

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Another day, another cathedral

April 6, 2024

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The crypt in Salerno Cathedral with the relics of St Matthew the Evangelist.

See Cathedral Call pages below for - Derry Boy Choristers, St Macartan's Clogher MU Anniversary. and Scottish cathedral marks 800th anniversary with special malt whisky

News

Meet Up Tuesdays project a hit in Ardkeen local community

Meet Up Tuesdays is a new outreach project at Christ Church Ardkeen that is already attracting people of all ages from the local community.

The drop-in began in late February and is initially to run for 3 months, but it's going from strength to strength with 19 folks coming along last week to enjoy crafts, chat, and light refreshments.

Diocesan Lay Reader, Melanie Houston, is helping to lead the church, and is very encouraged by the response.

“We're seeing all age groups drop into the hall on Tuesdays—



women and men – including a gentleman who is learning to knit as he has wanted to for years! It’s especially encouraging that around half of those attending don’t belong to Ardkeen. We’ve also found that the project is strengthening bonds among those who do come to church.”

What is Meet Up Tuesdays?

Each Tuesday from 10.30–12.30 the church hall is open and local people welcomed to drop in for conversation, refreshments, and the opportunity to begin crafting projects, all free of charge. It’s an opportunity to make new friends and explore new interests.

There are several crafters among the six volunteers who can teach the basics to get people started, and if crafting isn’t your thing, you are more than welcome to drop in for a cuppa and a chat. There’s also a book nook where books can be browsed or borrowed or donated and a play corner with toys and art materials for young children.

Melanie continues:

April 6, 2024

“At the heart of this project is our desire to show the love of the Lord Jesus in action, so that those who do not already know Him may be drawn to Him, and those who have drifted away from the Lord may come to walk more closely with Him.

“Meet Up Tuesdays is all about planting seed. We are starting with a small allotment, but our hope is, that with God’s help, there will be growth and development. The workers are few, but we will plant and water, knowing that it is God who gives the increase.”

Resplendent Easter cross at Rathmichael

‘He is not here;
He is Risen’!
Happy Easter
from all at
Rathmichael!
This year’s
Easter cross is
truly
resplendent.
“Thank you to all
who helped in
recent days,
which made for
a truly
memorable
celebration of
the resurrection
this morning.”



Lisburn churches join once again for annual walk of witness in city centre



On Good Friday city centre churches came together in Lisburn for the annual Walk of Witness, Julie-Ann Spence writes in Northern Ireland World.

The annual Walk of Witness is a public demonstration of the Christians coming together to remind everyone of the ultimate sacrifice that Christ made for all mankind to receive hope and new life.

Representatives from the local churches carried a cross through Bow Street to Market Square, where a short service was held.



Rev Dr David Bruce (1st Lisburn Presbyterian), Rev Gareth Campbell (Curate - Christ Church Parish), Rev Lee Boal. (Curate - Lisburn Cathedral), Pastor Brian Agnew (Lisburn City Church), Shirley Carrington (Seymour Street, Methodist), Father Dermot McCaughan (St Patrick's Chapel), Rector at St. Paul's the Rt Rev Darren McCartney, and Archdeacon Paul Dundas (Christ Church Parish) were all involved with the service. Sarah, Abaana Choir Director, and the children from the Abaana New Life Choir also took part in the 2024 Good Friday Walk of Witness in Lisburn City Centre.

Roscrea's annual 'Walk the Cross' a poignant procession

The event saw people take part in a procession through the streets of the heritage town, Darren Keegan writes in the Midland Tribune.



Roscrea's poignant annual ecumenical event and procession through the town - the 'Way of the Cross' - took place in Roscrea on Good Friday and saw a large group of people join the procession through the streets of the heritage town.

It began in St Cronan's Church Abbey St, travelled to The Methodist Church on The Mall, on then to The Oasis Fellowship Gaol Rd and finished in St Cronan's Church Church St.

At each Church a part of the Good Friday Gospel was presented in video or prayer or text or hymn or a combination of those elements.

The walk was well attended with at least 60 participants and was completed within one hour in thankfully dry weather.

April 6, 2024

“Thank you to all who shared and particularly those making each church so welcoming for us all”, the organisers said after the event.



At each Church a part of the Good Friday Gospel was presented in video or prayer or text or hymn or a combination of those elements.

Cathedral Call

St MacCartan's Cathedral, Clogher, 120th Anniversary of Mothers' Union branch

“Ladies & gentlemen, you are invited!

“On Sunday 14th April at 3.30pm, we are holding a special service of celebration in the Cathedral to mark the 120th Anniversary of our Mothers' Union branch. Our friends Murley Silver Band will be leading our hymns, and the RUC

April 6, 2024

Women's Choir will be singing. Following the service afternoon tea will be provided in the Cathedral hall. See you there".



Derry Cathedral Boy Choristers

...were appreciated for their excellent singing at the Easter Services...

Scottish cathedral marks 800th anniversary with special malt whisky

To commemorate the 800th anniversary of the laying of the first foundation stones of Dornoch Cathedral, a unique cask of malt whisky has been filled.

Dubbed 'Cathedral Spirit,' this special whisky was set aside on 1st April, St Gilbert's Day, and aged for 15 years in storage.

Scheduled to be uncorked and bottled in 2039, it will coincide with the 800th anniversary of worship services commencing at Scotland's smallest operational cathedral.

Profits from the sale of bottles will be put towards the upkeep of the building, which has three stained glass windows, donated in memory of the Scottish/American industrialist Andrew Carnegie, who often holidayed at his Skibo estate nearby.

Rt Rev Sally-Foster-Fulton, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, is expected to visit Dornoch Distillery to observe the cask being put aside.

Dornoch Cathedral's history is marked by turmoil, including a devastating fire in 1570 and desecration of Gilbert's tomb during a clan feud between the Murrays of Dornoch and the Mackays of Strathnaver.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



Spring Agape Lecture

The Spring Agape Lecture, sponsored by Belfast South on Wednesday, 17 April 2024 @ 7:30pm features:

Rev. Steve Stockman & Fr. Martin Magill

Their topic: Vocational Friendship in a Divided Society

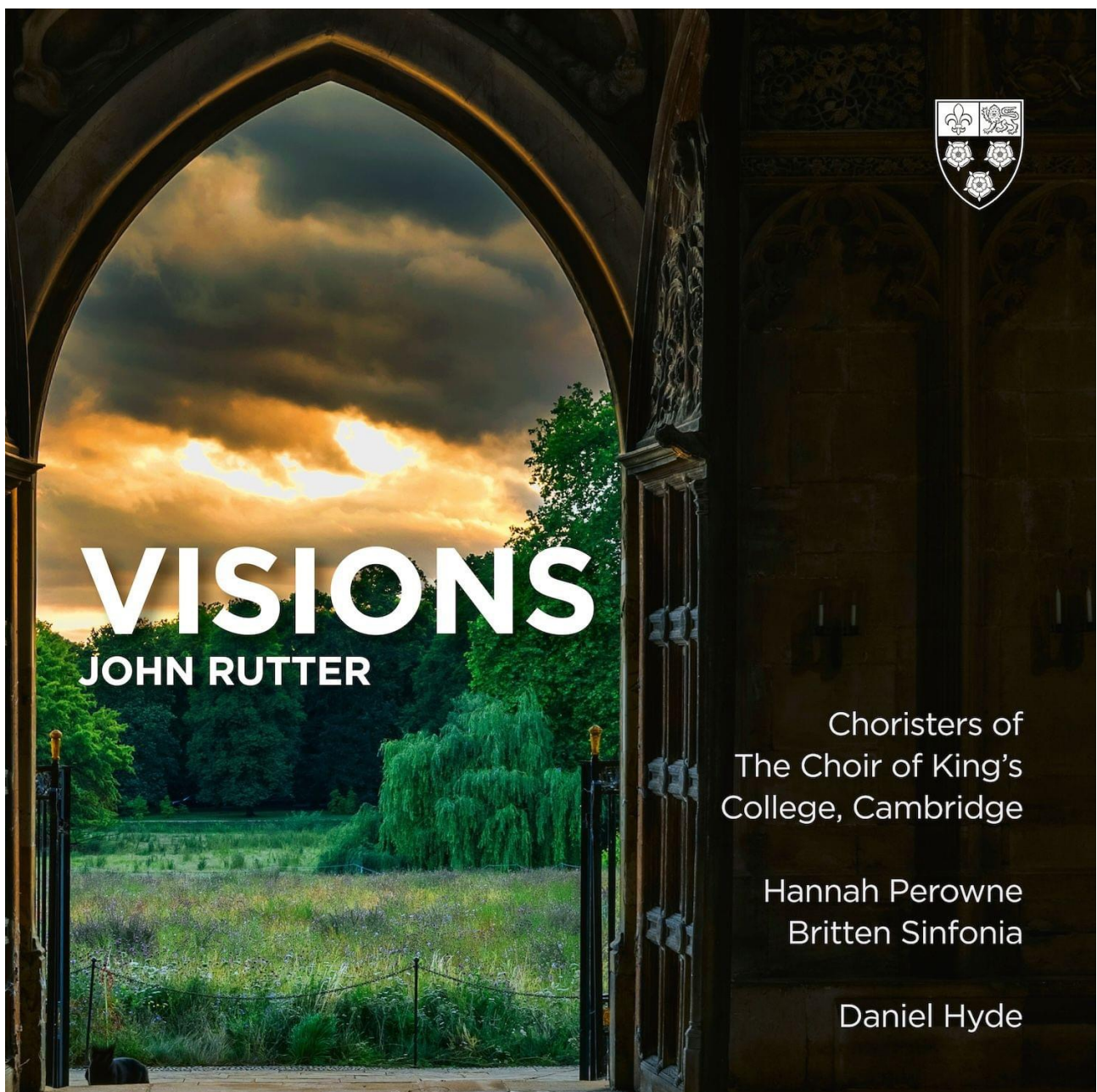
Steve and Martin will share their experiences ministering in our turbulent, complex, all-too-human society in

April 6, 2024


conversation with one another and with us. This is an opportunity to share in discussion with two leading clerics renowned for their creative and courageous leadership.

The event is public, open to all. It will also be on YouTube. For further information, contact: thinkingaloudseminar@icloud.com

Visions by John Rutter



VISIONS
JOHN RUTTER



Choristers of
The Choir of King's
College, Cambridge

Hannah Perowne
Britten Sinfonia

Daniel Hyde

April 6, 2024

“If you’re hearing 'Visions' for the first time, you might actually not recognise it as something that I’ve written, and in fact it is rather unlike anything I’ve written before.

“Here's the new recording with the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, the Britten Sinfonia, and violinist Hannah Perowne, recorded in the matchless acoustic of King’s College Chapel.

“What an incredible recipe for something that turned out to be a recording that seemed almost effortless and to have come from heaven. It couldn’t have gone better. JR”

<https://buff.ly/3TF8gq7>

Faces from the Past - Armagh County Museum

An exhibition comprising a selection of portraits from a variety of artists in our collection now on display in the temporary gallery space.

This week's portrait by Harry R Douglas (1862-1934) is entitled RG McCrum Esq, JP, DL (1909).

Robert Garmany McCrum (1828-1915) was a successful linen manufacturer and owned the company McCrum, Watson and Mercer. He built the mill village of Milford beside his factory which employed hundreds of workers and he was a prominent member of several public bodies including Armagh County Council. He also gave generous financial



support to the First Armagh Presbyterian church where there is a stained glass window to his memory. (36.1973).

The exhibition continues until 25th April 2024.


Admission is Free


Opening time Mon-Sat 10am - 4pm


IRELAND AND THE BIRTH OF EUROPE


An exhibition
2-30 April 2024

Dungiven library,
107 Main Street,
Dungiven BT47 4LE



 An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

 IRELAND
eu50

 UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOibscóile Corcaigh

Ireland and the Birth of Europe

Dungiven Library is hosting the 'Ireland and the Birth of Europe' exhibit during the month of April 2024.

This richly illustrated exhibition tells the story of the part played by Irish scholars and missionaries in the early history

April 6, 2024

of the European idea. Available to view between 3 April until 30 April during library opening hours.

In the media



Sculptor Imogen Stuart (Photograph: Conor Horgan)

Hot Press - Irish-German sculptor Imogen Stuart dies at age 96

Imogen Stuart was a prominent figure in Irish sculpture, known for her distinctive works adorning churches and public spaces across Ireland, Dylan Cardona writes for Hot Press.

April 6, 2024



A painting

Imogen Stuart RHA & Maria Simmons Gooding RHA by Mick O'Dealmogen Stuart, (née Werner)

April 6, 2024

a pioneering female artist and one of Ireland's leading sculptors, has died. Born in Berlin in 1927, Imogen Stuart's artistic legacy spans over seven decades, leaving a lasting mark on Ireland's cultural landscape. Her remarkable career saw her creating an extensive array of sculptures, each bearing her unique and expressive style.

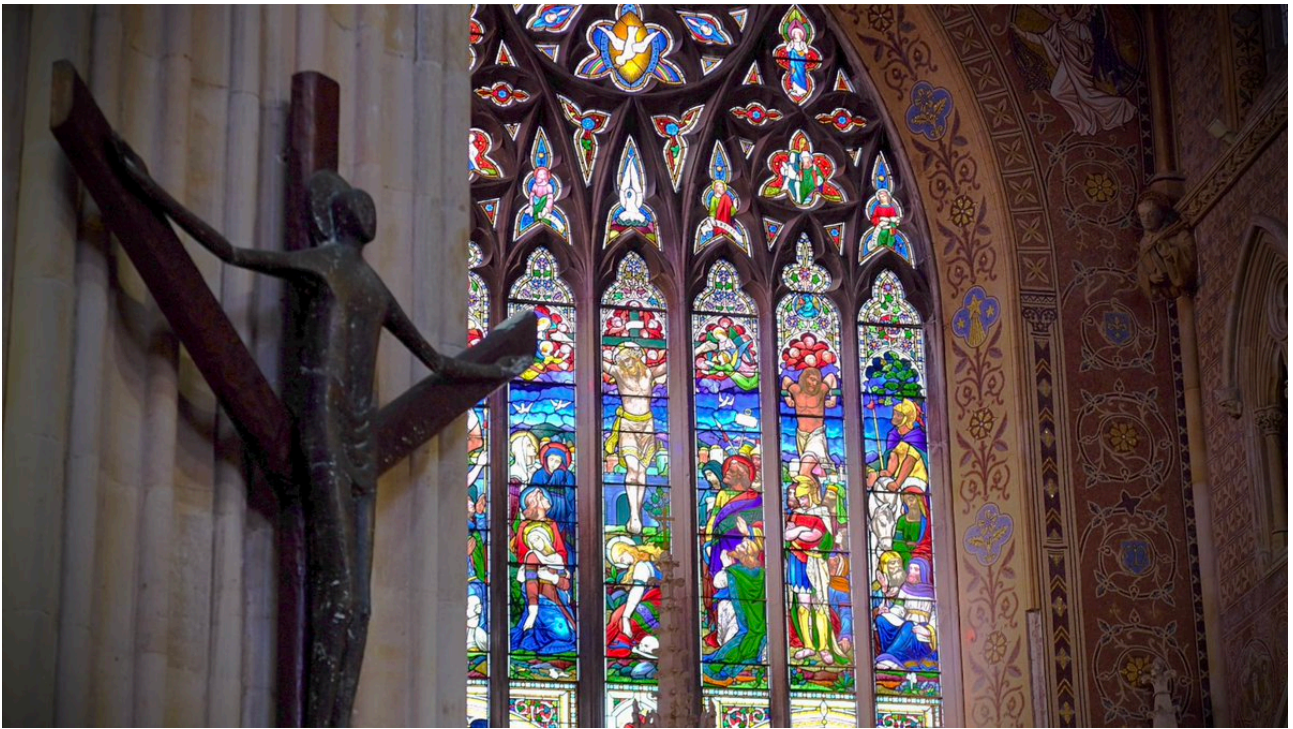
Moving to Ireland in 1949 after marrying Ian Stuart, Imogen Stuart's art was influenced by both her German heritage and the artistic traditions of her adopted homeland. Throughout her career, Stuart's sculptures blended German expressionism and native Irish art, culture and beliefs.

Stuart's works decorated numerous churches and public spaces, including the Angel of Peace at St Teresa's Carmelite Church in Dublin, the ornate doors of Galway Cathedral, and the iconic Flame of Human Dignity in Paris.

In a post on X, Dublin Castle wrote: "Today (25th March, 2024) marks the death of Imogen Stuart, the German-Irish sculptor. She was one of Ireland's best known sculptors with work in public and private collections throughout Europe and the U.S.

Recently Dublin Castle (OPW) hosted the IMOGEN exhibition in the Coach House Gallery (November 2023 - February 2024) which exhibited the diverse range and breadth of Stuart's work over seven decades.

We are very sad to hear of her death, but honoured to have displayed some of her remarkable work on site."



As a tribute to the renowned artist and sculptor, Imogen Stuart RIP, Archbishop Eamon Martin presents an Easter meditation on her 'Tree of Life' crucifix in St Patrick's Cathedral Armagh. Link <http://youtu.be/MlopIBXmvIA?>

Stuart was honoured with membership of Aosdána and the title of Saoi in 2015. Her last major design was unveiled in May 2022, and is a granite standing stone, Stele, carved by Ciaran Byrne, on a hillock adjacent to the Forty Foot in Sandycove with carved representations of King Laoghaire and St Patrick on two sides.

That work was officially unveiled by President Michael D Higgins. Opening a 2022 retrospective of her work in Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, Mr Higgins said: "As a nation we can be deeply grateful to Imogen for her great spirit of generosity and for the rich wealth of public art which has so enhanced our society and our shared environment."

Irish Examiner - President Higgins leads tribute to Ms Stuart

President Higgins said Ms Stuart made "a singular contribution to the enrichment of the lives of so many throughout Irish society, not only through her inspiring and challenging work, but by her committed vision of art as an essential public good, something that must for that very reason be accessible and available to the public.

"As a nation, we are all deeply indebted to Imogen for this great spirit of generosity and for the rich wealth of public art which she has left us and which, not only for our generation, has so enhanced our society and our shared environment, but will give joy to future generations," he said.

President Higgins said he and his wife were fortunate to call Imogen a friend "for many years" and that the couple have always been "fervent admirers, not only of her work, but of this generosity of spirit to which I refer that has ensured that her beautiful sculptures have become firmly rooted in the public space to be shared by all.

"Not only on behalf of Sabina and myself, but on behalf of all who will continue to encounter her work, may I express my deepest condolences to Imogen's daughters Aisling and Aoibheann, and to all of her family and many friends," he added.

April 6, 2024

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
