

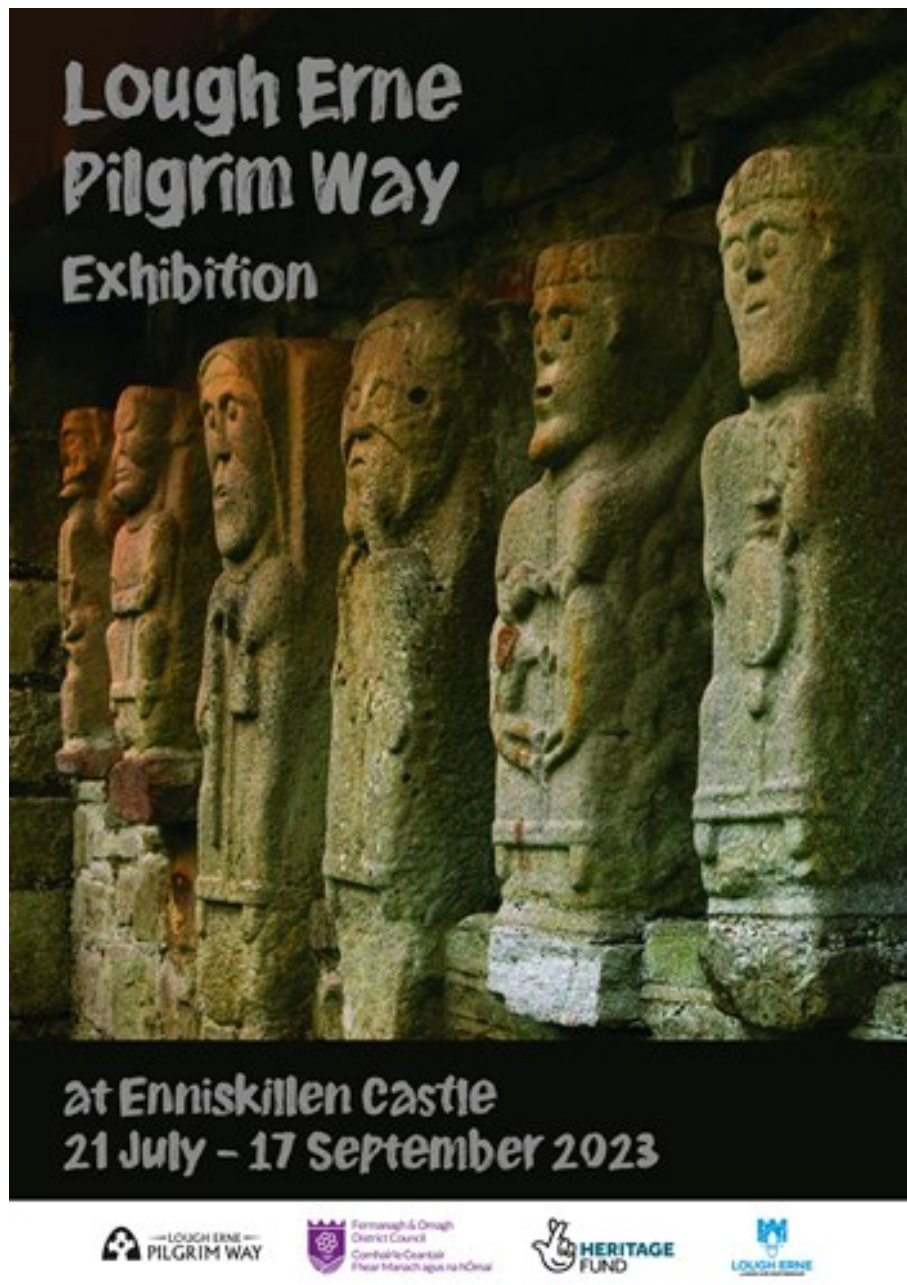
# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – Lough Erne Pilgrim Way**

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## Image of the day

## Lough Erne Pilgrim Way: major new exhibition opens in Enniskillen Castle

A major new exhibition, Lough Erne Pilgrim Way, has been launched at Enniskillen Castle by the chair of

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## **Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Councillor Thomas O'Reilly.**

The Lough Erne Pilgrim Way exhibition highlights the history of one of the most important parts of Fermanagh's heritage – Lough Erne. From the medieval era onwards, pilgrims from across Europe have journeyed through Lough Erne on their way to the ancient pilgrimage site of St Patrick's Purgatory in Lough Derg, Co Donegal. Many of the islands in Lough Erne were important early Christian monastic sites with thriving communities, providing sanctuary and hospitality for weary pilgrims on their way.

Today, people continue to find inspiration and respite in the beauty and tranquillity of the Fermanagh Lakelands. The remains of the area's earlier monastic past can still be discovered in the landscape, from the unique and intriguing carved stone figures on Boa Island, White Island and in Killadeas Graveyard, to the imposing 12th century Round Tower on Devenish Island, an important monastic site founded in the 6th century by St Molaise.

The exhibition portrays the heritage of the Lough Erne Pilgrim Way through a series of replica carved stone sculptures, beautifully restored by artist Dara Hand. The rich history is highlighted through artefacts and photographs, including a series of powerful images of Lough Derg by photographer, Anne Cassidy.

Over the centuries, poets, artists, chieftains, saints and pilgrims have taken inspiration from the Fermanagh Lakelands and this exhibition highlights why the landscape and heritage of Lough Erne attracts visitors from across the





globe. It also continues to be treasured by communities locally and highlights the importance of careful conservation and safeguarding of the remaining heritage for future generations to come.

The Lough Erne Pilgrim Way exhibition is part of a wider programme of events, itineraries, online resources, community engagement, access improvements and conservation initiatives. Organisations, communities and businesses are working together to develop new opportunities to enjoy, explore and protect Fermanagh's internationally important early Christian monastic heritage.

The overall Lough Erne Pilgrim Way project is being delivered by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership (LELP), with funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Waterways Ireland and the Department for Communities Historic Environment Division.

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The exhibition will be available to view at Enniskillen Castle from 21 July to 17 September 2023. More information and opening hours are available at [www.enniskillencastle.co.uk](http://www.enniskillencastle.co.uk)

Acknowledgment - Digest from report by Darryl Armitage in News Letter

## People and places



**Traudi of  
St Bart's  
is a  
diamond  
and a  
gem -  
Christian  
Aid  
Ireland**

**Christian Aid  
Ireland says  
“We owe a  
huge debt of  
gratitude to  
the  
wonderful  
Traudi  
Ferguson  
who**

**organised a fundraising lunch at Saint Bartholomew's**

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## **Church in Ballsbridge, Dublin which brought in €1,100 for CAI.**

“The lunch followed a talk at a Sunday service by Dee Huddleston, CAI’s Church and Community Officer who described the impact of Christian Aid’s work in Malawi.

“For many years, Traudi has been Christian Aid's representative at St. Bartholomew's, which is in The United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough.

“We’re immensely grateful to the church's Rector, Rev Andrew McCroskery and all his parishioners for their generous support of our work. 🙌

“In 2019, Traudi was presented with a Christian Aid diamond award in recognition of her long years of fundraising for our work.

“Traudi, you are a diamond and a gem.”

## **Parishes create a garden and prayer resource for Belleek schoolchildren**

**A group of parishes in the border area of Clogher Diocese has been busy creating a garden and prayer resource for local schoolchildren.**

The project at Belleek Primary School is to create an outdoor learning space and prayer garden where children can grow their own vegetables and flowers and also have reflective prayer space. Many of the younger children from





Garrison, Belleek, Slavin and Kiltyclogher attend the primary school and their rector, the Revd Rebecca Guildea, is a member of the Board of Governors.

To help fund the project, Rebecca ran the equivalent distance from her rectory to the school (four miles) some 40 times last autumn with a target of raising £500. However, her efforts were so successful that she raised more than double her target figure! She also received a grant from the C of I Board of Education (Northern Ireland). Now the new garden is being transformed from a rundown activity area by

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volunteers, with the installation of raised beds to grow sensory plants, a pond and seating area and a wildflower garden for the children to enjoy.

## Bastille Day at Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick

**The Cathedral hosted part of the Limerick Bastille Day 2023 events . The Limerick Bastille Day Wild Geese Festival commemorates the Flight of the Wild Geese**



### PARISH OF DRUMACHOSE

Christ Church, Limavady

#### **Director of Music & Organist**

Christ Church, Limavady is a friendly and active church seeking to appoint a **Director of Music & Organist** following the appointment of our previous Director of Music to a post in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. In addition to providing music at our weekly 11.00am and 6.00pm sung services (Holy Communion/Morning Prayer/Family Service) with our SATB robed choir, significant opportunities exist in the recruitment of singers and identifying other opportunities for music within liturgy.

Remuneration subject to qualifications and experience.

Full job description and application form may be obtained from the Rector, Rev Canon Aonghus Mayes: [aonghusmayes@yahoo.ie](mailto:aonghusmayes@yahoo.ie)

Closing date for applications: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 5pm



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**and celebrates the longstanding friendship between Ireland and France.**

It was founded in 2019 by the Honorary Consul of France in Limerick with the support of the Limerick City & County Council. The 2023 edition was organised by Alliance Française Limerick, one of the city's longest running nonprofit organisations. See - [\[https://www.facebook.com/stmaryscathedrallimerick/videos/234883049417667\]](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryscathedrallimerick/videos/234883049417667)



*It's the final Day of St Mary's Howth our Fabulous Kids Music, Art and Yoga School. We have had an excellent fun loving team of kids and leaders...culminated... with a concert of music and exhibition of the children's art.*



*Final Day of St Mary's Howth our Fabulous Kids Music, Art and Yoga School.*

## In the media

### **US Embassy warns tourists to 'keep a low profile' in Dublin following spate of assaults**

JOURNAL.IE - US citizens in Ireland have been issued a warning about personal safety while travelling in the country following a recent spate of violent incidents in Dublin.

The US Embassy in Ireland issued the warning after a US tourist was last week assaulted on Dublin's Talbot Street. In its warning, the US Embassy says all citizens should "be aware of their surroundings, especially when travelling in





unfamiliar places, crowded locations, empty street, or at night”.

“Travellers should safeguard valuables, such as credit cards and passports, and refrain from carrying large amounts of cash,” it says.

US citizens are being warned to “keep a low profile”.

<https://www.thejournal.ie/us-embassy-warning-tourists-dublin-violence-6128785-Jul2023/>?

## **Ruth Dudley Edwards: Repressive hate laws are silencing those who oppose progressive opinions**

NEWS LETTER - The free speech wars are raging and they're not straightforward.

But they are the business of all of us.



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I was brought up in Dublin in the 1940s and 50s where censorship had been devised to keep narrow nationalists and the Roman Catholic hierarchy happy.

Sexual prudery ruled. Most contemporary Irish novels were banned for obscenity as was any publication featuring “the unnatural prevention of conception”. From my early teens I hated the suppression of truth and saw England, to which – like the novelists – I emigrated, as a place where you could debate freely. And, comparatively, it most certainly was.

It still had some censorship but it was openly challenged and ceased to be an issue for me. I did worry a bit, though, about the growth in political correctness, which I satirised in my crime novels. But I underestimated its power and spread.

So how have we got in the United Kingdom to a moment when we learn that most of our great institutions have been captured by progressive ideologues who seek to silence dissenting voices? More -

<https://app.newsletter.co.uk/2023/07/25/ruth-dudley-edwards-repressive-hate-laws-are-silencing-those-who-oppose-progressive-opinions/content.html>

**UK mandate to help prevent illnesses in newborn babies ‘may not apply in NI until Stormont restored’**

BELFAST TELEGRAPH - Lord Dodds has hit out after the Government indicated that it is set to leave Northern Ireland



behind in its plans to prevent life-threatening brain and spinal conditions in fetuses.

The proposal to mandate the fortification of non-wholemeal flour with folic acid may not apply in NI until Stormont is restored, ministers heard yesterday.

Members of the House of Lords heard from peers that the delay on implementing the change in other parts of the UK had been “inordinate” and that “action” is needed.

They were told that more babies are being born with avoidable illnesses as a result.

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/health/uk-mandate-to-help-prevent-illnesses-in-newborn-babies-may-not-apply-in-ni-until-stormont-restored/a1079833688.html>

## **All-Island Strategic Rail Review recommends restoration of Londonderry to Portadown line to 'greatly improve intercity connectivity' from the north west to Belfast and Dublin**

NEWS LETTER - Irish minister for transport, Eamon Ryan, brought the draft report of the first all-island strategic rail review (AISRR) to cabinet on Tuesday.

The review was announced in 2021 and has 30 recommendations on developing a rail network for the benefit of commuters, businesses and communities on both sides of the border.

One of the recommendations is the restoration of the train line between Londonderry to Portadown and then onto Letterkenny in Co Donegal.

According to the report, this would “link the large towns of Strabane, Omagh and Dungannon to the rail network” and “greatly improve intercity connectivity” from the north west to Belfast and Dublin.

Other recommendations include reinstating the line from Portadown to Armagh and constructing an entire new line directly from Lisburn to Newry.

## **‘No more cover-up’: Nazi concentration camps on Channel Island finally to be officially investigated**

GUARDIAN - Review could show that thousands more Jews and prisoners of war died on Alderney than previously thought





The full horrors of the only Nazi concentration camps to exist on British soil will finally be investigated in an official government inquiry, the Observer can reveal.

Eighty years on from one of the darkest episodes in British history, the government is to carry out a review into the numbers of prisoners murdered by the Nazis on Alderney, the tiny Channel Island and British crown dependency.

It has now been established that the SS ran two of the camps on Alderney during the second world war, and new evidence of the scale of Nazi barbarity on the island has emerged over recent years. The number of victims has been contested, with some claiming thousands were killed with many buried in mass graves on the island.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/jul/22/nazi-atrocities-jews-prisoners-war-alderney-channel-island-uk>

# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



## Discipleshaping Church Today - PCI

**A disciple shaped life isn't crafted overnight. It takes hours, days, weeks, months, and even years of commitment. It requires sustained scriptural focus.**

It takes intentional relationships. It needs the rhythms of worship, prayer and service found in the local church.

So, how can we shape aspects of local church life – worship, Bible engagement and fellowship – to effectively

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equip members to follow Jesus with courage, commitment and conviction in today's world?

As PCI congregations across Ireland hit the reset button on their discipleship practices following the impact of the last three years, the Council for Congregational Life and Witness invites you to 'Discipleshaping Church Today'.

Designed to encourage ministers, elders, leaders and other interested members to reflect on what it means to develop the kind of church life that shapes faithful followers of Jesus, the day will include opportunities to hear plenary addresses from keynote speaker Andrew Fellows, have your say in one of three discussion forums, and enjoy a light lunch with others from across the denomination.

Tuesday 24 October 2023. 10:30am-3pm. £15 per person

To book your place click here

[<https://www.presbyterianireland.org/Events/Discipleshaping-Church-Today.aspx>]

## **National Churches Trust Medium Grants**

**Next Deadline : 15 August (midnight) - further deadlines for decisions in 2024 to be announced. Grant Size : Up to £10,000. Works Cost : £20,000 - £80,000 (incl VAT and fees)**

“This programme offers our medium sized grants of between £3,000 and £10,000 towards urgent and essential maintenance and repair projects costing between £20,000 and £80,000. Also project development and investigative work up to RIBA planning stage 1, to support churches





preparing for a major project, and in developing their project to the point at which they can approach a major grant funder. Grants will never exceed 50% of the net project costs (for this phase).”

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants/medium-grants>

## **A Tent of Learning**

**A Society for Ecumenical Studies event on Saturday 23 September 2023 from 10.30 am to 5 pm.**

Seven speakers from different Christian traditions will reflect together on how a church can be truly “synodal”

The keynote speaker is CTE Trustee and former Church of England National Ecumenical Officer, Rev Dr Callan Slipper.

## Society for Ecumenical Studies

# *A Tent of Learning*

Synodal Conversation and Conversion  
in Receptive Ecumenism



**Saturday 23 September 2023**

More details coming soon... Venue: London Jesuit Centre,  
114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AY

This event is hosted by the Society for Ecumenical Studies  
and the Centre for Catholic Studies, University of Durham.  
Book your ticket online.

<https://cte.org.uk/sfes-tent-of-learning/>

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## Church News Ireland

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