

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – Foyle farewell**

## Image of the day



## Foyle farewell

**Tall Ship La Malouine departs Lough Foyle on Sunday morning after taking part in the Foyle Maritime Festival in Derry City.**

La Malouine is 30m long, sails under the flag of the UK, built in Russia 1955 and was on its way to the Isle of Islay.

Its owner Roy Kerr takes young people sailing for a small donation and allows visitors to visit and board the tall ship for free whilst it is berthed in port.

Photos courtesy of Aerial Vision NI



# News



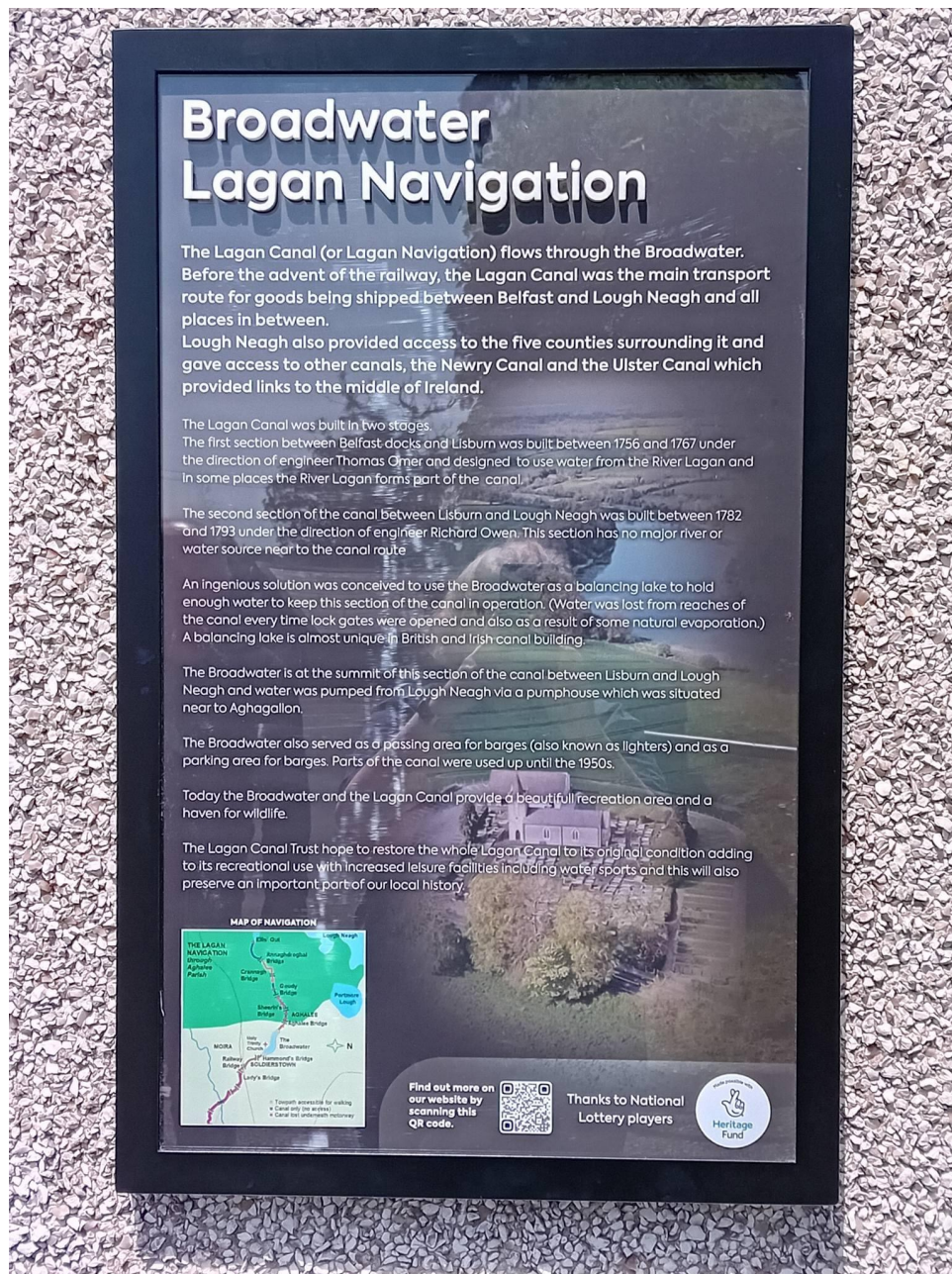
## New signage at Aghalee church

The Rector and parishioners of Aghalee have followed up on their tremendous project on the history and relationships of their parish by introducing newly designed signage covering both the church and the local area.

[Church News Ireland](#)







The grave of Richard Owen and navigation on the Lagan are among the topics which the visitor can read.

## Annual open air service in Clonmacnoise

**The Church of Ireland's Athlone union of parishes will host its annual open air service in Clonmacnoise later this month.**

The service will take place on Sunday, July 28, at 4pm, and will be held adjacent to Temple Connor Church, within the





Greencastle on the Inishowen Peninsula sits on the banks of Lough Foyle in Donegal. It is looking stunning on this morning of summer sunshine. Thanks to Aerial Vision NI

monastic complex of seven churches in Clonmacnoise (N37 V2N2).

This is an outdoor event with worshippers bringing picnic chairs or blankets and sitting on the hilly slope overlooking the majestic River Shannon. All are welcome to attend.

Clonmacnoise stands as a site steeped in rich Christian heritage, commanding a picturesque view overlooking the River Shannon.

Notably, Temple Connor Church stands out as the sole roofed church within the complex, serving the local Church of Ireland community since the 1700s.

In 1955, the Church of Ireland transferred most of the monastic grounds and lands to the State. However, Temple Connor Church and its modest cemetery were retained.

Presently, the church's maintenance is entirely funded by Athlone Union of Parishes, relying solely on the generosity of individuals for its preservation. The Office of Public Works (OPW) oversees the maintenance of the remainder of the site.

The gathering on July 28 is an evening prayer service featuring guest preacher, the Reverend Philip McKinley, who is a dynamic and youthful curate in the Dunboyne and Rathmolyon parishes, and also serves as the primary evangelist at the Kildare Centre of Mission situated in St Brigid's Cathedral in Kildare town.



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Donations collected during the service will be directed towards the Kildare Centre of Mission and ongoing restoration works at Temple Connor Church.

The Athlone union of parishes is extending a warm invitation to all to attend the open air service. Afterwards, you are also invited to gather in the field (courtesy of Tom Moore OPW) for a picnic and a chat.

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families  
Diocese of Down & Dromore

**You are all warmly invited to join  
All Ireland monthly service of  
Holy Communion**



**On  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.**

**in  
Down Cathedral, Downpatrick at 11.15am**

*Perhaps some would like to make it part of a trip  
and go on to see this beautiful part of our country.*



## **C of E's new network of worshipping communities in schools and colleges launches pilot phase in 40 locations**

**The new FLOURISH network will establish partnerships between schools or Further Education colleges and their local churches.**

The Church of England has launched a new network of 40 worshipping communities this week, furthering its vision of becoming younger and more diverse. The new FLOURISH network will establish partnerships between schools or Further Education colleges and their local churches, aiming to engage a large number of children, young people, and their families.



An initial two-year pilot programme will introduce these worshipping communities through churches partnering with primary schools, secondary schools, and FE college settings across 12 Dioceses: Bath & Wells, Birmingham, Bristol, Chester, Derby, Lichfield, Peterborough, Portsmouth, Salisbury, Southwark, Southwell & Nottingham, and Truro.

The FLOURISH network builds on the momentum of leaders dedicated to strategic partnerships between church, school, and home, inspired by the pioneering efforts of the Church of England's Growing Faith Foundation. This foundation has been instrumental through its programmes, networks, research, and events.

As part of the pilot, 200 adult leaders from schools, colleges, and churches, along with 800 young leaders from the schools and colleges, will receive training and development. This initiative will be led by The Church of England's Education team in collaboration with Ministry Development colleagues.

The FLOURISH worshipping communities will be based on five core principles:

- +Young people's voices are instinctively at the centre of all leadership decision-making and implementation
- +Clearly articulated and shared purpose to grow a younger and more diverse community of Christian disciples
- +Strategic leadership partnership between school/college and at least one church community (with appropriate long-term governance and resource commitment)

+Intergenerational faith development experiences involving children and their families of all ages

+Worship that is fully integrated into the regular rhythms, practices, structures and resources of the school/college's vision for flourishing of children and adults

The 40 pilot locations will share their insights at local, diocesan, and national levels to assess whether this innovative approach to worshipping communities in educational settings could be a viable opportunity for Dioceses to consider in future strategic funding plans.

While many pilot locations are in Church of England schools, the initiative also includes community (non-CofE) schools, Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs), and FE colleges, with over half serving communities with above-average disadvantage metrics and a significant proportion serving highly diverse populations.

## **C of E Synod backs a change in church culture to allow clergy a proper day off**

**Clergy will be entitled to 36 hours of rest in every seven-day period, including an uninterrupted rest period of 24 hours, if the Archbishops' Council amends the Terms of Service regulations as the General Synod requested on Saturday.**

The motion from the diocese of Winchester was brought by Alison Coulter (Winchester), who told the clergy: "You are a





precious resource. . . Our priority is to care for you.” Rest was fundamental to well-being, “part of our God-given pattern of life”, she said.

The latest report from the ten-year Living Ministry research project had revealed one quarter of incumbents to be suffering from poor mental health as a result, in part at least, of not getting enough rest (News, 23 February). One had described his appointment to a benefice with seven churches as “the worst time in my life”.

There was no obstacle in the current regulations to the “modest increase” in time off proposed, which would allow clerics to take more than a 24-hour break each week, she said. “We want to encourage wider discussion of what is

realistic. It's a small but important step which I ask you to support."

The debate was lively and intense.

Professor Lynn Nichol (Worcester), a clergy wife for 37 years, hoped wryly that the motion could be backdated to 1987 — she had calculated that more than two years of time off would be owing. It was about "principles, practicalities, and permission", she said. "The requirement for a six-day working pattern is ingrained in the Church of England. This would give clergy explicit permission to look after themselves."

A successful amendment by the Archdeacon of Blackburn, the Ven. Mark Ireland, specifically affirmed the Sabbath "as a time to cease and delight, part of God's creation, a life-giving gift of God". "A day off catching up on necessary tasks is not a Sabbath day," he said.

Many clergy contributors to the debate acknowledged their own liability for not resting. The Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally, said that the motion was trying to achieve culture change, and so the Sabbath amendment was very appropriate. "We have much work to do to bring about that cultural shift," she said. "We are particularly vulnerable to an assumption that everything relies on us."

"Much as love this call, I could too easily become a slave to it," Canon Andrew Dotchin (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich), said, and made reference to clergy inclination towards "a Messiah complex".



The challenge to take time off in a parish context was more complex than a legislative one, Denis Tully (Southwell & Nottingham) suggested. Priests had to manage a range of often conflicting expectations, “most coming from within, which can be a distillation of all the external expectations”.

Dr Simon Clift (Winchester) referred to “unmanageable workloads and unrealistic job descriptions”. The Archdeacon of Leeds, the Ven. Paul Ayers, pointed out that there was no obstacle to clergy taking rest within the current rules, unless out of “ignorance and self-management. . . Sometimes we impose this pressure on ourselves. I have valued the huge freedom to organise my own life. We should be careful about wanting to become normal employees,” he said.

The Revd Steve Wilcox (York) and the Bishop of Winchester, the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, both strongly emphasised the need to address the underlying culture of the Church, which they said was compliance heavy.

The Revd Eleanor Robertshaw (Sheffield) said that self-supporting ministers should also be thought of. Her self-supporting curate had a dual calling as a funeral director, and many in full-time jobs did not even have 24 hours off, she said.

“Be careful we don’t sound a little bit entitled. . . In the wider world out there, people are doing two jobs just to survive.”

“Let this be just the start,” the Bishop of Blackburn, the Rt Revd Philip North, said. “I will be looking for a much better deal for parish clergy.”

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The Synod resisted an amendment which called for a 48-hour rest period. The vote in favour was overwhelming: 336 for, three against, with six abstentions.

## Cathedral Calls



**York Minster fire anniversary: Fire officer and Archbishop of York recall the events**



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**Andrew Vine of the Fire Service recalls - It was 2.35am on Monday July 9, 1984 when the alarm went off at the Northallerton headquarters of North Yorkshire Fire Service.**

Seconds later the firefighters of red watch at Clifford Street and Acomb fire stations were scrambled. The more experienced among them were used to false alarms at York Minster, but as their fire engines sped into Deansgate they realised this was the real thing, and on a daunting scale.



**Desertmartin Parish  
37th Vintage Rally &  
Summer Fete**

**SATURDAY 17TH  
AUGUST 2024  
FROM 12 NOON**

Join us for  
lots of fun!

**Rectory Gardens  
25 Dromore Road,  
Desertmartin, BT45 5JZ**

Vehicle registration from 11am

**Vintage Cars, Tractors, Motorcycles, Stationary Engines,  
Farm Machinery, Mobile Farm, Pet Dog Show,  
Ice Cream Van, Bouncy Castles, Live Music, Children's  
Fancy Dress Competition, Car Boot Sale, Tombola,  
Burger Stand, Tea Tent, and much more!**

**Proceeds in aid of Parish Funds**

**For more information call  
07850 345156 or visit:  
[www.dtparishes.com](http://www.dtparishes.com)**

The air was dense with smoke and flames were flickering along the roof of the South Transept.

### **The Archbishop of York and his wife were on their honeymoon in Yorkshire within a month of the fire.**

The Archbishop gave an account in the Yorkshire Post of his reaction to what he saw. He states, "Of course, if you don't remember the York Minster fire - if you're under 40, or if you visit the Minster today - you won't be aware of what happened. The south transept was quickly, skilfully and lovingly restored. At York Minster we are proud of the craft skills, ingenuity, creativity, and dedication that made this building in the first place and are still alive today. Indeed, you need only look at the Minster's investment in a new Centre of Excellence for Heritage Craft Skills and Estate Management, due to open this autumn, to begin to understand how the Minster is responding to today's challenges of climate change, increased rainfall and the pressing need to get to net zero carbon emissions. Thankfully, we have not been visited by fire or flood in the past forty years, but the job of renovating, restoring and, in some cases, re-creating the building goes on every day.

"Today the greatest natural threat to the magnificent Minster is climate change and the damage to our stone and medieval glass. The Minster is leading the charge on decarbonising the Precinct through pioneering retrofit and sharing best practice with its global network of cathedrals and heritage estates. By the end of the year, the Minster will be producing a third of its energy requirements on site through renewable technologies".

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Full text of article at - <https://www.archbishopofyork.org/news/latest-news/york-minster-40th-anniversary-fire>

## **Have you got what it takes to conquer York Minster's Tower Tour Challenge?**

**Test your mettle against 275 winding steps towards the top of York Minster, and be rewarded with awe-inspiring views over the city.**

If that's not enough - pick up a badge as proof of your achievement!

See details here: <https://yorkminster.org/visit/plan-your-visit/>

## **Within our treasury discover a trove of silver, gold and diamonds**

Our exhibition 'Treasure: Yorkshire's People and Parishes' offers a fascinating glimpse into Yorkshire's past through objects that have survived religious turmoil, fire, and war.

Learn more: [yorkminster.org/whats-on/event/treasures-yorkshires-people-and-parishes](https://yorkminster.org/whats-on/event/treasures-yorkshires-people-and-parishes)

# **Church News Ireland**





## Welcome home for new curate...

**“We had a very special day on Sunday when we welcomed Rev Shona Bell back to her home church as newly ordained Curate.**

“Shona officiated at her first Holy Communion in Culfeightrin Church. We are so excited for the journey we are all going to travel together.” - Ramoan and Culfeightrin aka Ballycastle parish group

## ... and welcome home for Methodist probationer minister



## **Great pleasure to welcome Rev Jennifer Gault as probationer minister in Limavady**

- a little bit unusual as this is her home church but a good sign that we are becoming far more flexible than we used to be. We keep Jennifer and all our probationer ministers in our prayers.

## **Brian McKay - Carmelite Friar and Canon of St Patrick's, Dublin**

**“On January the 12th, 2022, I bade farewell to Terenure College absolutely certain that my time there was up for good.**



“As the appointments of the Irish Province of Carmelites are announced today, I am returning to Terenure College as Prior taking up the role from August the 15th. I will be sad to leave Moate and it’s

wonderful people but a new chapter is indeed being opened. Laus Deo”.

## Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

### All Saints Blackrock - open for visitors

**Heritage In Co. Dublin - All Saints Church, Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, is open to visitors**



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Every Saturday afternoon in July and August, from 2pm to 4pm, All Saints will be open as part of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown's 'Summer of Heritage' programme. Admission is free.

## **John Hume exhibition arrives in Belfast**

**An exhibition honouring John Hume has arrived at Ulster University in Belfast.**

He Made Hope and History Rhyme has already been shown at the university's campuses Derry and Coleraine.

Professor Cathy Gormley-Heenan said it was an honour to welcome the exhibition, which was organised by the university and will run for a year, to the Belfast campus.

She added: "We encourage all students, staff and the general public to visit and discover the life and legacy of John Hume and his impact on society."

Tim Attwood of the John and Pat Hume Foundation said it was a fitting tribute to the work of one of the architects of the Good Friday Agreement.

He continued: "It is our duty to keep faith with the Hume principles, keep his dream of peace and non-violence alive and inspire current and emerging courageous leaders [...] who will chart a better way forward and build a more just and prosperous future for our children."

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The exhibition includes panels explaining Mr Hume's role in the peace process, a bust by Ballymena sculptor Liz O'Kane, and a piece by tapestry artist Catherine O'Connor that shines a light on Pat Hume.

The free exhibition is open until August 30 at Ulster University's Birley Building

## Environment

### Archbishop blesses first Anglican Communion Forest in Central America

**The Archbishop of Canterbury planted the first tree in the Anglican Communion Forest in Central America last month.**

The Communion Forest initiative was launched in 2022 as part of the Anglican Communion's worldwide efforts in tree growing, conservation and ecosystem restoration.

Blessing the forest and hailing this important environmental project, the Archbishop echoed the original commitment and promise behind the initiative: to plant is to hope; to restore is to heal; to protect is to love.

## Poem for today

### The Tyger

by William Blake

Tyger Tyger, burning bright,  
In the forests of the night;



What immortal hand or eye,  
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

In what distant deeps or skies.  
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?  
On what wings dare he aspire?  
What the hand, dare seize the fire?

And what shoulder, & what art,  
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?  
And when thy heart began to beat.  
What dread hand? & what dread feet?

What the hammer? what the chain,  
In what furnace was thy brain?  
What the anvil? what dread grasp.  
Dare its deadly terrors clasp?



When the stars threw down their spears  
And water'd heaven with their tears:  
Did he smile his work to see?  
Did he who made the Lamb make thee?

Tyger Tyger burning bright,  
In the forests of the night:  
What immortal hand or eye,  
Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## Church News Ireland

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