

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Tamlaghtard Parish Church

Image of the day

Tamlaghtard Parish Church

If you take the Binevenagh Scenic Drive between Downhill and Bellarena on the Derry coastal route you cannot help but notice Tamlaghtard Parish Church on the slopes of the mountain. The stunning drive follows the Bishops Road towards Derry before turning right and descending down past Tamlaghtard Church onto the peninsula or plain of Magilligan.

The church we see today was built circa 1784 on land donated by the Bishop of Derry (Frederick Hervey, 4th Earl of Bristol 1730 – 1803). The church was designed by the Bishop's architect and master stone mason Michael Shanahan who also built Downhill House to plans by the English architect James Wyatt and was responsible for building Mussenden Temple.

The ecclesiastical history of the area traces back to early Christianity, a monastic settlement is recorded here in 584AD founded by St. Columkill, the area also has a connection to St. Aidan the Bishop of Lindisfarne whose remains were brought back here by St. Colman and reburied at the old Tamlaghtard Church adjacent to St Aidan's Church. (St. Colman has connections to Billy and Liscolman near Bushmills)

March 28,2022

What always strikes me is the location of this relatively large and impressive church, high up on the exposed slopes of Binevenagh. Such a stunning location, always nice for a wee stop to feel the stillness and view the beauty.

Courtesy Causeway Coast and Art Ward

People and places

300 years of worship in Loughinisland Parish Church

A long awaited celebration took place in Loughinisland Parish Church, Seaforde on St Macartan's Day, Thursday 24 March when the parish and community came together to celebrate over 300 years of worship in the building.

The tercentenary celebration year was to be 2020, and a number of events were organised but the COVID pandemic meant that all but one had to be cancelled. It was with genuine joy and relief that people joined together for this much anticipated service at which two magnificent mosaics created by artist and parishioner Maeve King were dedicated.

The mosaics were dedicated by the Bishop of Down and Dromore, the Right Revd David McClay and the preacher was the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Revd John McDowell.



Pictured L–R: Standing: Dean Henry Hull, Archbishop McDowell, Bishop David and Father Ciarán Dallat
Seated: Lucy Cullen and Maeve King

Archbishop McDowell looked into the history of the parish in his sermon and encouraged the congregation to continue trusting in God for the future. Both he and Bishop McClay conveyed their gratitude to the Select Vestry and generations of worshippers for their stewardship of the church over the centuries.

The service was introduced by the Dean of Down and Rector of the Lecale Area Mission Partnership (LAMP), the Very Revd Henry Hull. Parish Reader Lucy Cullen led the service alongside Bishop David. Father Ciarán Dallat, Parish Priest of St Macartan’s Loughinisland, read the gospel and representatives of other local churches were also present.

The two mosaics feature an image of the Lamb of God atop the world and the dove of the Holy Spirit descending from heaven, both of whose halos contain 24 carat gold leaf covered by a thin hand blown layer of crystal. Artist Maeve

March 28,2022

King spoke of the atmosphere of serenity this project afforded as she worked on the pieces during the pandemic.

The service also featured the premier of a short setting of the Angus Dei composed by Maeve King's cousin Jason McKinstry and inspired by her mosaics. Mathew Forde of Seaforde wrote a potted history of the parish for inclusion in the order of service and read a lesson.

Speaking after the service, the Revd Adrian Dorrian, Vicar of LAMP with responsibility for Seaforde, said:

“It is a true blessing, after over two years of delayed plans, to have been able to come together to celebrate three centuries of worship in the church here in Seaforde, although Loughinisland Parish has an even longer history. We were able to look back with thanksgiving – some of the communion plate used during the service dates from its opening 300 years ago – and look forward with hope and confidence by dedicating these stunning mosaics to the glory of God and pray that they will bless people in future generations.

“Across over 300 years of God's people worshipping in this place, and especially during the past two years of pandemic, he has been faithful. We have so much for which to be thankful here, and I hope our celebration will set the tone for our worship and thanksgiving in the days and years to come.”

Church News Ireland



Moderator visits Portrush lifeboat team

Portrush RNLI welcomed the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church last week.

Right Reverend Dr David Bruce, along with Mrs Bruce and Rev. Williamson from Ballywillan Church met members of the crew, operations and fundraising teams to hear about their lifesaving work.

Praise for chaplains on Moderator's hospital visit

On a visit to the Causeway Hospital, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI), Right Reverend Dr David Bruce, saluted the work of the

hospital chaplains, praising the ‘the critical role they play in the life of the hospital, its patients and staff’.

The visit was part of Dr Bruce’s weeklong tour of PCI’s Presbytery of Coleraine & Limavady, where he was able to spend time with the hospital’s new six strong team of chaplains and chaplaincy volunteers. He also met medical staff, and senior Northern Health & Social Care Trust (NHSCT) personnel.

“While this has been a busy week, it is never too busy to take time to acknowledge those who make a big difference to the lives of people. At our General Assembly last October, we expressed our ‘sincere gratitude’ as a Church and thanked the dedicated work of chaplains during the pandemic. It was a privilege to be able to convey that gratitude and appreciation in person,” Dr Bruce said.

“Hospital chaplains not only provide care and pastoral support to patients and their families at difficult times in their lives, but also offer a listening ear to staff working in challenging circumstances as a result of the wider pressures facing the health service. On behalf of PCI, I very much welcomed the opportunity to be able to thank the chaplaincy team at Causeway Hospital for what they have done and continue to do, in the name of Jesus. I also wanted to acknowledge the critical role they play in the life of the hospital, its patients and staff,” he continued.

The chaplaincy team at Causeway Hospital consists of Rev Norman Harrison, a PCI minister who is the lead chaplain, Father Damien McCaughan, Roman Catholic chaplain, Church of Ireland (Col) Rector, Rev Andrew Sweeney, Col

March 28,2022

and Methodist chaplain and PCI Deaconess Hazel Reid, a former nurse who is the chaplain for Presbyterians, other denominations, and other religions. Also part of the team are chaplaincy volunteers Sister Rosemary Gallagher and Wendy Morton. More volunteers will be joining the team shortly.

Speaking about the visit, Rev Norman Harrison said, “We are a relatively new team of chaplains here at Causeway and I know that the whole team very much appreciated the visit of the Moderator, his fellowship and prayers.”

Working full-time in chaplaincy, Mr Harrison is the Presbyterian chaplain in the Royal Group of Hospitals in Belfast on a Monday, Wednesday and a Friday, while leading the chaplains for the Northern Trust, including Causeway Hospital, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. “We have been very blessed in assembling such an excellent Causeway chaplaincy team who work tirelessly together to provide a genuine person-centred ministry to those patients and staff who ask for our assistance and support,” he said.

Talking about their work, the lead chaplain appreciated that for whatever reason, not everyone wants to see a chaplain. On admission, however, patients are asked if they would like the opportunity to have a visit at some stage, and those that do, receive a visit each week from their denominational chaplain.

“It is very much a person-centred approach, coming alongside someone to talk about spiritual matters, sharing scripture and praying for them, if that is what they would like. It may be they just want to talk about the concerns they

March 28,2022

have, especially if they have never been in hospital before, so we just listen. Whether we are a listening ear, or able to share the hope that we have in Jesus, I think that in some respects, we can be a calming and reassuring presence in times of anxiety and distress,” he said.

Accompanied by his wife Zoë, Dr Bruce meet with a number of individuals who had made a significant contribution to the work of chaplaincy, including Olive Watt of Ballywillan Presbyterian Church, Portrush. Mrs Watt personally crocheting thousands of handmade crosses, which chaplains across Northern Ireland were able to pass on to patients and staff throughout the Lockdown.

“During the visit it was clear to me that there was very strong sense of collaboration across the Christian traditions, which makes for a good working chaplaincy model. While the time the chaplaincy team can spend in the hospital is limited, due to the nature of the current contracts, there is a great need for the chaplains.

“Often a little known service, but a hope-filled one all the same, I commend wholeheartedly the work that they do, alongside their medical and ancillary colleagues, who together make the NHS what it is,” Dr Bruce said.

The Moderator also met with catering staff who were providing to all the Causeway hospital team that day a coffee break, on behalf of the Presbytery of Coleraine & Limavady, as an acknowledgement of their service.

March 28,2022

The visit was one of 30 separate engagements in the Moderator's weeklong tour of the Presbytery. One of PCI's 19 regional bodies, Coleraine & Limavady is made up of 36 congregations stretching along the North Coast from Limavady to Portrush and into the rural hinterland from Banagher and Dungiven through the lower Bann Valley and across to Ballyrashane. Dr Bruce's tour concluded yesterday (Sunday) when he preached in Aghadowey Presbyterian Church.

New Braemor Studies volumes look at pilgrimage and the Eucharist

Two new titles in the Braemor Studies series were officially launched recently. The Revd Karen Salmon's book and the Revd Christopher West's book were both launched at an in-person gathering in the Church of Ireland Theological Institute.

The Revd Karen Salmon's book is entitled 'St Patrick's Pilgrimages – Journey to Place, Journey to God'. It was published last year but due to ongoing restrictions could not receive an official launch. It was launched by the Very Revd Henry Hull, Dean of Down. The book explores the relationship between people and pilgrimage in Ireland in the 21st century incorporating reflections and interviews with pilgrims as well as a detailed look at the scholarship and history of pilgrimage in the Christian Church.

The Revd Christopher West's volume is entitled 'Eucharist and Embodiment, An Invitation to Constructive Theological Thinking'. It was launched by the Revd Kenny Hall, Dean of



Dean Henry Hull, the Revd Karen Salmon, the Revd Christopher West and Dean Kenny Hall.

Clogher. The book intends to cross boundaries within the disciplines of theology, philosophy and science in the search for an integrated approach to our embodied reception of the Eucharist. Christopher explains that it is an exercise in constructive theology which has contemporary relevance.

Dean Hull noted that Down Cathedral is the traditional burial place of St Patrick and two miles down the road in Saul is where he began his ministry in Ireland. Pilgrims come from far and wide to both locations. “Karen has written about the sites and the people who visit them. She has talked to people and reflected on their experiences and the experience of those who welcome pilgrims,” he explained. He added that she also looks at pilgrimage through the lens of the Bible, history and in something that is very real today.

March 28,2022

Dean Hall commented that Christopher's study crossed the boundaries of theology, philosophy and science in search of an integrated whole. He said it was rooted in the traditions of the church but also looked at where the church was in the world today.

The latest launch brings Volume 12 and 13 of the Braemor Series. The series comprises the final year theses of MTh students which have been selected for publication by the external examiner. Dr Raymond Refausse, chairman of Church of Ireland Publishing noted that the series arose from the recognition that there was a lack of publications in the area of theology. This led them to seek cooperation with CITI and the final year students. The result is that CITI looks after the intellectual side while CIP and the RCB Library takes care of the practical side.

The books are available on the Church of Ireland online bookstore – www.store.ireland.anglican.org

QUB Theology Lecture

'Theology: Why it matters to the academy and the Churches' is the subject of the 2022 Church of Ireland Theological Lecture at Queen's University, Belfast, which will be delivered by Professor Alister McGrath.

The lecture will take place on Monday, 4 April, at 6pm in the Isdell Courtyard at Riddel Hall, 185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast.



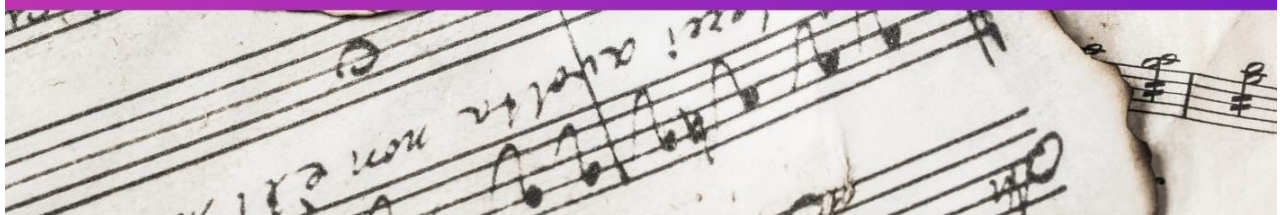
**The Choral Scholars
of St. Macartin's Cathedral
Proudly Present:
An Evening of Song
& Sacred Music**

**Musical Director: David Robertson
Organist: Glenn Moore**



**Friday 29th April
7.30pm
St. Macartin's Cathedral**

Retiring Donation in aid of the Cathedral's Organ Fund



March 28,2022

A renowned scholar, theologian, author and communicator, Professor McGrath is the current Andreos Idreos Professor of Science and Religion in the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford. The 64th Theological Lecture will be the second time he has delivered the lecture, having spoken on 'Rediscovering the Attraction of Christianity' in 1996.

In his lecture, Professor McGrath will explore why theology remains important for both the Christian Churches and the secular world, including the academy. He will discuss the many facets of theology, exploring its relevance for Churches, understanding important works of art and literature, and for wider reflection on how we all reflect on life's deepest questions. Professor McGrath will consider the insights of his fellow Ulsterman, CS Lewis, on some of these questions.

Tea, coffee and shortbread will be available from 5.15pm on site.

Tickets are free, and may be reserved at this link.

[[] <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/theology-why-it-matters-to-the-academy-and-the-churches-tickets-261838825977>]

Since 1957, the Church of Ireland Board of Education (NI) has sponsored lectures to challenge and stimulate the public discussion of theology amongst students and the general public. In recent years, guest lecturers have included the Most Revd Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; atmospheric scientist Prof Katherine Hayhoe; historian and scholar Prof Mark Noll; and theologian and astrophysicist, the Rev Prof David Wilkinson. You can listen

March 28,2022

to these and other recent lectures, and read more about the history of the series, on this dedicated page -
[[<https://thehubbelfast.org/theo-lecture-history/>]

Rathfarnham rectory surrounded by parkland for €1m

Irish Times - Set in the foothills of the Dublin Mountains, just within the city limits side of the M50, in a verdant part of Rathfarnham, the Vicarage is a 1965-built detached residence, constructed for the incoming rector and his family.

Set on 0.9 of an acre the property borders the ninth hole of Grange Golf Club, one of the best parkland courses in the capital.

Bounding the course is Marlay Park, a vast green space of 300 acres where there are weekend food markets, summer concerts and a Regency walled garden to explore.

In the 18th and 19th centuries this part of the city was where its merchant class built its country homes.

Examples include Loreto Abbey, built as the stately home of William Pallister in 1725 before being purchased by the Loreto order in 1821.

It was from here that Gonxha Agnes, the woman who would become St Teresa of Calcutta, travelled to India to work as a teacher in the order's school.

Methodist Church donates £85,000 to Ukraine Emergency

Over £85,000 has been donated to MCI's Ukraine Emergency Appeal. Funds are already being sent to Methodist churches

in the region that are providing humanitarian assistance to refugees, and to Irish Methodist World Development & Relief partner, IJM UK.

Visit irishmethodist.org/ukraine to read the latest updates on how Methodist churches in Ukraine and neighbouring countries are responding, and use these updates to inspire your prayers!

C of I archive highlights map of Glasnevin

The Archive of the Month from the RCB Library for March shines a spotlight on a beautiful map that makes up part of Ms 1104, a recent addition to the RCB Library's extensive manuscript collection.

This collection contains the papers of the Hon Rt Revd Charles Dalrymple Lindsay (1760–1846), Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, and Bishop of Kildare (1804–46).

It also contains a fascinating diary of the Bishop's wife, Catherine Eliza Coussmaker (died 1837), who detailed the family's journey from England to Ireland in 1801, to start the family's new life in Ireland.

March 28,2022

The map of Glasnevin that accompanies the deed. RCB Library Ms 1104/8.

See-

[\[https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2022/03/24/an-important-map-showing-the\]](https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2022/03/24/an-important-map-showing-the)



Appointment to Dromara and Garvaghy

Revd George Okikiolu has been appointed Incumbent of the Grouped Parishes of Dromara and Garvaghy in Dromore Diocese.

Revd Okikiolu is currently serving as Pastoral Assistant in the Parish of Donaghcloney and Waringstown.

A date for the service of institution will be announced shortly.

Church News Ireland

Vacancies

Rector sought for north Connor parish

The Diocese is seeking to appoint a rector for the Parishes of Billy and Derrykeighan, situated on the scenic North Antrim Coast.

The two church buildings, which are located about four miles apart off the road between Bushmills and Dervock, serve approximately 450 households.

The modern five-bed rectory is located in the village of Dervock, with all the educational and commercial facilities of the town of Ballymoney just five miles away.

Following the sudden death of the previous incumbent in April 2021, the congregations are looking for a rector with a pastoral heart who will help to rebuild their strong sense of Christian community and equip them in their service to God. The Bishop of Connor wishes to appoint a colleague who will be an enthusiastic team player, working collaboratively with the existing lay leadership of the parish and neighbouring clergy to build the Church of Ireland witness in this part of North Antrim.

For a copy of the Parish Profile or to express an interest in the position please contact Mrs Elaine Wright at Connor Diocesan Office. Tel: 028 9082 8830. Email elainewright@connordiocese.org.

March 28,2022

Closing date for expressions of interest is Monday April 25 2022.

Rector sought for Armagh parish

Parochial Group of Brackaville, Donaghendry & Ballyclog -
Diocese of Armagh

Applications are invited for the Incumbency of the above Group which is currently vacant.

The Group is centred in Coalisland,... dlvr.it/SMJ4bY

CMSI seeks Communications Coordinator

CMSI is currently recruiting. They are looking for a full-time Communications Coordinator to shape and lead the sharing of news and stories and to develop their events, resources and online presence.

This is a key, strategic role for the society and represents an exciting opportunity for an experienced and skilled communicator with a passion for helping God's people to engage more deeply in global mission.

The deadline for applications for this post is 1pm on Wednesday 20th April, with interviews scheduled to take place on Thursday 28th April.

For further information about the role and details about how to apply, you can view or download the Application Pack here:

[<https://bit.ly/3Lmt8gb>]

Perspective

Historical Answered Prayer

In May 1940 when France had fallen and the British Army was trapped at Dunkirk where they were to be annihilated, King George 6th called for a National Day of Prayer to plead for Divine Intervention. So widespread and so deep was faith in God that literally millions of people flocked into churches to pray. Wartime Prime Minister, Winston Churchill knew everything that was going on. Towards the end of 1942 as the tide turned in the War he wrote; “I sometimes have a feeling of interference. I want to stress that. I have a feeling sometimes that some Guiding Hand has interfered. I have a feeling that we have a Guardian because we have a great Cause and we shall have that Guardian so long as we serve that Cause faithfully.”

From the Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer website.

Poem for today

Shancoduff by Patrick Kavanagh

My black hills have never seen the sun rising,
Eternally they look north towards Armagh.
Lot's wife would not be salt if she had been
Incurious as my black hills that are happy

March 28,2022

When dawn whitens Glassdrummond chapel.

My hills hoard the bright shillings of March

While the sun searches in every pocket.

They are my Alps and I have climbed the Matterhorn

With a sheaf of hay for three perishing calves

In the field under the Big Forth of Rocksavage.

The sleety winds fondle the rushy beards of Shancoduff

While the cattle-drovers sheltering in the Featherna Bush

Look up and say: "Who owns them hungry hills

That the water-hen and snipe must have forsaken?

A poet? Then by heavens he must be poor."

I hear, and is my heart not badly shaken?

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

March 28,2022