14 JANUARY 2025 KATE DUNPHY

## A hard fought 2-2 draw for the Holy Family U15 Soccer team

Holy Family met Rathangan in the final league game of the group yesterday.

Kick-off was at 11 am away in Rathangan.



The Holy Family faced off against a tough Rathangan team. From the start, both teams played hard, with Holy Family showing a strong defence, especially by Aoife Fox, who made several blocks and tackles to stop the opposition from taking shots at the goal.

Sadie Burke made a great pass to Sophie Lennon Norman, who just missed scoring. Another chance was taken by Holy Family as Faye Kavanagh took a shot at goal, and Daisy Fleming followed up with a rebound attempt that unfortunately went wide. Caoimhe Gormley was strong in the backs, stopping a Rathangan player from getting a shot on goal. Lily Callaghan also defended well, winning a 1v1 and passing the ball to Daisy Fleming to start an attack, but an unlucky offside call stopped their attack. Sadie made an amazing save when she stopped a shot from Rathangan. However, despite Holy Family's best efforts, Rathangan managed to score, taking a 1-0 lead. The Holy Family were fortunately fouled in the penalty box minutes later, leading to Faye Kavanagh placing the ball into the bottom left corner of the goal to tie the game at 1-1 just before halftime.

The second half began with Rathangan tipping off the ball. Caoimhe Gormley earned a free kick after being fouled, and Sadie Burke sent the ball to Lily Williamson, but Rathangan's defence blocked the pass. Sophie Lennon Norman and Sarah Carroll worked together to push the ball up the field and with a final pass by Sarah Carroll, Sophie Lennon Norman scored, giving Holy Family a 2-1 lead. Unfortunately, Rathangan received a free kick, which led to a Rathangan player scoring, bringing the game to a 2-2 draw.

With the referee blowing the final whistle, the game ended in a 2-2 draw. The team played very well and showed strong teamwork. The U15 girls will continue to show their amazing teamwork in the knockout stages of the league.