



The highlight of Christmas 1979 for many was the first appearance of the boys choir at the Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist. For many years now the 'midnight' has been mens voices or more recently an augmented mixed choir including the ladies of the Camerata Singers. The setting chosen was Missa - O Magnum Mysterium, music by Tomas Luis de Victoria, Spanish composer c.1548/1611. Dean Griffin from St. Patrick's Cathedral preached and among our choir visitors was John Dexter and Stephen Barber.

New boys - Two new recruits bring the strength of the boys choir to 13. Our newcomers are Andrew Jennings, thanks to Andrew Gallagher for introducing his pal, and Jason Henderson who is son of former chorister Philip Henderson and of course the grandson of parish stalwart Jack Henderson. There are now seven Andrews in the choir!

'Irish Gardening' - Congratulations to choir member Dr. Charles Nelson on the publication of the R.H.S.I. book which he co-edited. Charles generously made copies available to parishioners at the normal price and the proceeds were donated to the Resotration Fund. Some copies are still available at paperback £6.00, hardback £7.50. For those who have not yet seen this publication, it is really beautifully prepared and illustrated and is likely to become a most important reference book for years to come.

Mr. Reggie Hall - Reggie has very generously become one of our choirboy sponsors. His fine bass voice still rings true in St. Patrick's Cathedral choir at the young age of 81 years. His singing career started in our own choir stalls in 1908. He remembers with affection his years under H. Vipond Barry and is pleased to see the efforts being made to ensure the maintenance of a boys choir at St. Bartholomews.

Holy Family Home - Little Sisters of the Poor, Roebuck - Once again this year on Friday January 25th at 8.00 p.m. the choir has been invited to sing for the old folk and community at Roebuck. This is now an annual event which all look forward to. Singing in their beautiful chapel, meeting the devoted sisters and of course that tasty supper afterwards all go to making a most rewarding evening. All parishioners, choirboy parents and friends are welcome to come along, so we hope we may see some of our sponsors.

U.C.D. - On Thursday January 24th at 6.30 p.m. we have been invited to sing in the chapel at U.C.D. for an ecumenical service.

St. Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare - Friday, February 1st, is the Feast of St. Brigid, and this year our choir has been asked to sing Choral Evensong for the patronal festival in Kildare Cathedral. The Vicar will preach, and all St. Bartholomew parishioners are invited.

January 1980

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