

Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Hunter's Moon behind
Wells Cathedral.**

October 13, 2022

Image of the day

Hunter's Moon behind Wells Cathedral - Photo by Rev Gerry Lynch

News reports

St Mark's Church, Dundela
presents singer-songwriters:



'HERE AND THERE'

FRIDAY, 28TH OCTOBER 2022

7:30 pm

ST MARK'S CHURCH
HEYN HALL
2 SYDENHAM AVE
BT4 2DR



Admission by donation

For more information:
E: dundela@gmail.com
T: 07709969518

Here and There at St Mark's Dundela

St Mark's writes - We have a special treat coming up at the end of the month with a live performance by musical duo 'Here and There'.

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Scottish singer-songwriter and harpist Pauline Vallance and local singer Jacynth Hamill promise to intrigue, amuse and uplift! The evening will include Pauline's one woman show 'What would the Brontës do at the Fringe?' alongside traditional songs, instrumentals & supper!

Admission is by donation. Email dundela@gmail.com for more information.



Explore a true transatlantic story at the Livingston Centre in Killinchy.

Call in to Ards Visitor Information Centre and find out about the Livingston Centre in Killinchy.

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It tells the transatlantic story of the Livingston family. Reverend John Livingston was the first Protestant rector of Killinchy in 1630. He was behind the building of the Eagle Wing, the first recorded attempted sailing between Ulster and America. The Livingston family became one of the most influential families in American history and includes Presidents, a First Lady, Congressmen, Senators, Governors, businessmen, entrepreneurs and military heroes.

To visit the centre, click on the following link: <https://livingstoncentre.co.uk/product/tickets/>



Free organ recital at St Thomas' Church, Belfast

This Saturday 15 October, the Ulster Society of Organists and Choirmasters will welcome Dr John Kitchen to St Thomas' Church, Belfast who will give an organ recital at 5:00pm.

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John is Director of Music at Old St Paul's Church, Edinburgh and Edinburgh City Organist with performing and curatorial duties at the Usher Hall. He is in much demand as a recitalist, continuo player, accompanist, tutor, lecturer and recording artist.

The organ in St Thomas' was built by William Hill & Son of London in 1906. It incorporates parts of the smaller two-manual organ designed by the same firm in 1875. The organ was fully restored by Messrs M. P. Manders of London and re-dedicated in 1999.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

The coronation of King Charles III

Buckingham Palace has announced that the Coronation of His Majesty The King will take place on Saturday 6th May, 2023.

The Coronation Ceremony will take place at Westminster Abbey, London, and will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Ceremony will see His Majesty King Charles III crowned alongside The Queen Consort.

The Coronation will reflect the monarch's role today and look towards the future, while being rooted in longstanding traditions and pageantry. Further details will be announced in due course.

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Vacancy for Community & Safeguarding Officer at St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin



St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin - "We are hiring a Community & Safeguarding Officer to lead the Cathedral's mission within the community!"

This is a dynamic and rewarding role that involves working closely with people, engaging with other charities, denominations and community organisations, and leading projects in the local community and beyond.

For more information on the job and how to apply, please go to the link - <https://bit.ly/3BYeIAR>

Cathedral Chancellor installed and Reader licensed in Cork

During Evensong at St Fin Barre's Cathedral last Sunday, 9th October 2022, the Dean of Cork, the Very Rev. Nigel Dunne, installed the Dean of Ross, the Very Rev. Cliff Jeffers as Chancellor of the Cathedral and Prepend of



The Very Rev. Cliff Jeffers, Dean of Ross, the Right Rev. Dr Paul Colton, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, and the Very Rev. Nigel Dunne, Dean of Cork.

Killaspugmallane. Furthermore, the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, Dr Paul Colton, licensed Dr Simon Woodworth to the Office of Reader. At the end of the service, Bishop Paul Colton, Dean Nigel Dunne and Dorothy Verplancke thanked the Archdeacon Adrian Wilkinson and wished him farewell as he leaves the Diocese and prepares for his ordination as Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory.

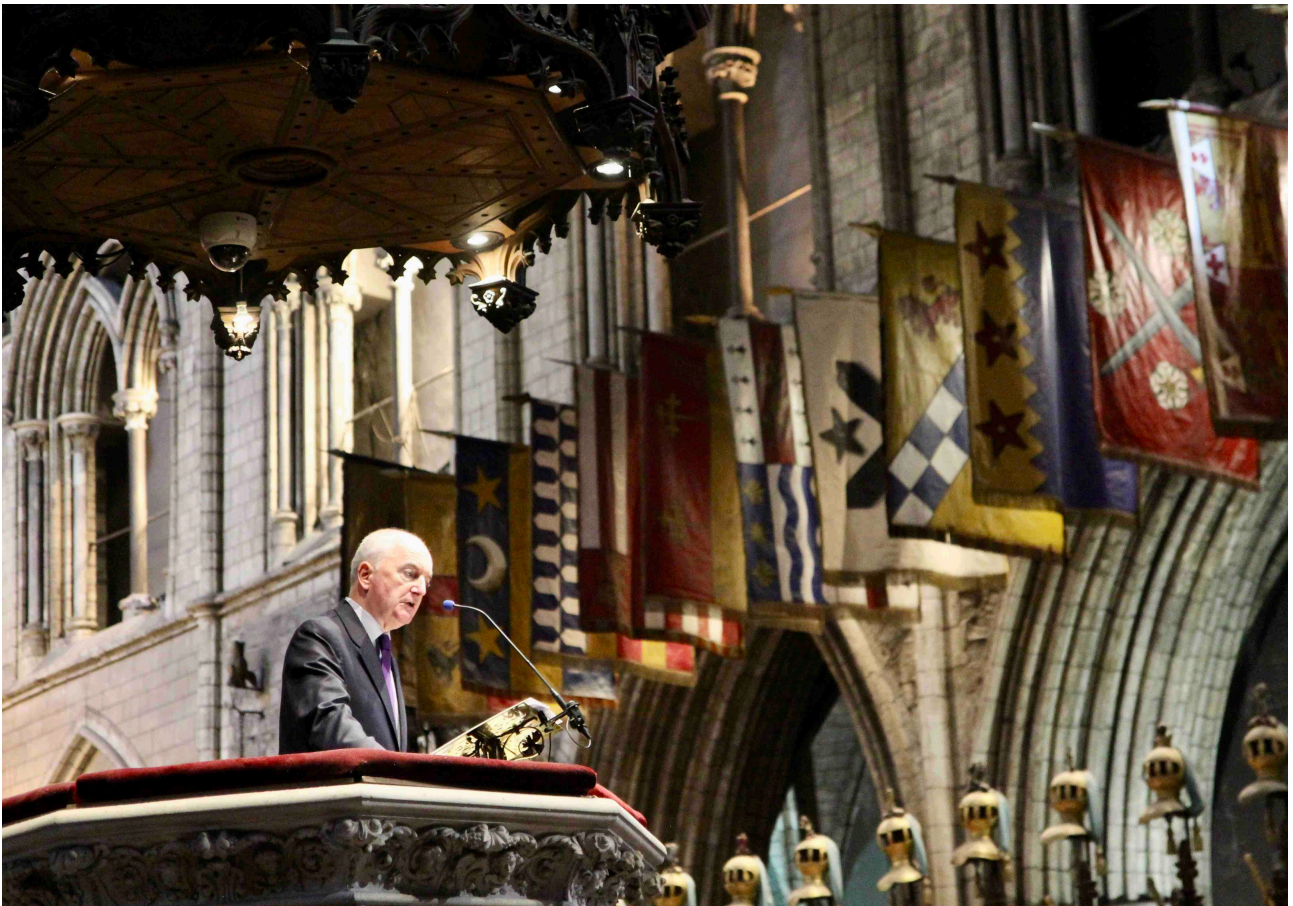
CNI

Cathedral applause for broadcaster highlighting Queen Elizabeth's effort for reconciliation and healing between Ireland and the UK

Tommie Gorman the former RTE correspondent gave the address at a service in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday. He spoke of the fascinating thread of connections woven by in Ireland the late British monarch.

On hearing of the death of Queen Elizabeth, he said his first thought was of Angela Kelly, a woman from Liverpool with Irish heritage who was a housekeeper at the British Embassy when the Queen visited Germany. Such was the impression she made that she was encouraged to apply for a job in Windsor which resulted in her becoming personal assistant, adviser and curator to the Queen, he said. She began working in Windsor in 1994, the year of the ceasefire. When Queen Elizabeth made the first State visit of a British monarch to Ireland in 2011 she emerged from the airplane wearing a jade green dress which established the tone and intent of the visit. Part of that was Angela Kelly's doing, he said.

For months before the visit she had been discretely visiting the venues for the visit. The driver during this planning trip was Brian O'Driscoll who had retired from the staff of the Dublin embassy but was called back to service for the occasion. He was honoured to be asked, Mr O'Gorman said, because for him, like so many, the visit would be



Tommy Gorman delivering the address in St Patrick's

Cathedral.cathartic. In July 1976 he was the official driver of the embassy car under which a landmine exploded just 317 yards from the Ambassador's residence killing the British Ambassador, Christopher Ewart-Briggs who was in the role just two weeks, and 26 year old civil servant, Judith Cooke. At the memorial service the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Garret FitzGerald said that he had no doubt that the perpetrators calculated that Anglo Irish relations would be weakened or permanently damaged but stated that the opposite had been the case. Mr O'Gorman acknowledged the presence of the current British Ambassador and said that a sense of the bond of kinship of which Garret FitzGerald had spoken was evident during the State visit in 2011 – in the visit to the Garden of Remembrance, laying

wreaths at Island Bridge, visiting Croke Park – the scene of Bloody Sunday in 1920, in her speech in Dublin Castle.

Mr O’Gorman said that Northern Ireland’s Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness had wanted to come but his party didn’t allow it. First Minister Ian Paisley and his wife travelled south for it. But, he said, something unplanned happened when the Queen visited the Rock of Cashel. Local Sinn Fein Mayor, Michael Brown, shook the hand of the visiting monarch. He said that he had seen throughout his career that in the autumn and winter seasons of life people understood the importance of generosity. Then in March 2017 when Martin McGuinness died, Arlene Foster attended his funeral even though he had given the oration at the funeral of a man linked to the unsuccessful murder attempt on the life of her father. In 2012 Queen Elizabeth visited Northern Ireland which allowed Martin McGuinness to meet her and another phase of peace–making was underway, he stated.

In another example of healing, Mr O’Gorman recalled the 2015 visit of Prince Charles to Classiebawn Estate near Mullaghmore in County Sligo, where his great uncle Lord Louis Mountbatten had breakfasted for the last time before he and three others were killed by an IRA bomb in August 1979. Just two people accompanied Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall through the doors of the castle – Tim Knatchbull and his wife Isabella. Tim Knatchbull, then aged 14, was the only survivor of the 1979 explosion.

“In the years since, I have observed Prince Charles carry out his mother’s work in his own way but with the same intentions. The pace was affected by the Covid–19



Tommie Gorman, British Ambassador Paul Johnston and his wife Nicola, Archbishop Michael Jackson, Archbishop Dermot Farrell, Dean William Morton and Bryan Dobson.

pandemic and complicated by Brexit but I have no doubt the policy will continue,” he stated. “I’m Irish. I’m at home in this country. There were times, particularly in the Brexit noise, when I was glad to be part of a state run by a government in Dublin rather than Westminster. But there’s not a day that passes without me giving thanks that the taking of life that blighted our land seems to be over. I know the same peace was cherished by Queen Elizabeth and the son who succeeds her as monarch. [...] There are so many connections that bind us while we still have our differences.”

Tommie Gorman opened his address by acknowledging the important reconciliation work he did as Dean of St Columb’s

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Cathedral in Derry during a fragile time in the peace process.

The service was an Irish response from the Church of Ireland's National Cathedral to the contribution of the late Queen Elizabeth in terms of reconciliation and healing relationships between Ireland and the UK. It was attended by the two Archbishops of Dublin, Archbishop Michael Jackson and Archbishop Dermot Farrell, who read the lessons and gave a joint blessing at its conclusion. Also present was Col Stephen Howard, Aide de Camp to the President, the British Ambassador to Ireland, Paul Jones, and the Ambassadors of Monaco, Romania, Palestine and Norway.

The service was also attended by members of the Huguenot Society who gather in St Patrick's Cathedral annually to commemorate their ancestors who worshiped in the Lady Chapel. A Huguenot prayer was said by Marie Leoutre, chair of the society. Prayers were also offered for the community of Creeslough in County Donegal and all affected by the tragedy that occurred in the village on Friday and there were also prayers for peace.

Moderator's Presbytery tour of Dromore – 'A busy but a good week'

With the last hymn sung at Legacurry Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening, one of the 22 congregations that make up the Presbyterian Church in Ireland's (PCI) Presbytery of Dromore, PCI's Moderator,

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Right Reverend Dr John Kirkpatrick, wrapped up his weeklong tour of the Presbytery.

Accompanied by his wife Joan, it was a busy week for Dr Kirkpatrick which saw him undertake over 20 engagements across the Presbytery, which covers the central belt of County Down taking in Dromara, Drumbo, Moira, Royal Hillsborough, and Lisburn. This was the first of four such tours the Moderator will make of the denomination's 19 regional presbyteries during his year in office. Each one is an opportunity to acknowledge and encourage the work of congregations and the difference that they make in their local communities, while visiting a number of organisations supported by local churches.



With Air Ambulance Northern Ireland

“It was a busy week, but a good week. I preached in Ballinderry Presbyterian Church, Maze Presbyterian and Banbridge Road Presbyterian on the first Sunday and then Hillsborough Presbyterian and Legacurry last Sunday, having led devotions at the Presbytery meeting and met with a number of my colleagues and their families throughout the week.

“Having said that, the Presbytery did give us Saturday off, but after a week of 14 hour days, I have to say I am still as fresh today as I was when we started the tour - and that is a miracle! I was so conscious of being upheld in prayer. Prayers really make a difference.”

Dr Kirkpatrick started his year as Moderator in June, so this was his first presbytery tour, admitting that he wasn't quite sure of what to expect. “I came to see, but more importantly I came with a willingness to listen. My overriding impression is that it has been a really positive experience. The life of the church is more vibrant that you would think.

“But like PCI as whole, local congregations are still very much in recovery mode after the pandemic and the lockdowns. I found resilience, especially in my colleagues in ministry who have been on the frontline, often looking at new and creative ways to meet peoples' needs. I am glad to say that I found the Church in good heart and I was really encouraged by what I saw. It was very evident to me that congregational life across the Presbytery did not stop at the Church door on a Sunday, as I saw so many examples of service in the community and civic life.” Dr Kirkpatrick said.

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There were strong civic and community elements to the tour, which included lunch with the Mayor of Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council at its Lagan Valley Island Civic



With some of Pond Park Primary P7's and Rev Andrew Thompson, Chair of the Board of Governors.

Headquarters. Dr Kirkpatrick also met PCI's Forces Chaplains at Thiepval Barracks, visited the Air Ambulance Northern Ireland at Maze where two cheques were presented – the collection from the retiring offering at PCI's General Assembly Evening Celebration and another from Legacurry Presbyterian Church. Dr Kirkpatrick also took time to visit the Boys' Brigade HQ in Culcavy and the Ulster Aviation Museum. He also saw the work of charities like Via Wings in Dromore and Christians Against Poverty in

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Lisburn, while hearing about the community outreach of Ballymacash FC on a visit to the club.

Throughout the week education played an important part of the tour, seeing Dr Kirkpatrick visit three schools in the Presbytery. At Wallace High School he spent time with Sixth Formers as they studied ethical world views, talking with them and answering questions. He also had an opportunity to meet members of the school's Scripture Union. At Pond Park Primary School, Dr Kirkpatrick spoke during assembly, taking and answering questions afterwards from a class of P7s. He also spent time with senior staff and students on a visit to Dromore High School where he spoke at the Year 8 Assembly.

“Schools are integral to the life of families and local communities, and have also been through a lot in responding to, and dealing with the aftermath of the pandemic. It was important to take this opportunity to express our thanks to all those who contribute to school life, including teachers and governors, for all that they do. As they face multiple challenges it was also an opportunity to reaffirm PCI's commitment to schools and encourage their non-denominational Christian ethos, which enables children and young people to flourish. I also wanted to listen, especially to the pupils themselves and I thoroughly enjoyed my interactions with them,” Dr Kirkpatrick said.

With this tour completed, the Moderator's thoughts turn to his second presbytery tour when he will visit Route Presbytery in November. The Presbytery covers much of the north coast from Bushmills to Ballycastle, extending in land to Ballymoney and across much of north County Antrim.

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This weekend, however, will see Dr Kirkpatrick begin his overseas tour of Hungary. Here he will see the work of the Reformed Church in Hungary, one of PCI's partner churches, and their support for Ukrainian refugees.

In the media

Book on Sinn Fein leader serves as a horrible warning to Irish Republic - Ruth Dudley Edwards

Having just read Malachi O'Doherty's excellent "Can Ireland Be One?" I've now finished another unputdownable book Sinn Fein will hate.

Published: 11 October 2022

The party didn't make it easy for Shane Ross — a journalist and Independent TD who was a minister in the last government but lost his seat in February 2020 — to write a biography of Mary Lou McDonald.

Because they had both made their reputations as ruthless attack dogs on the Public Accounts Committee, and they remained on friendly terms, he had — rather bizarrely considering her track record with vindictive lawfare — been under the impression that she would give him at least some cooperation.

Did he seriously believe her protestations of wanting transparency in the public arena?

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McDonald told him she was much too boring to be the subject of a biography and after consulting others, said she would not help as a biography was “premature”, but would not tell anyone to refuse to help.

Yet strangely, Sinn Fein TDs who had already agreed to speak to him pulled out, and those he had already asked who had gone off to consult, never got back to him.

No one can be found who will explain, for instance, where she and her husband found the money to fund their fine Dublin mansion.

I’ve been following McDonald closely for years, so much of the material was familiar to me, but I think it a considerable achievement, not least because Ross has kept his mind open and based his conclusions on evidence.

However, when you’re investigating the life of a secretive leader of a party whose delegates and members are schooled to unquestioning obedience, and who became famous for her preposterous “I-believe-Gerry” performances even when his own followers didn’t believe him, it’s not easy.

But Ross is an industrious guy who found sources north and south — including a few disobedient Republicans — and put in the hours tracing the career path of a Dublin middle-class woman who showed no interest in politics and had a stuttering career in various part-time jobs until she joined Sinn Fein and swiftly became Adams’s protégée.

Despite it repelling anti-violent nationalism, she dedicated herself to winning over the hard men up north and did the dreadful things required to meet their rigorous loyalty

standards: “she had carried former IRA chief Joe Cahill’s coffin; she had defended Gerry Adams’s behaviour over his paedophile brother, Liam; she had positioned herself in Gerry’s corner in the case of the violation of Máiría Cahill; she had supported and swallowed his story in the Jean McConville killing. It was a pattern ... She invariably backed Gerry Adams’s fairy tales.”

“Shane is fair”, tweeted Máiría Cahill, “but he skewers her” on her utterly discreditable behaviour “on child abuse, Paul Quinn, Slab Murphy, Gerry Adams and Jean McConville.”

Here’s a taste of his astute observation.

As a journalist attending last year’s Sinn Fein autumn conference, he noticed that when it came to the informal periods, in the foyer Fein north and south looked “like two separate parties with a titular head.” The ex-IRA contingent “made little effort to bond with the non-combatants” and partition ruled OK.

Ross sat out of sight high up in the gallery in the dark at lunchtime and watched after the entire audience had left to find lunch. “On the stage only Mary Lou and Michelle O’Neill remained, chatting. Suddenly, from the back of the theatre, Duckster Lynch joined the pleader and her deputy on the stage. He entered into a robust discussion with Mary Lou, as Michelle very attentively brushed some dandruff off his jacket. Duckster, reputedly the last chief of staff of the IRA, still retained instant access to the top of the party.”

McDonald steers the Sinn Fein ship as tightly as did Adams. Pat Leahy of the Irish Times wrote: “In two decades

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covering Irish politics, I have never seen anything like its message discipline. Its organisation on the ground, backed by extensive research, is formidable and its online campaigning simultaneously vicious and effective.”

As it its contempt for truth.

Ross’s book is a horrible warning. God help the Irish Republic if it is taken in by this personable frontwoman for a ruthless, totalitarian party that is proud of its filthy, violent past.

Belfast News Letter, Oct 11, 2022

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

