

# Church News Ireland

---



**Image of the day – St Patrick's, Belfast**

## **Image for today - St Patrick's, Belfast**

### **News -**

Muppets of fun in mid-Belfast

School's visit to Somme Museum

Christian Aid welcomes Keir Starmer announcement at COP29

Anglican Delegation advocating for Climate Justice and Just Financing at COP29

### **Cathedral Calls -**

Durufié's setting of the Requiem in Belfast Cathedral

This year's medal recipients at St Patrick's, Dublin

### **Clergy and ministry -**

Institution of Vicar of Glenavy Parish

Templepatrick Parish Ministry Team to visit India

Belfast minister swaps raves for naves, leaving white sands of Ibiza for the Ballywalter beach

Fr Joe McMahon

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

Don't miss Aileen Cahill & Conor Shiel in recital this Sunday

Cór Fingal Christmas Concert in aid of Malahide, Portmarnock & St. Doulagh's Church Organ Fund

Meet The Maker Discussion Group

'Light of the World' in Kilrea

Christmas Concert in Donegore

Dreaming a New Dream

Emergencies Services Joint Carol Service, St Columb's Londonderry



## Image of the day – St Patrick's, Belfast

November 16, 2024

St Patrick's is a living, breathing community in Belfast's City Centre serving a large local resident community, a thriving population of workers in Belfast's cultural and social heartland – the Cathedral Quarter – and the students and staff of Ulster University Belfast Campus right beside it.

“We are a Catholic Parish with a welcome for all, formed by prayer, the sacraments and hope, and centred on the person of Jesus in our midst. Our beautiful Church is a Victorian gem and a place of tranquillity in the heart of the city.”

[<https://www.stpatricksbelfast.org/parish-history/>]

“We have a separate page and document about Sir John Lavery's acclaimed triptych altarpiece “The Madonna of the Lakes” which is also housed within our church. (Need to use search to find) -

[<https://www.stpatricksbelfast.org/?s=The+Madonna+of+the+Lakes>]

St Patrick's Church, Donegall Street, Belfast  
It was built 1875-1877 and is Grade B+ listed  
The architect was Timothy Hevey

## News

### Muppets of fun in mid-Belfast

**Karen provided a really fun morning with the puppets at Young @ Heart at St Stephen's and St Luke's Parish, Belfast**



## **School's visit to Somme Museum**

**A second group of 60 pupils from Assumption Grammar School, Ballynahinch visited the Somme Museum this week. They were guided by Austin and Tom.**

## **Christian Aid welcomes Keir Starmer announcement at COP29**

**Christian Aid has welcomed UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer's address to COP29 this week, in which he**

stressed the urgency for the world to act on climate change and outlined actions his government has already taken since they were elected, "making the UK a global leader" in the shift to clean renewable energy.

But Starmer also emphasised the urgency for all countries to come forward with "ambitious targets fo their own" ... "A global problem also requires global partnership," he said.

**The Joint Emergency Services**

NIAS  
NORTHERN IRELAND FIRE & RESCUE  
POLICE SERVICE NORTHERN IRELAND  
St John Ambulance  
FOYLE SEARCH AND RESCUE  
AIR AMBULANCE NORTHERN IRELAND CHARITY  
British Red Cross

**Northwest Community Carol Service**  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
7.30pm  
St Columb's Cathedral  
Derry~Londonderry

Offering will be in aid of Foyle Women's Aid  
Cash or Alternative Card Facility Available

Everyone Welcome To Attend

*In the wonderful surroundings of our*  
**CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL 2024**  
2<sup>ND</sup> - 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER

VISITING CHOIRS - SOLOISTS - MUSICAL ENSEMBLES - VICTORIAN VILLAGE WITH TRAIN STATION - RETRO CHRISTMAS SITTING ROOM - CHRISTMAS TREES - QUILTS - WREATHS - TREE SHORTS - TABLE CENTRES - GINGERBREAD HOUSES - STOCKINGS - STAINED GLASS - COFFEE DOCK SATURDAYS

ALSO INCORPORATING...  
THE CATHEDRAL QUARTER INITIATIVE  
CHRISTMAS MARKET 11<sup>TH</sup>-14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

NORTHLANDS  
CATHEDRAL QUARTER INITIATIVE

November 16, 2024

Responding to his speech, Sophie Powell, Christian Aid's Chief of UK Advocacy, commented: "The government deserves credit for being the first G7 economy to outline its new, strengthened, emissions reduction target. The UK's announcement should now put pressure on other countries to follow suit with similar announcements. Amid new geopolitical uncertainties following the US election results, clear signals of ambition and collective resolve from major emitters are more important than ever.

"Emissions reductions however are only one side of the coin. The other is climate finance and on that, the UK is not yet delivering, despite this being dubbed the 'Finance COP'. If the UK really wants to claim the mantle of a climate leader it needs to deliver on public finance to support the ongoing efforts of vulnerable countries to adapt to climate change, and to ensure the energy transition is fully funded."

Read Keir Starmer's full speech here:

[www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-remarks-at-cop29-12-november-2024](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-remarks-at-cop29-12-november-2024)

## **Anglican Delegation advocating for Climate Justice and Just Financing at COP29**

**An Anglican delegation, led by Archbishop Julio Murray and Martha Jarvis, is attending COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, from November 11-22.**

This team is advocating for just financing, emphasising how the climate crisis disproportionately impacts the world's



poorest communities and urging governments to prioritise equitable funding solutions.

A key focus is on establishing a new goal for global climate finance that considers justice, as those least responsible for climate change often bear the highest costs. The Anglican delegation is calling for financing options that alleviate burdens on vulnerable nations, urging that funds be offered as grants rather than loans.

The Anglican Communion's report, "Choosing Hope: Anglicans Working For Joint Action on the Climate Crisis and Nature Loss", outlines five key calls to governments which reflect the Anglican commitment to protecting both people and the planet.

Read the full story here: <https://bit.ly/3UKCZ6q>

Download the full Anglican Calls document:  
<https://bit.ly/3ULFK7n>



November 16, 2024

# Cathedral Calls



## Durufié's setting of the Requiem in Belfast Cathedral

“It was an absolutely tremendous experience to have 48 singers perform Maurice Durufié's setting of the Requiem during our service of reflection for Remembrance Sunday 2024. What a noise! Our sincerest thanks to all who sang from our friends at The Priory Singers, Belfast, combined with our own Cathedral Choir.

“Thanks also to our soprano soloist Joanna Higgins, our baritone soloist James Osborne (Tenor Choral Scholar), to our fantastic cellist David McCann, our Organist and Master

November 16, 2024

of Music Jack Wilson for his thrilling organ accompaniment, and to Philip Bolton for his wonderful expertise and direction.

“A truly memorable evening!”

## This year's medal recipients at St Patrick's, Dublin

Congratulations to Ailbe, James Richard, Nathan, Sam, Guss, David, Zemphira, Nour and Charlotte.



The boys' medals were all donated by families associated with the Cathedral and its choir over the last couple of hundred years. The girls' on the other hand are much newer as that group wasn't established until 2017. Their medals based on the medal donated by the Roger's family back in

November 16, 2024

1934 and we'll be adding to those over the next couple of hundred years too!

## Clergy and ministry

### Institution of Vicar of Glenavy Parish



From left: The Rev James Boyd, Rural Dean; the Rev Pete Meenage, preacher; the Rev Stephen McElhinney; Bishop George Davison; the Rev Canon William Taggart, Registrar; and the Ven Dr Stephen McBride, Archdeacon of Connor.

**The Institution of the Rev Stephen McElhinney, former Mission Director of Sams Ireland, as Vicar of Glenavy Parish took place on Tuesday night in St Aidan's, Glenavy.**

November 16, 2024

Parishioners from the two other churches in the parish - St John's, Crumlin, and St Andrew's, the Tunny - joined Stephen's family and friends, clergy from the diocese and other guests at the service held on what was a foggy evening across Northern Ireland. Read more at <https://bit.ly/4et78xW>

## Templepatrick Parish Ministry Team to visit India

### Ministry Trip to

Indian Christian  
Mission Centre  
Salem,  
Tamil Nadu

# India



21st July - 1st August 2025

Anyone aged 16 + is invited to join the Templepatrick Parish Ministry Team for an experience of a life-time.

Meet and encourage the staff of ICMC, the students at the colleges and help run a Bible Holiday club for 150 orphans aged 5 - 18.

No experience or skills required.

Training provided.

Cost approx £990



Contact Rev Jeremy Mould 07896 839488  
jermould@gmail.com

## **Templepatrick Parish Ministry Team will be making another ministry trip to the Indian Christian Mission Centre in Salem, India, next summer.**

Anyone aged 16+ is invited to join the team for the trip which runs from July 21-August 1 next year to encourage those at the ICMC and students at the college, and to help run a children's Bible Club. Interested? See contact page above.

## **Belfast minister swaps raves for naves, leaving white sands of Ibiza for the Ballywalter beach**

**A Belfast minister has spoken about swapping Ibiza for Ballywalter as he returns home from running the party island's only English-speaking church, Kurtis Reid writes in the Belfast Telegraph**

Rev Adrian Green, who is originally from east Belfast, moved with his family to the 'white island' in 2021 to serve as the Anglican representative for Ibiza and Formentera.

He has now returned to Northern Ireland to take over at Holy Trinity Church in Ballywalter.

Speaking to the Belfast Telegraph, Rev Green described swapping the Spanish holiday isle for Co Down.

“I was minister of a church in the Craigy estate in east Belfast when someone sent me the job listing as a joke,” he said.

“I took it as a joke and thought, 'wouldn't that be nice, working in Ibiza?' It was around the end of 2020, so mid-Covid, but it really stuck with me.

“That's when my wife and my son said to me about actually considering it, and I asked for the job details, and when I got them, it had my name all over it. It was everything I was looking for.

“I sent off an application at the end of the year, had an interview in February and was offered the job that evening.

“We ended up having to juggle all the travel (restrictions) due to Covid, but we moved out in July, myself, my wife and one of my children, while the other stayed to finish their A-levels.”

Once there, Rev Green became chaplain to the only English language church on the island, leading services for ex pats and English-speaking residents of Ibiza, which has the highest number of foreign residents out of all the Balearic Islands.

“Although it was technically an Anglican church, it was filled with around 24 different nationalities throughout the attendees,” he added.

“It was very international and lots of people came to faith, especially people in their 20s and 30s. I found it was a lot of people who had come to the island when they were younger to party and now we're coming back as adults with their own families.”

During his time on the island, Rev Green also took part in a group called Prayer 24/7, a street pastor type initiative which helped people, particularly in the area where the main clubs are located, at night who may have been too drunk or were distressed.

“Ibiza is a beautiful place, it just goes from summer to winter and you do get a lot of people attending the clubs — but there is much more to it than that.

“Both my wife and I volunteered with 24/7 Prayer, which is based in the west end of the island. We would work overnight there, working in pairs, to chat and help people.

“But if they were too drunk or too drugged, we would always help them get home, even some of the doormen at clubs would contact us to help people.

“It was certainly very enlightening — some humorous stories as well, but it's great to be there for people, some people just need actual help. But we also ran a homeless shelter as well, it's all about community.”

After around three years, Rev Green decided to move back to Northern Ireland after being told about an upcoming job in Co Down, swapping the sun-bleached Spanish sands for the beaches of beautiful Ballywalter.

“We could have stayed longer, but we wanted to be closer to family and we felt we had brought the church to a stage where it can move forward, in the hopes that it will continue to grow and enjoy lots of different speakers. It's now run by a team from the island and is more homegrown.”

## Fr Joe McMahon

**Joe McMahon was born on 14th January 1949 in Miltown Malbay Parish. He attended St. Flannan's College from 1961-1966.**

In 1966 he undertook his studies for Priesthood in St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. He was ordained on the 16th of June 1973, in Miltown Malbay by Bishop Michael Harty.

After ordination he undertook a Higher Diploma in Education and was appointed to St. Flannan's College, this began a four decade long association with St. Flannan's. In 1982 he undertook a career guidance course in U.C.D. He worked as a guidance counsellor and taught Irish and Latin among other subjects. In July 1994 he was appointed Vice President of St. Flannan's College. In 2005 he was appointed President of St. Flannan's College. In September 2014 he became PP pro-tem of Scariff, Feakle and Killanena/ Flagmount.

In the Diocesan Restructuring of 2018, he was appointed Co-PP of Inis Cealtra Pastoral Area and in 2021 he became Vicar Forane. In 2024 on reaching his 75th Birthday he became A.P. In Inis Cealtra Pastoral Area.

He died on the 10th of November 2024. Funeral mass was held on Thursday 14th November with burial immediately afterwards in the church grounds of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Scariff.  
May He Rest in Peace.



# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

## Don't miss Aileen Cahill & Conor Shiel in recital this Sunday

**At St Ann's, Dawson St., Dublin**

Martinu - Sonatina for Clarinet and Piano

Yue Song - Nocturne for Piano

Mozart - Sarastro's Aria from The Magic Flute for Bass  
Clarinet


Jane O'Leary - Palette of Preludes for Piano

Poulenc - Sonata for Clarinet and Piano

Sunday 17 November 12:45pm. €10 at the big red doors

## Cór Fingal Christmas Concert in aid of Malahide, Portmarnock & St. Doulagh's Church Organ Fund

**At Church of Ireland, United Parishes of Malahide,  
Portmarnock & St. Doulagh's on Saturday 14th  
December at 7.30pm.**

This will be a feast of festive music  A night not to be  
missed. Get your tickets now at

[https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/cor-fingal-malahide-christmas-  
concert-tickets-1080656355249?aff=oddtcreator](https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/cor-fingal-malahide-christmas-concert-tickets-1080656355249?aff=oddtcreator)



## Meet The Maker Discussion Group

**Meet The Maker for discussion on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 11am.**

At the next meeting on 27th November they will begin a new series on the Apocrypha. This should be a very interesting topic for discussion. "We welcome any new members who might be interested in joining us. There is always plenty of good conversation and cake!"

## 'Light of the World' in Kilrea

**The Kilrea Group of Parishes will brighten up one dark evening, at least, when they celebrate 30 years of their Vintage Rally and Fair at a special event, 'Light of the**



**Cór Fingal  
Christmas Concerts**

*Celebrate the season with Cór Fingal's festive Christmas concert,  
featuring beloved classics and joyful holiday tunes!*

 **Saturday 14th December**  
**St Andrew's Church**  
**Malahide, 7.30pm**  
*In aid of the Church Organ Fund.*

**Sunday 15th December**  
**St Columba's Church**  
**Swords, 4pm**  
*Joined by Swords Youth Choir*



Tickets available on Eventbrite.



 **YOU  
ARE  
INVITED TO  
A CHARITY  
FUNDRAISER**

 **ST. PATRICK'S & ST. JOHN'S**  
*The Parish of Donaghadee and Donaghry*

**Christmas  
Concert**

**ROBERT THOMPSON  
& ST PETER'S CHOIR**

  
**Secular and Sacred music and poetry**

**ST JOHN'S DONEGORE**  
**7.30PM MONDAY 2 DECEMBER 2024**  
**£10 DONATION**  
**FOR PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH NI**

Book your ticket: email [jermould@gmail.com](mailto:jermould@gmail.com)

November 16, 2024

## World', in Tamlaght O'Crilly Parish Church on Friday 29th November.

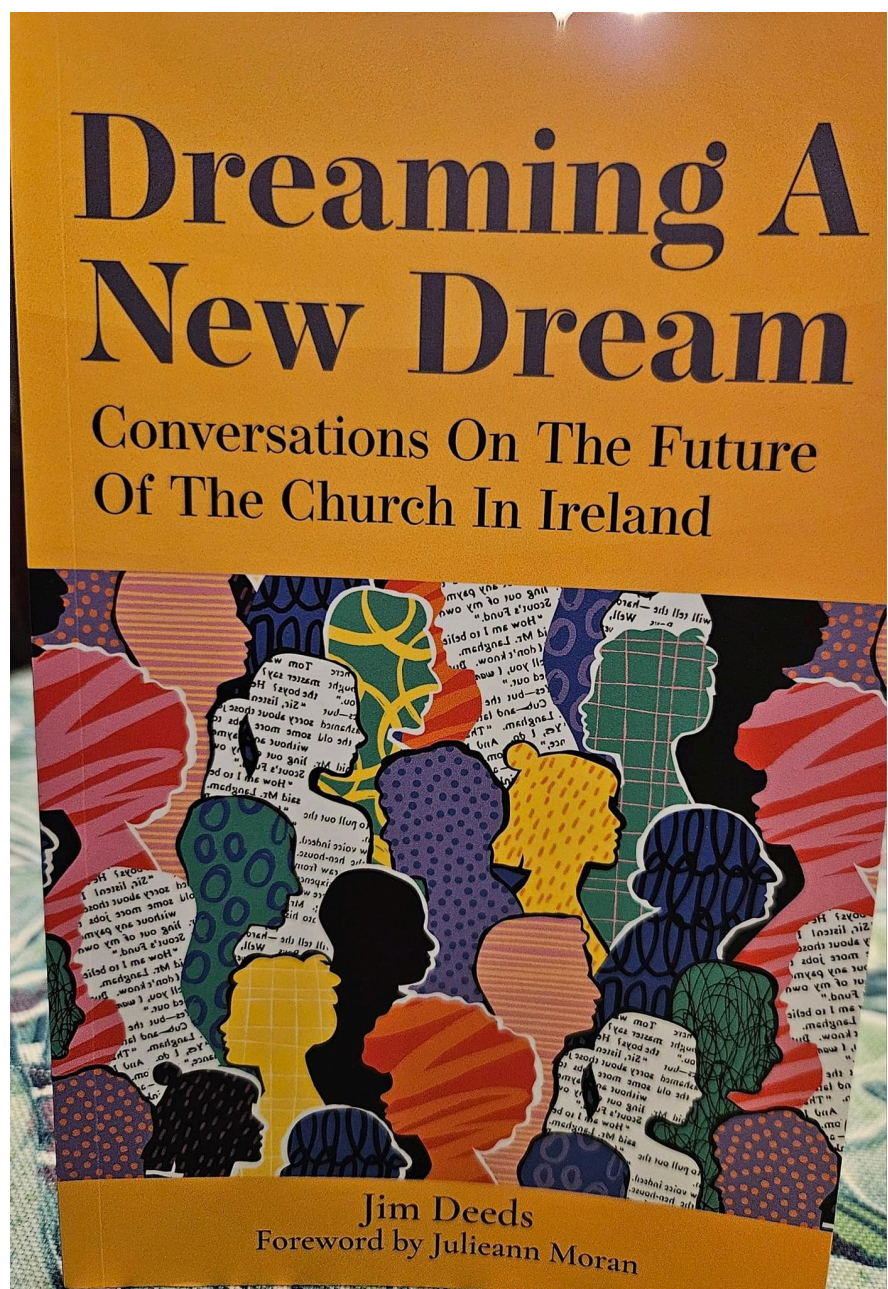
The TOC Community Choir will be joined by guest soloists and instrumentalists to entertain the audience, and the church will be lit up spectacularly for the occasion.

All are welcome and proceeds will go to Abaana and Church funds

## Dreaming a New Dream

Martin O'Brien - I have just received this incredibly important little book by Jim Deeds Messenger Publications and I can't wait to read it properly.

It is clearly a significant contribution to the discussion and discernment needed in



November 16, 2024

figuring out God's will for the future of the Church.

Julieann Moran, General Secretary for the Synodal Pathway of the Catholic Church in Ireland writes in the Foreword: "As you journey through this book, you're invited to reflect on your own experience of Church, to consider the challenges and opportunities ahead, to think deeply about the kind of community we are called to be and to dream about the future."

This is the latest of a thankfully growing number of books by Jim and it promises not to disappoint.

## 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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

---

# Church News Ireland

November 16, 2024

[www.churchnewsireland.org](http://www.churchnewsireland.org)

**Posted early Monday to Saturday**

**Please share**