
- £50 Mr. B. Dowling, 5, Firhouse Park.
- £25 Mrs. A. Malone, 47, Idrone Drive.

We badly need subscribers. See the church notice board for information.

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## BROWNIES

Any parents who wish to put their child's name on the waiting list to join the Knocklyon Brownie pack, please contact Mrs. Marietta Woods at 942246. Children can join from the age of 6½ years.





## MOONSHINE!

"Tis not from chance our comfort springs"

"When you're near, there's such an air of Spring about it, I can hear a lark somewhere, begin to sing about it . . ." ran the old Ella Fitzgerald favourite — fine song, fine sentiments, great artist. The song, no doubt, serenades the boyfriend or girlfriend as the case may be. You will notice the object of affection is likened to Spring and in the circumstances what more apt compliment could there be, because Spring sure is good, and it's all happening just now.

"You can notice the stretch in the evenings" we observe in a tone of making some new discovery — the same remark we have been faithfully repeating at this time for many a year now! But this only goes to show one can never grow tired of Spring and we want to hug and caress it. "And the days are getting longer". Now if one wants to be difficult about this latter observation, one could stoutly maintain that the days do not get longer! After all there are 24 hours in a day, no more nor no less. Ah yes, you will say, but that is night and day. But now, I ask you, do we go around saying there are 7 days and nights in a week?! Is it not all a question of more light per day, and that set me thinking about light and darkness.

For instance the sailors of old had a very logical, if incorrect, notion about light. They preferred the moon to the sun because they reckoned the moon gave light when it is most needed. Regarding that real agent of light, the sun, well into historic times, our sailor friends again, believing the earth was flat, thought that same sun dipped into the sea at night to sorta cool down and freshen up, to rise pale and shining in the morning, spick and span, so to speak. Talking about sailors, allow me to digress with the following legend — I am an addict to such legends, comforting cushions to the harsh realities of life. This one originated among the sailors of Finisterre, concerning the moons influence on the tides.

It seems there was a shipwreck off Finisterre, in which all the sailors concerned perished. The moon was angry with the sea for drowning the sailors, so in rage it swallowed the whole sea. However, there was 'arbitration' because the sailors pointed out to the moon, that while the sea was in its belly, they were land locked, and so could not provide food etc. for themselves and their families. So the moon relented and duly coughed up the sea — no problem! — but did so on condition that the sea remained under its control and so it remains to this . . . etc. etc. I believe they teach a different theory on this matter in the schools today!!!

Back to Spring and its ever increasing light. Darkness spells sadness for me, the end of the day, death. Light is life, it is light that makes the flowers smile and the birds to sing, and powerfully lifts up our spirits. Surely here is an embrace from the Light of the World. Light is a smile, darkness a frown, the darkness of sin, the light of grace. But then is it ever all darkness? Sometimes when daylight is gone, and the moon is in business, working on broken cloud, the Divine artist can sure put on some show, with exquisite shade, light and contrast, beauty frozen, eternal . . . He is surely there with his light at the end of every tunnel of darkness — and the darkest hour is oft before the dawn.

Patrick Fitz





## HI, ALL YOU YOUNG PEOPLE OUT THERE . . .

It's about time you had a page of your own — you are, after all, a very important part of the Knocklyon Community.

So, why not make this really and truly YOUR PAGE! We want to hear from you. Don't be shy — whatever it is, we'd like to see it. Send us anything you have — jokes, stories, poems and lots of ideas to make this a fun page! And while you are busy scribbling, why not send along a passport size photo of yourself — let's see just what our budding talent of the area looks like.

\* \* \* \* \*

What is there to do for you around the local scene, and in Dublin generally? NOT MUCH I hear you shout! But all it takes is a little thought and imagination — and perhaps a few words in Big Brother's ear!

Here are a few movies you might like to see —

"E.T."	Adelphi 1 & Green 1
"Raiders of the Lost Ark"	Adelphi 4
"Annie"	Savoy 5
"Fox and the Hound"	Metropole 3

"Babes in the Wood" is still on at the Gaiety.

\* \* \* \* \*

*At our own local Youth Club there are facilities to play Badminton, Table Tennis and Snooker. If you are not already a member of any of the three parts of the Y.C., the Senior (over 15) the Junior*

*(under 12) or the Intermediary (12 to 15), you should be! It's a great way to meet lots of new people and mix in a nice, friendly atmosphere.*

*If you want to venture further afield, and you talk someone into bringing you, why not try getting into a pair of skates!*

*The Star Roller Rink is in Crumlin — Phone: 501438.*

*The Dublin Ice Rink is in Dolphins Barn. Phone: 752170.*

Sorry, I could not reach either of these rinks for details of times and rates.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our more athletic youths might prefer to get out and get fit! There are two beautiful parks in our area, why not make full use of the rolling greens! In Bushy Park, the budding John McEnroe will find plenty to keep him nappy and on his way to Wimbledon in the fine tennis courts there. Marlay Park has acres of green foliage, suitable for jogging or walking, or just bringing your dog for a stroll.

There's sure to be plenty to do, and places to go, if you just keep your eyes open. Let us know about your favourite place to relax. If you have any suggestions for YOUR PAGE, or any questions about items, drop me a line at the address below:—

*Michelle Tuohy,  
98 Coolamber Park,  
Templeogue,  
Dublin 16.*

*Phone: 946760 between 7 and 9  
weeknights.*





## LADIES – LADIES: CALLING ALL LADIES IN KNOCKLYON

My name is Colette. I am inviting you all to our A.G.M. Who are we? We are the Knocklyon Ladies Committee. To give you an idea of what we do, we have organised toddlers' mornings for children under four every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. We have run coffee mornings, cake sales and a pilgrimage to Lourdes. We also help with the various parish functions. We had a very successful self-defence course and arising from that we have organised a Karate course, every Tuesday at 8.30 p.m. in the Senior School. We are about to start a baby-minding service in the near future. A social night has been launched every two weeks on a Thursday night in the church meeting hall at 8.30 p.m.

We enjoy our work for the Committee. It's good to feel you are really helping others by what you're doing. Our Committee needs new members, new ideas . . . needs YOU. I'm looking forward to meeting you all at our A.G.M. Note the date, time and place. 2nd March at 9.00 p.m. in the church meeting hall.

Thanking you all on behalf of the Knocklyon Ladies Committee.

Women's World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions, who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year.

Until last year most of us in Knocklyon had never heard of this movement, but on the first Friday in March 1982, 27 of us gathered in a house in the area to take part in this service and so became a link in the great chain of prayer that encircled the globe on that day. Creche facilities were provided and 16 children and babies were cared for while their mothers joined together in prayer.



Colette Brennan,  
President Ladies' Committee.

The movement began in America after the American Civil War and has since spread to more than 150 countries. It was in 1934 that the first 3 services took place in Ireland. This year 170 services will be held. Our service will be held on Friday, 4th March next, at 11 Firhouse Avenue at 10.30 a.m. We hope many more women will want to participate in these prayers, which bring together women of different races and cultures. The same praise and prayers are offered in more than 60 languages.

The Day of Prayer begins at the International Date Line and the first services are in Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand. As the day progresses round the world, new groups in city and countryside join in praise and prayer, until after some 40 hours, it ends as the sun sets, off the coast of Alaska.

Each year, women of different countries compile the service. Last year it was the turn of Ireland. This year the women of the Caribbean have prepared the service, and the theme is: *New Persons in Christ*.

Please remember the date: Friday, 4th March 1983

at

11, Firhouse Avenue  
10.30 a.m.

Children and babies welcome to the creche. Coffee at 11.30 a.m.

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Ladies of Knocklyon! Your Community and Parish needs you . . .





Another A.G.M., shortly to take place, is that of the Parish Council.  
(See next issue for date and venue).

The Parish Council is the most important body in the administrative structure of any parish. In fact you could say that the health and vitality of the Parish Council is the best indication of the overall health and vitality of the Parish Community. A good Parish Council means a good parish!

The following excerpts from the Constitution of the Council should help you to understand what it's all about.

Parish Council is a consultative body with three main points of reference:

1. It should promote and assist in the Spiritual needs of the Parish.
2. It should assist in the Administrative Activities.
3. It should assist in Social and Civic Problems.

The Parish Council should not confine itself solely to fund raising.

### MEMBERSHIP OF PARISH COUNCIL

1. Everyone over 18 years is eligible.
2. 9 elected members, Parish Priest and Clergy.
3. Nominees of Parish Priest selected because of dedication or professional abilities.
4. The amount of Nominees should not be restricted.
5. The committee should be representative of all areas of the Parish and not be a block from any one area.

**Annual General Meeting:** Should be held yearly to report on work done and for Election of Parish Council.

**A QUORUM:** is 5 Council Members.

**OFFICERS:** will be selected by members of Council yearly. Election of Council will be by show of hands at Parish Annual General Meeting.

**COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:** will be for one year, but outgoing members will be eligible for re-election.

The Parish needs the Parish Council. The Parish Council needs an interested and involved community. We are still a very young parish and the quality of our life as a stable christian community is being shaped in these early years. Don't be a sitter-on-the-fence or a hurler-in-the-ditch! Psyche yourself now to answer the call next month to the Parish Council A.G.M. 1983.

**Gerry Daly,**  
**President of the Parish Council.**







# LENT



## A Nation needs its Lent

The word "Lent" has a bleak inflection and the season comes before the swallow dares. To some it may appear as an archaic exercise in Christian masochism but it coincides with budgets and predictions of enforced austerity, and the farewell to affluence. Lean years lie ahead, things fall apart, and for once, the economists all concur. There can be no rise in what should endlessly rise — the standard of living.

Which phrase, I wonder, could be more opaque than "the standard of living"? We assess it by income. Yet there is no equation between income and contentment, between the quantum and the quality. Most people know this; few believe it.

The difference is crucial for we do not live by the head but by the heart, and it is to the heart that Jesus speaks and much of his language is the language of values. Lent is for a change of heart, a revision of values. Jesus does not under-rate the need for bread. He merely insists that it is not enough.

The real need is deeper, the real ache more acute, the real life more elusive. The hardest change is a change of heart; it seems so risky. Yet there can be no life without change and all radical change begins with loss, a kind of dying, a descent into the dark.

So we prefer the surface and the superficial yet, deep down, remain aware that it does not satisfy.

Man cannot live by economics alone. "Bread only" does not provide and we naturally seek to live on "bread only" though in ever-increasing quantities. So we worship the wage and it has proved a hard idolatry and made men anxious.

Anxiety is a demon no man and no money can exorcise. It afflicts the rich as well as the poor

and is now endemic in our society. Yet, by and large, we are well off. Most people have cakes and ale. But we are not a happy society and austerity may provide a fallow time, a time to pause and ponder the big things, the why and the wherefore.

It may be a period of convalescence and recovery. A nation needs its Lent for learning and a lean time can be a season for health. Healing, making whole, revealing, revaluing — these were the words of Jesus and his words did not and do not meet with easy approbation.

Yet his words and his way will not let us be; they have the troubling attraction of the true, a kind of ring, an echo of an ideal which distracts and distrubs the unresting heart.

"Repent" is the Lenten verb. It calls for a new look at the values we hold dear. It has a corollary. "Repent and believe the Good News." Strange how natural it is to see every prophet as a "woe, woe" man and to accept only the predictions of decline. Jesus was a prophet of a different calibre; his message is not of gloom but of glory and this is so hard to take.

We are born cynics and take delight in spreading alarm and despondency. Then we become our own executioners and think ourselves into decline. This is the saddest sin: despair of possibility. It is a deep disease. It is not incurable. That is the Lenten message.

From *Reflections* by Hugh Lavery

Lent calls us to action, a call that none of us can afford to ignore. We respond by undertaking meaningful penance.

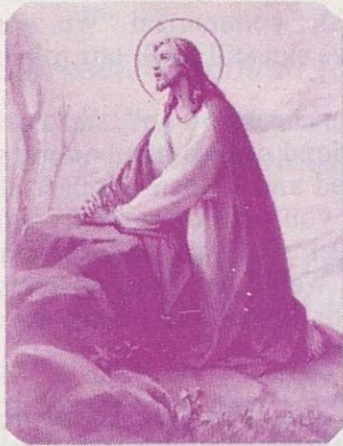
For most of us, the main formative influences which shape our values and attitudes are secular more than religious. T.V., radio, newspapers crowd out our appetite for the Gospel and we grow spiritually flabby.

During Lent, at least, let us redress the balance in one or more of the following ways:



## COULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME

A weekly hour of prayer for 4 Fridays (February 25th, March 4th, 11th, 18th) 8 – 9 p.m. It will consist of silent prayer, hymn singing, scriptural reflection, intercession and a short instruction on prayer and how to pray.



### YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN – DO YOU SHARE THE SAME FAITH?

Recent growth in understanding of the faith has led at times to disparity of belief between parents and their teenage children. This series will seek to probe the gap, examine its origin and take some steps to bridge it.

4 lectures on Thursdays at 8 p.m. in Senior School (February 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th).

### BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Why not try to do some serious reading for Lent! Here are some books worth considering. (All available at the Church Shop).

**Looking for Jesus** By Adrian Van Kaan. This is a meditation on part of St. John's Gospel.

**Peter Calvey, Hermit, Opening to God and Way of the Pilgrim** are three very helpful books on prayer.

Why not try to get your children interested! There is a wide variety of lovely children's books. And even the very young ones might as well be colouring the 12 apostles as Goldilocks and the Three Bears!

**Periodicals: Reality and The Messenger** are two monthlies well deserving of regular subscription. If we have them around the house, at least we'll read a useful article now and again.

### CHANGES IN TIMES OF MASSES FOR LENT

These changes take effect from Ash Wednesday onwards:

Daily Masses

Monday-Friday 7.10 9.00 10.00 6.10 p.m.

Saturday 9.00 10.00 11.00 6.10 p.m.

Sundays:

8.00

9.00

10.00 Liturgy for Children

11.00 Parish Choir

12.00 Folk Mass

7.00 p.m.

These times were agreed in consultation with the groups concerned and the Parish Council. They will be reviewed at the end of Lent. The reasons for the changes are, firstly the need to introduce the Children's mass at a suitable time, and – secondly to attempt to avoid the traffic congestion that has been occurring after the Folk Mass, which of its nature takes more time than other masses and is better not followed by another celebration.

**A WEEK OF CHRISTIAN RENEWAL WILL BE CONDUCTED**

**IN THE PARISH BY A TEAM OF PASSIONIST FATHERS**

**SUNDAY MARCH 20th TO SUNDAY MARCH 27th**

*See next issue for programme and details.*



## ILL, LIKE YOU . . .

*(A message to the sick or housebound from Fr. Joe Clinch, a Carmelite Missionary, now chronically ill)*

I needed little arm twisting for the opportunity to write to you, for I, like you, am now limited in what I can do, and making this contact with you will, please God, benefit all of us. It is not easy to be ill or immobilised, but in the words of a T.V. commercial "We work as a team", and even though we are less active than we would wish, we can still fulfil our role in the "Praying Church".

There are many nice words I could say to you to "cheer you up", and, no doubt, like me you have heard them all before! But I still recall when a friend put his hand on my shoulder and simply said "I'm sorry". I had the feeling that someone cared and I was no longer alone. And, of course, we are not alone. Christ told His followers, "unless you take up your cross daily and follow me, you cannot be my disciples". As a line from a popular Folk Hymn of some years ago expresses it: "Put your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee". Well if we do so sincerely we must go all the way with Christ — even to Calvary. And we pray for joyful acceptance to continue that road with Christ.

What a wonderful example is St. Paul. He was a man of action. To further the teachings of Christ he defied every obstacle even his own health — for he admits he was often ill. He was imprisoned, under "house arrest" for two years in Rome. And we are in a sense under "house arrest", but that did not stop Paul from his Missionary endeavours. It was while under arrest he wrote to Timothy, showing his concern for his friends, ". . . I remember you in my prayers, I remember your tears and long to see you again . . .", Paul even mentions Timothy's grandmother and mother. We too can remember those who care for us, our families, our friends, the doctors and nurses and the many more who help to make life easier. We have time to listen to others and show concern and love for their lives and their problems. So remember this theme on a card I once received, "What appears to be the end, may really be a new beginning".

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Dear Editor,

*May I avail of your space to outline briefly, for the benefit of your readers, what the Pro Life Amendment Campaign is about:*

### WHAT IS THE AMENDMENT FOR?

- To prevent abortion being allowed in this country for as long as the people want the ban on it to remain.

### WHY IS THE AMENDMENT NEEDED?

- Because the Irish Constitution does not specifically protect the right to life of the unborn.
- Therefore the law which now bans abortion might be removed by the Courts, no matter what you or anyone else thinks about it.
- Only by an Amendment of the Constitution can we be certain that this will not happen.

### REMEMBER!

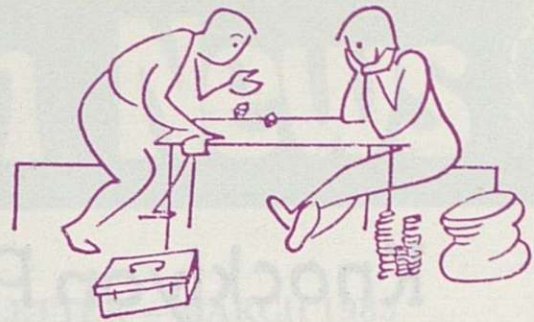
- The Amendment is only about preventing abortion — nothing else.
- It is about keeping the ban on abortion for as long as the people wish it.
- It will not mean any new restriction of any kind on anyone whatsoever.

*I hope that summary will be of help at least to those who haven't yet studied this most important issue.*

J. B.



## PARISH FINANCES . . . Entering a crisis phase



Did you know?

- that £1,300 per week is *required* for the parish to be viable!
- that since the building of the second phase of the school, we now require *£475 per week more* than previously!

### WEEKLY ENVELOPE COLLECTION RESULT FOR JANUARY 1983

	JAN. 2	JAN. 9	JAN. 16	JAN. 23	JAN. 30	TOTALS
REQUIRED	£1,300	£1,300	£1,300	£1,300	£1,300	£6,500
COLLECTED	£1,272	£1,320	£848	£1,032	£769	£5,241
	JAN. 2	JAN. 9	JAN. 16	JAN. 23	JAN. 30	
					↑	Deficit – £1,259

That rate of deficit, extended over one year would give a shortfall for the year of about £15,000. Already we are more than £4,000 in the red.

Our existing fund-raising activities – parish fairs, fashion show, sponsored walk etc. – simply cannot make up the difference.

We need:

Bright ideas for additional fundraising activities. (Is there a future for bingo? weekly draws? regular cake sales? you name it!)

OR

Faithful support of the Envelope Collection.

So again, . . . Please contribute **REGULARLY** to the envelope collection.

Please if you can afford it *increase* your subscription. It's not just inflation we've to cope with, and God knows that's bad enough. The parish has additional debts.

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Remember it's *YOUR CHURCH* and *YOUR SCHOOL*

\* \* \* \* \*



Knocklyon Parish Presents



# GALA FASHION SHOW

PRESENTED BY SADIE GREENE FASHION PROMOTIONS

at Knocklyon National School

8 PM WEDNESDAY 23RD. FEB. '83

SAMPLE THE DELIGHTS OF  
DENMARK  
FILM + FOOD + REFRESHMENTS  
DURING EXTENDED INTERVAL



ADMISSION £ 3.50 (TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
PRISBYTERY)