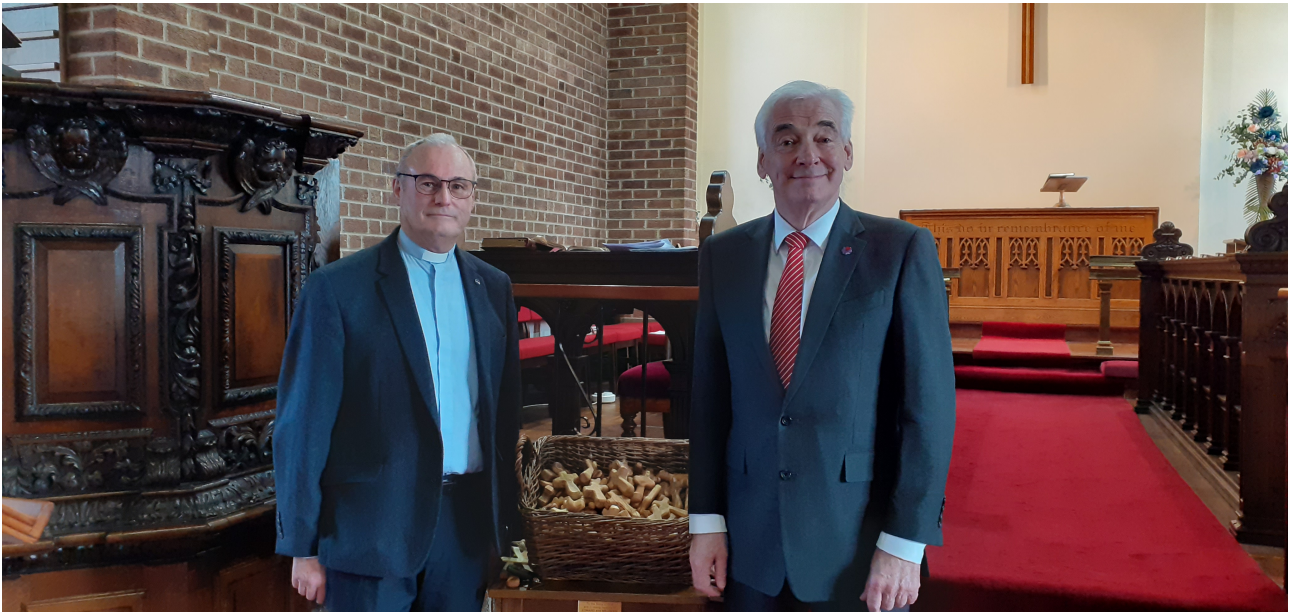


Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Parish passes 1,500 Holding Crosses for N.I. Hospice

Image of the day



Parish passes 1,500 Holding Crosses for N.I. Hospice

St Katharine's Parish, Belfast, made another donation of Holding Crosses to the N.I. Hospice. These crosses are very much appreciated by patients under the care of the Hospice.

On Palm Sunday, 220 holding crosses were dedicated (these were in addition to the 149 gifted last June). Over the past 15 years at least 1,500 have been donated by the parish.

At the service, attended by Paul Clark (President of the N.I.Hospice), Paul (photo above) spoke about his faith journey and what the crosses meant to him and his late father who received one from Canon William Taggart.

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Canon Taggart also showed those present at this service the original cross which he bought on holiday which kicked off their use by the Hospice Chaplains.

The 220 crosses were received by the N.I. Hospice Chaplaincy team following the Good Friday Meditation Service in the N.I. Hospice.

News

50 years service to Ballintoy Parish

On Sunday the Sexton of Ballintoy Leslie Heaney was thanked for 50 years service to his Church and Church Family on Ballintoy Select Vestry.

People's Churchwarden Sharon Walker read a poem to mark the occasion and Leslie was presented with a watch and a prayer book.

Leslie is currently Rector's Churchwarden in his 50th year of service. Well done good and faithful servant!

St Patrick's Way is open

St Patrick's Way is open for the season starting Saturday April 27 with Downpatrick walk to Inch Abbey, and Saul Church.

More details available from The Saint Patrick Centre or contact 02844 619000. Looking forward to meeting the

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pilgrims on
another
adventure.



27 complete Lay Funeral Ministry training in Down & Connor

27 Lay men and women representing 14 parishes from across the diocese completed their Lay Funeral Ministry training. They will be Commissioned by Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ in the coming week.

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A diocesan spokesperson said, “We give thanks for their “Yes” and stepping forward to give of their time and talents to support Funeral Ministry within their parishes.

“Thanks also to Anne McDermott, Paddy Shannon and Fr Paul Byrne who facilitated the training. Please hold these new Funeral Ministers in your prayers as they begin their ministry”.

Parishes urged to consider applying to C of I Priorities Fund

Parishes in the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe have been urged to consider applying to the Church of Ireland Priorities Fund which was set up in 1980 to support areas of ministry and social responsibility which were deemed to be in need.

The fund’s chairman, Roy Totten, was invited to address clergy from right across the diocese today by Bishop Andrew Forster, who felt that parishes here could be benefitting more from it, by devising projects that met the fund's objectives and could draw down financial support. Mr Totten told the meeting in the Diocesan Centre that, since it was set up, the fund had allocated more than £21m in grants to parishes right across the church.

When it was first established, he said, the priority in the Church of Ireland was “spiritual and not material – in other words people and not buildings. We’re really keen to help you to reach out to people.”



Mr Totten (photo above) explained how the fund operated. It was supported by “generous giving” in parishes in every diocese of the church. The committee then had “the responsibility and the privilege” of redistributing that money to projects which met certain criteria, to the tune of between £500,000 and £600,000 a year.

“Finances are focused on projects which help congregations to grow spiritually and to connect with people outside your worshipping communities,” he explained. There were four categories: training – lay and ordained; Christian education (to develop RE in schools, support children’s ministry and provide Christian education for adults); outreach initiatives – to encourage new and creative projects, including church plants and missional areas; and innovative ministry in a rural context, to encourage projects in sparsely populated areas, in rural or village settings.

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Around half of the applications for funding fell within the ‘outreach initiatives’ category. “What we won’t do is pay a salary,” he said, “but if it’s something that is new within your parish and reaches people, we are willing to help with it. Grants can be for a two-year period but one thing you’ve got to understand is that we do not provide continuous funding for projects.”

Mr Totten encouraged parishes in sparsely populated areas consider starting projects that fell within the ‘innovative ministry in a rural context’ category. “We to find new forms of ministry that connect with rural communities,” he said.

Parishes were advised to visit the Priorities Fund website – <https://priorities.ireland.anglican.org> – for more information. Applications for support are open from April until the end of October, and the committee then spends four months deciding which projects to support.



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Clergy also heard about the benefits for parishes of engaging in global mission partnerships with dioceses in other countries. They heard a presentation from Crosslinks' Mission Director, John McLernon, and its Ireland Team Leader, Richard Balmer, about some of the missionary work they do in more than 30 countries around the world.

<https://www.facebook.com/DerryAndRaphoe/posts/749417420708828>

Researching the youth ministry landscape in the Church of Ireland

The Church of Ireland Youth Department (CIYD) has thanked everyone who has so far taken the time to complete the online survey for its youth work audit.

The research project is seeking to assess the full picture of how youth ministry takes place across the Church.

National Youth Officer Simon Henry said: “Can I please encourage clergy, youth workers and key volunteers to assist us with completing our online research survey for youth ministry?”

“The data collected will benefit the whole Church, and of course individual dioceses, so we can see an accurate landscape of youth ministry across the island and be challenged to better serve our young people and grow them in Christian faith and discipleship.”



It's essential that enough parishes complete the survey to ensure that the results give an accurate and representative picture of youth ministry in parishes across the Church of Ireland, and all parishes are encouraged to take the time to fill in the survey accurately between now and the submission deadline of Friday July 12 2024.

If anyone has any questions or queries with regards to the survey, or needs the link to the survey to be emailed to them again, or needs assistance in completing it, please contact

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Olive Good at olivecgood@gmail.com or on 00 353 87 245 1310.

The survey takes around 15 minutes to complete.

Simon added: “We look forward to hearing what you tell us, so we can support you in the best way possible going forward.”

Clerical appointments and introductions

Rector of Leckpatrick - The Rev Andrea Cotter, was instituted as Rector of Leckpatrick and Dunnalong, in Derry & Raphoe diocese on Friday evening at a service in a packed St Patrick's Church in Ballymagorry.

Present at the service were many of her new parishioners from Breaady and Ballymagorry, parishioners from All Saints Clooney - where she had served her curacy – and friends from Ballymena where she had lived prior to her ordination.

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Rt Rev Andrew Forster, earned loud cheers at a celebratory supper afterwards when he told guests that Andrea had come from the Diocese of Connor – for whom her husband, Richard, worked – but that he thanked God for having brought her to "the Promised Land" of Leckpatrick and Dunnalong. More at -

<https://www.facebook.com/DerryAndRaphoe/posts/750173163966587>

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Rector for Magheracross Parish (Ballinamallard) - The Revd Lorraine Capper, Rector of Galloon (Newtownbutler), Sallaghy and Drummully Parishes in Clogher Diocese, has been appointed incumbent of Magheracross Parish, Ballinamallard following a meeting of the Board of Nomination.

Bishop Ian Ellis, welcoming the appointment said; “I am delighted with the appointment of Revd Lorraine Capper as Rector of the parish of Magheracross. She brings a wide range of experience and talents to this new position, foremost of which are her enthusiastic personality, administrative ability and commitment to pastoral ministry.

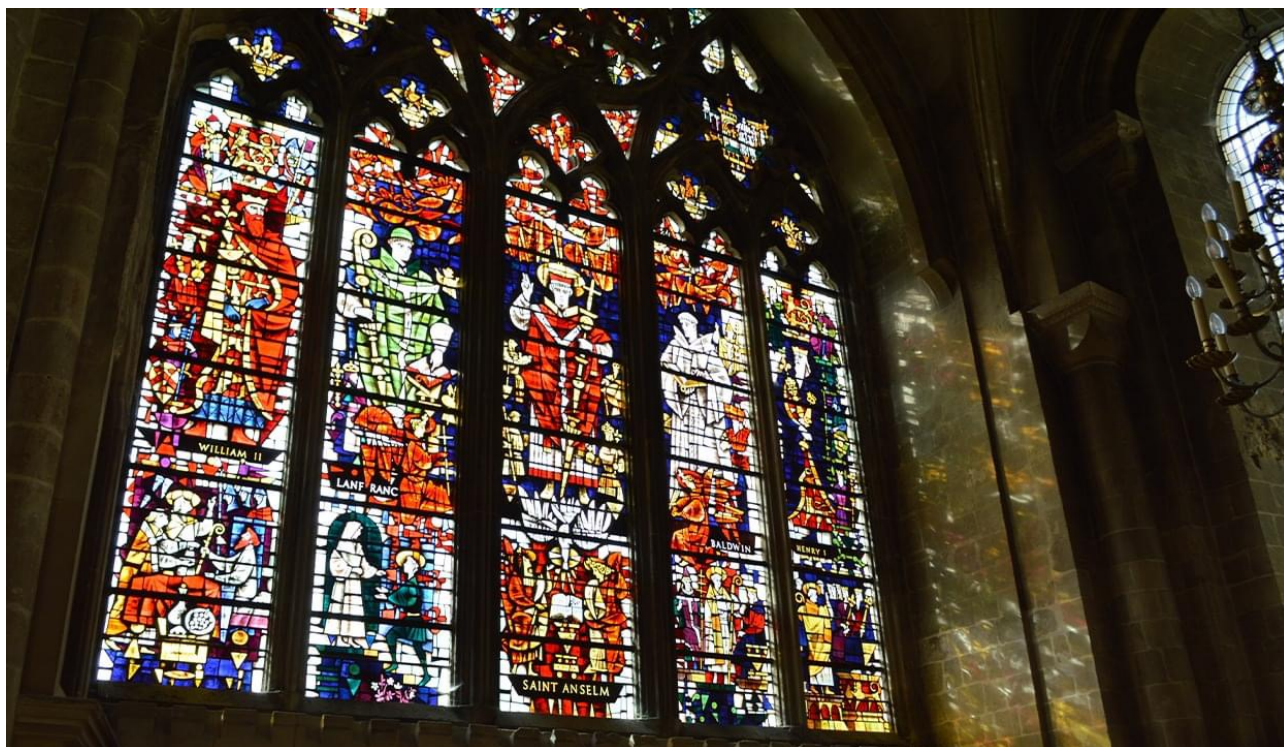
“I know she will be much missed in her former parishes of Galloon, Sallaghy and Drummully where she also served as Rural Dean of Clones. I look forward to continuing to work alongside Revd Lorraine in her new parish where her many gifts will soon be recognised and appreciated by parishioners.

Revd Lorraine commented; “It has been a great privilege to serve the people ... More at -

http://clogher.anglican.org/News/newsevent.php?id=1325&utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=facebook

Cathedral Call

St Anselm's Chapel Canterbury



This week includes the commemoration St Anselm, former Archbishop of Canterbury, who died in 1109.

Anselm is famed for his proposal of the ontological argument for the existence of God, and is commemorated in the Cathedral with his own chapel.

A Festal Holy Communion for St Anselm (date transposed) was held in the Chapel of Our Lady Undercroft, in the Crypt.

Easter Celebration of Faith in St Fin Barre's on 25th Anniversary of Bishop's episcopal ministry

An Easter Celebration of Faith in Cork, Cloyne and Ross on the occasion of Bishop Paul Colton's 25th

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Anniversary as Bishop was held on Sunday, 14th April 2024.

The Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Right Rev. Dr Paul Colton, invited representatives from all across the Diocese as well as civic representatives to come together for an Easter Celebration of Faith and ... Continue reading →

https://churchofirelandcork.com/2024/04/19/an-easter-celebration-of-faith-in-cork-cloyne-and-ross-on-the-occasion-of-bishop-paul-coltons-25th-anniversary-as-bishop/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=facebook

The History of England's Cathedrals

by Nicholas Orme (Author)

The first history of all the English cathedrals, from Birmingham and Bury St Edmunds to Worcester and York Minster

England's sixty-two Anglican and Catholic cathedrals are some of our most iconic buildings, attracting millions of worshippers and visitors every year. Yet although much has been written about their architecture, there is no complete history of their life and activities. This is the first such book to provide one, stretching from Roman times to the present day.

The History of England's Cathedrals explains where and why they were founded, who staffed them, and how their structures evolved. It describes their worship and how this

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changed over the centuries, their schools and libraries, and their links with the outside world.

The history of these astonishing buildings is the history of England. Reading this book will bring you face to face with the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, Normans, Reformation, Civil War, Victorian England, World War Two, and finally modern democracy.

Prices vary see-

[[https://www.google.com/search?q=The+History+of+England%27s+Cathedrals+by+Nicholas+Orme+\(Author\)&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-gb&client=safari](https://www.google.com/search?q=The+History+of+England%27s+Cathedrals+by+Nicholas+Orme+(Author)&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-gb&client=safari)]

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

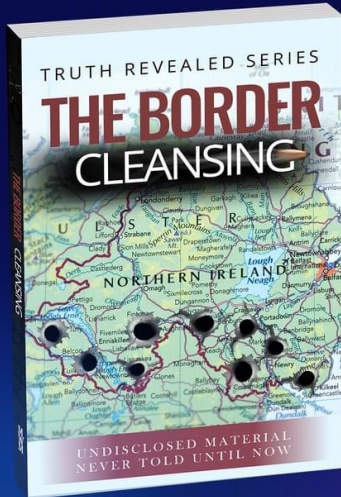
Border cleansing testaments

Norah Bradford SRN and Rev. Robert Bradford MP lived behind bulletproof glass and doors, always vigilant, even during something as seemingly simple as a picnic.

Despite their precautions, IRA snipers would sometimes target their church car park as they left services. But it was a tragic day in a community hall in Belfast that changed everything. While children celebrated a birthday party, Robert was in an adjacent room, providing assistance to his

BELFAST get ready!

The Border Cleansing event is coming



Hosted by award winning **George Jones**

Popular BBC NI Radio and TV presenter during the Troubles
Survivor of the Abercorn Restaurant bombing

A night of music & songs from 70s-80s by 'Heart & Soul Band,' with heart-felt stories, and so much more



Special guests



Norah Bradford
Widow of
Rev. Robert Bradford MP
A former nurse, Norah trained as a counsellor and helps other victims



Alan Black
Sole survivor of
Kingsmill massacre
Alan was shot 18 times and left to die



David Hearst
As a child he stared into the eyes of his sister's murderer. Later his father was murdered.



Danny Kennedy
Kingsmill Paperboy
Related to Alan Black, Danny knew many of the slain men

Edith Kenny & daughter
Survivors of the Mountain Lodge Church Massacre
Edith, with the hymnbook her daughter was holding when pierced by a bullet

Saturday 18 May 2024, 7.30pm

Glenmachan Church (Kindly loaned)
Glenmachan Road
Belfast, BT4 2NN
(One mile from Belfast City Airport)

To reserve your seat - tickets are only £10
Purchase at www.TruthRevealedSeries.com/events

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Items and replicas from crime scenes will be on display



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One goal - To give you the best

Over 500 people attended our last event. Book early to avoid disappointment

constituents. Terrorists stormed in, indiscriminately firing upon the innocent attendees, ultimately taking his life because of his steadfast opposition to their ideology.

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Norah will bravely share her harrowing tale, recounting how, later in life, she found herself unexpectedly face-to-face with her husband's killer on a public platform.

Support for this event is pouring in from both near and far, a testament to the impact of their story and the resilience of the human spirit.

For tickets visit www.TruthRevealedSeries.com and press Events.

Harps at St Brendan's C of I, Birr

Cruit Éireann / Harp Ireland, in partnership with The Trench Trust, are delighted to announce a second in their harp concert series at St Brendan's Church of Ireland on Saturday 18th May 2024 at 7.30pm.

Cruit Éireann / Harp Ireland was established in 2017 in partnership with The Arts Council | An Chomhairle Ealaíon to support the continuing evolution of the harp and its music. This year, our concert in Birr will celebrate diversity and collaboration with performances from The Mulcahy Family and pedal harp and clarinet duo Dathanna.

Mick, Louise and Michelle Mulcahy of Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick play a dazzling array of instruments between them but it's the sweetness and tunefulness of their ensemble playing that is most striking. Their latest family album 'The Reel Note' has received worldwide acclaim, an album full of soulful traditional music and was awarded Trad Connect Album of the Year in 2017.

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Harp and Clarinet duo Dathanna, featuring Fiona Gryson and Berginald Rash is forged in friendship, mutual respect and joyful musical collaborations that highlight the timbral beauty, emotive expressiveness, and unique pairing of the harp and clarinet. Both Fiona and Berginald are celebrated concert artists nationally and internationally with a wide repertoire and long history of musical success and will perform a selection of repertoire from their debut album release, Dathanna: Hues and Shades, featuring an array of popular classics.

Tickets for Harps at St. Brendan's Church of Ireland, Birr, on Saturday 18th May at 7.30pm are available at <https://bit.ly/3Uk6OL9>

New Freeview on VC of Kilkeel: The Story of Robert Hill Hanna

The NVTV documentary, funded by Northern Ireland Screen's Ulster-Scots Broadcast Fund, celebrates the heroic life of Robert Hill Hanna, born in Kilkeel and awarded the Victoria Cross for valour in WWI while serving in the Canadian Expeditionary Force

Follow his son, Bob Hanna, on an emotional journey uncovering his father's early life and enduring impact on April 1, 2024.

Watch on Freeview channel 7 & 159 on Virgin, and the NVTV Ulster-Scots website: ulsterscots.nvtv.co.uk.



St George's Singers 40th anniversary concert

Hayley Howe (left) who sang with the St George's Singers in their 40th anniversary concert said "It is always an absolute pleasure; A joy to work alongside the multi-

talented Mark McGrath accompanied so sensitively by the wonderful David Stevens and fabulous Gill Adair’.



First Belong to God: *On Retreat with Pope Francis*

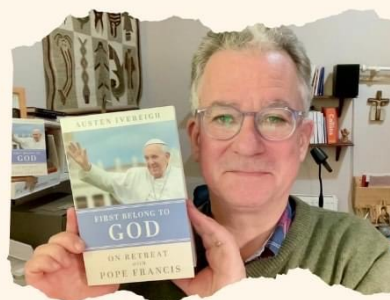
A Talk by Dr Austen Ivereigh

During his research into the Latin American Church Dr Ivereigh discovered two texts of retreats given by Pope Francis when he was still Fr Bergoglio. They testified to Bergoglio’s skill as a retreat facilitator and the fact that he was much in demand as a spiritual director. Using these texts and the growing body of Pope Francis’s teachings, Dr Ivereigh has written a book entitled ***First Belong to God: On Retreat with Pope Francis***, which links the teachings of Pope Francis with their spiritual roots in his experience of the *Spiritual Exercises* of St Ignatius of Loyola. This is an invitation both to those who lead the *Spiritual Exercises*, and those who may be called to experience them, to do so with the help of Pope Francis.

Austen Ivereigh is a Fellow in Contemporary Church History at Campion Hall, Oxford, and a biographer of Pope Francis. A well-known journalist and commentator, Ivereigh has written widely on Church affairs and on the Francis papacy for publications such as, The Tablet, Commonweal, The New York Times, Crux, America Magazine and Thinking Faith, to name just a few. He is a frequent guest on the BBC and other media.



Belfast Jesuit Centre
Saturday
27th April
3pm



Copies of the book will be available to purchase on the day.

To Book

Visit:
www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk for the link to book, or contact us by email or phone. Details below.

Belfast Jesuit Centre
193 – 195 Donegall Street, Belfast BT1 2FL

Email
belfastjesuitcentre@gmail.com

Phone
0770 631 6319

April 23, 2024

On retreat with Pope Francis - talk by Dr Austen Ivereigh

Less than a week to go to register for this event where we will welcome Dr Austen Ivereigh back to the Belfast Jesuit Centre to discuss his latest book, "First Belong to God: On Retreat with Pope Francis". Click the link to register.

<https://forms.gle/kzEdnADbNM8AjrMP9>

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
