

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – County Tyrone first salute**

# Image of the day



## County Tyrone first salute



**Reservists from 206 (Ulster) Battery, 105 Regiment Royal Artillery carried out a 21 Royal Gun Salute to mark the 2nd Anniversary of His Majesty The King's**

**Accession to the throne.**



On this occasion, the Salute took place at the Royal School Dungannon, one of five schools founded and granted Royal status in Ireland by King James VI & I in 1608.

The Review Officer was the Lord Lieutenant for Co Tyrone, Robert Scott OBE DL JP with nearly 800 staff members and pupils making up the audience. This was the first salute to be held in County Tyrone.

## News

### Cantonese service at Newtownbreda

**On Saturday some of Newtownbreda's Hong Kong families joined with others for a time of worship and fellowship in their heart language.**



“As a congregation we are glad to provide a home for this new initiative, which will happen once a month.

“Anyone who is a Cantonese speaker is welcome to come along. Please feel free to send us a message and we will happily put you in touch with the organisers”.

看哪，弟兄和睦同居是何等地善，何等地美！  
(Ps 133:1)

## **Strabane church-biker passes 1,084 (ish!) miles.**

**Philip has reached just under the half way point between John O'Groats and Land's End.**

Since he left Strabane last week he has travelled a whooping 1,084 (ish!) miles. Both Philip and the bike are

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bearing up well but looking forward to a much deserved rest day tomorrow.

Philip reached Kendal today. Land's End is still over 500 miles away so plenty of road yet to travel once the group head off again on Wednesday



in the hope of reaching Land's End on Friday. But remember, the journey still won't be over for Philip as he and his trusted bike have to then travel back to Strabane!

If you're in a position to support Philip and would like to do so as he raises funds towards a new floor and heating system in the Church building, please use the PayPal link below or see Philip or any Vestry member.

<https://www.paypal.com/pools/c/97f8j5gHy0>

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## All set for BBNI Abide

**3rd Ballyclare BBNI leaders at the Abide conference**

3rd Ballyclare BBNI Ready to recharge and plan for the year ahead  
The Northern Ireland Boys' Brigade - BBNI



## £33m Down High School tops out

**A significant construction milestone has been reached in the delivery of Down High School on Strangford Road, Downpatrick, as the building tops out.**

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The £33million project will create a state-of-the-art education campus including a sports hall, PE facilities and sports pitches, catering for up to 950 pupils.

Work is now underway with the next phase which includes completing the block work, screeding floors and making the building wind and watertight ahead of the high-quality internal fit out.



## **Remembering Naomi Leremore, global mission worker, Kenya**

**The Presbyterian Church's prayer rota highlights Naomi and her family as they adjust to life and work back in**

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## **Nairobi following a time of rest and refreshment in Northern Ireland.**

They ask especially for God's comfort as they grieve the death of Naomi's Dad at the end of July. Please also pray for the United Mission to Nepal (UMN) as they take forward the process of selecting and appointing new board members, especially seeking those with skills in finance, fundraising, organizational change and human resource management.

## **Former Pres Mary Robinson speaks out on world's indifference to Sudan crisis**



**Former Pres Mary Robinson spoke powerfully about the world's indifference to Sudan crisis at Dochas emergency briefing on Monday.**



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‘Too often men come together in front of cameras to make peace which they later renege on. We need to build peace from the ground up using women & communities...’

Leaders from Goal, Trocaire, Concern and World Vision provided challenging updates from their work in Sudan.

## Cathedral Calls



A CELEBRATION OF DIFFERENCE to mark the  
**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE**

Saturday 21st September 7 - 8:30pm  
St Anne's Cathedral  
Belfast

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL  
Equality Diversity Interdependence

corrymeela®  
Together is better

Artsawonder

ST JOHN'S PARISH  
Belfast

Beyond Skin

Northern Ireland  
Inter-Faith Forum

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha  
Department of Foreign Affairs

## International Day of Peace - Celebration of Difference - Belfast Cathedral

Johnny Clark writes - If you live in Belfast would you please think of coming to this intercultural and multi-faith event? This will be the third year where we have held a Celebration of Difference event on the International Day of Peace. There has never been a more important time to get involved in

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showing support for the beauty of diversity in our society. This will be a night of music that heals from a variety of musicians. It will also be a night for the voices and stories of people who, in vulnerability display the power of human connection and protest the urgency of finding moments for encounter in our siloed worlds. 21st September, 7pm, St Anne's Cathedral. Join us.

**TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

**FAITHS TOGETHER FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE & PEACE**

**THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER**  
Corrymeela Conference,  
"Peace, Justice and Care for the Earth"

**FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER**  
"Our Voices count", Youth and Politician Forum  
"Land and Lough" Forum with the Ulster Farmers' Union

**SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER**  
"Faiths Together for Climate Justice and Peace" Conference  
Cultural evening, "A Celebration of Difference"

**Contact: info@jointhedotstogether.org**  
**www.jointhedotstogether.org**



The firstfruits of hope  
(Rom 8:19-25)

**TO HOPE AND ACT  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2024



# FAITHS TOGETHER FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE & PEACE

## SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

### "Faiths Together for Climate Justice and Peace" Conference

#### What is it about?

Multi-Faith Conference uniting  
together for Peace and Justice in  
our world today...

#### Who?

This event will host interesting and empowering  
speakers:

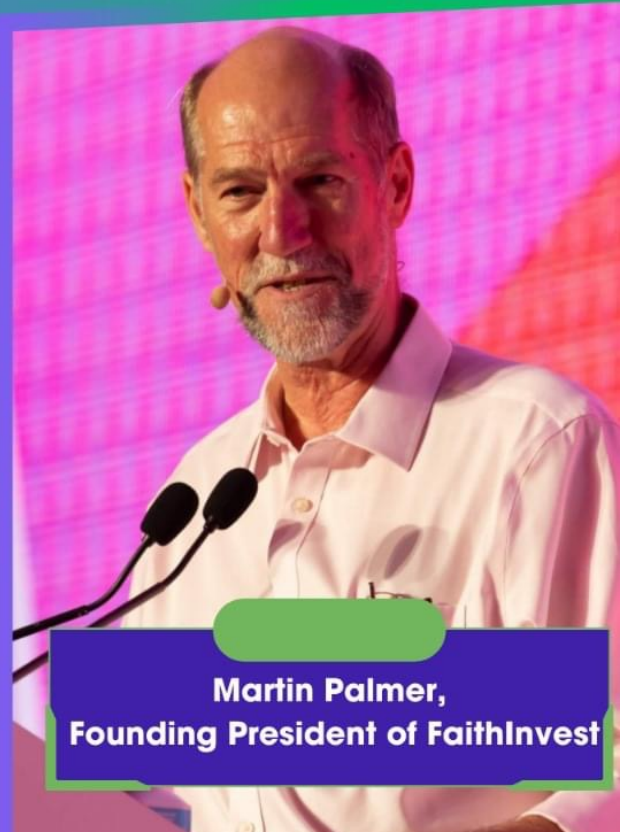
- Martin Palmer Founding President of FaithInvest
- Raja Harun, Plant Scientist
- Xavier de Bénazé SJ, Coordinator of "Le Châtelard", Jesuit Eco & Spiritual Centre
- Louise Taylor, Neuro-divergent & Eco Therapist

#### When?

- **Date:** Saturday 21st September
- **Time:** 10:00-13:00
- **Venue:** Belfast South Methodist Church & Agape Centre, 236-266 Lisburn Rd, Belfast BT9 6GF
- Followed by light lunch

#### Sign up?

For more info and to book contact:  
[info@jointhetodotstogether.org](mailto:info@jointhetodotstogether.org)  
Or visit:  
[www.jointhetodotstogether.org](http://www.jointhetodotstogether.org)



**Martin Palmer,  
Founding President of FaithInvest**

## **Music builds up Christ Church's local connections**

**In a new video as part of the Inspiring angles series, Tom Little, Director of Music at Dublin's Christ Church Cathedral, talks about its musical outreach programme with four local schools.**

Weekly singing workshops reach 20 to 30 pupils in each school and help the Cathedral to serve the community by going outside its walls, sharing its resources, and bringing children and adults into the landmark space. Mission is always at the heart of Christ Church's work in a Cathedral that is here for everyone – not a museum or a monument – and is alive and thriving because of people.

Tom comments: "It's not about the quality of singing – it's the fact they are singing, they're making a noise and they're able to express themselves through music. It's absolutely wonderful to see. We take all of our services really seriously and the music is of such high quality but we can also just be really relaxed and informal, and welcome people in that way as well."

He also shares some research that tells us about the tangible benefits for children from singing, especially how it creates relationships with other people and working as part of a team effort, and helps with concentration. The Cathedral would welcome support to help this project reach

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more schools and more children – please contact [tom.little@christchurch.ie](mailto:tom.little@christchurch.ie) if you can help.

See -

<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/news/12526/music-builds-up-christ-churchs>

Readers and listeners who are interested in visiting Christ Church, which has been welcoming pilgrims and visitors for almost 1,000 years, can find out more at [www.christchurchcathedral.ie](http://www.christchurchcathedral.ie)

## Clergy and ministry



## Ordination at Enniskillen Cathedral

**A Service of Ordination and Celebration of Holy Communion took place in St. Macartin's Cathedral,**



**Enniskillen, on Sunday, 8 September at 7pm when Peter Booth was ordained as deacon.**

The service was led by the Bishop of Clogher, the Right Revd Dr. Ian Ellis.

Peter Booth, who lives near Ederney with his wife, Diane and three daughters, Lauren, Ellie and Katie, has been training for the ordained ministry at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute in Dublin on the four-year part time MTh programme and is now entering his final year in which he will serve as deacon intern with Archdeacon Paul



Thompson in the parishes of Derryvullen North and Castle Archdale.

The service was attended by Archdeacon Thompson as well as Dean Kenneth Hall and other clergy and readers from Clogher Diocese and beyond.

The sermon was preached by Dr Katie Heffelfinger, Deputy Director of the Theological Institute (Photo above) who described Sunday as a 'day of celebration and rejoicing.'

More at -

<https://clogher.anglican.org/News/newsevent.php?id=1352>

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# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



## ST BRENDAN - Journey Into The Unknown

*In the 5th century, from a beautiful creek in the southwest of Ireland, the brilliant Celtic seafarers Saint Brendan and his companions, set sail into the unknown of the Atlantic, compelled by the Spirit to seek the Island of the Promised Land...*

*Join us for a retreat hosted by The Community of Brendan the Navigator (Cumann Breandán Naofa) and led by Donna Worthington*

*Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024, 10am-4:30pm  
Christ Church, Church Road, Bray Co. Wicklow A98 W866  
Suggested contribution €25 (lunch included)*

*Reservations/queries to David Reynolds  
david@thereynolds.eu +353 87 918 7792*



*Photo credit : K. Mitch Hodge*

## Community of Brendan the Navigator retreat

**The Community of Brendan the Navigator (Cumann Breandán Naofa) will be hosting a retreat, led by Donna Worthington, in Christ Church Bray (by kind permission) on Saturday 14th September.**

Donna Worthington is an experienced retreat giver, and has led retreats in many places in the UK and Ireland, including St Bede's Pastoral Centre York, St Beuno's Wales, Whalley Abbey Lancashire, Mirfield Yorkshire, Lindisfarne Holy Island and Manresa Centre Dublin. <https://www.christianretreats.live/>



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The Community of Brendan the Navigator (Cumann Breandán Naofa) is an evolving, dispersed community in the Church of Ireland with membership from across the island of Ireland. Made up of lay and ordained members it is open to membership from all Christian traditions. <https://saintbrendan.ie/>

All are welcome to join us on this retreat which will include various approaches such as music, discussion, stillness, prayer, in order to encounter our deeper selves and the Christ of freedom and journeying...

Saturday 14th September 2024, 10am–4:30pm

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Suggested contribution €25 (lunch included)

Reservations/queries to David Reynolds  
[david@thereynolds.eu](mailto:david@thereynolds.eu) +353 87 918 7792

## In the media

### Pope Francis' arrival in Papua New Guinea

**Pope Francis has arrived in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. His Indonesia Airlines plane touched down at 19:10 local time on Friday 6 September, beginning the second leg of his 45th Apostolic Journey abroad.**

He is spending three days in this large but sparsely inhabited nation of thundering rivers and waterfalls, snow-capped mountains, spouting volcanoes, thick forests and beautiful ocean.

The country, which is home to some of the world's last uncontacted tribes, is placed right on one of the planet's tectonic plates, and earthquakes and landslides are almost commonplace, while the lack of infrastructure in the more remote areas can pose serious challenges to rescuers and medics if disaster strikes, and even to simple travellers exploring the nation.

But Pope Francis is undeterred by challenges and determined to share the faith in person with the some 2.5 million Catholics who live here, including those in the remote town of Vanimo on the northwest coast, where a group of mostly Argentinean missionaries share his mission never to exclude what he calls the "geographical and existential peripheries" of our world.

Catholics from across the country have been arriving to the capital city in large groups. Given the lack of roads, many of them from more remote areas had to walk for days to get here.

Pope Francis' packed schedule for Papua New Guinea includes meetings with government officials, local authorities and diplomats; and with children in street situations and those with disabilities.

He will also pay a visit to the Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians, where he will meet with the Bishops of Papua

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New Guinea and Solomon Islands, and with priests, deacons, consecrated men and women, seminarians and catechists.

On Sunday morning, the Pope will celebrate Holy Mass with the faithful at Sir John Guise Stadium, which has been teeming with activity during these last few days as final preparations are made.

Also on Sunday, he will fly to Vanimo, in northwestern Papua New Guinea where he will meet the faithful and a group of missionaries before returning to Port Moresby in the evening. The Holy Father will conclude the second stage of his Apostolic Journey with a meeting with young people on Monday morning.

The last time a Pope travelled to this island country was in 1995, when Saint John Paul II came for the beatification of Peter To Rot, a Papuan lay catechist who was martyred during the Second World War for teaching the Catholic faith.

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Pope Francis met Wednesday with members of the Society of Jesus serving in Indonesia as he continues his Apostolic Journey to the country.

The encounter took place at the Apostolic Nunciature in Jakarta and was held privately.

Among those present was Cardinal Julius Riyadi Darmaatmadja, SJ, the 89-year-old Archbishop Emeritus of Jakarta (1996-2010).

# Poem for today

## The Sofa

**By Medbh McGuckian**

Do not be angry if I tell you  
your letter stayed unopened on my table  
for several days. If you were friend enough  
to believe me, I was about to start writing  
at any moment; my mind was savagely made up,  
like a serious sofa moved  
under a north window. My heart, alas,

is not the calmest of places.

Still it is not my heart that needs replacing:  
and my books seem real enough to me,  
my disasters, my surrenders, all my loss. . . .

Since I was child enough to forget  
that you loathe poetry, you ask for some—  
about nature, greenery, insects, and, of course,

the sun—surely that would be to open  
an already open window? To celebrate  
the impudence of flowers? If I could  
interest you instead in his large, gentle stares,  
how his soft shirt is the inside of pleasure  
to me, why I must wear white for him,  
imagine he no longer trembles

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when I approach, no longer buys me  
flowers for my name day. . . . But I spread  
on like a house, I begin to scatter  
to a tiny to-and-fro at odds  
with the wear on my threshold. Somewhere  
a curtain rising wonders where I am,  
my books sleep, pretending to forget me.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## 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)

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# Church News Ireland

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