

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – St Patrick's bell tower**



## St Patrick's bell tower

**The beautiful St Patrick's Church and very unique and beautiful Bell Tower in Glen outside Maghera at the bottom of the Glenshane Pass. Images by Kevin Mulholland**

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## News



### George Fox 400 marked at Leinster Quakers Quarterly Meeting

Last Saturday Enniscorthy Friends provided a wonderful warm welcome, as always, and for the special celebration to mark George Fox's 400th birthday.

The Meeting was joined by Friends from other Quarterly Meetings too.

### Chief Rabbi Mirvis welcomes new Prime Minister

The Chief Rabbi said - I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to Sir Keir Starmer on being elected as our new Prime Minister.

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“He takes on the mantle of national leadership at a critical time, when our fragile world is threatened by polarisation, extremism and conflict.



May he successfully confront these challenges with wisdom and compassion, and may his Government bring the blessings of prosperity, social cohesion and security to all the citizens of our great country”.



## Rathmichael Parish Church's Kenya School

Rathmichael Parish posted - “We are delighted to receive a recent update from Wandecche, Kenya:



“The school recently took delivery of 30 desks, tables and chairs, with a further 10 to be delivered by the end of the week. The School Principal sends his continued thanks to the the whole community in Rathmichael for the support. He says "When you come to Kenya God willing next year, great changes will be seen. Thank you once again and receive God's blessings.”

The beautiful St Patrick's Church and very unique and beautiful Bell Tower in Glen outside Maghera at the bottom of the Glenshane Pass. Images by Kevin Mulholland

## **Derry Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes - Day four**

### **Our final full day together...**

The day began with the celebration of the Eucharist with the administration of the sacrament of the sick for the pilgrims. Mass was celebrated in the Chapel of Saints Cosmas and

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Damien, presided over by Bishop Donal and the preacher was Fr Peter O’Kane. In his homily, Fr Peter shared his reflections on the experience of walking sort of the Camino de Santiago and



its lessons for Christian: to trust in the providence of God in the colourful bits of life so that listening to the Word of God and being nourished by the Sacraments, we will see the presence of God more profoundly every day especially in our brothers and sisters.

The Book of Deceased Pilgrims was received by the bishop at the end of Mass, followed by the blessing of the diocesan candle with the group making their way down to the Grotto. In the evening, some pilgrims and clergy joined in the Eucharistic Procession.

After the evening meal, the pilgrims gathered for their final liturgy together, led by Fr Gerry Sweeney. In his homily, he reminded pilgrims to search beyond the golden nugget and



to delve deeply into the Word of God. The bishop blessed the congregation with the Blessed Sacrament and then, after the conclusion, he gave words of thanks. As pilgrims left, they were invited to take home another's petition to remember when they return home.

Tomorrow the pilgrims will make their way home and the youth will spend a long day on the road before returning from Bordeaux to Dublin.

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We thank God for the gift of a blessed pilgrimage. Our Lady of Lourdes pray for us. Saint Bernadette pray for us.

## **One week to go for response to C of I Youth survey**

**The C of I Youth Department’s short online survey closes next Friday, 12th July, and CIYD is asking everyone involved in leading youth work around the C of I to take 15 minutes to complete it. They say - It can all be done over a quick cuppa!**

“Our aim is to get the fullest possible picture of youth work supported by the Church of Ireland so we can plan ahead for how we serve young people and leaders, and work with other organisations for this goal, in the coming years. So your 15 minutes can help us all make a bigger difference for the better – well ahead into the future”.

If anyone has any questions or queries, or needs the link to the survey to be emailed to them again, or needs assistance in completing it, please contact the co-ordinator, Olive Good, at [olivecgood@gmail.com](mailto:olivecgood@gmail.com) or on 00 353 87 245 1310.

National Youth Officer, Simon Henry, says: “Can I please encourage clergy, youth workers and key volunteers to assist us with completing our online research survey for youth ministry? The data collected will benefit the whole Church, and of course individual dioceses, so we can see an accurate landscape of youth ministry across the island and be challenged to better serve our young people and grow them in Christian faith and discipleship.”



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CIYD says thank you to each leader who sets an example for and encourages our young people in every way, from parents and carers to clergy, and those who lead in youth clubs, youth fellowships and uniformed organisations – and the many volunteers in camps and teams this summer – as we follow Jesus across Ireland today.

## **Former President welcomed as Changing Attitude Ireland Patron at Pride Evensong**

**“This has been the best decade for LGBTIQA+ men and women in our country but there is a lot more work to do until “all that miserable hatred is squeezed out by Pride, by lived love of neighbour”.**

So said former President Dr Mary McAleese at last Sunday’s Pride Evensong in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin.

During the service Dr McAleese was welcomed as the new Ecumenical Patron of Changing Attitude Ireland (CAI), the organisation which coordinated the service. The service was celebrated by CAI Patron, the Rt Revd Trevor Williams and sung by the Cathedral Choir.

The address was given by Dr McAleese who noted that Christ Church Cathedral had been a gathering place of Christian worshipers for almost 1,000 years. This amounted to almost 100 decades of listening to the words of the reading [Romans 13: 1–10]: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” 10Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, I



love is the fulfilling of the law.’ She said it was a sad reality that we needed few lessons to teach us what happens when neighbour failed to love neighbour citing wars in Europe, the Middle East and Africa and nationally, the War of Independence, the Civil War and the Troubles.

“We need no more lessons in the damage done by an absence of love for in this gathering are people who can tell of the damage caused by the absence of that love in their homes, workplaces, street corners, sports clubs, communities, churches, the internet where hate filled invective, judgmentalism, cancelling and stereotyping has made life intolerable, driven people to despair, driven too many to see no point in continuing to be alive,” she stated.

This was a fortunate generation,



**Dr Mary McAleese is welcomed as a Patron of CAI by its chairperson Mark Bowyer and Patron Bishop Trevor Williams.**

Dr McAleese said, that had witnessed the “miraculous day” in 2015 when the voters of Ireland endorsed same sex marriage but life for LGBTIQ+ was still fraught with difficulties. She spoke of the malign influence of vulgar locker room homophobic language and the random unprovoked attacks on young gay men where that language was used. She suggested that in this overwhelmingly Christian country, racists, homophobes and misogynists will have heard the words of the great commandment to love one another but have ignored them or edited them “to fit the mean abusive God they have made in their own awful image and likeness”.

Dr McAleese said that the world needed to see love in action and see people gathered in loving solidarity.

“This Pride Evensong in Christ Church, a cathedral which has proclaimed his name for one thousand years is a statement of intent about the next one thousand years.

To the extent that we can we will insist on the right of all of us to love, to respect, to equality, to be free from wrongs inflicted by ignorance, bigotry and abuse of the Gospel and to call it out wherever it appears,” she said.

Pride helped to change attitudes and to change Ireland, she said. But she added that while this is by far the best decade for LGBTIQ+ men and women in our country, no one who proclaimed the commandment to love one another could settle for the way things are and there is a long road to travel to a place where love triumphs and proves its worth.

She thanked the Dean, Bishop Williams, Canon Ginnie Kennerley and members of the cathedral community for their warm and gracious welcome.

She also expressed gratitude to chair of CAI Mark Bowyer and Canon Kennerley for the work they do to sustain and develop a tolerant inclusive Ireland.

She was particularly grateful for the privilege of becoming a patron of the organisation that challenges Christians to break down the barriers that keep neighbours from loving one another as Christ commanded.

# Cathedral Calls



## York Minster's Kohima memorial

"When you go home  
tell them of us and say  
for your tomorrow  
we gave our today"

York Minster's correspondent writes - The Kohima memorial is hidden away at the edge of Dean's Park, but stands in proud memorial of those who gave their lives in a battle that was one of the major turning points in World War Two.

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Every year, we remember the sacrifice of those who fought in the town of Kohima, and the Naga people who assisted



troops of the Royal West Kents; the Assam Regiment and the Assam Rifles; and the relieving 2nd British Division.

We are grateful to the Kohima Educational Trust for organising the memorial service. You can find out more about their work here:

<https://www.kohimaeducationaltrust.net/>

Images by Duncan Lomax.

## **Royals attend Thistle service in St Giles' Cathedral as Queen joins order of chivalry**

**The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh have become members of Scotland's greatest order of chivalry along with leading figures of the nation's life.**

Camilla and Edward, who both have strong connections with Scottish institutions and charities, were formally installed as



members of the Order of the Thistle during a service held at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh earlier this week.

Leading human rights lawyer Baroness Helena Kennedy, forensic anthropologist Baroness Sue Black and Scotland's first black professor Sir Geoff Palmer were also recognised for their contribution to Scotland and installed as either Ladies or Knights of the order.

The King is the sovereign of the order and appointments are his personal gift made independently of Downing Street.

Charles was part of a procession into the cathedral with the Prince of Wales and the other Knights and Ladies of the order who all wore their mantels and Thistle stars. Camilla was installed as a Royal Lady of the Thistle while Edward became a Royal Knight during a private ceremony staged in the cathedral's Thistle chapel, but the audio was broadcast to the congregation.



The King began the ceremony by telling his wife: “It is our pleasure Her Majesty the Queen be installed a Lady of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle.”

The Queen is patron of Maggie's Cancer Care Centres, founded in Edinburgh in 1996 and now with centres across Scotland, England and Wales.

She is also patron or president of a number of charities based in Scotland, including Crathie Opportunity Holidays, Scotland's Gardens Scheme and Horseback UK, and is an honorary member of the Ballater Women's Institute and the Upper Deeside Art Society.



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Edward holds several patronages of Scottish charitable organisations including the Edinburgh International Festival and was joined by wife Sophie.

## Clergy

### Priest in charge of Clonfert Union

**Thursday September 5 at 1930 in Clonfert Cathedral the Revd John McGinty will be introduced as priest in charge of Clonfert Union.**

John comes to us from a busy ministry in Massachusetts, but his Irish roots are legion. He is one of a number of people who have come across the Atlantic to enrich our ministry team of late.

### Resident ministry restored on the Dingle peninsula

**The Revd Willa Goodfellow has arrived in Camp Rectory to assist Canon Jim Stephens in Tralee / Dingle parishes and it is great to have resident ministry on the Dingle peninsula again.**

Willa is joined in Camp by Ms Helen Keefe who, having exercised ministry as a Reader in The [US] Episcopal Church, will be licensed for a similar ministry as a Diocesan Reader among us on July 21.

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## **Incumbent at Holy Trinity Church, Crosshaven**

The Reverend James Power has been instituted as Incumbent of the Templebreedy Group of Parishes (Crosshaven and Nohoval, County Cork).

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

### **Ulster-Scots and the Declaration of Independence exhibition**

**A special programme of events will take place throughout July, August and September to mark the anniversary of the US Declaration of Independence and celebrate the wider local and historical links to North America.**

the 'Ulster-Scots and the Declaration of Independence' exhibition is now on display at The Alley Theatre. The exhibition, which runs until 30 August, includes a selection of objects curated by Derry City & Strabane District Council's Museum Services and the Ulster Scots Agency's travelling exhibition. A series of talks delivered throughout the month of July by a number of leading experts in Ulster-American history will also be held at the Alley Theatre in tandem with the exhibition.

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The programme will focus on some of the key figures of the age, who originally hailed from Ulster, including John Dunlap, who printed the new US constitution in 1787, and Charles Thomson who designed the Great Seal of the United States in 1782.

For further details, see -

<https://www.derrystrabane.com/news/new-programme-celebrates-ulster-scots-connection-to-us-independence>

## Welcome to ... The Review

**Produced by the Presbyterian Church's Communications Department, The Review seeks to report on some of what took place at this year's General Assembly.**

With its embedded links to the Blue Book, Supplementary Reports, and various news stories, along with photos from the annual gathering, we hope it gives you a flavour of what took place at the end of June #pciga24

You can read The Review as an online magazine on here: [bit.ly/ga24review](http://bit.ly/ga24review)

Alternatively, you can also download The Review from the downloads box.

A slide for congregation's to use is also available from the downloads box:

<https://www.presbyterianireland.org/assemblyreview24>

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## People's Kitchen Belfast expanding services

**Starting from July 8th, PKB are expanding their services to include breakfast for those experiencing homelessness -**

Breakfast Hours:

Monday to Thursday, 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Drop-in Hours:

Friday and Saturday, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

PKB's dedicated Outreach Team is also out on the streets 7 days a week from 8:00 PM, bringing support and care directly to those in need. People's Kitchen Belfast is based at 1 Antrim Road, BT15 2BE.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## Church News Ireland

The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at [houstonmckelvey@mac.com](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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