

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Festival of Cloaks impresses Derry Mayor

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Festival of Cloaks impresses Derry Mayor



The Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council with the Dean of Derry on her visit to the Festival of Cloaks

Lilian Seenoi-Barr the Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council visited St Columb's Cathedral this week and was more than impressed by the current Festival of Cloaks.

The Festival of Cloaks at St Columb's is an incredible exhibition. It commemorates the patroness saint of Ireland, St Brigid of Kildare, who died 1,500 years ago this year.

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The 'Festival of Cloaks' features around 40 ceremonial garments, with the four cloaks of St Brigid – representing the four provinces of Ireland – as the centrepiece. These were made by artists Lorna McCormack and Michelle Hickey Legge and are beautiful works of art.

There are a wide variety of cloaks on display including ecclesiastical garments such as the Armagh Cope of the Church of Ireland in Armagh and Mrs Cecil Frances Alexander's cape.

The Mayor recently made history by becoming Northern Ireland's first black mayor.

Mayor Seenoi-Barr said "I really enjoyed my visit and would recommend you go along to check it out before it finishes at St Columb's Cathedral on 31 August".

News

Garrison group of parishes amazing kindness to bereaved family

“A few weeks ago, we aimed to raise £2000 for the Gregg family through their time of loss. Today, the total raised stands at £20,245”, says the rector, Rev Rebecca Guildea.

Rebecca continued, “That is an amazing testament to the kindness of a community, and I want to personally thank all

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those who gave so generously. I will be closing the page today, in the knowledge that something good has been done in the midst of a horrible tragedy. I know that you, and all those who knew Oisin, will continue to keep the Gregg family in prayer”.

Service of thanksgiving for PCI's longest serving overseas missionary

A service of thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Claire Trueman, one of PCI's longest serving overseas missionaries, who died in June aged 86, took place in Jamaica at 4pm (UK/Irish time) yesterday.

See report in CNI yesterday of Miss Trueman's contribution to the Girls' Brigade in Jamaica.

You can read a tribute and details of how to watch the livestream here: <https://bit.ly/4d2sbai>

The service was live-streamed at Garnerville Presbyterian Church.

Rededication service for Derry officer who died in WW1

A rededication service was held on 11 July 2024 at the grave of Captain (Capt) Valentine Knox Gilliland in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Cemetery on the outskirts of Ypres.

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The service was attended by members of the extended Gilliland family who had come to pay their respects.

Capt Gilliland arrived on the Western Front on 18 January 1915 where he joined 2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles in Belgium. On 21 April 1915, Capt Gilliland was wounded when a periscope he was looking through was hit by a sniper's bullet. Fragments of the glass smashed into his face cutting his nose and chin. He recovered and returned to duty. He was later killed in action on 22 March 1918.

Unfortunately Capt Gilliland's grave was lost during the war. But his remains were later recovered and buried as those of an unknown captain of The Royal Irish Rifles in the Divisional Collecting Post Cemetery and Extension. Because he was listed as missing, he was commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial.

The discovery of Capt Gilliland's grave came about after a researcher submitted evidence to CWGC to suggest that his

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Battle of the Somme anniversary wreath-laying at Shankill Memorial Garden - by 1st Shankill RIR Old Comrades Association and Belfast Eagle Sea Cadets.
Lest we forget

final resting place had been identified. After further research by CWGC, the National Army Museum and the MOD's Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC), also known as the 'MOD War Detectives' their findings were confirmed.

The service was attended by serving soldiers of The Royal Irish Regiment

Valentine Knox Gilliland was born on 15 February 1889 in Londonderry. He was the youngest of three sons born to

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George Knox Gilliland D.L. and his wife Frances Jane of the Brook Hall Estate.

Valentine was educated at Lockers Park Prep School in Hemel Hempstead and Foyle College in Londonderry before attending Trinity College Cambridge in 1907, where he studied Mechanism and Applied Science. He was a keen sportsman and is said to have owned one of the first sports cars in Donegal. Upon his graduation in 1910, Valentine was apprenticed to a London grain merchant. In the spring of 1912, he travelled across Canada to Vancouver.

Whilst at Cambridge Valentine was a member of the Officers' Training Corps and he received a commission into the Reserve of Officers in 1912. He joined the Ulster Volunteer Force and commanded a company within 5th Donegal Regiment. On 10 January 1915, Valentine was posted to the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles, in Dublin. He was promoted to the rank of Captain.

A week before the death of Capt Gilliland, news reached the family of the death of his cousin, Lieutenant William Millar M Gilliland of 2nd Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who was killed in action in the Dardanelles on 30 April 1915. On the day that Capt Gilliland's mother, Frances, learned the news of her son's death, she had received a letter from him informing her that the battalion was going into action.

The discovery of Capt Gilliland's grave came about after a researcher submitted evidence to CWGC suggesting his final resting place had been identified. After further research by CWGC, the National Army Museum and JCCC, their findings were confirmed.

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Cathedral Calls

The



RIPON
CATHEDRAL

The King's Men, Cambridge

The Choral Scholars of the Choir of King's College,
Cambridge perform an evening of close harmony from
Byrd to the Beatles.

Thursday 29th August, 7.30pm



Cathedral Calls

The King's Men at Ripon Cathedral

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Get ready to be serenaded by The King's Men, the renowned a capella group of the Choral Scholars of The Choir of King's College as they perform beautiful harmonies and timeless classics in the stunning setting of Ripon Cathedral on Thursday 29th August.

<https://riponcathedral.org.uk/events/the-kings-men-concert/>

Clergy and ministry

Pastoring as a paramedic

Ballymena curate-assistant Andy Moore combines his full-time parish ministry with working each month as a paramedic – the job he has enjoyed for many years before and after being ordained into the Church of Ireland.

In this video interview, as part of the C of I's "Inspiring Angles" series, Andy, who has recently been appointed Chair of the Christian Ambulance Association, talks about the motivation for joining the Ambulance Service, and how both ministry opportunities have come together to serve his community.

To find out more about the Christian Ambulance Association, a small but growing organisation across the UK and Ireland, please visit its website – www.caauk.org

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnAyHnHj9Tc>

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– and read an interview with Andy in the summer edition of Connor Connections, the Diocese of Connor’s magazine, published in mid-June.

(<https://connor.anglican.org/2024/06/10/pick-up-your-summer-connor-connections-magazine/>)

Meet the New Curate of St Bartholomew’s



The Revd Dr Mathew McCauley with the Rector of St Bartholomew’s Church, Clyde Road, Canon Andrew McCroskery.

‘Excited and humbled to be returning as a newly ordained priest’

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The Revd Dr Mathew McCauley was ordained to the Priesthood in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on Sunday 23 June 2024 by Archbishop Michael Jackson. Here, he writes about his experience as an Intern Deacon in St Matthew's Irishtown and his hopes for his Curacy in St Bartholomew's, Clyde Road.

“And so, we know and rely on the love God has for all of us. God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in them.” 1 John (4:16)

The love and holiness of God is at the heart of my calling to the priesthood, a call which began as a teenager. Although I went on to pursue a career in psychology, academia, and military healthcare, my faith never left me. I eventually responded to God's calling, completing five years of formation and training, and I was ordained to the holy priesthood last month. Through this humbling honour, I am reminded of the words from Isaiah (6:8), ‘Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me.”’

Prior to my ordination, I was blessed to have served my diaconate internship at St Matthew's Church, Irishtown. I am extremely grateful for the incredible support and prayers of the rector, the Revd Canon Leonard Ruddock and the congregation. The experience allowed me to engage with the diverse and dynamic life of a vibrant parish. Over the past year, I grew in my understanding and abilities concerning liturgical worship, whilst assisting and leading a range of services. This included preparing and delivering homilies, along with planning and participating in formal and informal worship.

In addition, I contributed as a cleric to various ecumenical and community events. Canon Ruddock also supported my involvement in baptisms, funerals, confirmation classes, parish school events, pastoral visits to residential nursing facilities, home Eucharist services, and select vestry meetings. It was furthermore a great honour to represent the parish as a homilist at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. St Matthew's will always hold a special place in my heart, and I will keep the rector and congregation in my prayers.

It is now an immense pleasure to join the Revd Canon Andrew McCroskery as a member of the ministerial team at St Bartholomew's Church, Ballsbridge. I was privileged to have completed one of my ordinand placements at this parish and I have since undertaken my MTh dissertation research on the liturgical tradition associated with St Bartholomew's. I am excited and humbled to be returning as a newly ordained priest and my curacy will be a time of further formation. I look forward to growing in my sacramental ministry as a servant leader, whilst accompanying the congregation in their faith journey, with and in Christ.

Thus, with the grace of God and your prayers, I seek to serve the congregation at St Bartholomew's and advance the Kingdom of God in love and faith, mindful of the words of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Michael Ramsey: 'Today the ordained priest is called to reflect the priesthood of Christ and to serve the priesthood of all the people of God, and to be one of the means of grace whereby God enables the Church to be the Church.'

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Welcoming newcomers – video playlist

A series of initiatives by the Church of Ireland to help people from a range of ethnic backgrounds to be welcomed and integrated into church life.

These include -

Welcoming newcomers

Diversity in decision-making

World Refugee Day interview with Archbishop McDowell

Racial Justice Sunday - a podcast

Initiatives to help people from a range of ethnic backgrounds to be welcomed and integrated into church life are shared in a series of videos on our YouTube channel. To watch and choose interesting content from the Welcoming newcomers playlist, please click here.

(<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKSiZmJTeOYnkRI6EEFZzKmXOwT0XJflk>)

Everyday Faith a new daily devotional app by C of E

Develop a daily connection with God. Connect with God with the new Everyday Faith app. Journey daily with

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reflections to inspire, equip and encourage you in your everyday faith.

Everyday Faith is now available to download for iOS and Android. If you already have the Watch & Pray app installed, you will automatically get the update.

Everyday Faith is the new daily devotional app from the Church of England designed to inspire, equip and encourage you in your faith every day of the week, not just on Sundays.

The idea for Everyday Faith is twofold. The app forms part of one of the Church of England's objectives of missional discipleship: "To become a church of missionary disciples where all God's people are free to live the Christian life, wherever we spend our time Sunday to Saturday." But the app also responds to overwhelming demand from its users for an app that delivers inspirational reflections year-round rather than focussed on seasonal content during Lent and Advent. "We wanted to create a space encouraging Christians to grow in their faith daily".


Everyday Faith is about where and how we encounter God as we go about our lives. Where is God in our daily lives? How do we find God in the fullness of everyday life? Whether you wish to develop your faith or support others in theirs, Everyday Faith is designed to support you in your life discipleship or vocational journey.

The app will provide you with carefully curated daily reflections, including selected Bible readings, a simple

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prayer to prepare you for the day ahead, and thoughts based on that week's theme.

CHARLES WOOD FESTIVAL & SUMMER SCHOOL
11 - 18 AUGUST 2024
IN PERSON | ON RADIO | ONLINE




CHARLES WOOD
FESTIVAL & SUMMER SCHOOL

COME AND SING GLORIA

Monday 12th August
St Mark's Parish Church,
Armagh
7.30pm
£10



Come and Sing
an eclectic mix of Glorias including those of Vivaldi, Handel, Rutter and Chilcott


Led by the Artistic Director of the City of Derry International Choir Festival, and conductor of the acclaimed choir, Codetta, **Dónal Doherty** will lead us on a glorious journey, supported by Newry-based chamber choir, **Gaudeamus**






Open to all ages and abilities. All music is provided and advanced booking is advised

For full details and to book tickets, please visit:
www.charleswoodsummerschool.org/events

PRINCIPAL FUNDER
 

 **Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council**

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Come and Sing Gloria at Charles Wood Summer School

The Festival Favourite ‘Come and Sing’ event returns to this year’s Festival on Monday 12th August.

Led by Dónal Doherty, Artistic Director of the City of Derry International Choir Festival and conductor of the acclaimed choir, Codetta, we’ll be guided through the famous Glorias of Vivaldi, Handel, Rutter and Chilcott.

Supported by Gaudeamus Choir, this event is open to singers of all ages and abilities. All music will be provided.

The event costs £10. Advance booking is essential, so register now by visiting www.charleswoodsummerschool.org/events

Environment

Eco Congregation Ireland launches small grant scheme

Eco Congregation Ireland (ECI) has launched a new small grant scheme for churches and congregations.

Thanks to generous sponsorship from church supplies companies RPD Ltd and Logos Publications, churches across Ireland can apply for a grant to support biodiversity or energy conservation projects.

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The grants will be between €100/£90 and €500/£450, and the ECI committee will be looking for small scale practical projects which are either already running or will begin before the end of 2024.

FIRST LISBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PROUDLY PRESENTS

An Evening with:

**JEAN
MARTYN**

BRITAINS GOT TALENT's
First Lady of The Keyboards

FRIDAY 20th
September 2024
7.30 PM

Join Cannock's own Jean Martyn for a
wonderful evening of her Music, Laughter
and Marvellous Talent to Entertain

"From Boogie to Bach then Bacharach"

RAISING FUNDS
FOR
THE R.N.L.I.

Minimum Donation £15.00

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The church or congregation must have already registered with ECI (a very simple process) and begun their Eco Congregation journey. The closing date for applications is July 31 2024.

Andrew Orr, Chair of ECI said: “We are delighted to receive the generous sponsorship from RPD and Logos Publications, and we are looking forward to helping congregations north and south to put the care of God’s world into practical action.”

Tom Clements, CEO of RPD Ltd and Logos Publications said: “We are very grateful for the support we have received from Irish churches over the last 50 years and we are delighted to be able to give something back by helping support the mission of Eco Congregation Ireland.”

The criteria for the grants and an application form can be found here

<https://www.ecocongregationireland.com/2024/06/21/eco-congregation-ireland-launches-small-grant-scheme/>

The successful applicants will be announced during the Season of Creation which runs from September 1 to October 4.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com

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www.churchnewsireland.org

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