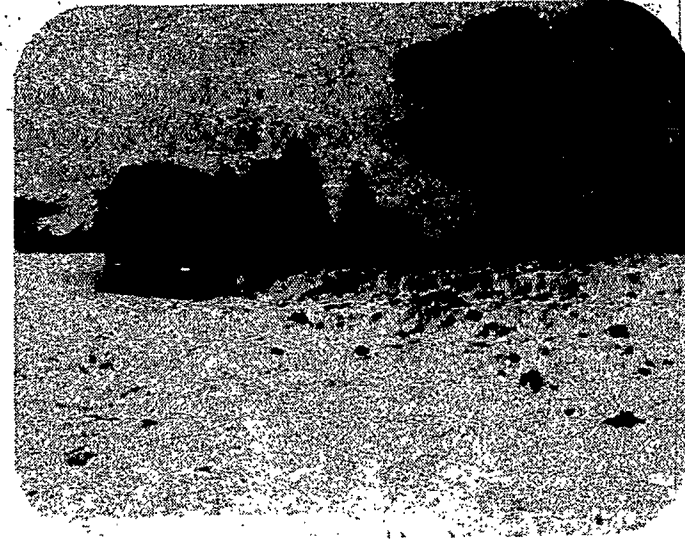


# Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around



Photos by Joan M. Smith  
Ireland is its magnificent ruins like the Rock of Cashel (lower left); the 19th Century home of Edmond Ignatius Rice where Brother Feerick, Walsh and Manning met with fellow Brothers; the Irish people who turned out in droves to hear the BK band; the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Patty Belton, presenting drum major Kim Jackson with one of the 10 awards won by the band; Sister Claire, (Assumption parish, Callan) delightedly accepting the invitation to conduct the band; and the blustering snowstorm which held up the tour bus on their way from Dublin to Limerick.

## Notes From an Irish Tour

By Joan M. Smith

The recent Bishop Kearney Irish tour was a parade extravaganza but before it was over, the trip had provided something special for everyone — students, chaperones, parents and fellow tourists.

For the BK marchers, it was a collage of experiences — parade honors, meeting the Irish children, and the historical sight-seeing. As chaperone Bob Nicodemi put it, "We brought the classroom with us."

For the chaperones it was the BK young adults. "They were a great bunch of kids," exclaimed Bruce Kaleta adding, "they worked great under adverse conditions."

For Brothers Thomas Feerick, Brian Walsh and William Manning, it was the visit to Callan, birthplace of the Irish Christian Brothers Order. A Mass at Assumption Church, becoming acquainted with the people of Callan and exploring the home of Edmond Ignatius Rice, founder of the order, made it a special occasion for them.

For others it was the shopping — not a store was overlooked by parents or

students! And believe it or not, every item fit aboard the returning aircraft. As it took off from Shannon Airport, the plane's log declared that the craft carried 335,000 pounds — no doubt all in Irish linen, Irish china, wool capes sweaters, hats, Waterford crystal and tons of shillelaghs!

For other travelers, the trip meant looking up kin. Or, like John Delehanty and Bill Deegan, discovering the oldest pub in Limerick where the proprietor played them Irish tunes on a 100 year old violin.

There were those, this reporter included, who delighted in exploring ruins like those on the Rock of Cashel. These ruins some dating back to the 5th Century, were the home of the ancient high kings of Ireland and where, it is reputed, St. Patrick plucked the shamrock to explain the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

Few resisted climbing the 108 narrow, stone steps of Blarney Castle to kiss the famous stone — a feat worthy of an acrobat. Once atop the castle's parapet, these hearty tourists laid down on their backs, slid backwards into a crevice hundreds of feet above ground and then bending downwards kissed the green

rock. Prophecy has it that those who kiss the Blarney Stone receive the gift of eloquence. Whether this is true or not, there were those on the trip with a melodic bent. They instigated many sing-alongs with the bus drivers while the coaches sped through the Irish countryside dotted with thatched roof cottages and elegant Georgian manor houses.

Another magical experience was the banquet (served and eaten medieval style) at the 15th Century castle of Bunratty. The diners were treated to a feast of four reforms (medieval for courses) with only a knife with which to spear their food. The cuisine included soup (sipped right from the bowl), bread, salad, spareribs, chicken and vegetables, all eaten with fingers. Accompanying this royal repast was hot carriage wine and mead.

Though Ireland's famous 40 shades of green didn't emerge from under the snow until it was time to go, each traveler came home with his own special memories. And perhaps, it was Brother Feerick who best summed up everyone's feelings about Erin. "I was totally impressed by the welcome and sincerity of the Irish People."

## On The Go

**BISHOP KEARNEY**  
Friday, April 6 — Faculty meeting, noon dismissal.  
Saturday, April 7 — ACT tests.

**CARDINAL MOONEY**  
Wednesday, April 4 — National Honor Society Induction Ceremony.  
Monday, April 9 — Men's Guild Board meeting.  
Wednesday, April 11 — Report cards distributed; Easter recess begins, 2:35 p.m.

**MCQUAID**  
Wednesday, April 4 —

Junior Parents College Night, 8 p.m.  
Thursday, April 5 — Academic Council meeting.  
Friday, April 6 — Mission Night.  
Tuesday, April 10 — Junior class assembly and ring ceremony.  
Wednesday, April 11 — End of fourth marking period.

**NAZARETH**  
Wednesday, April 4 — End of third quarter, faculty meeting, 2 p.m.  
April 5-6 — Spring exam meeting, 2 p.m.  
Thursday, April 5 —

**PATON** meeting, 7 p.m.  
Friday, April 6 — Music Department meeting.  
Monday, April 9 — Talent Show practice.  
Tuesday, April 10 — Freshmen vision tests; department heads meeting, 2:45-4 p.m.; Talent Show practice.  
Wednesday, April 11 — Holy Week Prayer Service; Talent Show practice; Science students assembly, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Easter recess begins, 2:30 p.m.

**NOTRE DAME**  
Wednesday, April 4 —

Popcorn sale assembly; Daffodil Day; Liturgy, 10:15 a.m.  
Thursday, April 5 — Stations of the Cross service, 1:15 p.m.  
Friday, April 6 — Liturgy, 8:45 a.m.  
Saturday, April 7 — ACT tests.  
Monday, April 9 — Liturgy 8:45 a.m.; reports mailed; Faculty Advisory Board meeting.  
Tuesday, April 10 — Student Council Election assembly.  
Wednesday, April 11 — Easter vacation begins.

**OUR LADY OF MERCY**  
April 4-7 — Childrens Theater presentation of "Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp".  
Saturday, April 7 — ACT tests.  
Monday, April 9 — Administrative Board meeting.  
Tuesday, April 10 — Faculty meeting.

**ST. AGNES**  
Wednesday, April 4 — Faculty meeting.  
Friday, April 6 — Report cards distributed.

JOAN M. SMITH, Editor