

# Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Rocket science cathedral**

July 22, 2023

## Image of the day



## Rocket science cathedral

**Space Agency UK landed their giant rocket replica in Writers' Square beside Belfast Cathedral to mark its 'Space for Everyone' tour and there were plenty of youngsters dreaming of blasting off into the galaxy after their visit.**

The 72ft replica of the LauncherOne rocket arrived in Writer's Square on Thursday morning and has already welcomed quite a few curious young minds..

Visitors have the chance to see the rocket model up close and learn about the important role of space in our everyday lives. See In the media, below on page

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# People and places



## Lough Derg filmed for German documentary

On Thursday Lough Derg said goodbye to Agata and Regina as they finished their 3 Day Pilgrimage and began the journey back home to Germany.

A TV crew accompanied them during their time on Station Island to film a documentary about Lough Derg, which will be televised in Germany in early 2024



*German TV crew with friends made at Lough Derg*

## **Templebreedy helps the needy**

**Christian Aid Ireland has said a huge thank you to Rev Isobel Jackson and her wonderful parishioners in Templebreedy Group of Parishes (Crosshaven and Kinsale, County Cork) who held a coffee morning and sale recently, which raised over €1,500 for Christian Aid's work.**

During a special church service at Holy Trinity Church, Crosshaven, Christian Aid's Bandon-based Church and Community Officer Andrew Coleman (right) spoke about the life-changing work carried out by a Christian Aid-funded



*Rev Isobel Jackson and Church and Community Officer Andrew Coleman*

partner in southern Malawi where pigeon pea farmers have managed to grow their incomes to better provide for their families.

After the service, the parishioners held a coffee morning and sale of cakes, knitwear, produce and flowers.

“We’re incredibly grateful to all of them for their hard work and generosity” says Christian Aid.

This was Rev Isobel’s last Christian Aid fundraiser at Templebreedy before she left for her new posting in Newbridge and Kildare Church of Ireland Parishes.

“Rev Isobel has been a faithful supporter of our work over many years and we pray that she will settle well into her new role”.

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## Preparing for mission in South Sudan

**Andrew and Joanne Quill** called into the CMSI office with Joanne's parents, Eric and Eva. Please pray for Andrew and Joanne as they continue to prepare for the next chapter of their lives as CMSI mission partners in Ibba, South Sudan. If you would like to find out more visit: <https://www.cmsireland.org/>

**The team from Templepatrick Presbyterian Church** arrived safely in Arua, Uganda, a week ago. Read all about what they have been experiencing... Here is a sample - "Mickey, Joshua and Fred greeted us at the airport and took us to a Northern Irish stomach friendly brunch at Rojeay Creamery. Afterwards at the Mothers' Union Guesthouse we were introduced to our hosts, Grace, Lilian and Nora. We then went on to meet Bishop Collins of the Diocese of Madi and West Nile, he prayed over us and commissioned us for our time in his diocese. We were warmly welcomed by a

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song of blessing from the church members gathered. We then joined to eat together as a family."

<https://www.cmsireland.org/single-post/a-rich-welcome-in-madi-west-nile>



## The Sunflower Sisters

**The Redemptoristine Sisters, Dublin, admire the growth of sunflowers on the convent grounds.**

Pictured are the community's prioress Sr Gabrielle, Sr Máire Bríd, Sr Deirdra and Sr Lucy.

Courtesy - Irish Catholic Newspaper



## **Revival at Glencairn Community Garden**

Glencairn Community Garden, at the foot of the Belfast Hills, is full of colour and life on an acre of what was previously derelict land beside St Andrew's Parish Church.

Stephen Whitten from the North Belfast Centre of Mission and a core team of volunteers have been busy planting, painting, building, harvesting and more. The garden is bursting with vegetables as well as flowers, trees and an abundance of wild grasses and wildflowers.

# **Church News Ireland**



*1923 Choral Event  
Reimagined on July  
22nd, 2023*  
*St Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare Town*  
*Ticket's on Eventbrite*

**300 VOICES** *Your VOICE MATTERS*

*Rehearsal will be directed by  
Thomas Charles Marshall,  
Director of Music  
St Brigid's Cathedral*

**11AM  
FORMATION  
&  
REHEARSALS**

**LUNCH  
&  
SOCIAL TIME**

**4PM  
SERVICE OF  
CHORAL  
EVENSONG**

DECADE OF CENTENARIES | Kildare County Council | MEATH & KILDARE DIOCESE

## News reports

### Future looking exciting for youth churches across the UK, Church Army review

A Church Army review of the Missional Youth Church Network (MYCN) has shown it is making good progress



**towards its target of establishing 30 missional youth churches in five years.**

Missional Youth Churches (MYCs) enable 11- to 18-year-olds to build community and discover their faith, and each is particular to its own context and need.

MYCN now **has contact with more than 100 leaders across the country** with an interest in building churches with young people in their area. And since the Learning Community for youth leaders, clergy, pioneers, and school leaders launched online in 2020, **25 MYCs have started to develop and grow.** Benefact Trust is supporting this exciting project with over £200,000 in funding.

The Church Army review has discovered that leaders have grown the most in their confidence and capability in building community with young people, sharing faith with them, and in discipleship with young people. One youth worker said:

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*“I’ve found it helpful to hear stories and methods of how to move unchurched young people from relationships and drop-ins into small groups where they explore faith.”*

MYCs look very different in a variety of communities across the UK. In Dinting Vale, Derbyshire, the Revd Nick Gurney has been running youth ministry sessions every Friday after school with a team of volunteers, engaging with 60 young people from the local secondary school. And for young people in Whitehaven, Cumbria, Alison and her team have been going into a school and leading a lunchtime craft club which has developed into a space where young people can share their hopes and dreams through different activities.

*“The MYCN vision chimes with the Church of England’s aim to be a younger and more diverse church of missionary disciples. MYCN Team members have tried and tested Anglican experience of working with unchurched young people and of forming new worshipping communities. They are well placed to offer practical, strategic and formational support to dioceses and churches.” - **Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York***

*“It is fantastic to see the progress MYCN is making, and the variety of different youth churches that are being established across the UK. It is a privilege to support MYCN’s vision which will help to secure the future of the church and see it becoming more diverse and inclusive.” – **Andrew Bass, Senior Grants Officer, Benefact Trust***

Exciting discussions are taking place for the next phase of growth across the whole country. The Church Army review of MYCN concludes that there is considerable potential for

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MYCN to contribute to the delivery of the Church of England's 'Vision and Strategy for the 2020s' and to help more dioceses establish Missional Youth Churches.

You can download the full Church Army review, [here](https://www.mycn.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=333149).  
<https://www.mycn.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=333149>

## In the media



### **Kids having a blast as Space Agency UK's giant rocket tour touches down in Belfast**

Belfast Telegraph - Space Agency UK landed their giant rocket replica in Belfast's city centre to mark its 'Space for Everyone' tour and there were plenty of youngsters dreaming of blasting off into the galaxy after their visit. The 72ft replica of the LauncherOne rocket arrived in Writer's Square on Thursday morning and has already welcomed quite a few curious young minds..

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Visitors have the chance to see the rocket model up close and learn about the important role of space in our everyday lives.

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/life/family/kids-having-a-blast-as-space-agency-uks-giant-rocket-tour-touches-down-in-belfast/a1373958040.html>



## **Senior lawyer appointed to represent NI on BBC Board**

Irish News - A senior lawyer has become the first person from Northern Ireland to be appointed to the BBC Board. Michael Smyth has been appointed to the 14-person board for a four-year period,

## **New Belfast bus tour set to mark city's new UNESCO City of Music status**

Belfast Live - The tour will take in all four corners of the city as it explores the stories of the likes of Van Morrison, Ruby Murray and Kneecap

A new bus tour is set celebrate the musical excellence and cultural significance of Belfast to mark the city's new

UNESCO City of Music status.

Renowned for its rich musical heritage and iconic music venues, the tour will allow passengers to experience Belfast's rock and roll spirit like never before.

Organised by Oh Yeah Music Centre, the tour is a unique opportunity to explore the city's musical legacy through the lens of a specially curated multi-genre playlist while an expert local guide unveils lesser-known facts and captivating stories that have been passed down through generations.

<https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/whats-on/new-belfast-bus-tour-set-2735995>

## **Boris Johnson's partygate legal fees cost taxpayer £265,000**

Sky News - Angela Rayner, Labour's deputy leader, said the cost to the taxpayer was an "unprecedented and unacceptable waste" and called on Rishi Sunak to force Mr Johnson to hand the cash back.

Boris Johnson's legal defence fees for the probe into his role in the partygate scandal have topped £265,000, new figures have revealed.

The Cabinet Office said on Thursday the former prime minister's legal defence totalled £265,522 - a bill it paid as

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Mr Johnson defended himself to the parliamentary committee.

Peters & Peters, the law firm used to provide Mr Johnson with legal advice, was handed a contract in August 2022 worth £129,000, although the Cabinet Office later estimated costs would rise to £222,000.

<https://news.sky.com/story/boris-johnsons-partygate-legal-fees-cost-taxpayer-163265000-12924534>

## **Carers to get National Living Wage as support hours cut**

RTE News - The Government has announced increased funding for home carers provided by the State.

Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly said the extra money - which will see carers paid at least the National Living Wage of €13.10 per hour - will "help address some of the key issues impacting recruitment and retention in the sector".

The move also sees travel time included for the first time.

State-funded home support is provided directly by the HSE and other providers in the private, community and voluntary sectors.

Mr Donnelly said: "The new higher rates will advance significant sectoral reform, and will, for the first time, incorporate travel time for home support providers, reform legacy rates, and ensure carers are paid the National Living Wage at a minimum.

"This promises to help maintain the high volumes of service delivery and to reduce waiting times for home support."

In 2023 the overall home care budget is €723 million, the Department of Health said.

<https://www.rte.ie/news/2023/0721/1395713-care-funding/>



## Odeon expects one million film goers as Barbenheimer released

Belfast Telegraph - Odeon has said one million customers are expected at its cinemas in the week following the release of Barbie and Oppenheimer.

Both films will be released on Friday, which has given rise to cinemagoers purchasing back-to-back tickets for what has been dubbed, Barbenheimer.

Odeon said thousands will see director Greta Gerwig's comedy about the famous doll Barbie and Christopher Nolan's biographical thriller on physicist J Robert



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Oppenheimer and his role in developing the first atomic bomb on the same day.

The film chain reports that more than 200,000 advance tickets were purchased and more than 10,000 guests are expected to see both films in opening weekend.

The company said both productions, which have stars including Cillian Murphy, Florence Pugh, Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling, are its biggest films of the year so far for advance sales.

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/entertainment/news/odeon-expects-one-million-film-goers-as-barbenheimer-released/a331126233.html>

## Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

**Get Creative for Climate Justice**

Art for All of Us | We Pray for Climate Justice | Art Now for Creation

An exciting arts & social justice project for young people & schools

Supported by: CAFOD, Christian Aid, OXFAM, FRIENDS TO KNOW, THE CLIMATE COALITION

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## Get creative for climate justice

The Climate Coalition - Members include CAFOD, Christian Aid, Oxfam and Sunday friend - are inviting young people and schools to [#GetCreativeForClimateJustice](https://caford.org.uk/education/) this autumn. You could have your school's artwork on show in the Houses Of Parliament during [#COP28](https://caford.org.uk/education/)! Find out how <https://caford.org.uk/education/>



## New book for Scouts across the world

“Do Your Best, How to be a Scout” written by Bear Grylls, Chief Ambassador of World Scouting. With advice on how to camp, how to lead, be a team player, and much more! Pre-order from

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@scoutstore1917: <https://shop.scouts.org.uk/do-your-best-book> #DoYourBestBook

## Migration & the Climate Crisis - Online Webinar

**Climate justice = migrant justice! What does this mean and what can we do about it? Join this online event: Indivisible Justice – Migration & the Climate Crisis on 27 July, 18:00 - 19:30 BST. Register today:**

<https://secure.waronwant.org/page/131278/subscribe/1>

Migration & the Climate Crisis  
Online Webinar. Thursday 27 July 18:00 - 19:30 (BST)

Join us to hear from climate and migrant justice activists and movement leaders – and find out what you can do to build power from the ground up in your own community.

The climate crisis and the struggle for migrant justice are deeply connected. Indigenous groups, small-scale farmers, and communities all over the world are being forcibly displaced by devastating floods, severe droughts and rising sea levels. While most are displaced within their own countries, a small number cross borders in search of safety.

These communities are often met with militarised, violent borders and hostile immigration systems. Rich, industrialised Global North countries – the biggest historic polluters and contributors to the climate crisis – are spending, on average, 2.3 times as much on arming their

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# INDIVISIBLE JUSTICE

## MIGRATION & THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Thursday 27 July, 18:00 - 19:30 (UK)

**ONLINE EVENT**

**With: Mitzi Jonelle Tan // Asad Rehman  
// Tandrima Mazumdar & more TBC.**



migrants  
organise

borders as they are on providing financial support to the poorer Global South countries most impacted by the climate crisis.

People have always migrated for safety and to build a better life, but as more people are forced from their communities by the climate crisis, we must ensure that safe pathways are opened. Migrant and climate justice means fighting for the right to stay – to defend communities from the impacts of the climate crisis through global action, and the right to move – for communities to migrate safely and with dignity, when staying is not possible. This means connecting climate and migrant groups in our communities to fight the hostile environment and build power together from the ground up.

Join War on Want, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, Migrants Organise, and the Climate Justice Coalition on Thursday 27 July at 18:00, as we speak with

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activists and movement leaders around the world. Find out how you can be part of the movement for climate justice and migrant justice.

Speakers will include:

- Asad Rehman (War on Want)
- Mikaela Loach (Climate Justice Activist)
- Mitzi Jonelle Tan (Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines - speaking via recorded video)
- Noora Firaq (Climate and Migration Coalition)
- Ravishan Rahel Muthiah (Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants)
- Tandrima Mazumdar (City of Sanctuary Manchester and Solidarity Knows No Borders)

With additional contributions from:

- André Dallas (People & Planet)
- Melanie Strickland (Stansted 15 Activist/Lawyers are Responsible)

Find more information and resources on these issues:

<https://climatejustice.uk/migrantjustice/>

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## Church News Ireland

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