

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – St Cadan's Parish Church**

# Image of the day



## St Cadan's Parish Church

**Give yourself ten points if you got Derry Diocese!**

Tamlaghtard Parish to be exact. Easy route take the road from/to Limavady which takes you along the coastal route - for scenery this writer prefers driving east from Limavady and enjoying the

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escarpment of Bennevenagh. But please check. Out your own map or GPS...

## News



### Connor youth and children's ministry leaders annual launch

**A great morning was had by all as youth and children's ministry leaders from across Connor Diocese gathered in St Patrick's Parish Centre, Ballymena, on Saturday for Launch.**

Launch is the annual kick-off event for those working in these areas of ministry. This was organised by All Aboard -

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Connor Children's Ministry and Connor Youth - read more at <https://rb.gy/fkwfwq>

## Killead goes to Killinchy



**Killead MU visited the Livingston Centre at Killinchy Parish Church recently.**

They enjoyed soup and sandwiches before receiving a guided tour of the exhibition by the Rector.

Shopping in The Crafty Fox at Balloo followed, before a quick retail stop at Jackson's of Saintfield.



## Relics of St Bernadette visit Limerick and Derry dioceses

**The Relics of St Bernadette have arrived in Limerick Diocese.**

They were received from Killaloe Diocese and the Parish of





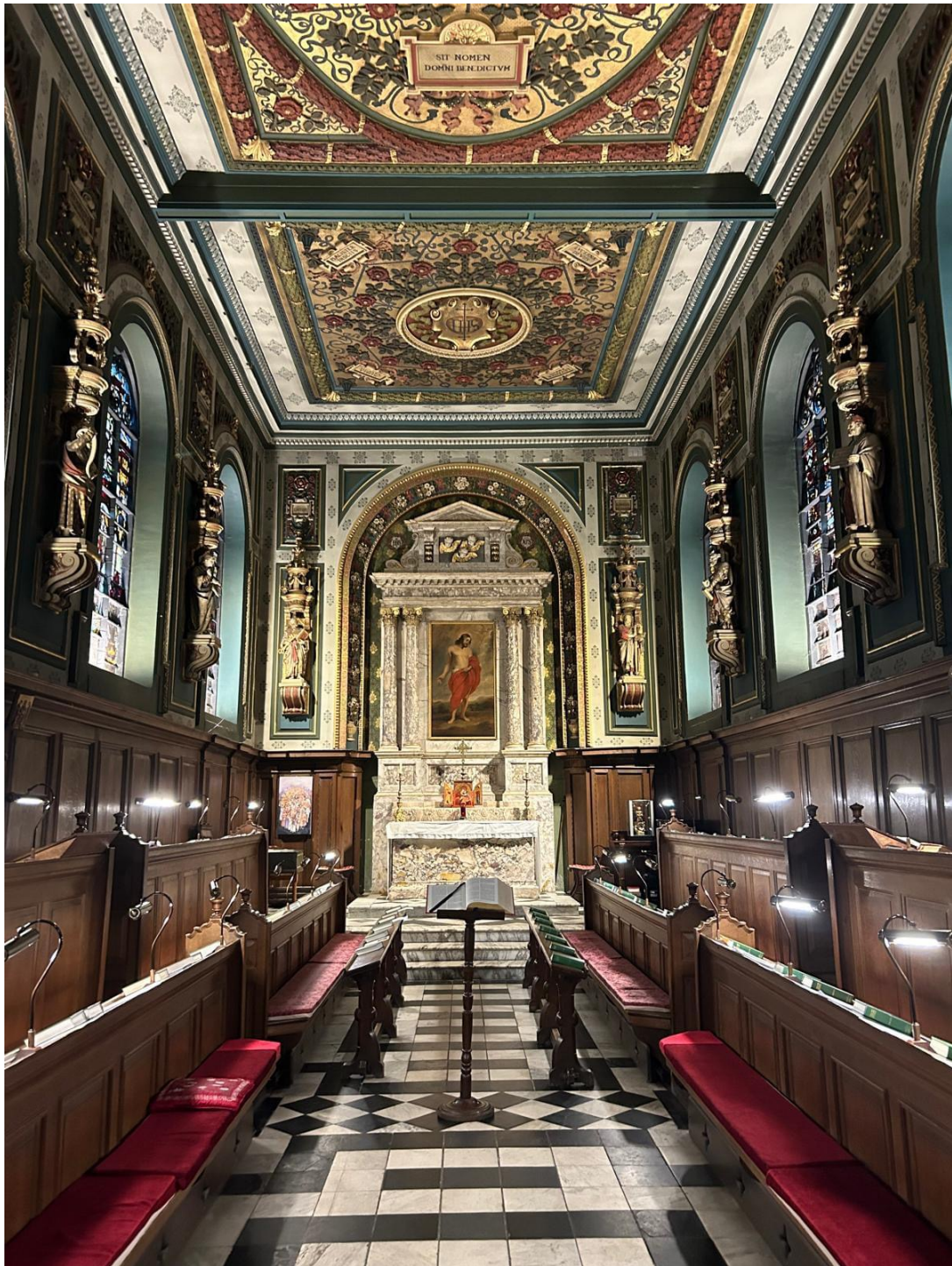
Silvermines gave a big welcomed for their handover.

The Diocese of Derry commented - "We are looking forward to welcoming the Relics of St Bernadette to the Diocese of Derry.

"The Relics will be arriving to St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry at 2:00pm Sunday, 13th to Monday, 14th October.

"This very special, once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes in their diocese.

"All are welcome. St Bernadette pray for us"



## Archbishop of Dublin's sermon to the British–Irish Association annual conference

The annual conference of the British–Irish Association (BIA) took place in Oxford at the weekend (September 6 to 8 2024). Photo - Pembroke College Chapel.

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The BIA annual conference brings together a wide range of people – senior politicians and government officials, businessmen and women, academics, faith leaders, writers, former paramilitaries and community workers – to discuss matters of mutual concern. Archbishop Michael Jackson gave the sermon yesterday morning (Sunday September 8th) during the service service in Pembroke College Chapel.

The Archbishop looked at some of the problems faced in society today and the civic virtues needed to address them.

You can read about it on the Dublin diocesan website here: <https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2024/09/08/we-have-a-shared-humanity>

## **Rugby champions Saints go marching in to church**

**Defending Gallagher Premiership champions Northampton Saints started their pre-season with a trip to the church where the club was first formed, their director of rugby has revealed.**

Phil Dowson, who helped guide the Saints to their first championship in ten years last season, told The Times that he took the squad to St. James' church on the first day of pre-season. The club was founded in the church by Reverend Samuel Wathan Wigg in 1880 as an improvement class for local 'high-spirited' boys. It soon developed into the rugby club that plays within a stone's throw of the building.



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"We took the Premiership trophy there and had our first meeting there," Dowson said. "It was just for a change of scenery and for the new players to understand some of the history."

Several Saints players have been brought into the team for this year's title defence, whilst longtime club servant and former captain Courtney Lawes has left the club after 17 years.

Lawes garnered attention from Christian quarters in 2020, when he spoke

out urging people to marry before having children. His departure creates opportunities for leadership from other key players, including Alex Coles, who has previously spoken about how his Christian upbringing influences his life.



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Northampton Saints begin this season's campaign on Friday 20th September against Bath - whom they beat in last year's final.

## **Fairtrade Choice – The power to bring change**

### **A message from the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal for World Aid and Development:**

Every one of us has the power to bring change to farmers and communities around the world through the choices we make when we go shopping. The Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal is encouraging all our parishes and people to make that 'Fairtrade Choice'.

It's easy to buy Fairtrade – most supermarkets across the island of Ireland stock a wide range of Fairtrade products, all bearing the Fairtrade mark. From tea, coffee, sugar and cocoa, to cut flowers, bananas, nuts, fruit and vegetables, chocolate, cotton and cold drinks – and even gold, there are so many easily accessible products that are certified Fairtrade, that we are literally spoilt for choice. Simply look for the distinctive Fairtrade mark on the things you are buying anyway, and swop to Fairtrade whenever you can.

Making that Fairtrade choice is one simple way that we can support the farmers who are producing these products. Being part of the Fairtrade Foundation means that they not only get paid a fair price for their produce, but they also benefit from support and help with combatting the impact of climate change – support with adapting their crops and



farming methods to protect themselves and their families.

Fairtrade works with co-operatives, businesses and governments to make trade fairer, with a vision to see a

world in which trade is based on fairness so that producers earn secure and sustainable livelihoods.

During September there is a special focus on Fairtrade Fortnight with many supermarkets stocking extra Fairtrade ranges, so that the choice is even easier.

Look out for the logo next time you are shopping and see what could be your new favourite.

This year's Fairtrade Fortnight takes place from Monday, 9th September, to Sunday, 22nd September 2024.

Find out more through the Fairtrade websites [www.fairtrade.ie](http://www.fairtrade.ie)



## “The Dendrobium His Holiness Pope Francis”

**The government of Singapore has dedicated a white orchid to Francis as part of their official welcome of the pope.**

Francis began his trip by visiting Parliament House and then addressed political authorities at the NUS (National University of Singapore)



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Pope Francis celebrated Mass for an estimated 50,000 people in Singapore's SportsHub stadium.



## **From his own experiences Jesus can empathise with victims of abuse - Major Derry conference told**

**The distinguished theologian and author, Rev Dr Helen Paynter (Photo above), has challenged the way some perpetrators of domestic abuse and gender-based violence invoke scripture to defend or justify their behaviour.**

Dr Paynter, who's a tutor in Biblical Studies and Director of Bristol Baptist College's Centre for the Study of Bible and Violence, was in the Northwest at Bishop Andrew Forster's invitation to address Mothers' Union members, clergy and members of other Christian denominations. Her visit was



facilitated by Derry and Raphoe MU who for the last 10 years have been vocal in confronting domestic abuse.

The biblical scholar addressed three separate events in just over 24 hours, beginning with a presentation to Derry and Raphoe clergy in the Diocesan Centre on Friday morning. On Friday evening she addressed a mostly female audience in First Derry Presbyterian Church, just yards from the house where a Spanish woman had been murdered a fortnight earlier. And on Saturday morning she spoke to MU members and clergy in Glendermott Parish Hall. The stage in Glendermott had been adorned with 22 sunflowers signifying the number of women in Northern Ireland who had lost their lives to domestic abuse or gender-based violence since 2020.





In all three revealing – and sometimes uncompromising – presentations, the renowned academic denounced the way abusers distorted and misrepresented the Bible to justify their crimes. Dr Paynter said anyone who invoked the Word of God to defend their abusive behaviour was guilty of lying.

During her talks, the Baptist minister revealed how, in 2019-20, around one in 20 adults in the UK had experienced domestic abuse. Out of prosecuted cases, she said, 92% of offenders were male and 83% of victims female. Dr Paynter outlined how abuse normally manifested itself: physical abuse, sexual abuse, financial abuse, emotional abuse (including gaslighting), coercive control and spiritual abuse.

She told her audiences that through his incarnation, Jesus had also been subjected to abuse and was able to empathise with victims. Dr Paynter said the knowledge that

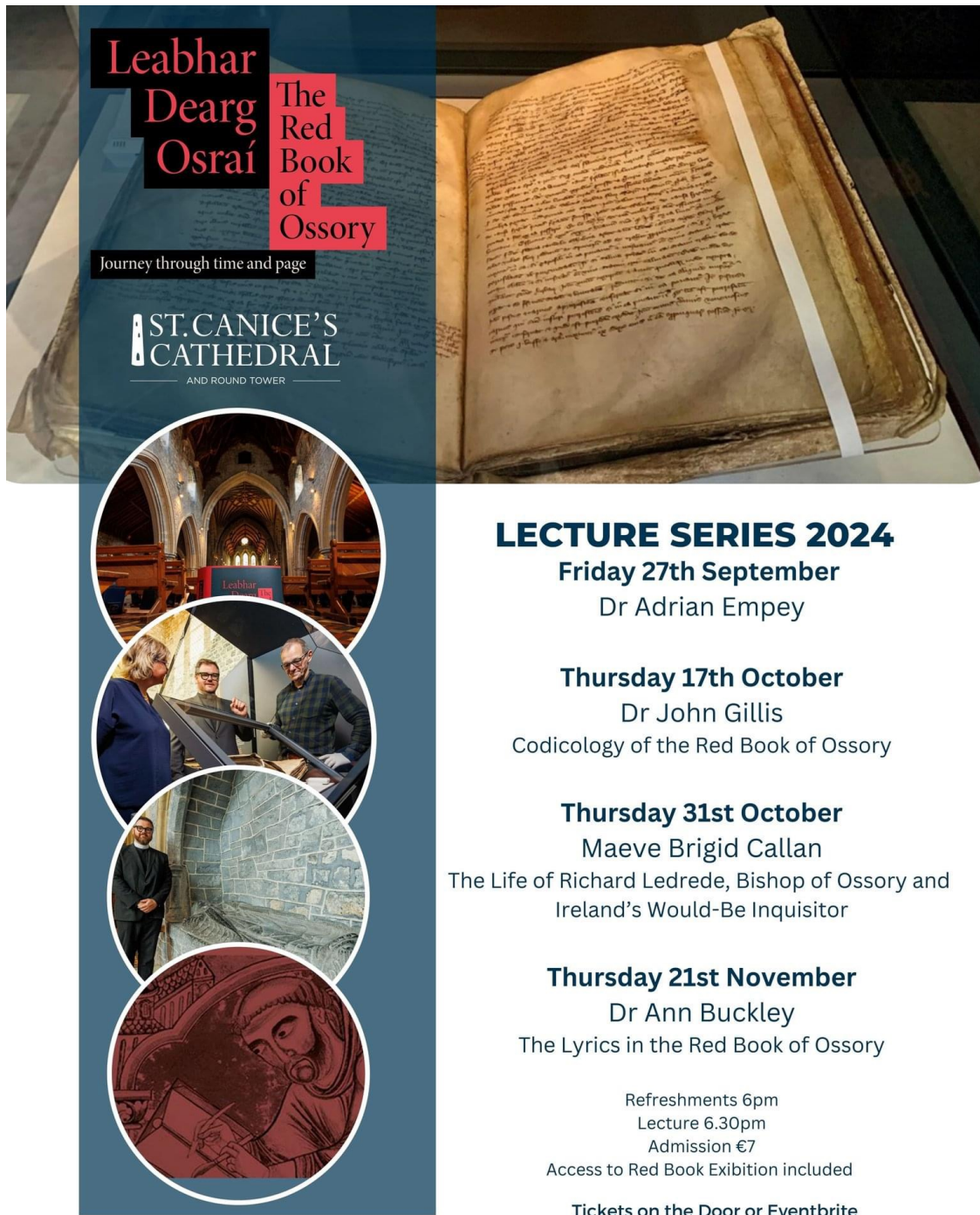


Jesus was innocent had allowed some victims to recognise that they weren't to blame for what had happened to them. The audience in Glendermott included volunteers from Foyle Women's Aid. After the third and final session, a presentation was made to Mrs Kay Clarke, MU's Faith and Policy Unit Coordinator who was revealed at the event as the incoming Provincial President of Mothers' Union (Photo above).

## Cathedral Calls

### Lecture series in St Canice's Cathedral celebrating the Red Book of Ossory

**Starting on Friday September 27 with Dr Adrian Empey. Dr Empey is a Medieval Irish Historian and is the**



**Leabhar Dearg Osraí**  
**The Red Book of Ossory**

Journey through time and page

**ST. CANICE'S CATHEDRAL**  
AND ROUND TOWER

**LECTURE SERIES 2024**

**Friday 27th September**  
Dr Adrian Empey

**Thursday 17th October**  
Dr John Gillis  
Codicology of the Red Book of Ossory

**Thursday 31st October**  
Maeve Brigid Callan  
The Life of Richard Ledrede, Bishop of Ossory and Ireland's Would-Be Inquisitor

**Thursday 21st November**  
Dr Ann Buckley  
The Lyrics in the Red Book of Ossory

Refreshments 6pm  
Lecture 6.30pm  
Admission €7  
Access to Red Book Exhibition included

Tickets on the Door or Eventbrite



**foremost expert on the contents of the Red Book of Ossory.**

After hours admission to the Red Book of Ossory exhibition included.

Tea/coffee available from 6pm

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Supported by Kilkenny Night Time Economy Funding 2024.  
Find out more and book your tickets here:  
<https://bit.ly/47l6von>

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



## Bridging Past and Present Ballintoy History Festival

26 – 28 September 2024

## **Programme**

### **Thursday 26 September at 7:30pm in Ballintoy Parish Hall**

Talk by Dr William Roulston, Life in Ballintoy in the 18th Century: stories from the old parish vestry book

### **Friday 27 September at 3:00pm in St Joseph's Hall, Ballintoy**

Opening by Maurice McHenry of an exhibition of maps of the Ballintoy Estate drawn in 1852, which include the names of all individuals who leased land. (Open until 28 September)

### **Friday 27 September at 7:30pm in Ballintoy Parish Church**

Living History Performance by Robert Corbett, In conversation with the Rev. Robert Trail, Rector of Ballintoy Parish, 1777-1842

### **Saturday 28 September at 2:00pm**

Guided tour of the ancient Templastragh Graveyard, near Portbraddan, by Dr Colm Donnelly

Admission to all events is free of charge and all are welcome

Festival organised by Ballintoy Archaeological and Historical Society

## Poem for today

### On An Apple-ripe September Morning

**By Patrick Kavanagh**

On an apple-ripe September morning  
Through the mist-chill fields I went  
With a pitch-fork on my shoulder  
Less for use than for devilment.

The threshing mill was set-up, I knew,  
In Cassidy's haggard last night,  
And we owed them a day at the threshing  
Since last year. O it was delight

To be paying bills of laughter  
And chaffy gossip in kind  
With work thrown in to ballast  
The fantasy-soaring mind.

As I crossed the wooden bridge I wondered  
As I looked into the drain  
If ever a summer morning should find me  
Shovelling up eels again.

And I thought of the wasps' nest in the bank  
And how I got chased one day  
Leaving the drag and the scraw-knife behind,  
How I covered my face with hay.

The wet leaves of the cocksfoot

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Polished my boots as I  
Went round by the glistening bog-holes  
Lost in unthinking joy.

I'll be carrying bags to-day, I mused,  
The best job at the mill  
With plenty of time to talk of our loves  
As we wait for the bags to fill.

Maybe Mary might call round...  
And then I came to the haggard gate,  
And I knew as I entered that I had come  
Through fields that were part of no earthly estate.

## 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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