The night I saw the ‘Tans arrive at our door in Bishop Street’

GERALDINE O’Toole’s faith in God is simple and unshakeable. She comes from a generation of Limerick women whose lives were shaped by the teaching of the Catholic Church. Like so many others, she knew the Church as a source of comfort and guidance. Her faith was a lifeline, something she clung to during times of hardship and uncertainty.

Geraldine was born in Bishop Street to a family of nine children. Her father was a docker and her mother a housewife. They lived in a small flat on the second floor of a tenement building, which had no running water or electricity. Despite these challenges, Geraldine’s mother instilled in her the importance of prayer and the need to be humble and respectful to others.

One of Geraldine’s fondest memories is of her first communion in St. Ailbe’s, the church she attended every Sunday. She remembers standing on a ladder to reach the top of the choir stall, and being so nervous that her knees were shaking. But once she saw the priest, she felt a sense of peace and tranquility.

Geraldine’s life changed when she met her husband, Bill. They married in 1955 and had five children. Bill was a docker like her father, and they lived in a flat above a shop in Bishop Street. Geraldine remembers the streets being noisy and chaotic, but she was happy. She loved being a part of the community, and the Church was a big part of that community.

One of the most memorable moments of her life was when she and a group of women from the Bishop Street Women’s Club went on a trip to Galway. They stayed in a hotel and visited the Claddagh, a neighborhood known for its traditional pubs. Geraldine was floored by the beauty of the place, and she still remembers the feeling of being so far away from home.

Despite the challenges she faced, Geraldine remained faithful to her faith. She continued to attend church every Sunday, and she made sure her children did the same. She believed that by following the teachings of the Church, she could lead a better life.

In the end, Geraldine’s faith never faltered. It was a constant presence in her life, something she clung to during times of hardship and uncertainty. She passed away in 2001, leaving behind a legacy of faith and devotion. Her children carry on her legacy, and they too remain committed to their faith.

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DEPUTY EDDIE WADE
M.C.C.
Drogheda, Co. Louth
Tel. 041 351457

DEPUTY EDWARD WADE, M.C.C., will be available to meet with constituents at the following dates:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th
Stallard’s Inn
Botton Lodge
11.30 a.m.
Dunleer
12.00 p.m.
Bessbrook
12.30 p.m.
Petherton
12.45 p.m.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 12th
Milford, Street
Cork Street
11.30 a.m.
Rathdrum Centre
12.00 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17th
Kilcullen
Newbridge
11.30 a.m.
Kilbride
12.00 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24th
Drumcondra
12.00 p.m.
Fenagh
12.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3rd
Shannon
11.00 a.m.
Kilrush
11.30 a.m.

Full-time Constituency Office: Old Credit Union, Cabra, Co. Dublin.
Open daily Monday to Friday, Tel. 01 322 0616 Fax 01 322 0615.

ST. AILBE’S SCHOOL
TIPPERARY TOWN
OPEN EVENING
Thursday, February 22, 2001
For Parents and 6th Class Pupils currently in Primary School
7.30 p.m. • All welcome
ENROLMENT NOW TAKING PLACE

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IRISH BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE
Red Cross Bloodline
185-189 South Street
Dublin 1
Tel: 833 1500

Some People are Alarmed when they see Blood
We’re Alarmed when We Don’t
PLEASE GIVE BLOOD
VENUE: The Commercial Centre
Doon, Co. Limerick
DATE: Tuesday, February 19th, 2001
TIME: 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.