

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Institution in Westport

July 11, 2023

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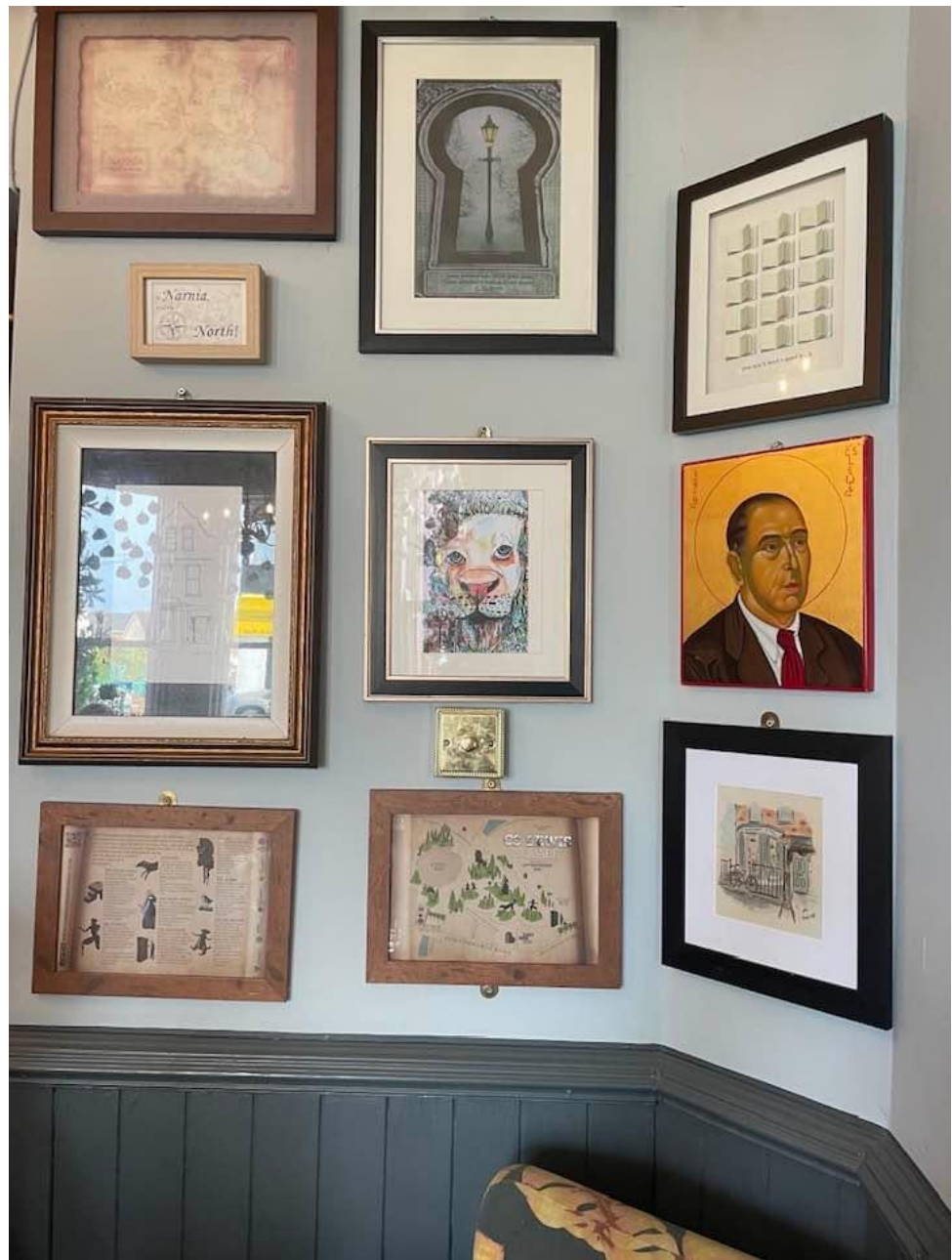
Institution in Westport



The Rev Suzanne Cousin was instituted as Rector of Turlough, Holy Trinity Church, Westport, Christ Church Castlebar and St Thomas' Dugort on Friday last by the Bishop of Tuam, Limerick and Killala, Rt Reverend Dr Michael Burrows.

And as the new rector made her way around her new charges a wonderful series of photos followed several of which are included in this issue of CNI .

People and places



Restaurant's sketches and paintings of C S Lewis

Sketches and paintings relating to CS Lewis stories are displayed in the Lamppost restaurant in East Belfast where the writer was brought up. They include an 'icon' of the distinguished novelist and academic who espoused and integrated Christianity into his work. His grandfather was Rector of St Mark's Church, Dundela



St.Canice's at St Patrick's

St.Canice's Cathedral Choir under Director of Music, Dr Harry Meehan sang the services on Sunday in St Patrick's Cathedral Dublin.

“The choir were truly exceptional and sang



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gloriously at the Eucharist and Evensong. Warmest congratulations to the choir for doing Saint Canice's Cathedral proud. It was a joy to be there and I am a very contented Dean tonight” signed off their travelling Dean.



Institution in Westport



Change in Aghaderg, Donaghmore and Scarva



The Bishop of Down & Dromore has appointed Revd Rodney Magennis as Minister-in-Charge of the Grouped Parishes of Aghaderg, Donaghmore and Scarva.

Rodney was ordained priest in August 2020 and since then has served the grouped parishes as Diocesan Curate.

He says, “I consider it a great honour and privilege to have been appointed Minister-in-Charge of the Grouped Parishes of Aghaderg, Donaghmore and Scarva. The congregations are not strangers to me now as I have served my curacy here since my ordination in 2020.

“It has been a tough few years, but as we get back to normality, may we work as a congregation in the advancement of Christ’s kingdom here on earth. I always think back to my Boys’ Brigade days and the objective of the BB which opens with this line: “The objective of the Boys’

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Brigade is the advancement of Christ's kingdom among boys...". I want that to be my objective for the whole congregation as I take up this new role.

"It is my prayer that as we as a group of parishes move into the next few years, the love of Christ will be shown in all that we do, and that many souls will be won for the kingdom of God.

"I thank the parishes for their love and support over the past three years and pray that as we move forward together that love and support will only continue and increase within each of our communities."

Rodney will be introduced as Minister-in-Charge at a special service in September. We also offer he and his fiancée Ruth our best wishes and many blessings ahead of their wedding in just over two weeks' time!

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Methodist walkers explore Lurgan Park

A number of churches have walking groups as a simple and healthy way to have fellowship and draw new people into the life of our church.

Bluestone Methodist Church recently spent a great morning with Queen Street Methodist Church (and friends) walking group. These brave souls, and two sleeping children, did not let the rain stop them from walking around Lurgan Park.

“This photo was taken in Brownlow House where we had some delicious scones and tea/coffee after”. The walking group meets every Thursday around 10am in the carpark at Brownlow House and everyone is welcome to join.

News reports

Calls for independent inquiry into Church of England safeguarding

The General Synod yesterday heard a motion calling for an independent inquiry into safeguarding in the Church of England led by a senior lawyer.

Safeguarding campaigner Gavin Drake, a lay member for Southall and Nottingham, moved the motion following a report from the Archbishops' Council to the Synod meeting in York.

As the debate was about to run out of time, members voted to adjourn it and resume it at a later date. Mr Drake supported the adjournment.

His motion expressed "dismay" at the decision by the Archbishops' Council to "disband the CofE's Independent Safeguarding Board (IBS) and terminate the contract of its members".

It noted that "a Serious Incident Report" had been made to the Charity Commission "in respect of this governance decision", and recognised and lamented "that any working relationships between many survivors and victims with the Archbishops' Council has been broken".

In consequence, the motion called upon "the Archbishops' Council, working with its Audit Committee, to commission an

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“We spend too much time trying to get into the head of Jesus rather than seeking his heart.” Bishop Gutiérrez was an invited speaker at the General Synod of the Church of England. Here with the Archbishop of Canterbury beforehand and during his talk.

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independent inquiry led by a senior lawyer (judge or King's Counsel) into the safeguarding bodies, functions, policies and practice in and of the Church of England, to report within a maximum period of 12 months".

It required that "the report of that Inquiry be fully debated by the Synod to enable it to make decisions about future safeguarding in the Church of England".

His motion came the morning after a presentation on Sunday by four members of the Archbishops' Council including the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, giving their side of the story on the disbanding of the ISB. Council member Canon Tim Goode gave a brief history of the ISB since its creation in 2021.

"From the beginning, the Archbishops' Council were concerned by the lack of collegiality expressed within the ISB's working relationship and a lack of clarity of the ISB's priorities," he said.

After members raising points of order asked for the two sacked ISB members, Jasvinder Sanghera and Steve Reeves, to be allowed to address Synod, they were eventually allowed to do so through the suspension of normal standing orders.

Mr Reeves said when the Archbishops' Council talked of independence, they did not mean it in the way that "you and I and the average person in the street means independence".

"They mean semi-detached, not independent," he said.

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Ms Sanghera said: "I now think that we were too independent. We did our job too well and when I'm being told, and Steve is being told, that we are too survivor-led and too survivor-focussed, I feel the Church has a problem."

Mr Drake, communications director for the Anglican Communion, told members: "The disbanding of the ISB – and the manner in which it was done – has done untold damage to many, many people. We, as a Church, have got to stop hurting people."

He concluded his speech: "Synod, please approve this motion which will put us on the start of a journey to a wholesale root and branch reform of our unwieldy safeguarding processes. Today, we can start to make the Church a safer place."

Mr Drake has since resigned from the General Synod after the debate on his motion again ran out of time later in the Monday morning session.

Due to time pressure on scheduled business, a 75 per cent vote of the Synod was required to allow the debate to continue. This was not achieved and so his motion has now lapsed.

Announcing his resignation with "immediate effect" on his blog today, Mr Drake said: "I joined the Synod to make the Church of England a safer place. I have failed, because the central machinery of the Church of England will use all its power to block the Synod from doing what it exists to do."

Instagram-style weddings erode Christian code, Synod hears

Wedding ceremonies held at places made popular by Instagram are in danger of undermining the Christian teaching on marriages, a bishop has suggested.

The Church of England has voiced fears that celebrations are becoming increasingly “ostentatious” and not in keeping with its own message for prospective newly-weds.

Last year, the Law Commission published a report on weddings that described current rules as “out of date and restrictive” and called for a shake-up to give couples greater freedom.

The body, which reviews the law of England and Wales, put forward proposals that would see the biggest overhaul of weddings since the 1800s.

They include enabling couples to marry in locations such as private homes, forests, beaches and cruise ships. Instagram has affected the wedding industry, with many couples now taking inspiration from the photo-sharing service. However, critics said the changes could trivialise weddings.

‘The move to commercialise weddings is likely to undermine the Christian understanding’

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The Church of England has intervened with a bishop warning that “the move to commercialise weddings is likely to undermine the Christian understanding of marriage”.

The Bishop of Durham, the Rt Revd Paul Butler, made the comments in response to questions submitted to General Synod, the Church’s legislative body which met in York at the weekend.

His comments also come as the Church’s spokesman on faith and public life warned that weddings “are becoming increasingly ostentatious” and said that reviewing weddings and not marriages is “like putting the cart before the horse” because marriage is “the core event” and the wedding party is optional.

The question to Synod asked what action is being taken to lobby the Government to support marriage that reflects the doctrine of the Church.

The Bishop of Durham replied that the Church has been actively engaging with the Government about the Law Commission report on weddings.

“At the consultation stage, I responded to the draft proposals, severely criticising the Law Commission’s approach,” he said.

“The fundamental problem is that they focused on the law surrounding weddings while explicitly refusing to engage with the meaning of marriage.”

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Organ recital by David O'Shea at Whitefriar Street Church

Friday, 14 July 2023, 7.00pm. Entrance free with a retiring collection

David O'Shea divides his time between performance, teaching and research. He has been organist of Sandford Parish Church and St Philip's Milltown in Dublin since 2011.

David studied at the TU Dublin Conservatoire, from which he graduated with a first-class BMus degree. He undertook postgraduate study at the University of Cambridge and Trinity College Dublin, and was awarded a PhD by TCD for his research into the music of the Chapel Royal, Dublin Castle.

David is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, and a Pipeworks Associate Artist. He has given organ recitals in Ireland, the UK, Europe and the USA. Highlights include the National Concert Hall, Dublin, St Michael's Church, Dún Laoghaire, St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, St Martin's Church, Dudelange, Luxembourg, and the Sinsinawa Dominican Centre, Wisconsin, USA.

Programme:

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Dieterich Buxtehude (1637–1707)
Magnificat Primi Toni, BuxWV 203

Antonio de Cabezón (1510–1566)
Beata viscera Mariae

Franz Liszt (1811–1886)
Angelus! Prière aux anges gardiens

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Prelude and Fugue in E-flat major, BWV 552

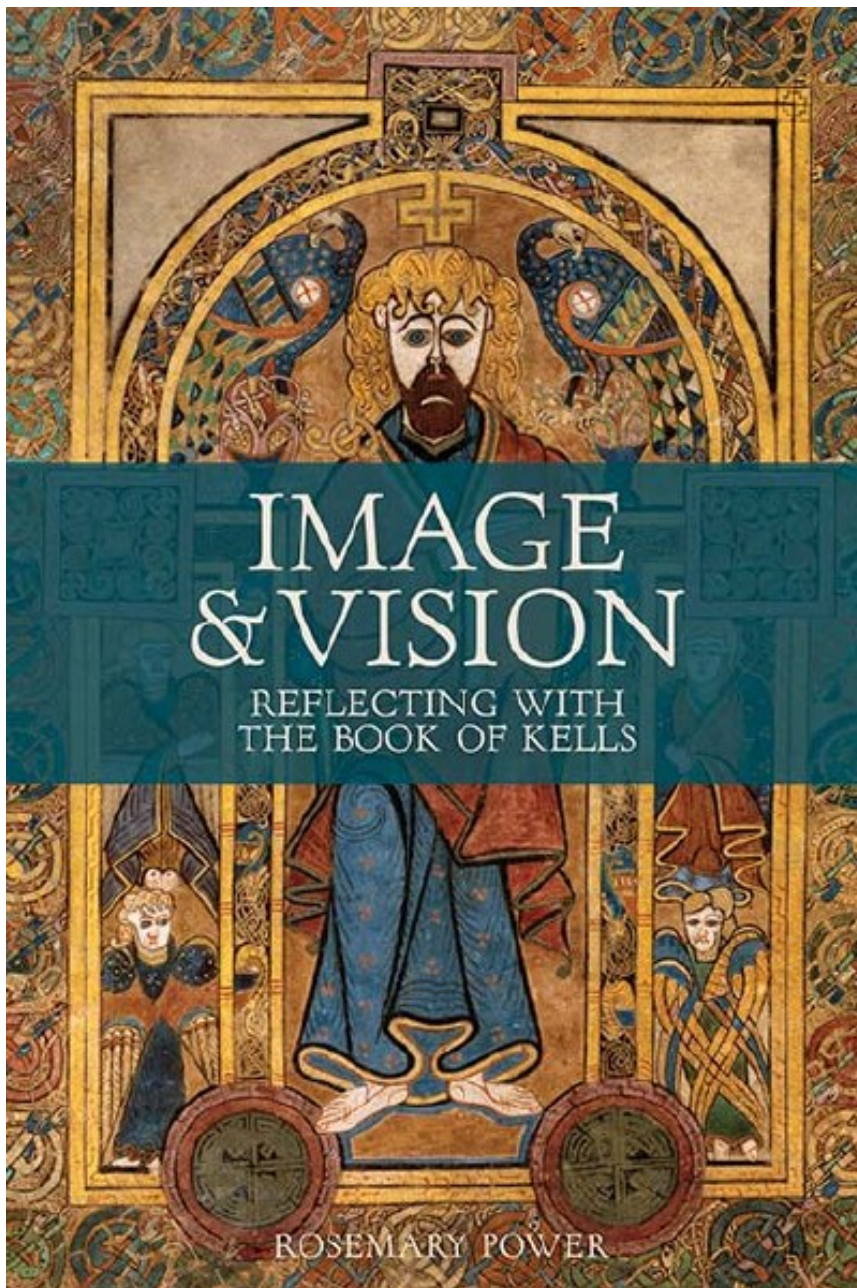
F. Liszt
Ave Maris Stella (No. 2 of Zwei Kirchenhymnen)

J.S. Bach
Meine Seele erhebt den Herrn, BWV 733

Book - Image & Vision - Reflecting with The Book of Kells

The Book of Kells was originally prepared as a devotional and liturgical work. *Image & Vision: Reflecting with the Book of Kells* explores the intricate relationship between the text, image and vision, and the scriptural texts that underpin them.

Concentrating on twelve of the magnificent illuminations in the Book of Kells, this beautiful book provides clear and accessible guidelines on ways to reflect and meditate on these illuminations and the scripture as a whole. The book contains original research, especially on some of the lesser-



known illuminations, and is filled with fascinating analysis of this ancient and sacred work.

In *Image & Vision: Reflecting with the Book of Kells*, Rosemary Power shows how we can use the beauty, humour and insight of this ancient devotional work today to deepen our understanding of scripture and society.

About the author:

Rosemary Power gives illustrated talks on the imagery of the Book of Kells, for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. An established writer, her previous publications include *The Celtic Quest* (Columba Press, 2010) and *The Story of Iona: Columban and Medieval sites and Spirituality* (Canterbury Press, 2013).

Image & Vision - Reflecting with The Book of Kells by Rosemary Power

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Paperback, Pages: 172. Size: 234 mm x 158 mm

Publisher: Veritas Publications. €24.99

Lincoln Cathedral's Byrd 400 Festival

Currently underway in Lincoln is the Byrd 400 Festival - services, lectures, keyboard recitals.

See links below.

William Byrd was Master of the Choristers at the cathedral from 1563 to 1572, during which he composed much music for the relatively newly translated services of the Church of England. Byrd was England's most prolific and respected composer of the late Renaissance. His influence on our choral heritage is comparable to Shakespeare's influence on the literary world – to this day Byrd's sacred music is among that most commonly performed by parish and cathedral choirs. Byrd was a pioneer of several musical styles and he taught many pupils, including Thomas Morley, Peter Philips and Thomas Tomkins, each of whom was to become famous composers and musicians in their own right.

Byrd married a local woman, and his family grew during the time that he lived in Minster Yard. At a time when failing to follow wholeheartedly the practice of the Church of England was seen as a treason, Byrd was stubbornly Catholic and made no attempts to hide it. His wife and other members of his household were arrested several times for recusancy (failing to give up their Catholic practices), and later in life Byrd himself was placed under house arrest in 1585.



However, the appreciation of his musical talent by Queen Elizabeth led to the dropping of any charges ‘by order of the queen.’

Leaving Lincoln to become a Gentleman of the Chapel Royal in 1572, Byrd’s grew in reputation and fame until his retirement to Essex where he died on 4 July 1623. On the day of his death, an entry in the chequebook of the Chapel Royal described him as “Wm. Bird, a Father of Musick.”

Byrd 400 Festival

World-renowned performers and academics are coming to Lincoln, to celebrate the life and works of Byrd. The festival will take three strands covering liturgy, events and lectures and will be an incredible opportunity to come together in the very place where Byrd created so much music.

<https://lincolncathedral.com/byrd-400-festival/>

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From “Civitas sancti tui” by William Byrd, who shuffled off this mortal coil 400 years ago on July 4, 1623. Performed at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, a city that didn't exist in Byrd's lifetime!

Listen to more <https://bit.ly/3XzNgTk>

Listen to choral evensong which was broadcast live on BBC Radio3, concluding five days of special services and events to mark the 400th anniversary of the death of William Byrd.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001n83d>

Proms at Londonderry - William Byrd

BBC open their Proms At chamber series at the Guildhall on Sat 15 July

Join early music vocal ensemble Stile Antico as they explore the many facets of William Byrd in his 400th-anniversary year 🎵

£19.50 (incl. bkg fee): bbc.co.uk/events/ezc4mb

Choir of St. John's Episcopal Church, Memphis at Saint Nicholas' Collegiate Church, Galway

11am - Sung Eucharist for the fifth Sunday after Trinity, sung by the choir of St. John's Episcopal Church, Memphis; service will be streamed live on Zoom & Facebook

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4pm - Choral Evensong, sung by the choir of St. John's Episcopal Church, Memphis



Visiting choir Sunday, 9th of July

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

11AM SUNG EUCHARIST
4PM EVENSONG

All are very welcome

Church News Ireland

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