

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Paris Olympics

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Photo - this Post Office Topper was photographed in The Square in Comber, Co Down.

In anticipation of the forthcoming Olympic Games in Paris, Archbishop Laurent Ulrich of Paris and Bishop Emmanuel Gobilliard of Digne, special representative of the Holy See for the 2024 Paris Olympics, hosted a special mass in the presence of over 100 diplomatic delegations, including one from the International Olympic Committee, led by IOC President Thomas Bach and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo.

Archbishop Ulrich opened his speech with: "Your excellency, as the Olympic Games are about to take place in your city, I ask the Lord to shower with his gifts all those who will participate in one way or another - whether athletes or spectators - and also to support and bless those who will welcome them, especially the faithful of Paris and beyond."

He continued: "I know that Christian communities are preparing to open wide the doors of their churches, schools and homes.

"Above all, let them open the doors of their hearts, bearing witness to the Christ who dwells within them and who communicates his joy to them, through the gratuitousness and generosity of their hospitality to all.

News



Sea Sunday service in Cobb

On Sunday, 14th July at Christ Church, Rushbrooke (Cobh), the annual Sea Sunday service took place.

Representatives from many aspects of Irish maritime life were present. Special music before and after the service was performed by the band The Doggy Few, with folks songs including "The Ferryman" and "Grey Funnel Line."

The service was a United Service of Holy Eucharist for the Cobh & Glanmire Union of Parishes, and was very well attended.

Young Leader Training



20 - 21 July

- Module K
- Level 4
Emergency Aid
Staged Badge



Emergency Aid training for Young Leaders

This past weekend, Young Leaders came together at 1st Ards Scout Hall for an incredible training event.

Leaders from Strangford, Lagan, and SE Antrim gathered to complete Module K of the Young Leader training, facilitated by Errol Graham and leaders Kayleigh, Josh, Adam, and Pamela E.

The training featured demonstrations, practicals, and discussions, leading to 13 Young Leaders achieving Module

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K and 2 Scouts earning their Level 4 Emergency Aid Staged Badge. Congratulations to all on your hard-earned achievements!

Bishop Monahan ‘honoured’ to be welcoming top cardinal to Clare

Bishop of Killaloe Fintan Monahan has expressed his joy at the scheduled presence of Cardinal Pietro Parolin, the Vatican’s Secretariat of State, at Monsignor Séamus Horgan’s consecration as Papal Nuncio to South Sudan at Ennis Cathedral, Co. Clare, this coming Saturday.

In a press release Bishop Monahan said, “We are honoured to be welcoming the Secretariat of State to Co. Clare. As the principal collaborator of His Holiness Pope Francis, Cardinal Parolin’s presence at Ennis Cathedral this weekend will add to the sense of occasion during what will be a hugely proud day for Monsignor Séamus and for our Diocese”.

Reflecting on Monsignor Horgan’s ministry to date, St Flannan’s College Principal Fr Iggy McCormack remarked that he was very proud of the priest’s achievements and that the school, which is the bishop-elect’s alma mater, is eagerly awaiting the day.

“This episcopal appointment is a tremendous honour for Monsignor Séamus and for our school, and we are looking forward to the prestigious occasion of his consecration on Saturday,” Fr McCormack said.

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“We are very proud of what Monsignor Séamus has achieved in his ministry to date during which time he has served as Secretary of the Apostolic Nunciatures in Kampala, Berne and Manila, as well as working at the Secretariat of State in Rome from 2015 to 2020 before assuming his current role in the United States.”

On May 14 of this year, Pope Francis announced the appointment of Ennis priest, Monsignor Horgan, as the first Nuncio to South Sudan, residing in Juba. Born in 1968 in Ennis, Co. Clare, in the Diocese of Killaloe, Ireland, Monsignor Horgan attended the local primary school, before completing his secondary schooling at St Flannan’s College, Ennis.



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He entered St Patrick's College, Maynooth in 1987. After completing a BA (National University of Ireland) in 1990 and a Baccalaureate in Theology (Pontifical University, Maynooth) in 1993, he was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Killaloe on 11 June 1994.

Following six years of pastoral ministry in his Diocese, he was sent to Rome in the year 2000 for further studies. After completing a Licence in Canon Law (Pontifical Gregorian University), he joined the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy in Rome to prepare for the service of the Holy See.

Upon completion of his doctoral studies in Canon Law in 2005, he entered the Diplomatic Service of the Holy See and has served in various capacities.

Three cardinals are scheduled to concelebrate on the day. Principal Consecrator of the Mass will be Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, alongside Co-Consecrators, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle and Bishop of Killaloe, Fintan Monahan. Cardinal Christophe Louis Pierre has also been announced as one of 11 concelebrants.

Cathedral Calls

Hong Kong Cathedral Choir's tour of the UK

The Choir of St. John's Cathedral (香港聖公會聖約翰座堂) in the Diocese of Hong Kong Island is touring the United Kingdom 23-31 July 2024 in honour of the cathedral's 175th anniversary.



St John's Cathedral Choir

聖約翰座堂詩班

UNITED KINGDOM TOUR

英國巡演



23 July (Tue)	6.30pm Benediction Service at London Oratory <i>Brompton Road, London, SW7 2RP</i>	下午六時半 聖體降福 天主教倫敦司鐸 祈禱會聖堂
25 July (Thur)	4.00pm Choral Evensong at St Botolph's Church <i>Trumpington Street, Cambridge, CB2 1RG</i>	下午四時 頌唱晚禱崇拜 聖博托爾夫堂
28 July (Sun)	1.30pm Sung Eucharist at St-Martin-in-the-Fields <i>Trafalgar Square, London, WC2N 4JJ</i>	下午一時半 頌唱聖餐崇拜 聖馬田堂
30 July (Tue)	5.00pm Choral Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral <i>St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC4M 8AD</i>	下午五時 頌唱晚禱崇拜 聖保羅主教座堂
31 July (Wed)	5.00pm Choral Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral <i>St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC4M 8AD</i>	下午五時 頌唱晚禱崇拜 聖保羅主教座堂

Its music list of the tour includes a Benediction Service, a Sung Eucharist, and three services of Choral Evensong.

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The Cathedral Choir sings at the Eucharist every Sunday, at Choral Matins once a month (Second Sunday) and on various feast days and special occasions such as Christmas and Easter, weddings and memorial services. It adheres mainly to the standard Anglican cathedral repertoire from renaissance music to pieces specially commissioned for contemporary local composers. The Choir is a mix of young and old, long serving and newcomers, and of various nationalities – roughly half and half Hong Kong Chinese and expatriates. So far the Choir has produced four CDs: “Christmas Music” (1993), “Faith, Hope, Love” (1995), “Season of Love” (2006), and "Faith in the City" (2019).

In addition to being a diocesan cathedral, St. John's is the mother church of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (HKSKH), the Hong Kong Anglican Church, housing the cathedra of the Archbishop of Hong Kong and serving the Diocese of Hong Kong Island, the Diocese of Eastern Kowloon, the Diocese of Western Kowloon, and the Missionary Area of Macau. The cathedral held its first Sunday service in 1849 and is the oldest surviving Western church building in Hong Kong.

Location: 4-8 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong

Clergy and ministry

Domestic Chaplain to Bishop of Cork

The Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton, is pleased to announce that



he has appointed the Reverend Martin Steele, Dean's Vicar at St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork as a domestic chaplain.

This will bring to three, the team of domestic chaplains to the Bishop, the others being, the Reverend Anne Skuse and the Reverend Meghan Farr.

Pioneer Ministry training

Meet Sarah-Louise Hockey from Carrigrohane who begins her training as a pioneer in September.

My name is Sarah Louise and I'm delighted to be part of this year's Pioneer Ministry training group. I'm based in Carrigrohane Union of Parishes in Cork. I'm currently working as the Pioneer Evangelist / Youth worker for the parish and in partnership with Church Army. I have been so

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blessed by the calling to this work. It is a joy to see all that God is doing in and through the young people we engage with, but it has also opened my eyes in a new way to the deep longing in the hearts of so many for a place of welcome and belonging that can only be satisfied in Jesus. I applied to Pioneer Ministry out of a calling to be part of what God is doing across this island here and now. He is moving and working and as a church we are called, as John McGinley puts it, to “raise the sails and catch the wind of heaven when it blows.” I’m excited to see how Pioneer Ministry will energise and equip the Church of Ireland to reach out in love in new ways, not just opening our doors to those who don’t know Jesus but going out into the community and creatively sharing the good news of the hope which Jesus brings through words and actions. While in many ways there is a deep sense of ‘unknown’ looking forward, I know God goes before us and I’m honoured to get to be part of the journey. To sign up to our mailing list and stay up to date with Pioneer Ministry, click here: <http://eepurl.com/iob42s>

Heritage

Captain Francis Fowke, the Belfast architect who designed the Royal Albert Hall

Born in Ballysillan, North Belfast in 1823. His other works include the 1862 International Exhibition hall in London, the National Gallery of Ireland, Royal Museum of Scotland, National History museum, London and



**parts of the
Victoria &
Albert
museum,
London.**

He studied at
The Royal
School
Dungannon,
County
Tyrone, and
the Royal
Military
Academy,
Woolwich. He
obtained a
commission in
the Royal
Engineers,

and served with distinction in Bermuda and Paris.

On his return to the UK, he was appointed architect and engineer in charge of the construction of several government buildings.

Fowke's inventions, which at times succeeded brilliantly in combining practicality with wackiness, included a military fire-engine, a folding camera, a portable India-rubber bath, a travelling scaffold and a collapsible military pontoon bridge.

He died in 1865 from a burst blood vessel and is buried in Brompton Cemetery, London. (V&A)

In the media

Irish Examiner - Time to look again at the legacy of St John Paul II and his indifference to, and protection of, sex abusers

The failure on the part of the Vatican to take decisive action against Eamonn Casey and other members of the Catholic clergy accused of sexual abuse was typical of the policy that prevailed under the Polish pope, TP O'Mahony writes.

The arrogance and indifference that were such central features of Bishop Eamonn Casey's persona were characteristics fuelled and facilitated by his superiors in Rome — beginning with Pope John Paul II.

The failure on the part of the Vatican to take decisive action against Casey, against whom several serious complaints of sexual abuse had been made before his secret affair with Annie Murphy was exposed in 1992, was typical of the policy that prevailed under the Polish pope.

Coloured by indifference, the central feature of the policy was the safeguarding the reputation of the Church at all costs.

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We saw, at first hand, evidence of this in Ireland in the Vatican's reaction to the hugely damaging Ryan, Murphy and Cloyne reports — a reaction that triggered the now-famous speech in Dáil Éireann in July 2011 by the then Taoiseach, Enda Kenny.

Given the mounting evidence of the widespread sexual abuse of children from places like the USA, Australia and France, it is difficult to understand in retrospect how John Paul II could continue to turn a blind eye to the files that were piling up in Rome.

In that speech, Kenny condemned the Church for its role in obstructing an investigation, describing it as a serious infringement of Ireland's sovereignty, and said the sex abuse scandal revealed “the dysfunction, disconnection and elitism that dominates the culture of the Vatican to this day”.

The RTÉ documentary by reporter Anne Sheridan, Bishop Casey's Buried Secrets, screened this week by RTÉ, showed that long before his affair with Annie Murphy was exposed, revealing his double life, serious allegations of abuse had been made against him, including the sexual abuse of his own niece.

He was a sexual predator, but how much of that was known to his fellow bishops?

Given the mounting evidence of the widespread sexual abuse of children from places like the USA, Australia and France, it is difficult to understand in retrospect how John Paul II could continue to turn a blind eye to the files that were piling up in Rome.

And it wasn't just indifference Karol Wojtyla, Pope John Paul II's given name, displayed.

He took action to shield a notorious abuser called Fr Marcial Maciel, and he sanctioned the rapid transfer of the Archbishop of Boston, Cardinal Bernard Law, after the latter's role in covering up an extended paedophile scandal had been exposed by an investigative team from the Boston Globe.

That expose, which lifted the lid of a network of paedophile priests in the diocese, priests who had been moved from parish to parish by the archbishop despite their past record of abuse, was the subject-matter of Spotlight, an acclaimed 2015 film starring Michael Keaton, Mark Ruffalo and Rachel McAdams.

Law was moved to Rome before he could face criminal charges in Boston, and given a post in the Basilica of St Mary Major, thereby bestowing diplomatic immunity on him and shielding him from the American courts. All of this happened on Wojtyla's watch and with his approval.

In a fiercely critical 2005 biography, *The Pope in Winter: The Dark Face of John Paul II's Papacy*, John Cornwell said the problem of Vatican indifference of clerical paedophile abuse went right to the heart of the official Church, even into the papal apartment itself.

“The most remarkable case, within the ambit of John Paul's haven, involved a prominent priest in whom John Paul continued to place trust, and upon whom he bestowed

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honours, despite credible allegations of abuse by victims who had nothing to gain from their accusations except the consolation of justice delayed.

“Standing accused of serial abuse of seminarians was Fr Marcial Maciel, the Mexican founder of the of the order of the Legionnaires of Christ, born in 1920.

Not only was Maciel allowed to evade due process of canon law, but he was honoured with tokens of special papal privilege after the accusations had been made.

“As in the case of priests running harems of nuns for HIV-free sex in Africa, John Paul allowed the case of Maciel to gather dust for years within the Vatican.”

Mexican priest Maciel was the founder the Legion of Christ and the Regnum Christi movement, who was lauded in life as one of the church's great fundraisers along with his ability to recruit men to the priesthood.

It would be revealed later in his life he was a serial abuser of young boys and young men.

In 2006, John Paul II's successor, Benedict XVI, eventually removed Maciel from active ministry.

After his death in 2008, it came to light that Maciel had been in sexual relationships with at least four women, and had fathered a number of children.

Casey himself claimed, after his affair with Annie Murphy was exposed by the Irish Times, that when he eventually

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met the pope in the Vatican, the latter didn't want him to resign

Eamonn Casey was, among the Irish bishops, a particular favourite of John Paul II.

It is noteworthy that, during the Pope's historic visit to Ireland in 1979, Casey alone among the Irish bishops was granted the privilege of hosting a private dinner for the pope at his residence on Taylor's Hill in Galway.

Casey himself claimed, after his affair with Annie Murphy was exposed by the Irish Times, that when he eventually met the pope in the Vatican, the latter didn't want him to resign.

That has never been officially confirmed by the Vatican, and is very hard to credit, even given the lax standards operating at the time.

As for Karol Wojtyla himself, the rush to have him declared a saint after his death in April 2005 was unseemly, to say the least.

Now that we know a lot more about his indifference (to put it mildly) to the burgeoning problem of sexual abuse of children by clergy (including in his native Poland during his time in office), it is surely time for a thoroughgoing reappraisal of the second longest pontificate in the history of the Church.

Courtesy Irish Examiner Wed, 24 Jul, 2024 - 17:45

Poem for today

Irish Poetry

By Eavan Boland for Michael Hartnett

We always knew there was no Orpheus in Ireland.
No music stored at the doors of hell.
No god to make it.
No wild beasts to weep and lie down to it.

But I remember an evening when the sky was dark at four.
When ice had seized every part of the city and we sat
talking—
the air making a wreath for our cups of tea.
And you began to speak of our own gods.
Our heartbroken pantheon:

No Attic light for them and no Herodotus but thin rain and
dogfish and the stopgap of the sharp cliffs
they spent their winters on.

And the pitch-black Atlantic night.
And how the sound
of a bird's wing in a lost language sounded.

You made the noise for me.
Made it again.
Until I could see the flight of it: suddenly

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the silvery, lithe rivers of your southwest lay down in silence
and the savage acres no one could predict were all at ease,
soothed and quiet and

listening to you, as I was. As if to music, as if to peace.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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