

Brief History of our Parish

"The name Finglas (Fionn Ghlas), meaning a clear stream, comes from the small river, which flows through the village (mostly underground now) and joins the Tolka River at Finglas Bridge. Finglas first appears in history, in The Annals of the Four Masters, as the site of a Celtic abbey, which has been linked with St. Canice, who died in 598 AD. According to an ancient legend, the ground on which the abbey stood was chosen and sanctified by St. Patrick, who is said to have made prophecy that a great town would arise at the ford of hurdles in the valley beneath. The village remained a rural country village until urban development in the 1950s when many houses were built by the government to ease overcrowding in the city centre. This development has continued and now, while Finglas is a thriving suburb of the city with many industries, sadly, much of old Finglas has disappeared.

St. Canices church was built between 1920 and 1922 it was opened by Archbishop Walsh it replaced the old "barn church" which had served the village for many years. The church was extended in the mid 1950s to serve the ever growing new suburb of Finglas. The new church which is the one we use to this day ,was blessed and opened by Archbishop Mc Quaid in 1955.

(courtesy of of the Finglas Historical Society.

<http://finglashistoricalsociety.com>