

Church News Ireland



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January 22, 2025

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Short reading and a prayer daily on this site

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Image of the day

Mindful Art Cafe at Clontarf

**It is a real joy
to offer a
calm, warm
creative
space in the**

beautiful and welcoming surrounds of St John the Baptist Church of Ireland, Clontarf for our January sessions of the Mindful Art Cafe.



The church offers lots of lovely spaces:

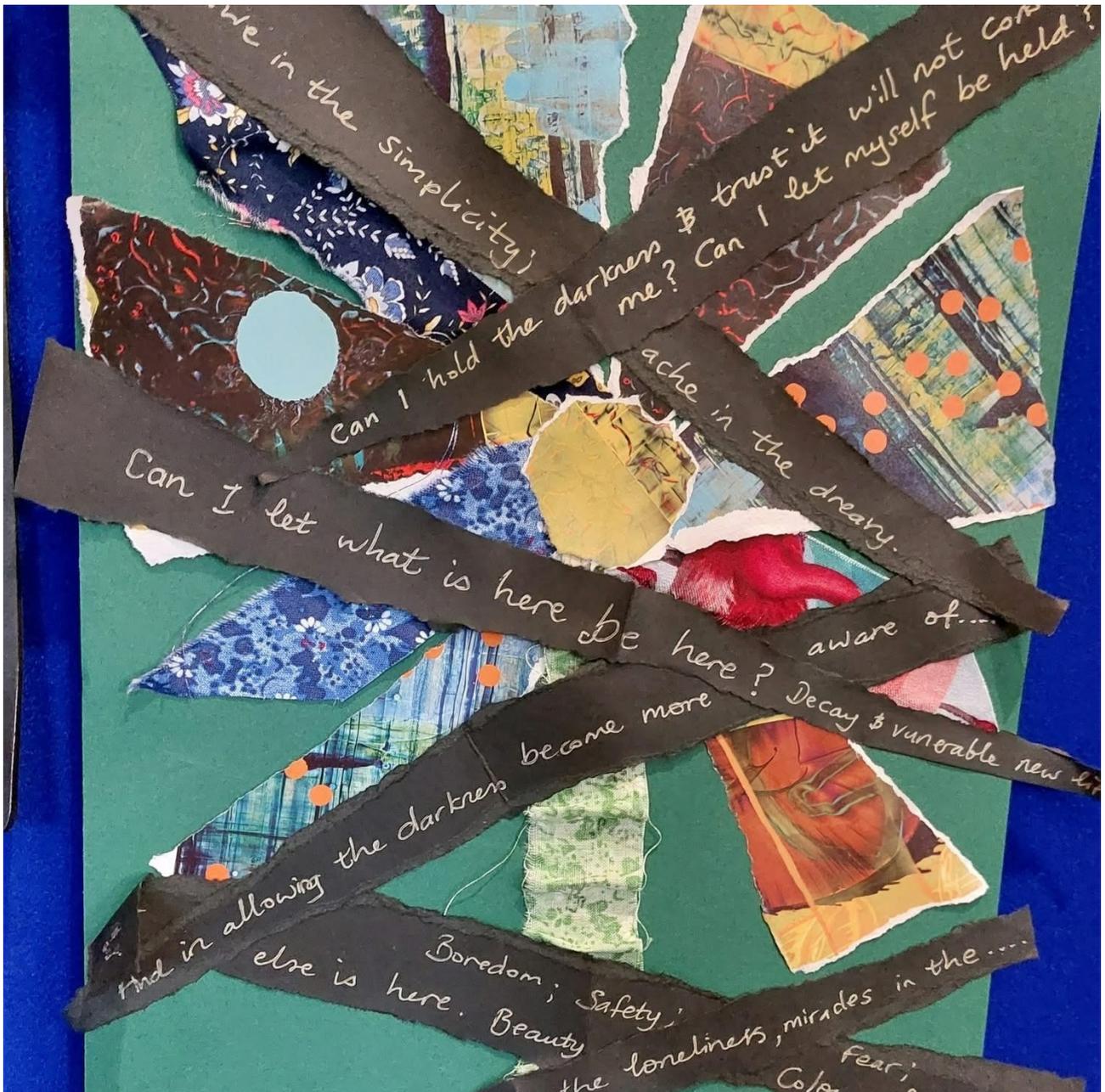
~a main art space looking onto beautiful stained glass windows (this week we had watercolours, stone decoration, collage, sketching and doodling here);

~a silent art space with throws and cushions for quiet reflection and mindful colouring;

~a space for journaling, self-care worksheets and prayer cards;

~a space for chatting, tea and toast;

~and a space for private prayer ministry with one of the team.



Every 20 minutes or so, a member of the team invites a pause to notice and greet our thoughts and feelings and to drop down into our wonderful bodies that work hard for us whether we're aware of them or not, or to come into an awareness of the present moment and all it contains. There might be a short gratitude practise, or a noticing activity or the reading of a poem, before taking this increased awareness and kindness back into our creativity.

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You don't need to be 'good at art'. You just need to give yourself permission to make a mark and engage mindfully in the process regardless of the result.

Sound good? Come along! There are 2 more sessions remaining on 25th January and 1st February 11am - 12.30pm and the event is open to the parish and the community.

News



Plough Sunday held in Templederry

Plough Sunday was held in Templederry Church on January 12th.

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“During the service, the plough, farming and gardening implements, beekeeping equipments, tractors big and small, we walked down to the Mooney's barn where we had soup, sandwiches and cake! A huge thank you to everyone who came, especially Catherine Kenneally from Embrace Farm who gave a very moving address. Also thank you to all those who brought lunch!”





The Longest Yarn is in Enniskillen

The organisers write - Thank you for visiting - either in person or our page, The Longest Yarn is in Enniskillen until 8th February when we move to Norwich... but do make sure we are open on 8th as we are dependant on ferry's, weather, tacographs etc!

Our knitting bag is an 18 ton truck with forklift trucks 🤪

In April when this one depicting D Day has gone to USA for a year we start to roll out our 2nd one called Britain at War - The Enniskillen knitting group will be making a panel - 1942 the Americans stepped foot into the war via Belfast Harbour!

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Britain at war is on a gentle roll out from April 24th at Wonderwool to 3rd September when all 80 are completed for Southwell Minster and unveiled as a finished work.

We are booked the whole of 2025 and 6 months of 2026 to exhibit so we are open for offers of venues. Please contact Josephine Groves for further details.

This will be the Belfast scene Enniskillen is basing theirs on!

Ivy West, above, one of our oldest knitters is with the Rushmoor Christmas Angels group who made the panel with the normal life one side of the wall and war the other!



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Methodist Church raises £19,010 for World Development & Relief Partners

'We are excited to share that, together, through GIFTS FOR LIFE, you have raised an incredible £19,010 / €22,482 for your World Development & Relief Partners!

'Thanks to all of you who purchased cards for friends and loved ones, downloaded cards to print at home or gave a Christmas donation! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.'



Londonderry prayer walk for Christian Unity

Dozens of people from the four main churches in Londonderry took part in a prayer walk in and around the city centre, in the evening, to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.



The weather was ideal for the occasion – remaining dry and not too cold for those taking part.

Participants gathered at First Derry Presbyterian Church – the starting point for this year's event – where, prior to prayers and readings, the Minister of Carlisle Road Methodist Church, Rev Peter Morris, reminded those present that this year marked the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. This was an early attempt to build consensus in the church on matters such as the divinity of Christ.

The group processed through the streets of the city centre, stopping for prayers and scriptural readings opposite Bishop Street courthouse, outside Bishop's Gate Hotel, at St Columb's Court (leading to the Cathedral), in the Fountain, at Carlisle Road Presbyterian Church, outside the Salvation Army Church Hall, and at Carlisle Road Methodist Church, where refreshments were enjoyed.



The scriptural passages were read and prayers led by Rev Linda Hughes from the CCCMSP Group of Parishes; Rev Colin Jones of First Derry Presbyterian Church; the Dean of Derry, Very Rev Raymond Stewart; Capt. Sharon Stevens of the Salvation Army; Fr Gerard Mongan (Administrator, Long Tower); Darinagh Boyle (The St Columba Heritage Centre); Rev Ross Kernohan, of Carlisle Road Presbyterian Church and the Rector of Saint Augustine's Church, Rev Nigel Cairns.

Cathedral Calls

Ministry of Diocesan and Parish Readers to be celebrated in St Eunan's Cathedral Raphoe



The Diocesan Warden of Readers, Rev Canon Derek Quinn, delivers a reading from Scripture at last year's Service

The contribution of Diocesan and Parish Readers will be celebrated next Sunday (26th January) at a Service in St Eunan's Cathedral Raphoe, which will begin at 7.00pm.

St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick on livestream

The livestream from the Cathedral is available at - www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys.

The weekly news sheet may be found here - <https://www.scribd.com/document/816598810/Weekly-Newsletter-19-1-25>

Clergy and ministry

Priest-in-charge of Rathcoole and Whitehouse

The Rev Canon Colin Welsh, currently rector of Christ Church, Castledawson, Diocese of Derry and Raphoe, has been appointed priest-in-charge of Rathcoole and Whitehouse.

This is a new partnership in ministry for these two parishes, which comprise St John's, Whitehouse, and St Colmgall's, Rathcoole.

Colin is married to Anne. They have a daughter Jaimie, son Stephen, and three grandchildren. He began his ministry in Connor Diocese, having been ordained deacon in June 2009 to serve his curacy in St Patrick's, Jordanstown, where he remained following his ordination as a priest in 2010.

Colin moved to Castledawson as rector 12 years ago. He has been Rural Dean of Maghera and Kilrea for around eight years and was appointed a Canon of St Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry, in March 2021.

Colin will be coming back to his roots in many ways when he returns to Connor Diocese. He was brought up in St Colmgall's Parish Church where his parents Ann and Drew are still parishioners. He attended youth club in St John's,



Whitehouse, and he and Anne married in St Patrick's, Jordanstown, where he later spent his curacy.

Colin attended Hopefield Secondary School, leaving to begin work at 16. He worked in forecourt maintenance for 17 years.

He and Anne married in 1989, and four years later they joined the Church of the Good Shepherd, Monkstown. It was here Colin came to faith, encouraged in particular by the ministry of the Rev Geoff Withers, and this set him on the road to ordination.

Speaking of his move to Rathcoole and Whitehouse, Colin said he was 'apprehensive, but looking forward to it at the same time.'

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“We were deep-rooted in Castledawson and thought this was the place to continue our ministry, but we felt God pulling at those roots, telling us our time was up,” he said.

He describes a meeting with the Ven Barry Forde, Archdeacon of Connor, at the Church of Ireland General Synod last May as a ‘God incidence,’ as it was there he heard about the plans for the new partnership between Rathcoole and Whitehouse. Colin said various Biblical texts also spoke plainly to him about the past and the future.

“It is exciting for us and there is also an air of excitement in the parishes,” he said. “This is a new missional area and they key word is ‘missional.’ We are not going to sit on our hands doing the same old thing, and the Bishop has confirmed that he will support any change that has to happen.”

Outside of work and family, Colin is a big fan of Manchester United, he regularly plays five-a-side football and enjoys playing the drums and guitar.

A date for the Service of Introduction will be announced in due course.

Faith in the Home

A Special Evening for P7 Parents - Down and Connor Pathways to thee Future

Aishling was invited to the parish of St Nicholas’, Carrickfergus to speak with the parents of the Primary 7

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children who are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Aishling openly shared her own experiences of creating a culture of faith at home, acknowledging the real challenges parents often face in passing on their faith. She also introduced a variety of practical resources to help families nurture their own faith and their children's. Parents were also guided through a beautiful meditation on the Baptism of Jesus, while the children enjoyed a fun quiz and some tasty treats!

A heartfelt thanks to parent Orla Corey for sharing her personal insights on living out faith in family life, to Fr. Peter Owens PP for his warm welcome and words of introduction, to Mary Muir (Catechist) for preparing the children and Geradine Stewart who represented the Parish Liturgy Group for their thoughtful planning, organisation, and warm welcome. We wish every blessing on the children as they continue their preparation for Confirmation. May this be a meaningful and faith-filled time for all our families.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Webinar on Lambeth Call on Christian Unity

Join us for a webinar on Christian Unity on January 29 and 30.



Learn about the Lambeth Call on Christian Unity and hear how Christian Unity between denominations can be strengthened through dialogue and collaboration.

The webinar will feature: The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, The Most Revd Samuel Peni, The Rt Revd Alex Sakor, Dr Katherine Sonderegger, The Most Revd Samy Shehata, Tracy De Beer, Caroline Bauerschmidt and Angie Anjum.

Register for the upcoming webinar here:
<https://bit.ly/3Rk2M44>

Webinars are repeated, to cater for different time zones.

New book celebrates founder of the Foyle Hospice

A new book celebrating the life of Gweedore man Dr Tom McGinley, the founder of the Foyle Hospice, is to be launched in Derry next week.

He was a GP, marathon runner, papal knight and friend of Brendan Duddy, who was key to back-channel negotiations for peace in Northern Ireland.

There isn't a family in the city that hasn't been touched by the work of Dr McGinley.

Trying desperately to control the severe pain of a young man dying at home from bone cancer, and feeling he had utterly failed, Dr McGinley determined never to allow this to happen to anyone else.

He decided the north west needed a hospice and turned that vision into reality.

Written by his colleague Dr Keith Munro, the launch will take place in St Columb's Hall in the city on Wednesday, January 29, at 7.15pm.

RBAI Gala Concert – Waterfront Hall

Mrs Harshaw, Head of Music, looks forward to the RBAI Gala Concert – Waterfront Hall – Friday 11 April 2025

Purchase soon to avoid disappointment:

<https://www.waterfront.co.uk/what-s-on/rbai-gala-concert/>

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PCI Children's Ministry: Kids big day out 2025

This is the third song posted that we are singing at Kids' Big Day Out this year which we are hoping lots of you know and can join in with on the day!

Check out the other songs posted on 7 and 14 January).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JeJvKkBV6rY>

Details of event:

Saturday 8th March 2025, at West Presbyterian Church, Bangor 2-4pm

Booking essential at

www.presbyterianireland.org/kidsbigdayout

Tickets required for both children and adults.

Salvation Army Music

Here is a video of The International Staff Band playing Keith Manners' latest piece, 'Everlasting Love', which forms part of the December 2024 General Series journal. Keith, a former ISB member, uses the tunes 'Such Love' (Graham Kendrick) and 'The wonder of his grace' (Howard Davies).

This piece is available to purchase from Salvation Army Music Index:

<https://samusicindex.com/brass/everlasting-love/11866>

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The Causeway Challenge 2025

New Year - New Challenge! Join us on Saturday 17th May for an unforgettable adventure!

Walk along the stunning Causeway Coast Way, take in globally famous landmarks like the Giant's Causeway, and help us raise funds to end homelessness. Choose to walk 30 or 15 miles, every step makes a difference. Sign up today and be part of something truly great!

Sign up today : <https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/>

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

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**Link in Monday through Saturday from
early morning**

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