

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Birmingham Cathedral

Image of the day

Birmingham Cathedral

Birmingham Cathedral is the oldest building in the city centre still used for its original purpose. The cathedral is home to some remarkable treasures and the largest green space in central Birmingham.

“We are honoured to have four beautiful stained-glass windows, designed by Pre-Raphaelite artist Edward Burne-Jones, which were fully conserved and returned to their original glory in 2023.

“We promote community cohesion through partnerships with faith groups, businesses, institutions, and charities, as well as undertaking an important civic role in the city.

“We are free to visit, and all are welcome to attend services, light a candle, or simply enjoy our beautiful historic building”

[<https://birminghamcathedral.com/>]

News

Mothers' Union Mums in May support for Cork



Mothers' Union Cork says - "It was wonderful to be able to drop in a whole selection of kitchen items to Edel House, Good Shepherd, Cork.

"Thank you to the All-Ireland Mothers' Union Mums in May fund for a generous grant which allowed Mothers' Union Cork to support homeless women and children in this way."





PCI Malawian mission online

Volker and Jinhyeog Glissmann, are Presbyterian Church Ireland's global mission workers in Malawi
PCI comments - Give thanks to God for the team that have been brought together, including Volker, to write a new course. Pray that technical challenges would be overcome as they meet online from different locations. Continue to pray for the health and safety of the Glissmann family.

Royal Maundy recognition of teacher's contribution

Jim Bunting of Down & Dromore diocese was one of this year's recipients of the Royal Maundy.



Accompanied by his wife, June, Jim received his Maundy purses from Her Majesty Queen Camilla at the special service during Holy Week at Worcester Cathedral.

Jim, who had a 40 year career in education, including 24 spent as Principal of two different schools said: “I was very surprised and honoured to be chosen by the Bishop to represent Down and Dromore on such an occasion. The music and splendour of Worcester Cathedral were awe inspiring.”

Bishop David McClay nominated Jim for his contribution over many years to the life of the Church of Ireland.

He said, “Jim Bunting has been a longstanding member of the Church of Ireland General Synod Board of Education, the Down and Dromore and Connor Board of Education, various committees at central church level and diocesan level including the General Synod of the Church of Ireland and Diocesan Council for Down and Dromore. At a local level he has served his own parish of St Mark’s Newtownards for countless years on the Select Vestry and in other voluntary roles within his local area. Jim has also for

April 9, 2024

many years served as one of the Directors of the Church of Ireland Orphan and Children's Society for the Counties of Antrim and Down. The Board supports Church of Ireland children and families in need within its geographical area.

“All of the above roles are voluntary and in each, Jim has served with loyalty and integrity.”



90th Anniversary of Dedication of Bessbrook War Memorial

The Royal British Legion Bessbrook Branch marked the 90th Anniversary of the Unveiling and Dedication of the Bessbrook War Memorial.



A parade was led from the RBL hall to the memorial in Charlemont Square by Tullyvallen Silver Band. This was followed by a Service of Commemoration.

Saturday 7th April 1934 saw the unveiling of the Memorial in Bessbrook. The Memorial commemorates the 86 sons of the village and takes the form of an obelisk in white marble and Newry granite.

April 9, 2024

Following the service at the War Memorial a commemorative plaque was unveiled as a tribute to Dr Edwin Fitzgerald O'Connor, at his former residence, 'Bellevue', Bessbrook. Dr O'Connor was instrumental in getting the War Memorial in place for the people of Bessbrook and District.

Vicar holds 'micro services' for busy people

A vicar has introduced 15-minute "micro-services" to tempt busy worshippers back to church.

The Revd Dr John Gillibrand says he is bringing in the shortened services because churchgoers are facing greater time pressures preventing them from being in attendance.

The services at Llandeilo Tal y Bont (Pontarddulais) with Penllergaer, in a rural town near Swansea, are among a growing number of churches in Britain trying to combat a longer-term trend of depleting congregations. Sunday church attendance is just 80 per cent of what it was in 2019, Telegraph analysis revealed in February, and it has more than halved since 1987. Last year, figures showed that parishes are closing at a record rate, prompting fears that the Church had been "dealt a death knell".

Almost 300 parishes have disappeared in the past five years alone – the fastest rate since records began in 1960.

At Penllergaer, part of the Church in Wales, Rev Gillibrand believes his is the first church in Wales to bring in the

April 9, 2024

weekly “micro-service” sessions to help worshippers “find peace in a troubled world”. They will take place every Monday at 4.45pm, starting later this month. “[It] is most striking to me as the parish priest is how much pressure individuals and families are under, and so that’s why we came up with this idea of a short church service.”

Change of leadership at The Anglican Alliance

The Anglican Alliance announced yesterday that after a decade of leadership, its current Executive Director, The Revd Canon Rachel Carnegie, will be stepping down from the role in mid-October 2024 to take up other international church and development work.

Mums in May
BIG H Y M N S I N G
ME BIG Hymn Sing
Lislimnaghan Parish Church
Omagh BT78 5NJ
Thursday 11th April 2024
at 8.00pm

OMAGH & STRABANE
Mothers UNION
Christian care for families



Rachel said, “It has been such a delight and privilege to have led the Anglican Alliance over the last ten years serving our beloved Communion. I give thanks for the amazing collaboration from superb colleagues, networks and partners around the world. I look forward to seeing the next season of the Alliance’s work flourishing with the brilliant team continuing under new leadership.”

Archbishop Albert Chama, Primate of the Church of the Province of Central Africa and Chair of the Anglican Alliance Board said, “Together with the excellent Alliance global team, Rachel has served with joy and commitment, for which we give great thanks... She leaves the organisation in an excellent place, and we now look forward to recruiting her successor to lead the Alliance into the future.”

April 9, 2024

Bishop Anthony Poggo, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion said, “Rachel will be truly missed. Her leadership of the Anglican Alliance and commitment to poverty reduction, advocacy, relief and development has been driven by her faith in Christ Jesus... She is leaving a strong and committed team who will continue to draw on her legacy while moving forward with the new Executive Director. My prayers and support go with her as she ventures on to pastures new.”

Templemore Mothers' Union invites you to a



SPRING
COFFEE
MORNING

SATURDAY 20th APRIL

in
The Diocesan Centre, London Street

10.30am-12.30pm



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
The Dioceses of Derry & Raphoe

PROCEEDS to MUMS in MAY 2024

April 9, 2024

A Communion-wide search for a new Anglican Alliance Executive Director to take forward the mission of the Alliance is underway, and the closing date for applications is May 6.

The Anglican Alliance invites prayer for it at this significant time.

To read the full announcement, visit - <https://bit.ly/3VQIzGJ>
To apply and find out more about the role, visit - <https://bit.ly/3U6hKfu>

Cathedral Call



Cantemus NI at Belfast Cathedral

April 9, 2024

Cantemus NI was grateful to Belfast Cathedral for the invitation to sing at Sunday's services. It was a fresh chapter for Cantemus with its newly appointed Musical Director Ben McGonigle who commented, "It was a privilege to be part of Cantemus NI and sing with this wonderful group of people".

Peterborough Cathedral's Blue lights worked

Peterborough United went off to Wembley on Sunday for the final of the Bristol Street Motors Trophy & the Very Revd Chris Dalliston, Dean of Peterborough, supported Posh all the way. A special prayer was said and the Cathedral was lit in blue and white, in the hope that they would bring the trophy home... And they did.



Canterbury's Taizé Lunchtime Prayer

"All are welcome to come and experience this way of praying - Mondays (15 April - 15 July)* - 12:30-13:00 in the

April 9, 2024

Eastern Crypt - as we connect with God and one another through sound and silence”.

In person only. Excluding some dates.

Find out more: <https://ow.ly/O0s250Qyftx>



REV'D CANON DR JASON BRAY ANNOUNCED
AS NEW DEAN OF LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL

CYHOEDDI CANON Y PARCH DR JASON BRAY
FEL DEON NEWYDD CADEIRLAN LLANDAF

Next Dean of Llandaff Cathedral

Bishop Mary with delight announced that the Rev'd Canon Dr Jason Bray has accepted her invitation for him to become the next Dean of Llandaff Cathedral.

April 9, 2024

Jason is originally from Merthyr Tydfil, and he has served his entire ordained ministry in the Church in Wales since his ordination by Bishop Rowan Williams in 1997. Other than during his time at university and training for ministry he has always lived in Wales, and he has liturgical and basic conversational Welsh.

Jason is currently Vicar of St Giles' Wrexham which is part of the Major Churches Network and is Wales' largest mediaeval parish church and he is a Canon of St Asaph Cathedral.

Read more: <https://llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk/en/news-and-blog/new-dean-for-llandaff-cathedral>

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

The Organ Podcast with Thomas Trotter

The latest episode of The Organ Podcast catches up with Thomas Trotter in Birmingham Town Hall, where he reflects on more than 40 years as City Organist, his successful career as a recitalist, and the importance of curiosity, learning and new music in keeping his musicianship fresh. See photo next page.

Find The Organ Podcast wherever you get your podcasts, or visit <https://theorganpodcast.buzzsprout.com/>



Church Choir Award 2024

Financial support of up to £10,000 from Cathedral Music Trust, with additional resources provided by the Royal School of Church Music - RSCM

Cathedral Music Trust is delighted to be working in partnership with the Royal School of Church Music to recognise and develop excellence in choral music-making by church choirs, and to give them the opportunity to take their work further.

Choirs are invited to apply to Cathedral Music Trust for up to £10,000 for a specific, innovative or enriching project, lasting up to one year. There is a limited budget for this

April 9, 2024

award, and we anticipate not being able to make awards to all choirs that apply. You can find further information about projects the Award could support here. Award holders will also receive one year's group membership of RSCM and one year's free access to RSCM's Voice for Life digital training programme.

A choir is eligible for the Church Choir Award if it regularly performs cathedral-style choral repertoire in a liturgical context to a high standard. Read the full Eligibility Criteria.



April 9, 2024

Key dates for 2024

Friday 5 April - Application window opens

Friday 19 April, 12 noon - Webinar on applying

Wednesday 15 May - Application deadline

July - Announcement of successful applicants

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss an application in advance of submission, please get in touch by emailing programmes@cathedralmusictrust.org.uk or calling our office on 020 3151 6096.

Yale Organ Academy deadline extended

Application deadline extended to April 15 - The Institute of Sacred Music will hold the Yale Organ Academy from June 23-28, 2024 in New Haven, CT.

This will be a unique and enriching educational opportunity for advanced undergraduate organ students to work with some of the nation's top artists/teachers on the Yale University campus—Lynne Davis (Wichita State University), Martin Jean (Yale University), Nicole Keller (The University of Michigan), Robert McCormick (Westminster Choir College), and James O'Donnell (Yale University). Learn more:

Besides the \$75 nonrefundable deposit, all other tuition fees and costs for room and board are covered by the Institute of Sacred Music. Learn more: <https://ism.yale.edu/events/yale-organ-academy-2024>

Poem for today

The Fisherman by William Butler Yeates

Although I can see him still—
The freckled man who goes
To a gray place on a hill
In gray Connemara clothes
At dawn to cast his flies—
It's long since I began
To call up to the eyes
This wise and simple man.
All day I'd looked in the face
What I had hoped it would be
To write for my own race
And the reality:
The living men that I hate,
The dead man that I loved,
The craven man in his seat,
The insolent unreproved—
And no knave brought to book
Who has won a drunken cheer—
The witty man and his joke
Aimed at the commonest ear,
The clever man who cries
The catch cries of the clown,
The beating down of the wise
And great Art beaten down.

Maybe a twelve-month since
Suddenly I began,
In scorn of this audience,

April 9, 2024

Imagining a man,
And his sun-freckled face
And gray Connemara cloth,
Climbing up to a place
Where stone is dark with froth,
And the down turn of his wrist
When the flies drop in the stream—
A man who does not exist,
A man who is but a dream;
And cried, “Before I am old
I shall have written him one
Poem maybe as cold
And passionate as the dawn.”

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

April 9, 2024