

Glenmaddy

They purchased the vacant parochial house and some land for £5,000, and spent the summer cleaning and preparing the house. In September 1959, four Sisters took up permanent residence in Glenmaddy – Mother Francis Curran as Superior of the community, Srs. Bonaventure Lyons, Regina Caulfield and Bernardine Morrisroe. On 11th September, 19 boys and 47 girls were enrolled for the school. It was named Coláiste Seosaimh and Sr. Bonaventure was appointed Principal. Fr. Des Fahy was a chaplain and teacher in the school. The pupils were divided into two groups and the two front rooms of the parochial house served as classrooms.

In 1960, permission to build a new school was granted by the Archbishop. They searched to find a suitable site. They bought a small house for the chaplain. On 9th March a site was found, plans were drawn up and the building of the new school commenced. Temporary accommodation had to be found for the increase in numbers in September. In January 1961, the teachers and pupils moved into the new school. The work on the parochial house began and gradually turned into a Convent. In 1966, a field adjoining the school was purchased for use as a playing field for the girls.

In 1967, due to the introduction of free school buses, the numbers increased, and two second year classes had to be accommodated in the old girls' national school on Ballymoe Road. Plans were drawn up for a further extension, and the Sisters' dining room was used as a classroom for a class of 4th year pupils while the Sisters dined in the store room. In 1968 two more classes were accommodated in the school on Ballymoe Road.

In 1969, a lunch room was built by the Sisters at a cost of £5,000. By September the new classrooms were nearing completion and all the pupils moved back to the school. On 24th May, 1971, the extension to the school was solemnly blessed. The extension consisted of a fully equipped gymnasium, Home Economics Rooms, Art Room, Geography Room, Science Laboratory, Library, Staff Room, Principal's Room, Music Room, shower and cloak room facilities for both boys and girls, and three extra classrooms. On the grounds were two basketball/tennis courts. The playing ground was levelled and seeded. The school which started at sixty-six pupils in 1959 now had 331 pupils. Seamus Walsh was appointed the first lay Principal of the school in 1972.

In 1975, an Adult Education Committee was established in the parish. Sr. Brenda O'Shaughnessy and some other Sisters were very actively involved in the courses organised, and these were held in the lunch room. In May 1976, a Social Services Council was established in the Parish, and Sr. Teresa Killilea was appointed director of the Social Services. Some sisters were also involved in the Centre and also in visiting and helping the needy of the area.

In May 1981, the building of a woodwork room began and it was ready for use in September. The first Board of Management was formed in 1991.

Amalgamation of the two second level schools was discussed over the years, and finally in 2002, it was decided to amalgamate Coláiste Seosaimh and St. Benin's Vocational School into a Community School offering a wider range of subjects and courses. Six years later, after much effort, a brand new school, Glenmaddy Community School, was opened on the former site of Coláiste Seosaimh.

The Sisters left Glenamaddy on 11th June, 2004.

The convent building has been incorporated into the school for extracurricular activities.