

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Museum of the Moon at Saint Canice's

March 5, 2025

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Speaking to the soul -

Short reading and a prayer daily on this site

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Image of the day

Museum of the Moon at Saint Canice's

It is one week until The Museum of the Moon comes to Saint Canice's Cathedral and Round Tower.



On its opening day Monday 10th at 8pm St.Canice's Cathedral Choir will sing the beautiful Office of Compline under the moon.

“All are welcome to this moving and ancient act of worship as we commend the day that has been and the night that lies ahead into the hands of God”.

News

Public consultation on the next Archbishop of Canterbury

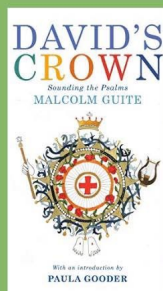
What are the gifts, qualities and skills needed in the next Archbishop of Canterbury? People across the Anglican Communion are invited to offer their views in a public consultation.

- ◆ The public consultation is open until March 28.
- ◆ Visit the online form or write a letter.
- ◆ Go to: <https://www.churchofengland.org/ABC106Consult>

The Public Consultation is run by the Crown Nominations Commission (CNC), whose role is to discern whom God may be calling to the ministry of the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. More...

**Compline every Wednesday
during Lent at 7:30pm**

Theme: Favourite Psalms



Lent 2025 in St John's Malone



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The CNC will use the themes that emerge through this process to inform the Commission on the needs of the mission of the Church of England and the wider Anglican Communion.

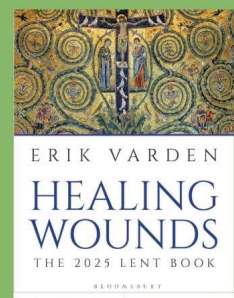
Aid cuts will fan the flames of global insecurity, Christian Aid warns

Responding to the Prime Minister's announcement that the government will cut international aid spending from 0.5% of GDP to 0.3% from 2027, Christian Aid's Director of Policy, Public Affairs and Campaigns, Osai Ojigho, said:

“The world's most marginalised communities are facing a dramatic and deepening poverty crisis, made worse by conflict and the climate crisis. These cuts – a political decision echoing Trump's race to the bottom on aid – are

Parish Lent book for 2025 Available in the vestibule £12

Erik Varden's 'Healing Wounds'
Profound Lenten reflections on
the nature and meaning of
suffering and how we are
healed.



Lent 2025 in St John's Malone



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nothing short of a betrayal that will erode trust and fan the flames of global insecurity.

Osai Ojigbo added: “We must reject the false choice being spun between defence spending and fulfilling our responsibilities to people in crisis. Ministers can show global leadership by taxing wealthy polluters and compelling private creditors to cancel debts to countries in crisis, but will they?”



**DIALOGUE OF FRIENDSHIP:
LISTENING WELL
TO BUILD
COMMUNITIES**

**Saturday, 17 May 2025
10.30 AM - 3.30 PM
Dundrum Methodist Church
Dublin, D16 WK27**

Free booking available online:
<https://bit.ly/43IWIlna>



Keynote Speaker
Dr Ebum Joseph
Special Rapporteur, National Plan Against Racism
Director, Institute of Antiracism and Black Studies
Module Coordinator and Lecturer in Black Studies, University College Dublin

Dialogue of Friendship: Listening well to build communities

The Church of Ireland Interfaith Working Group invites you to an engaging full-day of discussions on the

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theme of fostering friendships and community through active listening.

This in-person gathering aims to bring people from various communities to share experiences, stories, and insights on the power of communication in building strong bonds.

Whether you're a person of faith, a seasoned conversationalist, someone working with community and voluntary groups or are you just looking to connect with others, this event promises to be a meaningful opportunity to learn and grow. Don't miss out on this chance to be part of a dialogue that celebrates the beauty of friendship and community!

Venue: Dundrum Methodist Church, Ballinteer Road, Dundrum, D16 WK27 Dublin 16. Book on Eventbrite below.

This event is co-organised with Sanctuary in Faith (part of the Places of Sanctuary Ireland network). More...

ASH WEDNESDAY **5th March 2025**

Services:

10:30am Holy Communion

7:30pm Choral Eucharist

with the imposition of
Ashes.



Lent 2025 in St John's Malone

This day helps us realize that both our sinfulness before God and our human mortality have been conquered through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ

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For draft agenda and link to Evenbrite for booking see - (<https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2025/02/27/dialogue-of-friendship-listening-well>)

St Michan's appeals for public support after arson

St Michan's appeals for public support as it plans crypt reopening after arson. Mummified remains burnt in medieval crypt left church facing up to €100,000 loss, Jack White reports in the Irish Times.

St Michan's Church in Dublin has appealed for public support ahead of its crypt's reopening after losing tens of thousands in income following an arson attack that left the parish in "dire straits".

Last month, Cristian Topiter (39) pleaded guilty to arson at the crypt of the church which was built in 1192, burning some mummified remains "beyond recognition". He was sentenced to six years in prison.

The crypt has been closed to the public since the fire, with the church now hoping to reopen before St Patrick's Day, though this depends on the speed of Dublin City Council's granting of an exhumation order.

The church hopes to exhume "desecrated" mummified remains and move them to a separate crypt which is sealed and not open to the public.

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Those subject to an exhumation order include the remains of a crusader which has been lying within the crypt for some 800 years prior, alongside the 350- to 400-year-old remains of a man believed to have been buried alive.

Both remains formed part of the church's "main attraction", according to David Pierpoint, Archdeacon of Dublin and Vicar of St Michan's Church, who said they are now "beyond redemption" and unsuitable for public viewing.

Describing the crypt as a "grotesque scene" following the arson attack, Archdeacon Pierpoint said the parish has been in "dire straits", both financially and emotionally, having been closed for almost nine months.

"We're losing out considerably," he said, adding that the church does not seek to make a profit but to "break even".

"Unfortunately, as I said, for the past year, that hasn't happened," he said.

Although it has received some contributions since the fire, the church has "no income" due to the crypt's closure which is used to maintain the church building and its vaults.

"Over the year, we will have lost between €75,000 and €100,000," he said.

"The problem is that apart from losing out financially and emotionally on the damage that was done inside the crypt, ESB prices have risen, gas prices have risen and we haven't increased our entrance fee," he said.

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The Archdeacon hopes the crypt will be reopened soon to the public, before Easter or not by St Patrick's Day, noting that some mummified remains were not damaged in the fire, including those of John and Henry Sheares, who were executed for their role in the 1798 rebellion.

“What the parish would need to see happen is that, even when these bodies are removed, that people don't just dismiss the church and say: ‘Well there's nothing to see there.’

“There's plenty to see in the church and in the crypts and plenty of things to do,” he said, adding: “We would like people to actually come and visit.”

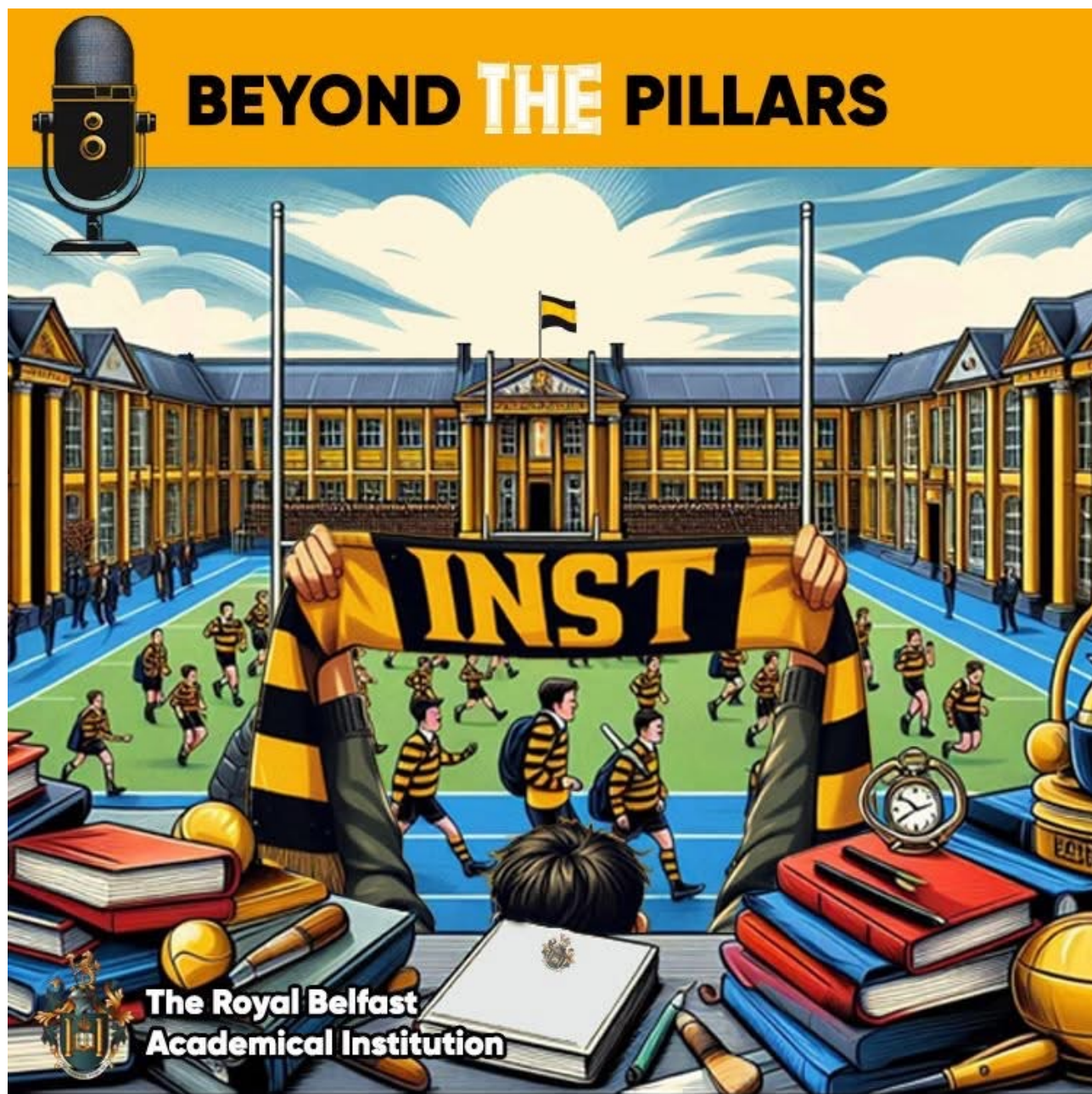
Education

Beyond the Pillars - RBAI podcast

Episode 2 of Beyond the Pillars is now available to download via Spotify or Apple podcasts.

This episode features past pupil Jonny Beckett (RBAI 2010-2017) who talks about his experiences of life after leaving RBAI, exploring how well-being has played a huge role in the running of his business and general ethos.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/patience-growth-forever-with-jonny-beckett/id1798940685?i=1000696806495>



<https://open.spotify.com/episode/6R91CjD8BzAl9yCoy7Qr2G?si=00hFxu48RD204lyTczeT5Q>

Fairtrade Bake-Off winner

Two of Dalriada Year 10 pupils, Emma Calderwood and Charlotte Thompson, participated in the Causeway Coast and Glens Fairtrade Bake-Off competition.

[March 5, 2025](#)

Both girls put in an outstanding effort producing two superb cakes filled and decorated with the Fair-trade brief. After facing tough competition amongst other local schools, Emma was announced winner of the Fairtrade Bake-Off with her delicious Chocolate Cake.

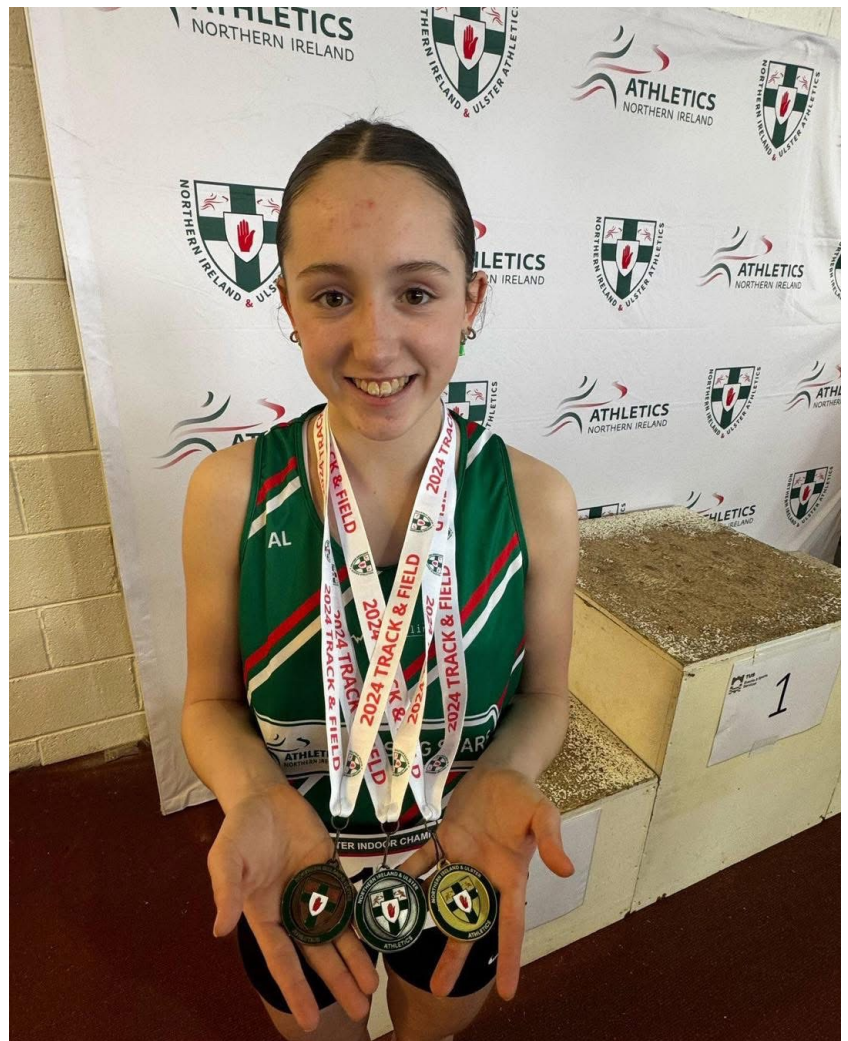
A huge well done to both Emma and Charlotte! Thank you to the Causeway Coast and Glens Council for a lovely morning at the competition.

Dalriada jumper

Well done to Alice Lynn of Dalriada who took part in the NI and Ulster Indoor Athletics Championships in Athlone.

Alice achieved 1st in the Triple Jump (new PB of 9.91m), 2nd in 200m and 3rd in Long Jump.

She now qualifies for the National Finals at the end of March and we wish her all the best!





Hope leading NI U18s in the St. Patrick's Showdown

Dalriada are also immensely proud of Hope Ballantyne, who will captain the Northern Ireland U18 volleyball team against Ireland in the annual St. Patrick's clash on 15th March 2025.

March 5, 2025

Hope takes centre stage in this prestigious international fixture, leading a squad packed with talent—including many players from our own school!

Stay tuned as we shine the spotlight on the other incredible Dalriada athletes who will also represent NI on this grand stage.

Cathedral Calls



Dean of Down installed

Following his institution as rector of the Lecale Area Mission Partnership on Wednesday, the Very Revd Henry Blair was later installed as Dean of Down in Down Cathedral.



Dean Blair was installed by Canon Chancellor John Auchmuty which involved being vested with a scarf bearing



the crest of Down Diocese and assigned a stall in the cathedral.

Bishop David McClay gave the address, saying that a cathedral church - every church - must engage fully with its true task which is to proclaim the good news of the Gospel of Jesus and become a place of mission, prayer, and mercy.

The challenge - let's go with the Gospel to the next generation, let's grow in our depth of commitment to Jesus and let's give God the glory, for he alone can transform the lives of those around us.

SYSTIR in concert at St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral Armagh

March 5, 2025

Experience an evening of unparalleled musical artistry with SYSTIR in concert at St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral on Saturday 15 March as part of the Home of St Patrick Festival.

SYSTIR have grown from the world famous ANÚNA with their performances weaving modern vocal and instrumental techniques with ancient vocal traditions creating a captivating atmosphere unlike any other.

Discover more and book now at: <https://bit.ly/4iGFAZj>

CHARLES WOOD
FESTIVAL & SUMMER SCHOOL

SATURDAY 8 MARCH
St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral,
Armagh, Northern Ireland

2025 FINALISTS

SONG COMPETITION 2025

PRINCIPAL FUNDER

Arts Council

Armagh CREDIT UNION

Sam Britner Cassia Moore Lewis Menzies Katharina Bierweiler

Madeleine Perring Ash Howard Ellie Donald Jacq Herbots Peter Thomas O'Reilly

Charles Wood International Song Competition one week to go

Not long now until nine incredible singers take the stage for the Charles Wood International Song Competition 2025!

March 5, 2025

Join us in St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh, on Saturday 8th March for two fantastic sessions. The Junior Class begins at 2:30pm with the Senior Class at 7:00pm. Both sessions are open to the public, and admission is just £5!

PLUS, following the Junior Class, we are thrilled to welcome the phenomenal Danielle de Niese for an exclusive workshop – a must-see for all music lovers!

Get your tickets now:

www.charleswoodsummerschool.org/song-comp

Clergy and ministry

Appointments in Derry and Raphoe

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe has made two new appointments to positions in the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe which fell vacant following the retirement recently of Rev Canon David Crooks.

The Rector of Dunfanaghy, Raymunterdoney and Tullaghobegley, Rev David Skuce, has been appointed a Canon of St Eunan's Cathedral Raphoe. While a date has yet to be fixed for his Service of Installation, Canon Skuce's appointment takes effect immediately. Before his arrival in Dunfanaghy, he had served as a Canon of Clogher Cathedral, in his home diocese, although he had previous connections with Derry and Raphoe having also served in

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Rev David Skuce (Right), has been appointed a Canon of St Eunan's Cathedral Raphoe

the Parish of Urney (in Tyrone) and in the Drumholm Group of Parishes in south Donegal.

In another announcement, the Rector of The Parish of St. Lurach's, Maghera & Killelagh, *Rev Jonathan Brown*, has been named as the new Diocesan



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Registrar. He'll be responsible for maintaining records relating to clergy and churches, and for preparing documentation for the consecration of churches, cemeteries and churchyards. The new role – which will be in addition to Rev Brown's duties as incumbent in the Maghera Group – will make him a familiar face at Ordination and Institution Services in the diocese.

Events

Free Concert – Christ Church, Derry Today March 5th

A special performance by the talented Tenor, Joseph Deery, accompanied by pianist Elizabeth Charlesson.

Joseph is a passionate musician whose life revolves around music—both as a vocalist and instrumentalist. His diverse recital programme showcases his love for a wide range of genres, from sacred and classical pieces to musical theatre and contemporary songs.

Elizabeth has always found her true calling in accompanying rather than solo performance. She and Joseph first collaborated a decade ago and have since developed a wonderful musical partnership.

Experience their beautiful music for free. Wednesday, March 5th

Christ Church (Derry/Londonderry), 13:10

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Dublin Choral Masterclasses return

Dublin Choral Masterclasses returns to Dublin City University April 24–27, 2025.

Now in its second year, the masterclasses have grown from three days to four with an expanded programme which now offers conducting workshops at foundation level and a new masterclass in the art of choral arranging. Application deadline: March 21, 2025. For more information and how to apply, see here:

<https://sites.google.com/dcu.ie/dublin-choral-masterclasses/home>

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

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Church News Ireland

www.churchnewsireland.org

**Link in Monday through Saturday from
early morning**

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