

THE ROSCREA REVIEW

No. 26.

Quarterly of the Cistercian College (Roscrea) Union

Autumn 1974



NEW POOL

Shown on the Left

Bring your
Swimming togs
and try it out
on Union Day,
27th October



JAMES FEHILY,
Architect of our New Pool

VALEDICTORY – THOMAS P. HAUGH

The time has arrived for me to vacate the Office of President of our Union. I have had the privilege of an extended term running from April, 1972 to October, 1974. The extension resulted from the Union's decision to change "Union Day" from April to October thus making it coincide with the past v present matches and the competition for the Lord Abbot's Cup. The latter is now awarded to the winner of a Pitch & Putt Competition played over the College Course. We now have a full programme at the College on Union Day and it should be well supported.

The elongation of my term as President afforded me the unique opportunity of seeing the Union's great project brought to fruition. I had the honour of presiding at the Opening Function—the laying of the foundation stone in April, 1973 and of handing over the completed Swimming Pool to the Lord Abbot on your behalf in June, 1974. This was a very historic occasion in the annals of the C.C.R.U. and I will always cherish its memory as I feel sure also will all the past men who witnessed the simple but impressive ceremony. It was wonderful to see so many turn up for the big occasion and our sincere thanks is due to the Lord Abbot Dom Colmcille and the President of the College, Fr. Peter for entertaining over 700 on that great day, June 2nd, 1974.

With the generous support of past students the College has now been provided with a modern indoor heated swimming pool at no cost to the College. The decision to provide the pool was taken by the Union in May,

a year in a congenial and convenient atmosphere so that the spirit of the 1970. The first Salvo in the Campaign was fired by my predecessor Gerard Bates in January, 1971 and the last paragraph of his letter addressed to all past students is well worth repeating here.

"Now, dear past students, may I end by asking you to consider the great joy you would have experienced as a boy at the College, had you been told that the past students were going to erect a Swimming Pool at the College for your use? May I ask you now as a mature man to consider the great assurance in their work such a venture successfully accomplished by the Past Students, would undoubtedly give the very worthy community at Roscrea who has done so much for us all? I at any rate am satisfied that you will not preclude that joy to the present generation of students nor deny that assurance to the Community".

What past student would not be touched by that appeal?

The next step was to organise the collection of subscriptions by the members in the various Branches—the target aimed at in 1971 was £30,000—unfortunately due to rising costs the target turned out to be a moving one finally settling at about £65,000. No greater tribute could be paid to those dedicated people in the Branches who visited all known past men, than to see their target being achieved, the pool planned, provided and paid for in the space of three years. Were it not for their dedication, their direction by the untiring Gerard Bates and their en-

couragement by our energetic and devoted General Secretary, Fr. Dermot and our Central Committee the job would not have been done so efficiently and expeditiously. All their efforts would of course not have borne fruit without the generous and ready response of our subscribers—you the past students. To our Architect Jim Fehily and Quantity Surveyor, Padraic Mulcahy, who designed the pool and looked after the technical details I would again convey my thanks and appreciation. The Builder Dan White, deserves credit for a job well done and on schedule. Fr. Dermot, in addition to his secretarial duties which he performed so efficiently took on the added responsibility of supervising the building operations and planting of the pool surrounds which were very much admired by those attending the Official Opening. Many very generous past students provided interest free loans to obviate the necessity of borrowing to meet payments due to the builder.

Although my term of office was longer than normal I failed to get round to the Branches as I had intended. Apart from Dublin and the Midlands there were no Branch Social Functions held. While these were missed I felt that if the efforts necessary to organise a local Social were put into the Pool Campaign it would be of more direct benefit in achieving our objective. Having achieved it I would recommend that Branches should now try to bring their members together at least once Union will be preserved. There are

now many younger past students who have the necessary energy and drive to get the Social end of the Union into motion again. Turning to the College one is struck by the number of second generation students attending. The third generation has in fact commenced. This is a healthy development and one that would ensure continuity and the carrying on of the established traditions. Other notable features are the high standards and continued success achieved in the academic and athletic fields, achieved by dedicated staff and students. Past students from Roscrea are playing a positive and useful service in the political, economic, social and cultural progress of our country as well as in many places overseas.

Over the past fifteen years or so I have been visiting Mt. St. Joseph fairly regularly and particularly during my term as President. During these visits I have revived many old acquaintances and made many new ones. I have been received and entertained by very many friends. All our Central Committee and General Meetings were cordial and progressive, even if a little protracted at times. I would like to convey to each and every one my sincere appreciation for the honour conferred on me and for their wholehearted support for our project. It was indeed a great experience to hand over a Swimming Pool to the Lord Abbot on your behalf. If through the use of the new pool such swimming skills are acquired as to enable even one life to be saved in the future then indeed our efforts will have been worthwhile.

SPLASH!

The pool was blessed and officially opened by the Lord Abbot, Dom Colmcille O'Toole on Sunday, 2nd June. It was a beautifully fine day.

Many of you remember the laying of the foundation stone over a year ago—it rained, it rained all day, and it was April 1st! But in spite of the day that was in it, very big crowds of pastmen and their families came to see the beginnings of the pool. Those who repeated the journey on 2nd June, 1974 feared for a while that nature would play the same tricks again. But no, after midday the clouds cleared away and grey skies turned to blue and Roscrea looked at its best.

As was to be expected most of the action was in the vicinity of the new pool. Since the building of the pool and its surrounding landscaping, the courtyard at the back of the College has taken on a completely "new look." You remember how drab and exposed it always seemed to be? Maybe it was the varying heights of the buildings and the new parts cutting in on the square that did it but on that afternoon the old courtyard looked very interesting. Of course the tables and chairs set out around the area gave a gay air to the place. Colour was added by the dresses of the many groups of ladies who stood around and chatted. Not that colour is absent nowadays from the everyday life of the courtyard. The clothes which the students wear are as colourful as any flock of butterflies.

The weather being so fine it was decided by the Sisters to turn the day into a kind of Garden Party, so all refreshments were served in the courtyard. The children made great use of the "Lemonade and Bun Bar." The buffet opened after the blessing of the pool and Dr. Holmes Ievers' historic plunge.

The swimming coaches from the Garda Depot in Templemore had arranged a series of races with the students. Paul Heslin, a Third Year student at that time, beat all before him and was acclaimed Champion Swimmer of the College. Dr. Tom Ambrose and Dr. Oliver Leavy tied in the Past Pupils' Final. In a "re-swim" of two lengths Tom won by a very short finger! The winners were presented with specially engraved medals to commemorate the event.

The most enjoyable event of the evening was the "free for all" that followed the races. Fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, all piled in for a dip. Richard Liffey and Jim Phelan were seen in the shallow end with two tiny tots hanging around their necks having a whale of a time. At one head count there were said to be fifteen Liffeys in the pool!

Presentation

While the fun was still going on in the Swimming Pool on the 22nd June, the Central Committee of the Union met quietly in the Guest House. There the President of the Union, Tom Haugh, and the Chairman of the Swimming Pool sub-Committee, Gerard Bates on behalf of their colleagues on the Central Committee presented the General Secretary, Fr. Dermot with a tape recorder, a collection of tapes and a beautiful library of art books. This was a token of their appreciation for the work he had done for the Swimming Pool and the Union. In his spare time Fr. Dermot teaches Art in the College.

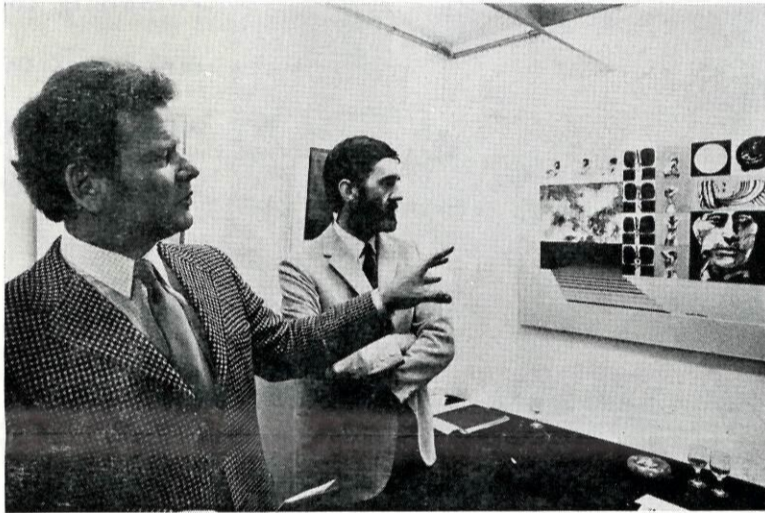
The Dublin Celebration Dinner

Dr. Tom Ambrose hosted the dinner. It was held to celebrate the completion of the building of the Swimming Pool for the College. The venue was the Shelbourne Hotel on Saturday 25th May. The guests were a complete cross-section of Roscrea Pastmen from Simon Coyle the Secretary of the Dublin Branch who left just a couple of years ago, to Very Reverend Fr. Riordan of pre-war I vintage. The President of the College, Fr. Peter Garvey, the General Secretary, Fr. Dermot and representatives from the other branches were all there.

After a splendid meal, beautifully served, one of main objectives of the gathering was attended to—the presenting to Gerard Bates and Noel Windle tokens of their colleagues appreciation of the work they had put into the collecting of funds for the building of the Pool. The Branch

had a special painting of the new Pool done by a Dublin artist and this very apt gift was presented to Gerard Bates. A beautiful cut-glass decanter was presented to Noel Windle. Dr. Ambrose gave a brief speech outlining the work done by both men, and the high standard of loyalty and zeal which they displayed.

Toasts and speeches followed and an enjoyable time was had by all. The highlights of the evening were "Buttons and Bows" sung by Fr. Riordan, all joining in the chorus. "Cinderella" — Dublin version — rendered by Conor Massey; and by special request and persuasion of Ron Massey, Fr. Peter sang the Garvey party piece of the "Cats Concerts" of the 1950's — "Two Little Girls in Blue". The years have done nothing to lessen the richness and sweetness of the singer and the song.



Senator Gus Martin opening an exhibition for Walter Cole at the Emmet Gallery.

CAREERS

Now that competition for all university courses has become so competitive, it is inevitable that a good number of boys finishing their secondary education will have to look to careers in other non-university spheres. With this in view it is proposed to set out some ideas for consideration. One field that has developed and indeed is developing rapidly now is radio and electronics.

A rewarding and interesting career is available in the world of radio and electronics. Due to its rapid expansion and unlimited horizons this field creates thousands of highly-paid posts each year. Thus there is a continuous search for suitably-qualified men. There are available courses leading to careers in the following.

Marine communications, radar technology, radio engineering, aviation communication, industrial electronics, electronic engineering, F.M. technology, transistor technology, electrical radio and television maintenance installation and servicing.

Unlike other careers, where training periods extend from three to seven years a student may be fully qualified in from six to eighteen months, depending on the particular course he is pursuing.

Briefly the opportunities may be in either of the following:

(1) **Manufacture:** Due to its rapid expansion there exists a variety of very interesting careers. This includes the production of valves, transistors, electronic components, radios, television, transmitters, communication and navigational equipment, computers and general electronic apparatus.

In this branch of the industry a qualified student may pursue any of the more specialised fields such as design, sales, research, testing or assembly.

(2) **In Operation:** A qualified student may be employed on board ship where he is given officer status and placed in control of a complete worldwide communications system as well as a wide variety of navigational equipment. This is generally regarded as being one of the most interesting and rewarding careers making it possible for a young man to assume a position offering good remuneration and good prospects of advancement after only a comparatively brief training period. In this branch of the industry there are also a number of vacancies in aviation communications, broadcast and television stations.

(3) **In Maintenance:** This side of the industry includes such interesting careers as studio equipment maintenance in radio and television broadcast transmitters as well as the maintenance of marine, aviation, business and domestic radio and television installations.

For young men starting out in life there is no greater anxiety than the uncertainty of employment. The choice of a career therefore is a matter requiring the most careful consideration and often proves a perplexing problem to parents and guardians. In this respect a career in radio and electronics is well worthy of consideration; offering as it does among other things, continuity of employment under excellent and ever improving conditions.

— GERARD HOULIHAN

UNION DAY

On Sunday 27th October this year we will hold Union Day at the College. The main events of the day will be the Annual General Meeting of the Union; the Union Mass said in the College Chapel for our departed colleagues; the Golf Championship played on the College Pitch and Putt Course for the Abbot's Cup; Past v Present Rugby match and the Union Dinner in the College, presided over by the Lord Abbot and the new President of the Union.

It is a very full programme. Come along, enjoy yourself and meet old friends.

Quote from Carmel

The wisdom of God is found in silence and solitude. The wisdom of men in talk and togetherness. This seems to be the contemporary pattern. For long ages the Bible evidence was accepted that there is a time for speech and a time for silence. Now there is no time for silence and solitude is a thing of the past. Speech on the other hand has come up the scale. Talk is a form of sharing. Togetherness is community. These are the magic words which no one may question. So sharing must be a virtue and community an ideal, no matter what kind of sharing or what level community . . .

We must not suppose that in group discussion, erroneous slants automatically neutralize each other. It is remarkable that almost every step that led to the crucifixion of Our Lord was the fruit of group discussion. There was each time enough support and fellow-feeling to foster the idea that it was right "in the circumstances" to put an innocent man to death. Is there no lesson in this for us? Human nature has not since lost its tendency to be the lowest common denominator. Only by prayer and the wisdom of God can any gathering of men be saved from shallowness.

OBITUARIES

Michael Dolan (Fr. Pius O.D.C.) 1912-16 was a native of Athlone. When he finished his studies in Roscrea he entered the Discalced Carmelite Order at Loughrea in September 1916. He was ordained to the priesthood in June 1924. A Holy Ghost Father who was ordained with him was John Charles McQuaid, later to become the renowned Archbishop of Dublin.

Fr. Pius was for a time Prior of the Carmelite Monastery at Kensington, London. In 1948 he was elected Provincial. He died in June of this year. May he rest in peace.

Kieran P. Egan, 1931-32 of Athlone; James J. Sweeney, B.E. 1927-'30 of Thurles; Francis English 1938-'39 of Tipperary Town; all died recently. May we offer their family and relations our deepest sympathy, may they rest in peace.

The Union Mass on October 27th will be offered for these and the many other colleagues who have gone before us, some of whose names are known to God alone.

The Lament of the Returned Irish Emigrant

The church still stands among the elms, the tombstones all around;
The yews still cast their shade across the holy ground.
The frost of thirty years lies white upon my exile's head
And lichen'd names call back to life this village of the dead.

I wander down the winding road and in the convent gate,
An acolyte that comes for Mass, some thirty years too late.
The chapel door is open yet, as on that parting day;
The font still asks a passing prayer for John and Ann O'Shea.

The wee red lamp still trembling glows among the shadows dark,
And all the change of changing year has left no slightest mark.
I bend my knee and thank my God—O Blessed be His Name!
One sacred spot in all the world will ever be the same.

I say my prayer and dust my knees and go to ring the bell;
Will the portress still be Bernadette? We young lads loved her well.
At breakfast for the Forty Hours or Reverend Mother's Feast
Oul' Bernadette used do us proud, far better than the priest.

Her apple cheeks were all aglow, her smile was always gay,
For holiness is happiness, oul' Bernadette used say.
Terest was the sacristan, another walking saint—
She'd set the vestments twenty times and divil a complaint.

God bless the old harmonium too that Pius used to play,
As Tantum Ergo wheezing out on Benediction Day;
With the roses on the altar and the incense in the air;
No sooner were you in the door, but ye felt the power of prayer.

These holy recollections of the grand old days of yore
Were interrupted soon enough by the opening of the door.
I gazed up through the mist of years and saw with vast surprise
A mini-skirted whipster, with a veil and made-up eyes.

"Yes, my man?" sez the smart girsheen, but as soon as she'd begun
I doffed my hat and said real polite: "I'd like to see a nun."
She gave me a look that would poison a pup and said with a kind of sneer:
"I'm afraid, my man, I shall have to do—I'm the only nun that's here.
The rest of the sisters are old or sick or gone to a seminar,
Or off to the town on social work, or out for a drive in the car."

"What's yer name?" sez I, when I got me breath, and it came back kind
o' slow,
"I'm Sister Penelope Brown" sez she, "if that's what you want to know."
"And is oul' Paphnuntius still alive? Just tell me before I go."
"I'll go and see," says she (bold as brass), "For with her ye never know."

So poor Paphnuntius staggered in, clinging to chair and stick,
And tears coursed down her furried cheeks, and she cried: "Me darlin'
Mick."

"O sorra the day that you went away, and I'm glad 'tis back ye came,
But things is bad, and the world's gone mad, and the convent's not the same

There's never a moment of innocent fun, of joy, or prayer, or peace.
With the nuns all over the countryside, stravaigin' around like geese!
You'll meet them marchin' down the street, like peelers bould as brass
And gawping around, like the peelers too, at all the folk that pass.

Sure the chapel's lonely as the grave, except at the hour of Mass
When they're bawlin' and brayin' Protestant hymns like Patsy Donegan's
ass.

And the din and the noise would split your ears, ye'd hear it in Castlegar,
With the Benignus bangin' the banjo and Imelda the guitar.

Do ye mind that forward Sister Rose—a brazen one at best?
She tortured us all with her modern talk—'renewal' and all the rest!
Sure a year ago, come Michaelmas Day, she leapt across the wall
With a little maneen in the National Bank, from the north of Donegal.

UNION DAY 1974

Cistercian College, Roscrea
Union

SUNDAY, 27th OCT.

Union Mass 2 p.m. in College Chapel

Annual General Meeting

Past v. Present Matches

Golf Championship — Cards from
12 Noon on.

Union Dinner

Tickets £1.50 (Students 50p)

And Berchmans too, with her grant M.A.—you'll remember her for sure—
She started sociological stuff, and talkin' about the poor;
So she left the convent to work for God—her conscience thought it best!
Now she's married a guard, and 's feeding hens away out in Parteen West.

If Immaculate Heart were alive today, we know what we should do;
Sure she'd pack their bags and belt them home—and right good riddance
too!
If things go on the way they are—sure you'll see the novices yet,
Playin' poker with the doctors' wives, and boozin' with the vet!"

I left the convent grounds that day, my head in sorrow bent,
Up twisting road to the old churchyard, in tears once more I went.
I stood at the grave of Father Pat, to the holy man I spoke:
Was he wasting his time in heaven or what, with religion becoming a joke?

Oh, how could he preach to the people now, on the Pillar and Ground of
Truth,
With the clergy all at the races, and the women in Maynooth?
And the faintest ghost of a whisper came down from heaven's gate:
"Tis no longer Faith and Fatherland, son, 'tis only Church and State."

NEWS ABOUT PASTMEN

Dr. Con Foley, 1960-'66 of Ard
Caoin, Sligo is engaged to be
married.

Tom Garvey, 1956-'61 of New Inn,
Co. Galway was married last July
to Gene Scott of Galway.

Michael Stapleton, 1960-65, joined
the Army Cadets when he finished
in Roscrea. He is now stationed in
Athlone where he married last
August.

Vivian Lavan, 1960-62, a dis-
tinguished member of the Dublin
Branch and a former chairman,
was married in August to Una
McCullagh. Vivian is a well-
known barrister.

Frank Cullen 1961-'65, another
officer of the Dublin Branch who
hailed from Coyne's Cross, Ashford,

Co. Wicklow was married early in
September to Paula McConnell.
Frank is Marketing Manager for
Fiat (Ireland) Ltd.

Fergal O'Gara, 1962-67, married
Joan Langan at St. Muredach's
Cathedral, Ballina, this summer,
and they are going to the U.S.A.

Pat Keane, 1963-68, who now lives
in Artane, Dublin, got an Honours
B.Comm. degree in 1971. He
qualified as a Chartered Accountant
this summer. Pat rowed for U.C.D.
and in 1969 and 1970 they won
the Maiden Eights and Junior
Eights Championship of Ireland.

Very Reverend Patrick Moore joined
the Holy Ghost Fathers when he
left Roscrea in 1945. He was sent
to Sierra Leone in 1953 where he
has served ever since. He is at

present Vicar General of the
diocese of Freetown and Bo.

Senator Gus Martin has recently
returned from the U.S.A. where he
was Visiting Professor at Hofstra
University, Long Island, New
York.

Eamonn Grennan, 1955-60 is also in
the U.S.A. teaching at the famous
Vassar College for Women.
Another Visiting Professor who re-
turns regularly to the U.S.A. is
Jim Fehily, who lectures to the
final architect students at
Rennsler Polytechnic Institute.
Jim is an international authority
on Town Planning and Landscape
Architecture.

Dr. Noel McCarthy, 1948-53 is
married and resident in America
for some years. He lectures at Yale

University on Gynaecology, and
has an extensive practice in this
field in New York.

Paddy Cox, 1948-53 is a lecturer in
Economics at Swansea University.

Sean Dinneen, 1959-61 is lecturing
in Mathematics at U.C.D.

Dr. Niall Gaffney, 1963-68 and **Dr.
Frank Thompson**, 1963-68 both re-
ceived their conferring in June of
this year. Niall married shortly
afterwards.

Dr. Liam Moloney 1947-'53 has re-
turned from England and he is
practising Dentistry in Dublin.
Another dentist who has returned
also from England is **Jim Phelan**
1961-66. He has set up practice in
Portlaoise.

THE OPENING AND BLESSING OF THE NEW POOL

Liturgy for Blessing of the New Swimming Pool

The programme and sequence of events for the opening day of the swimming pool on the 2nd of June 1974 may be of interest to those who were not present that day. It had been arranged that an evening Mass at 3 o'clock would be said in the college chapel for those who had to travel long distances. This was said by the General Secretary, Fr. Dermot, and the chapel was full at the time Mass began. Immediately afterwards the congregation and the rest of the visitors, who had been arriving in the meantime, assembled in the area between the alleys and the new swimming pool. This area in front of the alleys is now divided into two levels which are joined by a broad flight of steps leading down to the pool area which is a court paved with concrete slabs. From the top of the steps where a public address system had been set up, the President of the Union, Mr. Tom Haugh, addressed the assembled guests. He thanked them for coming, welcomed them on behalf of the Central Committee and expressed his appreciation for the wonderful help that had been given by the past students in financing the project. He also expressed his admiration for the work done by Gerard Bates and his associates in organising and collecting so many subscriptions. He also had a word of praise and thanks for the General Secretary and his work and organisation. He was glad to welcome the Lord Abbot from his travels abroad and expressed to him the thanks of all present for presiding at today's ceremonies.

In reply the Lord Abbot expressed his deep gratitude to the very many past students and friends who had contributed so generously to the project, making it possible that we assembled here together on this day so soon after the project had been launched with the work now completed and the pool ready for use. He not only thanked those who had given financial assistance but those also who by their service and organisation had contributed so generously to the work. He prayed that God would bless the project and the many students who would use it, and he hoped that in their enjoyment of the facilities provided they would be reminded of the spirit and loyalty of the pastmen who provided it.

Gerard Bates, the chairman of the swimming pool standing committee, spoke briefly of the help and co-operation which the branches of the Union had given in financing the project and although subscriptions had been generous the work could not have been undertaken without the wonderful co-operation of those pastmen who gave loans to meet the immediate financial needs of the contract. It would be well to remember that although the pool was now built these loans had still to be repaid and he asked those concerned to keep up their efforts to collect further subscriptions until all our financial obligations had been discharged. We had done well to date "let us go forward with courage and finish the job."

The blessing of the pool followed. Each one had been given a copy of the ceremony which is set out here below. Gerard Houlihan of Galway was M.C. for the occasion, and under his guidance all went well.

All: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Abbot: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Abbot: My dear friends, you have come here today to see the fruit of your magnificent generosity. For us this goodness of yours is also a sign of the still more magnificent generosity of our Heavenly Father, who has inspired such goodness in the hearts of each of you, and who has in many ways blessed you and your dear ones. As we are now about to bless this Swimming Pool, we join in thanking God for his goodness to you and in asking his blessing on you in the years ahead, and on the future generations of Roscrea Boys, who will benefit so richly from your munificence.

Abbot: O God, to whom every heart is an open book, to whom a silent wish is known as if spoken aloud, and from whom no secret thought is hidden infuse your Spirit into all who have made this work possible, and whom we carry in our hearts this day; guide them safely through the waters of life to the shore of your promised land. Through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

Scriptural Reading by the Architect, Jim Fehily.

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

God said: 'let the waters under the heaven come together into a single mass, and let dry land appear.' And so it was. God called the dry land 'earth' and the mass of the waters 'seas,' and God saw that it was good. This is the word of the Lord.

The Abbot then addressed the assembly.

After the address, the Prayer of the Faithful was introduced by the Abbot:

As we see the goodness of God in his creation, and of you, who have shared this goodness with us, we humbly pray:

President of the College:

For our past students, who have given so generously of their time and money towards this project, that the Holy Spirit may lead them; their wives and families to the fullness of their Christian vocation in peace, love and joy. Lord, hear us.

Secretary of the Union: For our architect, consultants, contractor and workers, who have helped build this pool, that God may come to them and build his dwelling place in their souls. Lord, hear us.

Gerard Bates, Representative of the Past Students: For the boys who will use the pool, that they may be protected from all danger, and may go forth to live their Christian lives, strengthened and encouraged by their years in Roscrea. Lord, hear us.

Joe Chambers, House Captain: For the Monks, the Teachers, the Sisters and the Staff, that God may reward them for their devotion to the students and for the inspiration and example they and our past students have put before us. Lord, hear us.

Mr. Ryan, Representative of the Teaching Staff: For the underprivileged of the world, that as we rejoice in the abundance of God's gift of water, we may be conscious of our obligations to those who suffer gravely from lack of it, and be inspired to come to their help. Lord, hear us.

Abbot: Let us now pray together in the words of Our Lord has given us:

All: Our Father . . .

Abbot: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Abbot: Let us pray.

Bless + this Swimming Pool, O Lord, which we dedicate under the patronage of Saint Joseph. Through his intercession and that of Our Lady, may it be a source of health and goodness for all who use it; keep them safe from all harm of body and soul. May this blessing extend to all who have made this day possible. We ask you this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. R.: Amen.

The Abbot then blessed the Crucifix which was hung in the Pool saying:

Be with us Lord Our God, and ever keep from harm those whose trust is in your Holy Cross. In the name of the Father + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.

Accompanied by the Cross-bearer and acolytes, the Abbot sprinkled the building with holy water, meanwhile all joined in the singing of the hymn.

We stand for God, and for His glory
The Lord Supreme and God of all,
Against His foes we raise His
standard,
Around the Cross we hear His call.

We stand for God, let us be loyal,
Our love proclaim with every breath
To Christ the King, and Lord of
Lords
We will be faithful until death.

Strengthen our faith, Redeemer,
Guard us when danger is nigh,

To Thee we pledge our lives and
service,
Strong in a trust that ne'er shall die,
To Thee we pledge our lives and
service,
Strong in a trust that ne'er shall die.

A simple procession formed lead by the Acolytes. The House Captain carried the crucifix which had been blessed. The crucifix was of white marble and came from Malta.

On arrival at the main door of the swimming pool the architect presented the Lord Abbot with a ceremonial key to the door which he opened and all entered the pool building. The cross was hung on the wall at the deep end where it looks very well. While the crowds ranged around the deck of the pool Dr. Holmes Ievers took his stance on the diving board and with the utmost grace and ceremony plunged deep into the clear waters and swam the length of the pool before surfacing. The splash was echoed by resounding cheers from the crowd. The time was 4.30 p.m. on the second of June 1974.

Intermediate & Leaving Cert. Results, 1974

Intermediate: 54 presented, 49 passed. The three best results were achieved by Enda Cunningham, John Neylon and Liam Dalton.

Leaving: 59 presented, 58 passed. In terms of University qualification, 8 students got over 20 points. These should qualify for any faculty. 15 students got between 15 and 20 points. These should qualify for most faculties.

The five best results were: John Madden, 32 points; Frank Heslin, 26 points; John P. Kelly, 24 points; Richard Ennis, 23 points; Michael Breen, 22 points.

BOOKS

"A Place in the Sky" by Aidan Quigley 1933-'39 is very favourably reviewed by Quidnunc in the Irish Times, who describes it as an eminently readable book, and very good value at 85p.

The subtitle of the book "The Story of an Irish Airline Pilot" gives a clue to its contents, for it tells the story of Aidan's childhood in Foxford, his schooldays in Roscrea, his apprentice years in the Army Air Corps and thirty years of flying in all its aspects.

The book is published by the Mercier Press.

Conor Brady 1962-'66, editor of the "Garda Review" has recently published a history of the force since the foundation of the State. The title of the book is "Guardians of the Peace" printed by Gill, McMillan.

Fr. Emmanuel Curtis known to many of you as a brilliant maths teacher and Dean of Studies in recent years, has published two volumes of "Solutions" to Mathematics—Higher Course and Pass Course. The books are printed by Folens and sell at £1 each.