

# Church News Ireland

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## Image of the day – Organ Scholars service

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### **Connor, Down & Dromore Organ Scholars service**

See report, page 6

## News reports

### **Portadown Methodist church provides 300 coats in Winter Coat Project**

#### **Portadown church helps 50 families with more than 300 coats going to new homes via a Winter Coat Project**

A Portadown church, which ran a Winter Coat Project, has helped more than 50 families with more than 300 coats finding new homes.

Thomas St Methodist Church put out a call weeks ago for donations of Winter coats and were overwhelmed with donations of coats, hats, gloves and scarves.

On Monday night (October 10) volunteers welcomed guests to join them at the church in Thomas Street to choose new winter wear.

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A spokesperson for the church revealed: “Over 50 families came through the door and over 300 coats found new homes.

“What a wonderful bunch of church volunteers we had tonight helping out to bless our community.”

The church also opened its doors on Monday 24th October from 6pm to 8.30pm.

“We are ready to welcome our community in through the doors to receive free coats, hats, gloves and scarves! Also a cup of tea/coffee, toast and soup.”

## Gratitude to retiring Diocesan Secretary



In Christ Church Cathedral on Sunday afternoon the Archbishop of Dublin paid tribute to Sylvia Heggie who is to retire as Diocesan Secretary. She has made a



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huge contribution towards the smooth running of the United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough. Wishing her a long, healthy and golf filled retirement.



## **Kilkenny Cathedral wins Heritage week award**

**Recently The Heritage Council announced the winners of this year's Awards for Heritage Week...**

and St Canice's team are delighted to say that they won the county award for Kilkenny. "Our program of tours were lovingly put together by our very own Sarah Myers and with support from Benefact Trust, all that attended loved them".

## Memorial pathway at Clogher church



### **Drumsnatt church Harvest and Dedication Service -**

The repair to the wall and path was given by Gloria Moore in memory of her mother and father and dedicated by The Bishop of Clogher, The Right Reverend Dr. Ian Ellis who led the service and dedication.

Soloist on the evening was Lynda Lindsay - a wonderful voice.



## Ministry in music stressed at Organ Scholarship Award service



Organ Scholars with Canon Auchmuty, Canon Humphries and Dr Joe McKee

**Church music was celebrated at the Down, Dromore and Connor Organ Scholarship Award Service held in St Columba's Parish Church, Knock, on Sunday 23 October 2022.**

Following a Bach Prelude, played with confidence by Tanya Zachara, a 3rd year Scholar from St Mark's Dundela, the Rector and Chairman of the Board, Canon John Auchmuty, welcomed the Scholars and all those who had come to support them. Sean Turner, from the Parish of Ballymoney was then presented with his award from Secretary of the

## Board,



The scholars, past and present led the Service of Choral Evensong directed by Dr Joe McKee and accompanied on the organ by Mr Alfred Casement. Past recipients of the award, Brian Clements, Ronnie Drury and Rebekah Wilson, sang with the present scholars. Canon Walter Laverty intoned the Service.

Lessons were read by the Rector and Gerald Hill, Organist Emeritus of St Columba's. Canon Humphries, led the prayers.

In his sermon Canon Auchmuty reminded us to give thanks for the gifts Almighty God has given to us, especially through the Ministry of Music in our churches and cathedrals which inspires, encourages and lifts our spirits. He reminded us how music can provide much needed strength to support us through the challenges we are living through and facing daily – the cost of living crisis, unsettled government both in Northern Ireland and at Westminster, and difficult times at home or in employment.

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Canon Auchmuty referred to the quote that “Music is the bicycle on which the liturgy rides” but emphasised that the bicycle must be kept well-oiled! Music does not just happen. There is always the need for constant rehearsals. Organist posts are increasingly difficult to fill, and this is where the Organ Scholarship scheme comes into play

## Current Organ Scholars

Lucy Steele (1st year) Glenavy  
Clare Kelly (2nd) Jordanstown  
Larissa Fleck (2nd) Armoy  
Dr Mark McKinty (2nd) Larne and Inver  
Grace Steed (2nd) Dundela  
Tanya Zachara (3rd) Dundela  
David Dunlop (3rd) All Saints & St. Nicholas

## **Moderator assures Prime Minister of prayer support**

**The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI), Right Reverend Dr John Kirkpatrick, has written to Right Honourable Rishi Sunak MP assuring him of his prayers as Mr Sunak takes on the responsibilities as the UK’s new Prime Minister, having pledged himself ‘to serve with integrity and humility...’**

In a statement, Dr Kirkpatrick said, “This morning Mr Sunak took on the onerous responsibilities of leading His Majesty’s Government at this incredibly challenging time, the UK’s third Prime Minister in as many months. It is therefore a time when stability is much needed and earnestly desired, as

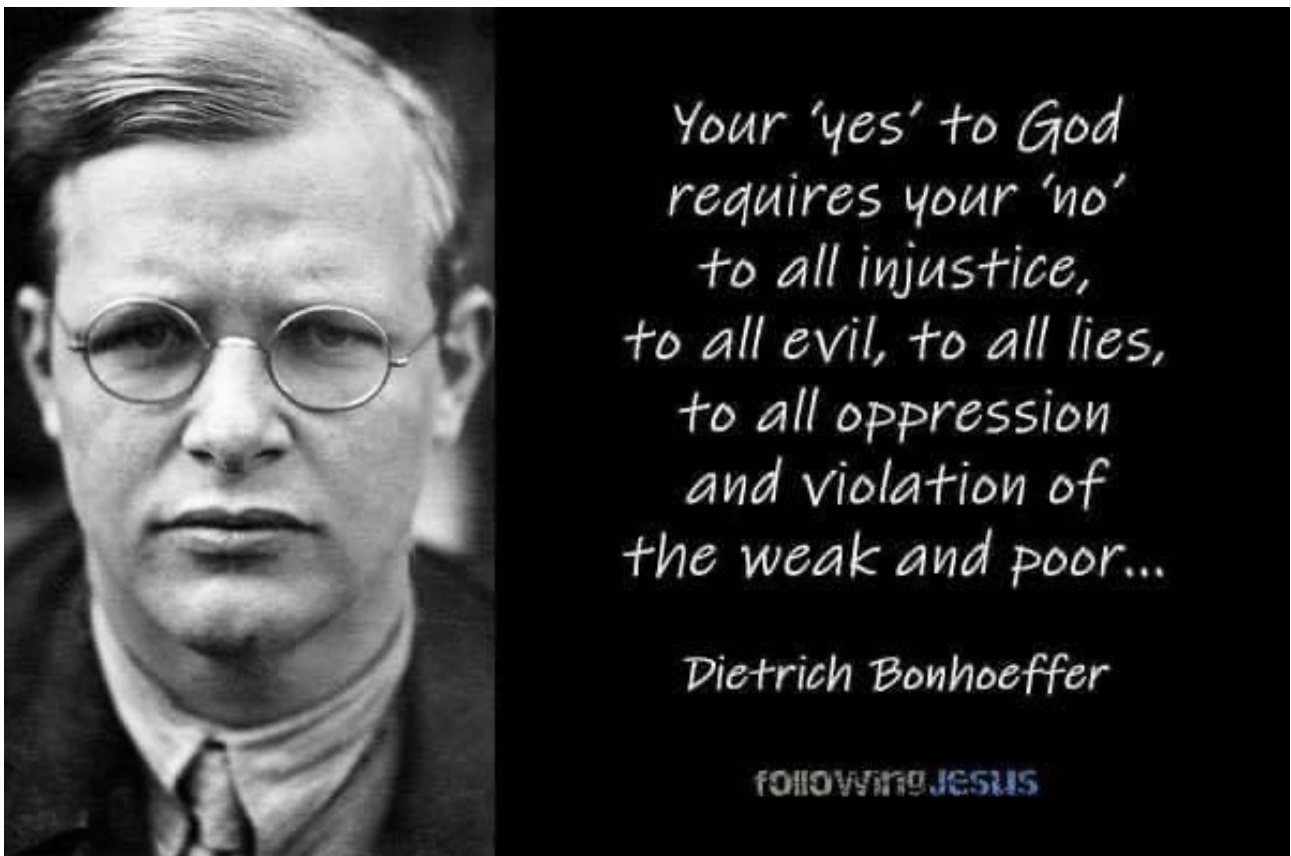


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concerns around the significant and rapid increases in the cost of living, particularly in relation to food prices, electricity and energy supply, mount day-by-day with more people suffering.

“As Mr Sunak assumes this high office and new responsibilities today, gathering his team to serve with him, he can be assured of my prayers and those of many throughout the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. As we pray for him and all in authority, as we are called to do as Christians, I also pray that he will be enabled to make good the pledge that he made yesterday afternoon ‘to serve with integrity and humility...’

Dr Kirkpatrick concluded by saying, “We should never underestimate the power of prayer. I was reminded recently of these words by the writer of Amazing Grace, John



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Newton, who wrote, ‘Our Lord’s Kingdom is not of this world and most people may do their country much more essential service by pleading in prayer, than by finding fault with the things they have no power to alter.’ As a Church we continue to speak in to the public square on many issues, but we must also pray, especially in tremendously uncertain days like these.”

## **800th Anniversary Celebrations at Saint Mary’s Collegiate Church, Youghal**

**The 802th Anniversary Celebrations of the Collegiate Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in Youghal culminated in a celebratory service on Sunday, 23rd October 2022.**

The Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, and Warden of the College, the Right Rev. Dr Paul Colton presided over the service, which was led by the Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Canon Andrew Orr. The Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, the Most Rev. John McDowell preached at the service.

Archbishop John McDowell preached on the historic importance of church buildings and their liturgical importance as a place that presents a “foretaste of heaven”, and allows people to see Jesus. Subsequently, he pointed out how church buildings and Christian Communities preserve the Providence of God, in the case of Saint Mary’s Collegiate Church for over 800 years.

The readings, the Thanksgiving for 800 Years of Worship in Saint Mary’s Collegiate Church, and the Prayers of the



People were led by representatives from the parish and the local community. The music was provided by the Organist Kevin O'Connell, The Clerks Choral under Colin Nicholls, Youghal Choral Society under Patricia Whyte and Corde Dolce under Jennifer O'Keeffe Smith.

Several Diocesan Primary Schools were represented at the service, including the Parish Primary School South Abbey NS, Saint John the Baptist NS Midleton, The Model School Dunmanway, Templebreedy NS Crosshaven, Saint Multose NS Kinsale, Saint Michael's NS Blackrock, Saint Fin Barre's NS Cork, and Saint Luke's NS Montenotte. Representatives from Midleton College and Gaelscoil Chorain also attended the service. Many of the Diocesan clergy were also present, including the Dean of Cloyne the Very Rev. Susan Green, and the Dean of Cork the Very Rev. Nigel Dunne.



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The congregation included people from all over the Diocese and Ireland. Special guests included the Deputy Mayor of Cork County Council, Cllr Deirdre O'Brien, David Stanton TD, Cllr Mary Lineman Foley and Cllr Susan McCarthy, as well as Helen Mulcahy (Youghal Area) and Niall Healy (Director of



Services) from Cork County Council. Ecumenical guests included Canon Bill Bermingham PP (representing Bishop William Crean), Fr Gerard Cremin CC and the Rev. Andrew Robinson (Youghal Methodist Church). Representatives from the Youghal Celebrates History Group were also present.

After the service the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Right Rev. Dr Paul Colton and the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Rev. John McDowell planted a tree to commemorate the 800th Anniversary of Saint Mary's Collegiate Church.





After the service, Canon Andrew Orr said:

We were so delighted with the service. The church was magnificently decorated, the music was superb and the large congregation came from across Ireland and beyond. Having the Archbishop with us and

hearing his address made it a memorable day for the parish and the town. Thank you to everyone who played their part.

Bishop Paul Colton commented:

The celebrations of the 800th anniversary – well, 802nd actually due to a pandemic postponement – were magnificent in truly magnificent surroundings. It was a joy to welcome the Archbishop of Armagh to Cork, Cloyne and Ross for this prestigious occasion, and also to see the church full to the brim with worshippers from far and near.

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Many congratulations are due to Canon Andrew Orr and the parishioners for all their work to make this such a memorable Service. As I've commended the idea of the Anglican Communion Forest to the Diocese, I was delighted also, together with the Archbishop, to plant a tree afterwards in the ancient churchyard.

The Archbishop of Armagh John McDowell said:

I want to thank Canon Orr for his kind invitation to preach here in this beautiful and truly remarkable church on this very special occasion. There are very few parishes in Ireland that can celebrate 800 years in one building. I also want to thank the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross and the Dean of Cloyne for their generous hospitality. It is really only through occasions like this that the second part of my ecclesiastical title as Primate of All Ireland can have any real meaning, which lies in the building of relationships through personal encounter and worship. I am very grateful to all of you for your hospitality.

## **New cultural diversity report gives voice to international people**

**A window into the cultural diversity of parishes in the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough has been opened with a new report which was launched in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on Sunday afternoon (October 23).**

The Lord Looks on the Heart, Part 2: International Voices from the Church of Ireland parishes of Dublin &



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Glendalough by the Revd Prof Anne Lodge features the thoughts and contributions of people of 14 different nationalities attending six Church of Ireland parishes in the dioceses.



Some of those attending the launch of 'The Lord Looks on the Heart' in Christ Church Cathedral. Others joined online.

The report gives voice to people from international backgrounds who have found themselves at home in Church of Ireland parishes. It focuses on how they came to join their parishes and what made them stay. In doing this, it provides insights into what constitutes a welcome and what newcomers to parishes value as well as what encourages them to stay. It also highlights a number of things for parishes to consider in building connections with parishioners and communities.

Another aspect is outreach from parishes to people living in direct provision and emergency accommodation centres

supporting individuals with no expectation of seeing them in church on Sundays but because it is a “biblical imperative”. All this is looked at through the lens of the Book of Ruth and the four key characters: Ruth, Naomi, Boaz and Oprah.

Launching the report, Archbishop Michael Jackson thanked Prof Lodge for having the vision and perspective to undertake the work, which is part of her Self-Supporting Ministry in the dioceses. He also thanked all who participated for “putting their heads above the parapet and allowing their voices to be heard”. This, he said, meant they were making a contribution to the future development of the dioceses.

In a question and answer session, Prof Lodge explained that the six participating parishes were selected as a result of their response to the initial survey, the results of which were published in October 2020. Incumbents responded to the survey stating that a substantial proportion of their congregations were made up of people from international backgrounds. Focus groups were formed and a total of 31 people from 14 countries took part and answered six questions. Furthermore, she and the Archbishop visited two parishes which supported people living in direct provision centres and accommodation centres for people coming from Ukraine.

Of the 31 people, Prof Lodge explained, 26 were from an Anglican or Anglican-adjacent background. Six were not but had made the choice to attend a Church of Ireland church. “One of the things about moving to a strange place is that you seek out things that are familiar, things that connect you

to home,” she said. “The Church, the hymn book, societies like GFS and Mothers’ Union, these are familiar to people.”

She added that some people checked parish websites before moving to an area and noted that it was important for parishes to maintain their online presence and make sure they can be found on Google Maps. They chose a church that accorded with their faith.

Many spoke of the warmth of the welcome on the day they first walked into the church but why did they stay? “You have to tie in warmth of welcome with sustained warmth... The welcome of the incumbent is really important but it has to be backed up by members of the congregation. They need to be willing to visit people, be social with people outside church,” Prof Lodge commented adding that incumbents offered practical support such as remembering that a child is due to start school and ensuring that their parents know how to get a place.

The importance of hospitality was highlighted with one of the participating parishes going so far as to say that if a parish wants to be inclusive it must have “a good tea”. Good preaching and prayer were also deemed important with Prof Lodge pointing out that building the newcomers’ experiences into sermons spoke of the respect of the incumbent for international people and inclusivity. She said that while incumbents could not act alone, they must model inclusivity and ensure that newcomers had opportunities to get involved in roles within the parish or representing the parish at diocesan level. “This says to newcomers ‘I trust you’ and trust means the world,” she said.



“Ultimately the parish can be a great place of social and cultural support. Several people talked about the parish as a surrogate family. In the parish they can check out cultural norms and develop work skills,” she explained. It was particularly special for people to have been elected to roles such as church warden or synod representative, she said.

Prof Lodge also spoke of the need to see more international people in robed ministry. She said it was important for people to be represented at the front of the church and the Church needed to make sure that the pathway to robed ministry was clear to all.

Among the learnings for parishes and the dioceses that she highlighted was the need to:

- do more for young people and young adults,
- restore hospitality after church post–covid,
- establish a parish welcome committee to greet people but also say goodbye after the service,
- establish Bible studies for parishioners,
- have a trained and vetted ministry team to support the incumbent in visiting,
- to encourage more international people to train for robed ministry,
- each parish to assess their diversity in all aspects of their ministry,

- produce a guide to how the Church of Ireland works,
- hold cultural events at parish and diocesan level,
- have support for incumbents,

Prof Lodge said it was important to share good practice to support other parishes in their discipleship and suggested that a Bible study on the Book of Ruth would be very helpful for both parishes and the dioceses.

You can download the report at link here.

<https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2022/10/24/new-cultural-diversity-report->

## **Dean's move from Chicago Cathedral to York Minster**

**The Very Reverend Dominic Barrington, Dean of St James Cathedral, Chicago, United States, will be Installed as the 77th Dean of York during a special service of Choral Evensong, starting at 3pm at York Minster on Saturday 12th November.**

The service will be live streamed to enable people to join from far and wide.

Dean Dominic's Installation is the final part of the ceremonial sequence that appoints him to his place as Dean of York in the Minster's constitutional Foundation. The Installation during Choral Evensong follows immediately



after Dean Dominic's Admission, which takes place in a specially-convened meeting of the College of Canons, held in the Minster's Chapter House and will be led by the Acting Dean of York, The Reverend Canon Michael Smith.

The service of prayers, readings and music will be sung by the Choir of York Minster and will include a special hymn composed for the new Dean. At the service, Dean Dominic will give his first sermon in York Minster and will be commended in his new ministry by the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell.

Commenting on the forthcoming service, Dominic said: "It is a great privilege to be called to serve as Dean of York. I am looking forward enormously to working alongside the dedicated team of staff and volunteers who keep the Minster operating, and getting to know the many communities for





whom this remarkable cathedral church holds a special place in their lives.”

The Archbishop of York said: "Dominic is a priest with a pilgrim heart. With his guidance and under his leadership, York Minster will continue to grow as a place of influence, hospitality and pilgrimage for our city, diocese and region. It is a great joy to be welcoming him to this wonderful place at a time of great opportunity and need for our church and nation."

Dominic succeeds The Right Reverend Dr Jonathan Frost who was installed as Bishop of Portsmouth in March.

Biographical Details – The Very Reverend Dominic Barrington, Dean of York

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Dominic began his ministry as Curate in the Mortlake with East Sheen Team Ministry in the Diocese of Southwark. He served as a University Chaplain at St Chad's, Durham before becoming Priest in Charge, and subsequently Rector at St Peter & Paul with St Michael's in Kettering in the Diocese of Peterborough. He was installed as Dean of St James Cathedral, Chicago, in September 2015 after 20 years of ordained ministry in the Church of England.

Dominic has previously worked with the Arts Council to create and fund new regional touring opportunities for the London Symphony, the Royal Philharmonic and other orchestras. He also worked for several years with some of Britain's leading professional choirs and vocal groups.

Dominic is married to Alison, a music therapist, who has worked in both clinical and academic contexts. They have two sons, Benedict and Linus.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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# 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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

