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CHRISTMAS, 1959

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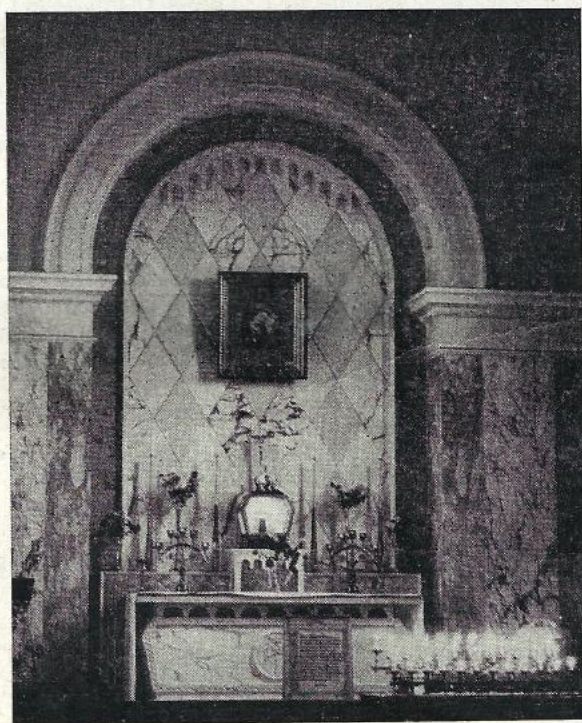


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CHURCH OF  
*Our Lady of Good Counsel*  
MOURNE ROAD



Mother of Good Counsel Altar.

*Annual Souvenir*  
CHRISTMAS, 1959

A *Harpers* PUBLICATION





Seated : Very Rev. D. Delaney, P.P., with, Left to Right, Fathers P. Hennessy, C.C.; F. Casey, C.C.; A. Matthews, C.C.  
 Standing, Left to Right : Fathers T. Randles, C.C.; G. Griffith, C.C.; E. Neville, C.C.

Very Rev. D. Delaney,  
 and the Clergy of Mourne Road  
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# Our New Altar

Now that the boarding and scaffolding have been removed from the sanctuary of the church, the parishioners are able to see the results of the work which has been in operation during the past year. This work has consisted in the erection of a new High Altar and side Altars, the lining of the walls of the sanctuary with marble and the erection of a mosaic to the ceiling of the apse.

As one looks at the new mosaic in the apse depicting the Coronation of Our Lady, immediately under this mosaic runs a marble cornice and freeze. This marble is called Sicilian or standard white but does not come from Sicily as the name suggests, but from Carrara in Northern Italy.

Under this cornice there are panels of Rose du Var marble which comes from Northern France, and these panels have circular discs of statuary white inlaid with blue and gold mosaic. The moulding under these panels and above the dado is Italian cream pearl. The stiles to these panels and the architraves to the sacristy doors are of Pavonazza, which also comes from Carrara.

The panels of the dado are known as Portosanta, which again is an Italian marble, and these are surrounded by a thin line of Rose du Var. The stiles are of Italian black and gold, quarried at Massa Carrara. The large pilasters to the chancel arch are also faced with black and gold. The caps and bases of the pilasters are Sicilian or Carrara white, while the pedestal is Kilkenny black with an inlay of Grecian Skyros.

The High Altar, side Altars and mouldings to reredos are Italian white statuary. The reredos is of Italian Cippolino with white statuary mouldings.

The main area of the chancel wall outside the apse is lined with Italian Skyros, and the reredos to the shrines are lined with Cippolino and Rose du Var with bronze motifs.

The consols of the shrines are of Italian cream pearl, and the lining under is of Kilkenny green, while the tables are white statuary.

The diamond shaped marbles to the rere of Our Lady's Altar are of blanc P, or better known as Bianco, which also comes from Northern Italy. This Bianco is surrounded by bands of Italian Garbardo, Pavonazzo and Sienna; this later marble is also used in the gradine.

The diamond-shaped marble to the rere of the Sacred Heart Altar is similar to that in Our Lady's Altar; however, the surrounding bands are in cedar onyx, cream pearl and Pavonazzo.

The piers supporting the arches in the nave of the church are Moroccan red onyx surrounded by styles of Pavonazzo.

With the exception of the French Rose du Var, the Moroccan red onyx, the Grecian Skyros and the Irish black and cream, the marbles come from the Carrara district of Northern Italy, where are to be found the most famous quarries in the world.

The work throughout has been carried out by Irish craftsmen and they are to be complimented on the excellence of their efforts.

A special word of praise is due to Earley Studios of Ecclesiastical Arts, Upper Camden Street, Dublin, who have supplied the marble and supervised the work.

The rich mosaic in the apse over the altars is the work of L. Oppenheimer Ltd., Manchester.

D. D.



High Altar.



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# Youths' Sodality

## OF THE SACRED HEART

Our Youths' Sodality is for boys between the ages of 14 and 18 and meet once a month on the **Thursday** before the fourth Sunday at 8 o'clock, with Sodality Mass on the following Sunday, i.e., fourth Sunday of each month at 8 a.m.

We have forty eight guilds in the Sodality. Each road in the parish has at least one guild, but some roads are divided into three or four guilds. Each guild is under the care of a Guardian, who sees that the Prefect marks the attendance books and visits the absentees. The Prefects are usually members of the Sodality and are helped by a Sub-Prefect. Each member is expected to attend his Sodality, **one hour, one night per month**, and his Sodality Mass on the Sunday morning. So you can realise that the obligations are not over burdensome.

The Sodality is in the care of Rev. Fr. Neville, C.C., Spiritual Director, and a section of Our Lady's Sodality (Men's Branch). We owe a great deal to these men who act as Guardians. They are in contact with the boys and give up their spare time to visit your home and let you know if your son is not attending his Sodality. It is not an easy task to knock at a stranger's door enquiring about something which is really the parents' responsibility, but they do it all for the love of God and His Blessed Mother. Parents, please give them **your** support by seeing to it that **your** son attends his Sodality each month.

We have a fine parish here in Drimnagh, and our Sodality is among the best in Dublin. It has been put up as an example to many parishes in England by Fr. L. Shields, S.J., who gave the annual retreat here a few years ago. He then stressed the importance of getting the youth of a parish to their Sodality each month. This puts the parish on a very sound footing, as the youth of to-day are the men of to-morrow. Speaking of England, I may add that we are doing our best to make contact with the boys going there each month in search of employment. But you parents must help us by giving to the Guardian your son's address in England when he calls at your home in visitation.

Another activity is the sale of Rosary beads and prayer books in the church porch on the Saturday night of the Youths' Sodality. Any parent is welcome to any of our Guardians' meetings held in the club at 9 p.m. on the Thursday night of the Youths' Sodality meeting in the church.

We transfer boys when they reach the age of 18 to the Men's Sodality. A new boy may go into any guild he pleases in the Senior Sodality, provided he lets us know beforehand which guild he chooses.

One last word to parents, help us to build up our Youths' Sodality to be the best in Ireland by seeing to it that your sons are attending the Sodality on the Thursday night and Sunday morning Mass. A reminder is sent out to every boy each month, so let us make 1960 a record year for our youth.

T. B.

### 1959 ATTENDANCES

Boys transferred to Men's Sodality; 221.

Boys emigrated to England, 86.

	Thursday	Sunday	Membership
January	827	753	1,246
February		Retreat	1,260
March	856	799	1,331
April	No meeting	717	1,327
May	767	897	1,332
June	775	829	1,323
July	828	819	1,320
August	569	670	1,324
September	746	652	1,185



Our genial sacristan, Mr. Tom Barrett, also Secretary of Youths' Sodality Section.



The Summer Camp brought many new altar boys on the scene, all eager to help each morning and evening. Below we have a group of these willing helpers with Br. Cunningham.





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# St. John Bosco Boys' Club

The membership in the Boys' Club from September, 1959, is as follows:—

Juniors, 12½—14 years: Monday, 7.15 p.m.—9 p.m.: 97.  
Intermediate, 14—16 years: Monday and Thursday, 8 p.m.—10.30 p.m.: 130.

Seniors, 16—18 years: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.—10.30 p.m.: 76.

The activities of Our Boys' Club include the following: basketball, indoor soccer, boxing, physical training, table tennis and other indoor games, while the classes include arts and crafts, boot-repairing, drama and leather work.

The Annual Summer Camp held at The Salesian College, Pallaskenry, Co. Limerick, was considered to be one of the most successful to date. Rev. Fr. Delaney, P.P., and Spiritual Director, Fr. Neville, visited the Camp. This occasion was marked by the conferring of the Freedom of the Camp on Fr. Delaney and by a concert.

Rev. Fr. Aherne, S.D.B., presented a first-class relic of St. John Bosco to the club. J. L.

## DRAMA SECTION

Good drama goes deep—its effect on the soul is wholesome—in the actors it helps to form character, it breaks down inferiority complex, it teaches them how to speak properly, and while their minds are taken up with the parts they play, harmful thoughts are kept at bay.

Most actors are influenced to a greater or lesser degree by the roles they play—our object, therefore, is to produce plays which will develop the characters of the boys along the proper lines.

In the Father Matthew Feis we entered a play, "The Golden Priest"—based on the life of Blessed Oliver Plunkett. Here we competed against amateur groups, of no age limit, from all over the country and were highly recommended by the adjudicator. In the Comhairle Competitions we also entered five plays, and though we did not merit a cup we were recommended a special award by the adjudicator for our very fine effort in putting so many plays and so many boys on the stage.

In the near future we hope to present "The Dominic Savio Play." As this play deals with a youth of fifteen years, it is highly suitable for our club boys. Parents also should benefit from it and strive to follow the example of this young saint's parents by realising their duties to their children.

As our beloved pastor has said, it is a great pity we do not appreciate the talent we have amongst us by supporting the activities of the group.

We earnestly appeal to all parishioners to give us their support. F. H.

## TABLE TENNIS SECTION

The season 1958-59 saw our Table Tennis Section really getting into its stride, and our club colours became familiar in almost every major event in the province. It is true that no titles came our way, nor, indeed, did we ever expect them, but on the credit side it must be recorded that in such tournaments as the East of Ireland, the County Dublin Open, and the Irish Close our boys went down fighting against such names as Tommy and Larry Caffrey, Don Mahony, Conor Quin, Mick Behan and Gerry Daffy. Everywhere we were complimented on our spirit and sportsmanship, to say nothing of our neat and business-like turnout.

In Leinster League for the second season our three teams can be said to have held their own, while our 1st team, promoted to 5th division, were unlucky not to win their section.

During the year we had the great honour of having three of our boys, Master Michael Murphy of Mourne



Stained Glass Window in Club oratory.

Road, Master Ciaran Somerville of Errigal Road and Master Terry Buttner of Benmadigan Road picked for special coaching at the Leinster Branch Coaching School.

The boys of the Table Tennis Section would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who helped and encouraged them during the past year, especially our outgoing Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Cunningham, who left for another parish early in the season. We would like to thank Don Mahony and Master Tommy Caffrey who gave us such a grand display of International Class Table Tennis on Exhibition Night.

In closing, we think we should mention and pay tribute to the generosity and enthusiasm of a small group of our older boys who under the general guidance of a Senior Brother of the Club organised and formed an entirely new Table Tennis League especially suited to the needs of the Catholic Boys' Clubs of the city, and who by their efforts won for the new league the official recognition and support of the Leinster Branch (I.T.T.A.). Their crowning achievement came when the I.T.T.A. entrusted them with the running of the Leinster Boys' Championships. The Catholic Youth Clubs League has now affiliated fourteen clubs from all over the city, but it will always remember as its founders, Master Derek Noonan, Aidan and Ciaran Somerville, Terry Buttner and Gerry McCarthy, of the Table Tennis Section, St. John Bosco Boys' Club. We think that their example in helping those clubs less well circumstanced than their own is evidence of a spirit which should be commended and encouraged. T. N.

## FILM SECTION

The film section now entering into its sixth season was formed to provide entertainment for the Boys' Club. Close on 200 films have been screened yearly at the shows on Fridays and Saturdays. Great care is taken with the selection of films shown. After the Brothers of the film section have selected a film, the Spiritual Director checks and alters same before a booking is made.

The spiritual aspect of the club is not overlooked in the film section; a 10 minute film strip dealing with some religious topic with an accompanying talk by the Spiritual Director is given after each film.

The enrolment of members in the White Star League is also undertaken by the Brothers in this section, and a raffle of footballs, bathing togs and other sporting gear is held yearly. J. P.





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Group assembled at the Club for departure  
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# PARISH SPORTS



J. Lauri Corcoran



Good Counsel under 15A team.

**DRIMNAGH** has been looking for suitable playing pitches since 1941, and through the persistent efforts of the parish clergy and others the Corporation have at last decided to make available the open space at Galtymore Road. The grounds, which will be opened in September next, will provide for two soccer and one Gaelic pitch. Considering the needs of the parish, this is far from adequate, but it is a step in the right direction, which will eventually lead to the 29 acres at Brickfields when the money is available for development.

The phenomenal success of the parish football and hurling club, "Good Counsel," is a fitting tribute to its founder, Fr. Redmond, and to the energetic parishioners who have worked ceaselessly since 1954 to establish a Gaelic club fitting of our parish. Since its inception Sean McCabe has kept a fatherly eye on its progress, and the late Mick Morgan contributed in no small way to see this club firmly established.

The club have two minor hurling and two minor football teams, and many fancy their chances in this season's competitions. Seamus Spearin, Mourne Road, played for the Dublin minor hurling team, as did Gerry Griffin, Brandon Road, and Pat Smithers, Mourne Road, in minor football. The under 16½ hurling and football teams are expected to do better than last year, when they were beaten in the final of the 16½ Hurling Championship by Rialto Gaels and by St. Vincent's who eventually won the competition in football. Their other schoolboy hurling and football teams under 13, 14 and 15 are confidently expected to make their presence felt in their respective divisions.

The junior teams, two hurling and two football, are showing early promise, and with strict training this is likely to show results. Last season the junior hurlers were runners-up in the Miller Shield and were beaten after a replay by the winners of the championship, St. Ita's. Our congratulations to Seamus Corrigan (Captain) and players of the Cooley Road team, winners of this year's street league.

## CYCLING

Tony Allen, Rafters Road, cycling for Eagle C.R.C., excelled in winning the 1959 100 Kilos Mass Start in the Phoenix Park. This success puts him in line for a place on the international team for the Rome Olympics next year. He has had many successes on the new Santry track and has ridden on several occasions up North. As Tony is getting married on St. Stephen's Day we wish him all the very best.

## ATHLETICS

"He is another Ronnie Delany." This statement was made by the English papers after Declan Campion, Brandon Road, had won the All-Ireland Colleges Mile in the record time of 4 minutes 29 seconds last June. This feat knocked the bottom out of Tom Riordan's (Idaho State University) record time by 6.1 seconds, which was certainly a remarkable achievement. Declan, who is at present in the Salesian Novitiate in Sussex, holds the North Munster and Munster records.

Albert McCarthy, Errigal Road, is the 100 yards All-Ireland and Leinster Colleges Champion, whose best time to date is 10 seconds. He represented Ireland at the Catholic Student Games in Louvain, France, this year. Another to represent Ireland on that occasion was Peter Cunningham, Brandon Road, the All-Ireland Youths' 440 yards Champion. Peter, who runs for Donore, has shown great promise and is improving with every outing.

Yet another from Brandon Road to hit the headlines is Pat Sheehan from the Inchicore Club. Pat represented Dublin this year against Cork, Galway, Louth and Offaly in the Senior 440 yards and returned the very fast time of 50.2 seconds when narrowly beaten in the All-Ireland Championship at Iveagh Grounds. He won all 440 yards inter-club competitions this season and helped Inchicore win the 4 x 440 yards All-Ireland Relay Championship at Ballinasloe.

With all the champions and prospective champions it is not time that we had our own athletic club in this parish?

## BOWLING

The Crumlin Bowling Club created a stir in bowling circles when their senior pairs, Paddy Spain, Errigal Road, and Joe Carlton, Comeragh Road, were narrowly beaten in the Boyd Cup. Their singles champion is the indomitable Tony Smith, Benmadigan Road, whilst Mick Moore and Gerry Hendrick won the club pairs competition. There is an open invitation to any member of the parish to join this club when the season starts next April.

## BOXING

There was a buzz of excitement when Sean Byrne, Keeper Road, and Seamus Mahon, Knocknarea Road, appeared before the television cameras when the Dublin Technical Schools fought the London Technical Schools in London earlier this year. Both had convincing wins: their bouts being stopped inside the distance in the 2nd and 1st round respectively.

Sean was National Champion 1957, 1958 and 1959, Co. Dublin Champion 1957 and 1959, and also represented Ireland against Wales. Seamus was National Champion 1958 and runner-up in 1959, Co. Dublin Champion 1958 and 1959, and Co. Dublin League Champion 1959. Full credit must, of course, go to our neighbours, the Crumlin Boxing Club, and to their energetic committee.

These boxing results show the keen enthusiasm of the members of the section:

**Juniors:** 5 entries, which resulted in two winners, are in the 6 st. schoolboy class and the second in the 7 st. schoolboy class.

**Seniors:** 5 entries. In this competition we had one finalist in the 9 st. youth class and one semi-finalist in the 7 st. senior boy class.

In the County Dublin Championships held in the National Stadium in March, 1958, S. Mahony won the 9 st. youth competition. He represented Dublin in Dublin/Cardiff City in Cardiff, Wales, and won on points. He also represented Ireland in Ireland v. Northern Counties in Liverpool (9 st. youth section), and here again he won on points.



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## PARISH SPORT—Continued

### SOCCER

How many soccer clubs outside schoolboy football have we in the parish? You will be surprised to hear that there are at least nine clubs, and this is all the more remarkable when you think of the neglect by the competent authorities to provide proper playing fields in this area. These clubs and the leagues to which they are affiliated are:

Leinster League, Div. 2 (Sunday):

St. Finbars.

Dolphin.

Mourneville.

(Saturday): St. John Bosco Old Boys.

Novice League, Div. A:

Lisadell United.

Mourne Celtic.

Div. B:

Black Diamonds.

Cartonville.

Drive United.

Everyone knows that unity is strength. Therefore, let those responsible face reality and make a genuine effort to amalgamate and form one official parish club. The potentialities are tremendous and must eventually lead to a parish team in League of Ireland football. To illustrate our point, the following top-class team could be selected to represent the parish:

TONY DUNNE  
(Shels.—Comeragh Rd.)

JOHNNY FULLAM  
(Preston—Benmadigan Rd.)

TOMMY DEVESEY  
(Shels.—Keeper Rd.)

TOM MURPHY  
(Transport—Slievemore Rd.)

LONGO WHITE  
(St. Pats.—Benbulbin Rd.)

PATSY SALMON  
(Sligo—Curlew Rd.)

JIMMY O'NEILL  
(Everton—Dolphin Road)

CHRISTY BARNES  
(Dundalk—Errigal Road)

SEAN MCCARTHY  
(St. Patrick's—Cooley Rd.)

DERMOT CURTIS  
(Ipswich—Kilworth Rd.)

ERIC BARBER  
(Shels.—Keeper Rd.)

BRENDAN McNALLY  
(Luton—Brandon Rd.)

TOM COSGRAVE  
(Drums.—Knocknarea Ave.)

BRIAN MORAN  
(Sligo—Galtymore Rd.)

PADDY TURNER  
(Rovers—Galtymore Rd.)

GEORGIE CUMMINS  
(Luton—Cooley Rd.)

HUGHIE GEOGHEGAN  
(Rovers—Benmadigan Rd.)

Perhaps this team could take the field next summer against any League of Ireland team. We know for a fact that no soccer fan in the parish would miss such a golden opportunity. SO HOW ABOUT IT?

St. Finbar's won the Championship last season and the Glashule Tournament for the second year in succession. Dolphin were beaten by our neighbours, Rialto, 4 — 1 in the final of the Polikoff Cup, and this result might have been different if the match had been played last season instead of being left over to the beginning of this season. The St. John Bosco Old Boys team have again entered competitive football after a lapse of two years.

St. John Bosco, the official parish club catering for schoolboy football, have a record number of eleven teams, under 13A, B and C, 14A and B, 15A and B, 16A and B and 17A and B. The managers of the teams are brothers of the boys' club and members of the St. Finbar's club who generously offered their services when



St. John Bosco under 15A and 15B teams.

both organisations amalgamated two years ago. The teams have many facilities, including specialised indoor training, films and lectures by well-known soccer personalities. All teams are expected to finish in the top half of their respective divisions.

If plans materialise the St. John Bosco under 15 age group team will travel to Liverpool for the Easter weekend. There they will play against a selected Liverpool side and on Saturday will visit Goodison Park to see Everton in action.

Drimnagh Hotspurs did very well to finish runners-up in the under 16C League last season. This year they have five teams, under 13A, 14B, 15B, 16B and 17B, and they hope to win a few trophies before the season ends.

Last, but not least, the boys from Lisadell Rovers who are competing in the under 13B League, we wish them every success in the years ahead.

Last season the Shelbourne minor team won the F.A.I. Minor Cup, A.U.L. Minor League and the top four competitions. All credit must go to Paddy McNally (Brandon Road) who trained and managed this team in the St. Finbar's colours from the time they were under 13 to last year when the same team became the Shelbourne minors.

In conclusion we would like to thank Mr. J. J. Kane, Dolphin Road, who is a member of the Football Association and a past President of the F.A.I., for the invaluable help he has given to the boys' club teams down through the years.



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Best Scout in Camp—Paul Harte.  
Kilworth Road.

**T**HOUGH now only two years in existence the troop has firmly established itself as a well organised parish unit. From the original twenty four members the strength has grown to its present sixty scouts, and under the watchful eyes of an active committee, with Father E. Neville, C.C. as President, the troop is fast being relieved of its growing pains. We are fortunate in having two of the best Officers available to scouting in Scoutmaster Brendan O'Brien and A/S/M George Nolan.

We are deeply indebted to our beloved Pastor and Parish Priest, Very Rev. Father D. Delaney, for his continued patronage and unfailing interest in the activities of the troop. In providing us with the facilities for the promotion of dances at Our Lady's Hall, he has borne the brunt of meeting the cost of equipping 82nd Dublin to a standard that is envied by many troops with a longer record in scouting. We welcome this opportunity of offering our sincere thanks and renewing our loyalty and affection to our parish and its pastor. In reviewing the work of the past year, the first annual summer camp stands out as the highlight. On the first Saturday in August a lorry loaded with scouts and their equipment started on a journey to Ballinakill that was to begin what for all of us was a memorable two weeks under canvas. The visits of our present and previous chaplains to the camp site helped in no small measure to complete the enjoyment of brilliant sunshine amidst beautiful surroundings. The excellent conditions for camping provoked keen rivalry between the patrols in the various competitions that took place. In the main test, that of "Camping Standard," the laurels went to the Badger Patrol under P/L Paul Harte. Paul and his patrol reached a degree of efficiency hard to surpass. The discipline and behaviour of the boys and camp brought favourable comment from the parish priest and townspeople of Ballinakill, our presence in the district being noted in the local press. Looking back on our first



Front Row, Left to Right: J. O'Brien, J. May, G. Bradley, W. Byrne, D. Harris, E. Lynch, E. Hartly, N. Dunne.

Second Row, Left to Right: C. Carton, T. O'Malley, G. Bradley, M. Hunt, M. Malone, W. Walsh, A. Ellis, T. Bolger, J. Monaghan, K. O'Brien.

Back, Left to Right: J. McGouran, B. Bosonnét, T. Dunne, G. Devlin, P. Harte, T. Larkin, T. Hodson, T. Behan.

Extreme Left: A.S.M. D. Breen.

Extreme Right: S.M. B. O'Brien.

Annual Camp, we must remember the generosity of the priests and brothers at the Salesian College who did everything possible to make our holiday a happy one. On its return home the troop resumed its normal routine in its new quarters at the Boys' Club, pending the erection of the new building, where it is hoped our den will be permanently housed. A growing list of applicants for admission to the Troop compelled us to form a new patrol, the Panther, under the capable leadership of P/L John Monaghan; this patrol is already showing great promise and will soon be on equal terms with their fellow scouts in the other patrols. The inter-patrol tests have concluded, the competition award went to the Fox Patrol under P/L Thomas Behan. The Scout of the Year prize was taken by P/L Thomas Hodson, with P/L Thomas Larkin and A/P/L Terence Dunne a close second and third. During the year the monthly Church Parades and Holy Communions were the main sources from which the troop drew its spiritual strength. We humbly offer thanks to Our Lady and St. Dominic Savio for whatever successes we have had. Since the last Parish Magazine two of our members have entered the religious life. Former A/S/M Liam Bolger is now with the Holy Ghost Fathers, and Scout Noel Keegan is following his vocation to the brotherhood.

The year has indeed been an eventful one for our troop, our hopes are high that in future years we will maintain the same standards, D.V. Those closely connected with the foundation of the troop have had their hopes justified. Catholic scouting must surely be an influence for good on the youth of the parish. Quoting His Holiness Pope Pius XI when speaking to Roman scouts, 10th June, 1923, "Catholic scouts are scouts who carry into the service of scouting the beautiful characteristics of Catholic life. In this way, out of what could be simply hard material service, or at best, in theory, a purely human service, you make an exercise of Christian living. Out of a truly beautiful thing of this earth you make something of heaven."

F. R.





# ORDER OF MALTA

## (DRIMNAGH UNIT)

**Back Row, Left to Right :** Sgt. P. Lowe, J. Yeates, S. Whelan, J. Swan, P. Brady, Adj. J. Maher.

**Centre Row :** P. Quinn, S. Brady, P. White, S. O'Reilly, J. Monahan, S. Brady.

**Front Row :** J. O'Brien, C. Hennon, P. Keelan, J. Sharkey, J. Murray, D. Owens, B. Murphy, G. Burns.

The above unit consists of 9 seniors, 26 cadets and 5 ladies. A new class of 22 boys is at present receiving instructions.

Members of the unit attend all parish and sporting fixtures.

The ladies are in attendance at the church on Sundays.

Each week the cadets make a waste paper collection in aid of the Boys' Club.

During the year a number of cadets were taken to a week-end camp at Bray and a day's outing was held at Donabate.

A Christmas Party was held at St. John's House, Pembroke Road.

Over the past few years a number of cadets have been in attendance at Lourdes during the Dublin Pilgrimages. This year four boys made the pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Finally I wish to express our sincere thanks to the parish priest, Very Rev. D. Delaney, for his interest in our unit. By linking us with the youth movement in the parish he has provided us with one of the finest premises in the city.

J. M.

## "IN RETROSPECT"

How changed to-day, socially and culturally, is this parish of which we are so justly proud to that of twenty years ago. Looking back in retrospect, we can see in our mind's eye the lush green of Flanagan's fields that once supplied Dublin's vegetable market with most of its needs. Slowly but surely the transformation took place. Soon miles of main drainage, sewage pipes and concrete roads replaced the placid green that Dublin "kids" once called the "country," and from a jungle of scaffolding and mass concrete began to emerge a forest of houses soon to be called Drimnagh, North Crumlin, or as we prefer to call it, the parish of Mourne Road. Soon, too, could be heard the war hoops of children to whom the open spaces were as the plains of Arizona as they chased the tinkers' horses up Galty and down Mourne in real rodeo style.

The hardships were many and varied, our schools and church in their early building stages, trekking to Crumlin village or Dolphin's Barn to hear Mass or to the Oblates at Inchicore, likewise hiking to Inchicore or Crumlin Road to get a bus to anywhere. Pulling bags of turf and logs across the canal from Keogh Square in frost and snow and teeming rain.

How we look back with amusement at the memories of the "Glimmer Man" as each stranger was as well "vetted" from behind curtained windows as were the F.B.I. men in the Manhattan "Speakeasy's."

At last our fine parish church was ready and we could attend Mass in our own church, while our children attended schools, the biggest in Europe.

Then, as our beloved Father Tom Carney, R.I.P., began to gather his flock around him there began the nucleus of an organisation that to-day stands four square and strong, the Church and its priests. The priests were

always with us to share our sorrows and our joys, to guide us in matters spiritual and temporal.

The forming of the sodalities, both men's and women's, and in due course the youths', began to get the people together, until to-day we can proudly boast of the largest sodalities in any parish in Dublin. The building of the "Boys' Club" by voluntary labour is in itself a monument to the men who in their spare time built a club second to none and with all the amenities and comforts that could be in any club.

The "Non Stop Draw," instrumental in collecting the monies that in due course helped to build Our Lady's Hall, recognised by all and sundry as the finest hall in the country.

Many and varied were the functions in the parish hall, which included sponsored programmes, grannies talent, mothers talent, a superb series of Christmas pantomimes, and a host of variety shows, all covered by our now famous Parish Night. May we in passing spare a prayer for those who passed on to their eternal reward and whose efforts and example have been to us who are left behind a source of encouragement, and if I mention a few names out of the many, I'm sure few will cavil Fred Parkes, Des O'Neill, Christy McCarthy, Dick Hughes, etc., R.I.P. May God in His Mercy grant them eternal rest and to us the courage to carry on the good work.

To-day we are very proud of our parish, and I think that any pride that we may feel is as a result of a faithfulness to the Church by the parishioners and a loyalty to our priests, and having as our motto:—

"For the greater glory of God and the honour of Drimnagh neath the blue mantle of Our Mother of Good Counsel."

P. K.



# SCHOOL NOTES

## Boys' School

This was a year of outstanding success. In the Secondary department, out of the ten boys presented for the Intermediate Certificate in June, nine were successful, three passing with honours. In the Primary School results were equally impressive, where 100% success was scored in the Primary Certificate. Ninety-eight boys were entered and all were successful.

The Religious Examination, too, resulted in all sections coming through with flying colours; both secondary and primary departments were rated "Excellent" in Christian Doctrine and Sacred Music.

Hats off to schoolboy-of-the-year, Patrick Menton, has the remarkable record of never having been absent from school for as much as one day since he became a pupil in First Standard in 1953.

But the year also brought its measure of sadness. In February the schools lost Mr. Donal Archdeacon, N.T., who died under very tragic circumstances after a brief illness, and in June, on the eve of the summer vacation, death struck once more, this time among the pupils, when Dermot Larkin, one of the most popular boys in the school, lost his life in a traffic accident while cycling home from the seaside. May God have mercy on their souls.

Other changes took place too, but under happier circumstances. Mr. James Butler, M.A., of the junior school left the staff to become an inspector, while Mr. Sean Cremer, B.Mus. of the senior school, well-known as the organist in our church, was appointed Inspector of Music. Those of us who knew them were not surprised and we wish them good luck in their new roles.

### List of the boys who got Intermediate Certificate from the school:

Patrick Connolly (H)—Studying for Leaving Certificate in St. Mary's College, Rathmines.

Fionan Cronin—Studying for Leaving Certificate in High School of Commerce, Rathmines.

Bernard Dalton—Apprentice Printer at Browne and Nolan's.

Francis Delaney (H)—Clerk in the office of Clondalkin Paper Mills.

Robert Kennedy (H)—Studying Electrical Engineering at Kevin Street Technical Schools.



Last year's Intermediate Class.

Joseph Byrne—Studying Engineering at Bolton Street Technical Schools.

Kevin Murphy—British Navy (Engineering Branch).

Francis Hyland—Employed by Messrs. Guinness Ltd.

Patrick Ryan—Apprentice Tailor.

John Territ—Law Clerk.

Patrick Brady—Waiter in Red Bank Restaurant.

John Finnegan—Clerk in Wholesale Drapers.

### Others who attended Secondary Top:

Francis Storey—Employed by Messrs. Guinness Ltd.

James Burke—Studying for Leaving Certificate at High School of Commerce, Rathmines.

Dermot Canavan—Employed by Aer Lingus Ltd.

D. F.



Physical Culture Group.



### School Record

Patrick Menton, Mourne Road, has the distinction of never being absent even one day from school.



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What cradle could be stranger,  
Where Our Saviour lay.

Wrapped in swaddling clothing,  
All pomp and splendour loathing,  
Dire poverty foreboding,  
Born on Christmas Day.

Choirs of Angels singing,  
All glory to Him bringing,  
Around Him they were winging,  
From His home above.

## *The Crib*

Shepherds came adoring,  
With their love outpouring,  
And trustfully imploring,  
Mercy, peace and love.

Mary by Him kneeling,  
Akissing Him and sealing,  
The love that she was feeling,  
For her Lord and Son.

Moving soft and slowly,  
Saint Joseph just and holy,  
Looked on that Babe so lowly,  
When His life begun.

Ox and ass were breathing,  
The warmth that He was needing,  
And selfish men unheeding,  
That poor and lonely Babe.

Wise men from a distance,  
All came without resistance,  
To seek Divine assistance,  
From Him who came to save.



# THE DRIMNAGH SODALITY By \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Robert Nash, S.J.



Section of Our Lady's Sodality with Fr. E. Neville, C.C., Spiritual Director.

**T**HERE are about 35,000 Catholics in Drimnagh, a Dublin Parish. The Sodality of Our Lady there has some seventy members, young and middle-aged men. This is the right proportion because the Sodality is always a picked group "sincerely bent on sanctifying themselves." Its primary object is intense personal holiness.

It is a way of life, guiding the members towards intimacy with Jesus and Mary and spurring them on to share with others the truths and spiritual treasures they discover. A parish confraternity has the laudable aim of attracting every parishioner into its ranks so as to ensure that all will be regular in discharging their religious duties. The Sodality does not stop short at the idea of duty. It calls for entire dedication to Mary and her Divine Son; a "cell" in the parish extending a saving and sanctifying influence out in every direction.

## BEGINNINGS

Eight years ago a zealous priest in Drimnagh presented to two men a copy of the Rules of the Sodality. He was acutely conscious of the needs of the hundreds of boys in the parish. He declared that, after careful consideration of the different organizations existing, it was his conviction that the Sodality was the one best equipped to deal with his problem. How well founded was his conviction we hope to indicate to-day.

The two men read the Rules and discussed them together. At first they were diffident. Membership of the Sodality was going to make exacting demands

and they doubted if they would "make the grade." But they were willing to try. The venture succeeded beyond their most sanguine hopes. One of them now gives the advice to those who ask how to help youth: "Start a Sodality and put your whole plan in Our Lady's Hands. You will have the same experience as we have, that she never fails those who are consecrated to her." Drogheda made enquiries and one of the Drimnagh men went up and talked to an interested group. He was not a priest, just an ordinary decent Catholic layman, and they were enthralled listening to the ring of conviction with which he spoke of Mary and what she is willing to do in and through her Sodality.

What has the Sodality to show for its eight years' existence in Drimnagh? First of all it has revolutionized the lives of those seventy men themselves. The explanation is simply this: that the Rules are observed perfectly, and these Rules, so often praised by the Popes, bear within themselves a germ to transform those who order their lives by them.

Those seventy men are daily communicants in so far as they can be. They are models of fidelity to their weekly meetings, held in the parish Church, presided over by the Spiritual Director, and finishing with Benediction. Lastly, not one of the seventy misses making fifteen minutes mental prayer every day of every week. These three practices constitute the heart of the Sodality. Because they are neglected in Sodalities at times—indeed all too often—the heart's condition is not sound. And if this be so what can you expect except that the whole body, too, will languish and ultimately die?

The heart of the Drimnagh Sodality is throbbing with life. The men are persuaded, as a result of the care given to their own spiritual formation, that without personal holiness, exterior activities can produce no lasting fruit in souls. Every two or three months they have regular discussions with a priest about their spiritual problems, stressing most often the difficulties they meet with in their mental prayer, suggesting ways and means of making it better. Every year all seventy of them make a two-day enclosed retreat.

## EXPANSION

St. Ignatius was called "a contemplative in action," that is, a man of intensely close union with God by his life of prayer, but maintaining that





Teenage dancing in St. John  
Bosco Club each Sunday  
evening.



union and indeed increasing it by an active apostolate of work for the neighbour. This double spirit the Jesuits have tried to infuse into the Sodality. Accordingly, the men of Drimnagh are at the beck and call of their priests to undertake any sort of apostolic work.

They have built, with their own hands, a magnificent two-storey Boys' Club, dedicated to St. John Bosco. All their labour they gave voluntarily, as an act of devotion to Our Lady. It is built on parish property and was presented as a gift to the parish. It opens seven nights a week. Everything is so well organised that, in the words of a member "the Spiritual Director or any of us can walk out any time and with no hurt to the Sodality." The truth of this was proved when the Spiritual Director was transferred some months ago and his removal—though it was loudly bemoaned—left the spirit and activity of the Sodality intact. In the Club the boys are taught trades—arts and crafts, engineering, rugmaking, shoemaking and repairing, carpentry. Ample provision is made for sport: they have boxing, football, table tennis and a weekly dance. All Club members must be under eighteen. After that age they go to the Parish Hall. Many of them, inspired by the example of the Sodalists, enter the Sodality and proceed to take an active part in furthering its apostolate.

The dance ends each Sunday night at a quarter to eleven. All kneel for prayer. "I think," the Sodality man told me, "that ours must be the only dance that finishes with prayer. All our functions do." Why not other dances, too? The young people are required to have a card, signed by both their parents, stating that father and mother approve of their boy or girl going to the dance. All go "straight home" and are within doors, at the latest, by some minutes after eleven.

The Sodalists gladly utilise any talent they have to teach and help the boys. In 1956 the parish staged

a splendid pageant for An Tostal. Eight hundred parishioners participated, travelling to and fro every night for a week in 12 double-decker buses. The financial returns were £600! The boys also produced a pageant on St. Dominick Savio and another on St. Francis of Assisi, winning cups for each.

During Lent there are lectures on spiritual subjects, suited to boys. Six hundred boys come every Sunday, voluntarily. Every year about 160 of them have a glorious holiday with the Salesian Fathers in Pallaskenry. They save up for this week by week in advance, and the generous Fathers give them special easy terms. Already there are many vocations, and good hopes of more, to the priesthood.

### BROADCAST

The Sodality takes care of eight soccer and eight Gaelic teams. It undertook to circulate Catholic Sunday papers, but the demand grew to such an extent that the men had to pass this fine apostolic work on to the Girls' Sodality. The papers are delivered at the door, not merely sold outside the church. There is an apostolic section for visiting the sick, and another which is invaluable in building up the Confraternity—reminding members of the meetings, looking up absentees, etc.

No wonder the parish priest has declared publicly that the foundation of the Sodality is one of the biggest blessings that ever came to Drimnagh, and that the Spiritual Director whispers in your ear: "No amount of work from the curate will succeed, without the full backing of the P.P."

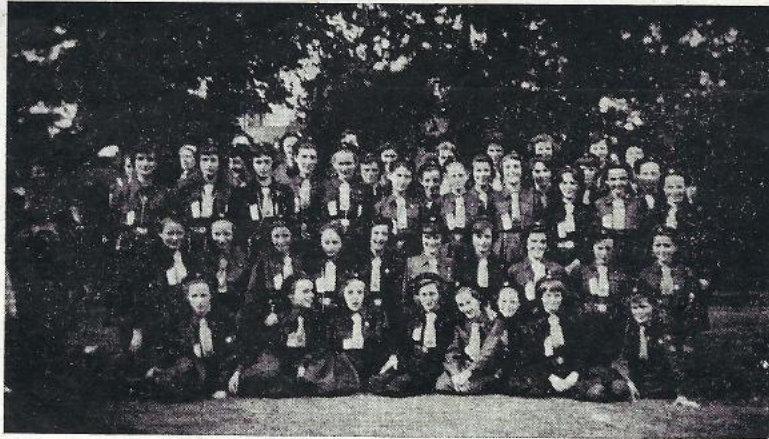
If we had a broadcast from Drimnagh, I think it would end like this: "We tell you about our Sodality in order to glorify Our Lady and set you thinking. What she has done for us she will do for you. Come and see us; write to us; ask us questions. Livewire Sodalities should be everywhere."

By Courtesy Sunday Press.



# BUIDHEAN MUIRE

## na Dea-Comhairle



There were many joyful and sorrowful events in Buidean Muire na Dea-Comhairle in the course of this year. The first and most important was the departure of Captain Byrne. It was on the 17th February that she announced she was leaving. The following Sunday we gave her a party and Rev. Fr. Randles presented her with an electric clock on behalf of the company. It was sad, yet a happy occasion for young and old, past and present guides. But it was agreed unanimously that it was one of the most memorable occasions in our history. The next incident we were looking forward to was her wedding. This took place on the 2nd April. The P/L's and A/P/L's formed a Guard of Honour.

Our new Captain, Captain P. Arnold, arrived on 3rd March. Shortly afterwards A/C J. McCluskey was appointed a full Captain, and so she left us. She was presented with a travelling clock from the company. Our new Assistant Captain, A/Captain R. O'Callaghan, was introduced to us on 23rd June.

On the 3rd, 5th and 6th April we went to see Captain Arnold play the principal role in *Iolanthe*. We presented her with a beautiful bouquet of the same coloured flowers as our company colours, scarlet and gold.

Parent's Day occurred on the 28th June. We took part in the Irish dancing and entered two teams for the first aid competition—one of which got second. Although we didn't top the list in any of the competitions, we hope to be more successful next year, P.G. In both Nature and Campfire Cups we came third; we got fourth place in the Shield. Seeing it was the first year in which we entered for the signalling and Irish Cups, we did remark-

ably well in being placed 5th. Ten of our members spent a happy week in Fernhill, Co. Wicklow.

On the 19th July we held a tour to the Japanese Gardens. We visited many places of interest, including Maynooth College, Donnelly's Hollow, St. Brigid's Well. All agreed it was a most enjoyable day.

There were many new leaders and assistants appointed during the past year. Our company consists of fifty guides. We also have twenty aspirants eagerly awaiting the great day when they will at length be registered as guides. In each patrol there is great rivalry amongst its members for a cup awarded to the best all round guide each month. There is also a cup for the best patrol of the year. Every patrol is striving hard to gain it, as it is the greatest honour in the company.

Before Christmas or shortly afterwards we hope to have our company flag. For the last seven years we have been trying to get it, but due to various obstacles it has been delayed again and again. At last, however, a definite design has been fixed and arrangements can now go ahead for the working of it.

We are now prepared to set to work once more to achieve our supreme aim—to win the Major Shield. We will leave no stone unturned in our attempt to be victorious over the whole organisation.

“Girl Guides are we, fighting hard, striving hard to learn;

Girl Guides are we and the Shield we hope to earn;

Our spirits always up and we're not disheartened by failure;

So, therefore, we'll be good guides for the glory of God forever.”

B. L.





Miss Philomena McCarthy, Winner of Dublin Diocesan Liturgy Cup.

## BUIDHEAN REGINA PACIS ★ MILESTONES

"Sure the joys of guiding only come through long long years, years which are the very best ones of your life."

"Say guides, is this a wounded soldier coming along?" Indeed no, it is Cora Dunne coming along smiling to her meeting, with her fractured arm in a sling. Good girl, Cora, that's the spirit.

To-night let us gather round and re-live some of the happy times we had in 1959. There is so much we want to talk about, so we had better begin at January and go through the year.

**January:** The weather was too cold for hiking so we worked hard at our tests, and if the Drimnagh parents wonder why the porridge no longer sticks to the pot, it is because fourteen guides have obtained their cooks badge.

**February:** There were no signs of a thunderstorm, yet there was great controversy in the Presbytery as to the odd streaks of lightning in the vicinity of Mourne Road. Luckily Father Randles could explain that it was the girl guides practising their relays for the games competition.

**March:** March brought something else besides the dancing daffodils. An outbreak of flu paid us a visit and some guides disappeared from the company for a week or two. However, we were all hale and hearty again when the Commissioner arrived to inspect us for the Shield Competition.

**April:** We entered for the Campfire Competition and were well ahead of the Russian scientists when we discovered that there were girl guides on the moon.

"Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high,

There's a land where there are many girl guides

Somewhere over the rainbow moon guides meet,

They wear tunics of yellow, white socks and look so neat."

The moon guides heard our singing and came down to meet us. It seems the 4th Guide Law—A guide is friendly—applies up there also.

22nd. Our uniformed numbers were increased by six to-night when our chaplain performed an enrolment ceremony. It was during the ceremony that we heard very urgent banging on the door, and thinking a bull was chasing a latecomer we hurriedly opened the door to find Phil McCarthy looking very pleased with herself. She had just come from headquarters, having won the inter-company cup for liturgy.

**May:** Five o'clock in the afternoon some people in Abbey Street thought it was an advertisement for an Odearest mattress, but the C.I.E. Inspector in Store St. recognised Annette Allen carrying her bedclothes en route for the week-end camp. Thirty-two excited guides set off hoping to escape "the fever and the fret," if only for the week-end.

**June: 7th.** The nature study hike to Bohernabreena was a huge success. We hope the guides collected sufficient specimens of leaves and flowers as otherwise the residents in Drimnagh might find it necessary to pad-lock their garden gates.

11th. Sounds of great revelry was heard in H.Q. when the results of the Major Shield Competition came out. We could hardly believe we had won the Diocesan Shield again this year. Terry Knight and Anne Keogh raced out of H.Q. to pass on the joyful tidings to all our friends in Drimnagh.

**July: 18th.** At least sixteen guides did their good deed to-day when they went up to help on the tea stall at the Jesuit Garden Fete in Rathfarnham.

19th. The day we had all been looking forward to arrived at last. A full bus load of guides left Mourne Road at 10.30 a.m. on a tour to the Japanese Gardens, and even if there were dull clouds in the sky, we had no difficulty in finding the silver lining.

**August:** Holiday time. Several guides went to "Fernhill" for a week's camp. Renee Davis had only one worry. Her blankets took up so much room she could not take all her sweets and other dainties.

**September: 3rd.** What's the noise? Oh, just the guides who have returned from their holidays. Everybody looks "all in the pink." Perhaps it is the new coat of paint on the walls in the school hall.

25th. Fancy Dress in H.Q. Kay Flood won 1st prize in the Neatest Guide Competition. Well done Kay.

**October:** Two new Patrol Leaders appointed, Pat O'Riordan and Anne Keogh; also two new Assistant Patrol Leaders, Ruth Ronan and Una Kinsella.

"With a stitch in here and a stitch in there,  
Two yellow stripes here and a lanyard there."

Well guides, it is getting close to 9.30 and so we will have to continue our reminiscing next week, but just before we set off for home we will just about have time for a few short choruses.

"Now is the hour when we must say goodbye,  
Shadows are falling, homeward we must go,  
Happiness hath reigned with us throughout the year,  
God's protection o'er us as we wend our way."

JOYCE DOHERTY (Captain)





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# Girls' Club



Mother McAuley Girls' Physical Culture Group.  
**Front Row, L to R:** Rosaleen Keogh, Deirdre Cleary,  
 Nora Patchell, Ann Doyle, Helen Hughes.  
**Back Row, L to R:** Bernie Duff, Ann Reid, Helen  
 Morgan, Rita Whelan.

## WHERE TWO OR THREE . . . . .

Their attention was arrested ! . . . . Chi è lei ? . . . . Chi sono loro ? Who is she ? Who are they ? the Italians asked with interest. The members of Mother McAuley Girls' Club, hoisting their beautiful banner at Lourdes in the centenary year of 1958, were proud to answer that **SHE** was Mother McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy and that **they** were members of a Girls' Club named in her honour. Our readers need no introduction to Mother McAuley, for on every side of us her daughters carry on the works of mercy—education, visitation of the sick, etc., wherein she gave the lead. But, perhaps, they are not so well informed on the Mother McAuley Girls Club.

As the name suggests it is a club for girls—teenagers mainly. Here young girls can find a class or group to suit their individual talents. There is the sewing class, where lessons on embroidery, dressmaking and handicrafts are of a high order. Then for those desirous to acquit themselves admirably in the culinary department there is a cookery class. Those who would search further may find their place among the singers in the choral group, the actresses, who unite to form a dramatic group, or the artists, happily engaged in an art class. Even tapping toes can be trained to tap with surer step in the physical culture class.

But that is only the exterior. Deeper down there is the desire to put before these young girls, so soon to fill the responsible posts of wife and mother, the ideals of Christian womanhood, the splendid dignity of a human soul, the necessity of deep and strong convictions, which will later stand them in good stead. In the words of Mother McAuley herself, they will bring a blessing on their homes and country "for wherever a religious woman presides peace and good order are generally to be found."

In this important undertaking we ask the prayers and good will of the parishioners for the success and continuation of a work which will redound to the benefit of all.

For over nine years Mother McAuley Girls' Club has catered for some hundred girls and attained high achievements in many fields—they hold a cup and shield for Choral Group, cup for Catholic Festival, Milltown, two

## VALUE OF SUPPLICATION

Small Italian schoolboy asked to relate an incident from the bible said : Once Our Lord was walking down the road, met a funeral, and on asking who owned the remains was told that his mother was a widda and then they said could He do anything ? And He said He'd try, and He knelt down, said three Hail Mary's to Blessed Martin and yer man came to life.

cups for drama, and proudest trophy—first place in Religious Knowledge at Archbishop's Catholic Youth Council Examination, with the distinction of first place in needlework and many prizes for cookery.

Above all these encouraging achievements in the competitive sphere, our girls have carried to the mission field, as Sisters of Mercy, Colletines, St. Joseph's and Little Sisters of the Poor, the message of Christ.

We can also count in many past members, ideal housewives.

In all these attainments we are indebted under God to our first Spiritual Director, to our Mother General and the few valiant women in the parish who help us on all occasions and for whom we pray God's special blessing. These latter will be glad to hear that our club, and they, have received Our Holy Father's, Pope John XXIII, special blessing.

For prospective members the club meets on Wednesday and Thursday of each week from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

## GIRLS' YOUTH SODALITY

The Girls' Youth Sodality caters for over 1,000 girls whose ages range from 14 to 18 years. The Spiritual Director wishes to take this opportunity to thank the Sisters of Mercy and the Children of Mary for the wonderful assistance they have given during the past year in re-organising this Sodality. The zealous work of the Guardians and Prefects has brought very good results. Attendances at the Sodality Meetings and Sodality Masses have greatly improved, and attendance at the Retreat during Lent was an all-time record. The Sodality donated £50 towards the cost of the beautiful High Altar which now adorns our parish church. It is sincerely to be hoped that during the coming year the Sodality will continue to grow and to flourish and that through faithful membership of it the girls of this parish will, like the Holy Youth of Nazareth, "Advance in wisdom and age and grace with God and Men."

T. R.

## GIRLS' SCHOOL

We had many blessings for which to thank God on our resumption of school work in September, not the least being the glorious weather we enjoyed for most of the summer holidays and the week's extension of the vacation which was enthusiastically welcomed by all.



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# Children's Page



Dear Children,

Need I remind you that Christmas is just around the corner. Let us start our page then with a little verse to recall to our minds the events of the very first Christmas.

Question :—

Star in the heavens  
Bright and free  
Star in the heavens  
What do you see ?

Answer :—

I see a stable  
Far far away  
Where a wee Baby  
Lies in the hay.

Question :—

Star in the heavens  
Gently glow  
Star in the heavens  
What do you know ?

Answer :—

I know the Bebe  
Is Christ the King.  
That's why the Angels  
Joyfully sing.

Don't forget to visit the Baby Jesus' Crib on Christmas Day. He will be waiting for you.

And now are you ready for some fun. Try to repeat these speech jingles aloud.

- (1) A packet of pins, Mr. Potter,  
A packet of pins if you please,  
My pins are a penny a packet,  
Pray pay me a penny for these.
- (2) Five grey geese in a green field grazing,  
Grey were the geese and green was the grazing.
- (3) Celia stitched Sammy's satin slippers,  
Satin slippers simply stitched.
- (4) She sells sea-shells on the sea-shore.  
Sea shells selling on the sea-shore.

Can You Guess the Answer :

- (1) What is better than a helping of Christmas pudding?  
Answer : Two helpings.
- (2) What is the best thing to put into the Christmas cake ?  
Answer : Your teeth.
- (3) Nice little Nancy with the red little nose.  
The longer she lives the shorter she grows.  
Answer : Christmas candle.
- (4) What has a tongue but cannot talk ?  
Answer : Your shoe.
- (5) Black and white and re(a)d all over.  
Answer : Children's page.

In Our School :

- (1) Mother : I hope you were good in school to-day, Johnny.  
Johnny : Yes, I was; what trouble can a fella get into standing in the corner all day.

- (2) Teacher : Did you scold your little boy for mimicking me ?

Mother : Yes, I told him to stop acting like an idiot !

- (3) Teacher : Your sums are wrong again, Mary, don't you know you must learn your tables.

Mary : Yes, but my Daddy doesn't seem to know.

**PUZZLE : Find Partners :**

Christmas Bag; Rocking Pudding; Horse Plum;  
Stocking Book; School Post; Roll Card.

Do you know the toys on the Christmas tree, re-arrange letters :

SELLB  
LOLDS

ATRSS  
ALOLONB

AIFIESR  
AGMSE

**In Our Parish :**

An elderly lady was seated beside a small boy during Mass. When the collection plate was passed round, she began fumbling in her cluttered bag. The little fellow nudged her. "You take my sixpence, I can hide under the seat !"

- (1) Mother : When that naughty boy threw stones at you, why didn't you tell me instead of throwing them back at him.

Small Boy : What good would that do ? You couldn't hit the back of a double decker.

- (2) Mother : How did you like school ?

Little Girl : All right, but they don't teach you much.

Mother : Why do you say that ?

Little Girl : Well, I've got to go back to-morrow.

Goodbye children, that is all for now. I hope you had fun reading your page. May you have a very holy and happy Christmas, and don't forget to write to Santa. If you are very good he will bring you what you ask for. He may even visit the school just to see how you are getting on, so try to be good and may God bless you all.

**Story for Children**

**ST. CHRISTOPHER**

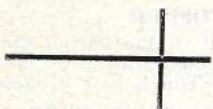
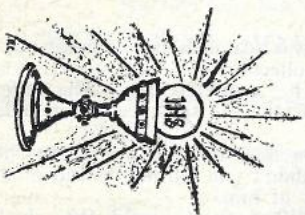
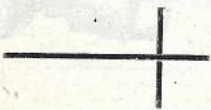
Children, do you know who is the patron saint of safe travelling ? You do, good ! But do you know how this saint got his name ? This is how it happened.

Oferus, whose name means "one who carries," lived long ago and was such a strong young man that he was known as "the giant among his friends." Oferus, as was the custom of his times, joined the army to serve his king. He soon, however, grew discontented, as his great strength wasn't ever put to a severe test. Then, one day he left the army and set out on a long journey to find a mighty king whom he would be satisfied to serve. His search was useless.

One day, however, as he journeyed along he came to a lonely cave where a hermit lived. Oferus told the hermit of his search for the bravest and strongest king, and the hermit told him of Christ, the King of Kings.



# The Last Supper





"Bring me to him," said Oferus, "I will fight for none other." The hermit explained to him that one served this mighty King best by prayer and good works.

"I know no prayers," said Oferus, "but I can serve Him with my strength." "Come with me," said the hermit, "and I shall show you how to do that." He took him to a big river flowing through the valley. "There," he said, "is a river without a bridge, and many travellers are drowned when they try to cross. If you carry them over on your broad shoulders, you will be serving the King of Kings."

Oferus made himself a little hut beside the river, and soon travellers began to wait for the big kind man to carry them across the water. This he did, summer and winter, happy in the thought that he was serving Christ, the greatest King.

Then one stormy night after he had gone to rest he heard somebody calling his name, "Oferus, please Oferus, will you carry me across the river." Though the night was very, very bad, he clothed himself and ran to the water's edge. There he saw a child waiting to be helped across. Oferus was puzzled but asked no questions. He quickly hoisted the young boy on his

shoulders and started the rough journey to the other side of the river. Never was the crossing so difficult. Oferus and his burden were beaten by the flood, and only for the great strength and courage of the man both would have been thrown into the stormy waters. As they staggered on Oferus felt the weight on his back crushing him lower and lower. Indeed, he felt as if he were carrying the whole world on his shoulders. At last he managed to reach the other bank and safely deposited his burden on the ground.

Then a wonderful thing happened. The troubled waters suddenly calmed, the storm abated, and Oferus looked up, the weariness all gone, and saw a clear starlit sky above him. He turned in wonder to the Child, and with deep joy and revelation knelt beside him as he heard him say:

"I am the Christ whom you serve. To-night you have carried one who bears the sorrows of the world. No wonder you felt your burden so heavy! But because you have served me so faithfully and so well, you shall have a new name, 'Christ Oferus,' the one who has carried Christ." Christ Oferus later became a saint in heaven and is now known as St. Christopher.

## The First Christmas

(FOR CHILDREN)

Long, long ago, in a little town of Nazareth, there lived a holy woman called Mary. She was espoused to a good and God-fearing man named Joseph. Mary was so good and kind that everyone loved her dearly. Joseph, her husband, who was a carpenter, worked very hard with hammer, chisel and plane making ploughs and yokes for the oxen, as well as cradles for the babies. He was deeply respected by the people he worked for, and as well as giving them good value for their money he was never slow to lend a hand in charity when the occasion demanded such. These two good people lived in a little house together, and both had bound themselves to a life of prayer and chastity.

The Virgin Mary worked happily all day long, perhaps gardening, preparing meals, and sometimes she must have fetched water from the well, carrying the water-pot carefully on her head, as the other women of that time did. She busied herself with many household chores, but always found time to talk to God and to offer Him all her deeds and actions. Indeed, so full of grace was she that God had chosen her to be the Mother of His Divine Son who was to redeem the world from sin.

This is how it happened. One day while Mary was praying quietly in her room a wonderful thing happened. An angel, who was God's messenger, came to her and said, "Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God, and behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Most High."

And Mary with deep humility and love submitted to the will of God, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord," she said, "be it done on to me according to thy word." The angel then departed from her. This happy incident was later revealed by God to Joseph. Both were very grateful to God for the wonderful favour He was bestowing upon them. Mary preparations for the birth of her child, and with loving hands she made the

tiny garments for the blessed baby she was soon to hold in her arms.

Some time passed, and then one day an order came to the people of Nazareth from Caesar Augustus that they were to go to Bethlehem to be taxed. It was on a cold winter's day that Joseph set out with Mary on this long journey to the little town of Bethlehem. The snow fell heavily and it was very cold. It was a long journey, and they were both glad when, tired and footsore, they at last arrived at their destination. But alas, they found Bethlehem full of travellers, and though they tried very hard they failed to find accommodation in any of the inns. There was no room anywhere.

At last, a kind innkeeper who felt sorry for them offered them shelter in a stable where his oxen were asleep on the sweet smelling hay. It was a humble shelter indeed, but Mary and Joseph were thankful for this quiet resting place away from the noisy crowds.

It was in this very stable that the Infant Son of God was born to Mary that night. She wrapt Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him gently on the hay. And it was then that the angel hosts of heaven sang out in sweetest melody "Peace on earth to men of good will."

The Bible story tells us that on that wonderful night when Jesus was born there were shepherds minding their flocks on the hills. They heard the angel choirs and were afraid. Then a strange thing happened. A messenger from heaven told them to go where the shining star would lead them and there they would find a little baby lying in a manger, a little baby who was Christ the King, the Son of God. The shepherds obediently did as they were told, and, having followed the star, arrived at the stable where they found the Infant Jesus with Mary His Mother and Joseph. They entered and fell on their knees to adore the Child, and then full of love they left their little lambs with Him to keep Him warm.

At this time also there lived in the East three wise men who made their way to Bethlehem, following the same star that led the shepherds to Jesus. They took with them precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and, having found Jesus in the stable, they offered Him their precious gifts, and with hearts full of love and thankfulness, they humbly adored the little Prince of Peace.

And every year at Christmas we tell and re-tell this wonderful story—old, yet ever new. With the shepherds and wise men we too visit the lonely stable and kneeling at the manger we offer our gifts of love and thanks to the Baby Jesus. Then praying beside His crib we say "Thank You, Good God, for Christmas Day." M. K.



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# SCHOOL NOTES—GIRLS' SCHOOL



First Year Intermediate.

Our Intermediate Certificate results this year were very satisfactory, and this we attribute in no small measure to the fact that the parish priest kindly put Our Lady's Hall at our disposal as an examination centre. The Primary Certificate results which came at the end of September bear testimony to the wonderful work being done by the teachers in Our Lady of Good Counsel Schools, nor are we to underestimate the fine efforts of pupils and parents to co-operate with the teachers.

The concert given by the junior school children in Our Lady's Hall was superb, and nobody who saw it could deny the fact that there is great talent in Drimnagh.

The boys and girls of our school who took part in Paddy Crosby's popular radio feature, "The School 'Round the Corner," acquitted themselves well. Listeners from various parts of Ireland wrote to express their appreciation.

So the work goes on. The hardest tasks are rendered easy and difficulties which at first seem insurmountable disappear when there is a spirit of co-operation between teachers and pupils.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel, under whose loving protection we work, help and guide us always.

B. O. C.



4th Year.



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## OUR LADY'S HALL



**Standing, L. to R.:** Mrs. Wynne (2nd Prize), 45 Slievemore Rd.; Mrs. Bannon, 350 Mourne Rd.; Mrs. Bellew (1st Prize), 374 Galtymore Rd.

**Seated, L. to R.:** Mrs. Coughlan, 316 Galtymore Rd.; Peter J. Markey (Producer); Mrs. Quinn, 33 Knocknarea Rd. (3rd Prize).

When Our Lady's Hall was opened approximately four years ago, our parish priest stated that he had a very definite purpose in mind when building the hall. It was, he said, to be a community centre, where entertainments provided would be Catholic and cultural, where parochial talent would be fostered and have an outlet, but above all it would be a centre where, he hoped, a parish spirit would be nurtured and developed and bring everyone nearer to the Church and to God.

A review of the activities in Our Lady's Hall will show how much it has become part of our parish life both for old and young.

The provision of excellent dances, properly controlled and conducted, and for which only the best bands are engaged, provide ample opportunity for the young people to enjoy themselves. That they do so is evidenced any Sunday night by the numbers turning up for admission, and, unfortunately, on many occasions some have to be turned away.

Our Parish Night, which is held on Monday nights, has set such a high standard and become so successful that many other parishes are developing entertainments along the same lines. In Parish Night our local talent

gets every opportunity, and anyone who wishes to do so can apply for an audition by simply calling to the hall and giving the necessary details.

Talent competitions are held periodically, and these competitions cover not only the youth of the parish but also special competitions have been held for the mothers and grandmothers of the parish, so that every age group is catered for. The interest taken in these competitions and the rush to book seats prove how much the hall has become part of the parish life.

The formation of the Community Players and Choir enabled many plays and musical entertainment, including the Mikado, to be presented, and the high standard of these productions reflect the greatest credit on all concerned.

Even the schools, both girls' and boys', as well as the junior infants, have produced excellent concerts, so that it can be truthfully said that from the youngest to the oldest is catered for in Our Lady's Hall.

That the religious aspect is not forgotten is evidenced by the lantern slides and lectures given during the Lenten Season. In this series has been included Rev. Father O'Rahilly's wonderful lecture on the Holy Shroud and Rev. Father Buckley's beautiful coloured slides and lectures on Lourdes. In addition, the Pre-Marriage Counselling Courses are conducted in the hall, and engaged couples who have attended these courses have been high in their praise.

The highlight of all stage presentations is, of course, the annual Christmas Pantomime which has become such an outstanding feature of the Pantomime Season. In this regard it can be safely said that there is no better pantomime anywhere. The press critics have been high in their praise of our productions and have commented very favourably on them. At the present time rehearsals are well under way for this year's production of Cinderella, and everyone can be assured of another first-class and highly enjoyable pantomime.

This, briefly, is what the hall provides for the parishioners, and it is the combined efforts of the many loyal helpers behind the scenes that make these presentations possible. These people give their time and their talents voluntarily in this great parish effort and, yet, there are many parishioners who are not giving the hall the support and help they are capable of.

If every parishioner gave the hall his full support, then our parish priest would be able to accomplish even greater things than he has for our church, our parish and Our God.

T. K.

## Catherine McAuley

"Dublin was very wealthy and very wicked, very gay and very dissolute. There was weakness from within, there was widespread treason among the soldiers of the faith, and alas, there was division in the ranks. The morals of the people of Dublin, Catholics among the rest, were hideously corrupted. It was a city of squalid, shivering, nakedness, famine stricken emaciation, ruined families, houseless orphans." So Dublin was described by a priest who knew it well. It was in 1809, the year in which Daniel Murray became Co-adjutor Archbishop of Dublin. This remarkable man looked for help in his pastoral task and found it, as churchmen have before and since, in the devotion of women. Archbishop Murray brought the Loreto nuns to Dublin, with Mary Aikenhead he founded the Sisters of Charity, with Catherine McAuley the Sisters of Mercy.

Miss McAuley had an unusual background. Her mother was very beautiful, very vain, but not very devout. Her sister married a Presbyterian, joined the Church of Ireland and reared her children as Protestants. Her father had died when she was four and her mother

died while she was still in her teens. So Catherine passed under the care of her uncle, a surgeon not notorious for the fervour of his religion. He became bankrupt, and so Catherine became the fosterchild of William Callaghan, a Protestant chemist, and his wife, a gentle and tender Quakeress. With them she lived at Coolock.

Throughout these changes of lot Catherine prayed. She was always a woman of much prayer. Of the years of her infancy only one memory remained, but it had influenced her deeply. Her father had been a man of exceptional mercy and compassion for the poor. Catherine forgot his death bed, forgot the shape and colouring of his face. But, quite vividly, she remembered her father standing on the lawn of their house in the sunshine surrounded by the unfortunate, remembered him standing in the hallway on a rainy day with the tattered and vulgar huddled around him. And so at Coolock she began an Apostolate of Mercy, giving religious instruction, helping the poor.

Her prayers and goodness brought its rewards. Her mother died in a more devout mind than she had lived

(Continued on Page 43)



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# Men's Sodality

Director ★  
REV. G. GRIFFITH, C.C.

The Men's Sodality is in a most thriving condition, and in the month of September of this year we had an all-time record attendance both at meetings, Mass and Holy Communion of one thousand and fifty-nine on Friday night and one thousand, four hundred and three on Sunday morning. We have approximately 2,000 members on roll. Our average monthly attendance is somewhat less than one thousand three hundred (1,300).

The Sodality is built on a Council of ten carefully chosen members, each of whom reports on six guilds, thus accounting for fifty-five guilds. Hard-working prefects not only check attendances but report each month on the absent and excused members of their guilds to the Council.

Recruiting is carried out by the members themselves, and our Annual Retreat brings in annually a new batch of members. This year we got one hundred new names, and of that number eighty-five attended our Mass. Members are also recruited from the Youth's Sodality; when they reach the age of eighteen years, they are transferred to us. A thorough visitation by Council members, assisted by the Youth Guardians, brought us very good results, gaining over eighty this year.

We take this opportunity to congratulate the committee of the Youth's Sodality for their great work for the youth of the parish. We readily admit that without their help and unselfish co-operation with us the Men's Sacred Heart Sodality would be in a much less healthy condition.

Our monthly "Bulletin" is delivered to the home of each member and helps to keep him well in touch with Sodality affairs, attendance, coming events, etc. In return the men show a wonderful loyalty and pride in their Sodality, and this is reflected not merely in their attendance but in their generosity with subscriptions and secret bag collections, the proceeds of which purchased two beautiful statues, a crucifix to stand over our High Altar and our new marble altar rails. As with all thriving Sodalities, its progress cannot be attributed to any one factor. We would like to pay tribute to the encouragement of our parish priest, to the zealous spirit which shows itself in the work of all the officers, council, prefects, sub-prefects and to the fidelity of the ordinary members.

**Men's Sodality, 1959:** President: Patrick Smith. Secretaries: Patrick Keane and Charles Lynn. Council: George Oliver, George Purcell, James Ward, James Brennan, James O'Hanlon, John Coleman, Thomas Ennis.

C. L.

## STATISTICS OF MASS ATTENDANCE FOR 3 YEARS

	1957	1958	1959
January	1,028	1,087	1,269
February	1,071	1,238	1,319
March	1,092	1,195	—
April	—	1,083	1,206
May	1,103	1,277	1,343
June	1,093	1,246	1,309
July	1,038	1,163	1,279
August	965	1,013	1,134
September	1,053	1,244	1,403
October	1,082	1,292	1,397
November	1,107	1,243	—
December	1,035	1,026	—

## PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

### Organised by the Men's Sodality

This year we were again permitted to hold another Pilgrimage, our seventh, to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Co. Mayo, on Sunday, the 12th of July.

Most of those travelling with us, 500 in all, have been doing so from the time of our first venture in 1952. Our seven special double deck buses left our Church at 9.15 a.m. to join up with our special Radio Train leaving Westland Row at 10 o'clock.

Our pastor, Very Rev. D. Delaney, P.P., our spiritual director, Rev. Fr. Griffith, C.C., and Rev. Fr. P. Hennessy, C.C., were present to look after our spiritual needs, and they had a very busy day.

Dr. Barry Hooper supervised the needs of our invalids. Our train moved out to time. A hymn played on the organ by Brian Moran and led by the choir from the studio van, followed by the Five Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, got us under way. This over our spiritual director moved down the centre corridor carriages saying good morning and wishing everyone a real good day.

Mr. Tony O'Toole of Brandon Road kindly consented to make a film strip of this Pilgrimage, and having started at Mourne Road before we moved off, he took some further shots at Westland Row as the pilgrims left the buses. Later he moved along the carriages between Rosaries taking "shots," and again at the bus field in Knock when we lined up for our procession to salute Our Lady before going to lunch. This lunch had to be rushed a little because of the fact that our train was delayed a few miles out from Claremorris, losing one hour caused by an accident to the leading train run by the Ladies Sodality, St. Andrew's Church, Westland Row. An altar boy fell from this train which was running at 60 miles an hour at the time, and we learned later that apart from a severe shock and a few scratches he was alright. Our Lady had indeed heard the pilgrims' prayers that day and softened his fall.

We encountered showers of rain while in the buses from Claremorris station to Knock. It soon stopped as we alighted at the bus field.

We all assembled in our places at the Shrine for the Stations of the Cross, Rosary and Sermon at 3.15 p.m. At 4 o'clock we attended Mass, where twelve priests were kept very busy giving out Holy Communion to the vast throng. The Blessing of the Sick and Benediction followed, during which impressive ceremony it was hard to hold back a tear when one listens to "Lord that I may see," "Lord that I may hear," "Lord that I may walk," etc. I think this a very sad part of the day as is also the consoling prayers for the invalids on the long train journey.

As we waited our turn to get on the buses, we noticed Tony O'Toole on the top of the buses "shooting" away with his camera, and even when the bus was moving, this did not stop him making full use of his time.

Our train left Claremorris at 6.30 p.m. The Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, with a special Blessing for all by Fr. Griffith, saw us after a trouble-free run at Westland Row at 10.05 p.m. Our special buses were waiting outside the station to bear us back to our parish after a most happy day of prayer.

We can't place on record that we had a cure amongst our invalids this year, but we can truthfully say that they felt much better having made this trip, for they felt much relieved to know that we of this parish were with them in prayer that Our Lady would lighten their burden of pain, and the fact that they saw other invalids worse off than themselves made them feel less sorry for themselves.

In conclusion we wish to thank our pastor, Fr. Delaney, the stewards and handmaids of the Shrine Committee, the Knights of Malta and all the other organisations and people without whose help and co-operation this great event could never have taken place.

C. L.



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## CONVENT OF MERCY

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Adjoining the Convent is a Food Centre which is under the Catholic Social Service Conference.

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# THE

# Women's Sodality

St. Paul in his Epistles frequently admonishes the early Christians to cherish their faith, to tend to it carefully. To Timothy he says, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life" (1 Tim. 6.12). To the Corinthians he writes, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, do manfully, and be strengthened" (1 Cor. 16.13). St. Paul warned the early Christians because they lived in a world that was utterly corrupt and unbelieving and were exposed on all sides to temptations.

To-day we live in a similar world. But how can we follow the advice of St. Paul which is as true for us as for the early Christians? We must cherish our faith by an outward avowal of it and the carrying out of our religious duties.

One of the duties of a good Catholic is membership of a sodality. It is one of the general practices of religion which is known to everyone but which not everyone sees the value of. Some refrain from membership with a series of pretexts which really show that the faith which they avow is not based on a very solid foundation

and that sodality membership which should be for them an aid to their salvation is cast aside as of no consequence. Catholic mothers have a tremendous responsibility to see that they are fitted to the task of providing for their families a truly Christian upbringing. In no better way can they do that than by membership of their parish sodality. Their good example to the family will be far more vital to the faith of their family than any words of advice that they might give.

The women's sodality membership exceeds 2,000, and over 1,700 attend both the Friday meeting and the Sodality Mass on Sunday morning each month. This is an achievement for the prefects and members. To those who are not members, the admonitions of St. Paul act as an advice and a warning and are a repetition of the words of Our Divine Saviour "Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when He cometh shall find watching"—Luke 12.37.

A. M.

## A PEEP INTO AMERICA

Last summer a group of Irish teachers reverted to the role of students and went back to college on a special course of study. Nothing very remarkable about that you will say, but to us teachers turned students it was a very exciting and wonderful experience. This was an educational adventure with a difference. The course of study we embarked upon was none less than a comprehensive review of the American system of education, and the college we attended, the State University, New Paltz, New York State. We were the first group of Irish teachers to be sent to America for this type of study, and the trip was sponsored by the United States Office of Education under its cultural exchange programme.

We were received at the University with a warm American welcome which made us feel that we were very special visitors indeed. The campus was a hive of industry, with thousands of students engaged in their various courses of study. During our stay we met and spoke with many of them and found a big number of Irish Americans among them. For that matter we met so many people anxious to trace their Irish ancestry that we wondered if there was an American at all who hadn't a drop of Irish blood in him somewhere along the line. During our stay at college we listened to lectures, studied publications and sat in classrooms. In the lecture hall we got a review of the American system of education, its aims, ideals and methods of teaching. In the classroom we saw the system in action and so were in a good position to appraise and evaluate.

Our overall impression was one of admiration for the wonderful facilities afforded both to teacher and pupil. The average number of pupils per class is about twenty-five. With an arrangement like this each child receives more individual attention than is possible under our system, where the teacher is often called upon to handle a class from fifty to sixty children. Furthermore, each elementary school is deeply concerned with the individual differences amongst its pupils. Hence, there is a system of child guidance and specialised courses which are second to none.

Under this system the backward child is a subject for special study, and he is guided along the lines most suited to his individual talents and capabilities. The gifted child is also spotted and marked out for special treatment.

This vast structure of educational machinery involves a staggering amount of expenditure, and when studying it we must not forget the immense wealth of the United States. That consideration should be a steadying influence if we think of comparing it with any similar project at home in Ireland.

We were very interested in the elementary school curriculum, which embraces among others such important subjects as citizenship culture, nature study and elementary science. There is probably less stress placed upon the fundamental subjects at the elementary stages and, consequently, our children may be more advanced in the arts of reading, arithmetic, composition and spelling than their American counterparts of the same age group.

The kindergarten division especially took our fancy. Here, too, of course, the groups are very small compared with ours and each classroom is furnished with sleeping cots, where the little ones take a half hour's nap at an appointed time each day. Formal instruction is kept at a minimum and a variety of suitable activities is provided to keep the child usefully busy during his school hours. He is block building, painting, moulding, or even busy at the carpentry bench, but never is he subjected to sitting at desks imbibing academic knowledge which the American system regards as unsuited to the immaturity of the five-year-old mind.

Who pays for this gigantic educational effort. The taxpayer is the only source of aid. School expenditures constitute the largest single programme in the budget of both local and State Government; of every dollar spent by the State in the last year over forty cents was devoted to education.

Due to the many different forms of religious beliefs and persuasions of American society and since children of all creeds attend and sit in the same classroom side by side, religion in any form is not taught in the public school. How does this effect the Catholic population. Parents who do not wish their children educated in a non Catholic environment have to send them to private

(Continued on Page 43)



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## THE SODALITY OF OUR LADY MOURNE ROAD (Women's Branch)

Nearly everyone has heard of Our Lady's Sodality in Drimnagh, but few realise the spiritual duties of each sodalist and the various types of church work they carry out.

Firstly, there is the Sodality Mass which is held on the third Sunday of every month at 9 a.m. A general meeting takes place in the Girls' School at 8 p.m. on the Monday after the first Sunday of every month and also at 12 noon every Sunday morning, during which Our Lady's Office is recited. The approximate number on the roll at the moment is 180; this figure does not include members between the ages of 14 and 18 who have not yet reached the stage of being received. All members are under the spiritual directorship of the Rev. Fr. J. Casey, C.C. Sr. M. Margaret is the present Directress over the senior section and Sr. M. Aquin Directress over the junior section.

The various types of work carried out by the sodalists is divided into nominal sections:—

(1) Pioneer: One particular group of girls form the council of the Pioneers. These girls attend to the distribution of the Pioneer Magazine every month and the enrolment of members, etc.

(2) Propagation of the Faith: Subscription of 2s. 2d. per year is collected from parishioners for the Propagation of the Faith, which certain members of the sodality agree to collect monthly.

(3) Sewing: This is a section few people have heard about. Members give a great deal of their time to the sewing and making of garments for the foreign missions, such as children's clothes, priests' garments and holy pictures.

(4) Catholic papers and magazines are on sale every Sunday morning in the kiosk outside the church, a member of the Sodality is always on duty there.

It is certain that few parishioners will realise that the new carpets for the altars in the church were also made by members of the Children of Mary.

Used stamps are also collected by members. These stamps are sold by the Missioners and the money received goes towards the education and support of young priests in foreign lands. At a rough calculation it is reckoned that if every person in Ireland saved one used stamp each year, this would pay for the support of one Missioner in the Far East or Africa for twelve months.

M. B.

### CATHERINE MCAULEY (Continued)

in. Her sister was reconciled to the Church before her death, and her sister's children were one by one received into the Church. When Mrs. Callaghan fell ill, Catherine visited her, and Mrs. Callaghan too became a Catholic. Some years later Mr. Callaghan died, converted on his death bed.

This was a rich harvest, but Catherine's work was only beginning. She inherited a large fortune from the Callaghans. At Baggot Street she had built a large house which became a social service centre, an orphanage and school. The work grew, other women joined Catherine at Baggot Street and soon with the advice of Archbishop Murray she decided to found a religious order, The Sisters of Mercy.

In her lifetime she founded convents at Cork, Carlow, Limerick, Galway, Birmingham, London, even in Newfoundland. There are now 25,000 Sisters of Mercy throughout the world, the second largest order in the Church. They continue her mission of mercy in all its forms, remembering the words of Our Lord, "As long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it unto me."

M. N.

## PIONEER TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION



Pioneer Group.

The Pioneer Council reports a very successful year. The Pioneer and Probation Registers show an increase of 120 members, and 40 new members have enrolled in the temporary Register.

The main event of the year was the Diamond Jubilee Rally, when about 500 members of Mourne Road Centre marched to Croke Park. We were pleased to note that some of our members who have left the parish came back to join us on that great day.

We take this opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks to all who helped to make the Jubilee Rally such a success. We would also like to express our thanks to the parish priest, Fr. Delaney, and the members of Our Lady's Sodality for the facilities granted to us in the Saint John Bosco Boys' Club.

A successful Rally took place in Our Lady's Hall on October 6th. Father Dargan gave a very inspiring lecture to 350 Pioneers of the parish and expressed a wish that each Pioneer celebrate this Jubilee Year of the Association by bringing at least one new member into the Association.

The members of the Pioneer Council meet every Sunday morning in the Saint John Bosco Boys' Club from 12 to 1 p.m. to receive applications for membership.

C. L.

### A PEEP INTO AMERICA (Continued)

schools. These schools are run by religious communities which depend largely for their existence on the fees paid to them.

And now, for a parting word let us have the subject off education aside, as we were glad to do, and take a look at the American scene in a less serious fashion. The big cities have to be seen to be believed, with their fine buildings, their skyscrapers, their noisy subways and fabulous super stores. In New York we visited the beautiful United Nations Building, climbed to the top of the Empire State and did all the things that tourists to any city will do.

In our travels to and fro we met Irish people from every one of the 32 counties. They are engaged in many and varied pursuits, are well to do and are greatly proud of their adopted homeland, which seems to have taken them very much to her heart. They chatted to us about Ireland and home and there was a trace of nostalgia in every voice. May we on their behalf extend to you, dear readers, their very best wishes for a holy and happy Christmas.

S. K.



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# CIVIC PRIDE

**E**ACH and every one of us at one time or another must have heard the expression "Dirty Dublin," and bubbled over with indignation at the idea that anyone could have the "neck" to refer to us in this way. Speaking for myself at any rate, I must say I always see red when I hear expressions like this, but when my wrath has subsided and I am again in a position to view the question dispassionately, I find that I am not so sure that the epithet is entirely misapplied, for every day of my life I see evidence that we are careless about appearances.

In England, at the moment, a fine of £5 is automatically imposed on anyone caught dropping even an empty cigarette packet on the street. Here in Ireland this is not so, though it is true to say that quite recently more interest is being shown in the way our cities and towns are being kept and certain good measures are being adopted to improve the position.

Now, our people are not naturally slovenly. One has only to take a stroll through any of the roads in Drimnagh and see the beautifully kept gardens (ever notice how many Drimnagh people win prizes at Garden Shows?) and the exquisite curtains on the windows to realise that our householders take great pride in the way their homes are kept. But unfortunately, this pride does not always extend to public property. What is everybody's business is nobody's business; that seems to be the mentality of most people, and while this is so, there is not much use talking about making our city tidier.

Once I caught one of the boys in my class hacking with a penknife the desk in which he was sitting. I asked him if his mother allowed him to mutilate the furniture in his home in this way and he looked at me with astonishment as if I were some sort of half-wit for having asked such a silly question. Of course she didn't, he said. In fact I had no need to ask such a question at all. I knew the boy well, better perhaps than his

own parents, and was well aware that he would not deface the most worthless object in his own home, or that would be most careful not to damage even in a small way the private property of another citizen, but where public property was concerned, that was an entirely different matter.

Public property, such as school desks, telephone kiosks or post office pens do not belong to any one individual; they belong to a vague entity known as the State and because the owner is not an individual who can be seen, talked to or heard, people who would not dream of damaging private property consider the abuse of such things as, at worst, a peccadillo.

Now, in speaking of such things, I am concerned entirely with the damage that arises through thoughtlessness and not with the type of thing carried on by delinquents who destroy property, public and private alike, through sheer villainy and who derive immense satisfaction from the act of destroying itself. No, I speak of people who cannot by any manner of means be considered delinquents; they are perfectly ordinary people and their minds are in no way warped, but even so I am convinced that they cost the State and public bodies more money annually than do the real delinquents, because they will not treat public property with the same care as they would their own.

While this carelessness about public property persists, how could you expect civic pride? Civic pride will only come when people have learnt to appreciate public property, and they can be taught this by each parent explaining to his child what exactly public property is and how it is paid for and by whom, and that careless handling of it may result in some perfectly innocent citizen being deprived of a service to which he is entitled, as well as the inevitable increase in rates and taxes. If this lesson were taught to each child and good example given on all occasions by adults, the seeds of civic pride would have been sown, and the rest would follow "as doth the night the day."

D. F.

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## CHURCH STEWARDING AND COLLECTING

Have you ever stopped to consider the work of stewarding and collecting at the church, or do you think that this work is rather a nuisance that you encounter when you go to Mass?

In former times this work was performed by the priests of the Church, but with the growth of the Church it was found that the priests would need to devote all their time to other duties. Accordingly, permission was given from Rome for laymen to assist at this work, and so the present system came into being.

From this it is very obvious that the men who carry out this work are really privileged because they are carrying out a duty originally performed by priests and, thus, leaving the priests free to attend to other more important religious duties.

To anyone who might consider that the steward who asks for co-operation when handling crowds in the church is a bit of a busy-body, please remember that the steward is only carrying out the instructions of the parish priest in all matters relating to services in the church.

Can you picture the confusion that would ensue at times like Christmas and Easter when thousands of people are attending Mass and Holy Communion if it were not for the services of the stewards in controlling and directing the people.

So next time you are asked by a steward to approach the altar by a particular route or to move to another position in the church, please do not feel offended. Instead, please say to yourself, this man is only carrying out the parish priest's instructions and I shall give him all the help I can. If all parishioners co-operated in this way, it would be immensely helpful to the stewards and also cultivate a more devout and respectful attitude in the church.

T. K.

## OUR OUTDOOR COLLECTORS

In the past year the weekly outdoor collection has been maintained at a high standard. The Committee and the Collectors combined to keep this collection at a remarkably high figure despite many difficulties, not the least being the weather.

To all the Collectors, both past and present, the parish priest and the clergy of the parish are most grateful, and they wish them all the blessings and graces of the Holy Season and every happiness in the coming year.

A. M.

## HOUSEHOLD HINTS

**Carpet Stains.** Freshly spilt ink on a carpet can be removed by covering the place at once with fine salt. When this becomes black, take it up and put down more.

**Grease Marks.** You can remove grease marks on leather by rubbing with a paste made of Fuller's earth and water. Leave them to dry and then wipe off. The marks will disappear.

**Old Table Cloths.** Old tablecloths need not be discarded. Cut out the best pieces into squares and hem-stitch them carefully. These squares are excellent for spreading over the cloth where the meat dish stands.

**Suede Jacket.** A suede jacket can be cleaned by rubbing over with a clean flannel dipped in turpentine. The pile can be raised by using a small wire brush.

**Silk Stockings.** Place a small piece of adhesive tape across the edge of the big toe nail to save from holes when wearing silk stockings.

**Net Veil.** To clean a net veil put it into a pillow case containing a good quantity of dry flour mixed with calcined magnesia.

## SPIRITUAL CARE OF THE SICK

Catholics should be careful to let the priests of the parish know whenever there is any serious illness in the family. In the case of a long illness or old age, the priest will bring Holy Communion regularly, even when there is no danger of death. Those who have the care of the sick should call the priest as soon as they find that the illness is serious. To put off calling the priest for fear of frightening the sick person is false charity. The earlier in his illness a person receives the Sacraments, the better can he prepare for death, and the better are his chances of being healed.

For a sick call, the following items should be prepared:—

Holy water, a crucifix, two blessed candles, a glass of ordinary water, a spoon, and if the priest is to give Extreme Unction, some cotton wool.

These articles should be ready by the time the priest calls, they should be on a table which is covered with a clean white cloth and placed near the sick person.

Pictures, statues and crucifixes can be a help to prayer and in keeping us mindful of God and the things of God. Every Catholic home should have a crucifix or some religious picture or statue in a place where all the family can see it.

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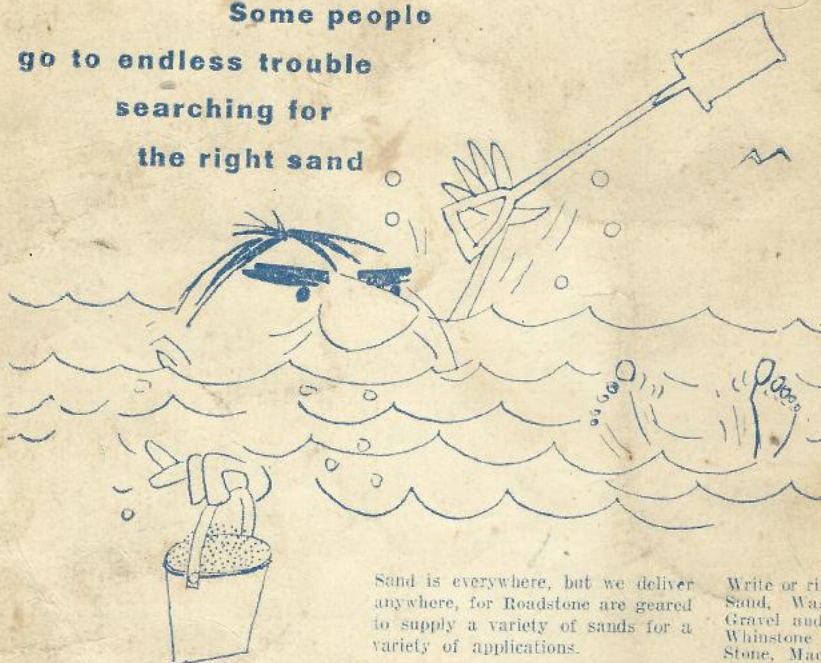
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