

# Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Climb the Corona**

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## Image of the day

# Climb the Corona at Canterbury Cathedral

### **New and for a limited time only - 'Climb the Corona' Tour**

The Corona Chapel was built in the 12th century to house the crown - corona in Latin - of St Thomas Becket's skull, which had been sliced off during his murder and was revered as a saintly relic.

Explore the Chapel, usually closed to the public, before climbing the 95 steps to the top of the Corona Tower itself!

£15 per person. Cathedral admission not included. Over 16s only.

Monday-Friday, 15:30-16:15 (19 August - 13 September)  
Bookable on the day only - Book at our Visitor Centre.

Find out more at [www.canterbury-cathedral.org/whats-on/events/climb-the-corona-tour](http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/whats-on/events/climb-the-corona-tour)

\*Please read full tour information and restrictions before booking.

You will be required to sign a disclaimer on the day, to confirm you have understood and will abide by the tour guidelines and restrictions.\*

# News



## Dunluce parish stamps all over Church Missionary Society

**It's always good craic when visitors pop into the CMS Ireland office. Maureen and Billy Creighton came with a huge bag of used stamps from the good folks of Dunluce parish.**

“These will now be trimmed and sorted. A great way to upcycle and release funds for mission! A big thank you to all our stamp volunteers...always space for a few more.”



## Restoration Station at Church of the Holy Spirit Mossley

**Good to hear - "We had another great night at The Restoration Station (our Holiday Bible Club).**

**Sincere thanks to all the**

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boys and girls who did brilliantly once again, and to all the leaders who were amazing. Looking forward to tomorrow evening at 6.15pm”.

## Homes available now at St Paul's Court, Lisburn

**St Paul's Court, is a supported housing scheme specially designed to meet the needs of adults with mild to moderate dementia. Click on the website below for more info.**

“We have homes available to let at St Paul's Court which is situated on the Ballinderry Road, Lisburn in a quiet residential area, close to shops, local amenities and public transport”.

## Refreshments being served in the Ramoan Parish Centre



beside the Co-op



Monday during **Lammas Fair**

10am till 4pm

**Sandwiches**

**Tea/Coffee**

**Tray Bakes**

**Soup**

**Scones**



Ramoan and Culfeightrin

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The accommodation is comprised of fifteen bungalows in an attractive courtyard setting and a further eight apartments.

More information on our website

<https://www.choice-housing.org/find-a-home/available-housing/st-pauls-court-ballinderry-road-lisburn>

## **New churches avoiding the term 'church,' report reveals**

**An independent report has revealed that some dioceses in the Church of England have stopped using the word “church” to describe the “new things” being established in their parishes.**

The report, *New Things: A Theological Investigation into the Work of Starting New Churches Across 11 Dioceses in the Church of England*, found that around 900 “new things” have been started in the past decade, with none of the eleven dioceses using “church” as the primary descriptor.

Published by the Centre for Church Planting Theology and Research at Cranmer Hall, Durham, the report is based on research conducted between November 2022 and June 2023, including interviews with representatives from the eleven dioceses.

The Rev Will Foulger, Vicar of St Nicholas’s, Durham, authored the report, highlighting that each diocese operated with a “unique ecclesiology.”

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Six dioceses used “worship” as the main descriptor for these new initiatives, two used “congregation,” and seven used “community.” The report notes significant differences across dioceses, particularly concerning traditional ecclesial forms like worship and sacraments, with only one diocese using a designator explicitly rooted in Anglican sources.

The report raises concerns about the impact of this “new ecclesial language” on the Church of England’s theology, questioning whether these emerging forms might force a redefinition of what constitutes a church within the denomination. The rapid development of this language is “affecting an operant theology” and shaping diocesan mission and ministry.



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The report seeks to clarify the Church's reasons for its actions and to address gaps in the theology behind national and diocesan strategies, encouraging a more faithful approach moving forward.

## **Death of foremost C of E bishop in Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission - ARCIC**

**The death took place on 14 August 2024, in his eighty-eighth year, of the Right Reverend Mark Santer who served as co-chairman of the second Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC II) from 1982 to 1999.**

In the course of many years of ordained ministry, Dr Santer served as an assistant bishop in the Church of England Diocese of London from 1981 to 1987, and as Bishop of Birmingham from 1987 to 2002.

Under his chairmanship, alongside Catholic co-chairman Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, ARCIC II published four reports, *Salvation and the Church* (1987), *The Church as Communion* (1991), *Life in Christ: Morals, Communion and the Church* (1994), and *The Gift of Authority* (1999).

In September 1987, as ARCIC II was beginning its work on *The Church as Communion*, Pope John Paul II visited the commission when it was meeting at Palazzola, near Rome. Speaking on behalf of the Anglican members, Bishop Santer told Pope John Paul that, “we perceive your visit as an example of that loving care for the unity of all the churches

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which we, as Anglicans, are coming to recognise afresh as one of the gifts which inheres in the office of the Bishop of Rome”.

The commission reflected further on this role in The Gift of Authority, the final document from Bishop Santer’s time as co-chairman.

## Cathedral Calls



### **Worcester Cathedral searches for past choir members to mark 150th anniversary**

**Worcester Cathedral is searching for its former choir members to mark 150 years of its voluntary choir.**

Affectionately known as ‘Vollers’, both children and adult volunteer choristers have worn the Cathedral’s dark blue cassocks for services since 1874.



In October the Cathedral will be marking 150 years of the choir and wants to include choristers of decades past in the celebrations.

Worcester Cathedral has commissioned Paul Trepte, former Director of the Voluntary Choir, to write a new anthem to mark the anniversary, which will be premiered at the service by the Voluntary Choir and Cathedral Choir. Former Vollers will sing in the baritone choir.

In recent years, the Vollers have become a junior choir of children and young people.

Assistant Director of Music at the Cathedral, Nicholas Freestone, told Premier: “The choir’s evolved over the past 150 years, but at the core it’s stayed the same.

“It’s a chance for the church to grow a distinctive group, who really worship through choral music.

“It’s a great honour to have led this fantastic choir into a new era, but I’m well aware of the tremendous legacy and heritage it has.”

That legacy includes anyone who has been part of it – including during what Nicholas describes as its “golden years” from the 1970s-90s.

“Lots of children and adults during the 80s and 90s based their community on relationships formed in the choir, and that’s something we still aspire to today,” Nicholas told Premier.

News of the celebration has already gained the attention of former members: “We’ll be joined by Dr Harry Brammer, who was Choir Director when it celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1974,” said Nicholas. “It will be quite the celebration.”

Former Vollers wishing to get involved can do so via the Worcester Cathedral website.

## **Sine Nomine Choir singing at Canterbury Cathedral**

**Join the clergy of Canterbury and visiting choir - Sine Nomine - online at Choral Evensong, with the admission of Neil Dicken as a Virger of this Cathedral and Metropolitan Church.**



Sine Nomine Choir Rugby was founded in 2001 to sing sacred repertoire to a high standard in cathedrals and churches.

The Choir supports many local charities throughout Warwickshire, giving concerts with a variety of sacred and secular music, and has sung in many cathedrals including St Paul's, Winchester, Worcester, Durham and York Minster, and St George's Chapel Windsor and Westminster Abbey.

The Choir is looking forward to this its fifth visit to Canterbury Cathedral to sing the services. Listen in at - <https://ow.ly/vFri50SVXFS>

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## Heritage

### The McClintock - Villiers Stanford Centenary

On Sunday, 25 August - an afternoon of music arranged by Michael Holohan, composer, with a guided history walk and talk by Bryan Rogers, historian, marking the friendship between Francis Le Poer McClintock, Rector of Drumcar, Raoul Coutourier de Versan and the famous Dublin- born composer Charles Villiers Stanford.

#### **Talk: The Twilight of the McClintock family at Drumcar.**

• Speaker – Bryan Rogers

On 25/08/2024, 2.30pm at CO LOUTH A92 FH27

3:30pm St Fintan's Church of Ireland, Drumcar, Co Louth.

#### **Extracts and tunes arranged by Michael Holohan from:**

1. The Complete Collection of Irish music 1905/ edited by C.V. Stanford.
2. A selection of piano pieces by C.V. Stanford performed by Michael Holohan
3. 'The Blue Bird' by C.V. Stanford (1852-1924).

Roisín Ward Morrow - violin

Breifne Holohan- guitar

Michael Holohan - piano

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Also featuring a **short talk on the McClintock memorial window** by J. Clarke and Sons (1926).

4:45pm Drumcar Rectory, Afternoon tea and reception.

Tickets €10 O'Neill's shop, Annagassan, Weldon's shop Dunleer or Annagassan and District Historical Society members

## **St Canice's cathedral is offering three events this year to mark the occasion**

**Friday 23rd: Family Drop in Workshop** including a visit to the Red book of Ossory!

**Saturday 24th: A walk to Kennyswell** from the Cathedral at 11am (now fully booked) and

**Saturday 24th: Wild Child Day:** Enjoy an exciting treasure hunt around the Cathedral!

Find out more on the website here:

<https://www.stcanicescathedral.ie/whats-on-events>

## **Edinburgh Tattoo crescendo for Irish Guards pepper**

**Royal eyes were focused on Irish Guards soldier Lance Corporal Jim Bell when he performed as Lone Piper at the Royal Edinburgh Royal Military Tattoo. Lance**

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**Corporal Bell of the 1st Battalion The Irish Guards is one of four military bagpipers who have the honour of being the Lone Piper who brings the Tattoo to a poignant close each night.**

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Patron of the Tattoo, took the salute on its opening night when Lance Corporal Jim Bell performed the solo.



The world-famous performance is staged on the magnificent Edinburgh Castle Esplanade and sees an incredible 800 dancers and musicians taking part.

Many Tattoo fans describe the Lone Piper performance as the most moving part of the show, and it is regarded as one of the greatest honours for a military piper.

He said: “It was a great honour. I was not only representing myself but the Battalion and Army music. I had to make sure my performance was spot on. I felt immensely proud when I finished.

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“I met Her Royal Highness after the show which was nice. She had a chat with all of us and she made you feel like you were the only person in the room.”

## **Dana’s ‘St. Brigid’s Song’ debuts to mark 1,500th Anniversary of Irish Saint’s death**

**Irish musician Dana Scallon explains how she was inspired to write a new song, commemorating one of her country’s three patron saints -**

Through narrow, winding roads with overflowing hedgerows, Faughart appears virtually untouched through the centuries.

I came to this ancient village a few months ago to visit St. Brigid’s Shrine.

Little did my husband Damien and I know how much we were to learn that day, or the unexpected impact St. Brigid — one of the patron saints of Ireland, along with St. Patrick and St. Columcille — was to have on our lives, especially as the faithful begin to mark the 1,500th anniversary of St. Brigid’s death, circa the year 525.

The shrine attracts thousands of visitors each year, but on the day we visited, we were almost alone, as we walked up a grassy slope to the glass-fronted oratory.

I could almost feel the presence of St. Brigid standing beside us, as I looked out at the same breathtaking views she must have seen as a young girl: Dundalk Bay and the Plain of Muirthemne to the south; to the east, the ancient

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Cooley Peninsula, with its myths and legends and to the north; Slieve Gullion mountain and the historic “Gap of the North,” the strategic mountain pass, where many a battle raged and many a life was lost.

Nestled on one of the hills that circle the imposing mountain of Slieve Gullion, this beautiful, peaceful Shrine of St. Brigid is divided by a country road into upper and lower sections. In the upper section, with its lush greenery and towering beech trees, St. Brigid’s Stream (Sruth Bhríde), flows by



**DERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO**  
**KNOCK**  
**SEPTEMBER 28 2024**  
**LED BY BISHOP DONAL McKEOWN**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 2:00 P.M.**  
**FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 3.00 P.M. WITH THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**  
FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT KAREN IN THE PARISH OFFICE AT ST EUGENE'S  
CATHEDRAL ON 028 7126 2894 OR [cathedral@derrydiocese.org](mailto:cathedral@derrydiocese.org)

modern Stations of the Cross, as it leads visitors down and across the road to the lower section to a small oratory along the banks of the stream to a tableau of the last Station of the Cross, the Crucifixion. It is truly holy ground steeped in centuries of prayer.

### **Fifth-Century Saint**

St. Brigid was born in Faughart, County Louth, around A.D. 451 or 452. Her mother was Broicsech, a captured Christian slave who was baptized by St. Patrick, and her father, Dubhthach, was a pagan chieftain of Leinster. Her father named her after the pagan goddess Brigid, but that is the only connection between the saint and the mythical goddess.

As a young woman, Brigid was renowned for her beauty and her learning, and despite his strong opposition, Brigid chose Jesus over her father's arranged

It is written that Brigid was a friend as well as a disciple of St. Patrick and that, with one heart, formed through Christ, these two pillars of the Irish people did many great works.

Brigid founded celebrated convents, monasteries and great places of learning. She was also recognized as a miracle worker. In biographies written by saints after her death, beginning with the Irish monk Cogitosus in A.D. 650, there are lists of miracles performed by the saint throughout her life.

One of her first miracles was the legend of her miraculous cloak. When the pagan king of Leinster refused to give Brigid land to build her dual monastery (one for women and

one for men) in Kildare, she asked if he'd give her the land her cloak would cover. Looking at her small cloak, the king laughed and agreed, but he was astounded when Brigid's cloak stretched to cover many acres of his prime land. Realizing that Brigid was truly blessed by her God, he gave her the land, became a patron of her monastery and later converted to Christianity. Treasured, illuminated Scriptures were created in this famous Kildare monastery.

Her teachings also remain vibrant today in St. Brigid's cross. She wove it out of rushes (a type of straw) as she comforted a dying pagan chieftain. When he asked her its meaning, she explained that, to save us, Jesus, the Son of God, died for us on a cross for the forgiveness of our sins. The dying man was so comforted, he was immediately converted and died a Christian. To this day, St. Brigid's crosses are still made each year on her feast day (Feb. 1) and hung in homes and barns, to protect families and livestock from evil, fire and hunger.

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

### Speak Jesus - Irish Methodist Youth & Children event

**The IMYC team invite you to join them to 'Speak Jesus' an evening of prayer, praise and food.**

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Hear stories of what God has been up to in the lives of young people and children over the summer and pray for young people, children, your friends, your school, your youth group etc as a new term begins.

Stories will be told at 5.30pm and then hourly.

Wednesday 4th September, 5:30-8:30pm  
Edgehill House, Belfast.

“Come for an hour, come for the night and let’s speak Jesus together”

## **Queen’s University’s Reboot gaming hub opens**

**Pac-man, pizzas and 30 state-of-the-art gaming PCs... the Reboot gaming hub has officially opened.**

Providing a unique and exciting new option for the students of Queen's and the people of Belfast, this alcohol-free venue is set to shake things up.

As well as retro favourite arcade games like Street Fighter and Mortal Kombat, Reboot boasts top-tier consoles like Nintendo Switch, Xbox, PS5 and VR setups. There's also an incredible Esports Centre on the first floor, with PCs fit to host competitive events, group gaming sessions or individual play.

Find out more here: <https://ow.ly/cXih50T1S1N>

## **Diocese of Derry Annual Safeguarding Report**

**The Annual  
Safeguarding  
Report 2023 for  
the Diocese of  
Derry is now  
available to  
download from the  
Diocese website.**



This report provides an overview of the Safeguarding work across the Diocese.

The report is presented by the Safeguarding Committee who assist Bishop Donal McKeown DD, in Creating, Maintaining and Monitoring a Safe Environment for children and adults in all aspects of Church Life and activity within the Diocese of Derry.

Derry Annual Safeguarding Report at the Diocese website:  
<https://www.derrydiocese.org/safeguarding-report>

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## In the media

### **Hundreds of mourners bid farewell to 'much-loved' archbishop - Belfast Telegraph**

**Mourners have heard how Archbishop Noel Treanor was “a family man and much-loved friend of many people” as the esteemed cleric was laid to rest in west Belfast.**

The former Bishop of Down and Connor died on Sunday in Brussels after suffering a heart attack at the age of 73, Kurtis Reid writes

His funeral Mass took place yesterday (Tuesday) morning at St Peter's Cathedral, where hundreds of people gathered to pay their respects, while thousands watched the service online — including hundreds in the Vatican.

Born on Christmas Day in 1950 in Co Monaghan, Archbishop Treanor grew up in the parish of Tyholland. He was ordained a priest in 1976 for service in the diocese of Clogher in St Macartan's Cathedral, Monaghan, during which he served as curate and hospital chaplain in Monaghan town and in Enniskillen, as Director of Adult Education and in 1986 as Coordinator for the Diocesan Assembly of Clergy.

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He was a member of the Council for European Affairs of the Irish Bishops Conference and was ordained as a bishop in St Peter's in 2008.

The former Bishop of Down and Connor was appointed by Pope Francis as apostolic nuncio to the European Union last year, representing the Holy See in Brussels.

In attendance at his funeral Mass were representatives from the Vatican, alongside Deirdre Newell from the offices of the President of Ireland, Commissioner for Financial Services at the European Union Mairead McGuinness, and the Lord Lieutenant of Belfast Fionnuala Jay-O'Boyle, who represented the King.

The service was delivered by Bishop Alan McGuckian who said the Archbishop was a family man at his core and had left a community in shock.

“Here at his funeral Mass, we remember that Archbishop Noel was a family man and much-loved friend of many people; he was a very accomplished individual; a priest, a bishop, an archbishop, a papal nuncio.

“All of those things are hugely important but on his funeral day we are invited to remember that none of those is the most important.

“The most important thing is that Noel Treanor was baptised and born into a new life in Christ. The words written by St Paul to the Romans that we heard earlier were meant for him.”

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During the Mass, Bishop Alan McGuckian also reiterated Archbishop Treanor's commitment to his work within Europe, noting “many people” gathered in Brussels on Friday to pay tribute to his work in COMECE, Justice and Peace Europe and his role as apostolic nuncio to the EU.

“We all know about his deep commitment to the European project.

“That was born out of a desire to forge a shared, life-giving culture in a situation of terrible division manifested at its worst in the horrible excesses of the Second World War.

“Noel saw that the great leaders of the recently warring nations had striven to create something in common that was authentically secular and inclusive.”

Mourners also heard a message from Cardinal Pietro Parolin, the Secretary of State of the Vatican, who commended the Archbishop's “devoted and faithful service to the people of God”.

“Expressing deep gratitude for Archbishop Treanor's devoted and faithful service to the people of God in this local church, to wider Irish society, the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the EU, and to the Apostolic See, his Holiness joins you in commending his soul to the mercy of Christ the Good Shepherd.

“To those gathered for the Mass of Christian Burial and to all who mourn the late Archbishop in the sure hope of the Resurrection, the Holy Father cordially imparts his blessing as a pledge of peace and consolation in the Lord.

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“On behalf of the superiors of the Secretariat of State, and in my own name, I send sympathies together with our prayers for Archbishop Treanor's eternal rest.”

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## 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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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Posted early Monday to Saturday

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