

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Mahee Island and Nendrum Abbey

July 6, 2024

Image of the day



Mahee Island and Nendrum Abbey

Thanks to Gaz Drone Photography CNI shares these photographs of Mahee Island, showing Mahee castle and Nendrum Monastery.



Gaz Drone Photography's accompanying account tells that Mahee Castle is a ruined tower house located on Mahee Island in Strangford Lough, Northern Ireland.

Built in 1570 by Captain Thomas Browne, it was likely used as a defensive structure due to its location near the border of two rival

territories.

The castle is a small rectangular building with two floors. The entrance door has a drawbar socket and a murder hole, and there is a staircase leading to the upper floor. The ground floor has two rooms, one with a vaulted ceiling.

Mahee Castle was abandoned in the early 17th century and fell into disrepair. However, it underwent some renovation work in 1923 to prevent further erosion.

Today, Mahee Castle is a popular tourist destination, offering visitors a glimpse into the history of the region.

Nendrum Monastery is an early Christian Monastery believed to be founded in the 5th century by Saint Mochaoi,



it's considered one of the best-preserved examples of a pre-Norman monastic site in Northern Ireland.

The monastery is known for its three round dry-stone walled enclosures, each nested within the other. The inner enclosure features the ruins of a church, a sundial, and a graveyard, while the middle enclosure contains remains of

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huts and workshops. Evidence of an industrial mill dating back to the 7th century has also been found near the site.

Nendrum Monastery remained active until sometime between the 10th and 12th centuries, and the church continued to serve a parish until the 15th century. Today, the monastery is a popular heritage site offering visitors a glimpse into early Christian life in Ireland. Even religious services are occasionally held here, reflecting its ongoing spiritual significance.



Celebrating St. Mahee at Nendrum Abbey

Kilinchy and Kilmood parishioners gathered at Nendrum on Sunday morning to celebrate their Celtic Christian heritage and to thank God for the faithful and fruitful ministry of St. Mahee, a follower of St. Patrick. Nendrum dates back to 5th

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Century and it is the earliest site of Celtic Christianity in our parish. Photo: Roger Bradley

News



Glengormley parish invites you to come see the games

Come and watch the England vs Switzerland quarter-final from 4.30pm on Saturday 6th July, St Brigid's invites.

Free entry. Drinks and snacks available to buy.

Find us down the side road behind St Brigid's Fold at 48 Ballyclare Rd, Glengormley, BT36 5HL.

Further screenings will be announced over the coming weeks.

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НЕДІЛЯ, 14 ЛИПНЯ
ЧАС: 13:00

СВЯТА ЛІТУРГІЯ

Літургію служитиме:
о.Тарас Хомич

**АДРЕСА: ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH,
199 DONEGALL STREET, BELFAST**

POSTCODE: BT1 2FL



Belfast parish to host Ukrainian Greek Catholic worship for the local Ukrainian community

On Sunday 14th July 2024 at 1pm, St Patrick's, Donegal Street will host Fr Taras Khomych and members of the local Ukrainian community to celebrate the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Divine Liturgy.

The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is part of the worldwide family of Catholic Churches in union with the Pope. It also shares the same spiritual and liturgical traditions as our Greek Orthodox brothers and sisters.

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SUNDAY, 14 JULY
TIME: 13:00

DIVINE LITURGY

Celebrant:
Fr.Taras Khomych

**ADDRESS: ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH,
199 DONEGALL STREET, BELFAST**

POSTCODE: BT1 2FL



This will be a beautiful opportunity to support the pastoral needs of our local Ukrainian community and witness to the diversity and richness of our Catholic tradition.

‘A big thank you to Fr Taras for traveling from Liverpool to serve the Liturgy. Thanks also to our own Bishop Alan McGuckian, and Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London, for making it possible’.

Stu Armstrong - the Summer Madness man

On Tuesday morning, Stu shared in Big Top about wearing the armour of God as we step up into our faith leaving the festival.



Folding up the Big Top at Summer Madness - and Stu next Page

Little did anyone know that within an hour of stepping off the stage, Stu was diving head first into a dirty, smelly rubbish skip to try and retrieve a lost bag of sentimental items for a young person. His Crocs were ruined (a good thing?).

Stu is a man who has journeyed through Madness as a young person, youth leader, volunteer, staff member and speaker. The one constant is that He has always served with the purest of hearts and with a passion to see every single young person valued, loved and accepted whether that is from mainstage, around the campsite or diving into a stinking skip for them. We want to honour that.



But why do we share this? Sometimes it's easy to say that we believe in God but it's another thing to live it out in the messy spaces we find ourselves in. It's great to worship God with the buzz of the main stage but will we worship Him when faced with the struggles and 'rubbish skips' we encounter?

Derry diocese pilgrimage to Lourdes - Day three

And so day three comes to a close - This morning the pilgrims gathered for the celebration of Mass at the Grotto, a beautiful opportunity to unite their prayers with those who tuned into the webcam and joined in prayer.

Bishop Donal presided at Mass, joined by the diocesan clergy and visiting priests from Malta, Indonesia, USA and

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England with the music led by Fr Colm and other pilgrims. Fr Eamon Graham was the preacher and encouraged the pilgrims to reflect on the role of Mary in the plan of salvation, in the life of Christ and the life of the Church. He invited pilgrims to consider the scene of the crucifixion when Jesus entrusted His mother and the beloved disciples to each other, and then coming 1850 years later to the Grotto at Massabielle where, in the midst of social deprivation, the young Bernadette experienced the same love of Mary as her Mother and we too have a share in that same love.

Fr Eamon offered a reflection that many times over the centuries it has been said that the future of the Church is bleak ... but with our sharing in The Eucharist and our closeness to the Blessed Virgin Mary, we face the future not with bleakness but always with hope!



Then the pilgrims made their way for the ritual of washing with spring water and the passage through the Grotto where pilgrims could leave their petitions. Those in wheelchairs were accompanied by their young carers.

The afternoon brought a variety of activities - Bishop Donal, Fr Michael and Fr Stephen joined the young people on a walk to Bartres, many pilgrims went to Gavarnie and others went to the outskirts of Lourdes to the Pic de Jer. Some others undertook quiet prayer time or local shopping!

The evening was the culmination of the day with the diocese playing prominent roles in the Rosary Procession: Bishop Donal and the priests, pilgrims involved in the singing and recitation of the rosary, young people carrying the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary accompanied by candles, and the

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sick being brought around the sanctuaries by young helpers and families. It was truly a wonderful close to day three! As pilgrims made their way back to their hotels for rest, some young people went to light candles and pray for the intentions brought from home.

Anglican Alliance call for prayer and support for communities devastated by Hurricane Beryl

The Anglican Alliance have called for prayer and support for the for the island communities devastated by Hurricane Beryl, a category 4 hurricane, which is sweeping through the Caribbean.

Hurricane Beryl passed between St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada and directly hit Carriacou at 222 km/hr. The winds, heavy rains, and dangerous storms have caused devastating loss and damage to homes, public buildings, and sea vessels.

Anglican Alliance's Caribbean Facilitator, Clifton Nedd, has shared his extreme concern for the islands directly in Beryl's path.

“Hurricane Beryl caused catastrophic damage, especially on the island of Carriacou... It is heartbreaking to see the images and videos that are emerging. There will be a fuller assessment in daylight hours. The destruction appears to be total, and the impacts are physical, material and psychological.”

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The Anglican Alliance brings together those in the Anglican family of churches and agencies to work together for a world free of poverty and injustice.

Read more about the Anglican Alliance's call for prayer for the affected communities and the Church as it responds to their needs:

<https://bit.ly/3RT97DE>

C of I Consultative Group on Disability: Expressions of interest sought

The Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod would like to invite members of the Church of Ireland to submit expressions of interest to become a member of the Consultative Group on Disability.

Applications are welcomed from individuals who have relevant experience, skills and knowledge in the area of disability, and could guide the Church of Ireland with its disability policies and practices. In particular, members of the Church of Ireland with disabilities, who can bring knowledge and expertise to this Group, are encouraged to submit an expression of interest.

The Consultative Group works to enhance the Church's welcome to all those with disabilities and to develop accessibility, communication, and best practice policies and practices. The Group will be available to advise and support parishes, dioceses and Church committees, with a particular focus on enabling active participation across the spiritual,

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social and community life of the Church. This may be by allowing ease of physical access, creating a suitable sensory environment for those with intellectual disabilities, or providing the necessary psychological and spiritual support for people with mental health issues.

Members of the Consultative Group should be prepared to work collaboratively and proactively to produce comment, briefings, and statements; to promote activities related to these briefings within the life of the Church; and to develop and submit responses, on behalf of the Church of Ireland, to relevant public consultations.

Please send expressions of interest, accompanied by an outline of your particular skills or experience, to Ms Aisling Sheridan, Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6, by 10th September 2024, or by email to aisling.sheridan@rcbcoi.org

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Cathedral Calls

St Flannan's Cathedral's 800th Anniversary advance notice

In advance of St Flannan's Cathedral's 800th Anniversary next year, Deborah Dudgeon, Jonathan Harper and Dean Richard Marsh talk with Pat Flynn about their ongoing work, on his Atlantic Tales Show on Clare FM.

Listen to the interview via the link below -

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<https://www.mixcloud.com/TLKCOMMS/atlantic-tales-from-st-flannans-cathedral-killaloe/>

You can find this podcast on the diocesan website tlk.ie/podcasts/

SAINT COLUMB'S CATHEDRAL
FESTIVAL of CLOAKS



Wool Workshops

You are invited to join us in the Cathedral for a wool workshop on 12th, 13th and 14th August when we hope to make a small, contemporary wool cloak which will be similar to the St Brigid's cloaks on display at the Festival of Cloaks. It is intended that the completed cloak will hang in our vestibule quite near the Corbel heads of Ireland's other two patron Saints Patrick and Columba, making a complete set and ensuring that she is remembered for all her achievements. We hope that you have a very enjoyable experience helping us create our St Brigid cloak. The work shops will last one hour but you can stay longer.

Workshop One :10am - 11 am
Workshop Two : 11:30 - 12:30pm
Workshop Three : 2pm - 3pm
Workshop Four : 3:30pm - 4:30pm

To book a place go to linda@stcolumbs.net or sign the booking form in the Cathedral.

Clergy

Christian Aid tribute to activist ordained deacon

Christian Aid messaged - Many of you will know our wonderful Church and Community Officer Andrew Coleman, who's based in Bandon, County Cork.

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This popular and jovial staff member has been 'revered' by all his friends and colleagues for many years, and has now become a Reverend.



Christian Aid continues - He was ordained a deacon on Sunday 30 June by Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Rt Rev Dr Paul Colton.

The ordination ceremony took place in St. Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork city and he will now serve in the Ordained Local Ministry in Bandon Union of Parishes, part of Church of Ireland in Cork, Cloyne and Ross.

Andrew became a Lay Reader in 2019 and serves on the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

Please join us in congratulating Rev Andrew on his ordination and praying for God's richest blessing on his ministry.

You can find more information here:

<https://churchofirelandcork.com/2024/07/02/former-bandon-town-councillor-ordained-deacon-in-cork-cloyne-and-ross>



From Omagh and Fintona Methodist Circuit to Ballynahinch

Omagh and Fintona Methodist Circuit recently held a farewell service in Togherdoo for the Rev Leah McKibben (left) as she prepared to move to Ballynahinch Methodist.



The congregations of Drumquin, Fintona, Mayne, Omagh and Togherdoo along with friends and neighbours came together to say farewell to Leah.

We thank Rev Leah for her dedication and hard work over the past 3 years and

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wish her God's richest blessing for the future. Please find attached a few photos taken at this special service.



**Webinars,
music,
resources,
broadcasts,
and books**

**St Macartan's,
The Forth,
host Omagh
U3A**

**The St Macartan's
team write - It was
a blustery day here**

**at Ballinagurragh, Augher but that did not stop our
visitors from Omagh U3A joining us for a guided tour of
our beautiful Church and finding out so much about our
history and heritage.**

Thanks to Geraldine and Liam who continue to give of their time so freely to guide these tours and make the experience so special.

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One of the group commented “Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

“You are all so passionate about the project, and tell the story with such conviction and love.

“ We all came away saying it was one of the best tours we had experienced.”



Its so lovely to get this feedback from our groups.

If you have a group who would like to book one of our guided tours please get in touch, we will be delighted to welcome you.

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Charles Woods Opening Concert - Get your tickets!

One of the Festival highlights, you don't want to miss is the Opening Concert on Sunday 11th August which officially kicks off the 2024 Festival in St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral.

The Grosvenor Chorale – winner of Best Choral Society Choir in RTÉ Lyric FM's 2023 Choirs for Christmas Competition – joins one of the world's most revered concert organists and the winner of the Queen's Medal for Music 2021, Thomas Trotter.

It's the perfect start to an amazing week!

To book tickets and see more events, visit:

<https://www.charleswoodsummerschool.org/events>



Charles Wood Festival programme chat on BBC

Festival Manager, Louis Fields, spoke to John Toal on his Classical Connections show on BBC Radio Ulster this week.

They discuss the 2024 Charles Wood Festival programme from 46.40-54.00mins. Check it out:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0020p7f>

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at

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