

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- rty.

id to celebrate, the Rath- 's Folk Group is planning tage an original religious musical in the local fch of Our Lady of Refuge autumn.

en years ago next October 's of the setting up of the ip by local priests was ted 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 years ago but the full twour version 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 mines 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/flass 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

