

# Church News Ireland



Image of the day - Ubuntu

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# Image of the day

## Ubuntu

**This is a piece of artwork created by many of the children at a recent interfaith weekend for families held at Corrymeela.**

The theme of the weekend was Ubuntu, the idea that “I am because we are” or another way to say it is “we belong to each other”.

### **A Prayer in Times of Violence**

God of all humanity  
in times of violence

we see how inhuman we can be.

We pray for those who, today, are weighed down by grief.

We pray for those who, yesterday, were weighed down by grief.

And the day before,

and all the days before the day before.

We pray, too, for those who help us turn towards justice and peace.

Turn us all towards justice and peace.

because we need it.

Amen.

Pádraig Ó Tuama

Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community



## Finchley Scout Group visits Belfast Synagogue

**Former MLA and current Scout area chairman William Humphreys facilitated an afternoon visit by 20th Finchley Scout Group (Woodside Park Synagogue), to the beautiful Belfast Synagogue.**

Thanks were expressed to Neville Finch (Chairman) and Michael Black BEM (Deputy Chairman) of the Belfast Jewish community for conducting the tour.



William said, "Great to see the old 86th Belfast (1st Jewish) Scout Group flag on display." ✡️✚





## **Ballyclare and Antrim youth have memorable Exodus trip to Terragona**

**A team of young people from St John's, Ballyclare, and All Saints', Antrim, have recently returned from Tarragona in Spain where they travelled with Exodus.**

The team of 13 were based in the church in the city of Valls, where, along with local teenagers, they led a kids' holiday club and supported local churches in street evangelism.

Exodus is this year sending almost 60 teams on mission from Northern Ireland across the world with more than 500 young people serving God over the summer.



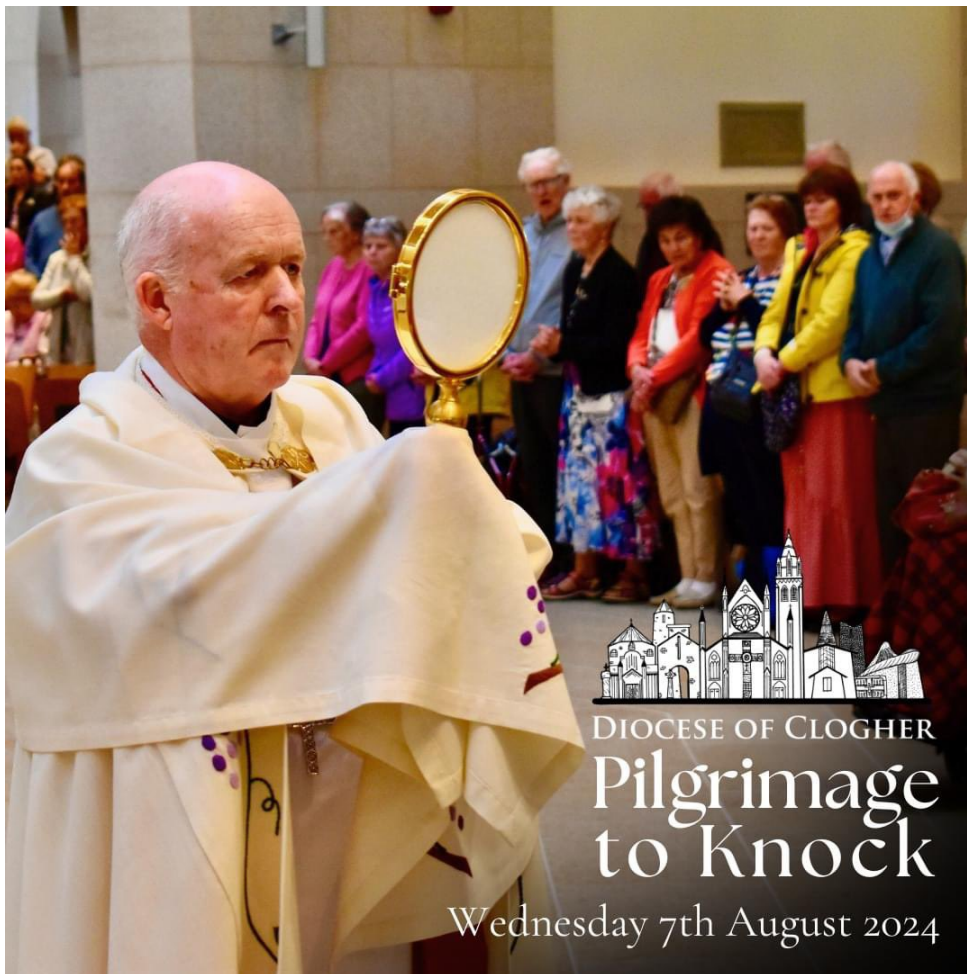
## Climate Justice Candle visits St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, Galway

St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, Galway, is open daily to visitors, and it was great

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**for members to be able to host the candle as it added another point of interest and discussion for their many visitors.**

It has also served as a focus for parishioners, enhancing their commitment to Eco-Congregation Ireland and Climate Justice



## **Clogher Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine today**

Bishop Larry will lead the Clogher Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine today Wednesday, August 7th. More at : <http://clogherdiocese.ie/knockpilgrimage>

## **Adam Peaty credits Christian mentor for changing his perspective on life**

**Three-time Olympic swimming champion Adam Peaty has revealed more about how he has been supported on the journey of his Christian faith.**

Peaty revealed to The Guardian that just months ago, he faced a profound personal crisis, grappling with depression and searching for balance in his life.

"It started in the water... I was crying as I was swimming," he recalled of the moment that "broke" him.

Yet, he said that through this ordeal, he found solace in his faith. He shared that the words "Into the Light," inked beneath a cross on his torso, symbolise his spiritual rebirth.

Peaty sought refuge in various sources of support, including Ashley Null, a theologian who was a chaplain to the GB Olympic team.

Peaty told The Guardian: "A big moment came when I went to church with Ashley and we sat at the back. It made me understand people are more lost than ever as it takes huge wisdom to feel grateful for what we have. We're programmed to always want more.

"The hardest thing is to put your pride aside and say: 'It doesn't matter what you earn or what you've accomplished.'



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We should all be equal. But I never push [my faith] on people.”

## Cathedral Calls



## Three Choirs Festival moves from Worcester to Hereford

**Worcester 2024 was incredible.**

Rightly, thanks have been expressed to the Festival Volunteers, Chorus, Voices, Youth Choir, Staff, and of course, all of the audiences.

“For now, we say a fond farewell to Worcester, and a warm welcome to Hereford 2025”.



## **600-year-old Christmas Market returns to Canterbury Cathedral Precincts**

**Revived for 2024, the free-to-enter market will feature German-style wooden huts in the grounds, delicious food & drink, live music & carols, and a vintage-style carousel - <https://ow.ly/f6Te50SR1mC>**

## **See short film on Birmingham Cathedral's Divine Beauty project**

**“A special film documenting the extensive conservation of our four beautiful stained-glass windows, is now available for all to enjoy”.**



The short documentary provides insight into the work of expert conservators from Holy Well Glass, who completed the meticulous work of cleaning and repairing the glass. The film also features Victoria Osborne – Curator of Fine Art at Birmingham Museums Trust, talking about the significance of the windows within the Pre-Raphaelite art movement. Producers also followed cathedral staff and volunteers, playing key role in public engagement activities during the project.

The film was first shown in the cathedral on Sunday 21 April, following a special service of Choral Evensong, giving thanks for the Divine Beauty Project. The service was attended by the project’s funders, supporters, cathedral community and the Bishop of Birmingham – who blessed and rededicated the windows.

Speaking at the service, The Dean of Birmingham, The Very Reverend Matt Thompson, said: “We give thanks for the careful, painstaking work of conservation, years in planning and months in expert execution, which now enables us to

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see afresh the genius of Edward Burne-Jones and the expert craftsmanship of the William Morris Company, in a way that will delight and excite visitors and worshippers for years to come.”

“We have been blessed by a succession of key supporters, expert advisors, valued contractors, generous funders, dedicated volunteers, members of staff and the enduring support of our cathedral community.”

In reference to the windows, he added: “They are the most wonderful surprise for those who venture within these walls

– to warm up on a cold day or for five minutes peace at the end of a stressful day, or in moments of joy or great sorrow

– and then encounter them for the first time. We are well-versed in sharing our windows – or so we thought. One of the many gifts of the Divine Beauty Project has been learning so many new ways in which to share them with a wide variety of new audiences.”

The documentary was commissioned by History West Midlands and produced by Simon Russell at IDM Media.

The Divine Beauty Project was generously supported by National Lottery players, via The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

<https://birminghamcathedral.com/divine-beauty-documentary/>

# A Prayer for Peace in a Time of Disorder

God of love,  
our hearts are broken as we see hatred and violence in  
our land.

We pray for peace and justice on our streets  
and in our communities,  
for those injured or frightened,  
for peacemakers,  
for the emergency services.

Lord of life  
inspire us with a vision of your kingdom  
so that together we may overcome division  
and see your justice and mercy triumph in all the earth.

May we shine as lights in the world  
bringing your peace and love  
to our beautiful and diverse city region.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

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# Clergy and ministry

## Blessing the pub

**St James Garlickhythe is at the Three Cranes**

“Today the Rector led by the Verger (as Ward Beadle) and armed with a





prayer for the Blessing of Beer (and not a little Holy Water) blessed the Three Cranes Pub, near to the church, that has reopened. It is important to support and pray for businesses in our parish in which are situated the Halls of the Worshipful Companies of Inn Holders and Vintners!”

Read the rich and interesting history of St James ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St\\_James\\_Garlickhythe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_James_Garlickhythe))

# Church News Ireland

# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

## Young Person's Reference Group events

**The NI Department of Education has commenced the review of Priorities for Youth, working towards the development of a new youth work policy.**

In line with a co-design approach, DE is putting the voice of young people at the centre of this process. A Young Person's Reference Group (YPRG) was established to advise and guide the Department on this.

The YPRG have agreed to run events specifically on – 'A young person's vision for youth work in NI'. One had taken place in Belfast (29 June) with upcoming events planned for Omagh (17 August) and Derry/Londonderry (7 September) which are open to young people aged 13-25 years of age. The YPRG have planned the events using youth work approaches and they will lead the activities throughout each day.

The Omagh event is taking place on Saturday 17th August, at Omagh Youth Centre. The event will start at 10:30am and finish by 2pm. Lunch will be provided on the day.

Registration is now open through Eventbrite for the Omagh event, which includes further details, using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-young-persons-vision-for-youth-work-in-ni-tickets-921394023327>



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The Derry/Londonderry event is taking place on Saturday 7th September, at the Millennium Forum. The event will start at 10:30am and finish by 2pm. Lunch will be provided on the day. Registration is now open through Eventbrite for the Belfast event, which includes further details, using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/young-persons-vision-for-youth-work-in-ni-tickets-959501714457>



ALL SAINTS CLOONEY, CLOONEY  
HALL METHODIST AND  
EBRINGTON INVITE YOU TO

# WATERSIDE CONNECT

A week packed with  
fun, games and  
exploring the bible!

**Monday 19th - Friday 23rd  
August 2024**

**2-4pm** everyday in  
**Ebrington Church!**  
For everyone in **P1-P7**

If you have any questions feel  
free to contact  
[waterside@suni.co.uk](mailto:waterside@suni.co.uk)



**MISSIONS**  
Scripture Union  
Northern Ireland

Young people can sign-up to attend (with their parent/guardian permission) or groups can register (up to a maximum of 10 young people) but the individual details of each young person will be required. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come/first served basis. If a youth worker plans to attend with a group, they must confirm their attendance by emailing [youth.Services@education-ni.gov.uk](mailto:youth.Services@education-ni.gov.uk)

## Love God, Love God's World - Creation Care Curriculum

### Episcopal Church call to action

"Love God, Love God's World" is more than a curriculum; it's a call to action for all Episcopalians.

With nine sessions of rich content, you'll explore films, readings, and discussions that deepen your understanding



**Ben McGonigle**  
will be performing an  
**Organ & Piano Recital**  
on Thursday 15th August  
at 12.30pm  
in St Patrick's Church,  
37 Church St, Coleraine  
BT52 1AR

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and commitment to creation care. Start your journey today at -

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/creation-care/love-god-love-gods-world>.

## Poem for today

### Michael Longley on poems

**“Most poems are too long,” says Michael Longley, impishly.**

“For me, intensity is a crucial element of a good poem. And not a syllable in excess. I think what passes for poetry too often now is mere chatter.”

Part of the 1960s’ wave of great Northern Irish poets (alongside Heaney and Mahon), he has long followed a path away from chatter, toward clarity and restraint.

In his most haiku-like nature poems, he’s Belfast’s answer to Bashō. When not writing about the beauty of Carrigskeewaun, his theme is often war.

“Harmonica” – his favourite poem from his new Selected, out just in time for his 85th birthday – is inspired by his father’s experiences in the First World War.

“As a schoolboy I brought home a harmonica, and my father picked it up and played it quite well. I’d never heard him play an instrument before.”

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His father, he discovered, taught himself to play with his fellow soldiers in the lulls between fighting, forming a marching band.

“He joined up at 17 or 18. By the time he was 20, he’d been promoted to captain. He was in charge of a company of soldiers – many weren’t regular shavers, they were so young. They were nicknamed ‘Longley’s babies’.”

The poet had wanted to write about that memory for years, but couldn’t find the right approach, until he stumbled across a passage in a book on Greek philosophy about Anaximenes, who believed everything was made of air. It struck him as the perfect metaphor.

Longley – who has used translations of Homer to comment on the Troubles – often returns to the ancient world in his work. I ask him why, and he playfully denies it: “It’s not that I keep returning to it. It’s just that it won’t let me go away.”

Tristram Fane Saunders

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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# Church News Ireland

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

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