

**BCM
consults over
Dementia
Care plans at
Millisle**

**Belfast Central
Mission (BCM)
has presented
exciting plans for
Copelands,
Dementia &
Nursing Care**

**facility to local residents in Millisle at a successful Community
Consultation event in Millisle Youth Forum.**



Jim Shannon MP with proposals for Childhaven Millisle

In 2014 The Methodist Church's Belfast Central Mission (BCM) will celebrate 125 years of caring for disadvantaged and socially excluded people throughout Belfast and Northern Ireland. As part of the BCM mission to care for older people in Northern Ireland they are planning to construct and manage a 64 bed dementia and nursing care facility on their former Childhaven site close to Millisle, County Down.

The facility will be a flagship project; an exemplar model providing market leading care for Northern Ireland. It will be constructed according to the University of Stirling's Gold Standard in dementia design and will provide specialist dementia and nursing care. It will offer a 24-hour residential and nursing service in a comfortable and supported environment with 64 en-suite rooms, each one equipped to give residents maximum opportunity and independence.

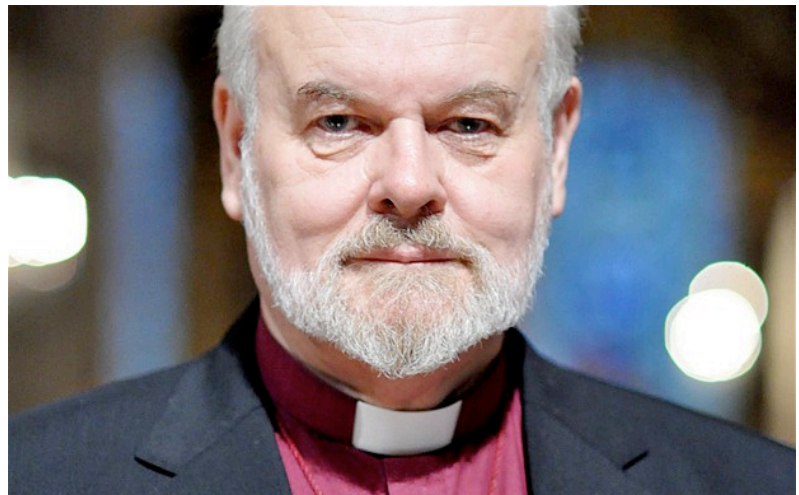
The home will address the needs of people with dementia who are still physically active but require a secure and supportive environment. Features will include:

- a pod structure;
- dementia friendly lighting;
- a sensory garden;
- chapel;
- hair salon/nail bar;
- cinema room;
- café for residents and their friends and family;
- a library and internet room;
- a social and leisure activities programme.

- See more at: <http://www.irishmethodist.org/news/7-february-2014/bcm-consults-over-millisle-dementia-care-plans#sthash.R4TLfEYv.dpuf>

Bishop of London Meeting Dublin Clergy and Laity

The Bishop of London, the Right Reverend Richard Chartres will visit Dublin and Glendalough on February 27 when he will address gatherings of the clergy.



The bishop will meet clergy in the Church of Ireland College of Education on the morning of Thursday February 27 starting at 9.30 am. The session will include a time of worship, an address by the bishop and an opportunity for questions and answers. The morning will conclude with lunch.

On the same day, lay people of the dioceses will have the opportunity to hear from Bishop Chartres at an event in St Catherine's Church, Thomas Street, Dublin 8, at 6.30 pm. This session will start with hospitality and again there will be worship, an address and time for questions and answers.

The visit of the Bishop of London follows a gathering of the clergy of the dioceses late last year which was a first step in looking at how Dublin and Glendalough could plan for the future.

World Day of Sick - Archbishop Martin

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin gave the homily yesterday at the Church of Saint Therese, Mount Merrion, for World day of the Sick. World Day of the Sick is an annual event which takes place in the Church throughout the world.



Yesterday in Dublin, hundreds of sick people, their carers, medical staff and families participated in Mass and Anointing of the Sick with Archbishop Martin. Excerpts from the homily follow -

“What does it mean to be a Catholic today? It is a challenging question to which there nearly as many answers as there are people. It is a question which influences our understanding of the presence of the Church in Irish society. It touches on our reflection on the real commitment to Catholic schools, it involves reflecting on how much attendance and participating in the Eucharist is considered part of Catholic identity, it involves questions on many dimensions of Church teaching, it involves the question of what a Catholic ethos in a school or in a hospital or in an organisation means and can mean in a pluralist Ireland...

...It is interesting to note that in the final document of the Conference of the Bishops of Latin America some years ago – a document which had Pope Francis as its principal author – the term “laity” is not mentioned, but rather “missionary disciples”. The Church is a community of missionary disciples. As Christians and as a Church all are called to witness to our faith in Jesus in such a way that we bring credible and intelligible enlightenment and guidance to society. To do that we have to examine daily our own faith and witness; we have to examine where our faith has become tasteless and dull and daily renew our faith...

... Salt, at the time of Jesus would have been considered in a different way than today. We look on salt as something which gives added taste and flavour to our food. At the time of Jesus salt was used principally to preserve food. There were no refrigerators and food had to be preserved for later use through salting it. Without salt food would not just have been bland, it would

have begun to rot. Our faith then cannot be bland; it must have taste. As soon as our faith becomes bland and unenthusiastic then it is also destined to rot and perhaps not just be useless but indeed poisonous and dangerous for us and others.”

More at -

<http://www.catholicbishops.ie/2014/02/08/homily-archbishop-diarmuid-martin-world-day-sick-3/>

Appointments Christ Church Dublin



Canon Robert Deane, Rector of Swords and Donabate, has been appointed Canon Treasurer of the cathedral Chapter. The position had been held by Canon John McCullagh who retired in January.

The appointment was announced by Archbishop Michael Jackson who said: “Canon Deane has served the people and parishes of Dublin for many years with considerable faithfulness and industry, as curate—assistant, rector and Rural Dean. I am delighted that he has accepted the

position of Canon Treasurer of Christ Church Cathedral in succession to Canon McCullagh and wish him well in the contribution he will make to the developing life of the diocesan cathedral”.

Dean Dermot Dunne said that this appointment recognised Canon Deane’s commitment. “I’m really thrilled that Robert Deane has been appointed as Canon Treasurer. He is very loyal to the cathedral and has helped it a lot and this is a great recognition of his work in the cathedral and the dioceses,” he commented.

Canon Deane said he was honoured to accept the appointment. “I am very honoured to have been appointed Canon Treasurer of Christ Church Cathedral. It is a privilege to be given a further opportunity to serve within the Chapter and the dioceses and I am quite humbled by the appointment,” he said.

Canon Robert Deane was born in 1952. After study he was ordained a Deacon in 1985 and a priest the following year. From 1985 to 1988 he served

as Curate in Raheny and Coolock before going on to become Rector of Clonsast with Rathangan and Thomastown in the Diocese of Meath and Kildare. He was a Canon of St Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare from 1997 to 2000 and Trim Cathedral from 1998 to 2000. In 2000, he was appointed Rector of Swords with Donabate and Kilsallaghan. In that capacity he also serves as Chaplain to St Ita's Hospital in Portrane. He is also Rural Dean of Fingal. He became a Canon of Christ Church Cathedral in 2008.



New Canon

A new Canon has been appointed. The Revd David Gillespie, Vicar of St Ann's and St Stephen's, has been announced as the successor to Canon John McCullagh who retired in January.

The appointment has been welcomed by both the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Revd Dr Michael Jackson and the Dean of the Cathedral, the Very Revd Dermot Dunne.

Archbishop Jackson said he was delighted that the Revd David Gillespie had accepted his appointment. "I have every confidence that Dean Dermot Dunne joins me in the joy of receiving a new member into the Chapter of our diocesan cathedral which combines antiquity of belonging to the city of Dublin with vibrancy of witness in contemporary Ireland. In Christ Church we seek to respond in service to the presence of God in the capital city," he said. "David is indeed already associated with the cathedral as a Minor Canon. His parochial ministry serves the inner city through both St Ann's and St Stephen's. This links with the outreach initiatives and the welcome to visitors and pilgrims which are carried out by the community of the parish to the community of the city on a daily basis. As bishop of the dioceses, I appreciate the continuity of witness offered by these parishes to the people of Dublin in the Anglican tradition of faithful worship and pastoral concern," he concluded.

Dean Dunne said he was very happy that David had been appointed to the cathedral Chapter. "I am delighted at this appointment. David will make a great addition to the life of the cathedral as he does already. I'm pleased that he'll become part of the cathedral community," he said.

Commenting on his appointment, David said: “I am very pleased to be appointed, and look forward to working with the Dean and the Chapter to further the mission of the Church of Ireland in the centre of the city. However, in accepting the Archbishop’s invitation, I am grateful for the distinctive ministry which St Ann’s and St Stephen’s Churches has exercised in Dublin over many years, and I extend my sincere thanks to all those who share with me in it now”.

The Revd David Ivan Gillespie was born in 1968 in Derry and was educated in Faughan Valley High School in the city. Upon leaving school he worked as a journalist with Morton Newspapers. In 1999 he moved to Dublin to study for Ministry in the Church of Ireland Theological College (now Institute). He was ordained a Deacon in 2001 and a Priest the following year. In 2001, he was appointed Curate in Agherton (Portstewart, Co Derry) in the Diocese of Connor and in 2004 was appointed Rector of Moy. He was appointed Vicar of St Ann’s and St Stephen’s in December 2008.

Suicide kills almost as many as the troubles in NI

Almost as many people have died from suicide in Northern Ireland since the signing of the Good Friday Agreement as were killed during the entire Troubles.

Kathryhn Torney in The Legacy - That’s the disturbing key finding from an examination of 15 years of suicide data carried out by The Detail.

The signing of the Good Friday Agreement in 1998 was a landmark moment in Northern Ireland’s history and followed decades of murder.

However, the political deal could not completely wipe out our troubled past and this – warns researchers – is still impacting on the mental health of people here today. More at -

<http://www.thedetail.tv/legacy>

Enniskillen cathedral’s top 10 hymns

Over the past few weeks the parishioners of St Macartin’s Cathedral, Enniskillen, have had an opportunity to vote for their favourite hymn.

A wide range of votes was cast and when nearly 700 ballots were counted, despite the addition of many new hymns in recent years, the familiar and

more traditional hymns that have stood the test of time, and remained stalwarts through various changes in tastes and genres over the years, seem to have topped the poll.

The count down from number 10 to the top slot at number 1 will only be revealed at a special evening service on Sunday, 16 February at 7.00 p.m. in St Macartin's Cathedral. All are welcome to attend so come along and see if your favourite has made number. The ten favourite hymns will be led by the cathedral organist Mr Glenn Moore and the Cathedral Choir conducted by Ms Jayne Hazlett. The service will be conducted by the Dean, the Very Revd Kenneth Hall.

Protestants in Donegal targeted by 'scum of the earth', says clergyman

A violent gang targeting the homes of Protestants will not divide the community, a clergyman has said.

[Irish Independent - Gardai](#) are

investigating a possible sectarian link to seven break-ins at homes and

schools in Co Donegal. Aggravated burglaries over the past 11 days have left several elderly victims badly shaken.



The incidents have taken place over a wide geographical area and would have involved a degree of local knowledge, according to a local TD.

In four of the incidents, the perpetrators threatened their victims with knives. Three were pensioners, while a fourth was a middle-aged farmer.

It is more than 20km between some of the incidents, all of which took place in rural communities in St Johnston, Convoy, Raphoe and Drumoghill in east Donegal.

"The people behind these incidents are the scum of the earth," Church of Ireland minister Rev David Crooks told the [Irish Independent](#).

"If there is a sectarian element to what these people are doing, then I can tell them they will not divide our community.

"Everyone in this area works closely together. We are a united community. We will all be praying that gardai catch those responsible and when they do those who have been doing this should be locked up and the key thrown away.

"Unfortunately, they'll probably get bail and will be back out terrorising people again."

Between raids last week, the gang travelled 15km to the Royal and Prior Secondary School in Raphoe, where several rooms were vandalised.

The school is run by the Church of Ireland but pupils come from all religious backgrounds.

It is understood gardai are studying CCTV footage from the school as part of an intensive investigation. Patrols have been stepped up in the area as a result.

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/protestants-targeted-by-scum-of-the-earth-says-clergyman-29990937.html>



Cork children's ministry walk through Lent

A group of more than seventy-five Sunday Club leaders from sixteen parishes in the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross gathered at St Luke's Home Education Centre, Northridge House, Cork for a Training Day.

The day was organised by the Cork branch of the Children's Ministry Network led by the Reverend Anne Skuse.

The theme for the day was 'A roadmap through Lent'. The day opened with an introduction on this theme of journeying. Then through a series of lead workshops on Creative Prayer, Craft, Music, Drama, Puppetry, and Messy Church, participants were given practical ideas and ways of helping children to make the journey through each Sunday in Lent and then on to Easter. Using what they had learned in the workshops, participants were then divided into groups and invited to come up with lesson plans for the six Sundays in Lent. These lesson plans will be used as a shared resource for all parishes.

This overarching theme of 'journeying' was picked up again in the closing liturgy entitled 'Companions on the Journey', which reminded us that as we travel in faith God travels with us. Our task therefore is to remember that as we accompany our children in faith, they too accompany us.

Participants were joined for the day by the Church of Ireland's Children's Ministry Development Officer Ms. Lydia Monds.

GB news -



Church of England Synod to vote on women Bishops

Today the Church of England Synod is meeting to debate a crucial vote which, if supported, could see women Bishops in England by Christmas

ITV - The 470 members of the General Synod are meeting in London to debate proposals to fast track legislation to allow women to become Bishops. The speeded up timetable, if accepted, would mean the proposals would be voted on in July and could become law as early as November.

It hasn't always been a straight forward process. In November last year it was a very different story. The 'yes' vote **failed to get through** and left many disillusioned and lost.

The row has been going on for decades since the Church agreed to ordain women priests in 1994.

The opponents are mainly Evangelicals who believe the Bible teaches the church should be led by men and Anglo Catholics don't want to see any change in the well-steeped traditions of the church.

However, since the shock of the November vote last year, the tone of the debate has changed and there seems to be a sense of compromise among the Synod.

The draft proposals include safeguards for the opponents which would allow them to request male priests and Bishops to look after them if they wish. And so far, both sides seem to be agreed.

<http://www.itv.com/news/2014-02-11/church-of-england-synod-to-vote-on-women-bishops/>