

'Restore Killeely's Paupers Graveyard'

By SEAMUS O CINNEIDE

THE MAYOR, Cllr. Tony Bromell, is to request Limerick Corporation to restore the sadly-neglected Paupers Graveyard at Killeely where hundreds of Limerick's unknown dead from the 1830s to the 1940s are buried.

Mayor Bromell, who was one of the cross-bearers in the Good Friday Way of the Cross procession from St. Munchin's Church to the graveyard, said:

"A place as holy and historic as this old graveyard, where hundreds of our nameless poor are buried, should be kept in a respectful condition. I am immediately going to propose that Limerick Corporation restore it under an Environmental Scheme."

Leisure park

Mayor Bromell is going to suggest to City Hall officials that the graveyard could easily be made into a quiet leisure park for local residents and the cross which crowns its summit be retained and an appropriate commemorative plaque to the unknown dead be erected.

Alderman Frank Prendergast, T.D., and Cllr. John Quinn, who also acted as cross-bearers in the procession through Old and New Thomondgate, said they would be fully supporting Mayor Bromell's proposal.

Almost a 1,000 St. Munchin's parishioners of all age groups took part in the Way of the Cross, which was organised by St. Munchin's Parish youth group.

The First Station of the Cross was performed in the church. Then, at various stops on the way to the graveyard, the other Stations were performed and appropriate hymns sung by the clergy and the vast attendance.

Officiating

The officiating clergy were Very Rev. Micheal Canon O Mainnin, P.P.; Rev. David Browne, C.C.; Rev. Fr. Murphy, C.C., and Rev. Fr. O'Connor, C.C.

At the Last Station, performed under the shadow of the gaunt wooden cross on the graveyard's summit, Canon O Mainnin said that the lesson of Christ's death on the cross on Good Friday was that through our sufferings we would be rewarded for our faithfulness by a triumphant spiritual joy that Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday guaranteed us all.

Thanking all who participated—and especially the youth group for organising the Way of the Cross, and Mayor Bromell, Alderman Prendergast, T.D., and Cllr. Quinn for their participation—Canon O Mainnin expressed a



Leaving St. Munchin's Church for Killeely on the Way of the Cross.

Pictures: A.F. FOLEY.

hope that the graveyard—where they specially commemorated the Unknown Dead Poor that evening—would be fittingly restored soon.

Cross-bearers

The other cross-bearers were:

Richard Hogan, Joe Croke, Des O'Leary, Paddy O'Halloran, Paul Vaughan, Sonny Bourke, Cyril Murphy and John Power.

The following acted as traffic and procession stewards: Paddy Galvin, Seamus Kiely (Thomond RFC) and Frank McInerney and several other members of St. Munchin's Youth Club.

On behalf of the youth club, Richard Hogan presented Mayor Bromell, Alderman Prendergast, T.D., and Cllr. Quinn with copies of this year's The Munchin Review a magazine catering for St. Munchin's parish historical, folklore and community affairs—at the conclusion of the ceremony.