



# CNI



***Comedian Andy Kind will appear at Lisburn Cathedral on February 18.***

## **Comedy in the Cathedral**

Lisburn Cathedral is to host a night of laughs in February with award winning comedian Andy Kind.

Proceeds from the event will help support a Cathedral team going on mission to Yei, South Sudan, next summer.

Andy Kind won Anything for Laughs in 2005. His stand-up style can best be described as ‘the joyful rant of a post-30 chaos vacuum,’ and he has been featured on BBC1, ITV, Channel 4 in the UK. Not long after supporting Tim Vine, Andy’s first book ‘Stand Up and Deliver’ was published by Lion Hudson. The sequel, ‘The Gig Delusion’ was released by Wilmot Books and Andy released his third book ‘The Unfortunate Adventures of Tom Hillingthwaite’ (his second with Lion Hudson) last March.

He recently hosted successful residences at New Wine 2013 and Spring Harvest 2014. Soon after, Andy toured a series of churches in South Africa alongside Mark Palmer.

Feedback from Andy’s shows includes:

- “He’s inventive, playful, totally original, with a ‘knock-out’ spiritual punch to finish with.”  
The Rev Greg Haslam, Westminster Chapel, London
- “Without doubt Andy Kind is one of the best evangelists I have come across – a brilliant comedian!” John Owen, Pastor South Manchester Family Church
- “I laughed, cried, laughed some more. Andy was hilarious. His opening routine

was totally off-the-cuff as he bantered with the audience – this spontaneous comedy was genius. As good as anything I've seen on Live at the Apollo." James Hunting, Crown Church, Hillingdon

- "A packed house for an hour of belly laughing, alongside a genuine and cringe-free provocation for people to explore the claims of Christianity made it one of the best evenings we've done for guests that aren't yet part of the church." Steve Wilson, King's Arms, Bedford.

Andy Kind will be in Lisburn Cathedral on Thursday February 18 2016 with the show starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.

## **Priest hailed for his peace work mourned by 800 at service**

The funeral of a priest credited with contributing to the Province's peace process attracted a large crowd of mourners to Clonard Monastery in west Belfast.

News Letter - The service for redemptorist cleric Father Gerry Reynolds was staged at around



midday, following his death on November 30 at the Royal Victoria Hospital, aged 82.

After his requiem mass on Thursday – attended by an estimated 800 people – Father Reynolds' remains were buried at Milltown cemetery.

Among those who had pledged to be at the service was Irish foreign minister Charlie Flanagan.

The Dublin government representative had said on Wednesday that Father Reynolds had made a “vital contribution to the peace process during darker days in Northern Ireland”.

Also speaking ahead of the funeral on Wednesday had been John Mann, dean of Belfast's Anglican St Anne's Cathedral.

He had said: "It goes without saying that the Clonard community will be in our thoughts and prayers.

"May the love of Christ continue to renew and extend our mutual fellowship, and may the light of Christ perpetually shine on his faithful servant Gerry Reynolds, priest and devout servant of God."

In the immediate aftermath of his death, UUP leader Mike Nesbitt had issued a statement hailing him as having been a "vocal and visible member of the faith community pushing politicians to stretch themselves for peace" during his time as a journalist, adding that he contributed to the "quiet diplomacy" which was going on at that period.

Meanwhile Alan McBride of the WAVE Trauma Centre described him as "a humble man whose commitment to building peace and reconciliation was unrivalled on this island".

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/northern-ireland-news/priest-hailed-for-his-peace-work-mourned-by-800-at-service-1-7099758#ixzz3tMz4GUyz>

## **Irish Heritage minister to attend Presbyterian conference on 1916**

The Republic's heritage minister is to attend a Presbyterian-run conference next month, examining both the Battle of the Somme and the Easter Rising.

Heather Humphreys – a Fine Gael TD who is herself a Presbyterian – will attend the event on January 21 – titled 'The Future of Our Past: Remembering and Reassessing 1916' – along with the moderator of the church in Ireland Dr Trevor Morrow.

They will appear alongside academics Dr Fearghal McGarry and Professor Keith Jeffery, and commentators Dr Ruth Dudley Edwards and Eamonn Mallie.

The event is organised by church's Union Theological College, and its Council for Church in Society.



***Heritage minister Heather Humphreys is a Presbyterian***

College Principal, Very Rev Professor Stafford Carson, said in a statement: “The Easter Rising and the Battle of the Somme have been assimilated into the mythology of Irish history and as a result, they have helped us to create conflicting accounts of the past.”

The gathering aims to help attendees think how “we might work together for the common good in the context of different understandings of the past”.

It begins at 10am, is open to all, and will be held at Belfast's Assembly Buildings.

Tickets range from £12 to £20 and can be booked at: [www.presbyterianireland.org/publicsquare](http://www.presbyterianireland.org/publicsquare) .

## **Methodist congregation in Pettigo supports refugees in Italy**

“On our TV we saw boats arriving and people being washed ashore, and, being unable ourselves to help physically, we wrote to the Methodist Church in Italy, guessing that they would be involved. Italy felt it was almost alone in dealing with the hundreds of people landing on their shores. The Methodist Church replied that they had been supporting ‘Mediterranean Hope’, a project with the Waldensian Church and Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy. ”

This is a quote from a member of Pettigo Methodist Church. They saw the plight of the refugees and they did something about it:

On the grounds that a cup of tea might pay for a bottle of water for someone desperate, we have been doing just that since September – ‘A cup of water in my name ....’ This takes place after



church and so far has raised £150 in September and £178 in October. The occasion also helps to bring people together. Every little helps, but there is also the feeling that, however far away we are from their shores, we care for our brothers and sisters, and now they know that care. For further information see <https://mediterraneanhope.wordpress.com/englishversion>

## Armagh organ recital

The fourth organ recital in the current series will be given by Mr Orly Watson at St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh on Sunday 13 December 2015 at 4.15pm.

Orly, who has taken part in previous recital series at the Cathedral, continues his studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London, having been a student of Music at Somerville College, Oxford. He also finds time to carry out the duties of organist at Donaghmore Parish Church.

The programme will include the following works, Fantasia and Fugue in C Minor, BWV 537 by J S Bach, 'Pièce héroïque' by César Franck, 'Carmen Fantasy' by Edwin Lemare and 'Adeste Fidelis' in

an organ prelude by Charles Ives. Orly will play Christmas-themed works and his own composition.

As with all the recitals in this memorial series, admission is free, with a retiring collection towards the further endowment of the Cathedral Choir through the Archbishop's Choir Fund.

## **Holy Doors 'to be opened in every cathedral in the world for the first time'**

For the Year of Mercy, a Holy Door will be opened in every Catholic cathedral in the world for the first time.

The doors will be opened a week on Sunday, on December 13, to coincide with the opening of the Holy Doors at the Cathedral of St John Lateran.

The detail was announced by Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation, at a press conference at the Vatican.

Pilgrims, he said, must register online in order to pass through the Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica. A four-page form is available [here](#).

Other details that emerged from the press conference were:

- 800 priests have put themselves forward as 'Missionaries of Mercy'.
- The Pope will perform a "symbolic gesture" of mercy once a month. On Friday December 18 he will open a "Door of Mercy" at a Caritas homeless hostel.
- The Rosary will be recited daily in St Peter's Square in front of the statue of St Peter.

The opening of St Peter's Holy Doors will happen on Tuesday (December 8).

The ceremony will, according to the Vatican Television Centre, be broadcast with greater clarity than any other papal event in history.

The CTV broadcaster [said](#) it had upgraded its equipment with ULTRA HD and 4K technology and will provide an "immersive" experience for viewers.

The celebration on Tuesday will also mark the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council.

It will begin with readings from taken from the four conciliar constitutions (Dei Verbum, Lumen gentium, Sacrosanctum concilium e Gaudium et spes) along with two passages taken from, Unitatis redintegratio on ecumenism and Dignitatis humanae on religious liberty.

## Media digest

### **Primary school children to be taught about abuse - UTV news**

[http://www.u.tv/News/2015/12/04/Primary-school-children-to-be-taught-about-abuse-50024?utm\\_source=UTV+feed&utm\\_medium=twitter](http://www.u.tv/News/2015/12/04/Primary-school-children-to-be-taught-about-abuse-50024?utm_source=UTV+feed&utm_medium=twitter)

### **Make Fr Reynolds' vision of a united Church a reality**

the Irish News

And what would that vision of the **Church** in **Ireland** look like? I want to let Fr Gerry speak for himself, drawing from some of his papers and homilies:.

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/northernirelandnews/2015/12/04/news/make-fr-reynolds-vision-of-a-united-church-a-reality-342847/content.html>

### **Bishop Farquhar retires as Ireland's longest serving Catholic bishop**

[churchnewsireland@gmail.com](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.com)

the Irish News

Bishop Anthony J Farquhar is **Ireland's** longest-serving Catholic bishop. ... The Catholic **Church** today confirmed that Pope Francis had accepted ...

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/northernirelandnews/2015/12/03/news/bishop-farquhar-retires-as-ireland-s-longest-serving-catholic-bishop-342620/content.html>

## A pilgrim on the way of Christian unity

the Irish News

We work with the Prince of Peace sowing seeds of new relationships with congregations of the **Church of Ireland**, the Presbyterians and the ...

<http://www.irishnews.com/irishnews//lifestyle/faithmatters/2015/12/03/news/a-pilgrim-on-the-way-of-christian-unity-340357/content.html>

## Play your part in Foodbank collection

Ballymena Times

... of Ballyloughan Presbyterian Church, Rev Jamison of St Columbus **Church of Ireland** and Suzanne Downey who is the Northern Ireland coordinator ...

<http://www.ballymenatimes.com/news/ballymena-news/play-your-part-in-foodbank-collection-1-7098280>

## Economist

Reflection on the Archbishop of Canterbury's speech in the House of Lords where he gave "qualified support" to Britain's air strikes against ISIS in Syria.

<http://www.economist.com/blogs/erasmus/2015/12/anglicans-and-air-strikes>

## **Times**

Thunderer column: Peter Hitchens writes on the Church's handling of the Bishop George Bell case.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/thunderer/article4631646.ece>

## **Guardian**

Giles Fraser reflects on the increasing numbers of “paupers’ funerals”.

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2015/dec/03/lest-we-forget-the-growing-numbers-of-our-outcast-dead-destroyed-by-poverty>

## **BBC**

Schools in the north-west of England are campaigning to have their water bills cut because they claim they are being charged double that in the South. In 2012-3, North West schools typically paid £10,000, while those in the South East were only charged £4,000. Sue Kerwin, head teacher at St Andrews CofE Primary School, Maghull (Liverpool), is quoted. United Utilities said it did not have to subsidise schools.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-34985341>

## **BBC/Mirror**

A Merseyside school's long-serving science lab skeleton is being given a “funeral”. The skeleton, which is missing both arms and a leg, was being used for 40 years in the science and art lessons at Haydock High School.

Affectionately dubbed "Arthur" by teachers and pupils, the skeleton was later put in storage and replaced by a plastic version.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p039zsv8>

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/school-holds-funeral-lab-skeleton-6949372>

### **Exp/Mirror/BBC**

Letters to Father Christmas asking for a hymn book, as well as “nice toys” have been found in a chimney, 80 years after they were written. Christine Churchill wrote the letters in 1938 when she was five. The letters were found in what is now a bathroom of a house in Powys, Wales. Mrs Churchill explained how she asked for a hymn book as she lived with her religious family including her grandfather, who was a vicar.

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/624093/child-endearing-letter-santa-found-chimney-80-years-later>

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/santa-letters-found-chimney-after-6948928>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-mid-wales-34996901>

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