

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – The A team ploughs on

September 20, 2024

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The A team ploughs on

The Carmelite Sisters from New Ross with “The A TEAM” almost ready for the National Ploughing Championships earlier this week.

Just a few last minute instructions to Jack and Jill before they competed.

News

Divine Healing Ministries moving service at St John's Parish Falls Road



Last week Divine Healing Ministries led a service at St John's



Comment in parish Face Book - “What a powerful, moving evening last night in St John's led by Divine Healing Ministries. Lovely introduction from Fergus, beautiful prayer led by Pat, uplifting hymns from Allan and Eoin and a powerful sermon from Br David going into detail of the healing of relationships and the how of forgiveness. Great so many people came from various churches and stayed on afterwards for tea and chat. Delighted to announce there will be another "Night of Healing" on Sunday 20th October at 7pm.

“We have already heard of one person experiencing healing last night, wondering if there are others? Were you there last night and had an experience of healing? Please private message us if you have”.



‘Impoverished Communities: Political Choices’ series at Belfast South and Dun Laoghaire Methodist Churches

Inside the rhetoric of budget deficits and government borrowing? There is a story to be told - Governments are not households.

Ciara Fitzpatrick of Ulster University (Photo above) will speak on “Impoverished Communities: Political Choices?: on 24 September - opener of the Autumn series “Toward the transformation of the world” - sponsored by Belfast South and Dun Laoghaire Methodist Churches.

Ciara will challenge common-place cliches of poverty and refresh our presuppositions.

September 20, 2024



A Zoom seminar, open to all. Good discussion time. Johnston McMaster (Left) will again chair. At 7:30pm. For info and login, contact:

thinkingaloudseminar@icloud.com

Bringing Gold to RBAI and St Finnian's junior BB

RBAI was honoured to welcome back Olympic Gold Medalist Jack McMillan (RBAI 2011-18) on Wednesday morning to celebrate his achievements this summer with the whole school community.

Jack, who is Inst's first Olympic Gold Medalist, spoke at assembly about his career in swimming to date, the sacrifices he made that led him to Olympic success and challenged the boys to find their strengths and use it to their advantage.



The BB boys at St Finnian's parish, Belfast, are back into the swing of things already and clearly enjoying themselves.

Philip Seay (Right), who was Jack McMillan's Junior Section leader in BB, enjoyed catching up with Jack and getting a close up of that amazing Olympic gold medal.

Obviously BB was a major influence in preparing Jack for his future Olympic success.



Pilgrims of Hope in Holy Year



Irish bishops Mass to open Holy Year with a logo illustrating hope during the upcoming Universal Jubilee 2025 year.

This week a release from the bishops explores the meaning behind the Holy Year Jubilee 2025 logo (pictured).

The logo shows four stylised figures, representing all of humanity, coming from the four corners of the earth. These embrace each other to indicate the solidarity and fraternity which should unite all peoples.

The figure at the front is holding onto the cross. It is not only the sign of the faith which this lead figure embraces, but also of hope, which can never be abandoned, because

we are always in need of hope, especially in our moments of greatest need.

There are the rough waves under the figures, symbolising the fact that life's pilgrimage does not always go smoothly in calm waters. Often the circumstances of daily life and events in the wider world require a greater call to hope.

That is why we should pay special attention to the lower part of the cross which has been elongated and turned into the shape of an anchor which is let down into the waves. The anchor is well known as a symbol of hope. In maritime jargon, the 'anchor of hope' refers to the reserve anchor used by vessels involved in emergency manoeuvres to stabilise the ship during storms.

It is worth noting that the image illustrates the pilgrim's journey not as an individual undertaking, but rather as something communal, marked by an increasing dynamism leading one ever closer to the cross.

The cross in the logo is by no means static, but it is also dynamic. It bends down towards humanity, not leaving human beings alone, but stretching out to them to offer the certainty of its presence and the security of hope.

At the bottom of the logo is the motto of the 2025 Jubilee Year: *Peregrinantes in Spem* (Pilgrims in hope), represented in green letters.

On 29 December next, in each diocese, bishops in Ireland will celebrate Mass as the solemn opening of the Holy Year, and thereafter events will be organised locally, while specific

September 20, 2024

jubilee projects will be proposed by Bishops' Conference at the Autumn General Meeting in early October.

Stay informed about events for this Holy Year that will be taking place, both nationally and internationally, and join in on preparing for this important celebration.

For more information on Jubilee 2025, download the app HERE <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025.html>

Cathedral Calls



Christmas has started at Lisburn Cathedral



The Cathedral hosts the Community Children’s Choir.

The Lisburn choir said -

“We know it might be too early for some, but our kids are absolutely loving it. The festive songs, the fun rehearsals, and the Christmas spirit are already in full swing.

“We can’t wait to share the holiday joy with you at our upcoming concert - ‘Merry and Bright’ at Lisburn Cathedral.

“Stay tuned for more updates as we prepare to bring the magic of Christmas to life”.



'I will not go to Paris!': Pope Francis rejects Notre-Dame invitation

The Pope has declined an invitation to preside over the first Mass at Notre-Dame Cathedral's reopening in Paris.

Bells about to be rehung at Notre Dame



The Bells of Notre Dame are blessed before being rehung

President Emmanuel Macron extended the invitation for the December 8 ceremony, but Pope Francis, in a recent press conference, firmly stated, “I will not go to Paris!” without elaborating.

The eighth-century cathedral was devastated by a fire in 2019, severely damaging its roof, spire and parts of the interior.

Restoration efforts have been ongoing ever since.

Cathedral Master of Music dazzles at the Proms

Simon Johnson, Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral, took centre stage as organist during a concert at this year's Proms, held at the Royal Albert Hall.

The performance, which was the opener for the Proms' 'Choral Day,' saw Johnson accompanying The Sixteen, one of Britain's most beloved choirs, under the baton of conductor Harry Christophers. Together, they performed a selection of England's most serene and spiritual choral works from the Victorian era. Highlights included Hubert Parry's Coronation Anthem 'I Was Glad', Edward Elgar's Give unto the Lord, and John Ireland's Greater love hath no man, among others.

The concert was broadcast live on BBC Radio 3, allowing audiences across the country to experience the full performance.

Johnson, who became Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral in September 2021 after thirteen years as Organist and Assistant Director of Music at St Paul's Cathedral, has been involved in many other prestigious occasions. His performances have included playing for Queen Elizabeth II, the Dalai Lama, and numerous Prime Ministers and Archbishops.

September 20, 2024

Reflecting on the evening, Johnson said: "It was a great thrill to be seated at the mighty organ of the Royal Albert Hall for a Prom with The Sixteen and Harry Christophers. The music, by Elgar, Parry, Stanford, Harris, Ireland, and Balfour Gardiner, fitted the organ and the building like a glove."

Johnson also revealed the challenges of preparing for such a high-profile event during the busy Proms season: "Finding rehearsal time is always tricky, particularly as the organ is so loud! We rehearsed from midnight until 4am earlier in the week, while also managing the start of the new term at the Cathedral."

Clergy and ministry



New Sports Chaplaincy at Dollingstown FC

Stewart Quinn has been appointed Club Chaplain,

Stewart has completed the Sports Chaplaincy Induction Training, provided by

Sports Chaplaincy UK & Ireland, and is now taking up the role of club chaplain at Dollingstown FC.

September 20, 2024

The sports chaplain role is to encourage and support club members whilst providing a safe and confidential place for members to talk about whatever is going on in their lives - good or bad.

Feel free to reach out to Stewart at any time.

Stewart is available to players/coaches/staff and supporters and can be contacted on 07794562789.



NI Scouts new First Aid Coordinator

Janine Bowen is the new First Aid Coordinator.

She'll be handling first aid coordination for our Volunteers across Northern Ireland. Contact her at

firstaid@scoutsni.org

Derry Diocesan Advisor for Post Primary Schools

The Diocese of Derry has announced that Mr Finbar Madden has been appointed to the role of Diocesan Advisor for Post Primary Schools in the diocese.



September 20, 2024

In his role as Advisor, Finbar will support the development of Religious Education and Faith Formation in Post Primary Schools across the diocese, and encourage and facilitate close partnerships between home, school, and parish. He will take up his role as a member of the Diocesan Catechetical Centre Team at the end of September.

In welcoming Finbar, Bishop McKeown said, “Finbar brings a wealth of experience from his time in Catholic Education, both as a teacher and as former principal of Saint Columb’s College in Derry. I wish him every blessing in his role.”

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

How can we build a sustainable financial future for the local church?

Join Christian Aid and their exciting line-up of experienced leaders and practitioners as they help you learn how to grow a culture of generosity, work with external funders, and unleash the potential of legacy giving in the local church.

Wednesday 16th October 2024, 9:30am – 1:00pm (followed by lunch)

T3 Conference Centre, House of Vic-Ryn, Moira Road, Lisburn. BT28 2RF

Find out more/register:

<https://www.christianaid.ie/events/church-conference>



Nearthú conference for Children and Families Ministry


Nearthú (strengthen) is an ecumenical conference for all who are involved in Children and Families Ministry across the island of Ireland.

Join us for a fantastic day on Saturday November 9 in the beautiful surroundings of Mount Saint Anne's Conference Centre, Portarlinton, for a time to strengthen yourself and your ministry.

We are so thrilled to welcome Rachel Turner as our Keynote speaker in the morning, as well as a host of experienced practitioners who will run a variety of workshops in the afternoon. Rachel is the founder of Parenting for Faith, and author of ten books for families, parents and church leaders including Parenting as a Church Leader, Comfort in

Uncertain Times, It Takes a Church to Raise a Parent and her new release Parenting Teens for a Life of Faith.

She lectures on leadership and inter-generational church at the Institute for Children, Youth and Mission (CYM) and St Padarn's Institute, and is the discipleship lead at Hope



Let's do something amazing
Let's do a Macmillan Coffee Morning

Come along and help us do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer.

Place: St. Colman's Church Hall
Date: Sat 21st Sept 2024
Time: 10:30 - 12:30
Contact: Edna Stewart
07582585209

Simply scan this QR code with your phone to donate direct to your host's Coffee Morning.
It's easy, quick and secure.
Thank you.

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September 20, 2024

Church, Harrogate. She also consults and speaks internationally – and somehow has managed to carve out time to be with us!

During the lunch break, we will have a marketplace with representatives from family-focused organisations as well as a heap of resources and freebies.

The cost for the day is €25/£22 which includes lunch and refreshments through the day. If you book now using the code early bird you will get your ticket for just €20/£17!

So mark your diaries and book your tickets NOW as spaces are limited. Click here to book:

<https://bit.ly/neartu>

Lyndsey Chorale at 2nd Saintfield Presbyterian for MND Association

The Lyndsey Chorale's first outing of the season is coming up on Saturday 5th October at 2nd Saintfield Presbyterian Church Hall.

“We're delighted to have been invited to share the bill with not only Comber Music Club, but also the fabulous duo Jonathan and Iryna Johnston, to help raise vital funds for MND Association

“If you're free, come along and enjoy some great music while supporting a great cause. Starts 7.30pm”

St. Nicholas' Collegiate Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 19

Book Launch- Reforming
Galway, by Raymond
Gillespie; 6pm

September 23

University of Galway
Archaeology Talk-
7:30pm, Free Admission

September 20

Culture Night concert featuring the
Schola Cantorum, Ignite Gospel
Choir and Italian choir Coro Armonia;
7:30pm, €10 on the door

September 21

Coffee Concert featuring Bel Canto- 11am,
€10 on the door includes concert, coffee
& tea, and baked goods

Luminosa presents Bláthú (flourishing) II,
7:30pm tickets from luminosa.ie

Foyle Hospice

Together we care

QUIZ NIGHT

CHRIST CHURCH, MAIN STREET

FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

7 pm Quiz Starts 7.30pm

£5 Per Person

(Teams of 5 max)

BYO & Refreshments available to purchase

EVERYONE WELCOME

www.foylehospice.com

Limavady Parish Hall

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

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