

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Armagh MU Big Hymn Sing

August 13, 2024

Image of the day



Armagh MU Big Hymn Sing



It was a wonderful evening of praise, fellowship and food at the MU's Mum's In May "Big Hymn Sing" in Brackville Parish Church



The top 10 hymns nominated by MU members were sang by the members.

Rev Canon Matthew Hagan MBE, Rector, and Rev Alan Cross, Diocesan Chaplain read the Bible readings. Each hymn was introduced with details and history.

The MU expressed thanks to Rev Matthew and the Select Vestry of Brackaville Church, Rev Cross, Dr Joanne Brown, the organist, Claire Smith who coordinated the Order of Service, those who read the introductions and prayers, Brackaville and Donaghendry MU branches for providing supper and to their members for making the event a huge success

News

St Peter's Cof I Summer Fair raises €13,000 for two Louth charities

Successful summer event replaced Lenten Lunches.

With the co-operation of cross community support, St Peter's Church of Ireland is delighted to report that they made a remarkable €13,000 from the recent Summer Fair, which will be split equally between Drogheda Homeless Aid and Drogheda Women's and Children's Refuge Centre.

DUFEM in Hong Kong

Two Trinity graduates, Patrick Kennedy and Eoin Kearns, are undertaking a month-long placement in St Philip's parish, Hong Kong, under the auspices of Dublin University Far Eastern Mission.

They have been teaching in the parish schools and participating in a Bible study course. This is the first programme that DUFEM has been able to facilitate since Covid. In addition to their work in the parish they met with all three bishops of the Province, Archbishop Andrew Chan (Western Kowloon), Bishop Mattias Der (Hong Kong Island), and Bishop Timothy Kwok. The rector of the parish, Revd Cindy Kwok, undertook part of her ordination training at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute. Patrick and Eoin were interviewed and performed music on Hong Kong national radio station and were entertained to lunch by the Irish Consul General in Hong Kong, Jennifer Bourke.

August 13, 2024

DUFEM committee member Dr Kerry Houston will be joined by DUFEM London representative, Revd Dr Alan McCormack, at the end of this placement to explore collaborations between DUFEM and the Church in Hong Kong.

€1m Fund will help St. Nicholas Collegiate Church to develop gala venue

Claregalway Castle and St. Nicholas Collegiate Church are among 5 venues nationwide set to share in €1m worth of funding.

The fund aims to help the development of gala dinner venues in four of Ireland's business event hubs – Galway, Dublin, Kerry, and the Shannon Region.



**Letterbreen
Methodist Church
invite you to**

*An installation
Service*

FRIDAY 6th September 2024 at 7.30 PM

**Come join us as
Alison Humphreys
is installed as the
North West Vice President
of MWI**

Everyone very welcome!


August 13, 2024

The €1m is being allocated through Failte Ireland for five venues – each described as having world class potential and the ‘wow’ factor.

In Galway, that’s Claregalway Castle on the banks of the Clare River, and St. Nicholas Collegiate Church in the heart of the city.

The other venues nationwide are Saint Mary’s Cathedral in Limerick, Custom House Quay in Dublin, and Killarney Brewing and Distilling.

The investment aims to develop and enhance each of the five venues, to allow them to host major international business events.



Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness
in the morning; for in thee do I trust:
cause me to know the way
wherein I should walk;
for I lift up my soul unto thee.
Deliver me, O LORD.
Teach me to do thy will;
for thou art my God.

Psalm 124:8-10

August 13, 2024

And it's hoped the €1m outlay will be transformed into almost €70m worth of business events over the next five years.

Belfast and Dublin Interfaith Forums reflect together on 'recent turmoil on our Island'

Dublin City Interfaith Forum and Northern Ireland Inter Faith Forum have issued a joint statement calling on political bodies, voluntary organizations, statutory agencies and members of faith and belief communities to cooperate and collaborate around the rebuilding of shattered communities locally.

“We have witnessed weeks of inter-cultural unrest and damage to individuals and communities. We have witnessed the destruction of long established properties and businesses. We have witnessed the intimidation of places of refuge for those seeking safety and dignity. Many of the victims of these crimes are those who have had no choice but to flee their homelands and to arrive somewhere they had very little awareness of. This has happened right across the island of Ireland. It has been festering for months. Men, women and children have all been caught in the fire and the crossfire. Such hatred knows no borders. Its rhetoric is cleverly orchestrated and cleverly disseminated with a malevolent intention.

“The forced displacement of peoples in today's world is an ongoing reality, one that requires our collective attention and compassion. Millions of people live lives as destitutes and



The Dean of Canterbury visiting faith communities in the city last week

dispossessed in a world marked by stark realities of poverty, exploitation, hunger and violence. How we respond to this challenge – how we treat people of all faiths, beliefs and worldviews who come to live among us – serves as a true measure of our character. Allowing hysteria and hatred to take root diminishes us all and the victimization of the vulnerable is a stain on our society. One of the particularly

disturbing features of the current situation is that anybody who looks or sounds differently is potentially a target.

“Those who have spoken and acted with bravery and compassion countering these voices of hatred and intimidation have shown everyone that there is and will always be another way. Our values are those of inclusion, dialogue and an encounter that is open-minded and open-hearted. Cultural curiosity goes hand in hand with personal respect to build a new society and to enrich a tired society. Others have already called on everyone to speak kindly to our neighbours, particularly those who are exposed and fearful for themselves, their elders and their children. We encourage such initiatives which are the building blocks of societal trust. Our call is that political bodies, voluntary organisations, statutory agencies, and members of faith and belief communities cooperate and collaborate around the rebuilding of shattered communities locally; that they call on their members not to feed the frenzy through recycling misinformation and instead to engage in thoughtful reflection, prayer and meaningful action. Our plea is that together we use every means to reset the agenda on stability, respect and peace.”

The Church must not be 'politely silent' over C of E breakaway, says rector

Rev Lucy Winkett, the rector of St James's Piccadilly, has voiced her opposition to efforts by evangelicals in the Diocese of London who are considering breaking away from the Church of England due to their objections to same-sex relationships.

St Helens Bishopsgate and All Souls Langham Place have already held services to commission men as leaders in a separate church structure, which they claim is necessary because the bishops have abandoned biblical teachings.

Holy Trinity Brompton has also expressed support for the creation of an alternative structure with different bishops.

In a recent sermon, Lucy Winkett declared: "We cannot, we must not remain politely silent in the face of this." She argued that such actions would institutionalize inequality and injustice within church structures, excluding women from leadership and isolating those who love someone of the same gender.

She warned: "If we don't find a way to embed and strengthen the values of inclusive Christianity... we will have been guilty of the most terrible complacency in our generation, where prejudice and division grow and embed, not only in the violence of the streets, but in the character of our church."

Cathedral Calls

St Fin Barre's cathedral, Cork, Organ recitals

Organ recitals at St Fin Barre's cathedral, Cork, will be held every Friday lunchtime during the month of August...



St Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny

...Everyone is welcome and admission on the door is €10. Each will begin at 1.10pm.

The series continue today (Friday) when Carole O'Connor from Whitefriar Street Church, Dublin, will play works by Bach, Liszt and Langlais.

August 13, 2024

US Lutheran choir at St Patrick's cathedral, Dublin

Yesterday in St Patrick's cathedral, Dublin, the services were sung by the choir of St John's Lutheran Church, CT.

The preacher was the Dean of Limerick, the Very Revd Niall Sloane.

St Brigid's cathedral venue for 2024 Kildare Choral and Organ Festival

The 2024 Kildare Choral and Organ Festival, which takes place in St Brigid's cathedral, will mark the 1500th anniversary of the death of St Brigid with a range of performances from acclaimed women musicians in Ireland.

The Festival, will this year explore the theme, 'Women in music honouring Brigid 1500'. It begins on Wednesday at 7.30pm, with an organ recital from Dr Carole O'Connor, organist and choir director of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Whitefriar Street, Dublin.

The second night of the Festival, Friday 23 August, at 7.30pm, will feature a choral performance from the celebrated Irish female vocal ensemble, Dulciana.

Since its very inception, part of Dulciana's mission has been the promotion of music by female composers, both those neglected by history, and those currently making history.

August 13, 2024

They are particularly firm supporters of contemporary female Irish composers.

The closing night of the Festival, on Wednesday 28 August, at 7.30pm will feature Tatiana Konina on organ and Aoise O'Dwyer on viola. Tatiana is the Director of Music and Organist of Christ Church, Bray, and Aoise is a violist, music educator and orchestral musician from Tullamore, Co. Offaly. Tickets can be purchased online on Eventbrite or at the door on the night of the concerts. Further details may be had at <https://stbrigidscathedral.com>

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



Nuns Cross Church
Kiltskey Parish

Donations in aid of our restoration fund gratefully received

QR code: Xeldar

Come and join us in the foyer of East Glendalough Secondary School, Wicklow, to watch our broadcast service.

RTE Sunday Service
18th August @ 10.45 a.m.
Tea/coffee and treats served.

Nuns Cross Church, Killiskey Parish due to broadcast with RTE

RTE are due to broadcast the “Service on Sunday” on 18th inst. @ 11.00 a.m. in which the Rector, choir and some parishioners took part.

The parish says, “We will gather from 10.30+that Sunday morning, in East Glendalough School’s main foyer to watch the service. See poster page above All welcome”.

Heritage Week events

The Old Dundalk Society contribution to the 2024 Heritage Week will focus on the history of their local communities through trade, exploration and migration that have shaped communities over time.

This year’s heritage theme will be developed in the St Nicholas Quarter of the town, with a visit to St. Nicholas Parish Church (Green Church) originally built circa 1400 A.D. and also a visit to the Church of St. Nicholas built in 1859 (part of St. Patrick’s Cathedral Parish).

The tour will take place on Wednesday 21st of August assembling at St Nicholas Parish Church (Green Church) at 6.30pm sharp.

August 13, 2024

Mr Trevor Patterson (Select Vestry) will deliver a presentation on the history of the church and its involvement with local communities.

After the lecture the tour will leave the precincts of the Church and will proceed along Church Street towards the Church of St. Nicholas stopping on the way for a musical interlude, with music by members of the wonderful Ukulele band the 'Yew Tree Ukus'.

After the foot tapping musical entertainment, people will proceed to the Church of St. Nicholas arriving at 7.30 pm, entering the Church they will be greeted by the sound of traditional Irish music played by 'Cuchulainn CCE Junior Traditional Band'.

Fr. Michael Murtagh will then present a lecture on the History of the Church and its relevance within the local community and reference the Oliver Plunkett connection to the St Nicholas Quarter of the town.

The event will conclude at 8.30pm approximately. Everyone welcome to attend this free event.

Shandon Bells & Tower - Saturday 17th August

Celebrate the heritage of the Book of Common Prayer as it was in use during the church's 300 years of history in Cork—from 1722 to the present day.

Join us for services throughout the day that will be taken from various editions of the Prayer Book. Services include Morning Prayer (8:30 am), Noon Day Eucharist (noon) Evening Prayer (4:30 pm) and Compline (8 pm)

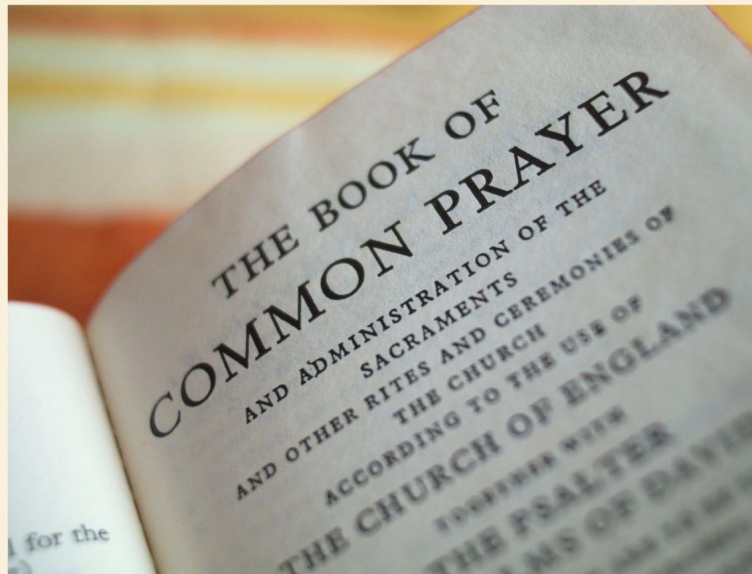


St. Anne's Church
Shandon Tower & Bells

17.08.24

HERITAGE DAY

The Heritage of the Book of Common Prayer as used at St Anne's 1722-2024



Join us for services throughout the day that will be taken from various editions of the Prayer Book

Morning Prayer - 08:30 | Noon Day Eucharist - 12:00

Evening Prayer - 16:30 | Compline - 20:00

Shandon Bells & Tower - Church of Ireland in Cork, Cloyne and Ross

Parenting in a digital world

Thomas Street Methodist are hosting three important evening sessions on Thursday evenings in September.

Thomas Street Methodist
Church, Portadown



Thursday 5th September
7.30pm



Ian Bingham from CARE Northern Ireland will be taking each session at 7.30pm in the minor hall.

Thursday 5th- Parenting in a digital world

Thursday 12th- Living for Jesus in a modern technological age

Thursday 19th- Helping families who are struggling

August 13, 2024

These are deeply important issues for us as God's people to consider and reflect on. Please make a big effort to come along.

Big Restart for Derry and Raphoe youth groups

On Saturday 5th October we will be holding our new event this year called Big Restart, aimed at bringing together youth groups restarting after the summer break.

We have booked the "Full Aerial Challenge" at Oakfire Adventure, which is a mix of harnessed tree top crossings and zip lines.

Date: Saturday 5th October
Time: 11am - 2.30pm approx

Thomas Street Methodist Church, Portadown

Thursday 12th September 7.30pm

Living for Jesus
in a modern
technological age

CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE

August 13, 2024

Location: Oakfire Adventure, Glenshane Road (between Londonderry and Claudy)

Price: £20/€25 per person participating (includes lunch)

Closing date for booking: Monday 16th September 2024



Below is the booking form to allocate spaces for your young people and leaders, with a consent form to follow. Each youth group attending must bring at least one leader from their parish. Once you have filled in the booking form, please pay the Diocesan Office for the amount of spaces

August 13, 2024

you have booked. We would suggest, if your parish is able, to subsidise the cost to your families.

This event is open to those youth groups of secondary school age. Please be aware this will be an active event, young people attending should be informed of the type of activities that will be involved (click here to see activity website)

Safety information provided by Oakfire Adventures: must be at least 1.40m (4'7") tall, weigh less than 120kg (19 stone)

Places will be on a first come, first served if the event becomes oversubscribed.

Payment can either be by cheque or bank transfer:

Name on cheque: "Derry and Raphoe Synod"

Sterling Account bank transfer details: Account No.

10042430 Sort Code 904974

Euro Account bank transfer details: IBAN

IE83AIBK93729009290026

Please include the reference of "(PARISH NAME) - DRY" when sending money and send me an email, so we can match bookings to payments received.

We are hoping to have a bus available where groups could join along the route depending on location. If you have any further questions, please email claire@derryandrphoe.org.

Please do share this email and the booking form with your youth leaders. We're excited to see groups join us!

Poem for today



Wild Geese

by Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
For a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about your despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.

August 13, 2024

Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air, are heading home again.

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -- over and over announcing your place in the family of things.

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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