

Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Booterstown
Two centuries of faith and vision**

Image of the day



St Philip and St James' Church, Booterstown - two centuries of faith and vision

Two centuries of faith and vision were celebrated on Sunday (May 19) with a special service in St Philip and St James' Church, Booterstown.

The church was packed on the Day of Pentecost for the 200th anniversary of the consecration of the building and the sun shone down on the congregation as they enjoyed the hospitality afterwards.





The Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Revd John McDowell, was the preacher while the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most

Revd Dr Michael Jackson, presided and dedicated a number of projects which have been carried out on the church.

Joining the Rector, Canon Gillian Wharton, were her predecessor, Canon Arthur Barrett, former Archdeacon of Dublin, the Ven Gordon Linney, Fr Myles Heaney of the nearby Spiritan Order, and Lay Readers Uta Raab and Alan Rhodes. National and local public representatives were in attendance. Relatives and descendants of previous incumbents joined in person and tuned in online.

Apart from the organist, the choir was given an additional boost by the Steadfast Band. Children and staff from Booterstown NS also participated in the service.

Read all about it on Dublin diocesan website: <https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2024/05/20/200-years-of-worship-and>

News

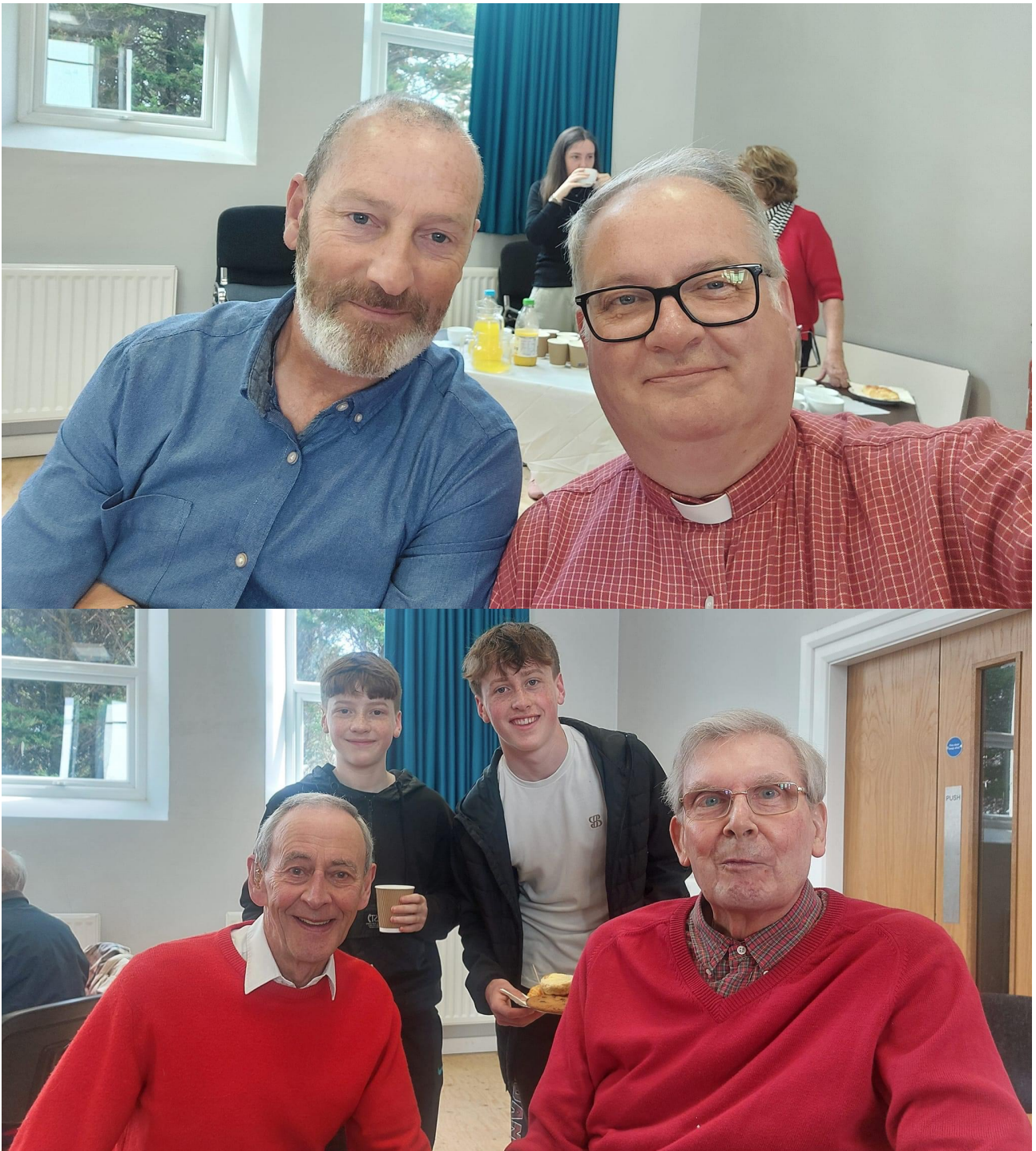
Holy Trinity Portrush in the red for Pentecost

“Pentecost - often described as the birthday of the church - and we celebrated with cake at Cafe Church! Here



Bella and Teagan help Rev Shona blow out the candles!

“It was lovely to see so many folks wearing red as we celebrated Pentecost at Café Church. A huge thank you to the team who made it happen”.



St Malachy's College takes to the hills

Last weekend, the College Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze teams took part in their Practice Expedition, in the Antrim Hills. The boys were faced with a wide range of weather conditions during their walk and handled everything excellently.



Also, their camp craft is also improving all the time, with some great evening meal menus and super tent skills. As always, the boys were a credit to themselves and the College. They are due to complete their Qualifying Expedition, in the Mourne, at the end of June.



Men's breakfast at St Paul's, Lisburn

St Paul's Parish Church, Lisburn, held a Men's Breakfast on Saturday May 18, with almost 60 men coming along for food and fellowship.

The guest speaker was Tom Saunders from The Somme Association.



The Sanctuary Singers
SUMMER CONCERT

Hayley Howe ~ Violin
David Stewart ~ organ & piano
Loreto McAuley ~ Musical Director

June 27th 7.30pm
The Agápe Centre, Lisburn Rd

 TICKETS: Suggested donation £10
[includes tea/coffee]
In aid of the Agape Community Meal

Available from
www.thesanctuarysingers.org

thesanctuarysingers.org
t: 07979 868152 e: loreto@thesanctuarysingers.org

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS OF D-DAY AND THE LIBERATION OF NORMANDY



PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

4 June

21:30 - Candle-lit Ceremony at CWGC Cambes-en-Plaine

5 June

16:00 - Wreath Laying at Gonneville-en-Auge (9 PARA)

17:00 - Act of Remembrance for
Lieutenant Colonel Terence B H Otway DSO and all Riflemen who
volunteered for service with The Parachute Regiment, Merville Battery

21:15 - Candle-lit Ceremony at CWGC Ranville

6 June

05:45 - Act of Remembrance at Sword Beach (Rue Armand Fichot, Lion-
sur-Mer)

11:15 - 6th Airborne Division Service of Remembrance
at CWGC Ranville

7 June

10:00 - Act of Remembrance at the Memorial to the 1st Battalion The
Royal Ulster Rifles, Longueval

12:00 - Vin d'honneur, Ranville

16:00 - Regimental Service of Remembrance at CWGC Ranville

8 June

09:00 - Act of Remembrance for
Lieutenant General Sir Ian (Tommy) Harris KBE CB DSO
at British Memorial Garden, Caen

11:00 - Act of Remembrance at the Memorial to the 2nd Battalion The
Royal Ulster Rifles, Cambes-en-Plaine

Cassino remembrance

HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh was in Italy for the 80th anniversary commemorations of the Battle of Monte Cassino.

The Duchess of Edinburgh delivered a message to those at the Commemoration on behalf of the King.

WW2 veteran Jack Hearn was also there at the Commonwealth War Cemetery as well as the UK Chief of the General Staff General Sir Patrick Sanders.

Surprise presentation to Sunday School Superintendent of Glendermott

A surprise presentation was made to Angela Montgomery, the Sunday School Superintendent at Glendermott parish, Derry, who has been teaching in Sunday School in Glendermott for 30 years. “Thank you for all that you do and good to see you recovering so well.”

Quote

Jesus does not allow the house of God to become a marketplace where sales tables take the place of the family table. We are invited on our Lenten journey to create a greater sense of home and less of a market within ourselves and around us. - Pope Francis

News feature

Traditional doesn't mean boring - a medieval parish church growing for the future



Children taking part in craft activity at church.

The church of St John the Baptist, in the centre of Peterborough, has a remarkable history, not least the 16th Century parish sexton who conducted the funerals of Katherine of Aragon and Mary Queen of Scots, who are buried in the nearby cathedral.

But when the latest vicar, the Rev Michelle Dalliston, arrived two years ago, some were beginning to be concerned for the church's future.

After years of slow decline in numbers, the combination of Covid followed by a period without a vicar, had taken its toll: confidence was waning and the building was only able to open for services, a Saturday café and a Tuesday lunchtime concert series.

Two years on it is “buzzing”, open most days in the week with everything from support for homeless people and a variety of NHS and other drop-in services to a busy café, revitalised lunchtime concerts with professional musicians, and a myriad of other events and activities.

Cafe taking place in Church

Every inch of the building, constructed in 1407 from an 11th Century base, is put to use – including a play area for children, a ‘book nook’ and areas set aside during the day with tea, coffee and biscuits and a listening ear.

Attendance, which was down to 35 to 40 regulars, is now 70-80 on a typical Sunday, with 120 at Easter, and a wider church community of about 200.

“It was built to be the church for the people of the city, so for me coming in two years ago there was a sense of needing to reclaim that identity,” Rev Dalliston explains.

“We realised that we needed to get the building open as much as possible and serving the community.



“There were people in dire need right on our doorstep; people who were at the gates and sleeping in the porch.

“We thought they are people we need to help, how do we go about doing that and increase the volunteer base to meet the need in the community and how do we serve young people and families in the community.”

Members of church planting

Signing up as a Community Support Hub amid the cost-of-living crisis and soaring fuel bills in the winter of 2022, the church has continued ever since as a hub for local people, improving health and well-being, thanks to funding from various sources and great support from volunteers.

Some vital groundwork for the transformation was already in place including works around 15 years ago to reorder the

back of the building installing kitchens, toilets and a café area and removing railings outside making the building fully accessible.

“People were really ready for something to happen,” Rev Dalliston adds.

“There was a real fear that if things didn't change we'd end up shutting the doors.

“People were incredibly faithful and kept everything going in tough times and have been really up for growing the vision and coping with a whirlwind of activity!

“Some of what we're doing isn't that different really, it's basic church stuff but it's about being outward looking.”

The worship is traditional but full of variety and participation.

“It's about exciting liturgy and worship that lifts people's hearts,” she explains.

“Last Sunday we had a baptism with an African family who were singing a traditional baptism song as part of the service but we also have robed choir – it's Anglo Catholic liturgy really done in a lively way which sends you out inspired.”

The service ended with the South African Hymn Siyahamba (We are Marching in the Light of God), with the congregation dancing in the pews!



“On Easter day for the Gospel Reading, we had the crucifer and acolytes there as we do every week but we had children reading the Gospel.

“Traditional doesn’t mean boring or tedious, it's also novel and exciting and has this connection with the history of the building and the history of our faith, but within one service you can have so much variety.

“So in some ways it’s not rocket science, but just being open, celebrating and trusting - trusting that God leads us; that you can take risks and that it’s OK because God has got this.”

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Royal exhibition



Princess Alexandra, Queen Elizabeth II, Duchess of Kent, and Princess Margaret holding their newborns in 1964



The above photo is one of the never-before seen images of the British royal family currently on display at the King's Gallery in Buckingham Palace. The royal mothers are holding their babies, all born in 1964.

Standing: Princess Alexandra, Lady Ogilvy (the Queen's cousin) holding her eldest child, James Ogilvy who was born on February 29, 1964.

Seated: Queen Elizabeth II holding her youngest son, Prince Edward, who was born on March 10, 1964, next to her is Katharine, the Duchess of Kent (wife of the Duke of Kent and sister-in-law of Princess Alexandra) holding her second child and only daughter, Lady Helen Windsor who was born on April 28, 1964.

Seated in front is Princess Margaret, the Queen's sister, holding her youngest child, Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones, who was born on May 1, 1964.

Below photo: The infants who are now adults.

James Ogilvy is now a professional photographer and landscape designer. He is also a publisher and founder of *Luxury Briefing*, a magazine launched in 1996.

Prince Edward is now the Duke of Edinburgh and a senior working member of the House of Windsor.

Lady Helen Windsor married an art dealer, Timothy Taylor. She is also working in the same field and established her own charity.

Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones married Daniel Chatto, also an art dealer, and also exhibiting her own art works.

May 23, 2024

With the return of the newly rebranded Rathlin Sound Festival, check out what's in store for Ballycastle's annual celebration of local people, culture and heritage.

Starting May 24th, come and see musicians, underwater VR and even learn circus skills.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/4dHV4Ki>

Blackwater Barge tour marking Benburb Priory 75th anniversary

As OSM (The Order of the Servants of Mary) celebrates its 75th anniversary here at Benburb Priory, we have a range of exciting events throughout the month of June.

We begin our events with tours on the Blackwater River on the Blackwater Barge operated by the Blackwater Community Barge Project.

The first tour will be on Saturday 1st June 2024. Each tour will last one hour beginning at the slipway in Blackwatertown at 12 noon - travelling downstream to the Moy and returning to Blackwatertown for 1pm.

If you are interested and would like to book a place on this tour, please contact 07825580004 or email hello@benburbpriory.com

Tours are free but donations to the Blackwater Community Barge Project are welcome.

Perspective

Farewell to Jurgen, Planning for Succession



There were emotional scenes at Anfield, the home of Liverpool Football Club on Sunday past, as Jurgen Klopp took charge as manager for the last time, Jono Pierce writes.

Liverpool beat Wolves in the last fixture of the season and many were in tears as they saluted the contribution of one of the most successful managers in the club's history.

Earlier in the season, Klopp's announcement that he would be resigning at the end of the season sent shock waves around the football world. The 56 year old German said he had run out of energy and needed to step back from one of the most pressurised jobs in football. When you manage a club which has a worldwide following like Liverpool, the pressure is unrelenting. The expectations of the fans are huge and the challenge of motivating highly paid elite athletes is not without its challenges.

There's the business side of things where you have to make good decisions in the transfer market about buying and

selling players at the right time, you need to nurture young talent and give players the opportunity to develop and gain experience at the highest level. You have to deal with the disappointments players feel at not getting the amount of game time they would like.

You have to respond to injuries and fixtures coming at you constantly. You are constantly under the scrutiny of the media, and any defeats or a bad string of results can mean that your job might be in danger. These days in football management, a run of 4-5 defeats is often portrayed as a crisis and, unless you get a good run going again very quickly, the pressure is firmly placed upon your shoulders. Everyone has an opinion about what you should do, your team selection, your style of play. It's no wonder that these pressures of huge expectation and the intensity of the role means that your health can suffer.

The new manager, who takes charge from June onwards, is called Arne Slot and comes from the Dutch club, Feyenoord. It's hard to succeed someone, who was not only successful in terms of results, but who was greatly loved it seems by his players and the fans alike.

Jurgen Klopp was an incredibly passionate and charismatic leader. He seemed to understand the city and the place football played in people's lives. I loved the way he went the extra mile for fans.

When Irish fan, Sean Cox, received life changing injuries following a mindless assault by rival fans at a European game, Klopp was quick to champion his cause, to get involved in fundraising in whatever way he could, signing

shirts and to meet personally with Sean Cox and the Cox family as he received specialist rehabilitation. He had that capacity to inspire and make people feel that they belonged and were part of a special family.

I loved the way he saw a video on social media of 12 year old Daire Gorman crying as he heard the fans sing 'You'll never walk alone' on his first visit to a game. Daire was born with a rare condition and is confined to a wheelchair. Klopp invited him and his family to a training session and met with them personally and introduced them to his favourite players in the trip of a life time. He spoke meaningfully with him about the sentiments in that song and reminded Daire that, as he went through life, he would never be alone. Klopp spoke honestly and movingly about the role his Christian faith played in his life, something which became very important after he lost his father at a young age and, as a fan and a Christian, I loved the way he spoke so openly and honestly about these things. He was respectful of the beliefs of others and tried to ensure his Muslim players could observe religious festivals and have all their dietary requirements looked after by specialist staff. It was these acts of attentiveness to the needs of others that made him such an inspirational figure to his players and the fans alike.

Some criticised his decision to publicise his departure when the season was about two thirds completed, but he wanted to be honest with players and fans alike and, I suspect, allow the club to prepare for his successor.

In the life of faith we always have to be thinking about the future. Its great to see young people involved in leading worship, speaking publicly about their faith and mobilising

others. We are keen to see a new generation of followers of Jesus coming through and taking their place at the forefront of church life.

We owe a great debt of thanksgiving to our Sunday school teachers and youth organisation leaders, and former youth leaders who have played such a significant role in mentoring our young people in the life of faith and discipleship.

In next month's magazine we hope to share some plans for the start of a youth group in the autumn and ways in which they might be involved and encouraged in the life of faith following their confirmation. We would love people to pray for this and for the raising up of leaders and volunteers who will encourage our young people to walk on in their journey with Jesus at the centre.

How good to be reminded, as Jurgen did on the last day of the season, that we never walk alone.

Rev Jono Pierce is Rector of St Fininian's Parish, Belfast

Poem For Today

To My Daughter Betty

by Thomas M. Kettle

In wiser days, my darling rosebud, blown
To beauty proud as was your Mother's prime.
In that desired, delayed, incredible time,



You'll ask why I abandoned you, my own,
And the dear heart that was your baby throne,
To die with death. And oh! they'll give you rhyme
And reason: some will call the thing sublime,
And some decry it in a knowing tone.
So here, while the mad guns curse overhead,
And tired men sigh with mud for couch and floor,
Know that we fools, now with the foolish dead,
Died not for flag, nor King, nor Emperor,
But for a dream, born in a herdsman's shed,
And for the secret Scripture of the poor.

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
