



## Irish news bulletin 5th February

### Next moderator of the Presbyterian Church will be Rev Michael Barry

**Dr Barry is the minister of Sandys Street Presbyterian Church in Newry. He was elected in a second round of voting after the first round had resulted in a three way tie between Dr Barry, Rev Liz Hughes and Rev Ian McNie. All received five votes.**

In the second round Dr Barry receiving seven votes to the six each of Mrs Hughes and Mr McNie.

Dr Barry, a former school teacher, will take up office on the 2 June in succession to Dr Rob Craig who continues as moderator until that time.

"I am very surprised but pleased that the Presbyterian Church has put its confidence in me and seen fit to give me the honour of serving as moderator," said Dr Barry, who has been minister of Sandys Street for the last 28 years.

"I look forward to encouraging the church and its people in their ministry as I have the opportunity to travel around Ireland and visit congregations and meet people engaged in ministry and mission."



Dr Barry was ordained as assistant minister in First Larne Presbyterian Church in 1982 and was installed as minister of the Sandys Street congregation in Newry in 1985.

In 1997 he was awarded a Doctorate in Ministry from Covenant Theological Seminary in St Louis, Missouri.

He is currently chaplain to Daisy Hill Hospital and has served as a member and chair of various school boards of governors.

Dr Barry has taken a particular interest in Rathore School in Newry for children with special needs where he often shares in school assembly.

[www.presbyterianireland.org/News/Article/February-2014/Barry-elected-as-next-Presbyterian-Moderator-on-Se](http://www.presbyterianireland.org/News/Article/February-2014/Barry-elected-as-next-Presbyterian-Moderator-on-Se)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-26042542>

## Diverse Perspectives on Justice Make for Great Discussion at Rubicon 2014



*Greg Fromholz chairs a panel discussion with Shane Claiborne, activist, author and founder of the Simple Way Community in Philadelphia; the Papal Nuncio to Ireland, Archbishop Charles Brown; and the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Michael Jackson at Rubicon 2014 in Rathmines.*

Rathmines Town Hall became a hub of stimulating discussion and exciting conversation as Rubicon 2014 took place on Saturday February 1. Now in its third year, Rubicon is an initiative of Greg Fromholz and the Revd Rob Jones of Holy Trinity, Rathmines.

It aims to create a place where the big questions can be debated and talked about. It draws together people to collaborate intentionally and explore ideas about how people of faith can continue to engage in all their spheres of influence.

This year the focus was on the theme of justice and social action. Over 100 people gathered to hear Shane Claiborne, founder of the Simple Way Community in Philadelphia; the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Michael Jackson; and John Foong of Google offer their diverse perspectives on the subject. They were joined later by the Papal Nuncio to Ireland, Archbishop Charles Brown who took part in a good natured debate with Archbishop Jackson and Shane Claiborne.

Archbishop Michael Jackson opened the morning session and set the scene for discussion on the Church and the city. He said there had been an uneasy relationship between Christianity and the city from the earliest days. The distinction between secular and sacred was real and tangible, he stated although he added there was engagement between them. More at -

<http://dublin.anglican.org/news/2014/02/Diverse-Perspectives-on-Justice-Make-for-Great-Discussion-at-Rubicon-2014.php>

## **Church's Ministry of Healing Quiet Day**

**The Church's Ministry of Healing will hold a Quiet Day on March 8 from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm in the Mageough Home, Cowper Rd, Rathmines, Dublin 6.**

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome to attend. The Dublin & Glendalough Diocesan Committee will provide soup, coffee and tea, but advise attendees to bring a sandwich. Cowper Road is served by the Green Luas Line and Dublin Bus. For more information, please see the website, [ministryofhealing.ie](http://ministryofhealing.ie), or contact the central office (01 872 7876)

## **Church of Ireland Theological Institute's celebration**

**Friends of the Church of Ireland Theological Institute and members of the class of 1964 are being invited back to CITI to celebrate their Golden Jubilee in February 2014.**

The former Divinity Hostel moved to Braemor Park in February 1964, when the new premises were blessed and opened by the Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin.

In the past half century, the Divinity Hostel has grown and developed into the Church of Ireland Theological College, and since then has become the Church of Ireland Theological Institute. As part of these celebration, on the afternoon of 17 February a former staff member at the CITC, the Rev Dr David Hewlett, now the Principal of the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham, will lead a lecture/seminar with the current student body: "Theological training for Contextualised Mission."



Dr Hewlett will preach later that day at a liturgy of Celebration and Thanksgiving in the Chapel of CITI (Romans 12: 1–2).

The class of 1964 has been invited to a buffet meal, along with staff and students of CITI, the serving and retired bishops of the Church of Ireland, former Principals and members of staff, members of the CITI Governing Council and Management Committee, and Heads of Department in Church House.

Two class members from 1964 who were part of the move from Mountjoy Square to Braemor Park have been invited to speak after dinner: the Right Revd Michael Mayes is a former Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, and the Very Revd John Dinnen is a former Dean of Down and Rector of Hillsborough.

## **Derry Visit to St Patrick's College, Maynooth**

**The Seminarians of Derry Diocese are inviting their fellow parishioners to participate in a Day Trip to their National Seminary, St Patrick's College, Maynooth on Saturday 22nd February 2014.**

The trip will consist of a tour of the College, dinner in Pugin Hall and the celebration of Mass in the magnificent College Chapel.

Cost, including travel, is £25 / €30. For full details and to reserve a place, contact Sean O'Donnell: [sodmuff@hotmail.com](mailto:sodmuff@hotmail.com)

## Organ Recital In St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh

**Donal McCann will give the next organ recital in the Dean Herbert Cassidy Memorial Organ Recital Series in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh on Sunday 16 February 2014 at 4.15 p.m.**

At fourteen years of age, he is the youngest recitalist to perform in either of the recent organ recital series. This will be his second visit to the Cathedral. In 2011 Donal won first place in the Intermediate Class of the Northern Ireland International Organ Competition, held in the Cathedral during the Charles Wood Festival of Music and Summer School. In 2013 Donal became the youngest ever winner of the Advanced Class in the Feis Ceoil Organ Competition. He is currently the organ scholar in St. George's Church, Belfast. Donal recently returned from Cambridge where he performed for Directors of Music at King's and St John's Colleges.

Donal is in his fourth year of studies at Methodist College Belfast where he accompanies award-winning choirs. In 2008 he joined St. Peter's Cathedral Schola Cantorum where he studied piano and organ with director Nigel McClintock, and by 2011 had achieved Grade 8 with Distinction in piano, organ and voice. He began studying piano with Anthony Byrne and organ with Professor Gerard Gillen. An invitation to the Young Talents class in the Haarlem International Organ Festival allowed him to study with Olivier Latry and Margaret Phillips.

Over the last two years, Donal has performed in a number of venues, including the Albert Hall, London and he took part in a tour of Italy with the City of Belfast Youth Orchestra. In the Cathedral, he will be playing Widor's 5th Organ Symphony.

The Dean of Armagh, the Very Revd Gregory Dunstan, said, '*We are delighted to welcome Donal to the Cathedral. His early years in choral singing have clearly laid a foundation for a most promising musical career. We look forward to hearing the Organ Symphony complete – including the famous Toccata!*'

As with all the recitals in this memorial series, admission is free, with a retiring collection towards the maintenance of the Cathedral's fabric. To date,

donations have amounted to more than £730.

## **‘Come and see. Do not be afraid’ - Down & Connor Youth event**

**The Youth Adult Ministry Group are hosting an evening of reflection, song, prayer and adoration on 20th February 2014 Holy Rosary Church, Ormeau Road, Belfast. 8.00pm - ‘Come and see. Do not be afraid’**

The evening runs from 8.00pm until midnight in the beautiful Holy Rosary Church, beside the Good Shepherd Centre on the Ormeau Road, Belfast. The evening will begin with Mass followed afterwards by a period of prayer and reflection by candlelight. There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or to have tea and a chat with some of our Hospitality Team.

The evening is aimed at young adults (18-35), but all are welcome! You are free to come and go as you please, but the group would encourage everyone to take some time to pray and be still. Bring friends and family and take some time for yourself during at the start of this New Year.

## **Event for youth leaders and young people in Lisburn**

**Young people and youth leaders from churches in the greater Lisburn area are invited to ‘#ychurch’ on February 16 in Seymour Street Methodist Church.**



Hosted by: Seymour Street Methodist

# #YCHURCH

LOVE is a 4 letter word

16th February 2014  
6:30pm - 9:30pm

Guest Speaker  
Steven Halliday  
from Crown Jesus Ministries

Live worship from  
1 Way Band

Venue:  
Seymour Street Methodist,  
Lisburn

CROWN JESUS MINISTRIES

Curtis McDonald, a youth leader at Seymour Street Methodist, said: “Our mission is to unite fellow youth leaders from the greater Lisburn area to help support one and other as we all have the same goal – to lead and encourage our young people to make a better future.”

The event, which gets underway, is being supported by Lisburn Exodus and

Crown Jesus Ministries. Steven Hallide of Crown Jesus Ministries is guest speaker.

An acoustic cafe will be open after the service which will provide tea/coffee/juice and traybakes all entirely free! The evening should finish around 9.30pm.

## Theological Lectures at Queen's

**The Church of Ireland Theological Lectures at Queen's this year welcome the Rt Rev Graham Cray, the Church of England's Archbishops' Missioner and leader of the Fresh Expressions Team.**



The theme of the lectures, on February 24 and 25, is The Mission Shaped Church – 10 years on.

The lectures both take place at 6pm in the Geography Building, Elmwood Avenue, Belfast, with refreshments served in The Hub from 4.30pm.

For further information, please visit [www.thehubbelfast.org](http://www.thehubbelfast.org)

## St Anne's cathedral generosity reflects church's caring side

**Charity and the giving of alms with donations of [money](#) or food to the poor have origins in Biblical times and this concept has consumed church life for several thousand years, with congregations reaching out to the less fortunate in society - states a leading article in the News Letter this week.**

It continues - This guiding principle has been played to the full by respective Deans and clergy of St Anne's Church of Ireland cathedral in Belfast, who have, for 37 years, organised a highly commendable Black Santa charity sit-out on the cathedral steps in the run-up to Christmas.

Black Santa at St Anne's dates back to 1976 when the then Dean Sammy Crooks was inspired to stand on Donegall Street to literally beg for the poor and worthy charitable causes. It was at the height of the Troubles in Belfast, at a time when the landmark cathedral was being refurbished, and Dean Crooks was personally concerned that the church's emphasis placed too much on necessary and costly building programmes.

Wearing a black Anglican clerical coat, Dean Crooks was well prepared for a cold December vigil on the city streets and it brought a generous public response, which justified the cathedral authorities giving Black Santa a regular pre-Christmas slot.

The tradition continued under Dean Crooks' successors – Jack Shearer, Houston McKelvey and John Mann – and in 38 years more than £2m was collected for a legion of worthy causes, not all church linked and some that have arisen from conflicts and natural disasters overseas.

The Good Samaritans' cathedral service yesterday, as a follow-on from the 2013 pre-Christmas sit-out, was an appropriate occasion for the clergy to be the giver of £200,000 [funds](#) to those in most need.

As Dean John Mann said: "It is heartwarming and humbling to experience charities coming together to celebrate what is going on in our community." Indeed, the cathedral's continuing generosity is in keeping with Christian teaching.

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