

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Faroe Islands inter church exploration



Image of the day

Faroe Islands inter church exploration

Archbishop Michael Jackson of Dublin visited the Faroe Islands last week with his Porvoo Co-Chair, the Rt Revd Dr Matti Repo, Bishop of Tampere and Lutheran Co-Secretary, the Revd Thorsten Rorbaek.

Photo above - Torshavn Cathedral and Bishop.



Dr Jackson writes of the visit -

The Church of the Faroe Islands has a long historical association with the Danish Church along with very cordial relations. Both of them are Lutheran in their confessional affiliation. The Church of The Faroe Islands is independent of the Danish Church since 2007 and now wishes actively to explore becoming a signatory of The Porvoo Agreement. In order to facilitate this, the Archbishop of Dublin and the Bishop of Tampere, The Right Reverend Dr Matti Repo, along with The Reverend Thorsten Rorbaek, Lutheran co-secretary, visited The Faroes for three days to facilitate this development. *Photo above - The Lutheran Church at Brendan's Bay dating from 1111.*



Brendan's Bay where Irish monks are understood to have landed in the Faroes.

The Church of The Faroe Islands comprises 78% of a population of 55,000 people. Roughly 10,000 people work in the fishing industry, with Faroese Atlantic salmon being world famous. Sheep farming is ubiquitous. Almost all of the islands are interconnected by underwater tunnels. There are 61 small parishes, in some cases four churches being served by one pastor and services otherwise being conducted by a Parish Clerk akin to our Parish Reader system. There is one bishop.

March 12, 2024

The three days comprised visiting parishes, pastors and people; this enabled us to get a sense of the church on the ground and what daily discipleship is like in a unique ecclesiastical community. In this, we were facilitated and hosted throughout by the dean of the cathedral. We also worshipped with the clergy who came to Torshaven to meet us. The archbishop preached and lead an interactive seminar, Dr Repo gave a lecture on the origins of The Porvoo Agreement. Dr Rorbaek spoke on how and why the Danish Church came to sign The Porvoo Agreement.

Our hope is that our friendly and fruitful engagement will result in closer co-operation across our churches.

News



Sea Cadets at Newcastle RNLI anniversary service

March 12, 2024

The Sea Cadets attended a service at St John's Parish Church, Newcastle, which celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the RNLI.



70 years of membership of the Mothers' Union

On Sunday at a service in Magheracross Parish Church in Ballinamallard Mrs Noreen Elliott was presented with

March 12, 2024

a certificate marking 70 years of membership of the Mothers' Union.

She is here pictured with Diocesan President Heather Ellis (right) and Branch Chair Mrs Norma Scott.

Ballymena and Gracehill service focus of Church of Ireland-Moravian relationship

A special service on March 18, starting in St Patrick's, Ballymena, and continuing in Gracehill Moravian Church, will celebrate the relationship between the Church of Ireland and the Moravian Church in Britain and Ireland.

In recent years, the two churches have been developing this closer formal relationship which will allow for clergy from both denominations to serve in either.

Archbishop John McDowell will preach in St Patrick's, with Bishop Sarah Groves from the Moravian Church leading participants sharing in Holy Communion in Gracehill.

Trees will be planted in the grounds of each place of worship to mark this celebration, and a reception at Gracehill will follow.

Bishop Sarah expressed her joy at what had become known as the 'Armagh Agreement' between the two Churches. She said that she was sure this would 'bring increased vitality to both denominations enriching their worship and enabling them to share the resources of people, faith and service.'

Bishop Michael Burrows

Bishop Michael Burrows, who chairs the Church of Ireland's Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue, said: "The Moravian Church and the Church of Ireland have so much in



MESSY CHURCH

FREE INTERGENERATIONAL FUN

ARTS & CRAFT FOR ALL AGES & ABILITIES..
ALL WELCOME TO JOIN THE FUN & WORSHIP!



Sausages & refreshments provided!



TANEY PARISH CENTRE

SUNDAY 24 MARCH 4-6PM

BOOK: INFO@TANEYPARISH.IE

March 12, 2024

common and so many spiritual riches to share with one another.

“We both cherish the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and a similar commitment to the place of the historic episcopate. We have shared a joyful journey towards the achievement of interchangeable ministry between us, and I’m thrilled that this new stage in our relationship will be marked by a highly

QUB Music . Organ Music at Drive Time.
Old McMordie Hall, 5pm, Thursday 14th March, 2024
Organist: Orly Watson . Admission: FREE

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732 - 1809)
The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross



Written for the Oratorio de la Santa Cueva in Cádiz, Haydn's *Die sieben letzten Worte unseres Erlösers am Kreuze* achieved recognition as one of the masterpieces of the late 18th century in versions for orchestra and for string quartet, and as an oratorio. Orly Watson gives a rare organ performance of the 1787 Artaria keyboard edition authorised by the composer.

March 12, 2024

imaginative liturgical celebration in Ballymena and Gracehill on 18th March.”

The service on March 18 begins in St Patrick’s Parish Church, Ballymena, at 1.30pm and continues in Gracehill Moravian Church at 3.30pm.

Bishop Sarah Groves from the Moravian Church in the video celebrating the relationship with the Church of Ireland (above).

The Moravian Church, originally called the Unity of the Brethren, was first organised as a communion in Kunvald, near the modern town of Zamberk, in what is now Czechia (the Czech Republic). Although formally established in 1457, its origins reach back some 50 years earlier to the Czech Reformation. Merging into the Protestant movement that



March 12, 2024

grew out of the Lutheran Reformation, the Moravian Church today is currently comprised of 24 linked provinces worldwide. The presence of the Moravian Church in Ireland is due mainly to the influence of the English evangelist John Cennick, who was active in these isles between 1746 and 1755. The Irish District of the British Province currently has five congregations.

Duke of Edinburgh appointed as Lord High Commissioner to the 2024 General Assembly

Prince Edward, the Duke of Edinburgh, has been appointed as the Lord High Commissioner to the 2024 General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, a decade after he last took on the role of royal representative at the annual gathering.

The Lord High Commissioner is the Sovereign's personal representative to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and is appointed by His Majesty The King to attend proceedings on his behalf.

The Duke, who was granted the title previously held by his father on his 59th birthday last year, will make the opening and closing addresses to the Assembly and carry out a number of official functions throughout the week.

He was previously Lord High Commissioner in 2014, when he held the title of Earl of Wessex, and represented his mother, the late Queen.

March 12, 2024

He is the first member of the Royal Family to become Lord High Commissioner since his nephew HRH Prince William, now the Prince of Wales, was appointed in 2021.

His Majesty The King attended while Prince of Wales in 2000 and Princess Anne, The Princess Royal, and Prince Andrew have also been Lord High Commissioners with Her Majesty The Queen attending the General Assembly in person in 1969 and 2002 and also visited the General Assembly in 1977 as part of her Silver Jubilee celebrations.

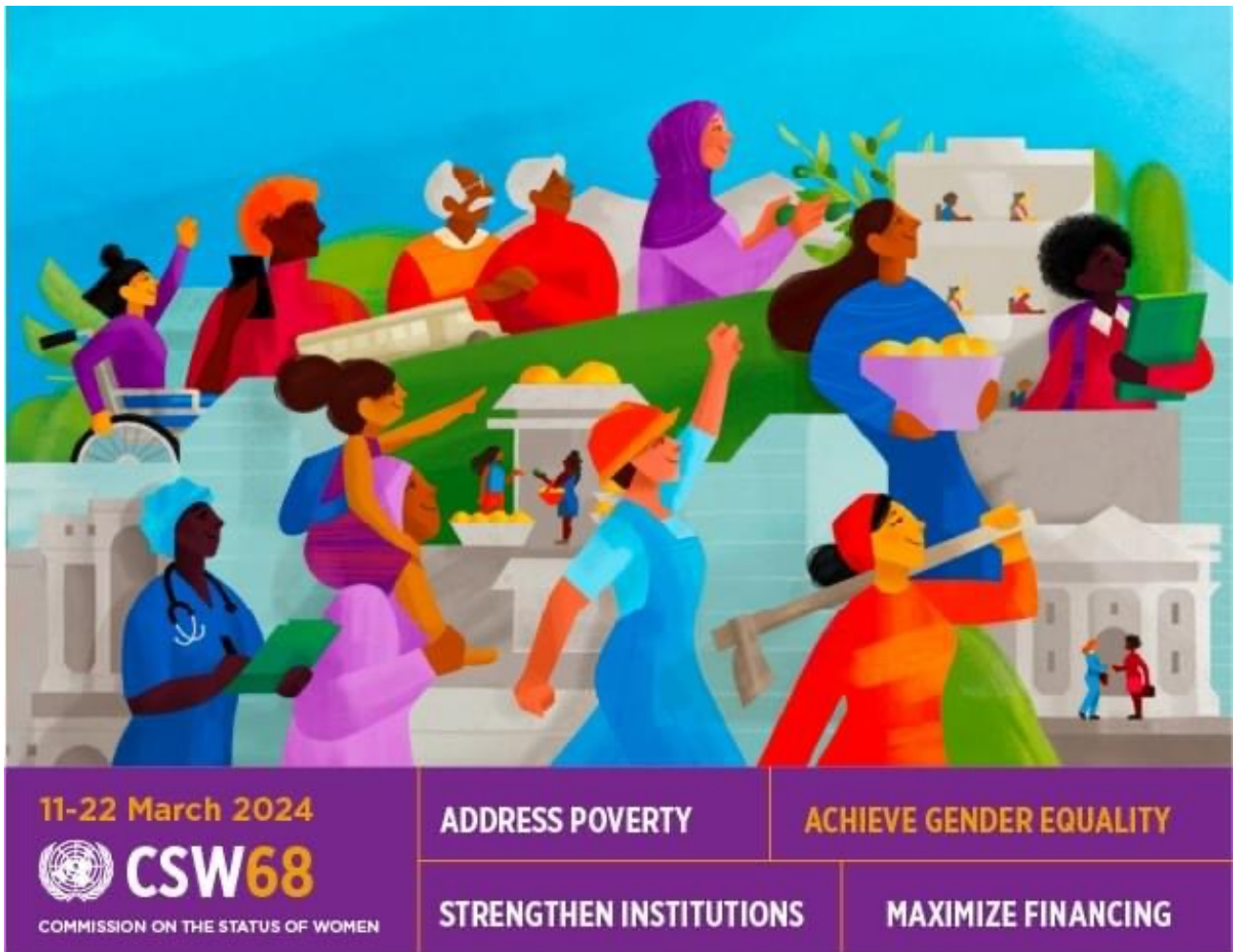
The General Assembly, which was first held in 1560 in the first year of the Scottish Reformation, is the supreme court of the Church of Scotland.

It will take place in the General Assembly Hall on The Mound in Edinburgh from Saturday, May 18 until Thursday, May 23.

The Moderator Designate for 2024-25 is Rev Dr Shaw James Paterson. He will chair proceedings at the General Assembly and will be the Kirk's ambassador at home and abroad for the following 12 months.

Mothers Union in Anglican Delegation at United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

An Anglican Delegation is attending the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW) in New York this week and next between 11-22 March.



Supported by the Anglican Communion Office’s UN and Gender Justice Teams, the delegation represents volunteers from the International Anglican Women’s Network (IAWN), with links to the U.K., Mozambique, the U.S., and Canada, alongside women leaders from the Church in Burundi and Pakistan. They will also work with representatives from the Anglican Alliance and Mothers’ Union.

The Mothers Union CEO, Bev Jullien, is a member of the Anglican Communion’s delegation.

The UN Commission on the Status of Women is the biggest event that the UN in New York hosts and one of the largest gatherings of women globally. It brings together leaders from the world’s governments to discuss how to address the

inequalities and injustices experienced by women around the world.

This year's theme is "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective".

The Anglican delegation will represent women from around the world who have direct experience of transforming poverty in their communities. During the commission, they will convene discussions on transforming poverty for gender justice; meet government representatives to advocate for change and represent the experience of Anglicans in the discussions.

They will advocate for governments to commit to debt reduction globally and remove gender bias from financial and legal systems. They will also seek to grow collaboration between faith-based and government organisations in tackling poverty together.

During the Commission, the Anglican delegation will be hosting online events to share information and strategies on tackling poverty and gender injustice. These are entitled: "What works – Anglican churches and organisations transforming poverty and gender-based violence", hosted by Bishop Rachel Treweek, from the Diocese of Gloucester, England (March 13) and "Pioneering women leaders transforming poverty in Africa" (March 15).

The Bishop of Gloucester, the Rt Revd Rachel Treweek will also participate in a delegation from the UK parliament,

March 12, 2024

joining with other parliamentarians from across the globe as a route to ending poverty. Also attending are Alex Davies-Jones MP, Jess Philips MP and Baroness Hodgson, who all have an interest in gender and equality.

Included in Bishop Rachel's itinerary will be sessions around gender violence, particularly in conflict and post-conflict situations including Ukraine, Gaza and Afghanistan. Bishop Rachel will also chair an online session for the Mothers'



March 12, 2024

Union and the Anglican Communion on reducing gender-based violence.

Across the world, women and girls are disproportionately affected by poverty. One in every 10 women (10.3%) lives in extreme poverty and they are poorer than men. Poverty limits women's access to food, health, education, training and opportunities for employment and other needs.

Church and faith-based organisations from the Anglican Communion are often at the heart of their communities and well placed to deliver programmes that help to break cycles of poverty for future generations. A Mothers' Union Literacy and Financial Education Programme in Burundi boosted literacy in 150,000 people, 89% of whom are women. 90% of female participants went on to start businesses and 94% of all participants sending their children to school (compared to 52% in 2006).

Mandy Marshall, Director of Gender Justice at the Anglican Communion, is a member of the delegation at UNCSW and said, "It is vital that women of faith from around the world voice their concerns and push for change. They still suffer disproportionately from violence, poverty and discrimination. Most world crises and many international financial and legal systems compound the poverty experienced by women. We need to seek change from governments and I know that the Anglican women advocating at this Commission will powerfully represent people and communities that are working for change."

Martha Jarvis, United Nations Permanent Representative for the Anglican Communion is also at the event and said , "the

March 12, 2024

Commission on the Status of Women is an opportunity for people around the world to hear about the phenomenal work Anglican women are doing to reduce poverty and gender-based violence in their communities; to see the evidence of genuine change and learn about the faith that inspires it. With partnership from governments, the UN and civil society, this impact can grow. We hope the CSW will result in increasing openness from governments to partner with people of faith to see poverty eradicated and change to international financial and legal systems that perpetuate the injustice and scarcity experienced by so many women. Please pray with us and get in touch to find out more about how to advocate with your governme

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Visit Kilkenny Ireland's ancient east

As Easter approaches each year, St Canice's cathedral comes alive with the vibrant energy of worshippers and visitors alike, drawn by the allure of tradition, community, and reverence.

The Cathedral and Round Tower is the perfect place to bring the family for a day out during the Easter Holidays. Here are our top things to do this Easter at St Canice's Cathedral and Round Tower.

<https://www.stcanicescathedral.ie/news/easter-at-st-canices-cathedral-and-round-tower-kilkenny>



Journey through the UK's largest collection of medieval stained glass

March 12, 2024

Join York Minsters expert guides on a free Stained Glass Tour and discover the stories behind these incredible works of art!

Plan your next visit: yorkminster.org/visit/plan-your-visit

Heritage



Barney Hurwitz OBE

Barney Hurwitz OBE died on 9 March 1971 and was laid to rest in Carnmoney Jewish Cemetery. Hurwitz was the



lay leader of the Belfast Jewish community for many years.

In the late 1930s, Hurwitz, Leo Scop, Maurice Solomon, and the Berwich brothers leased a 70-acre farm in County Down to house refugees on the Kindertransport. This site would become a thriving kibbutz-style community at Ballyrolly House, Millisle. The portrait of Hurwitz by Frank McKelvey is in the entrance hall of the Synagogue in Somerton Road.

- Peter McCabe

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
