

# Ten years on, Folk Mass

## packs them in

By FERGUS BLACK  
 ie. of the forerunners of  
 Folk Mass groups is still  
 ng them in at Mass every  
 ay, 10 years after its for-  
 in was greeted with mixed  
 ion and considerable con-  
 rary.  
 id to celebrate, the Rath-  
 's Folk Group is planning  
 tage an original religious  
 musical in the local  
 ch of Our Lady of Refuge  
 autumn.  
 en years ago next October  
 s of the setting up of the  
 ip by local priests was  
 sted at the time by the  
 holic Priests Association in  
 sex with "sadness, shock

and spiritual distress." But  
 formed originally from girls in  
 the fourth, fifth and sixth  
 grades of St. Louis School in  
 Rathmines, the group of 35 has  
 been filling the Sunday 6 p.m.  
 Folk Mass in Rathmines ever  
 since without fail.

One of the original singers  
 with the group, Geraldine  
 MacNamara of Templeogue,  
 Dublin, explained that the rock  
 musical, an up-dated version of  
 the parable of the prodigal son,  
 was written specially for them  
 by Cormac O'Duffy, son of the  
 famous singer, Michael O'Duffy.

A shortened vers of the  
 musical was perfed in  
 Rathmines and at UCD  
 campus in Belfield 7 years  
 ago but the full twoir ver-  
 sion is now planned,obably  
 for October, using Rath-  
 mines church.

O'Duffy, who stud music  
 in UCD, based his real on  
 his own experiences wrote  
 it specially for the amines  
 group.

The folk group is mark-  
 ing its tenth anniver by re-  
 leasing its first L, some  
 of the material they been  
 singing over the yeOther  
 events will include a group  
 rally in Rathmines other  
 Mass groups operatround  
 the city.

Said Geraldine: "Musical

The pictures showpers  
 of the Rathminerch  
 Folk Group in acti/class  
 in the Chu

will probably coincide with the  
 group's actual anniversary but  
 nobody can remember the exact  
 date in October because we  
 didn't realise at the time how

successful we we  
 be."

"Ours was the  
 group to be set up  
 of that we were  
 demned or praised

