

KNOCKLYON NEWS

ST. COLMCILLE'S PARISH

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2001

SEASON OF LENT

Commencing on Ash Wednesday
FEBRUARY 28

MASSES

MONDAY to FRIDAY
7 am, 8.25 am, 9 am, 10 am, 6.10 pm.

NOVENA OF GRACE
March 4 - March 12

Weekdays 10am Sundays 11am
THEME OF NOVENA
Spirituality of
St. Therese
cf page 5

PRINCIPAL MAN

It is almost six months since St. Colmcille's Community School opened its doors to 120 pupils from the locality.

Last March, John McKennedy was appointed Principal and Gerardine Hackett Deputy Principal. Although the new school is unfinished, accommodation for classrooms and other facilities were made available for the 120 children who comprised these First Year Students, the names of whom will go down in the history of our community. It was quite an occasion and one for which we had waited so long.

John McKennedy was born and reared in Stepside, Co. Dublin, and spent an idyllic childhood in the heart of the Dublin mountains, climbing, hiking and having fun in this vast playground of freedom and beauty. His Primary School was St. Mary's Sandyford. Secondary brought him into the centre of Dublin when he became a student at C.B.S. Westland Row. The reason his parents chose this, was simply because there was a direct bus route from Stepside to Westland Row. One might think that such a transition from peaceful surroundings to the noise and bustle of city life would have been too much, but not so. Lunchtime was long in the C.B.S. and John soon discovered that just across the road from Westland Row there was an entrance to the grounds of Trinity College. The Campus was an oasis of tranquility. Flower beds, long stretches of green grass, cobblestones, and beautiful old buildings were like pictures from another age. No wonder he decided to opt for Trinity College after the Leaving Cert. There he studied and graduated in Science and Chemistry and later on a Higher Diploma in Education and a Masters in Chemistry.

After this John joined the staff of St. Tiernan's Community School, Sandyford Road and settled into life in the teaching profession. In addition to his Science/Chemistry classes he has a great love of music. He set up a student choir and established the school musical. It is now a yearly event. He also plays Irish music.

It was in St. Tiernan's that John met Louise who also teaches there. "Meeting Louise," he says, "was one of the best things that could have happened to me." They married and have three children, Niamh who is now a



John McKennedy and Gerardine Hackett with some of their pupils.

student at Coláiste Íosogáin, Oisín who is 11 and Sean 6, both pupils of Scoil Naithí, Ballinteer. John also loves sport and plays squash twice a week.

He first saw the advertisement for Principal in the newspaper and after discussion with Louise and colleagues, decided to answer it. He enjoyed the interview and felt honoured and privileged to get the post. There was, I am sure, some sadness in leaving St. Tiernan's having spent 18 years there, the last four of which he had

been Deputy Principal, but he was also happy and proud.

Last year, John spent most of the summer in the new Iona Centre, setting up the forthcoming school year, scheduling the curriculum, meeting incoming staff, liaising with builders, architects, furniture suppliers for classrooms, offices, etc. He would like to express his grateful thanks to all those who gave their help and support to him during this time, especially to Mr. Tim Geraghty, Principal, St. Tiernan's Community School, The Board of Management, Knocklyon, and Mr. Paudí O'Neill, Senior School, Knocklyon.

St. Colmcille's Community School is due for completion in March and another 120 students are due in September. The plan will continue for 5 or 6 years when the intake will have reached 650 students. By then the school will have three Science Labs, a Computer Section, facilities for Art and Construction Engineering. Sport facilities are a priority. There will be a full-sized Gym. Hurling, football, camogie and soccer are already in progress. A choir has been formed and will present their first musical production, 'Joseph And His Amazing Coloured Dreamcoat' in March under the direction of Ruth Kelly and must surely be a welcome first.

"I enjoy working with children," John says, "it is our privilege to learn and develop with them. We are responsible not only for their scholarly education, but also for guiding them to be upright citizens of our country. Regardless of age, we must always remember to respect them. It is a well known fact that respected young people have mutual respect."

We wish John every success and happiness during the coming years.

- Eileen Casey

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KNOCKLYON YOUTH FORUM



If you didn't make it to the first meeting of the St. Colmcille's Youth Forum on February 7th, you still have an opportunity to join in, as the young people who came along on that night decided that future meetings of the Youth Forum should take place fortnightly on Wednesdays, from 7.30 until 9 p.m.

The first meeting was an enthusiastic one, with those present welcoming the opportunity for 16-year-olds and older to come together, away from the pressures of daily life to find relaxation and lasting friendships. The group

hopes to have guest speakers from time to time, and to include group discussion, and quiet "reflection" time at each meeting. With a variety of themes to explore the group looks forward to learning more about each other in the secular and religious world, and sharing time growing together.

If you are seeking refuge from the busy days of school and work, and would like to meet new friends, do consider joining this exciting new group where refuge can be found, through friends in Christ. We hope to see you there.

For further information regarding the Youth Forum please contact Fr. Tony at 494 1204.

The next meeting of the Youth Forum will take place on Wednesday, 7th March, at 7.30 p.m in the Iona Centre.



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Life After School . . . And Beyond!

The second in our series following up on particular careers chosen by some of our parishioners

In the November '94 issue of the Newsletter we published an account of Brian Bird's studies – he was then a third year medical student at Trinity College. We recently spoke to Brian who brought us up to date with events in his life since then. . . .



Dr. Brian Bird

Brian graduated from Trinity as a medical doctor in June '98 and since then he has worked in St. James's Hospital, and Wexford and Portlaoise General Hospitals. He is currently employed in Tallaght Hospital working in the Gastroenterology service unit.

Being a doctor is a demanding job with huge responsibility, but Brian feels he is in a privileged position, being able to help and care for the community. Having gained experience in various units, Brian is keen to specialise in oncology – a much-needed service in society today.

He has already worked with Professor Daly and the oncology team at St. James's Hospital, and he is aware of the positive effect that treatment in this area can have on cancer patients.

Brian is optimistic that sometime in the future a discovery will be made for a vaccine against cancer and he hopes that a time will come when damaged organs can be regrown.

Brian has completed a post-graduate course where he studied for and was awarded membership of The Royal College of Physicians in Ireland – a great achievement for any 26-year-old.

He is concerned about the long working hours expect-

ed from junior doctors, and he was involved in the public campaign to highlight the dangers, and the need for changes in working 36 hour shifts. Brian is one of the people representing Tallaght Hospital on The Irish Medical Organisation, which is involved with ongoing negotiations with the Government Body – H.S.E.A. – regarding better conditions for junior doctors. He is disappointed that so far no progress has been made in limiting the number of hours worked.

For relaxation Brian takes to the sea air and sailing. Since the age of 13 when he had his first sailing lesson he has been hooked! For the past five years he has been involved with the club 'Les Glenans' which encourages beginners and provides courses focussed on teaching people to sail.

As a member of this club Brian has spent time training at their two resorts (Westport, Co. Mayo and Baltimore, Co. Cork) and last Easter he completed a course on which he qualified as a sailing instructor. This activity is carried out on a voluntary basis and he gets a great sense of satisfaction in sharing his skills with others.

Even though Brian now lives in an apartment near town he still has strong links with Knocklyon as he frequently visits his family home in Idrone. As we speak he recalls his happy childhood growing up in Knocklyon, his schooldays in St. Colmcille's and his time spent with the youth club. When he was 12 he broke both his arms by falling off his bike and it was around that time he decided he wanted to become a doctor.

Brian's focus is on people and on the people he has to care for. His hope for the future is that "more people will suffer less, and that more people will get better quicker". With an outlook like this we feel that the patients who are being cared for by Brian will have a great chance of regaining their health. We wish him every success in his chosen career.

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ST. THERESE'S SPIRITUALITY

"I feel that my Mission is about to begin, my mission to make God loved as I love him, to teach souls my little way." These words were spoken by St. Therese a few months before her death.

St. Therese of Lisieux was a Carmelite Sister who died at the age of 24 in 1897.

Her autobiography, 'The Story Of A Soul', written originally during her illness, at the direction of her Mother Prioress, has been translated into dozens of languages and read by many millions of people, worldwide.

She is famed for her promise that she would "spend her heaven doing good on earth". The extraordinary number of miracles of healing attributed to her intercession led to her early Canonisation by Pope Pius XI in 1925, who spoke of her as "the greatest Saint in modern times".

In April, 1923, Pius XI had written, "We earnestly decree that all the faithful should study her in order to copy her, becoming children themselves; since otherwise they cannot, according to the words of the Master, arrive at the Kingdom of Heaven."

St. Therese's popularity with the Irish people is witnessed by the fact that her statue can be seen in Churches everywhere throughout the Country.



Here, in Knocklyon Church, we have a shrine dedicated to her, the statue donated to us by the Carmelite Sisters, Firhouse.

St. Therese is linked with St. Francis Xavier in that the two saints have been declared Co-Patrons of the Missions: St. Francis, the great pioneering, active Missionary and St. Therese, witnessing to the love, prayer and sacrifice that powers the Church's entire missionary endeavour. This fact, alone, makes the Spirituality of St. Therese, a very appropriate theme for the Novena of Grace.

The Relics of St. Therese - a Casket containing the saint's mortal remains - will be in Ireland from Easter Monday until mid-June this year. The relics will visit Cathedral Churches of every Diocese, and all Carmelite Monasteries.

The Relics will be in our Church on Saturday/Sunday, May 5th-6th. The RTE televised Mass that Sunday will be from Knocklyon Church.

(The 'Knocklyon News', next month, will contain detailed information about the visit of the Relics of St. Therese.)



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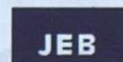
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Course 1



A Practical and Positive Video-based Course for Managing and Solving Discipline Problems in Children aged 4-11 years. The programme is the first of its kind in Ireland and represents one of the most powerful and cost-effective ways for professionals to work collaboratively with parents.

This eight-week course will take place on Tuesday evenings (8-10 p.m.) commencing 6th March and **will be presented by Anne McGrane, Child and Family Therapist.**

As places for this course are limited and are being offered initially to those whose names are on the waiting list, early application for remaining places is essential. **Fee: £45.00.**

Take Time Out for Yoga

Course 2



Care of the body, mind and spirit. Easy yoga movements with meditation. Small classes, idyllic environment.

This five-week course will commence on Wednesday, 7th March, and continues on four following Wednesdays (8-9.15 p.m.). Tutor: **Margaret Birmingham, I.Y.A. Diploma. Fee: £30.00.**

Application Form should be returned immediately.

APPLICATION FORM

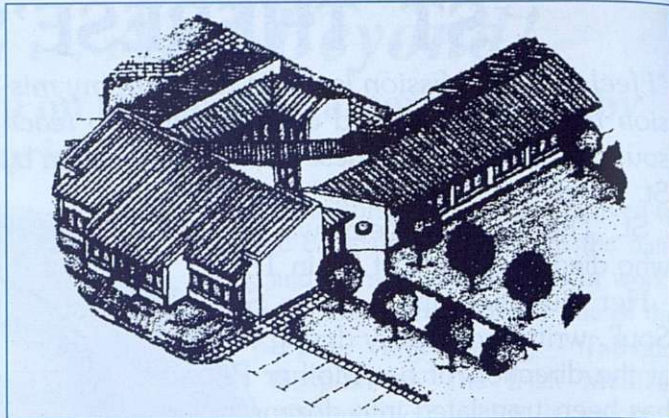
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Completed Application Forms should be returned to:
The Iona Centre, Idrone Avenue, Knocklyon, Dublin 16 and cheques made payable to The Iona Centre.



MARCH LECTURE Wednesday, 21st March

CULTS, SECTS AND NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS

Speaker:

Fr. Martin Tierney P.P., Kill-O'-The Grange

"The new cults and pseudo-religious movements present a challenge to the Church. They present a particular challenge to parents, priests and to those entrusted with the care of youth. The proliferation of cults and sects forces us to examine the faithfulness of our Christian living. The very existence and continuance of these groups means that for some people they seem to be meeting needs which the Christian churches are not satisfying."

Venue: The Iona Centre,
Idrone Avenue, Knocklyon

Time: 8 p.m.

Admission: £4.00

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In February, many Senior School classes revel in the magic of Wordsworth's classic poem 'The Daffodils'. Despite poor weather outdoors, we are gladly reassured by the beauty of nodding snow-drops and stately daffodils.

*"And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils."*

Peace Poster Contest

Lions Clubs International organise an annual worldwide Peace Poster Competition and this year thousands of young people submitted posters depicting their version of "United in Peace".

Rathfarnham Lions Club invited schools in our locality to enter the competition and from the entries a number were selected to represent Dublin in the National Finals. Among the posters selected was one designed by Laura O'Neill, a 6th Class pupil. Such was the quality of Laura's poster that it was judged to be the best in Ireland and will now go ahead to represent this country in the International stages of the competition (see photo opposite).

Comhghairdeas do Laura on her brilliant achievement.

Hurling/Camogie Season Commences

As the new hurling/camogie season commences the various panels are currently being finalised. There will be a total of 4 school teams lining out in the coming months in hurling and camogie. Great to see that new teachers on the staff, Mr. P. Ryan and Ms. D. Martin, are taking teams this coming season in addition to the veterans Mr. T. Sweeney and Mr. P. Ó Néill.

Confirmation Preparation

Preparations are now in full swing for Confirmation which will be held this year on March 20th/21st. The 6th Class pupils had a full day retreat in Gort Muire and the Ceremony of Light was held on Tuesday February 27th.

The Connect Group who organise a Drugs Awareness Programme came to the school and staged a drama on February 26th. The purpose of the drama was to raise pupils' awareness of the dangers posed by drugs.

BOOK REVIEW

"When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit"

Judith Kerr depicts what life was really like during World War II. The main character is Anna, who ignores her parents' talk about Hitler and the Nazis. She finds she can no longer live in Berlin. Her father is wanted by the Nazis dead or alive. They move to France.

Money is a big problem so she cannot afford servants any more. Anna tries to forget about the war but her dreams are still haunted by the situation in Germany. She made friends in France. However, when her friends' parents find out she is not in favour of the Nazis, the friendship automatically comes to an end. A porter tries to kill them by sending them back to Germany where Hitler is waiting.

Faced with the dangers of the war, how will she and her family survive? Will her father be killed? How will it turn out? There's only one way to find out... read it! — **Orlagh O'Leary, R.11**

HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED

Families required to host 2 or 3 French students in their home for short stays (4-6 nights) between March and May. Accommodation in single/twin/double or triple rooms as well as breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal is required. The students will be away touring each day of their stay between 8.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. For details telephone Marina at 494 2823.



Laura O'Neill, winner of the National Peace Poster Competition.

Out of School Educational Event

From Tuesday, February 6th, to Thursday, February 8th, the 6th Class children and their teachers went on a one-day educational trip to the city centre. Our first stop was No. 29 Fitzwilliam Street, an 18th century home restored to its original splendour by the E.S.B. When we entered the house we were shown a twelve minute film about its owner, a Mrs. Olivia Beatty, who purchased the house for £320 in 1794. From there we were taken on a guided tour of the four storeys of the house, hearing about how valuable tea was and how everything was kept under lock and key!

Then back on the bus and to the National Art Gallery where we viewed a selection of paintings including 'Still Life With A Mandolin', 'Strongbow and Aoife', 'The Sixth Seal' and 'The Annunciation'. My personal favourite was Picasso's 'Still Life With A Mandolin'. We have since done our own interpretations of these paintings in class.

Now it was lunch 'al fresco' and next door to the Natural History Museum where we witnessed amazingly lifelike models of hundreds of species of animals from rats and mice to pumas and jaguars. This was a very educational and enjoyable day out for the Sixth classes. Many thanks to the assisting parents.

— **Andrew Clarke, Room 2**

Our Jumble Sale

We are three girls from Third Class. Inspired by our teachers, Miss Ní Reachtabhra and Miss Murphy, we raised money in a jumble sale for the victims of the Indian earthquake. Our teachers explained the needs of Concern for the victims so we raised £55 to help.

— **Sarah Cummins, Jenny Dunne, P.F.6, Úna McSharry, P.F.4.**

Well done girls, you are an inspiration to us all.

St. Brigid's Day

In the Senior School we always know that St. Brigid's Day has dawned when the lovely Mr. Ruddy is spotted bearing his sack of fresh mountain rushes! Throughout the school, St. Brigid is commemorated with expertly woven crosses – an ancient tradition that we value. The crosses mean that Spring has truly arrived in St. Colmcille's.

Environment News

In order to encourage each family to recycle regularly, we have distributed 'Family Recycling Record' cards. Please record your family's recycling story on the card. Return to the school when complete to help us with our Green School plan. Your co-operation is greatly valued.

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SPRING IS HERE!

The Spring months promise to be most exciting for our pupils and teachers who will be involved in a variety of activities. The Second Classes are getting ready to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the end of March, while First Communion is just over two months away. The children are learning a lot through the Alive-O programme – they really appreciate their parents' and teachers' efforts to help them understand God's message. Fr. David has visited all six classes and met parents and teachers at the Iona Centre. All classes are reaping the benefits of our revised curriculum as teachers experiment with new lessons in English and Visual Arts. The staff will receive three more training days for Arts and Language between now and the end of the school year.

NEW TEACHER

Patricia McAllister has been appointed to the Junior School staff. She will work with children from foreign countries who have joined our school community. These pupils have brought a new dimension to the Junior and Senior schools. Patricia will help them to become more confident English speakers so that they can participate fully in school life and feel even more welcome here.

DRAMA WORKSHOPS

All of the pupils had an opportunity to attend drama workshops which were organised with a view to enhancing the delivery of the new Visual Arts Curriculum. The 'Knickerbocker Glory' performances were very well received by pupils and teachers.

BOOK FORTNIGHT

Assistant Principal Mrs. Doody has organised a Festival of Literature for early March. Many parents have agreed to lend a hand as the school strives to promote reading. The Book Fair will feature many exciting stories for children of all ages. The school will receive a percentage of the sales towards the further development of our class libraries.

ENROLMENTS

All places in our six Junior Infant Classes for next September have now been filled. Over 50 children who were born in the summer of 1997 have been offered deferred places for September 2002. The Principal and Board of Management wish to record their gratitude to the many understanding parents who have opted to delay their children's entry to school until they are five years old. In most European countries children do not begin formal primary schooling until they are five. Our teachers believe that the maturity of pupils on entry to St. Colmcille's is a major success criterion here. There are still some places in Senior Infant, First and Second Classes for next September. Parents, please enrol your child at the earliest possible opportunity in order to help us with forward planning.



Liz O'Donnell, Junior Minister at the Dept. of Foreign Affairs, on her recent visit to the School. She met some non-national pupils who will benefit from the help of a new resource teacher.

CÓR FHÉILE

A number of classes performed at the annual Dublin Schools' Choir Festival at the Basketball Arena, Tallaght. Parents brought the children to the event which proved most enjoyable. The improvement shown by the various groups between their first practice and their performance at the Arena really brought the value of good music education home. The teachers and pupils did the school proud.

SPORTS

Mr. Sweeney's Indoor Football League has been a great success again this year. The Senior Infant Classes have begun their Gymnastics Lessons and First Classes have been swimming in Templeogue Pool. Mr. Sweeney has ordered a lot of new P.E. equipment to help classes to get the most out of lessons in the Summer term. He has also been busy planning for our Sports Days in June. Minister for Education and Science, Dr. Woods, has recently announced a new Primary Sports Initiative. He need not worry about the promotion of healthy lifestyles here in Knocklyon as our pupils have a great opportunity to enjoy Sports and Leisure activities at school. However, it has become noticeable in the last few years that many adults are no longer willing to get involved in children's sports clubs. We in the Junior School are appealing to parents to encourage their children's pursuit of organised exercise by giving two hours to local clubs and societies at the weekend. Our community will benefit greatly and parents will gain great reward from such involvement. The 2nd Class Indoor Soccer League is reaching its thrilling climax currently, with all of our teams battling it out for Top 4 semi-final positions. Currently only 'Dragons', led by Colin Doyle, look to be a safe bet for qualification, so it's definitely all to play for!

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STAFF SOCIAL

Ms. Carr organised a great night out for her colleagues and their friends who thoroughly enjoyed the smash hit comedy, 'Alone It Stands' at the Civic Theatre. Young and old then danced the night away at The Plaza. The school has built strong links with South Dublin County Council who are to be commended for their efforts to enhance local lifestyles. The teachers were very impressed with the facilities they have provided at Tallaght Town Centre especially the Library and Theatre. The Council has been very supportive of our Environmental Awareness Campaign by providing Composters and Recycle Bins. And, of course, Mrs. Doody is all praise for the County Library which allocates a great stock of books to us every year.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Members of the Parents' Association Committee recently met with the Board of Management for the first time in order to explore ways of strengthening partnerships in the school community. A very enjoyable social evening resulted in a progressive meeting of minds. The Colours Day in the school on February 15th proved a successful fund-raiser for the Association and became a novel day in school for all our pupils. The Association intends to paint a variety of games on the yard for pupils to enjoy at lunchtime.

STUDENT VISITORS

Quite a number of Transition Year Post-Primary students have spent a week's work experience with us this year. Many of these young teenagers were past pupils of St. Colmcille's. We have been very impressed with their contribution and appreciate their assistance. Hopefully they enjoyed the work and will return in the future as teachers. Seventeen final year student teachers from St. Patrick's College of Education will spend the month of March with us on their teaching practice. They will bring a great buzz to the school and will undoubtedly introduce us to new ideas. But most importantly, they will benefit from the expert help of our very dedicated teachers.



Donál Ó Loingsigh (Knockaire), INTO President 2000/01 at the Presidential dinner in his honour last October, pictured with his wife Carmel and son Seamus.

We send warm congratulations to Donál on his election, and wish him a successful term. Donál taught in St. Peter's B.N.S., Greenhills, before moving to Bishop Galvin N.S. in Templeogue. His wife Carmel teaches in Scoil Mhuire, Ballyboden.



Fresh from Iowa

The more observant among you may have noticed the presence of a 'new face' in the pew since January. Well, to satisfy your curiosity we now introduce its owner, namely Travis Jay King, a seminarian from Iowa in the United States. Travis will be working in the Parish for the next two months.

Travis is one of a family of three children, one sister and one brother, and his hometown (Dougherty) has a population of a mere 82 people. After High School he felt drawn to the priesthood and enrolled in Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa, where he entered the St. Pius X seminary. In addition to studying for the priesthood, Travis also studies European History and Philosophy.

The opportunity to gain work experience, live in a new culture, and study abroad was offered to Travis by his college, and he is delighted with the hospitality afforded him by the Carmelite Community in Knocklyon. He will be assisting in the Parish until early May when he returns home, and hopes to get to know many parishioners during his stay.

On behalf of parishioners we extend Travis a warm welcome, and hope he enjoys his time among us.



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Acknowledgement – Noel Helly, Dargle Wood



We, Phil, Fiona and Deirdre wish to thank our wonderful friends and neighbours in the Parish of Knocklyon who supported us in our difficult year and who have continued to support us since Noel's death.

We wish to express our gratitude to all of you who spent time with us in St. Luke's Hospital during his last days, attended the Removal and the Funeral Mass, sent Mass Cards, Letters of Sympathy and made donations to St. Luke's Hospital, those of you who took time out to call personally to the house at the time of our sad loss.

As the tributes to Noel were so numerous it would be impossible to thank you all individually; however, we wish every one of you to know how much we appreciated your support during a very difficult time for us.

We would like to say a special thank you to all the Carmelite Communities, especially in Knocklyon, the rest of Ireland and Zimbabwe who participated and contributed to Noel's funeral Liturgy.

K.A.R.A.

We have resumed our meetings after the Christmas holidays, and despite the inclement weather, have had a good attendance. We wish all our members and their families a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Now is a good time to take stock of our lives and resolve to enjoy every moment of 2001 to the full. In the words of Charles Dickens, "Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has many, not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." Don't take life too seriously – you'll never get out of it alive. Schedule quality time for yourself to pursue the hobbies and activities you enjoy and resolve to extend a helping hand to those less fortunate than ourselves. Try not to be depressed or obsessed with the advancing years for everyone around us is growing old also.

To bring you up-to-date with our activities, prior to Christmas a number of our members spent a very enjoyable few days holidays in The Castlecourt Hotel, Westport, Co. Mayo. All participants were loud in their praise of the Golden West, "the kindly spot", "the friendly place where everyone is known". They visited Kylemore Abbey and Ballintubber Abbey during their stay and came back refreshed and invigorated after their few days "break".

We are looking forward to the brighter evenings, and with Spring in the air, an influx of new members to join our ranks and share the good times we enjoy together. Our best wishes and prayers to our members who are ill and unable to attend and our thoughts, tinged with sadness are with the friends and relatives of Eileen Campbell and Monica Doyle, two of our members who sadly departed this life during the past year. May God have mercy on their gentle souls. Slán libh go fóill.

– ó Máire Carmel Uí Ghormáin

KNOCKLYON CONCERT BAND – VACANCIES

Knocklyon Concert Band currently has vacancies for flute, french horn and oboe players who meet the following requirements –

CAROLS FOR S.V.P.

Well done to Knockcullen girls Emma Doherty, Michelle and Aisling Delaney and Aisling O'Sullivan who collected £75 for our local Conference of the St. Vincent De Paul Society by carol singing before Christmas.

Applicants must:

- be aged between 12 and 16 years
- have a minimum standard of Associated Board Grade 3 or equivalent
- be available to attend band rehearsals each Thursday night from 7 to 9 p.m.

Suitable candidates who are interested in joining one of Ireland's most talented and promising young bands can obtain an application form by calling to St. Colmcille's Junior School on any Tuesday night between 7 and 9 p.m.



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Lending A Helping Hand To Regina Coeli

Regular readers will be aware that our Parish of St. Colmcille's has been 'twinned' for many years with the Carmelite Mission of 'Regina Coeli'.

This mission is situated in the east of Zimbabwe, 360km from the capital Harare. In the past two years we have featured articles describing life on the mission and introducing Fr. Ned Ward, its director. Fr. Ned has recently been joined at the mission by Fr. Michael Hender from Ashford, Co. Wicklow.

Over many years our parish has been involved in fund-raising projects to assist the development of this mission - older residents may remember the 'American Tea Party' - which was an annual event at one time and proved very successful. A fashion show in the Spawell in 1995 yielded £5,000 for this cause, and the most recent donation to the mission was from a Church door collection in March 1999. Two years on, and with the 'Celtic Tiger' roaring, another fund-raising event is being organised for which you are being asked to 'dig deep'. But before you hand over your hard-earned cash, we would like to remind you of some aspects of life in Regina Coeli, and how funds raised can be used.

The mission contains accommodation for the priests, a convent currently being reconstructed for the Dominican Sisters, a 120-bed hospital, and a secondary school with 420 pupils. Within the compound there are 20 bungalows which house teachers and another 60 housing nurses, and their families. It serves a population of 2,000 within a five-mile radius, and is a very important centre in the region.

Because the mission has been there for over 50 years, a lot of renovation to existing buildings is required. In January of this year the local health authorities conducted a survey which indicated that the dormitories, kitchen and toilet facilities were not up to an acceptable level and would have to be upgraded.

The School - The secondary school has approximately 420 pupils of which 120 girls and 122 boys are boarders. The fees for boarders are the equivalent of IR£23 per term, but even this sum is not within easy reach for many of the families concerned.

Currently the school caters for pupils up to O-level (Junior Cert equivalent), but in response to a request from the local Bishop that it be extended to cater for A-level students (Leaving Cert equivalent) the mission is currently constructing additional classrooms, but must raise the necessary funding through the Carmelite order or locally. This funding is in addition to that required for essential repairs/upgrading.

Hospital - The hospital has 120 beds including male and female surgical wards, a T.B. ward, maternity ward and out-patients clinic.

The nursing staff are led by five Dominican sisters. There is also a medical offi-

cer, and two ambulances to cater for the large area served.

While this was traditionally a hospital where T.B. was a problem, development of HIV/AIDS has meant that most patients are now suffering from AIDS-related illnesses including pneumonia. Malnourishment thought to be related to AIDS is increasing and Malaria is a major problem. It is hard to believe that it is only in the last six months that electricity from the national grid reached the mission, previously power could only be obtained from a diesel generator.

Home-based Care - This project was started in 1993 when medical efforts turned from T.B. treatment to tackling the problems of HIV/AIDS which is rampant in the country. The home-based care unit formed in the hospital consists of a co-ordinator, an assistant, a local trainer, nutrition educator and orphan care member. The vision of the project is "an AIDS-free community by the year 2020". Unit workers say that

awareness in the communities of HIV/AIDS is no longer a problem, and they can now concentrate their efforts on workshops to change behaviour. The huge problem of children orphaned by AIDS is being tackled by this unit, who encourage communities to take care of these children, as well as the sick and dying. This unit has itself been developing fund-raising schemes among the villages where they are active - starting groups crocheting, knitting, sewing, carpentry, while AIDS victims themselves are involved in gardening, tool-making, bee-keeping. This vital project needs ongoing finance. Its client list totals over 7,000 (over 4,500 of which are orphans).

While there have been very positive developments in Regina Coeli in recent years, the needs are ongoing and growing - a "wish list" to help advance progress there includes a tractor costing IR£8,000. But there are many many other items which your contributions to this fund-raising evening could assist. Watch out for further information through the schools and Church notices.



IMBA KUTAMBA

(a Concert of Music and Song)

Featuring:

- Knocklyon Concert Band • Blue Heaven Barber Shop Chorus • Ruth Cahill (Soloist) • Parish Choirs •

Will take place in St. Colmcille's Church, Knocklyon on Friday, 30th March, 2001, at 8 p.m.

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Anne Walsh, 494 1259; Sylvia Doyle, 494 2718; Mary Clifford, 494 1451; Ann Shortt, 494 5607; or at the Church Shop.

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Knocklyon community council

On the 24th January a deputation from the KCC went to meet with the South Dublin Co. Council at their offices in Tallaght. At the meeting we were informed that the next stage of the M50 will not open until the Summer of 2001 following the completion of the Ballinteer intersection. Work will be commencing shortly on the 'flyover' behind Delanys.

Due to the potential increase in traffic on the Knocklyon Road following the opening of the Spawell Bridge, the KCC enquired if the Council had any proposals to introduce any traffic calming measures. The Senior engineer stated he was not in favour of traffic calming measures due to the experience in other areas which did not have the desired effect. However, he did agree to examine the need to put pedestrian lights at the Esso garage and is referring the matter to the Traffic Study Group for their consideration subsequent to the carrying out of a pedestrian count at that location.

The KCC also requested adequate new signage for Knocklyon from the M50. The Council will provide signs indicating major interchanges and the KCC is to make a written submission outlining the particular signage needed at the various locations and that will be presented to a general Road and Traffic Committee meeting.

The KCC also asked that Cherryfield Park be cleaned up as its potential benefit to the community is being under-utilised due to its overgrown and untidy state. The Parks Department is aware of the problem and will arrange a clean-up when the work can be accommodated. The Parks Department also informed us that their tree-pruning programme this year is to include Ashton, Knockaire, Knockcullen and Knocklyon Avenue. They are aware that there is greater need for pruning in the general Knocklyon area but due to staff shortages this can only be carried out on a gradual basis.

Our local representatives Stanley Laing, Ann Ormonde and John Lahart were also present and assured us they will follow up the various concerns of the KCC with the executives of the Council.

On the planning front Ellior Developments have submitted for planning permission for 638 houses at Knocklyon, Dublin 24. The KCC have sent their submission to South Dublin County Council.

The **Annual General Meeting** will take place on the 27th March, 2001, in the Community Centre. All residents of Knocklyon are welcome and any **Proposed Motions** are to be with the Secretary not later than the 13th March, 2001.

Nominations for **Independent Members** must have their nomination form back with the Secretary by the 20th March, 2001. Nominees must be present on the night. Under the constitution eight Independent members can be elected.

**- David Hickey, Chairperson;
Denise Murphy, Secretary**

Coolamber Trio at Royal Festival Hall

The three girls pictured below are all residents of Coolamber Park and were among over 1,000 participants from the U.K. and Ireland playing violin, cello, double bass, flute and piano at the Suzuki concert 2001. "Originally Suzuki was a method of teaching the violin but now Suzuki cello, flute, piano, even singing is possible," Angela Harding tells us, and continues, "Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, the man who founded this method, once said that all children are born with potential and that he firmly believed all children can learn to play music to a very high standard, and I think he's right. He lived a very long and rewarding life (1898-1998). The concert was a great success and I enjoyed being a part of it."

Editor's Note: Well done Claudia, Angela and Lydia, we hope it's the first of many enjoyable concerts for you all.



Bernadette Robinson, Suzuki teacher, with three of her pupils, left to right: Claudia Harding, Angela Harding and Lydia Flynn who performed magnificently at the Suzuki Concert 2001 in the Royal Festival Hall in London on 21st January.

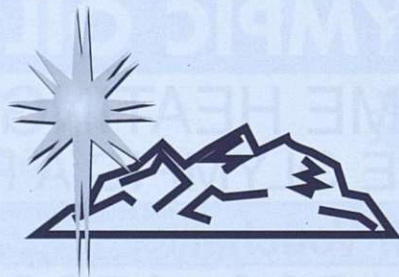
7

young men responded to our recent invitation to experience our way of life. All of them remarked about how open we were and on how much they benefitted from the weekend.

If you would like to experience what they did, contact me, Fr. Philip Brennan, O.Carm.

Tel: 847 7740;

E-mail: pbrennan@irishcarmelites.com



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Yours for justice, peace and all that is good,

Sister Peter Coleman,

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Spring/Summer Schedule

**Wednesday, March
14th, 2001, 8.00 p.m.**
100 Slides of Tallaght
Guest Speakers: Mary
McNally and Pat O'Neill

**Wednesday, April
11th, 2001, 8.00 p.m.**

A.G.M., followed by History Table Quiz

Wednesday, 9th May, 2001, 8.00 p.m.

Marley House and Demesne
Guest Speaker: Mr. Denis Shannon

Saturday, 19th May, 2001

Outing to Birr Castle and possibly to Durrow Abbey
(High Cross)

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True Stories of Brigands

Another in a growing list of local authors to grace the bookstore shelves recently is Boden Park resident Stephen Dunford. Stephen has had a varied career ranging from playing bodhrán with Mary Black in the 70's, to studying art, becoming a banker and returning full-time to the entertainment business ten years ago.

His book entitled 'The Irish Highwaymen', details the lives and times of fifteen of Ireland's most notorious adventurers. The action-packed stories weave together historical events and local folklore and include the traditional Irish songs and music that grew around each highwayman's legend.

The book is published by Marlin Publishing and sells at £14.99.

We wish Stephen every success with 'The Irish Highwaymen'.

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Saint Patrick's Day—1940



Drawing in 'The Standard', 1940.

Over sixty years ago when World War II was being waged in Europe, Aodhagán Brioscú, then a student in UCD, made the above drawing which was published in the Catholic weekly newspaper 'The Standard'. In 1998 with the very serious situation which had developed in Northern Ireland he made the other drawing for the 'Knocklyon News'. Prayers were answered with the signing of the Good Friday Agreement. As we come to St. Patrick's Day once more the drawings serve as a reminder to pray for the intercession of our Patron Saint at this very critical stage of the Peace Process.

KNOCKLYON UNITED



The time has come to get the names of the players and managers interested in the newly-formed girl's teams, which are expected to begin on May 17th, 2001. It is unclear how many teams will be entered and will depend on the interest from the girls in the area and the number of managers available. The

league itself is managed by the Dublin Women's Soccer League, which is affiliated to the Ladies Football Association of Ireland. The league office is based at The Mill, Celbridge, Co. Kildre and the telephone number is 627 0715. Knocklyon United is interested in putting teams into the U10, U12 and the U14 league. There are no leagues in between these ages. The U10 and U12 leagues are run as a seven-a-side and are played on Saturday mornings. The U14 league is an 11-a-side league and will be played on Monday evenings. For those of you who are interested please forward your name to me or Brian Doyle at the details below.

Weather conditions have continued to be a problem with a lot of matches called off. As our pitches are owned by South Dublin County Council, we must abide by their decision to call off the matches. It is therefore important for players and managers not to play on the pitches when the matches are called off. This also applies to the nursery soccer school, which is run on Sunday morning. For those players new to the nursery, information on pitches can be found in the Evening Herald on Fridays or on Network 2, teletext page 214. If in doubt please contact your manager for confirmation.

Any queries, you can contact me at the details below:

– Mick Kennedy, P.R.O., 494 6536; 086-266 9311.

Brian Doyle, 494 1928; 087-695 0575.

E-mail: mickkennedy1000@eircom.net



Drawing on the front cover of 'Knocklyon News', March 1998.

Saint Colmcille's Parents Association

It's March already and time for another lecture. This lecture should interest everybody. The topic of the lecture is 'Healthy Living In Association With Weight-Watchers'. The speaker on the night will be Irene Bloomer. I'm sure we can pick up some worthwhile tips. Whatever your lifestyle, your age or condition reap the benefits of healthy living. The lecture will take place on Tuesday, the 6th March in our Senior School Hall. The lecture will commence promptly at 8.00 p.m. Admission is a snip at £2.00 per person. Please come along and support us, as all proceeds raised on the night will benefit our children in both schools. Our suggestion boxes and notice boards are up and running so look out for them in the school halls. And finally, the Parents Association would like to send our congratulations to our chairman Joe McCarron and his wife Valerie on the birth of their baby daughter this month.

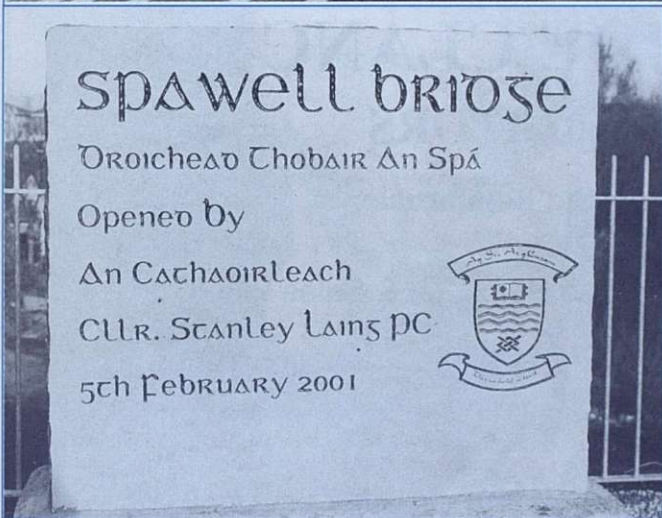
Knocklyon Golf Society

As Spring approaches thoughts again turn to golf and Knocklyon Golf Society is in its 22nd year and has arranged an exciting list of venues for 2001.

- Sat. 7th April** Trim Golf Club
- Sat. 19th May** Nuremore Golf Club
- 8-10th June** Dundrum House, Weekend away
- Fri. 13th July** Castlewarden Golf Club, President's Prize
- Sat. 18th Aug.** Headford Golf Club, Captain's Prize
- Sat. 29th Sept.** Killerig Castle
- Sat. 27th Oct.** Elm Green

Membership is open to golfers living in the Parish of Knocklyon and new members are always very welcome.

Contact David Hickey, 493 7731 or Joseph Winters, 493 9344.



The recently opened road crossing the River Dodder and linking the Firhouse Road, Knocklyon, with the Tallaght by-pass road at Spawell Roundabout.

RECENT BAPTISMS

Ellen Rath, 65 Knockaire
 Emma Janice Johnson, 41 Woodstown Heath
 Holly Holmes, 12 Lansdowne Park
 Ellen Sweeney, 35 Templeroan Court
 Molly Dwyer, 137 Coolamber Park
 Alexander Brehaita, 69 Woodfield
 Eva Louise Cunningham, 46 Knocklyon Green
 Shane O'Driscoll, 3 Orlagh Lodge
 Shane Martin McCall, 92 Scholarstown Park
 Rachel Elizabeth Maria Miller, 6 Glenlyon Crescent
 Niall Peter O'Brien, 57 Templeroan Park
 Aoife Caroline Mary Higgins, 10 The Rookery



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

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Friday, 2nd March, 2001

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7.30 p.m.

Tea will be served in Iona Centre after the Service.

SCOUT DRAW RESULTS

December 2000

£100: V. Comerford, 144 Coolamber Park
 £50: Alan P. Collins, 28 Delaford Lawns
 £25: Finbarr Dolan, 49 Delaford Drive.

January 2001

£100: Helen Daly, Knocklyon Road
 £50: T. & J. Lehane, 15 Knockaire
 £25: Patrick Farrelly, 21 Knocklyon Court

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS/CONTRIBUTORS

Items for inclusion in the next issue should be handed into the Presbytery by Sunday 18th March, 2001. The Newsletter will be circulated from 4th April, 2001. As advertising space has become so popular we are accepting adverts on a first come, first served basis only, with payment, so make sure you book your space in good time. Enquiries re advertising to June at 494 1204 (10.00 a.m.-12.00 noon) Monday to Friday. Fax 494 2343.

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