

**The village of Kill, County Kildare, is situated about 25 kilometres south of Dublin, Ireland. The name Kill comes from the Irish word "Cill" which means church. There are two churches in Kill, both built in the 1820s. St. John's Church of Ireland church stands on the site of Kill's first church, a Catholic Church called The Church of St. Brigid and St. Mary (built around 1650). The graveyard attached to St. John's still contains the graves of Catholics buried there in earlier times. St. Brigid's Catholic Church was built in 1821, just down the road from the original church. This intermingling of church communities is still very evident in Kill today, the most obvious example being the Christmas Carol Service in St. John's Church where the children's choir from St. Brigid's Church perform. For over forty years the village ran a Gymkhana to raise funds for both churches.**

**Kill was a very small rural village until the 1960s. Farmland surrounded the village and farmers supplied milk and vegetables for the local and Dublin markets. There was a forge in the village opposite St. John's Church where farmers brought their horses to be shod by the local blacksmith. From the the 1960s onwards the village steadily grew in size with the building of new housing estates.**

**A company called Castle Sands was set up, in 1945, to quarry sand and gravel on nearby farms. The sand and gravel was transported to Dublin where it was used to build the expanding city. Many local men were employed by the new company, giving a much-needed boost to the local economy. Over time Castle Sands grew into a large national company called Cement Roadstone Holdings. Pre-mixed cement was produced in Kill between 1966 and 1982, and yellow trucks with revolving cement mixers were a familiar sight in the village. Roadstone no longer has any links with Kill, but the area has attracted many new companies such as Ascon and Balcas.**

**Today, Kill has a population of about 2,000 people living in a close-knit community. Many of the new families who have come to the village have moved out from Dublin seeking a more attractive way of life. There are many active organisations in the village, chief among them being the GAA Club (known locally as "The Club"), the Tidy Towns Association and the Community Games Organisation.**



**The Kill River flows through Glendara and runs by The Old House. The Kill River rises near Killeel. When it crosses the N7 it is known as the Painstown River. It flows under the Grand Canal near Ponsonby Bridge, Ardclough, and flows into The Morrell River near the "horse factory" in Turnings, Straffan.**



**The entrance to Kill Village from the Naas end.**



**"Richard's". Richard Behan's Mace supermarket is a brand new shop, but Richard and his aunt before him, Mrs Wilkinson, have traded here for close to half a century.**



**Main St. Kill**



**These well tended houses date from the 1800s. They were built by the Countess of Mayo, who lived in Palmerstown House near the village, for the families of members of the police force - The Royal Irish Constabulary.**



**Kill GAA's modern Clubhouse is the centre of a vibrant club which promotes Gaelic games for all age levels.**



**Clarendon Court was built in 1992. It contains a shop, a pharmacy, a pizzeria, a hardware shop and a fast-food outlet, with apartments on the first floor.**



**The Old House pub in the centre of the village has been in business here since 1794**



**The old pump is one of three around the village.**



**House in the centre of the village**



**This park beside St. Brigid's Church was the site of the old Parochial House**



**St. Brigid's Church built in 1821**



**Main St. Kill**



**The half-door at the entrance to St. John's Church. The church organ, a gift from the Earl of Mayo of Palmerstown House, has its keys in reverse order.**



**This house on the main street is at least 100 years old. It has dry dash walls and granite quoins, and has cast iron railings to the front.**



**The Dew Drop Inn on the main street, a well-known hostelry.**