

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Remembrance

November 6, 2023

Image of the day



Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance

The annual Royal British Legion Northern Ireland District Festival of Remembrance was held in the Waterfront Hall, Belfast, on Saturday night last.

It was a wonderful evening, presented by the BBC's Helen Mark which paid tribute to significant anniversaries and events of the past year, including The King's Coronation, Korea 70 and UDR Greenfinch 50.

To the fore were the band of The Royal Irish Regiment and the Bugles, Pipes and Drums of The 2nd Battalion.



Seagoe Church Lads Brigade was cordially invited by RBL Northern Ireland to attend and take part in the Festival.

They said it was “an absolute honour for some of the Officers and Lads of Seagoe CLB to be part of this remembrance event”.



The backdrop to the platform area was a poppy net from Tamlagh - tfinlagan Parish Church.

Left - the Rector of Drummaul with friends.

People and places

Curragh to Inishbiggle and Achill for peregrating bishop and supporters

Yesterday, weather permitting, the rector of Aughaval in Tuam diocese with a small party hoped to travel to Inishbiggle along with Bishop Michael Burrows in a curragh. This is a leg in Bishop Michael's Peregrinations 2023.

Those doing so would travel by curragh from Bullsmouth on Achill to Inishbiggle. Then they would walk the short distance to the church with Bishop Michael, enjoy fellowship there, outdoors, and return to the shore for the return crossing.

Please note that there are no shops, cafes, roads or public facilities on the island!

They then would accompany Bishop Michael on the short drive to St Thomas's Dugort, arriving there around 4pm, for a Eucharistic service at 4.30pm, followed by a cup of tea in St Thomas's Hall.

There was a 'big clean' in St Thomas's Achill on Sat 4th November at 11.30am, with grateful to members of the Achill RNL group who so very kindly offered to come and help. Check out the timetable for Bishop Michael's Peregrinations 2023.



The Bishop's Autumn Peregrinations Time Table

Sunday November 12

Local arrangements on this afternoon to visit Innishbiggle and Achill, subject to weather. If not possible, postponed until November 26

Monday November 13

- 1000 Templederry
- 1100 Nenagh (school representation if possible)
- 1215 Killodiernan
- 1445 Mountshannon
- 1545 Tuamgraney
- 1645 Killaloe Cathedral
- 1745 Castleconnell

Tuesday November 14

- 1000 Abington
- 1115 St Michael's Limerick (school representation if possible)
- 1215 St Mary's Cathedral
- 1445 Adare (school representation if possible)
- 1600 Kilpeacon
- 1700 Croom
- 1815 Kilmallock

Wednesday November 15

- 0930 Lockeen
- 1030 Lorrha
- 1130 Dorrha
- 1230 Birr (school representation if possible)
- 1400 Kyle
- 1445 Roscrea (school representation if possible)
- 1600 Corbally
- 1700 Bourney

Thursday November 16

- 1000 Borrisokane
- 1100 Ballingarry
- 1200 Cloughjordan (school representation if possible)
- 1315 Templeharry
- 1415 Borrisnafarney
- 1515 Dunkerrin
- 1630 Shinrone
- 1745 Aghancon
- 1845 Kinnitty

Friday November 17

- 0945 Kilnasoolagh (possible school visit at Shannon en route)
- 1130 Spanish Point
- 1300 Ennis
- 1500 Kilfenora Cathedral

Saturday November 18

- 1030 Killarney
- 1130 Muckcross
- 1300 Kenmare
- 1430 Sneem
- 1600 Waterville
- 1730 Valentia

Sunday November 19

In Woodlawn for a service

Thursday November 23

- 1000 Castletown
- 1100 Askeaton
- 1215 Rathkeale (school representation if possible)
- 1400 Tarbert

Friday November 24

- 1000 Killorglin
- 1045 Castlemaine (school representation if possible)
- 1200 Tralee (school representation if possible)
- 1330 Camp
- 1445 Dingle
- 1630 Ballyseedy
- 1730 Ballymacelligott

Sunday November 26

In Ahascragh for a service

Monday November 27

(NB — hope to have school representation if possible during morning from Leafoney and Ballina)

- 1000 Easkey
- 1100 Kilglass
- 1200 Killanley

- 1300 Ballina
- 1515 Killala Cathedral
- 1615 Ballycastle
- 1730 Crossmolina

Tuesday November 28

- 1000 Turlough
- 1100 Castlebar
- 1215 Westport (school representation if possible)
- 1400 Knappagh (outside church)
- 1515 Aasleagh
- 1630 Moyard
- 1730 Clifden
- 1830 Errislannan
- 1945 Roundstone

Wednesday November 29

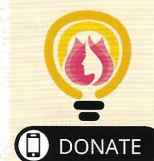
- 1115 Oughterard
- 1230 Galway collegiate (school representation if possible)
- 1415 Ardrahan
- 1545 Tuam Cathedral
- 1715 Cong

Thursday November 30

- 1200 Aughrim (school representation if possible)
- 1315 Clontuskert
- 1430 Ballinasloe
- 1545 Clonfert Cathedral
- 1645 Banagher
- 1745 Eyrecourt
- 1845 Portumna

Friday December 1

- 1030 Dromore W
- 1130 Skreen
- 1230 Dromard
- 1400 Rathbarron
- 1500 Tubbercurry
- 1700 Foxford
- 1845 Claremorris (at the McWilliam Hotel)



November 6, 2023

Please support him along the way and if you can, donate online to the project in Madagascar at tlk.ie/donate/

More information on the project can be found on the diocesan website <https://tlk.ie/new-lamps-being-lit/>



Congratulations Award Achievers!

In October in Northern Ireland we had:
256 Bronze Award completions
170 Silver Award completions
57 Gold Award completions



Bishop on cue at Clogher tower restoration

A Service of thanksgiving and rededication was held after the restoration of the tower clock and





repairs to St Dymphna's Church of Ireland, Ballinode.

The Preacher was the Bishop of Clogher Right Reverend Dr Ian Ellis.

As he spoke, the clock chimed eight (pm) on cue!

Add Your Voice to the Lambeth Calls invite to Dublin and Glendalough

The people of Dublin and Glendalough will have an opportunity to add their voices to the Lambeth Calls on Tuesday November 7. All are invited to attend one of four gatherings happening simultaneously in the dioceses at 7pm that evening.

The locations in Dublin are the Church of St John the Baptist in Clontarf, Kill O' the Grange Church and St Maelruain's Church in Tallaght. The location in Glendalough is Christ Church Delgany.

The Lambeth Calls are the third phase of the Lambeth Conference which was attended by Bishops from across the Anglican Communion in July 2022.

The Calls open up the conversations that were had at the

Lambeth For All -
Exploring Anglicanism
Through the Lambeth Calls

Save the Date

LAMBETH CALLS



Tuesday, 7 November 2023



From 7pm until 9pm



Church of St John the Baptist, Clontarf - D03 VW22
Kill O' The Grange Church - A94 FC80
St Maelruain's Church, Tallaght - D24 FY51
Christ Church Delgany - A63 EW71

The Calls open up the conversations that were had at the conference to all Anglicans and the aim of each is to deepen faithfulness to God, advance the ministry of the communion and enable wider participation by churches and communities around the world. Throughout the Anglican Communion people are bringing the Lambeth Calls to life in their own contexts.

November 6, 2023

Through a series of conversations and gatherings, we in Dublin and Glendalough will add our voices to the call with the opportunity to show Anglicans around the world what Anglicanism looks like in our dioceses.

The 10 Lambeth Calls are:

- Discipleship
- Environment and Sustainable Development
- Anglican Identity
- Safe Church
- Science and Faith
- Human Dignity
- Christian Unity
- Mission and Evangelism
- Inter Faith
- Reconciliation

The gatherings on Tuesday evening will facilitate people from every parish in sharing and celebrating what they do, in building connections across the dioceses and across the communion, and taking action on the Lambeth Calls.

You can learn more about the Lambeth Calls here: <https://www.lambethconference.org/phase-3/our-current-focus/the-environment-and-sustainable-development/>

Church News Ireland



New Eucharistic Ministers - St John's Parish, Falls Rd., Belfast. "Wonderful to commission six new Eucharistic Ministers at Mass tonight. Thank you Neely, Margaret, Derek, Paula, Jim and Angela for stepping up. We pray God's blessing on you as you minister here in St John's parish". **Farewell to Garrison parishes** - In Slavin

November 6, 2023

yesterday we said 'farewell' for the time being to Scott Elliott as he continues his training for the ministry in Dublin and his ministry in Enniskillen Cathedral. Rev Rebecca thanked him for all his contributions over the past 10 weeks and wished him well for the future.

In the media

Theological differences over women in the pulpit - News Letter

The issue of women in the pulpit has long been and still is a contested debate within Irish Presbyterianism and, although church ministry is open to those from both sexes, it remains that only a small minority of ordained clergy are females, Billy Kennedy writes.

With regards to women in ministry, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland officially stipulates that it ordains men and women on an equal basis.

Women, says the church, are also called to serve in the church in many different ways, as deaconesses, home and foreign missionaries and as congregational elders.

Since 1908 they have served the church as deaconesses and have been ordained as elders since the 1920s.

The Irish Presbyterian church currently has 330 ministers in its 19 presbyteries. 30 of whom are women, 15 in active

ministry (congregations/chaplaincy and specified ministry), with 15 females who have retired from active ministry.

The 1973 General Assembly decision came after a protracted debate within the church and, on an 18-3 presbytery vote, it was agreed that "women shall be eligible for nomination as students for the ministry and for ordination thereto".

Interpretation of Old Testament and New Testament theology comes into play when opposition to female clergy is debated in the various churches.

There is reference back to the preaching from the Apostle Paul to the church at Corinth and some are reminded that when Jesus Christ called his 12 disciples all were men.

The first Irish Presbyterian female minister was the Rev Dr Ruth Patterson who was ordained in 1976 and went on to minister in Kilmakee congregation in South Belfast, where she spent 14 years before being involved with Restoration Ministries in Northern Ireland.

The Church of Ireland, interestingly, did not authorise female ministry in its congregations until 1988 and today 21 per cent of its clergy in Northern Ireland are women (55 as compared with 265 men) and in the Irish Republic 25 per cent (59 compared with 233 men).

In the Church of Ireland there is one female bishop - the Rev Pat Storey, bishop of Meath and Kildare, who is from Belfast and previously served as rector of St Augustine's church, Londonderry. Senior female clergy include

November 6, 2023

Archdeacon Elizabeth Cairns in Armagh diocese, and Dean Liz Fitzgerald in Raphoe diocese, Co Donegal.

Significantly, the Church of England did not begin to authorise female clergy in its parishes until 1994 and today it has a number of women bishops and many vicars and rectors..

The Roman Catholic Church, despite a marked decline in the number of its priests globally, does not permit female clergy. The strict Vatican ruling on this issue is absolute and will not change.

The Methodist Church in Ireland has a number of female clergy, and has had a woman President the Rev Dr Heather Morris, elected in 2013.

There are no female ministers in the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster congregations.

The present Church of Scotland moderator is the Rev Dr Sally Foster-Fulton, an American from South Carolina.

Tipperary church is to see its first Remembrance Sunday ceremony for 20 years - Tipperary Live

The first Remembrance Sunday Ceremony for 20 years is to be held on the grounds of St Mary's, John Wort writes.

November 6, 2023

The ecumenical Service in St Mary's Church on the November 12, starting at 10:45am.

The Ecumenical Service will be celebrated by His Grace Most Rev Kieran O'Reilly, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, and Canon Ian Coulter, Church of Ireland. The service will be followed by a ceremony in St Mary's International Garden of Remembrance.

Master of Ceremony Councillor Jim Ryan will introduce the five main Speakers, Prayers and Blessings by His Grace Most Rev Kieran O'Reilly and Canon Ian Coulter, Wreath laying ceremony, The Exhortation read by Mr John Wort Chairman Durlas Eile Eliogarty Memorial Committee. Then a one minutes silence.

Piper Ryan will play a lament, members of Cashel Brass Band will play the Last Post and Reveille, The Irish Flag will be Raised to full mast by Mr Peter Byrne Cobh Branch O.N.E, assisted by Chairman John Wort.

Colour party drawn from members of Cobh Branch O.N.E Members Co Cork. The National Anthem will be played by Piper Tidgh Ryan.

Please note just 120 seats are available for Church service, Church of Ireland people and invited guests.

Church News Ireland

Perspective

Voices of Hope - Most Rev. Donal McKeown D.D.



Bishop McKeiwn of Derry Diocese is currently the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Down and Connor. This Pastoral Letter of 5th November 2023 was written to Down and Connor.

St Paul, writing to guide, strengthen and support the growing Christian community in Ephesus, encouraged them all to reflect together on the nature of the Church, its various ministries and gifts, and to creatively consider how every individual could play their essential, unique and important part to grow and build up the Body of Christ.

‘Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.’
(Eph. 4: 15-16)

These prophetic words of St Paul take on added significance for us, the followers of Jesus within the Diocese of Down and Connor, as we continue our synodal journey of discernment to identify and meet the ever changing sacramental and pastoral needs of parishioners and society in our time.

In the weeks that follow, the Pathways to the Future initiative, which seeks to examine the mission, structures and priorities of the Diocese of Down and Connor for the years ahead, will come into new focus with the organisation of a series of parochial information and consultation sessions across the diocese and I would encourage you all to take this opportunity to share your personal hopes and dreams for the local Church.

Confronting this new reality will necessarily involve words to disturb the comfortable as we explore the restructuring of parishes, the development of new ministries and consider new ways to meet the increasing pastoral and sacramental needs. Change will be inevitable.

At the same time, it is also important to speak words that will bring comfort to the disturbed. The Church will continue to support the faith development of all and provide for the

November 6, 2023

needs of parishioners in the abiding Truth that God is with his people.

This is an exciting time to be Church in Down and Connor and in the world. The world faces many challenges – poverty, climatic change and the threat of war. Now, as in Jesus' time, many people are harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd (Mt 9:36).

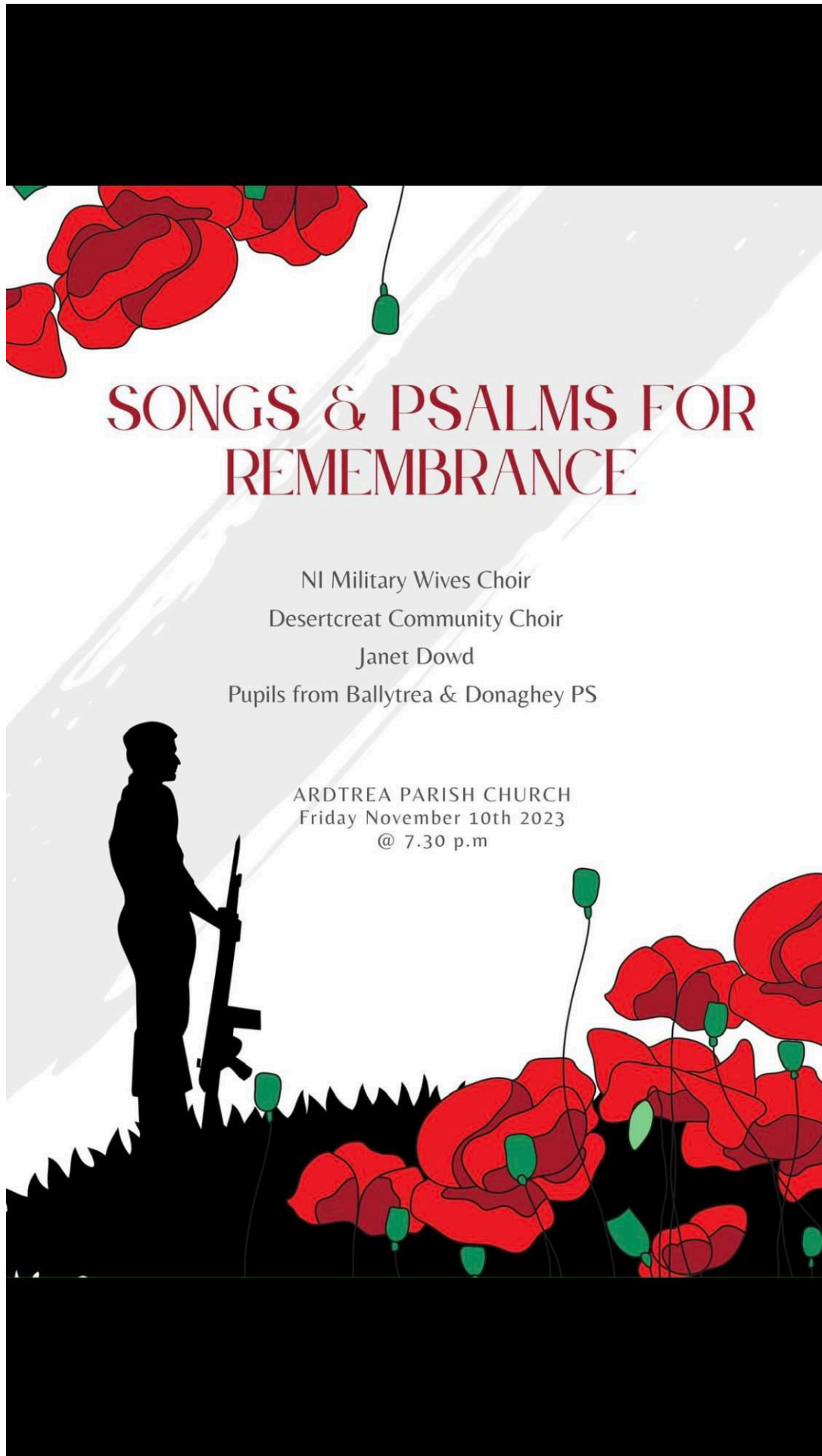
In the weeks and months ahead, I encourage you all to engage in the Christian dialogue and conversations that will be organised by the Pathways to the Future as we seek together to listen to one another, to embrace the truth in love and to discern new ways to be ministers of mercy in our day.

I also encourage you to pay attention to the Signs of our Times and the concerns of our world so that we can truly be missionary voices of hope to all.

The Church needs to hear your voice. The Church needs each person to speak the truth in love. We need to embrace the challenges and we need voices of hope. Share your dreams and aspirations, your cares and concerns. Let us embark on our diocesan Pathways to the Future with realism, joy and hope and may God bless us all on our journey together.

Read the full Pastoral Letter from Bishop Donal McKeown and Link to Pathways to the Future website -

[\[https://pathwaystothefuture.org/\]](https://pathwaystothefuture.org/)



SONGS & PSALMS FOR REMEMBRANCE

NI Military Wives Choir
Desertcreat Community Choir
Janet Dowd
Pupils from Ballytrea & Donaghey PS

ARDTREA PARISH CHURCH
Friday November 10th 2023
@ 7.30 p.m

Poem for today

One Thousand Men Are Walking by Joshua Dyer

One thousand men are walking
Walking side by side
Singing songs from home
The spirit as their guide
they walk toward the light milord
they walk towards the sun
they smoke and laugh and smile together
no foes to outrun
these men live on forever
in the hearts of those they saved
a nation truly grateful
for the path of peace they paved
they march as friends and comrades
but they do not march for war
step closer to salvation
a tranquil steady corps
the meadows lit with golden beams
a beacon for the brave
the emerald grass untrampled
a reward for what they gave
they dream of those they left behind
and know they dream of them
forever in those poppy fields
there walks one thousand men

Joshua Dyer 2019

November 6, 2023

Joshua Dyer (aged 14) was tasked at school to write a poem for Remembrance Day. An hour later (without any help) he produced this.

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