

## **C of I cleric to minister to Presbyterians and Methodists in his new parish**

On Thursday June 1 friends, colleagues and parishioners gathered in Boyle Parish Church to welcome Revd. Edward Yendall as the new Minister-In-Charge (part-time) of the Boyle Group of Parishes. In his new position Edward will be serving the Church of Ireland, Methodist and Presbyterian communities in the area. It is, perhaps, a unique arrangement in Ireland.

## **Limerick organ recital**

The lunchtime organ recital in St Mary's cathedral, Limerick, on Wednesday will be given by Daniel Battle, Organist of the Sacred Heart Church, Limerick, who will play the famous sonata on the 94th Psalm by Reubke.

## **Glendalough Children's Choir Festival**

On Thursday morning the Archbishop of Dublin will attend the Glendalough Children's Choir

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Festival at the Jonathan Swift National School, Dunlavin. This year marks the 200th anniversary of Dunlavin parish church, which was consecrated on 14 October 1817 and the 125th anniversary of the school. Dunlavin is part of a group of parishes in Co. Wicklow which also includes Donard and Domnoughmore. The rector is the Revd Neal O’Raw.

## **Dublin Ecumenical Bible Week**

Ecumenical Bible Week 2017 is underway this week with the theme, from Romans 10:17: “Faith Comes by Hearing the Word of Christ.” Ecumenical Bible Week is a major ecumenical initiative in its fourth year, led by the Archdiocese of Dublin and United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough and other Christian Churches in Dublin. It provides a localised programme of reflection on scripture and a number of core events – Thinking Allowed, Symposium, Pentecost Project for children, and online resources. This year the programme honours the 5th centenary of the Reformation and will begin yesterday (Sunday) evening in Lutherhaus, Adelaide Road, with Sung Lutheran Vespers. The week will close on Sunday 11 June at 7:30pm in the same venue with a film entitled *Martin*

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*Luther: Heretic*, followed by a reflection and discussion.

## **Clean sweep award for Derry Parish's Acorn Centre**

Christ Church, Culmore, Muff and St Peter's parish hall, the Acorn Centre, has been awarded the highest food hygiene rating possible by inspectors from Derry City and Strabane District Council. The Rector of the CCCMSP Parish Group, Ven Robert Miller, Archdeacon of Derry, says he's "delighted but not surprised" by the award, which followed an inspection in May. Council Inspectors award premises a rating between the lowest possible score – 0 – and the highest 5.

CCCMSP has invested more than £100,000 over the last couple of years bringing the Acorn Centre up to the necessary health and safety standards. Among the improvements made was a new kitchen – which proved perfect and timely for the new 'Thursday Club' introduced in March. "We're keen to see it the Acorn Centre used as fully as possible by the whole community," Archdeacon Miller says. "The Acorn Centre's already established itself as a significant local hub, with a variety of groups –

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church-based and others – using it for their activities. We, at CCCMSP, are eager to reach out further – in mission and friendship – to the community”

Archdeacon Miller says the Thursday Club offers outstanding value for those who choose to come along. “They’ll get to have some fun, make new friends, enjoy good food and fellowship – where else would you get that nowadays for £3.00?”

## **Kilmore youth on week long prayer walk**

yKea, the Youth organisation of the Diocese of Kilmore, Elpin and Ardagh is currently on a week-long prayer road trip around the Diocese. The initiative is a response to Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby’s invitation to Christians across the world to pray between Ascension Day and Pentecost. “In praying ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities,” Archbishop Justin Welby says. yKEA has been out and about doing prayer walks, school assemblies, meeting with and praying for church leaders and gathering people to pray.

## **Argentinian missionary group visit Derry**

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Camus-Juxta-Mourne priest, the Rev Mark Lennox, was pressed into service as an impromptu tour guide last week. The clergyman shepherded a group of South American visitors around some of the North West's best known visitor attractions – including St Columb's Cathedral in Londonderry.

The group of missionaries, who come from the city of Salta in the Diocese of Northern Argentina, are spending a week in the Diocese of Derry before moving on to Willowfield Parish Church in East Belfast.

Rev Lennox was asked to be their chaperone during the north west leg of their trip because of his work with the South American Mission Society (SAMS). Among the places of interest he took them to were St Columba's Cathedral and the Londonderry Guildhall, where the group were received by the Mayor Alderman Hilary McClintock.

## **Spanish poet and theologian focus of C of I archive of month**

A rare insight to the faith journey of the theologian and writer Joseph Blanco White, made possible by the survival of an exchange of correspondence with Richard Whately,

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Archbishop of Dublin, 1831–1863, is the topic for June's Archive of the Month at the RCB Library. See C of I web site.

## **A new Robot Priest has been unveiled at a small church in Germany**

BlessU-2 is being used in an evangelical church in Wittenberug, Germany and has been made to mark the 500th Anniversary of the reformation. The 'priest' delivers a range of automated blessings in German, French, English, Spanish and Polish and can speak with either a male or a female voice. It has arms, a face and even a light up nose. Worshipers use its touch screen to tell it what type of blessing they want before it finishes with raising its arms and reciting a bible verse. It can even print out the chosen blessing.

## **Church funding ends for mobile dental clinic in Gaza**

A special fund established to pay for a mobile dental clinic in Gaza is being wound up – seven years beyond its original end-date. The Church in Wales established its Jubilee Fund as a Millennium project in 2000. The mobile dental clinic in Gaza was the fund's main beneficiary until 2007, when it became the sole project to be

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supported by the fund; along with the Shija'ia Family Health Clinic, which was re-stocked and re-built by the fund in 2009. The Church's Jubilee Fund was originally planned to run for just a decade, but the bishops of the Church in Wales decided to continue funding the dental clinic after hearing about the important work it was undertaking. The mobile clinic – a dental surgery in the back of a van – was operated by the Near East Council of Churches. The work is now carried out through NECC's health clinics.

## Today in Christian History, June 4

**June 4, 1873:** Charles F. Parham, founder of the Apostolic Faith movement and one of the founders of the modern Pentecostal movement, is born in Muscatine, Iowa. In 1900 he founded the Bethel Bible School, where speaking in tongues broke out—launching the Pentecostal movement.

**June 4, 1948:** The Far East Broadcasting Company, based in the Philippines and broadcasting across Asia, goes on-air with the staff singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."

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