

Limerick Chronicle

— THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN THE REPUBLIC — 1970

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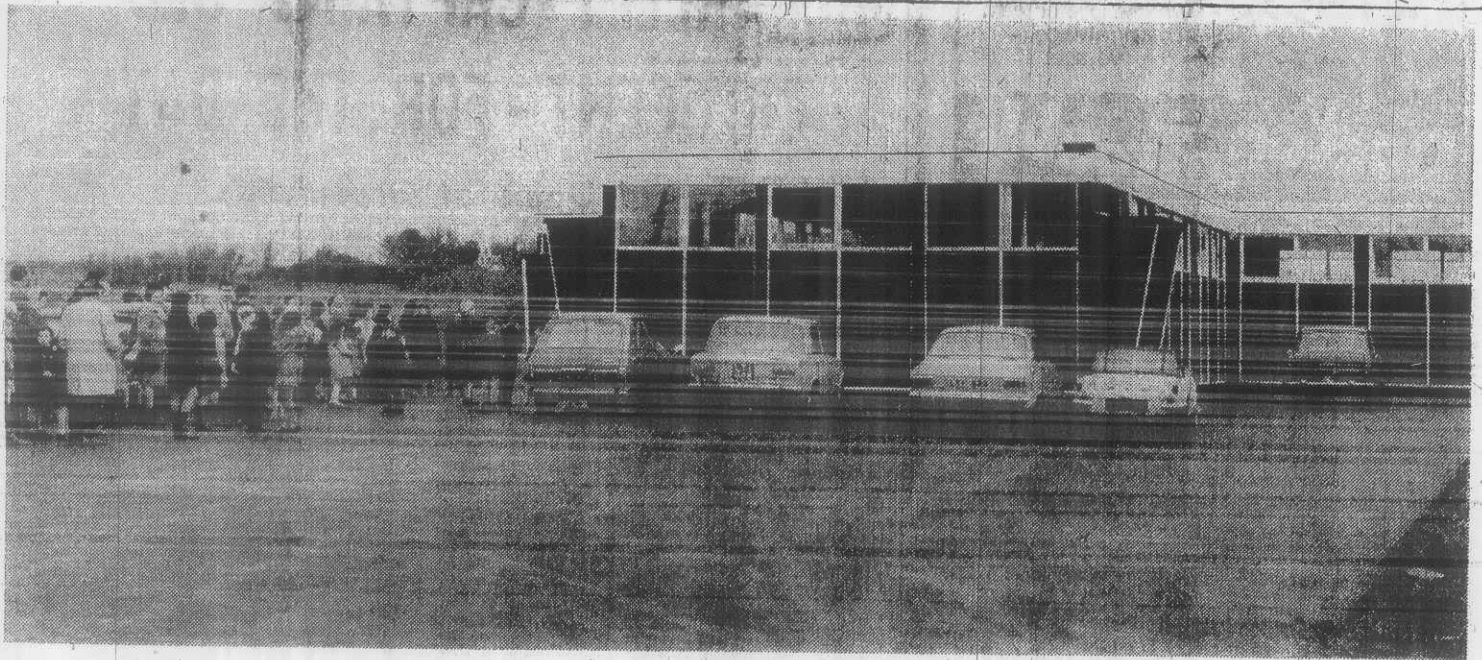
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The new church of Christ the King at Caherdavin was blessed and opened recently by the Bishop of Limerick, Most Rev. Henry Murphy.



The Bishop blessing the new church.

Sporting events supported

Sporting events in Limerick over the Christmas time were well supported. Feature, of course, was the two-day race meeting at Greenpark, where, despite the intense cold, big crowds turned out on both days. Betting on the tote, though, on both days was down. There were nine races on Saturday and one of them was won by a horse owned by Mrs. Malachy Skelly of the Trossachs, Clancy Strand. Mr. Ferdie Roche, a former President of Shannon R.F.C. supplied the shock 14/1 winner, Auto-Giro on Monday, and his Jockey carried the Shannon Rugby Club colours.

On Sunday, Limerick Soccer Club played to a gate of £1,051 when losing at the Markets Field to Finn Harps.

Other sporting events also attracted big patronage, including the Kelly Memorial rugby Cup tie at Greenfields, in which Young Munster beat Old Crescent.

Several people also took part in the Christmas Day swim at Corbally.

Population slows

The population of England and Wales is estimated at 48,988,000 in mid-1970—a rise of 161,000 from the previous year.

Figures issued by the Registrar General yesterday show that population growth has fallen over the last few years from its peak in the first half of the 1960s.

Births are falling too from their peak in 1964.

Deaths have tended to increase because there are more elderly, but mortality rates have not risen.

Christmas Crackers Flare-Up

LIMERICK'S top comedians, Tom and Paschal, made a triumphant return to the stage with their traditional Christmas show, revived after two years, at the City Theatre.

The show, which is brimful of laughter, music, song and dance, is really worth seeing. It fully lives up to expectations and, indeed, is very much on par with their highly successful "Christmas Crackers" shows of the past.

Tom and Paschal are seen at their best in some amusing sketches, though one or two of them are a little drawn out. This comical pair are ably assisted by Eamonn O'Connor, who also shows his versatility as an outstanding ventriloquist, and Gerry O'Brien. Of course, the show is not complete without the hilarious "Katie and Nonie" scene.

The guest artistes make no small contribution to this most enjoyable show. Each of them were given a fine ovation last night. The ever popular Danny Doyle shows once again why he is one of Ireland's top balladeers with a splendid selection of ballads and folk songs, highlighted by the brilliant rendering of "The Wee Wee".

Helen Jordan, the Dublin-born cabaret singer, gives the show a real swing with some popular numbers from "Swing". She obviously is an up-and-coming star.

The most heart-warming applause of the night was accorded to Louis Browne, the Athlone-born tenor, who has just completed a show with the famous Sadler Wells Opera Company in England. He highlighted his beautiful performance with the

magnificent rendering of the "Holy City". He is undoubtedly a tenor we will be hearing about for many years to come.

The local talent in the show is amply catered for. Limerick Girls' Pipe Band, the Nolan School of Dancers, Will Harris, and Master Michael O'Connor, the 13-year-old "Boy Soprano 1970", all help in a big way to the overall success of a fine production which will run to January 10 next.

T.P.

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