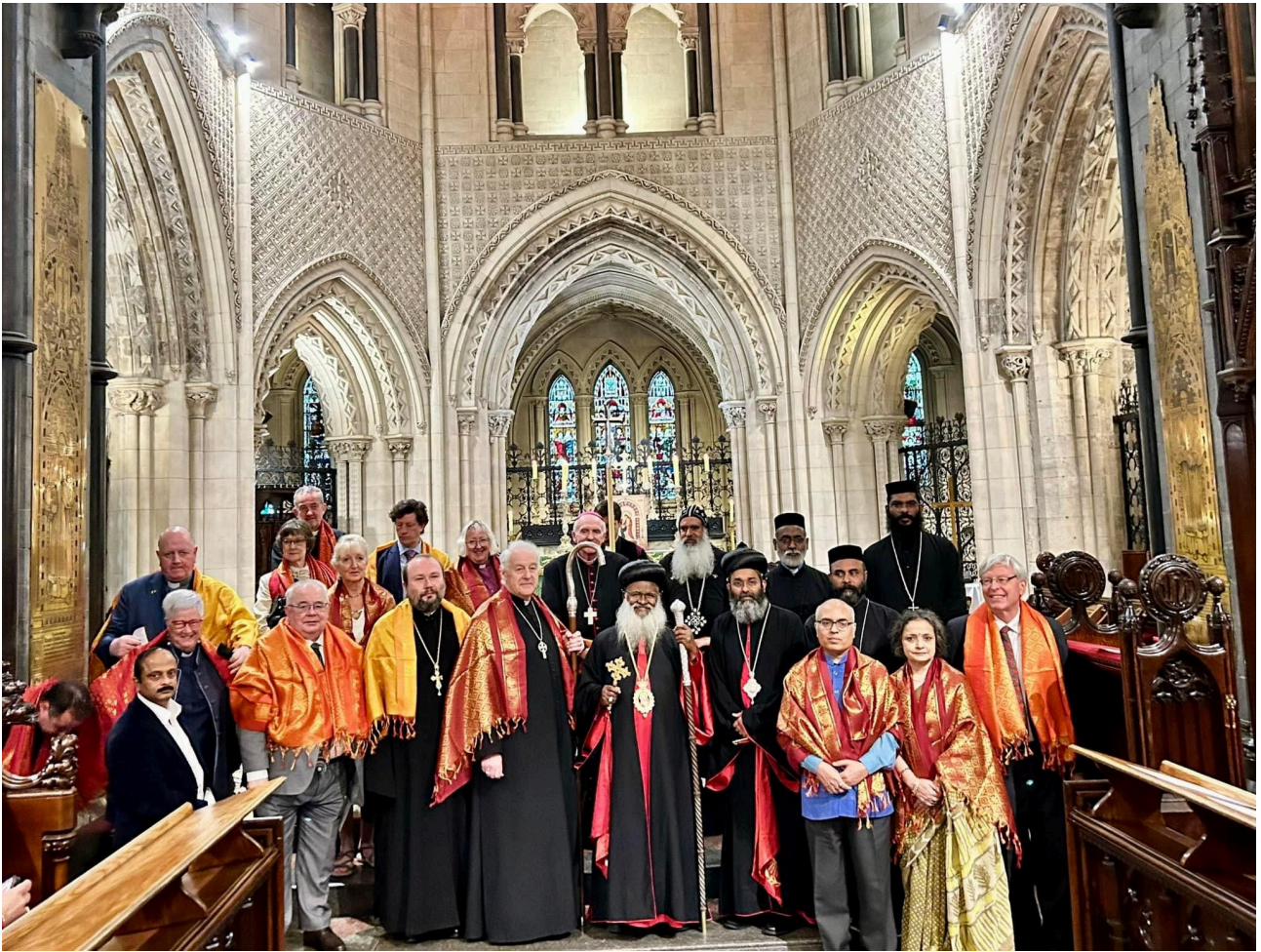


Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Historic Apostolic visit to Ireland

Image of the day



Historic Apostolic visit to Ireland

His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Mathews III, the head of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, made a historic Apostolic visit to Ireland last weekend.

Hosted by Dean Dermot Dunne, he attended an ecumenical gathering in Christ Church Cathedral Dublin. This was also attended by Archbishop Micheal Jackson, Bishop Brendan Leahy, Co Chair of the Irish Inter Church Committee, Bishop Sarah Groves of the Moravian Church, Akhilesh Mishra, The Ambassador of India, Seán Ó Fearghaíl, The Ceann Comhairle, Dáil Éireann and other guests.

News



Blessing of new Pilot Boat for the Port of Cork

On Sunday last the Rev. Elise Hanley, Rector of Cobh & Glanmire Union of Parishes, joined the Very Rev. Tom McDermott of Cobh Parish in blessing a new pilot boat for the Port of Cork.

The festivities were held at Quay's Bar in Cobh and included Port employees and their families. A competition had been held for the children to choose the name of the pilot boat, and the winning submission was Solas.

May God bless all who sail on Solas, and all who work in our ports and on the sea.



Darling Street Methodists will abseil down the Europa Hotel

Nine members of the Darling Street Methodist congregation will abseil down the Europa Hotel in Belfast on Sunday 16 June, to fundraise for renovation work in their church building.

Darling Street in Enniskillen is undergoing much needed maintenance in several phases. The first phase has just commenced with the installation of a lift to assist those people facing mobility challenges and to ensure everyone can access the church building and halls when attending services.

Phase two will hopefully follow on in quick succession with the installation of a disabled toilet which will provide space and comfort for wheelchair users and enable them to enter and manoeuvre easily.

Phase three remains in the planning stages but the vision is a major refurbishment of the church halls so they can be used more effectively, and be used by all the community. Plans and discussions so far have included a community cafe, a form of food bank, halls which will be available for different groups and charities to reach out to adults and children in Enniskillen and County Fermanagh as a whole.

Whilst some of the abseilers are seeking an adrenaline-filled adventure of a lifetime, others will be confronting massive fears and are feeling quite anxious. The youngest abseiler, Emily Knox is just 14-years-old.

Lough Derg hosted this year's Ecumenical Prayer Service for Pentecost



The annual Ecumenical Prayer Service for Pentecost organised by the Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic

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Church in Clogher Diocese took place this year at Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co. Donegal.

This site has been a place of Christian pilgrimage since the 5th century.

Once everyone attending had been transported across to the island by the boat, St Columba, on a sunny afternoon, on Pentecost Sunday, a walking historical tour was led by Monsignor La Flynn, Prior of Lough Derg, before everyone gathered in St. Patrick's Basilica for the service.

The greeting and opening responses were by Bishop Larry Duffy with the Collect for Pentecost and first reading by



Archdeacon Paul Thompson. The Gospel reading and the Litany of the Holy Spirit were by Father Frank McManus and the address was given by the Right Revd Dr Ian Ellis, Church of Ireland Bishop of Clogher (Centre above).



The boat St. Columba ferrying people across to Lough Derg on Pentecost Sunday.

The blessing was said jointly by Bishop Larry Duffy and Bishop Ian Ellis.

The hymns were ‘Spirit of God, unseen as the wind’, ‘Spirit of the Living God’, and ‘Christ be beside me’.

Everyone met in fellowship afterwards over afternoon tea.

Lough Derg emerged as a pilgrimage location in the period of the Celtic monastery on Saints Island (from the 6th to 12th centuries). St Davog, a disciple of St Patrick, is remembered as the founding abbot.

In the 12th century, along with Clones and Devenish, the monastery on Saints Island became a priory of the Canons Regular of St Augustine, introduced to Ireland as part of the

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reform movement that characterised the Irish Church in that period.

Since 1780 Lough Derg has been in the care of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Clogher, attracting pilgrims over the summer months.

Wedding Dress Festival marked 90 years of Dungiven & Bovevagh Mothers' Union



Friday evening was an occasion for nostalgists as the Dungiven Group of Parishes' Wedding Dress Festival – celebrating 90 years of Dungiven & Bovevagh Mothers' Union – was officially launched at an Opening Service in the town's parish church, led by the local Rector, Rev Mark Loney, and presided over by the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Rt Rev Andrew Forster.



The festival featured almost 50 dresses worn by local brides, including one dating back to the mid-thirties. There were also scores of bridal photos on display, along with wedding memorabilia.

Welcoming the congregation at the start of the Service, Rev Loney said the festival weekend had been in the making for months and months. "It's been talked about, and thought about," he said, "and this week it was busily being prepared for, here in the church."

Among those present for the opening were the Diocesan President of Mothers' Union Derry & Raphoe Jacqui Armstrong and MU's Northern Ireland Zone Trustee Iris Suitor.

In his address to the congregation, Bishop Andrew said 90 to 100 years ago, Dungiven and Bovevagh M.U. had been part of a great wave of branches formed across the diocese to promote family life, provide fellowship for women and



help the church's mission and ministry. Congratulating the members on reaching the milestone, Bishop Andrew said he hoped the next 90 years of Mothers' Union in Dungiven and Bovevagh would be as fruitful as the last 90 years. He also congratulated Anita Hill and her fellow branch members for putting together a "fabulous" festival.

Among the images that Scripture used to describe the church, the Bishop said, were the phrases 'the temple of God', 'the people of God' and 'the family of God'. "In every family, everyone is important and everyone has a role to play," he said, "from the oldest to the youngest. And here we are as part of the family of God here, with all of us valued as members of the family, loved as members of the family and with a part to play as members of the family."



However, the phrase Bishop Andrew wanted to concentrate on in his address was 'the bride of Christ'. In Ephesians, he said, Paul told husbands to love their wives just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. "Throughout Scripture, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament, we see the imagery of marriage and bride and bridegroom as a descriptor of what it is to be church, of what it is to be the people of God.

"What Paul was doing there was using marriage as an analogy of the relationship between us and Jesus Christ. Marriage isn't the be all and end all, of course it's not – Jesus himself wasn't married – marriage points to something that is even more amazing and even more profound. It points to a relationship between us and Christ, between Jesus and his church.

"All these dresses signify a day, don't they? They signify a special day, a wedding day. And that's a wonderful thing; it's a thing to look back at. The day's important, the wedding's important, but what really matters is the marriage, isn't it – the long term? And what matters in this analogy of marriage – the relationship between us and Christ – is the long term. Jesus loves you; he died for you; he gave himself up for you. God loves you unconditionally, wholeheartedly and continually."

Bishop Andrew said at times we might feel inadequate or a bit of a mess; at times we might feel that we aren't up to it, that we can't walk the way of Christ, we can't do what he wants. But the bridegroom, Christ, looks at us and sees us with overwhelming, unconditional love, because we're the bride of Christ. "Think about Christ as the bridegroom: always faithful, loving us unconditionally, covenanting his love for us, no matter what, just like a wedding vow.

"Sometimes we mightn't feel that we are adequate before Christ. Sometimes we might feel our brokenness or hurt or pain and inadequacy – and I could go on – but what we've got to remember is that the bridegroom loves the bride, the church: you, you, unconditionally; that he loves you with an utter and complete faithfulness that will never change; that he covenants that love and faithfulness to you for ever; and how incredibly valuable that places us – how incredibly precious and special that places us – in the eyes of God. That's who we are. And there's so much in life, in our world, and sometimes in our own psyche, that pulls us away from that place of value. Well, what does Paul say? That we're to be presented through Christ as spotless and blameless, with the forgiveness and grace of our Saviour."



Cathedral Calls Letterkenny choir sing in Saint Peter's Basilica

**Cór Ailigh, the choir
who sing at the
monthly Irish-
language Mass at
Saint Eunan's
Cathedral in**



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Letterkenny, Raphoe Diocese, visited Rome last weekend.

On Saturday, they sang at the noon Mass at the Altar of the Chair in Saint Peter's Basilica.

B'iontach a bheith ann agus a gcuid cantain Gaeilge a chloisteáil istigh i gcroílár na Vatacáine!



Waterford Dean is a 'wheelie' good supporter of Christian Aid Ireland

Dean Paul Draper from St Carthage's Cathedral - Lismore completed CAI's '70k in May' fundraising challenge, all in one day.

On Saturday 18 May, he cycled from Dungarvan to Kilmeaden and back along the beautiful, traffic-free

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Waterford Greenway, a former railway line now devoted to walkers and cyclists.

Dean Paul, who's originally from Belfast, sits on the Board of Christian Aid Ireland.

Please join CAI in thanking him for pedalling against poverty and let's hope he's not 'two-tyred' after all that effort.

Lismore Union is part of the Diocese of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory.



Jerusalem appreciation of Evensong at St. Patrick's Cathedral

**“Last evening we
were transported
into the heavenly
realms through
our participation
in a sung
evensong at St.**

**Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin”, writes Canon Don Binder
(above) of the Cathedral of St George Jerusalem**

“As Dean William Morton officiated, Archbishops Michael and Hosam offered the scripture readings, while the



Cathedral choir—the earliest to be founded in all of Europe—beautifully sang the canticles, psalm, anthems, and versicles throughout the service.

Bishop and Archbishop in prayer at Christ Church

“We are grateful to

Dean William for his gracious hospitality, and we look forward to welcoming him and members of his clergy and congregation to Jerusalem in the near future.”

Cathedral of St George, Jerusalem -
[<https://j-diocese.org/wordpress/cathedral-2/>]

Perspective



**Adopted
by a
Jewish
family**

**A Jewish
family
Karnofsky,
who
immigrated
from
Lithuania
to the
United
States,
took pity
on the 7-**

year-old boy and brought him to their home.

There he stayed and spent the night in this Jewish family home, where for the first time in his life he was treated with kindness and tenderness.

When he went to bed, Mrs Karnovski sang him Russian lullabies, which he sang with her.

Later he learned to sing and play several Russian and Jewish songs.

Over time, this boy became the adopted son of this family.

Mr. Karnofsky gave him money to buy his first musical instrument, as was the custom in Jewish families.

Later, when he became a professional musician and composer, he used these Jewish melodies in compositions such as St. James's Hospital and Go Down Moses.

The little boy grew up and wrote a book about this Jewish family, who adopted him in 1907. And proudly spoke Yiddish fluently.

In memory of this family and until the end of his life, he wore the Star of David and said that in this family he learned "to live a real life and determination."

This little boy's name was Louis Armstrong. This little boy was called Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong.

Louis Armstrong proudly spoke fluent Yiddish and "Satchmo" is Yiddish for "big cheeks, a nickname some say was given to him by Mrs. Karnofsky!

Poem For Today

June by Lottie Brown Allen

Oh what is more sweet than the month of June
When our senses thrill and our hearts keep tune
To the song of the birds and the rose in bloom?



Oh what is more joy than the early gray
Of the dewy morn and the sun's first ray
That herald the dawn of a perfect day?

Oh what is more fair as the sun climbs high
Than the azure hue of the summer sky
And the snow-white clouds drifting idly by?

Oh what is more pure than the summer air

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That wafts from the woodlands and gardens fair
A fragrance and perfume so rich and rare?

Oh what is more dear than the twilight hour
When the daylight fades and each nodding flower
Is kissed by the moonbeams' mystic power?

O, Summer Queen! you are gone too soon
With your sunny days and your shining moon,
With your golden grain and your wealth of bloom.

And if we could hold in some magic way
To your trailing robes for a single day,
Dear month of June, we would bid you stay.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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