

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – National Church Awards**

## Image of the day



## National Church Awards - Nominate Your Treasured Place of Worship

**“It's that time of year again! Through the Treasure Ireland project we've visited so many beautiful places of worship.**

“This year, the National Church Awards will celebrate the dedication, care, and impact of those who keep church buildings thriving and open to all”.

Whether it's maintaining a church, chapel, or meeting house, welcoming visitors, or running a community project.



The awards this year have been inspired by the work and legacy of Lord Patrick Cormack, a champion of church buildings, who dedicated his life to helping to keep churches open and in use.

**Categories include:**

- Care & Conservation Awards
- Church & Community Volunteers Awards
- Open for Visitors Awards
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Friends Award
- Church of the Year



**Submit your nomination by midnight on Thursday, 5 September 2024.** The winners will be announced at the National Church Awards ceremony at Lincoln Cathedral on Tuesday, 22 October 2024. <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/impact/awards>



New topper near East Belfast school

## News

### Jerusalem youth development training programme enters second year

**Today marks the third day of the 2nd year of the “Whom Shall I Send” youth development training programme organised by The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.**

USPG is proud to support this work in partnership with the diocese and the Anglican Alliance.



**Drawing together young people from across the province, all from a range of different backgrounds and cultures, the programme seeks to discern ways to rethink mission and serve God both as ordained or lay ministers.**

The opening Eucharist on the first morning was led by The Rt Revd Sean Semple, Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf.

As they explore the theme of “under the tent of Abraham and Sarah” please uphold the group in prayer this week.

## Antrim's alpaca adventures

**NATIONAL ALPACA FARM DAY**


**MEET ALPACAS . SEE THE FARM . ENJOY AND LEARN**

**FREE** **FREE**

**JOIN US ON:**

Saturday 7th Sept, 2024    From 2pm to 5pm  
&  
Sunday 8th Sept, 2024    From 2pm to 5pm

**Where:**    Millstream Alpacas  
                  Milltown Road,  
                  Antrim. BT41 4NW



Sponsored by  
**THE BRITISH ALPACA SOCIETY**

## C of E blocks Grade II listed disused church being turned into a mosque and museum

**The Church of England has intervened to stop a disused Grade II-listed church from being converted into a mosque.**

An Islamic charity won planning permission earlier this month to turn the Georgian church of St John's in Hanley, Staffordshire, into a Muslim place of worship.

However, the Church of England has blocked the development using a legal clause that prevents the building from being used for worship by any religion other than Christianity.

The restrictive covenant was placed on the church when the diocese of Lichfield sold it in 2009.

It was built in 1788, but had been out of use since the 1980s because of concerns over the building's structural integrity.

The church initially became a cafe and antiques centre, before being sold on to the Zamir Foundation which won permission from Stoke-on-Trent city council to turn it into a mosque on Aug 15. The charity also planned to install a museum, multi-faith library and women's only gym inside the building.

But the Church of England has declined the plans. A spokesman for the Church Commissioners, which manages the Anglican church's investments and assets, said the owners had been informed that it would not permit the change.

"The Church Commissioners is aware that planning permission has been granted for changes to St John's Hanley," the spokesman said.

'A covenant prohibits the use of the building as a place of worship other than as a church'

"We support former churches being used for community purposes, but a restrictive covenant prohibits the use of the building as a place of worship other than as a church, and the Commissioners has explained this to the owner."

August 30, 2024

Building works had already started at the church before planning permission was granted.

## Cathedral Calls



## New Bishop of Argyll & The Isles in The Scottish Episcopal Church

**The Rt Rev David Railton has been consecrated and installed as the new Bishop of Argyll & The Isles at a special service in Oban.**

Bishop David succeeds Bishop Keith Riglin, who passed away in September last year after a short illness.



August 30, 2024

The consecration at The Cathedral Church of St John the Divine, at the heart of what was described during the service as “the most romantic see in Christendom”, was led by the Most Rev Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church. He was joined by other members of the College in the act of consecration – laying of hands on the new Bishop, with prayer.

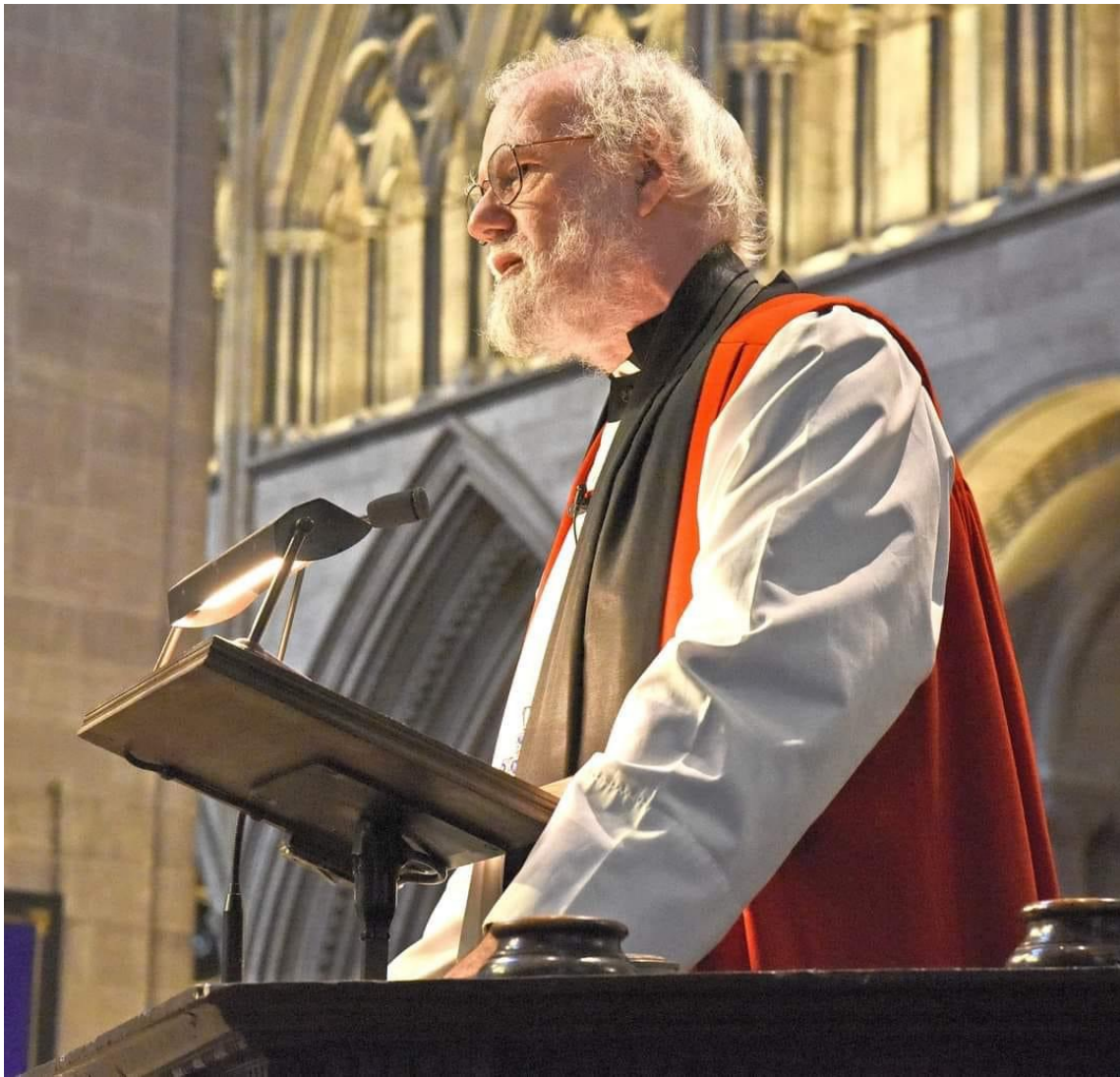
After the service, the new Bishop said it was a “privilege and a delight” to have been joined by friends and family, and people from across the Diocese, “to mark this moment of transition – for me personally, and for the Diocese and indeed Province, as a new Bishop joins the College of Bishops.”

He continued: “I’m looking forward to being with the congregations across the Diocese in the days and weeks to follow. There are, of course, challenges ahead, but if we do what we do with joy in our hearts, and if we continue to put our trust in God, I know the Spirit will continue to shine brightly across this wonderful part of God’s creation.”

## **Rowan Williams and Theology of Storytelling at Hereford Cathedral**

### **Becoming as Little Children: C.S. Lewis, Narnia and the Theology of Storytelling: Dr. Rowan Williams.**

“We are thrilled to welcome one of the world’s most renowned theologians, Dr. Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, to Hereford Cathedral on Friday



25 October to deliver this a talk as part of our Narnia Week events”.

This talk will take place inside the cathedral at 7pm and tickets cost £10. Book your place here: <https://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/narnia-talk-with-dr-rowan-williams>

## **Installation of Dean of Lincoln**

In just over two weeks time on Saturday 14 September at 3pm, the Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones will be installed as Dean of Lincoln.

August 30, 2024

All are invited to join us as we welcome Simon to the Cathedral and Diocese. To help us to manage numbers,



please use the link below to indicate that you would like to attend.

<https://simonjonesinstallation.eventbrite.co.uk>

## Clergy and ministry

**Northern Ireland: diocese will welcome  
1st seminarian in 6 years**

August 30, 2024

**The Diocese of Clogher is welcoming its first seminarian in six years. The number of diocesan priests there fell from 136 in 1950 to 64 in 2021.**

Elsewhere in Northern Ireland, the Archdiocese of Armagh has 16 seminarians, the Diocese of Derry has four, and the Diocese of Dromore has two. The Diocese of Down and Connor has three seminarians and will soon welcome six more

## **Move for Chaplain in the Mater Hospital**



**Chaplains from the Belfast Trust say farewell to Fr Tony McAleese after serving six years as Chaplain in the Mater Hospital and across the Belfast Trust.**

August 30, 2024

He will be moving onto a new ministry at Oliver Plunkett Parish



**Circuit Welcoming Service** for  
Rev Ruth Mathews, Bloomfield &  
Rev Pat Lennox, Mountpottinger  
in Bloomfield Methodist Church  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 7.00pm

*'He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.'" Mark 16:15*

## Return of All Saints' Clooney Musical Director

**A welcome back for organist, Stewart Smith. This will be Stewart's second spell at All Saints' Clooney and he will join us at our upcoming 11am Sunday Service on 1st September.**

Stewart is an exceptional organist and we look forward to an exciting musical array of hymns and praise.

“ It will be great to hear the powerful splendour of organ music, so join us in giving him a warm welcome”.

August 30, 2024

# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

## New Irish Youth Choir to feature in BBC Radio services this Sunday

**New Irish Youth Choir will feature in BBC Radio services this Sunday, with music from their recent summer residential concert, readings and prayers led by current members, and a reflection given by Jonathan Rea.**

You can catch the broadcasts live on Sunday 1st September on BBC Radio 4 at 8:10AM, or on BBC Radio Ulster at 10:03AM, or also on catch up via the BBC Sounds app.

## Free Webinar: Discipleship that sustains - Faith in Later Life

**A free follow up event to the Age of Opportunity morning in May 2024, this webinar will be delivered by the Faith in Later Life ministry, with whom PCI are exploring this important area of church life.**

Friday 12 September 2024 - 1.30pm OR 7.30pm

The online webinar will continue to explore opportunities for discipleship among those in later life.

For more information and to register for either afternoon or evening webinar, click here: <https://bit.ly/3YSrhcP>

## **Antrim's alpaca adventures**

**An event being run by Jane Kidd, a parishioner of All Saints Antrim. Pop along and enjoy meeting these lovely animals! See information graphic on page 3 above.**

“My name is Jane Kidd and I own Millstream Alpacas on the outskirts of Antrim. I am a member of the British Alpaca Society and some of the members open up their alpaca farm once a year for the general public to come and meet alpacas.

“The purpose of this event is to promote everything about alpacas, e.g. How friendly, quiet, gentle, calm and intelligent they are, what their fleeces is used for and their manure is a rich soil conditioner, very versatile, eco-friendly, is ready for use and great for all levels of gardeners”.

## **Youth and Children's ministry events in Armagh Diocese**

**David Brown, Youth and Children's Officer says “To book in for any of these events/workshops, please drop me an email [doycarmagh@gmail.com](mailto:doycarmagh@gmail.com) or call me on 07557 655 860.**

## Diocese of Armagh. Youth and Children's Ministry Key Events: September to December 2024.

**Tues 24th  
Sept  
10.30am - 1pm**

In partnership with Scripture Union Northern Ireland, a morning workshop supporting clergy in regards to school assemblies. Ideas, resources and support for clergy visiting primary and secondary schools and leading assemblies. Location: Church House, Armagh.

**Thur 26th  
Sept  
7.00pm**

Flourish initiative "road trip" to the "Ark Community gardens" project, Newcastle, Co. Down. An opportunity for all Flourish members and new parishes wishing to join the initiative to visit an inter-Church environmental ministry in regards to a range of "creation care" ministries.

**8th, 9th,  
15th, 16th Oct  
9.30 am - 1pm**

Youth mental health first aid training (via Zoom). For all adults seeking to better understand and support a young person facing an emerging mental health situation or crisis. This is a Mental Health First Aid (Ireland) certificated skill based programme that builds awareness in regards to a young person's experience of depression, anxiety, eating disorders, psychosis and alcohol and substance mis-use.

**Sat 2nd  
Nov  
10 am - 12.30pm**

In partnership with "The Big House" (A Christian mental health agency) a workshop for all interested in how we understand & support a child or young person who has been bereaved. It will be of interest for parents, youth & children's ministers, clergy & those offering pastoral care. Location to be advised.



Parish of Castlerock & Dunboe



# COUNTRY GOSPEL CONCERT

FEATURING CANON DAVID MCBETH ~  
JONNY JOHNSTON ~ KENNY ARCHER  
COMPERE ~ JOE GRAHAM

FRIDAY 4TH  
OCTOBER  
AT 7.30PM

CHRIST CHURCH  
HALL,  
CASTLEROCK

**ADMISSION £10 BY TICKET ONLY  
IN AID OF AIR AMBULANCE  
(REGISTERED CHARITY NIC103900)**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
EVELYN - 07742 679009  
EVANNA - 028 7084 8317

## BALLYLESSON CONCERT SERIES 2024

*Celebrating Local Talent*

**Saturday 31/8 @ 7 PM  
SUMMER VARIETY CONCERT**

**Saturday 14/9 @ 7 PM  
CLASSICAL VOCAL CONCERT**

**FREE ADMISSION** with donations welcome  
to support the concert series.



Thompson's  
SINCE 1891  
Concert Series Sponsor

# In the media

Fr Ron Rolheiser: The precious memory of God's original touch – Page 33

# The Irish Catholic

**IRELAND'S DOCTOR VOCATION CRISIS**



David Quinn  
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**BRINGING LOURDES TO IRELAND**

A celebration of St Bernadette as relics grace the country

Page 11-17



Thursday, August 29, 2024 €3.00 (Stg £2.70) The-Irish-Catholic-Newspaper @IrishCathNews www.irishcatholic.com

## €25m projected for Dublin Pro Cathedral refurbishment

Exclusive

Chai Brady

The Archdiocese of Dublin is set to spend €25 million approximately on the much-needed refurbishment of St Mary's Pro Cathedral in the heart of Dublin City Centre, well-placed sources can reveal.

The significant injection of funds comes as part of Archbishop Dermot Farrell's new 'twin pillar' strategy which centres on St Mary's Pro-Cathedral and St Andrew's Westland Row – soon to be made a cathedral and minor basilica respectively.

The archbishop pegged the two churches as being well placed to be developed as twin pillars "of a renewed pastoral and missionary strategy".

However direct queries to the archdiocese from *The Irish Catholic* about the strategy were vague, particularly around financing.

The archdiocese did not respond to a query about where Archbishop Farrell's forthcoming "substantial financial support" would be coming from in order to "enable necessary structural work to be carried out without adversely affecting other important pastoral needs".

According to insiders, Dublin diocese is running a two million deficit annually, with 40% of parishes unable to pay as much as would be desired.

The 'Implementation Group', chaired by Bishop Paul Dempsey, will also be spearheading the aim "to identify other sources of support for the development of pastoral and cultural programmes, as well as for the conservation of the fabric and artefacts that are of civic importance. The reality is that these care and large and important structures will require very

» Continued on Page 2

### Meeting Jesus in the Eucharist with Carlo Acutis...



Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin Paul Dempsey visits parishioners and Fr Alan Hilliard of City Quay Parish in Dublin City Centre. After going to the shrine of Blessed Carlo Acutis, Bishop Dempsey said: "Very special to pray at the shrine of Bl. Carlo Acutis, a young man who invites us to meet Jesus in the Eucharist."

### THE CONTRADICTIONS OF NELL

Mary Kenny

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### BEING LED ASTRAY BY SOCIAL MEDIA

Fr Vincent Sherlock

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### THE SIGN OF PEACE MAY NEVER RECOVER...

Martina Purdy

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Charity Number 10568 Charity Registered Number 20027193

Host a Coffee Morning for St. Francis Hospice on Thursday 26th September!



Call 8294000

Register at Main Reception or online www.sfh.ie Thank You!

August 30, 2024

## Poem for today

### St. Martin's Summer

by Robert Louis Stevenson

AS swallows turning backward  
When half-way o'er the sea,  
At one word's trumpet summons  
They came again to me -  
The hopes I had forgotten  
Came back again to me.

I know not which to credit,  
O lady of my heart!  
Your eyes that bade me linger,  
Your words that bade us part -  
I know not which to credit,  
My reason or my heart.

But be my hopes rewarded,  
Or be they but in vain,  
I have dreamed a golden vision,  
I have gathered in the grain -  
I have dreamed a golden vision,  
I have not lived in vain.

## 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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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# Church News Ireland

[www.churchnewsireland.org](http://www.churchnewsireland.org)

Posted early Monday to Saturday

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