

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – St Patrick's Dublin

January 13, 2025

Image for today - St Patrick's Dublin

News -

A step closer to sainthood

Down & Dromore represented at consecration of Bishop of Santiago

First Church Review of 2025 in print

Fires destroy a church, prompt parishes to offer shelter

Cathedral Calls -

The Longest Yarn exhibition at Enniskillen Cathedral

Patronal Festival St Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare

'The most fun you can have in Dublin' – Delgany MU visits St Patrick's Cathedral

Clergy and ministry -

Eighty years ago this week Churchill selects new

Archbishop of Canterbury for his toughness

Canons for Connor

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books -

Discover the rich spiritual heritage of Cyprus

Retreat to the Sacred Isle of Iona

Heritage -

The first Roman Catholic Church in Belfast

Speaking to the soul -

Short reading and a prayer daily on this site

Image of the day - St Patrick's Dublin

The family home of the Church of Ireland. See cathedral Calls in this issue of CNI for an account of how the welcome team at the cathedral responded to a group organised by Delgany Parish Mothers' Union who took the Cathedral up on its offer to group visits.

News



A step closer to sainthood

A nun from Northern Ireland is a step closer to sainthood following a special ceremony in Spain yesterday.

Clare Crockett, 33, from Derry, was killed in an earthquake in Ecuador in April 2016. The building where she had been teaching music collapsed.

The opening of the cause for the beatification of Sr Clare took place in the Cathedral of Alcala de Henares in Madrid.

The ceremony is seen as a first step towards sainthood.

Down & Dromore represented at consecration of Bishop of Santiago

Bishop Juan Esteban Saravia was ordained and consecrated Bishop for Down & Dromore's link diocese of Santiago.

Bishop David McClay and the diocesan link coordinator, Revd Mark Lennox, represented Down and Dromore.

At the same service Bishop Enrique Lago will be enthroned as Archbishop of Iglesia Anglicana de Chile. Please pray for him as he assumes this new responsibility.

In 2018 The Iglesia Anglicana de Chile – the Anglican Church of Chile – was inaugurated as the latest province of the Anglican Communion in a service of joy and celebration in the capital, Santiago. It had been part of the province of South America but was given permission to have provincial status after sustained growth.

January 13, 2025

More than 800 people, including many from overseas, attended the service at the Grange School, which was



presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. The congregation included diocesan and auxiliary bishops, pastors, leaders and lay members from the four dioceses of the new province. They were joined by priests, bishops and archbishops, academics and representatives of missionary societies from across the world including the UK, Hong Kong, Ireland, the US, Australia and several countries in South America. The service was led by the primate of South America, Presiding Bishop Greg Venables.

In his address, Archbishop Justin spoke warmly of Chile and its mother province, saying: “The province [of South America](#) and its new province are shining lights within the Anglican Communion which will now burn yet more brightly as a challenge and example to the rest of the Communion.”

He said it was a gift of God for him to be in Chile again to experience the life, fire and perseverance of the Church.

See -

January 13, 2025

Wikipedia

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglican_Church_of_Chile]

Anglican News

[<https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2018/11/birth-of-a-new-mission-as-shining-light-chile-becomes-anglican-communions-40th-province.aspx>]



First Church Review of 2025 in print

The first Church Review of 2025 for Dublin and Glendalough was out for this weekend and was available to pick up in church on Sunday.

Gracing the front page are Scott Golden and Juliette Belton, organisers of the Nun's Cross Christmas Tree

Festival and Light Show, and their Rector the Revd Jack Kinkead.

Inside there is news of all the latest diocesan appointments and happenings in the busy time coming up to Christmas.

January 13, 2025

There is also the regular trip back in time exploring the stories that filled the pages of the Church Review in January 2005.

For the season that's in it, John Deane–O'Keeffe's monthly column looks at new year's resolutions, or rather questions if the dark days of January are the right time to make them.

As usual there is a full roundup of parish news with notes from every parish in Dublin and Glendalough.

If you are not currently a subscriber, details on how to get the monthly copy of the Church Review are available here: <https://dublin.anglican.org/news/church-review/subscriptions>

Fires destroy a church, prompt parishes to offer shelter

One of several sprawling wildfires in greater Los Angeles has destroyed St. Mark's Episcopal Church and School in Altadena, while All Saints Church, Pasadena, offered an overnight shelter for two nights to those fleeing widespread damage. The fires have all been made more threatening because of fierce Santa Ana winds.

“It is with a broken heart that I share with you the news that our church building is lost,” the Rev. Carri Grindon, rector of St. Mark's, Altadena, wrote to her parishioners on January 8. “It caught fire at around 6:30 this morning and is gone. ... I have also received word from several members of our community that their homes are gone. We will need one

January 13, 2025

another in the days ahead as we face these devastating losses. I am here for you, and I know our community will hold together, and love and support one another through whatever lies ahead.”

Responding to the news on Facebook, Brian Sellers Peterson remembered taking Archbishop Desmond Tutu to St. Mark’s to see a stained-glass window that depicted Tutu.

All Saints Church first offered shelter to its parishioners, but soon expanded its hospitality to anyone threatened by fires. “We do not have beds, but we can offer a place to be out of harm’s way,” All Saints said on its website. “If you have sleeping bags and blankets please bring them.”

Ryan Carter of the Pasadena Star-News reported from All Saints about the nearly 200 people who took shelter there.

“Dorothy Clark sat inside an office at All Saints Church in Pasadena on Tuesday night, still stunned at what just happened, and uncertain about what comes next,” Carter wrote.

“It’s the strangest feeling,” said Clark, 88. “I’ve never ever had an experience that replicated in any way a wandering soul with no place to go. To go through this kind of experience was just a bit much more than I bargained for.”

The Diocese of Los Angeles has launched a Fire Response and Resources page, and welcomes donations to its One Body & One Spirit Annual Appeal.

January 13, 2025

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, also of Pasadena, announced on Facebook that it has launched a 'Dena [Pasadena] Strong campaign to help provide relief. The parish's brief Facebook post says: "Show up & show out call-to-action to the Saint Barnabas church family, loved ones & friends to to immediately show our love, Saint Barnabas style!"

Cathedral Calls

The Longest Yarn exhibition at Enniskillen Cathedral



Some of the handcrafted soldiers as part of the display.

January 13, 2025

A touring exhibition, The Longest Yarn, a three-dimensional wool tapestry telling the story of the 80 days it took the Allies to liberate Paris is coming to St. Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen from 14 January 2025.

The Enniskillen Cathedral is the only venue in Ireland hosting the exhibition.

The display, carefully knitted and crocheted by hundreds of volunteers worldwide, depicts various scenes to tell a story of this momentous day in history. The total exhibition measures 80 metres, representing the 80 years since D-Day.

The Longest Yarn depicts through the tapestry, the build-up and launch in England through to the Normandy invasion. The tapestry was first unveiled at Notre Dame Church in Carentan, France on May 28 2024 and has been touring cathedrals in England before arriving in Enniskillen this weekend ready for opening to the public from Tuesday, 14 January. It will remain on display until Saturday, 8 February.

It took over 1000 people knitting and crocheting from countries across the world including the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and France to create the intricate scenes including the horrors on the Landing Beaches and some of the battles.

To accompany the exhibition, a book will be on sale, giving more information on each of the 80 scenes including a picture from 1944 to show viewers what each scene was based on.

St Brigid's Cathedral
Kildare

Patronal Festival 2025

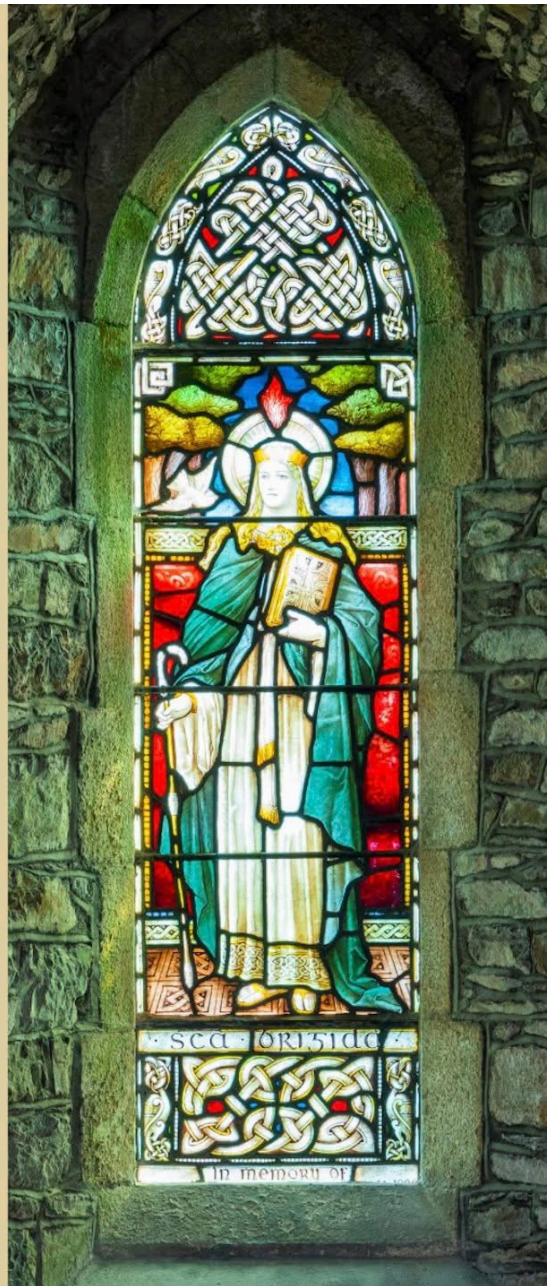
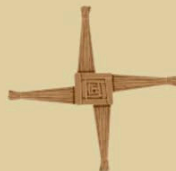
**Sunday 2nd February
3.00pm**

Preacher:

Rev Robert Townley
Former Dean of St Brigid's Cathedral



Sung Eucharist with
Cathedral Choir



Patronal Festival St Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare

The annual Patronal Festival takes place in St Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare on Sunday 2nd February at 3.00pm.

The preacher is the former Dean of St Brigid's Cathedral, Rev Robert Townley. The service is a sung Eucharist, led by the Cathedral Choir. All are warmly welcome.

‘The most fun you can have in Dublin’ – Delgany MU visits St Patrick’s Cathedral

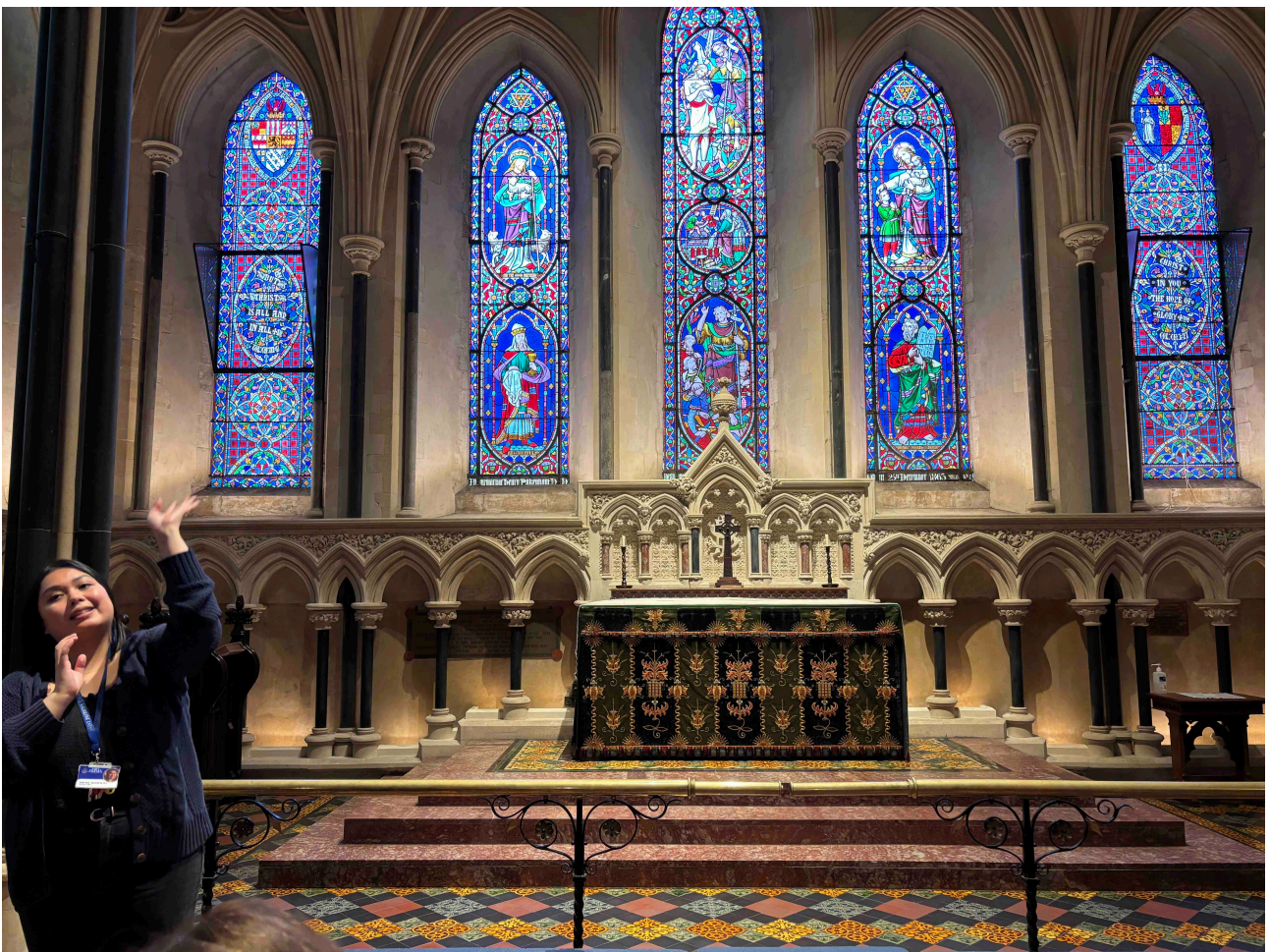


The Delgany Mothers’ Union group in St Patrick’s Cathedral.

St Patrick’s Cathedral have given away more than a million euro in the last few years to a number of local outreach projects and initiatives in Dublin 8. This has been raised from visitors’ donations while lighting prayer candles – not a particularly Anglican tradition but it obviously strikes a chord with visitors and it yields an impressive result for good causes, writes Nigel Waugh

The Cathedral is an iconic landmark in the city and is visited by more than 600,000 visitors each year, not counting those who come to daily or Sunday services. 94% of these are international visitors – tourists.

The other 6% are more local but, of these, how many are members of the Church of Ireland parishes to whom, in a sense, this cathedral of the Church of Ireland belongs?



Kryzel showing the group around the Lady Chapel.

To make the parishes more aware of what the Cathedral has to offer, the Cathedral board came up with a brilliant idea. They offer a guided tour to parish groups, Mothers' Union

branches or other organisations, collect them from the Dart or other convenient starting point and give them VIP access to the Cathedral and its attractions. Then they will bring you home or back to your starting point. No worries about traffic or parking or security – and no entry fee. It is all free of charge!

On a Tuesday afternoon in October, a group organised by Delgany Parish Mothers' Union took the Cathedral up on its offer. A Dart from Greystones to Tara Street, collection by minibus and an escort into the Cathedral.

There is plenty to see. Even if you have been before, years ago, you will be surprised by how bright the cathedral has become. The regimental flags are still there, deteriorating gently year by year. The beautiful altar frontals and fine statues of aristocracy and church dignitaries are still there but so too are more recent additions, prayer trees and a fine sculpture of St Patrick by Melanie Le Brocquy.

We saw the boar's head and the cannonball, the 'chance your arm' door and we looked for the deliberate mistake in the floor tiling. (Only God makes everything perfectly).

Our guide, Kryzel, told us the stories of Dean Jonathan Swift and translated the Latin epitaph which Swift modestly wrote for himself.

He was a man who liked to have the last word! We saw his death masks and the very modest pulpit he used when preaching. His sermons were said to be 2 to 3 hours long which makes our modern clergy's preaching seem

January 13, 2025

ridiculously brief! We asked questions, all of which were expertly answered.



With Kelley Bermingham on the right.

What was the best bit? The magnificent architecture, superb needlework on frontals and beautiful stained-glass windows were all outstanding. The overall sense of a magnificent building that has been a house of prayer for more than 800 years, with its tombs of Norman archbishops and connections to every period of Irish history in that time, is impressive. I liked the Dean's Chair, made from original Cathedral roof timbers, dating from 1190 but I suppose we all had our own favourites.

January 13, 2025

The person who really made the day special was Kelley Bermingham, who works as Community Officer for the Cathedral and was our driver and overall guide for the day. Kelley's local knowledge of the cathedral and surrounding area of Dublin 8 and her information and commentary on all the sights we saw from the minibus windows was truly outstanding. Her enthusiasm was infectious but she has worked in the area on various social projects and she is realistic about the problems and deprivations of inner city life. She has an impressive track record in social action, both by her own efforts and with her family. Her father, Willie Bermingham, founded the charity 'Alone'.

Seeing the city and the Cathedral through her eyes, it felt almost like visiting a foreign city. And I am a Dubliner, born and bred.

So, thank you Kelley and cathedral staff for a great day out – the most fun you can have in Dublin.

Revd Nigel Waugh is Editor of The Church Review, the diocesan magazine of Dublin and Glendalough. and was, until recently, Rector of Delgany.

Clergy and ministry

Eighty years ago this week Churchill selects new Archbishop of Canterbury for his toughness



Eighty years ago this week The Bishop of London Geoffrey Fisher became Archbishop of Canterbury in succession to William Temple, who had been his patron and wanted him as the next Archbishop.

Temple's early death, though, had deprived the Church of a forward-looking leader who was ready to take it into the vastly changed world after the war. By contrast Fisher was a conservative, albeit far from reactionary. Churchill selected him for his "toughness".

Canons for Connor

The Bishop of Connor has appointed two new Canons to the Chapter of Lisburn Cathedral.

They are the **Rev David Ferguson**, rector of Ramoan and Culfeightrin, and the **Rev Andrew Sweeney**, rector of the United Parish of Ballymoney, Finvoy and Rasharkin.

January 13, 2025

Bishop Davison said: “In addition to running busy, growing parishes in Ballycastle and Ballymoney, both have given additional service to the diocese.

“David has been a diligent Rural Dean for the Ballymena Deanery for a number of years and Andrew serves as chaplain to the Causeway Hospital.”

David has been rector of the parishes of Ramoan and Culfeightrin, Ballycastle, since May 2011. Prior to this he was curate assistant of the Parish of Antrim from 2004. He has been Ballymena Rural Dean since 2013 and is chaplain to the Ballycastle branch of the Royal British Legion.

He is married to Margaret and the couple have four grown-up children and 11 grandchildren. Before his ordination in 2004, David was in public service for 29 years.

David said his appointment as a Canon in the Chapter of St Saviour, Lisburn, was ‘a huge honour.’ “I am overwhelmed to have been asked by the Bishop to take on this role,” he said.

The Rev Andrew Sweeney has been rector of the United Parish of Ballymoney, Finvoy and Rasharkin in Ballymoney since February 2012. Prior to this, he was Vicar of Cogges, South Leigh and North Leigh in the Diocese of Oxford.

A native of Bangor, Co Down, he moved to work in England in 1989. He was ordained in 1996 after completing his training at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, and served his first curacy in Bladon cum Woodstock. In 1999 he was appointed curate

January 13, 2025

of St Patrick's, Coleraine, and he moved to Cogges, Oxford in 2002.

Andrew is married to Cathy and they have two sons. He has been chaplain to the Causeway Hospital for more than two years and is chaplain at Ballymoney Rugby Club.

He said he was 'surprised and delighted' when Bishop George asked him to be a Canon of Lisburn Cathedral. "I want to do what I can to support the Diocese of Connor in its outreach and mission," he said.

A date for the Service of Installation in Christ Church Cathedral, Lisburn, will be announced in due course.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Discover the rich spiritual heritage of Cyprus

Discover the rich spiritual heritage and stunning landscapes of Cyprus on this inspiring pilgrimage led by Revd Mary Bowden.

Walk in the footsteps of Saints Paul and Barnabas, explore ancient monasteries in the Troodos Mountains, and visit the historic sites of this fascinating island, including Larnaca, where Lazarus was said to be the first bishop.

January 13, 2025

With time to relax at excellent beach hotels and moments for optional worship and reflection, this tour beautifully blends history, spirituality, and leisure.

Book your place now for a journey of faith and discovery in the eastern Mediterranean -

<https://www.mccabe-travel.co.uk/pilgrimages/saints-of-cyprus/>

Retreat to the Sacred Isle of Iona

Conducted by Amy Boucher Pye – 31st March 2025 and – 31st March 2025. Step into a place pulsing with grace, beauty, and rich spiritual history this Lent.

Join us on the sacred Isle of Iona for a transformative retreat led by Amy Boucher Pye, a seasoned retreat leader and author of 7 Ways to Pray.

The Isle of Iona off Scotland's west coast, with its 1,400-year history, is steeped in peace and spiritual depth, offering the perfect backdrop to reconnect with God.

Highlights:

- Explore ancient, time-tested prayer practices such as praying with the Bible, embracing lament, and practising the presence of God.
- Walk in the footsteps of St. Columba, who founded the monastery here in 563 AD.
- Engage in guided times of prayer and reflection that help you hear God's voice afresh.

January 13, 2025

Amy Boucher Pye brings her deep experience as a spiritual director, retreat leader, and writer to this journey. Let her wisdom guide you into a deeper relationship with the living God.

When & How to Join:

- Dates: 31st March 2025
- Spaces are limited, so don't wait – book now to secure your place. Click below for more information - <https://www.mccabe-travel.co.uk/pilgrimages/retreat-to-iona-with-amy-boucher-pye/>

Heritage

The first Roman Catholic Church in Belfast

“The first Roman Catholic Church in Belfast, is in Chapel Lane. Formerly known as Crooked Lane (St. Mary’s).

The Church was dedicated and acknowledged by the Presbyterian and the Church of Ireland, who collected money to help build the Church. The pulpit was donated to St Mary's by the Vicar of Belfast, Canon Turner, of the Anglican Church in High Street in 1813.

The Census in 1782 showed that there were 365 Catholics living in Belfast and there was no Catholic Church in the City.

The Presbyterian and Church of Ireland communities took up a collection at their services – known as the Handsome



Chapel Lane, Belfast - 1890's

Collection - and made a gift of the

monies donated to build St Mary's, Chapel Lane. Demonstrating the unprecedented religious tolerance of that time.

It was on Sunday, 30th May 1784 that Mass was first celebrated in the new church of St. Mary's by Father Hugh O'Donnell, first Parish Priest of Belfast.

A sister church was built - St Mary's on the Hill, in Carnmoney/Whiteabbey. Father O'Donnell would mount his

January 13, 2025

horse after saying Mass in Belfast and ride on horseback to Carnmoney/Whiteabbey to say Mass there.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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

Church News Ireland

www.churchnewsireland.org

Link in Monday through Saturday from early morning

Please recommend to your friends