

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – New street art Lisburn

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Hop on down to Haslem's Lane, Lisburn to see some beautiful new street art.

Created by Dean Kane from Visual Waste and based on local author Sam McBratney's classic picturebook "Guess How Much I Love you", illustrated by Anita Jeram.

This is the first of a number of installations that will be popping up across the city centre this spring celebrating the much-loved children's classic.

The project is part of the Awakening the Gateways to Lisburn initiative and is funded by the Department for Communities.

We're sure you'll love it all the way to the moon and back!

Guess How Much I Love you Walker Books Walker Picture Books

<https://www.walker.co.uk/Guess-How-Much-I-Love-You-9781406300406.aspx>

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People and places



Church Lads Church Girls Brigade Coronation Badge

Brigade HQ will be issuing this beautiful Coronation Badge to all members of the CLCGB soon. Companies are requested to make sure their BMS is up to date so that all their members receive one.

Pioneer Ministry moves forward



The Rev Rob Jones, National Director of Pioneer Ministry, with attendees at a recent Continuing Ministerial Education Day in Newry Conference Centre.

Following the formal launch of Pioneer Ministry in the Church of Ireland in February, the newly appointed National Director, the Rev Rob Jones, has begun his travels around the island to share the vision and how all can get involved.

As part of this communications plan, Rob was invited to speak at a recent Continuing Ministerial Education Day in Newry Conference Centre. This was an opportunity to encourage up and coming leaders in the Church. There was

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much debate, discussion and excitement from all involved, with a lively conversation on how leaders deal with change and current opportunities for Pioneer Ministry in the Church of Ireland. Shortly, the Pioneer Ministry team will be issuing its first newsletter to help get the word out and keep us up to date with progress.

NI Helplines Awareness Day 2023 at the Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Belfast



This year the focus was on the impact of the work of NI Helplines supporting the public in these challenging times.

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Following an opening address by Linda McAuley of BBC Radio Ulster's On Your Behalf, Kevin Higgins, Head of Policy, Advice NI spoke on 'Helplines and the Cost of Living Crisis in Northern Ireland.'



At each annual

Awareness Day, there has been a conversation with a service user who has been helped by a helpline, this time by Parenting NI. Referred to as 'a Fireside Chat', Linda McAuley soon put her at her ease, resulting in a strong message of the continuing value of helplines.

A busy morning continued with a panel discussion on 'Helplines Supporting NI Through Challenging Times' and finished with a presentation by the inaugural Chair of the Network in its early years, of the Brendan Boner Helpline

<p>Crisis Telephone & Counselling Service</p>  <p>0808 808 8000</p> <p>24/7 365 days a year</p> <p>www.lifelinehelpline.info</p>	<p>Make the Call</p>  <p>0800 232 1271</p> <p>Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm</p> <p>Text ADVICE to 079 8440 5248 makethecall@dfcni.gov.uk www.nidirect.gov.uk/makethecall</p>	<p>Parent Support Line</p>  <p>0808 8010 722</p> <p>Monday to Thursday 9:30am - 3:30pm Friday 9:30am - 12:30pm</p> <p>Live online chat via Website www.parentingni.org</p>	<p>Roma Support Hub</p>  <p>07842 310 477</p> <p>Monday to Friday 10am - 4pm (excluding public holidays)</p> <p> @BelfastRoma</p>
<p>MoneyHelper</p>  <p>0800 138 7777</p> <p>Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm (closed bank holidays)</p> <p>WhatsApp: 077 0134 2744 www.MoneyHelper.org.uk</p>	<p>NI Rare Disease Partnership</p>  <p>077 0447 6929</p> <p>Monday 9am - 4pm Tuesday 9am - 5pm Wednesday 9am - 5pm Thursday 9am - 3.30pm Friday 9am - 1.30pm</p> <p>077 0447 6930 www.nirdp.org.uk</p>	<p>RNID</p>  <p>028 9023 9619</p> <p>Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm</p> <p>Text: 07587 130 502 information.nireland@rnid.org.uk www.rnid.org.uk</p>	<p>Rural Support</p>  <p>0800 138 1678</p> <p>Monday to Friday 9am - 9pm (voicemail and support options available at all other times)</p> <p>www.ruralsupport.org.uk</p>
<p>NSPCC Helpline</p>  <p>0808 800 5000</p> <p>8am - 11pm weekdays 9am - 6pm weekends 365 days a year</p> <p>help@nspcc.org.uk www.nspcc.org.uk</p>	<p>Parentline NI CINI</p>  <p>0808 8020 400</p> <p>Monday to Thursday 9am - 9pm Friday 9am - 5pm Saturday 9am - 1pm</p> <p>Live online chat via Website www.ci-ni.org.uk</p>	<p>Samaritans</p>  <p>116 123</p> <p>24/7 365 days a year</p> <p>Jo@samaritans.org www.samaritans.org</p>	<p>Simon Community</p>  <p>0800 171 2222</p> <p>24/7 365 days a year</p> <p>www.simoncommunity.org</p>

Innovation Award to Nexus. Over the past few years, finding innovative means of connecting helplines with service users has been very challenging.

Congratulations to Nexus on winning this award.

Many thanks were expressed to Clodagh Crowe, Chair and Claire O'Prey, Vice Chair for their leadership of the Network

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during these Covid years! Helplines Network NI is now approaching a membership of 40, compared with 20 plus when we started up.

See the Network with its easy to use tolls to access a relevant service at <https://helplinesni.com/>

Wanted - Music Editions of the Church Hymnal

Do you have a Music Edition of the Church Hymnal at home that you no longer need? St Mark's Dundela choir and music group have expanded and they have run out of copies! Please get in contact with the parish if you are able to help. dundela@gmail.com

Corrymeela events

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Belfast Good Friday Agreement join with Corrymeela at Clonard Monastery on 16th April as people recommit themselves to their ongoing need for reconciliation.

A few tickets remain available for Corrymeela's Peace Matters conference on 8th April where participants will be joined by a panel of practitioners to explore the text and context of the Agreement.

Find out more and secure your spot here:
corrymeela.org/events/227/peace-matters-25-years-since



Mothers Day for African community in Armagh diocese



Bishop Michael Router posted - “A pleasure to celebrate the Eucharist this afternoon on Mother's Day for the African Community in the Archdiocese of Armagh and the Diocese of Meath in St. Nicholas' Church, Dundalk. Thank you for the lovely food and music at the reception afterwards in the Geraldines GAA Club.”



Sister Catherine Brennan SSL - Eco Congregation colleague

Archdeacon Andrew Orr this week attended the funeral of his good friend.

The Chair of Eco Congregation said, “Catherine was the Catholic representative on the ECI committee since our foundation in 2005, and she was the driving force in so many of our activities. She was full of enthusiasm despite her chronic illness and she has perhaps done more than anyone else to promote practical environmental work in the churches in Ireland. “May she rest in peace and rise in glory”

**Meet the Maker;
discussion group**

For one hour on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 11.00am, at The Church's Ministry of Healing, Belfast, this is your opportunity to explore the interface of the secular and spiritual.

Everyone is welcome;
Ring Jenny 028 9079 5832 or healing2020@healing2020.plus.com for more information.

The background image shows a close-up of hands building a brick wall. One hand is resting on a red brick, while another uses a trowel to apply mortar. A red string line is stretched across the wall to guide the construction.

DIOCESE OF DUBLIN

PARISHES OF CASTLEKNOCK AND MULHUDDART WITH CLONSILLA



DAFFODIL DAY

(IN AID OF IRISH CANCER SOCIETY)

FRIDAY MARCH 24TH 2023

COFFEE MORNING

IN THE

PARISH CENTRE, CASTLEKNOCK

10.00 A.M. - 1.00 P.M.

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT THIS EVENT

News reports

Pope marks World Water Day with appeal to stop water wars and waste

More than 12 children die every minute, from lack of clean drinking water. That's 1,800 children a day.

Marking World Water Day on Wednesday, Pope Francis reminded pilgrims at the General Audience that water is a primary necessity that must never be wasted, abused or serve as grounds for war. The annual day celebrates this primary need and raises awareness of the two billion people living without access to safe water.

Pope Francis said: "Water must never be the object of waste or abuse, or provide the grounds for war, but must be preserved for our benefit and that of future generations."

Recalling the words of St Francis of Assisi' in his ode to creation, *Laudato sì*: "Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister Water, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste."

In these simple words, he said "we feel the beauty of creation and the awareness of the challenges involved in caring for it."

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The Pope noted that the second UN Water Conference is taking place at the United Nations headquarters in New York in these days. Thousands of delegates will attend the three-day Water Summit that began today.

"I pray for the success of the work and hope that the important event will accelerate initiatives in favour of those who suffer from the scarcity of water, this primary good," he said.

Ahead of the opening of the major UN water summit, a United Nations report warns of a looming global water crisis and an imminent risk of shortages due to overconsumption and climate change.

The report describes the world as "blindly travelling a dangerous path" of "vampiric overconsumption and overdevelopment."

WCC on climate change report: 'Equity is the path to sustainability'

World Council of Churches (WCC) general secretary Rev Prof Dr Jerry Pillay commented on the synthesis of the 6th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, released 20 March.

"There is a rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all," the report underlines. "Rapid and far-reaching transitions across all sectors and systems are necessary."

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The report also adds that our choices and actions-or inaction-in the next few years "will have impacts now and for thousands of years."

Pillay underscored that the climate emergency demands integrated and coordinated efforts. "The report clearly shows that climate change is not merely an environmental phenomenon but one with profound implications on economies, societies, and the health and livelihoods of people especially those living in poverty," he said. "This means that our response to the climate emergency must take an integrated and coordinated approach, understanding that mitigation and adaptation efforts are two sides of the same coin, comprehending the necessity of institutional, economic, and social transformation, and recognizing the need for global collaboration to unite our efforts."

A second message Pillay shared is that equity is the path to sustainability. "The report reveals that the way forward is a climate-resilient development that integrates actions to curb emissions with measures to adapt to climate change in ways that enhance people's health and livelihoods while at the same time reducing hunger, poverty, and inequality and delivering clean energy, water, and air for all," he said, adding a third point: "Climate solutions exist; political commitment is needed."

The report emphasizes that the Paris goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees celsius is still within reach if emissions are halved within the next seven years. "It brings together a range of tried and tested policy options to help achieve deep cuts in emissions and build climate resilient

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communities," noted Pillay. "Solutions are available. What is missing is political will."

But political will is not enough, he concluded. "The pursuit of short-term financial gains through aggressive land use and wanton resource extraction has wrought immeasurable costs to life and all creation and will impose a heavy burden on our children for millennia, imperilling their very future," he said. "As Christians we believe that life-in-creation is a sacred gift from God."

LINKS

WCC general secretary Rev Prof Dr Jerry Pillay on the 6th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change:

www.oikoumene.org/resources/documents/wcc-general-secretary-rev-prof-dr-jerry-pillay-on-the-6th-assessment-report-of-the-intergovernmental-panel-on-climate-change

The IPCC Sixth Assessment Report:

https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6syr/pdf/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf

In the media

[Wilson's Hospital School action against Enoch Burke to proceed next week](#)

The Journal.ie

Burke was suspended from the Co Westmeath secondary school last year.

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[\[https://www.thejournal.ie/enoch-burke-school-hearing-high-court-6026779-Mar2023/\]](https://www.thejournal.ie/enoch-burke-school-hearing-high-court-6026779-Mar2023/)

Northern Ireland charities 'in crisis' over Stormont funding scheme halt

BBC News

Northern Ireland charities have said they face a funding crisis after an annual grant competition was halted days before the new financial year. The Department of Health's Core Grant Funding scheme opened in October, with £3.6m of funding to share out. But 256 bidders applied and the grants they sought exceeded £25m. The department has now suspended the process but will fund 64 existing recipients for just three months until it gets more clarity on its budget.

[\[https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-65045501\]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-65045501)

Education: Funding cuts put NI young people's schemes at risk

BBC News

Two long-running education schemes that benefit children and young people in west Belfast and County Antrim are at risk due to a lack of funding. The Sharing the Learning programme in west Belfast involves 51 schools and thousands of pupils. Meanwhile, the In Your Corner scheme run by Monkstown Boxing Club supports about 250 young people in that area.

[\[https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-65046588\]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-65046588)

Domestic violence: Police alert NI schools more than 2,000 times

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BBC News

Schools in some areas of Northern Ireland have been alerted more than 2,000 times in less than two years about pupils affected by domestic violence. That is according to information about the Operation Encompass scheme released by the police. Operation Encompass enables police to tell school staff if a pupil has been affected by domestic abuse.

[<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-65047404>]

Vicar drives bus to stop wheels coming off at schools in Sunak's constituency

The Telegraph

The vicar stepped in after no one applied for the job, and he now drives the bus at the start and end of every school day. Report on Rev Jeff Payne, from North Yorkshire, who volunteered in 2019 to act as the school bus driver after two rural schools merged to remain viable and needed a driver to ferry children between the sites.

[https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/03/18/vicar-becomes-bus-driver-keep-schools-rishi-sunaks-constituency/?utm_source]

Mothering Sunday reminds us the Church still has a role in our communities

New Statesman

Article by Marcus Walker

[https://www.newstatesman.com/politics/religion/2023/03/mothering-sunday-church-role-communities?utm_source]

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



Yale Organ Week 2023

Apply now for Organ Week at Yale from June 18-24, a unique educational opportunity for advanced undergraduate organ students around the world to work with some of the nation's top artists and teachers in Organ Practice. Applications are due by April 1.

Students accepted into the program will spend the week of June 18-24 on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut and will receive daily organ lessons, participate in workshops on topics related to organ literature and church music, study on notable organs at Yale, and in New Haven and its environs, and hear performances by faculty and each other during evening events. Students will encounter organ playing and teaching of the highest caliber

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and will meet their peers in other organ departments from around the country.

Learn more and apply:

<https://ism.yale.edu/events/yale-organ-week-2023>

Young Catholics renewing the Catholic landscape - online talk by Gladys Ganiel

Gladys Ganiel will be speaking online 29 March, 3 pm for the Irish Institute for Catholic Studies (Mary Immaculate, Univ of Limerick) on 'Highly Religious Young Catholics in Northern Ireland: Renewing the Catholic landscape?' email carleigh.garcia@mic.ul.ie for the link.

Poem for today

Pegasus by Patrick Kavanagh

My soul was an old horse
Offered for sale in twenty fairs.
I offered him to the Church—the buyers
Were little men who feared his unusual airs.
One said: 'Let him remain unbid
In the wind and rain and hunger
Of sin and we will get him—
With the blinkers thrown in—for nothing.'

Then the men of State looked at
What I'd brought for sale.

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One minister, wondering if
Another horse-body would fit the tail
That he'd kept for sentiment-
The relic of his own soul-
Said, 'I will graze him in lieu of his labour.'
I lent him for a week or more
And he came back a hurdle of bones,
Starved, overworked, in despair.
I nursed him on the roadside grass
To shape him for another fair.

I lowered my price. I stood him where
The broken-winded, spavined stand
And crooked shopkeepers said that he
Might do a season on the land-
But not for high-paid work in towns.
He'd do a tinker, possibly.
I begged, 'O make some offer now,
A soul is a poor man's tragedy.
He'll draw your dungiest cart,' I said,
'Show you short cuts to Mass,
Teach weather lore, at night collect
Bad debts from poor men's grass.'
And they would not.

Where the
Tinkers quarrel I went down
With my horse, my soul.
I cried, 'Who will bid me half a crown?'
From their rowdy bargaining
Not one turned. 'Soul,' I prayed,
'I have hawked you through the world
Of Church and State and meanest trade.

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But this evening, halter off,
Never again will it go on.
On the south side of ditches
There is grazing of the sun.
No more haggling with the world....'

As I said these words he grew
Wings upon his back. Now I may ride him
Every land my imagination knew.

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