

Vandals Break Into Kildonan Church; Ruin White Gifts

Sunday, Dec. 16, was White Gift Sunday at St. Stephen's Anglican Church. Parishioners with hearts full of good will towards men brought their gifts to the morning service. Little children, learning that it is better to give than to receive, gave their offerings of food and clothes to the needy — to those other little boys and girls less fortunate than themselves.

But these other children, these homes that were in need of these gifts so generously bestowed, were never to see them. Because, between the hours of 9.30 and 11.30 that same evening the parish hall, in which the gift hampers were stored, was broken into. Tins of fruit and vegetables were wantonly punctured, juices were spilled over other packages. Only a few cans of food were stolen, but the rest was spoiled by that lowest of crimes, vandalism.

And in this case, because it was on church property, the robbery became desecration, a defiling of the Lord's property . . . something that few of us would wish to have on our consciences for the rest of our lives.

Only a few months ago St. Stephen's was broken into and wilful damage perpetrated. Is someone in the district mean enough to have a spite against this church, or were birdbrain hooligans at loose again? The caretaker states he saw two teen age boys coming from the back of the church and upon questioning them they said they were looking for their mitts.

Whoever did this has lost not only the respect of the community, but his own self respect as well. And has taken away what little happiness these gifts might have given to needy children, who must now keep on doing without.