

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – Remembering Herbert O'Driscoll**

## Image of the day

### Remembering Herbert O'Driscoll

*Photo - Herbert (left) with Peter*

**Thomas Herbert O'Driscoll 1928 - 2024**

**Dean & Rector, Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver, BC  
1968 – 1982**

**By Peter Elliott, Dean & Rector, 1994–2019**

It wasn't only Bible stories that he could bring to life; with a sweeping knowledge of western history, he could take a moment—a great thought, a paradigm shifting idea --and describe it in a way that would immediately reveal its significance, and then, with panache, connect it with today.

Whether it was Copernicus's theory that the earth was not the centre of the universe, or Descartes' enlightenment insight cogito ergo sum Herb took historical moments to illustrate how new worlds come into being through the power of thought. Bringing all of that into preaching, he spent less time doing theology focussing more on bringing the story from scripture to life. When it all came together, as it did so often in his speaking and writing, one was left spellbound, and somehow changed.

I first met him in 1981 and over the next 43 years our lives intersected frequently. And in February 1994, on the day of

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my interview with the Search Committee of Christ Church Cathedral, Herb was there as guest preacher; after the Sunday early morning Eucharist (which I snuck into) he greeted me and said, “If this comes your way, as I hope it will, I trust you will be as happy here as we came to be—and I say, ‘came to be’ because at first it was very difficult.”

It indeed did come to be, and in my 25 years as Dean, he was a frequent and welcome preacher at the Cathedral—delighting, in one visit just prior to a year long exodus from the building during the restoration of the interior, with a headline in the Cathedral’s magazine, “O’Driscoll Returns: Cathedral Shuts Down”.

Always gracious to Thomas and me, as a predecessor in the role of Dean, he gave me unqualified support. Our friendship continued after my retirement; I’ll miss receiving emails from him with articles attached and the simple note ‘thought you’d be interested in this’.

What turned out to be our last conversation was on Easter Day 2024; we had about 20 minutes together, and while we shared some memories, he was more interested in talking about the future of the church. He was always anticipating the future. I trust that he has now entered into that eternal city of peace where love reigns.

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For an excellent biography well organised and presented see -

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herb\\_O%27Driscoll](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herb_O%27Driscoll))

Likewise - Christ Church Cathedral (Vancouver)

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christ_Church_Cathedral_(Vancouver))

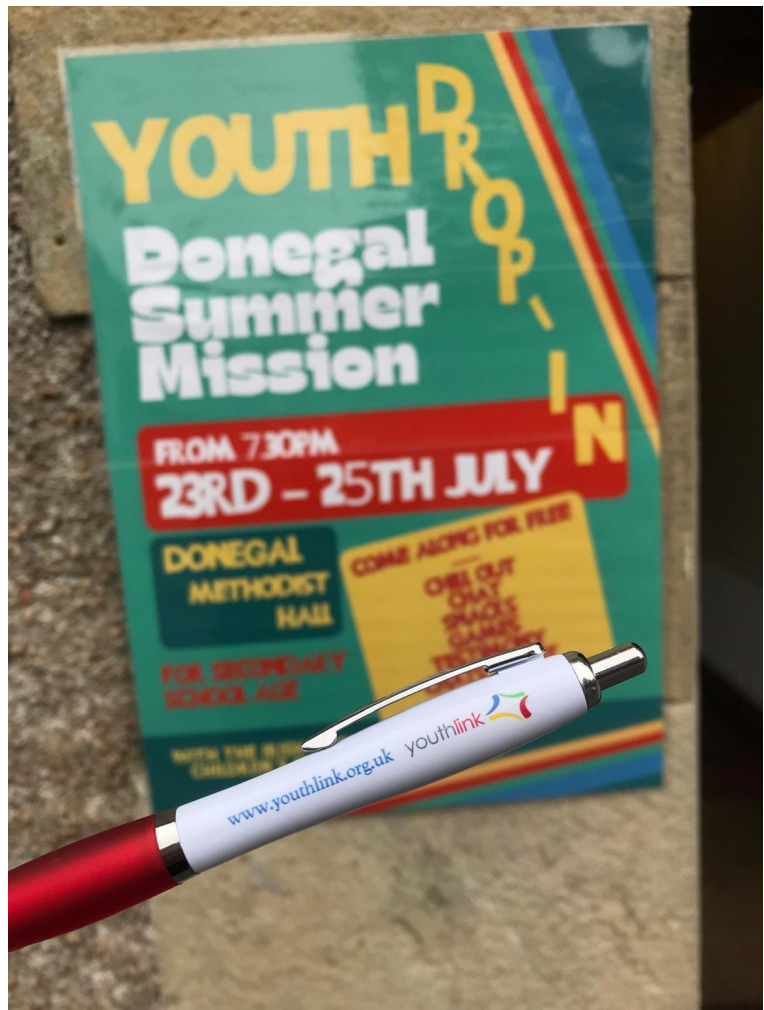
[Christ\\_Church\\_Cathedral\\_\(Vancouver\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christ_Church_Cathedral_(Vancouver)))



## News

### Summer mission in Donegal Town Methodist Church

Last week saw the final day of the summer mission and the final night of their



**drop in.**

21 young people came along to join in the games on the lawn at the back of the church and enjoy s'mores (roasted marshmallows between two chocolate digestives). Great banter, lots of laughter and good connections made.

Timothy shared some of his story of faith and the



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team shared the coolest thing about their relationship with Jesus. It was a great time of sharing and hearing stories of faith.

Prayers have been answered throughout this week. "Let's keep praying for these young people to see what can happen for them next."



## Waterford and Lismore remembers Bishop Lee

**"It was lovely to host Bishop Lee's family at St. John's Pastoral Centre on Thursday 25th July, together with Bishop Cullinan, Priests and staff, as the Conference**

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**Room was dedicated to his memory. The date was chosen as it was the anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination. Rest in peace Bishop Willie.”**



## **First Presbyterian church Armagh open for viewing and reflection**

**Throughout July and August, the Church will be open each week for viewing, prayer and quiet reflection on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11am - 3pm. Everyone is most welcome.**

## Three members of family gospel group are among seven killed in Wyoming plane crash

**Three members of family gospel group the Nelons were among seven who died in a plane crash in Wyoming.**

The Nelons co-founder, Kelly Nelon Clark, her husband, Jason Clark, and their daughter, Amber Nelon Kistler, died in the crash on Friday, according to a statement from another daughter, Autumn Nelon Streetman.

She is the only surviving member of the Georgia-based quartet.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit; for you have redeemed me, O God of truth. Keep us as the apple of your eye; hide us under the shadow of your wings.





‘We appreciate your continued prayers, love and support as we navigate the coming days’

The Nelons were inducted into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame in 2016 and were winners of 10 GMA Dove Awards, including multiple song of the year and album of the year awards. “Thank you for the prayers that have been extended already to me, my husband, Jamie, and our soon-to-be-born baby boy, as well as Jason’s parents, Dan and Linda Clark,” Ms Nelon Streetman said. “We appreciate your continued prayers, love and support as we navigate the coming days.”

The aircraft was identified as a single engine turboprop Pilatus PC-12/47E. The crash occurred at about 1pm some 250 miles north of Cheyenne, according to a statement from Campbell County spokesperson Leslie Perkins. Also killed in the crash were Nelon Kistler’s husband, Nathan Kistler, family friend Melodi Hodges, and Larry and Melissa Haynie, according to Ms Nelon Streetman. There were no survivors.

Larry Haynie was chairman of the Georgia Board of Corrections and was remembered for “a career of valued public service,” according to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp.

“Our entire family is asking everyone to join us in praying for those who have been lost, for their loved ones and communities, and for those throughout the gospel music community who have lost dear friends in this heartbreaking accident,” Mr Kemp said.

The group was travelling to join a cruise ship in Alaska which features numerous gospel singers and groups.



## **New Welsh First Minister is a 'committed Christian', says Archbishop of Wales**

**The Archbishop of Wales has congratulated Eluned Morgan on her appointment as the next First Minister of Wales, telling Premier Christian Radio she should "think the unthinkable about what Wales can become."**

Eluned Morgan, who has been described as a "committed Christian", ran unopposed as the first female First Minister of Wales. Vaughan Gething stepped down as head of Welsh Labour last Tuesday, following the protest resignation of four members of his government.

The Most Rev Andrew John said: "I send my warm congratulations on behalf of the Church in Wales to Eluned Morgan who is set to be the next First Minister of Wales, subject to Senedd approval. As Christians, we assure her, the Welsh Government and all those taking part in public life, whatever their political party."

Rev John told Premier Christian Radio: "I think [Eluned] has a number of really serious challenges to face.

"Our hospitals are underperforming in Wales. We do need some attention given to that. Also, poverty levels in parts of Wales are just eyewateringly high. Attending to those, as well as our education, and the needs of our children, who are behind the UK average.

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"But the most important thing is to engage the Welsh people in a conversation about what kind of society we want. What's the world in which we want to live in in Wales? And what do we need to do to achieve that now? Those are really big questions, and ones that the Church will resonate with very, very, strongly."

Morgan is married to Rhys Jenkins, a vicar and GP. She herself has a strong Christian faith.

Rev Andrew John said Eluned's faith "has informed her politics, and her decision to run for this role."

"She's there to represent all faiths, and none, and the whole of the people of Wales," he said.

"For people to believe that politics makes sense, they have to see the difference that they can have... Eluned's been surrounded by people. Ministry is essentially a people thing.

"So often, politics seems to be a top-down thing, divorced from the everyday concerns of people. [But] if she can almost think the unthinkable about what Wales might become as a society, she'll have done something extraordinarily powerful for women, [and] for those who have felt disadvantaged and deprived of a voice. I think those things are really important."

# Church News Ireland

# Cathedral Calls

## From St.Canice's to Dublin

Members of St.Canice's Cathedral Choir starting to assemble at Saint Canice's Cathedral yesterday morning ahead of the drive to Dublin to sing the Choral Eucharist and Choral Evensong at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.



## Making music in York this week

**St Wulfram's Church Choir, Grantham travel to York today to begin their week-long residency singing choral services in York Minster.**

This is their fifth residency in York and the scene of amazing memories from their tours in 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2019. It





is also the culmination of an amazing year for the choristers, youth choir and adult singers of St Wulfram's, including our first broadcast on BBC Radio 3 alongside our friends The Gesualdo Six.

The photo is from the choir's valedictory evensong a fortnight ago. "We have been rehearsing almost daily since, and we are delighted with how the choristers are singing as we have learnt a lot of new repertoire this summer term".

In addition to the 8 choral services they are singing, there is their lunchtime concert on Friday in the church of St Helen, Stonegate in York town centre.

## **PHOENIX at York Minster**

**Experience York Minster in a new light this autumn when the cathedral is illuminated with PHOENIX, a brand-new sound and light projection.**

### Dates and times:

The events will open on Saturday 19 October and run each evening until Saturday 2 November.

Monday to Saturday, the projection will start at 7pm, with booking slots available every 20 minutes until 9pm. Doors will close at 9.30pm.

On Sundays, the projection will start at 6pm, with booking slots available every 20 minutes until 8pm. Doors will close at 8.30pm.

The projection will be shown on a continuous loop throughout the evening. Visitors can stay for as long or as little as they like after their timed entrance slot, and are invited to move location in the Nave and experience the installation from a different perspective.

### Prices:

Tickets cost £7.50 each, or £25 for a family ticket for up to two adults and two children.

### Commemorative badges :

You can also pre-order a 'Restoration Rose' pin badge when you purchase your tickets. These will be available to collect when you arrive at the event.

The specially-created commemorative badges feature one of the winning Blue Peter boss designs, inspired by our iconic Rose Window surviving the flames.

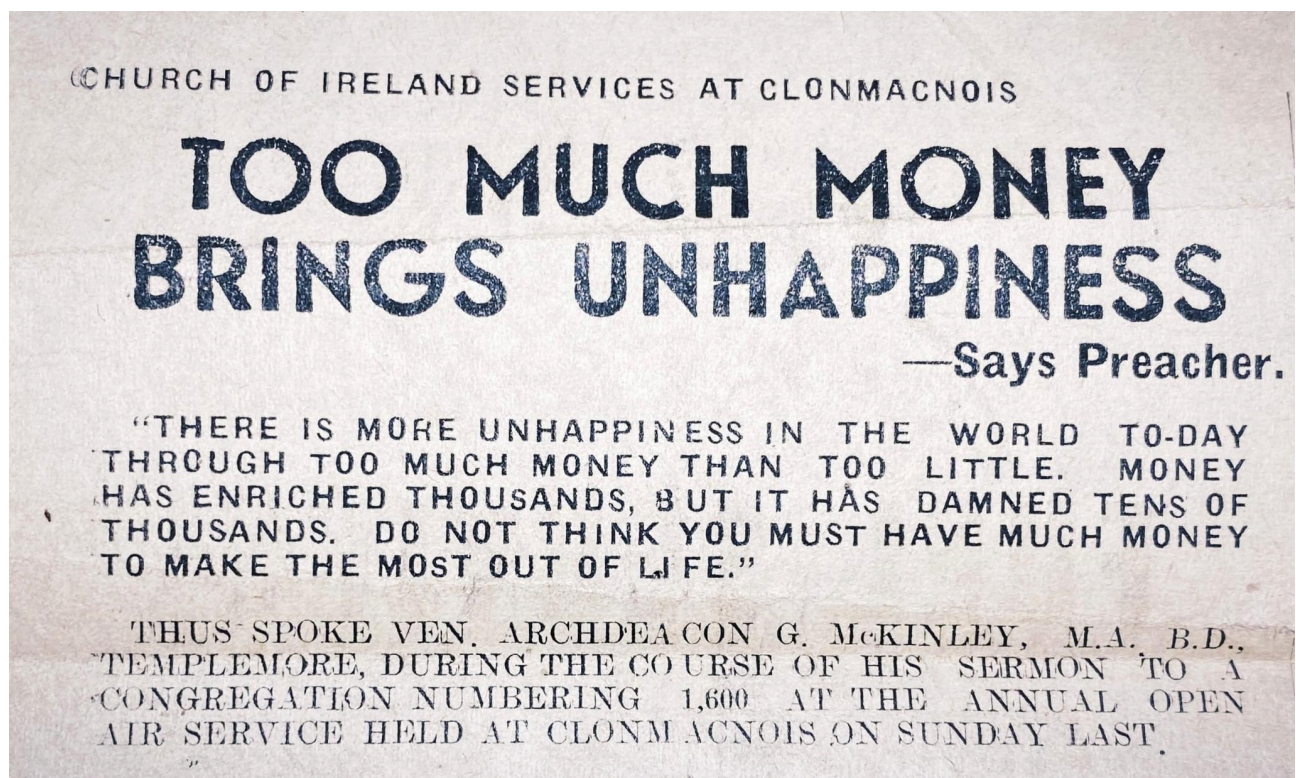


## Chester Cathedral Nave Choir in Beverley Minster

**Next week end Chester Cathedral Nave Choir will be on their way to Beverley Minster for their Summer residency.** They will be singing Evensong on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday as well as the Sunday morning Eucharist.

“If you’re going to be in the area, come and say hello!” Say the choir members

## Clergy and ministry



## Preaching in grandfather's footsteps at Clonmacnoise Open Air Service



**70 years ago, on the last Sunday in July 1954, Philip McKinley's grandfather, Archdeacon George McKinley preached at Clonmacnoise.**

Philip says "It was a good Christian socialist message to 1600 people in the ancient surrounds of Clonmacnoise monastery in Co Offaly. This afternoon, I get to follow in his footsteps, as this year's preacher at the Clonmacnoise Open Air Service".

## **Ministry with the Royal British Legion**

**The Rector of the Balteagh Group of Parishes, Rev Rhys Jones, has been appointed to the position of Deputy Chaplain, Royal British Legion Northern Ireland.**

In his new role, he will assist the recently-appointed Senior RBL NI Chaplain, Rev Dr Isaac Thompson, MBE, TD, DL in leading Remembrance events such as the Garden of Remembrance at Belfast City Hall and the annual Festival of Remembrance in Belfast Waterfront.

The Legion's Northern Ireland Interim Chair, Mrs Heather Spence, has welcomed both new Chaplains to their important roles within Royal British Legion and says she is looking forward to working closely with them as the organization moves towards Remembrancetide.

Rev Jones, who has been a member of Royal British Legion for most of his adult life, says he is honoured and humbled by the appointment. "I have been a member of Royal British Legion for around 25 years," he says, "and have long



admired its work on behalf of our serving and former servicemen and women.

“I am honoured to accept this appointment as Deputy Chaplain, Royal British Legion Northern Ireland. In doing so, I am mindful of the immense sacrifice that many in the armed forces have made on our behalf, so I accept this appointment, too, with a deep sense of humility.”

RBL is the UK's largest Armed Forces charity, with 180,000 members, 110,000 volunteers and a network of partners. It is at the heart of a network that helps members of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families, offering financial and employment support, assistance with medical rehabilitation, and help for those living with physical and mental ill health.

# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

## Services from the Summer Olympics Paris 2024

**Last Sunday, many joined the wonderful Holy Trinity Church Maisons-Laffitte pre-Olympic service.**

Two further services were streamed by BBC Radio 4 over the opening weekend for the Summer Olympics Paris 2024:

Radio 4 Daily Service: Friday 26th July  
<https://buff.ly/3Yl3zWi>

Sunday Worship: Sunday 28th July  
<https://buff.ly/3LYLB4N>

and another Daily Service on Friday 2nd August  
<https://buff.ly/3WiLiGz>

## Movement for Good 2024 large grant scheme open

**Ecclesiastical Insurance Ireland, in partnership with its parent company, the Benefact Group, is once again offering grants to support the work of Irish charities.**



This year, a generous €500,000 is up for grabs through the Movement for Good 2024 large grant awards, aimed at funding projects that will leave a lasting legacy in local communities.

Applications for the large grants of €10,000 or more are now open and close midnight on **Friday August 2**.

Charities supporting education and skills, rural or community development, heritage, arts or culture, and climate change or environment are invited to apply ONLINE.

This funding, which can be utilised over three years, supports both project and core funding costs, providing charities with the flexibility they need to dream big and achieve even bigger.

The Movement for Good Awards have been a beacon of hope for numerous Irish charities. With donations starting at €1,000 following public nominations and special grants of €5,000, these awards have already supported many in local communities. Last year, three Irish charities received large grants in excess of €15,000: Kids' Own Publishing Partnership in Sligo, Jigsaw, the National Centre for Youth Mental Health and A Sense of Cork Midsummer Arts Festival in Cork.

David Lane, Managing Director for Ecclesiastical Insurance Ireland, said: "We recognise the vital need for longer-term funding in the charity sector, especially when it comes to bringing ambitious new ideas to life and initiating transformative projects. Through our large grants, we are not just offering financial support, but a lifeline to innovation.

We empower charities to turn creative ideas into practical solutions that profoundly benefit society.”

## Perspective

### Wycliffe College and the Character of Anglicanism

**Stephen Andrews writes in *The Living Church*. Toronto’s outgoing principal reflects on seven hallmarks of Anglican identity that have kept it faithful to the Reformation heritage and responsive to a changing world.**

Wycliffe College came into being in the midst of a bitter dispute over what it meant to be Anglican. In 1883, a trust was set up for the Principal’s salary, “so long as such Principal shall be and continue a clergyman of the Church of England in Canada of strictly Protestant and Evangelical principles and of approved learning ability, piety and holiness of life holding and continuing to hold the doctrines of the said Church as expressed in the thirty nine Articles interpreted in their plain natural sense.”

The words of the trust may seem quaint and uncontentious to us, but in their day they were powerfully political. The phrase “the principles of the Reformation as embodied in the Articles of the Church of England” was a clear rejection of developments in the Diocese of Toronto whereby the sacramental theology of the church and its ritual in worship, along with the deference and privileges given to the

ordained, were understood to be a capitulation to the errors that gave rise to the Reformation in the first place. The capitulators were, of course, largely associated with our Toronto School of Theology colleagues across the street at Trinity College.

Each generation of Anglicans has to answer the question, “What does it mean to be Anglican?” Changing ecclesiastical contexts have meant that certain aspects of this tradition have been emphasized to the degree that it is hard not to think of the Anglican tradition in caricatures. In the early 19th century, Anglicanism was about liturgy; in the middle of the 20th century it was about scholarship; and perhaps in the early 21st century it is about the limits of diversity. This malleability, if you will, is itself one of the most problematic features of Anglicanism. But while we have had our fights and even schisms, there is something about the Anglican tradition that has made Anglican churches among the least fissiparous groups in Christendom.

So, what is the “Anglican tradition”? In the last year of my tenure at Wycliffe College, and in the expectation that the college will remain true to its heritage, let me set out what I regard as Anglicanism’s distinctive marks:

**It is a Reformed tradition** — Anglicanism is a reflection of the 16th-century Reformation that sought to redress erroneous doctrine and an abuse of power invested in the pope. Its Protestantism is, however, eclectic, borrowing as it does from the traditions of Lutheranism, Calvinism, Zwingli, and the humanism of Erasmus. One of the consequences of this is that the Anglican tradition did not become confessional. While being credal, no adherence to anything

like the Westminster Catechism, the Heidelberg Confession, or the Augsburg Confessions is required for membership in the Anglican Church.

**It is a biblical tradition** — the Reformation is itself an outcome of Bible reading. It is grounded in the conviction that Holy Scripture is “God’s Word written” (Article XX) and that the Bible belongs to the whole church, not just the priesthood or the academy. Tyndale’s determination that “the boy that drives the plough [should come to] know more of the Scriptures than the Pope himself,” and Cranmer’s conviction that Christians read the Bible “for reformation of their own life and knowledge of their duty,” led to the translation of the Bible into plain English and a comprehensive system of daily Bible reading (in which, over a year, the Old Testament is read once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalter 12 times).

**It is a liturgical tradition** — while the English Reformers rejected Roman Catholic doctrine they deemed “erroneous and strange,” they kept many of its forms of worship, and a number of the prayers most familiar to Anglicans come from the earliest days of the church’s existence. While the shape of modern liturgy has evolved to the extent that a congregational exchange between, say, Holy Trinity Brompton and All Saints Margaret Street might cause people to wonder if they actually belonged to the same church, a family resemblance can be recognized in the focus on the ordered reading of Scripture, in a rhythm of congregational responses, in standard forms for confession and absolution, in the frequent celebration of Holy Communion, and in the observance of a liturgical calendar.



**It is a continuous, episcopal tradition** — while politically the Church in England broke from Rome, it retained an episcopal order, and thus traces its roots to the order and practices of the ancient church. At the same time, Anglicanism does not “assert the exclusive validity of an episcopal polity.” Consequently, Anglicans enjoy fellowship with many folks from non-episcopal traditions.

**It is also a synodical tradition** — while Anglicanism has not been immune to the abuses of clericalism, since the early 19th century the governance of the church has been undertaken by synods in which the laity take an active role in the church’s administration.

**It is an intellectually curious tradition** — Anglicans are drawn to historical and theological debate because of the conviction that “truth is larger and more beautiful than our imperfect minds are able to apprehend or to conceive,” as Stephen Neill put it. One of the better expressions of Anglicanism is, therefore, what J.I. Packer called “a rational temper,” a willingness to stay in dialogue with those from whom we differ until intellect, conscience, and will become persuaded that we have reached a better understanding of the mind of Christ.

**It is a global tradition** — the result of a Roman Catholic mission to the British Isles in the 7th century, Anglicanism has an evangelistic legacy. Today the Anglican Communion is the largest Christian fellowship after the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches, with 85 million members organized in 42 autonomous and independent-yet-interdependent churches spread around the globe and in communion with the See of Canterbury. The national, ethnic,

cultural, and linguistic diversity of its membership makes for a rich engagement with the work of God's church around the world.

Much more could be said about the distinctiveness of the Anglican tradition, but let me conclude with one final conviction. To describe the Anglican tradition in this way is not to be triumphalist. One could well add to each of these feature a "yes, but." However, on the analogy of 1 Corinthians 12, I like to think of Anglicanism as a charism in the body of Christ. In its best moments, it is a beautiful charism, and we enrich Christ's holy catholic and apostolic church here on earth in our faithfulness to this tradition.

## Poem for today

### The River Roe

By Gerry Robinson

Time's realms honour this one time linen land, Where her river's currents roll in flowing wonder.

Oh, how the breeze whispers of your beauty,  
Nature's charm bows to your quaint presence.

When the new buds talk in amazing colour, Enlivened  
footsteps greet and meet your joyous places, Shades of  
delight shadow and crown, your dark water, Your journey  
carries the voice of historical times.

You have lost Finvola, your princess so fair. Greeted saints,  
inspired songs and blessed the clans, Carving poetic verse,  
throughout our pleasant, dreamy valley, You embody the  
winding, empowered catalyst, of our fertile soil.



Of a feisty persona, yet diversely deep and still. Revered colloquially, you are the heartbeat of our earth. Awash with life, the connoisseur of Heavenly singing. Your healing water is the messenger of saintly word.

The day laid to rest, night skies ambling down. Solitude's invading presence dims your illustrious pathway. Your contours carved by God, no rest for a weary eye. The bright blue summer dawn to keep.....

Gerry Robinson

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

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