

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – St James's Mallow

January 6, 2024

Image of the day

St James's Mallow

**St James's
Church
Mallow is
open to
visitors
10am-6pm
Monday to
Friday this
week as part
of their
200th year**



**anniversary
celebrations.**

All are warmly invited to come and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and learn about the church's history from one



Bishop of Cork, Rector and Churchwardens

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of the parishioners. Or just wander at your own pace, or sit and take in the atmosphere of this beautiful church.

It's also a great opportunity to view their community patchwork quilt, newly completed for their bicentenary, and which has been produced as a labour of love by the people of Mallow and North Cork.

They are looking forward to welcoming you!
Open Church 22-26 July 10am-6pm



News

Revamp at St John's Church, Ballycarry

They have come to the end of the mammoth task of painting the interior of St John's Church, Ballycarry



and just in time for a big wedding on Saturday.

The rector says - “The church looks fantastic and we're very grateful to Ken and Caolan from Islandmagee Painting and Decorating, firstly for having the courage to take on the job and for completing it so

beautifully.

“Thank you also to Ballycarry Non Subscribing Presbyterian Church for allowing us to use their Church Hall for worship, during the 7 weeks we were out of

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our own Church building.

“We will be having a special service of Thanksgiving at 3.30pm on Sunday 13th October, at which Bishop George will president and preach. You will be most welcome to join us.”



The Harland Wolves
Scouts NI's Roverway 2024 Patrol



Harland Wolves set off to Roverway 2024

The Harland Wolves set off on Monday morning for their adventure at Roverway 2024 in Norway.

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Surrounded by majestic mountains, fjords, and valleys, they'll experience unique Scouting and Guiding activities before joining the main camp in Stavanger.

Have a great time, make new friends, and learn new skills. We will await to hear all about it.

Palestinian Christians challenge the World Council of Churches on Gaza

The board of Kairos Palestine, a Christian Palestinian movement, has written an open letter to the Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches (WCC), after it issued a statement describing Israel's attacks on Palestine as an "escalating crisis", rather than a genocide.

The WCC published its Statement on the Escalating Crisis in Gaza after a meeting in Bogota, Colombia, acknowledging the suffering in Gaza and the need for prayer for the region.

However, Kairos Palestine responded with an Open Letter to the World Council of Church's Executive Committee:

"We trust that the statement was issued with great concern and with the urgent need to terminate the atrocious crimes in Gaza. As Palestinians, as Christians and as your partners, we would like to bring to your attention the following points.

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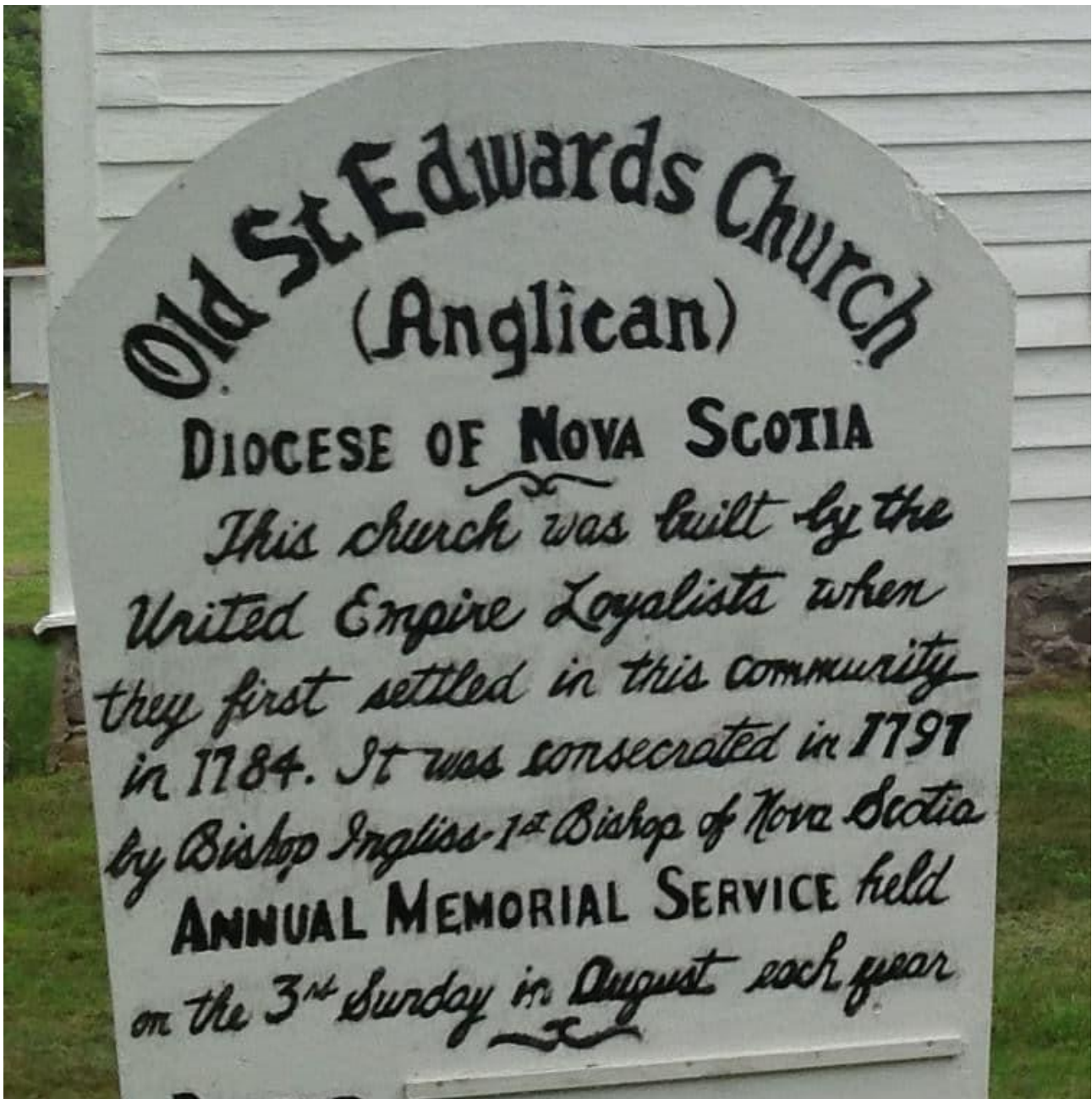
“We believe that the title “Escalating Crisis in Gaza” is neither accurate, nor adequate. The protracted ‘crisis’ is a result of 8 months of Israel’s incessant large-scale military aggression which amounts to acts of genocide, prior to which Gaza has been strangled by a 17-year blockade that forced 2.3 million people to become aid-dependent and extremely vulnerable to famine and starvation.

“Not only is the term genocide absent from the title, it is marginalized in the body of the statement instead of being the essence of what the statement is condemning. It cannot be acceptable that crimes of such scale, committed deliberately over 8 months, be narrowed down to a ‘crisis.’”

Kairos Palestine emphasise the need for peace, saying: “We hold a clear position that non-violent resistance to this injustice is a right and duty for all Palestinians, including Christians.”

The World Council of Churches has been outspoken about the need for peace in the region, stating: “The situation in Gaza exposes the lowest decline in our shared humanity and our collective total failure to honour life. We need to take decisive action to redeem the little of our humanity that may be left.”

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Reminder of Anglican origin on the eastern seaboard of North America

The Scots had a hand - or two on it.





Pope calls for Olympic truce, as wounded journalist carries flame

Pope Francis has said he hopes the Paris Olympics will be an occasion for truces in the world's conflicts, urging athletes to be messengers of peace and models for young people.

The games commence on 27th July, with an opening ceremony on the River Seine that will feature about 10,500 athletes and over 100 heads of state and government.

During his weekly address to the crowds in St Peter's Square on Sunday 21st July, the pope said he hoped that "according to the ancient tradition, the Olympics will be an opportunity to establish a truce in wars, by demonstrating a sincere desire for peace".

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He acknowledged conflicts in Ukraine, Gaza, and Myanmar, saying: "let us not forget war is a defeat".

Last month the final statement of a G7 leaders' meeting held in Italy included a unanimous call for a truce in global conflicts during the Olympic Games.

Cathedral Calls



Liverpool Cathedral marks centenary

Choral Evensong was sung at Liverpool Cathedral on the occasion of the centenary of the consecration which was on 19th July, 1924, and attended by Their Majesties King George and Queen Mary.

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Prior to the centenary celebrations on Sunday, 21st July, the cathedral marked the actual 100th anniversary of the Consecration of Liverpool Cathedral.

On this day, 19th July, 100 years ago in 1924, the cathedral was 'consecrated' or set aside as a church, a place of public worship and private prayer and the seat of the Bishop of Liverpool Diocese of Liverpool, in the presence of Their Majesties King George and Queen Mary.



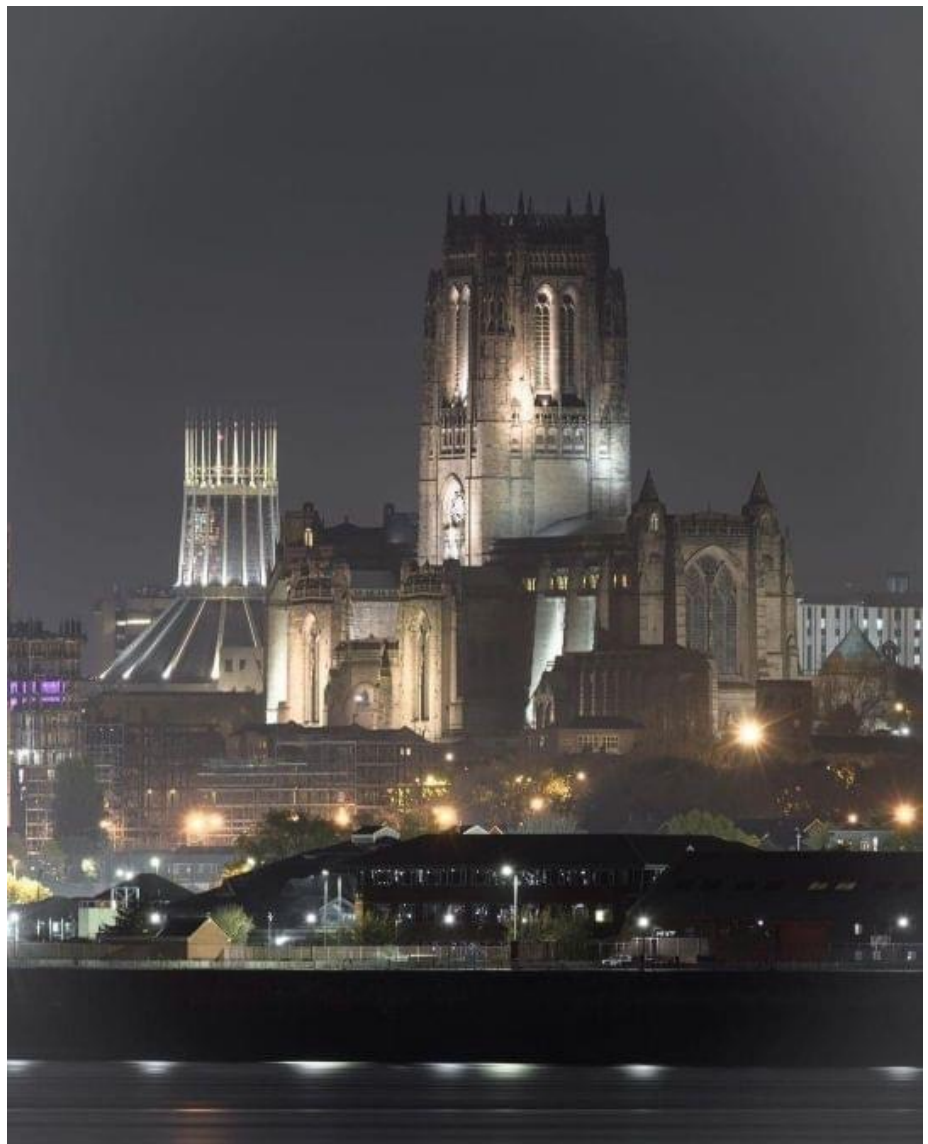
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The service, the first consecration of a cathedral on a new site in England since the new Salisbury Cathedral in 1225, was created and overseen by the ‘cremonarius’ appointed by the second bishop, Albert Augustus David. The Ceremoniarus, Frederick William Dwelly, went on to become the first Dean of Liverpool, and a towering figure in the story of Liverpool Cathedral, and his influence continues today.

Since then the cathedral has been a centre for prayer and worship, a place where people have found a home in the music and worship, a focus for the diocesan and city and city region communities and a place of great rejoicing and also of great sadness.

“This year we look back on our story and we look ahead to the future as we continue our aim to be a place of encounter, built by the people, for the people, to the glory of God”.

Choral
Evensong on
this special day



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was sung by the boys' and adults' voices, to music by Purcell.

The commemorations continued all weekend with worship at the usual times and on Sunday, when there was Festival Eucharist at 10.30am, sung by the cathedral choir and accompanied by the Liverpool Concert Orchestra and the great organ, and at 3pm there was the principal commemoration of the Centenary with a Peoples' Service, again, sung by the cathedral choir and accompanied by the great organ and the Liverpool Concert Orchestra.

It was worship "to celebrate our past and look into our future".

Clergy and ministry

Church of England issues over 1m in grants to diversify the types of people in ministry

Over £1.3 million in grants have been awarded to fund innovative projects in theological education, aiming to diversify the range of individuals preparing for ministry within the Church of England.

The grants, known as Resourcing Ministerial Formation innovation awards, are distributed by the Ministry Finance Panel on behalf of the Archbishops' Council. This funding is derived from surplus ministry training funds accumulated



over the years and specific allocations for lay-ministry training innovation from the Church Commissioners.

Among the recipients is The Queen's Foundation in Birmingham, which received £118,756 to explore best practices in training neurodivergent ministers, a project in collaboration with St Mellitus College. The initiative will be spearheaded by Rev Dr Allison Fenton and Revd Ed Olsworth-Peter, focusing on research that will later be shared publicly.

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In an interview with The Church Times, Rev Olsworth-Peter, who has personal experience with dyslexia and dyspraxia, emphasised the importance of recognising and supporting neurodivergent individuals in ministry roles.

Mr Olsworth-Peter was diagnosed with dyslexia and dyspraxia in his early twenties. He told the outlet that there had been a “limited understanding” of the impact when he was an ordinand. He said. “I would have valued support in the challenges this can bring in ministry, as well as the recognition of the gift that this can be to the Church.

“Over the last two years at St Mellitus, we have been exploring what the formational support of neurodivergent leaders in training might look like, and how this needs a different approach.” He said that he welcomed the chance to “take this work deeper”.

Trinity College Bristol has been granted £230,000 to develop programmes to form a younger and more diverse ministry group. Rev Dr Howard Worsley highlighted the value of embracing students' diverse backgrounds and experiences as integral to the church's life.

Ripon College Cuddesdon will use its £277,723 grant to create a centre dedicated to training specialists in children's, youth, and family ministry.

Additionally, partnerships between the diocese of Ely and Ridley Hall in Cambridge have secured £45,208 for training lay chaplains to assist homeless communities in Cambridge.

Other grant beneficiaries include Emmanuel College for supporting vocations in youth ministry and aiding individuals from working-class backgrounds; Eastern Region Ministry

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Course for an online study skills course; and the diocese of Guildford for extending its Foundations in Ministry program.

Further grants were awarded to Sheffield diocese for diversifying spiritual accompaniers; Bristol diocese for developing youth-focused lay training materials; Church Mission Society for a new MA program focusing on Asian Christianity; and St Augustine's College of Theology in London for a new MA addressing Discipleship for a Planet in Crisis.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Time to say Goodbye - 50 years of The Priests

The Priests performed their first musical collaboration in 1974, and in 2024, celebrate 50 years of musical association.

Having achieved millions of record sales, received multiple awards, travelled the globe, and played countless concerts as The Priests, Frs Eugene, Martin (brothers) and David perform their last ever concerts as a group.

The evening will see The Priests perform many of their classic songs including Ave Maria, Amazing Grace, How Great Thou Art and You Raise Me Up.

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“When signing our recording contract, we insisted a line was included stating our music career would never encroach on



our diocesan work. As times change, and we become older, this becomes more difficult to co-ordinate.

Our 50th anniversary seems the right time to stop performing live as a group. It's been the most unexpected of journeys, with many highlights. We'll never stop singing, and we remain lifelong friends, but The Priests as a musical group, will end their voyage here", said Fr Eugene. "These concerts will be a chance to express our heartfelt thanks to the very many people who have supported and encouraged us on our musical journey over the years".

Tickets/ Info -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/music-capital-presents-the-priests-tickets-901537381577>

Sat 21st Dec 2024. The Guildhall Derry. Doors 7pm / Show Starts 8pm Tickets - £28 +bf

In the media

Belfast Telegraph - Niece of late Bishop Casey speaks for the first time about abuse she suffered

The niece of the late Bishop of Galway Eamonn Casey has spoken on camera for the first time about how she was raped by her uncle when she was aged five, Adrianna Wrona writes.

Patricia Donovan, the late bishop's niece and one of his accusers, said the sexual abuse continued for years.

Bishop Casey's Buried Secrets, which airs tonight on RTÉ, investigates the Catholic Church's handling of allegations against the former bishop, who died in 2017.

Ms Donovan told RTÉ she felt “so absolutely and completely and utterly betrayed by the church she was brought up in”.

“Some of the things he did to me, and where he did them. The horror of being raped by him when I was five, the violence. And it just carried on in that vein,” she said in the documentary made in conjunction with the Irish Mail on Sunday.

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“He had no fear of being caught. He thought he could do what he liked, when he liked, how he liked. He was almost, like, incensed that I would dare fight against him, that I would dare try and hurt him, I would dare try and stop him.”

Ian Elliott, the former chief executive of the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, described Bishop Casey as a “sexual predator” and “offender”.

Mr Elliott told the investigation he found Ms Donovan's account of what she has been through “entirely credible”.

“The fact of the matter is that individuals have come forward and spoken about numerous sexual activities, some consensual, others not. Many involved very young people,” he said.

“That is wrong and there is no justification for that, and it should have been stopped. Those that have been distressed and hurt should be helped and supported by the church.”

Casey, born in Co Kerry, served as bishop of Galway and Kilmacduagh from 1976 to 1992, and was seen as a progressive voice within the church.

He resigned in 1992 when it was revealed he had an affair with a young American woman, Annie Murphy, with whom he had a child.

He was sent to do missionary work for several years in South America and then ministered in England.

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In 2019, the Galway Diocese received the allegation of child sexual abuse against Casey from Ms Donovan. However, the diocese also confirmed it had records of “five people who had complained of childhood sexual abuse” against him at the time.

These independent accusations relate to alleged events in every Irish diocese where Casey worked.

By early 2006, the Vatican had received at least two allegations of child sexual abuse against him.

The Vatican has now confirmed for the first time that Casey was formally banned from public ministry in 2007, following allegations, which included his niece's complaint.

Despite his resignation in 1992, he remained a bishop until his death and claimed his removal from ministry was unjust.

RTÉ's investigation also revealed how the Limerick diocese paid more than €100,000 in settlement to one of Casey's accusers after his death.

Casey consistently denied all the allegations of child sexual abuse made against him and was never prosecuted despite complaints being reported to An Garda Síochána.

Bishop Casey's Buried Secrets is on the RTÉ Player.

Anyone who has been affected by any of the issues raised can contact Nexus NI's counselling services and support on (028) 9032 6803 and nexusni.org

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Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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