

Church News Ireland



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Image of the day



Castleknock in Cambodia

Fourteen members of the Parish of Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla are currently in Cambodia to help build a new home for a family living in poverty.

Working alongside builders from Habitat for Humanity in Cambodia, their mission is a partnership between Habitat, the parish and the family in Phnom Penh.

The parishioners and Habitat are working with Sreymao, a 43 year old factory worker, in Trapang Anhchanh 4 village in

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Porsenchey District, Phnom Penh.

The Revd Colin McConaghie has sent an update which you can read on website here: <https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2024/10/02/dublin-parishioners-get-to-work>

News

Bangor Parish's Brain Break for local school

Bangor Central Primary integrated school had a brain break



at their School Development Day.

Rev Mairisne Stanfield chair of the school's Board of governors said "Thank you to the fabulous teams at Bangor Parish Church and City Church Bangor who provided our School

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Development Day break in the beautiful setting of Bangor Parish

“Such a thoughtful gesture which gave us a welcome brain break on a busy day of learning!”



Room with a view

St Patrick's Maynooth. Thanks to Bishop Fintan Monaghan.

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NICVA meets with uniformed youth sector leaders

Celine McStravick and Leeann Kelly of NICVA met with leaders from the uniformed youth sector in Northern Ireland.

This sector makes an incredible impact, engaging over 45,000 children and young people in activities every week, with the support of more than 15,000 dedicated volunteers.



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NICVA conveyed thanks to Jonathan Gracey (Scouts NI), Martha Brennan (Girls Brigade NI), Lisa Keys (Northern Ireland Boys' Brigade -BBNI), Patricia McDermott (Catholic Guides of Ireland), Rónán McGibbon (Scouting Ireland), and Claire Flowers (Girl Guiding Ulster) for giving their time on the day, and for their leadership and dedication to empowering youth across Northern Ireland.

Collectively, the 6 organisations work with over 45,000 children and young people every week and have over

15,000 volunteer leaders. It was great to chat about how young people develop through the programmes offered and the opportunities that being a member provides.

Participants also chatted about the challenges of volunteering



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contrasted with the commitment and enthusiasm of their leaders and discussed ways in which we may be able to gain more support to help leaders with the vital work that they do.

100 Year Bushmills celebrated



Congratulations to Dunluce Parish Mothers' Union branch on their 100 years of service to the parish and the wider church and community.

The Bishop of Connor, Rt Rev George Davison celebrated Holy Communion on September 29th to mark the event.

Mrs June Butler, All Ireland President, delivered the address. Hannah Bailey baked the cake and long service



certificates were presented. In particular, 60 year membership certificates were presented to Violet Ramage and Lily Hopkins.



New National President of The Royal British Legion

The Royal British Legion has announced the appointment of Vice Admiral (Rtd) Paul Bennett CB OBE as the charity's new National President.

Vice Admiral Bennett will assume the role in October, ahead of the Remembrance period. His first duties will be to represent the Royal British Legion at key ceremonial events in November, including the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall, and the National Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday.

Vice Admiral Bennett joined the Royal Navy in 1985. Following an extensive career at sea, including several roles

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ashore, he was recognised with an OBE for his work in Navy Command for Above Water Capability and Maritime Security.

His final role before retiring from service in 2021 was as Chief of Staff for Allied Command Transformation in Norfolk, Virginia, after which he assumed a role as a NATO Senior Mentor.

Vice Admiral Bennett's appointment follows the passing of Sir Clive Johnstone KBE CB who held the role from May 2023 until May 2024.



Pope asks for day of prayer and fasting for peace in the world

Pope Francis has announced that he will go to St. Mary Major on October 6 to offer a prayer of supplication for

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peace to the Blessed Virgin Mary and to recite the Rosary.

The Pope asked everyone to observe October 7 as a day of prayer and fasting for peace in the world.

Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh said, “Please join in the call of Pope Francis and Cardinal Pizzaballa to pray and make sacrifices for peace on October 7. Pray the Rosary at 7 pm on the 7th - a day of prayer, fasting and penance.”

Some information and resources can be found at <http://armagharchdiocese.org/>

A Lutheran voice at Synod 2024 in Rome



Ecumenical delegates join Roman Catholic leaders for far-reaching deliberations on reform and renewal of the church. Read more from the Lutheran delegate above

Assistant General Secretary Lange of the Lutheran World Federation is among 16 ecumenical delegates attending the meeting on the reform of Catholic Church.

He writes - As an ecumenical participant in the Roman Catholic Church's Synod, which is taking place in the Vatican this month, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Assistant General Secretary for Ecumenical Relations Prof. Dr Dirk Lange says the event reminds Lutherans that "we are also called to reclaim 'Synodality' in our own churches".

Lange is the only Lutheran attending the Synod which includes 16 delegates representing different churches and global Christian communions. These ecumenical delegates participate fully in all the Synod sessions but have no vote at the conclusion of the process. The historical gathering, which opens on 2 October, brings together Catholic bishops and other leaders, including women and lay people, from around the globe to discuss the far-reaching reforms that are at the heart of Pope Francis' pontificate.

The Synod was preceded by two days of spiritual retreat, guided by meditations from a Dominican priest and a Benedictine mother superior. Lange says the retreat "challenged us all into thinking what 'being alive' means today, especially for a world that is seeking, yearning for peace, for community, for God. It challenged us into thinking about what we cling to out of fear and out of a certain misconception about what it means to be church."

Lange notes that the Synod itself is "a unique process and methodology, influenced by Jesuit spirituality, which is focused on consulting, discussing and praying to discern



Taize Prayer this Friday 4th October 8-9 pm Good Counsel College Church, New Ross, Y34 R297

where the Holy Spirit is leading us.” He describes it as “a risky and vulnerable process,” adding that “I admire and rejoice in the way that the Catholic Church has taken this path, which offers itself as a model for our own processes.”

Some 400 delegates are attending the Synod which brings to a conclusion the renewal process inaugurated by Pope Francis in 2021. On 11 October, all delegates will take part in an ecumenical prayer service which also marks the 62nd anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, the landmark meeting of Roman Catholic bishops which

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opened the church up to dialogue with other Christians and with believers of other faiths.

Lange says he hopes for an “ever growing implementation of the Second Vatican Council in the Catholic Church, with its call for greater participation and its invitation to us all to find ways to unity.” As Lutherans too, he says, “we can never stop asking ourselves what it means to be a community, a true communion, free from the threat of clericalism. Our LWF quotas are one way in which we try to implement synodality, but at the same time we are also challenged to engage in a process of spiritual discernment that will shape our communion, so that the quotas will not simply be a ‘rule’ but rather our way of being church.”

Cathedral Calls



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Photo above - Evensong with the combined choirs of HM Chapels Royal St James's Palace and Hampton Court Palace. Photograph on the King's Staircase, Hampton Court.



Cork Cathedral's extensive conservation work

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On Wednesday the Dean of Cork welcomed Ann Carey from the National Monuments Service and Ciara Brett, Cork City Archaeologist to review the extensive conservation work carried out by the cathedrals heritage architects Southgate Associates in conjunction with Redmond Building and Restoration (RBR).

This work has been part-funded through the Community Monuments Fund 2024. All agreed that the great west facade is looking fabulous!

Come and see for yourself - the Cathedral is open for visitors from 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday and 12:30 to 2pm and 4:30 to 5pm on Sundays photo by Eoin Murphy

Clergy and ministry

Methodist stalwart of Jewish Christian understanding

The Council for Christians and Jews says, “It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Rev. Ivan McElhinney.

“Ivan has been a part of our CCJ NI branch executive committee for over 20 years. Serving as Co-Chair and then Honorary President.

“Over the years Ivan's wisdom, dedication and passion for his faith, Israel and CCJ has been a blessing and will be

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greatly missed by us all. We send our love and prayers to Phyllis and the family, we wish them long life and that Ivan's memory will forever be a blessing. ברוך דין האמת
- "Baruch Dayan HaEmet," "Blessed is the true Judge"

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Discover the freedom of living generously

'Living Generously' is an eight session course designed for small groups and individual study.

Watch the sessions at <http://cofe.io/LivingGenerously>.

Can liturgy improve our attention and increase social connectedness?

On Monday, October 7, Dr. Byron Anderson will deliver the Yale Institute of Sacred Music lecture about how liturgy pushes back against an age of distraction!

<https://buff.ly/3TLNN3x>

Read a conversation with Dr. Anderson about his topic for this address, edited for length and clarity. Dr. Anderson is Professor of Worship at Garrett Seminary, Evanston.
(<https://www.garrett.edu/liturgy-in-an-age-of-distraction/>)



SCHOOLS MEDIA COMPETITION 2025

Columban Missionaries invite students aged 13-18 to submit an original piece of writing or an image on the theme:

Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor

Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope

Celebrate a community bringing hope in the world today.

WRITTEN PRIZES 1ST €300 2 ND €150 • 3 RD €100	IMAGE PRIZES 1ST €300 2 ND €150 • 3 RD €100	DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2025 For entry details: www.columbancompetition.com	 COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES
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Columbans launch 2025 Schools Media Competition

‘Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope’ - entries until 7 February 2025, with winners being announced on 10 March 2025.

<https://columbans.ie/columbans-launch-2025-schools-competition-jubilee-pilgrims-of-hope/> #Hope #Pilgrims #Columbans #schoolstudents

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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