

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Islandbridge Remembrance


July 15, 2024

Image of the day



Islandbridge Remembrance


On a beautifully warm summer afternoon on Saturday in Dublin The Band and Pipes of The Royal Irish Regiment combined with The Irish Defence Forces Band of The 2nd Brigade to perform at The Royal British Legion Republic of Ireland's Annual

 The Royal British Legion
in Ireland

ANNUAL CEREMONY
OF
REMEMBRANCE
AND
WREATH LAYING

THE IRISH NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL GARDENS
ISLANDBRIDGE, DUBLIN

Saturday, 13th July 2024



July 15, 2024

Ceremony of Remembrance in The Irish National War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge, Dublin.



HM Lord-Lieutenants at Islandbridge

“Deputy Lieutenant Graham Dodds MBE DL (left) was honoured to join with HM Lord-Lieutenant of Antrim, Mr David McCorkell KStJ (centre) and Deputy Lieutenant of Belfast, Col Mark Campbell CBE DL, (right) at the RBLI Annual Ceremony of Remembrance at Islandbridge.

Right - Coleraine
Branch - the
Royal Artillery
Association

“A fitting tribute to
all those from the
island of Ireland
that served in
WW1 & WW2”.

Below - North
Irish Horse
veterans



News



Two Derry & Raphoe young leaders making impact in South Africa with Exodus.

Megan Cairns and Matthew Spratt, who completed Derry & Raphoe's diocesan young leader's course last year, are among more than 500 young people and leaders who joined an Exodus team this year.

Exodus teams are small group adventures which combine discovery, friendship and mission.

The two teenagers are part of Team 54, based in the city of George in the Western Cape.

July 15, 2024

Exodus, which has teams serving in eleven countries this year, was established in the late 90s. It exists to see generations of young people boldly following Jesus and becoming lifelong disciple makers.

Sixmile Methodist Churches' Romania mission team

The Sixmile Romania mission trip team set off early on Saturday morning and they have arrived safely in Cihei in 37 degree heat.

“We settled in with a lovely dinner and a chilled evening! We want to get stuck into the activities in coming days”.





Bushmills through the wars

If you are up around the North Coast over the next two weeks, pop in and check out this fantastic and poignant display which opened on Saturday in Dunluce Parish Centre, in the North Antrim village.



Bushmills Through The Wars exhibition has a fascinating collection of artefacts, uniforms, and stories to see and read. This year's display



The Bushmills Through The Wars exhibition is open everyday up to Monday 22nd July.

also features a new WREN story along with Civil Defence items.

‘Mischief’ the jeep will be there as always! Enjoy ‘Life on the Home Front’ display as well as a special ‘Wedding in War Time’ of a local lady, ‘Women in the Services’, D-Day and more.

Entry is £4 (schoolchildren are free), with all proceeds going to charity - Chest Heart and Stroke, Poppy Appeal, and the local church charity.

While you are there pop in to Forget-Me-Not 40s Café where you can enjoy homemade scones, shortbread and tea/coffee for £4. Juice and biscuits are free for the children.



Christian Aid Ireland's hard-working rep at St John's Newtownbreda

Christian Aid Ireland has paid a special tribute to Jennifer Cairnduff, its energetic and hard-working representative at [Newtownbreda \(St John's\) Presbyterian Church](#) in south Belfast.

Jennifer and the congregation of St John's raised an incredible £7,650 to support this year's Christian Aid Week appeal.

Jennifer is pictured here standing between CAI Chief Executive Rosamond Bennett and her Minister Rev Paul Lutton on the day when Rosamond visited the church to speak about CAI's work in Burundi - the focus of this year's Christian Aid Week appeal.

July 15, 2024

Jennifer shows remarkable dedication to the cause of ending poverty in some of the world's poorest countries. To mark Christian Aid Week, she had planned a number of fundraising activities – this church service and a soup luncheon afterwards, as well as a bucket collection on the Ormeau Road, a house-to-house collection and a sale of pre-loved wedding and occasion wear.



But her plans were almost derailed when her husband Donald was given a long-awaited date to receive hip replacement surgery. In the days after his release from hospital, he would need help with every little task and Jennifer knew that she couldn't leave him 'home alone'.

Rather than cancel her fundraising plans, Jennifer roped in family and friends, creating a rota to ensure that Donald

July 15, 2024

would have somebody to assist him when she was out fundraising.

CAI is delighted that Donald was well enough to attend the Christian Aid Week service and you can spot him in the second photograph – front right, using crutches.

Jennifer and Donald exhibit the sort of ‘everyday heroism’ that we see in so many of our supporters – ordinary people bravely trying to help others despite the difficulties in their own lives.

Please join us in wishing Donald well as he continues his recovery and thanking Jennifer for the ‘jenn-erous’ gift of her time.

Secretary of State visits Derryvullen North on the Twelfth





The new Secretary of State for NI, Hilary Benn, visited Derryvullen North Parish Hall in Clogher diocese for the Twelfth.

He met with senior officers of the Orange Institution, representatives of local bands and community leaders.

Afterwards he went into the hall where he met the members of our catering team. Mr Benn, his NI Office Team, special guests and press enjoyed the very welcome refreshments provided and served by the ladies of the parish catering group.

Church News Ireland

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Posted on site early Monday to Saturday

Cathedral Calls

800-year-old Limerick choir is open for auditions

The harmonies belted out by the Saint Mary's Choral Foundation have been floating on the air in Limerick for the past 800 years, Andrew Clair writes in the Limerick Post

As the Magna Carta was being signed, Ghengis Khan was running amok, and Marco Polo was making his grand adventures, these Treaty singers were making melodious sound.

And now, choir director Peter Barley has put the call out for any and all interested in Limerick to take part in history in action and try out for the age-old group.

“There doesn't need to be an essential level of musicianship,” the choir director told the Limerick Post.

If someone can hold a tune and has a love of music, they're invited to join in on the song.

The choir is also open to younger members, with teenagers, third-level music students, as well as professionals included in Peter's open invitation.



“We work around busy schedules with our practice days. The choir is open to all faiths and none”, said Dean of Limerick, Niall J Sloane.

A Vicars Choral, historically a group of lay-men paid to lead the musical service, was recently reintroduced.

“Last year, we decided to reinvigorate the college and appointed four positions, with three currently filled,” Peter explained.

“Sitting next to an experienced singer is very helpful and one of the strongest reasons for reinvigorating the Vicars Choral.”

Added Dean Sloane of the man leading the show: “We’re fortunate to have someone of Peter’s caliber, with

experience at King's College, Cambridge; St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin; and Toronto, Canada. People often pay for music lessons elsewhere, but here you can be part of singing and, in many cases, get paid."

"Our message is to encourage people interested in exploring this to get in contact. It's not about signing up immediately; come along, try it out. If it's not for you, that's absolutely fine.

"If it is, there's a unique opportunity to be part of something with deep history, a team, and huge opportunities for expanding into other elements of life."

Open auditions will take place this September, with more information available on <https://www.saintmaryscathedral.ie/worship/join-the-saint-marys-cathedral-choir/>

‘Join us for A Festival of Hymns’ - Charles Wood Festival of Music

**The Festival organisers say
“We're excited to invite you to a special event at the beautiful St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral in Armagh.**

John Crothers, right, Executive Committee Member of The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland, will introduce a selection of both favourite and lesser-known





hymns, all centered around the theme of beginnings.

The event will feature the talented Lowry Singers (Armagh) above, conducted by Elizabeth Seale, with organist Ven Dr Peter Thompson, right.

Date: Sunday 11th August
Venue: St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh
Time: 15:00



July 15, 2024

A retiring collection will be held with a suggested donation of £5.

Come and be part of this beautiful celebration of hymnody. We look forward to seeing you there!

Clergy

Joy as Three Columbans Ordained to the Diaconate



On 29th June 2024, the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, as well as being the founding anniversary of the Missionary Society of St Columban, three young Columban missionaries were ordained to the diaconate.

July 15, 2024

The ceremony took place at Cathedral Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception/ Myeongdong Cathedral, Seoul (Korea).

Bishop Job Koo Yobi of Seoul Archdiocese presided at the ceremony.

Vicar of Glenavy Parish appointed

The Rev Stephen McElhinney, Mission Director of Sams Ireland (South American Mission Society) has been appointed vicar of Glenavy Parish.

Stephen, who has served as Mission Director of SAMS Ireland since 2018, brings experience and a deep passion for mission work to his new role.

Throughout his time with SAMS Ireland, Stephen has had the privilege of working closely with the Anglican Church in South America. He has formed partnerships with many church leaders across the continent, fostering a spirit of collaboration and mutual support. Reflecting on his mission work, Stephen said: "I have been privileged to work with the Anglican Church in South America and count it an honour to have met and partnered with many church leaders in this vast continent."

Stephen's journey in mission work began with his initial visit to Paraguay in 1990, igniting a lifelong passion for inspiring local churches in overseas missions. This appointment marks a return to the Connor Diocese for Stephen, who previously served as the rector of Derryvolgie Parish from 2011 to 2018.

Born in Manchester, Stephen moved to Lurgan, Co Armagh, in 1973. He graduated in Optometry from Aston University and after two years working in the north of England he returned to Ireland.

Stephen was ordained in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, in June 2005 and served as a member of the staff team of Kill O' the Grange Parish Church, Dublin, before moving in May 2008 to Drumglass Parish, Dungannon. He was introduced as Priest-in-Charge of Derryvolgie Parish in 2011 and was later instituted as rector of the parish.

Stephen expressed his enthusiasm about his new role in Glenavy Parish. "I am very much looking forward to getting to know the parishioners and people of Glenavy, Crumlin, and the Tunney. Together, we will prayerfully discover God's plans for the next chapter of the church's witness in this area," he said.

Joining him in this new chapter are his wife, Cathy, and their three children, who are all in various post-secondary school settings.

Stephen's local church experience together with his overseas mission experience will bring a unique and valuable perspective to Glenavy Parish. "The worldwide Body of Christ encourages and inspires one another," Stephen said, highlighting the importance of global and local church connections.

A date for the institution in Glenavy will be announced in due course.

July 15, 2024

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



"The Church is either Synodal or it is not"

- Pope Francis

Reflections on the Synod

with Sheila Curran RSM at Drumalis, Larne

from 10 am - 4 pm on Saturday, 7 September 2024

The day, led by Sheila Curran RSM, will offer an opportunity to reflect on the biblical context of the Synod as well as reflections on some of the themes arising from the Synthesis Document from the October 2023 gathering. We will also explore the challenges of "walking with and listening to" to people of God in our global church today as we move into the second part of the Synod in October.

Sheila Curran is a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy, Northern Province. She works as a practical theologian from an eco-feminist perspective. Her ministry, research and writing have been shaped by her biblical studies alongside her experience of living and working with those on the margins both in Ireland and Peru. Sheila currently works with migrants and refugees and in interfaith dialogue in the city of Dublin while also giving retreats and conferences both in Ireland and internationally.



To book a place, please contact Drumalis by phone 028 2827 2196/2827 6455 (during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm) or by email: drumalis@btconnect.com The cost of the day, which is being generously subsidized by the Friends of Drumalis, is £30 (including lunch and refreshments).

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

July 15, 2024

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