

Church News Ireland



October 28, 2023

Image of the day

Chopin by Candlelight

With Frank McNamara at St. John the Evangelist, Tralee.

People and places



Community support for Foxford Harvest thanksgiving

There was ruly wonderful community support for the Harvest thanksgiving service in Foxford church on 22nd October.

October 28, 2023

The guest preacher was Rev. Suzanne Cousins rector of Aughaval Group. “We were honoured by the presence and support of, from left Fr Padraig Costello, PP Foxford, Fr Gerry Davey ADM Carracastle and Rooskey and Fr. Stephen O’Mahony PP Bohola and Straide Parishes.

“Thank you to everyone for the most generous support of Bishops’ Appeal for assistance to the Diocese of Jerusalem who run the al-Ahli hospital in Gaza which has recently been bombed and witnessed so much suffering”.



COFFEE AND COATS



WHERE:

ST MARK'S CHURCH

98 Ballymacash Road,
Lisburn BT28 3EZ

WHEN:

Thursday 2nd &
Friday 3rd Nov
10am-3pm

ROC
NORTHERN
IRELAND

Winter coat project at St Mark's, Lisburn

If you, or someone you know is in need of a helping hand to get a warm winter coat then get along to St Mark's Church, Lisburn on the dates below.

There is no charge and you will even get a cup of coffee as well!

Donations of coats can be made up until this Sunday and can be left in the church halls.

Holy Trinity Westport shares very positive thankful news

Holy Trinity Westport (Church of Ireland Parish of Westport-Dugort, Union) says it is “truly blessed to have been awarded a Historic Structures Fund grant, through Mayo Co Council.

It is a grant of 44,000 euro, towards the first phase of repairs to part of the roof (over the vestry) from where there has been water ingress for some time, with potential significant damage to the building and to our precious organ. This grant requires matching from us of 11,000 euro, which we are currently seeking to raise.

“The Select Vestry of the Parish wishes to express sincere gratitude to the awarding body and to all friends of HTW - to members of the public, local community, and to St Mary's Parish for ongoing solidarity and the enormous support we

October 28, 2023

have received over recent years and again at this time, towards the preservation and restoration of the church building. Thank you and bless you! Look out for scaffolding, soon to be erected!”



BRA Chamber Choir at National Youth Choir NI workshop

The Chamber Choir of Belfast Royal Academy enjoyed a workshop with Andrew Nunn, the artistic director the National Youth Choir Northern Ireland - NYCNI on Friday 20th October.

The NYCNI was established in 1999 to provide the best of NI's young singers the opportunity to sing together.

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and some even auditioned for the Choir.



PETER IS FUNDRAISING FOR FIELDS OF LIFE



Raising awareness and funding to help build toilet blocks for St Mary's School in Ibba, South Sudan.

On November 5th 2023 I will be running the New York Marathon. By doing this I hope to raise awareness and funding, to help towards building toilet blocks for St Mary's School in Ibba, South Sudan.

South Sudan is ranked as one of the poorest, most fragile countries in the world. Today, at least 2 million children are estimated to be out of school in South Sudan. One of the biggest barriers preventing children, especially girls, from staying in school is the lack of adequate toilets and washrooms.

By supporting this fundraiser, you will help to provide a toilet block with a washroom and a handwashing facility for a school in South Sudan. Your support can help create a safe space for girls to be healthy, stay in school and thrive. The impact of safe bathroom facilities at a school is profound: fewer children get sick, more children can stay in school and girls can stay at school and manage their menstruation in privacy.

New York Marathon

5th November 2023

Running 26.2 Miles

**St Mary's School in
Ibba, South Sudan**

**Raising awareness
and funding, to help
towards building
toilet blocks**

Peter Dillon's
JustGiving Page



Scan QR Code to Donate today!

Go Peter! Moira's New York Marathon run for Fields of Life

October 28, 2023

One of St John's parish church members, Peter Dillon, is swapping his wellies for trainers and flying all the way to New York to raise funds for Fields of Life. Peter will be running the New York Marathon in November and if you would like to find out more about why he is doing this and perhaps make a donation, click the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/peter-dillon-1695631367353>

New extension to Stranorlar National School

Bishop Andrew Forster of Derry & Raphoe recently blessed the new extension to Robertson National School in Stranorlar, County Donegal.

The building was decked out in bunting and balloons as the school also celebrated its 60th birthday.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was performed jointly by the school's chairperson Mrs Bonnie Oliver and local T.D. Joe Mc Hugh who, four years ago - when he was Minister for Education & Skills - announced the extension to the building.

Bishop Forster was accompanied by the Rev Mervyn Peoples who has been pastoring to the Stranorlar Group of Parishes since the departure of the Rector, Rev Adam Pullen.



The entire staff and student body gathered outside, at the front of the building, as the Bishop led them in prayers asking God to bless all present and to bless the new extension. "May our children grow in wisdom and grace before you and all your people," Bishop Andrew prayed. "May this school always be a home of truth and wisdom, of faith and goodwill towards all, and may this school help our community and build your kingdom of justice and light and peace.

"Almighty God, we give you our school, we give you all the teachers and staff who work here, we give you all the children who study here. We pray our school will be a place of great discovery and adventure and creativity. May it be a place where we love to learn and learn to love, a place where everyone is respected and all are deeply valued."



Robertson National School was built in 1963 to replace the old school on Main Street, Stranorlar (where Andie's

October 28, 2023

Superstore is now). The school is under Church of Ireland management but welcomes all faiths and none

The building was first extended in 2007 to include two new classrooms. The grounds were updated in 2009 to provide a soft play area and ball courts. In the latest extension, a further classroom, a new office and SET rooms have been added.

Service tomorrow marks 300th Anniversary of St Ann's Church, Dawson Street

St Ann's Church on Dawson Street, Dublin 2, will mark its 300th anniversary this Sunday morning, October 29, at 11am with a service of Choral Matins led by the Vicar, the Revd Canon Paul Arbuthnot.

The preacher will be the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Revd Dr Michael Jackson and the service will be sung by St Ann's Choir. Prayers will be read by the children of the parish.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin Daithi de Roiste will be in attendance as will the Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, the Very Revd William Morton along with former vicars and curates of St Ann's. The Archdiocese of Dublin will be represented by the Vicar General, the Very Revd Gareth Byrne.

October 28, 2023

A rich variety of representatives of Dublin's civic and cultural life have indicated their intention to attend. These include representatives of the diplomatic service, members of the Oireachtas, representatives of the Rotunda and Holles Street Hospitals and the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, representatives of the National Gallery and the National Library as well as the Royal Irish Academy and representatives of the charitable sector, including the Samaritans which was set up in Ireland by former Vicar of St Ann's, Canon Billy Wynne. Members and representatives of Dublin City Council will also attend.



LEGO Exhibition

SATURDAY 4TH NOV 2023:

10AM - 5PM

SUNDAY 5TH NOV 2023

11.30AM - 4PM



Entrance by donation

Proceeds to parish *New Spring* initiative

St Mark's Dundela
Heyn Hall, 2 Sydenham Avenue
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E: office.dundela@down.anglican.org

T: (028) 9013 7436



News reports

The King discusses Middle East conflict with charity workers

The King hosted representatives from five charities operating in the Middle East, including Gaza, to “discuss the acute humanitarian situation”.

The monarch, 74, who is president of the British Red Cross, held the 30-minute audience in the 18th Century Room at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

A palace spokesman said the meeting took place as part of His Majesty’s “lifelong experience of the Middle East and work to support those in need across the boundaries of faith and community, at home and internationally”.

On Wednesday, the King held an audience with the Crown Prince of Kuwait, during which the conflict was similarly discussed.

Separately, he visited Norfolk to open the new Priscilla Bacon Lodge hospice in Norwich, where he spoke to patients.

It comes after the King – who is said to be “deeply concerned” about the ongoing violence and has asked to be kept updated – spoke to Isaac Herzog, the president of Israel, and to King Abdullah of Jordan to express his

October 28, 2023

“thoughts and prayers for all those suffering”. A palace spokesman has previously said the King is “appalled by and condemns the barbaric acts of terrorism in Israel”.

He has also held talks with Sir Ephraim Mirvis, the UK’s Chief Rabbi, to discuss the impact on the Jewish population in Britain.

St. Mark’s Church, Portadown
Organ Music for Remembrance

Orly Watson, Organist

7.30pm, Friday 10th November, 2023
Admission Free with Retiring Collection



Featuring music by
composers
associated with the
World Wars and
with the theme of
Remembrance.

Alain
Elgar
Howells
Parry
Vaughan Williams
Vierne
Walford Davies

Those invited to brief the King yesterday included Rory Moylan, regional head of the British Red Cross for the Middle East, North Africa and Europe, Melanie Ward, chief executive of the UK-based charity Medical Aid for Palestinians, Jon Sparkes, chief executive of Unicef UK, and Patrick Watt, chief executive of Christian Aid. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has stressed the need for temporary breaks in bombings on Gaza to allow Israeli hostages and British nationals to be freed.

Buckingham Palace did not comment on whether the King discussed the plight of the hostages and the work to free them during the private meeting. As part of its neutral intermediary role, the International Committee of the Red Cross has assisted with the recent release of Israeli hostages.

In a speech last week, the King called for unity amid rising anger over the conflict in Israel. He warned that “the temptation to turn ourselves into a shouting or recriminatory society must be resisted”.

Archbishop joins Bishop of Durham on weekend prayer walk

The Archbishop of York joined the Bishop of Durham last weekend for a two-day prayer walk through parts of Durham Diocese, including blessing the new Camino Ingles Fountain in Bishop Auckland, visiting the recently opened Faith Museum, and having breakfast at a community café in Chester-le-Street.



This was the Right Reverend Paul Butler's final prayer walk as Bishop of Durham before his retirement in February next year.

The Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell and Bishop Paul began their walk on Saturday morning at the Refuse Café, after sharing in Morning Prayer at St Mary and St Cuthbert's Church, before heading onto the home of Durham Cricket Club at the Riverside Ground, and then on towards Durham City. They walked Cuddy's Corse from Chester-le-Street to Durham in the footsteps of the monks from the St Cuthbert's Community who carried the body of Cuthbert, the Patron Saint of the North, and the Lindisfarne Gospels to the Cathedral more than 1,000 years ago.

The following day they walked around Bishop Auckland visiting some of the recent regeneration projects, which are transforming the town. This included blessing and dedicating the new Camino Ingles Fountain in the town

October 28, 2023

centre and visiting The Auckland Project, including the recently opened Faith Museum.

Archbishop Stephen said of the pilgrimage in the Diocese of Durham, “It’s always encouraging to see where God is at work and how people are joining in His mission to share the love of the gospel. And getting to do it at three miles an hour means there are opportunities for conversations along the way.”

Bishop Paul commented: “Our visit to Bishop Auckland on the second day was a chance to celebrate the inspiring projects which are key to the incredible regeneration of this historic town.

“This was my final prayer walk as Bishop of Durham and I am grateful that Archbishop Stephen chose to join me on our journey, which concludes with prayers in the chapel at Auckland Castle.”

Heritage

War’s end for Ulster Division

On October 26 in 1918, the Ulster Division is ordered that during the night, they would be relieved from the Frontline.

When relieved the War for the Ulster Division would be over, as they will go into the reserve and rest until the armistice.

October 28, 2023

October casualties - Missing 537 - killed 452 - wounded 2807.

John Daly from Barrack Hill, Armagh was born in India. He most likely was a soldier's son. A Roman Catholic chaplain wrote to his parents testifying to his bravery and the short time between injury and death this day in 1914. This day's veteran is Albert Boyle from Portadown who enlisted in the North Irish Horse at Portadown on 05/03/1909. He was one of three men from the town and the regiment selected to attend the King's Coronation. Richard Edgar, in "A Call to Arms, Portadown in the Great War" quotes how the regiment was first under fire. Boyle was pensioned out on October 26, 1915 with pulmonary tuberculosis.

Henry Walmsley died on HM Submarine Tetrarch off Sicily in 1941. After a period of intense action - he had completed seventeen Central Mediterranean War Patrols - Lt. Walmsley was hitching a lift from Malta to the UK on the submarine Tetrarch when the ship was lost, presumed to be caused by mining.

On the same day in 1942 Joseph Willett from Portrush, a Fleet Air Arm aviator then based at Wingfield, Cape Town, was lost in a collision on a night mission. In 1943 Flight Sergeant Thomas Leckey was lost over the Nicobar Islands. He is named on the Singapore Memorial. In 1944 RAF Sergeant William Heatherington from Londonderry died in India. More at -

<https://remembranceneni.org/2023/10/26/october-26-wars-end-for-ulster-division-roll-of-honour/>

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



Online Evangelist Course taster session

Down & Dromore Evangelist Course taster session (online): On Thursday 16 November at 7.30pm we're holding a one-hour online taster session for anyone interested in learning more about the Evangelist Training Course. This will include details on the course outline, testimonies from former students, the benefits of the course and an opportunity to ask questions.

Sign up at [Link below](#)

The course

In the past 6 years 31 people have completed the course with many going on into paid positions as evangelists, church planters and other ministry positions.

October 28, 2023

The course runs over a period of 2 years, beginning in 2024 and is facilitated by New Wine in partnership with Down and Dromore diocese. It was developed by Through Faith Missions with the aim of producing evangelists who combine a credible level of learning, with an ability to actually 'do the work of an evangelist'. On average the commitment is 8 to 10 hours a week split between studying/ assignments and doing evangelism.

Theological study together with a practical portfolio is undertaken to successfully complete the course and this consists of 5 prescribed modules and an Evangelist's Portfolio.

Cost

The total cost of the course is £1,800 and successful candidates will be awarded one third (£600) of this amount from the diocese. We encourage applicants to seek financial support from their local church towards the remaining amount.

Download a course brochure at link below.

Deadline for applications: Monday 4 December 2023

For an application form or for more information please contact Andrew Brannigan at andrew@downanddromore.org or call 07950 846621.

[<https://www.downanddromore.org/news/2023/10/evangelist-course-taster-session-online>]

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

CNI Events review

See post on this site yesterday.

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