

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – Lake side communion**

April 13, 2023

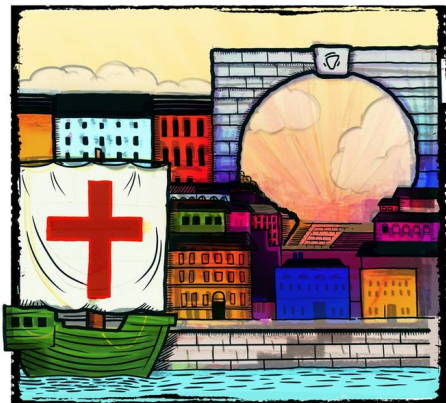
# Image of the day

## Lake side communion

When Lough Neagh, the largest area of inland water in these islands forms a major part of the parish boundary...  
...An Easter morning lake side communion featured in All Saints Parish Church's programme as well as the Good Friday inter-church walk with the Cross.



## People and places



# Camino de Dublin

## New film highlights Dublin links to Santiago de Compostela

**A new short film, Camino de Dublin, written and directed by historian Caoimhe Leppard, documents the ancient pilgrim journey that medieval pilgrims would have taken from St James's Gate through the city of Dublin to the area in which pilgrims would have embarked to set sail for Spain, allowing us to follow in the footsteps of those medieval pilgrims today.**

The history of St James's Way dates to the beginning of the 9th century with the discovery of St James's tomb at Santiago de Compostela in north west Spain.

Every year hundreds of thousands of pilgrims of all faiths, ages and backgrounds walk to the Cathedral in Santiago, which is the resting place of Saint James the Apostle.

St James's Gate, on James Street in Dublin has been a traditional embarking point for Irish pilgrims commencing their pilgrimages from Dublin since the 13th century. Pilgrims assembled here, before walking through the city and setting sail to Santiago de Compostela. The links between this ancient part of Dublin and St James span more than 800 years and we can see plenty of evidence of the Camino within this short distance.

This documentary features interviews with Turlough O'Donnell SC, former Chairman of the Camino Society of Ireland and Patt Gibbs who leads the volunteers in the Camino Information Centre, who discuss the role of the



**Evangelism Training** 

**10am - 3.30pm Saturday 22nd April**

**St. Patrick's Church of Ireland**  
**220 Newtownards Road**  
**Ballymacarrett**  
**Belfast**

**With David Lorimer**  
Evangelist with Crown Jesus Ministries

*How to effectively lead people to Jesus -  
in prayer ministry, on the streets,  
in everyday life*

**To Register for this day, send an email to:  
office@divinehealingministries.org**

**Please bring packed lunch, tea & coffee will be provided**

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Camino Information Centre and the motivations of pilgrims who are undertaking the Camino from Dublin in modern times.

Dr Susan Hood, Librarian and Archivist of the Representative Church Body Library speaks to us about the Alen Register, a 16th century compilation of medieval sources which report the intention of a hostel for pilgrims in Dublin who intended to travel to the shrine of St James at Santiago de Compostela.

Many thanks to all those involved with the filming in The Camino Information Centre, Pearse Lyons Distillery, and The Representative Church Body Library.

You can view the film on the Dublin and Glendalough YouTube channel here:

[\[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cdhS\M608ps\]](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cdhS\M608ps)

## **Historical Westmeath school has plans for a substantial extension**

**A substantial extension could be on the cards for a midlands school.**

Wilson's Hospital School in Multyfarnham is planning an extension to the original building which would house new labs and practical rooms, classrooms and Autism classrooms.



The project is being designed by Dijk Architects, Dundalk.

The Westmeath school has been open since 1761, after local merchant Andrew Wilson transferred his estate to the Church of Ireland hierarchy to build a hospital for aged Protestant men and a school for poor Protestant boys.

## **Navy chaplain succeeds C of I Air Force chaplain as Principal of The Armed Forces Chaplaincy Centre**

**The Armed Forces Chaplaincy Centre (AFCC) at the UK Defence Academy has welcomed its new Principal, the Reverend Dr Mark Davidson, Chaplain Royal Navy.**

Chaplain Davidson, who takes over as Principal from Padre Geoff Withers, said: "I am delighted to be invited to lead the



AFCC as we build our portfolio of courses and research streams to support both military chaplains and the wider defence community.

“The AFCC is firmly established as an essential asset in developing spiritual and personal resilience in our people. I look forward to building on the superb work undertaken by Padre Withers and the team of Chaplain Instructors since the AFCC moved to the Defence Academy in 2020.”

The AFCC provides training and nurturing of Defence people to facilitate, underpin and support the development of the spiritual edge, enabling people to react and operate with the highest moral and ethical standards in an era of constant competition. It seeks to inspire people of all faiths

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and beliefs to maximise their potential and live their lives to the full.

## **Carlow lecture will examine the significance of church interiors**

**An upcoming history talk will look at the significance of church interiors and a project to document everyone in Ireland.**

Maynooth University lecturer Dr Sarah Roddy has been invited by Carlow Historical and Archaeological Society to give a talk examining the thousands of church buildings across Ireland that are an underused resource for Irish social history. The event will take place in the Seven Oaks Hotel on 18 April at 8pm.



**Carlow cathedral**

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Many people would understand the value of parish registers for uncovering information about ancestors, but few appreciate that the spaces in which those ancestors worshipped, still with us today, can also offer strong evidence of various insights.

The talk will be based on a chapter of a book that Dr Snoddy is writing and will present a visual illustration of what closer examination of church interiors can do for our understanding of Irish people in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The talk will also include an introduction to a spin-off project Dr Roddy is leading entitled 'PARISH' (Preserving and Recording Ireland's Sacred Heritage), a collaboration between Maynooth University and the University of Notre Dame in the USA. This project aims to produce an online database containing comprehensive photographic and other data records of the interiors of (initially) all Catholic churches on the island of Ireland.

## **Londonderry cemetery pipe bombs evil, says priest**

**A Catholic priest has described the planting of four suspected pipe bombs inside the grounds of a cemetery in Londonderry as "evil".**

Police believe the devices were to be used in a planned attack on officers after an illegal dissident republican parade in the city on Monday.

They were discovered at the City Cemetery early on Tuesday morning.

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"I see this as just evil," Fr Michael Canny told BBC Radio Foyle.

"This is something planned for some time, these people obviously had planned to lure police in," he said.

Fr Canny said pipe and petrol bombs "don't just appear out of the sky".

## News reports

### Coronation: Bishops confirmed for ceremonial roles, as first guests are announced

**Bishops of Bath & Wells and Durham will serve as Bishops Assistant to the King at the Coronation next month, the Cabinet Office confirmed on Monday.**

They were listed among 13 people chosen to play "important historic ceremonial roles . . . having showed evidence that their claim related to a historic customary service performed at previous Coronations".

The part played by two supporting bishops dates back to the coronation of Edgar in 973: two bishops led him by hand into Bath Abbey. Since the coronation of Richard I in 1189, the Bishops of Bath & Wells and Durham have assumed this duty.

Custom has it that they accompany the monarch throughout the ceremony, flanking him as they process from the



## Gable end mural in Larne

entrance of Westminster Abbey and standing either side of St Edward's Chair during the anointing. Bishops Assistant may also carry the Bible, paten, and chalice in the procession.

Today, the Bishop of Durham is the Rt Revd Paul Butler, and the Bishop of Bath & Wells is Dr Michael Beasley.

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Also listed among the 13 people is the Bishop of Edinburgh in the Scottish Episcopal Church, Dr John Armes. He is the ex officio chair of the Walker Trustees, the body into which the Heritable Usher of the White Rod was incorporated.

Details of the procession to and from the Abbey were published on Easter Day. The King and Queen Consort will travel from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey via Whitehall in the Diamond Jubilee State Coach. They will return in the Gold State Coach by the same route, accompanied by members of the Armed Forces. The procession back to Buckingham Palace by Queen Elizabeth II was much longer: it took 16,000 participants two hours to complete a journey of almost five miles.



Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



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The Times reported on Monday that the Chief Rabbi, Ephraim Mirvis, and his wife, are due to stay with the King and Queen Consort at Clarence House the night before the coronation so that they can walk to the Abbey without having to travel by car on the Sabbath.

It was announced on Good Friday that more than 450 “people from all walks of life who have been awarded British Empire Medals for their service to the community” had been invited to attend the service. A statement from Buckingham Palace said that many had been “instrumental in providing services and support to their local communities during the Covid-19 lockdowns”.

In addition, 400 young people representing charitable organisations, nominated by the King and the Queen Consort and the Government, have been invited to watch a live screening of the service in St Margaret’s, the church beside Westminster Abbey.

With less than a month until the coronation on 6 May, the order of service has yet to be published. The order of service for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II was published in February 1953, four months in advance. It is understood that the present delay signifies nothing other than a change in media practice in the intervening decades. A senior church official involved in the planning of King Charles’s coronation said this week that details would be released “over the coming weeks”.

Episcopal support during the coronation in the past century was not without a hitch. In his book *God Save the King: The sacred nature of the monarchy*, Professor Ian Bradley,

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Emeritus Professor of Cultural and Spiritual History at the University of St Andrews, records that in 1937 neither of the bishops holding the form of service for King George VI to follow could find the right page for the coronation oaths, “so the Archbishop held up his copy but covered the words of the oath with his thumb”.

## **Sex is a beautiful thing that God has given us, says Pope**

**Pope Francis has praised the virtues of sex in a documentary, describing it as “one of the beautiful things that God has given to the human person”.**

The 86-year-old pontiff made the comment in *The Pope Answers*, a Disney+ programme that captures a meeting he had last year in Rome with 10 people in their early 20s.

Francis was questioned by them on a variety of topics, including LGBT rights, abortion, the porn industry, sex, and faith and sexual abuse within the Catholic Church.

“Sex is one of the beautiful things that God has given to the human person,” the Pope said in the documentary.

“To express yourself sexually is a richness. So anything that detracts from real sexual expression lessens you and depletes this richness,” he added, referring to masturbation.

Francis was also asked whether he knew what a “non-binary person” was, and he replied that he did. He repeated

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that LGBT people must be welcomed by the Catholic Church. “All persons are the children of God, all persons. God does not reject anybody,” he said.

## **Church of Scotland welcomes Scottish Government strategy for Faith and Belief**

**The Church of Scotland has welcomed a new strategy from the Scottish Government that aims to strengthen communication, engagement and collaboration between the Scottish Government and Scotland's diverse faith and belief communities.**

The strategy was launched today in Glasgow by Christina McKelvie, the Minister for Equalities and Older People, along with representatives of different churches and faith groups.

The vision for the new strategy is of a diverse Scotland which is ‘peaceful, resilient and inclusive for people of all faiths, religious identities and spiritual beliefs.’

Under the plan the government will ensure ‘regular, constructive engagement’ takes place with faith and belief communities, building relationships based on trust and respect.

It introduces a new way of working that will see faith and belief communities being active partners with Scottish Government and together ‘meeting emerging societal challenges and working together for the common good’.

## **Rev Fiona Smith, Principal Clerk for the Church of Scotland, welcomed the new way of working, saying:**

‘This strategy is a great step forward in the relationships between faith communities and government. It reflects the hard work done by all over the last few years in this space and it establishes a dynamic new way of engagement between faith communities and government that will help to enhance and support the people of Scotland in their communities.’

### **The strategy's aims and outcomes include:**

- +Ensuring the Scottish Government has a more detailed picture of faith and belief in Scotland and uses this to inform policy development
- +Widening the Scottish Government's engagement with faith and belief communities so that the diverse voices of Scotland's faith and belief communities are heard
- +Improving religious literacy across Scottish Government so that Scottish Government officials and Ministers have a more nuanced and detailed understanding of the diverse faith and belief communities in Scotland
- +Reviewing Scottish Government funding to faith and belief organisations and identifying overlap, gaps and potential for new funding and to ensure faith and belief groups are aware of relevant funding opportunities



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+Supporting meaningful connections and dialogue between different faith and belief groups, and collaboration in the delivery of community projects

+Making sure faith and belief groups are embedded within Scottish Government's work to mainstream equality and participate in contributing to policy development

The Church of Scotland contributed ideas and comments in the development of the Faith and Belief Engagement Strategy, which was developed by the Scottish Government in partnership with Scotland's faith and belief groups.

You can find out more about the Faith and Belief Engagement Strategy on the Scottish Government website.

## Poem for today

### By Faughan by Francis Ledwidge

Composed in 1916 in while stationed at Ebrington barracks in Derry.

For hills and woods and streams unsung  
I pipe above a rippled cove  
And here the weaver autumn clung  
Between the hills a wind she wove  
From sounds the hills remember yet  
Of purple days and violet.

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The hills stand up to trip the sky  
Sea-misted and along the tops  
Wing after wing goes summer by,  
And many a little roadway stops  
And starts, and struggles to the sea,  
Cutting them up in filigree.

Twixt wind and silence Faughan flows,  
In music broken over rocks,  
Like mingled bells the poet knows  
Ring in the fields of Eastern flocks.  
And here this song for you I find  
Between the silence and the wind.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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# Church News Ireland

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