

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Coronation Evensong, Belfast

Image of the day

Coronation Choral Evensong, Belfast

All are invited to St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast for a special service of Choral Evensong to be held at 5.30pm on Friday 5th May, 2023, which is the Eve of Coronation Day.

HM King Charles III has asked that prayers are made for him across the nation, on the eve of his coronation. Led by the Dean of Belfast, prayers shall be said within the context of a full cathedral Choral Evensong.

This will be the first full choral evensong under the direction of the cathedral's new Master of Music, Mr Jack Wilson.

The service will be attended by members of the Cathedral Chapter of St Anne's and also by Mrs Jane Wells MBE Deputy Lieutenant for Belfast, representing the Lord Lieutenant for the city of Belfast, Dame Fionnuala Jay O'Boyle.

Dean Stephen Forde commented, "With memories of the King's visit to Belfast Cathedral on 13th September 2022 still fresh in our minds, we hope that people from right across the city of Belfast and beyond will attend this very special service to share in the nation's celebrations for the coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla the following day."

Coronation Lunch in the Nave

Then on Sunday 7th May, the cathedral will be the venue for a Cathedral Coronation Choral Eucharist starting at 11.00am.

The choir will lead the congregation in giving thanks for the start of the new king's reign, with the Dean as preacher.

Choral Eucharist will then be followed by "Coronation Lunch in the Nave". The cathedral congregation will share in a "pot luck lunch", an indoor street party for the cathedral family held the nave of the cathedral. This is one of the events being held across the nation as part of the Coronation Big Lunch.

Archbishop of Armagh to present orb to King Charles at Coronation - see report on pages

People and places

One of earliest Presbyterian Churches in Ireland marks 350th anniversary

One of Ireland's oldest congregations in continuous worship celebrates its 350th anniversary, Helen McGurk writes in The Newsletter.

Armagh City's First Presbyterian Church marks the foundation of its congregation in 1673, starting Thursday,

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May 4 with a four-day festival entitled 350 Years in Scripture, Stitches and Stone.

The festival will include illustrations of Bible verses created by congregants and associated organisations expressed through window displays, floral arrangements, patchwork quilts, banners and a range of

stitched works. A 3D timeline tracing the history of the congregation will highlight the generations of Armagh Presbyterian worshippers within changing historic contexts over the three and a half centuries.

Co-organiser Elise Crean said: “The original church was first established in 1673 in Armagh before moving to a new site in Abbey Street in the early 1700s and finally to this magnificent, Gothic revival edifice on the Mall in 1879.”

350 YEARS
IN SCRIPTURE,
STITCHES
AND STONE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH, ARMAGH

CELEBRATING
350
YEARS
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ARMAGH
1673 2023

Thursday 4th May -
Sunday 7th May 2023

**A Festival of Creative
Displays to Mark 350 Years
of Worship and Witness**

Opening Times:
Thursday 4th May, 1.30pm - 7.30pm
Friday 5th May, 10.00am - 7.30pm
Saturday 6th May, 1.30pm - 7.30pm
Sunday 7th May, 12.30pm - 7.00pm

Services:
Thursday 4th May, 1.30pm
Sunday 7th May, 11:30am
Sunday 7th May, 7.00pm

Refreshments Available

Charity Number: NIC104984

Further information:
www.firstarmagh.co.uk
Contact us:
info@firstarmagh.co.uk
or find us on

350 YEARS
IN SCRIPTURE,
STITCHES
AND STONE

FESTIVAL MUSIC PROGRAMME

Thursday 4th May

- 2.30 – Elise Crean
- 3.30 – Rodney Spence
- 4.30 – Martin White
- 5.30 – Amy Scott
- 6.30 – Armagh Pipers Club

Friday 5th May

- 10.30 – Peter Thompson
- 11.30 – Moyra Gamble
- 12.30 – Richard Yarr
- 1.30 – Daniel Clements
- 2.30 – Janice Nicholl
- 3.30 – Elise Crean
- 4.30 – Edna Mullan
- 5.30 – Tassagh Silver Band
- 6.30 – Andrew Glenny

Saturday 6th May

- 1.30 – Stephen Furphy
- 2.30 – Trevor Sharpe
- 3.30 – Pride of the Birches Accordion Band
- 4.30 – Roberta Pollock
- 5.30 – Andrew Graham
- 6.00 – Elise Crean
- 7.00 – Daire Downey

Sunday 7th May

- 1.30 – First Armagh Praise Band
- 2.30 – Elise Crean
- 3.30 – Armagh Old Boys Band
- 4.30 – David Whiteside

The church whose spire is 185ft high features unique assets including the 1905 pipe organ restored in 2019. One peculiar detail not seen on any other Irish Presbyterian Church is a monkey-faced chimera.

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“The most common explanation is that a member of the congregation was pompously telling a stone mason how to do his job and this was the mason’s response,” says Elise.

The Armagh limestone church’s interior is a reflection of continually moving history: two marble tablets on which are written the names of those who served in WW1; regimental flags from 1920 after the disbandment of the 7th and 8th Battalions of the Royal Irish Fusiliers; a brass tablet commemorating those who served in WW2; and a light oak communion table and chairs by the pulpit installed in 1952.

Festival schedule:

The Festival will commence with a service on Thursday, May 4 at 1.30pm, led by Rev Graham Mullan, with special music by the Armstrong Primary School Choir.

Refreshments will be available throughout the event with the exception of Sunday when they will be served from 2pm – 5pm.

The Morning Service on Sunday, May 7 at 11.30am will be conducted by Rev Dr Tony Davidson, and the Festival will be brought to a close with an Evening Service at 7pm, led by Very Rev Dr David Bruce.

Further details at www.firstarmagh.co.uk

City of Derry Choral Festival schools deadline

The deadline for choir entries in the Schools, National (UK & Ireland) and Non-Competitive categories is coming up fast!

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Make sure to get your entries in by Friday 26 May 2023

Don't miss out on the opportunity to perform at the 10th Anniversary Festival, where you will meet other talented musicians from all over the world and experience the vibrant city of Derry!

So what are you waiting for? Get those vocal cords warmed up and show us what you've got!

<https://derrychoirfest.com/take-part>

Archbishop McDowell to present orb to King Charles at Coronation

Buckingham Palace has announced further details on the Ceremonial roles to be performed by individuals in the Coronation Service at Westminster Abbey.

The Ceremonial roles include bearing the Regalia in the Procession and presenting the items to Their Majesties. Those undertaking these historic roles in the Service have been chosen to recognise, thank and represent the Nation due to their significant service, and include representatives from Orders of Chivalry, the military and wider public life.

The first processions into Westminster Abbey will be made up of Faith Leaders and Faith Representatives followed shortly afterwards by representatives from His Majesty's Realms. Flags of each Realm will be carried by national representatives accompanied by the Governors General and Prime Ministers. Bearing the Flag of the United

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Kingdom ahead of Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Mrs Akshata Murty will be Cadet Warrant Officer Elliott Tyson-Lee, who said: "It is a great and incredible honour to be a part of Their Majesties' Coronation Service as a representative of the Royal Air Force Air Cadets."

This will be followed by The Procession of The King and The Queen which will be led by the Marquess of Anglesey, the Duke of Westminster, the Earl of Caledon and the Earl of Dundee who will carry the Standards of the Quarterings of the Royal Arms and Standard of the Principality of Wales. Francis Dymoke will carry The Royal Standard.

Mr Dymoke's claim to undertake a historic role in the Coronation was upheld by the Coronation Claims Office. The title of King or Queen's Champion has been held by the Dymoke family since the Middle Ages. The King's Champion would previously ride on horseback into the Coronation Banquet and challenge any who doubted the right of The King or Queen to the throne. There has not been a Coronation Banquet since that held by King George IV in 1821 so the Champion has instead undertaken a different role since, usually bearing a flag or Standard.

Also taking part in the procession will be Admiral Sir Tony Radakin, Chief of the Defence Staff, acting as Lord High Constable of England, an office held for the day only. Traditionally the Lord High Constable is a Great Officer of State and has historically been connected to the military. He will take part alongside the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk.

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The Earl of Erroll will act as Lord High Constable of Scotland. Similar to that of Lord High Constable of England, this role has historically been connected to the military and the Earldom of Erroll through a Coronation claim. The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres will act as Deputy to the Great Steward of Scotland, HRH The Prince of Wales.

The following will then process to the altar carrying Her Majesty's Regalia:

Baroness (Helena) Kennedy of The Shaws – Carrying The Queen Consort's Rod

General Sir Patrick Sanders – Carrying The Queen Consort's Sceptre

The Duke of Wellington – Carrying Queen Mary's Crown

**The Rt. Reverend and Rt. Hon the Lord Chartres–
Carrying The Queen Consort's Ring**

Lord Chartres said: “The ceremonies of the Coronation are ancient but they have been freshly interpreted for our contemporary world.”

The following will then process to the altar carrying His Majesty's Regalia:

General Sir Gordon Messenger, the Governor of HM Tower of London – Carrying St Edward's Crown as Lord High Steward of England

Baroness (Elizabeth) Manningham-Buller LG – Carrying St Edward's Staff

The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry KT – Carrying the Sceptre with Cross

Baroness (Floella) Benjamin OM – Carrying the Sceptre with the Dove

Dame Elizabeth Anionwu OM – Carrying the Orb

The Keeper of the Jewel House, Brigadier Andrew Jackson – Carrying The Sovereign’s Ring

Petty Officer Amy Taylor – Carrying the Sword of Offering

Lord Hastings and The Earl of Loudoun – Carrying the Spurs

Lord President of the Council, Penny Mordaunt – Carrying the Sword of State in The King’s Procession

Air Chief Marshal the Lord Peach – Carrying the Sword of Mercy (The Curtana)

General the Lord Richards of Herstmonceux – Carrying the Sword of Spiritual Justice

General the Lord Houghton of Richmond – Carrying the Sword of Temporal Justice

General Sir Gordon Messenger, the Lord High Steward of England, (also an office held for the day only) is the most senior Great Officer of State for the Coronation, in order to bear the St Edward’s Crown into the Abbey, the most significant item of Regalia. On carrying St Edward’s Crown, General Sir Gordon Messenger said: “It is a huge and unique honour to be appointed Lord High Steward for His Majesty’s Coronation. To be playing a key role on such an important and historic occasion is a source of great pride to me, my family, the Royal Marines, and the Tower of London community.”

Petty Officer Amy Taylor will be the first woman to bear the Jewelled Sword of Offering into the Abbey. She has been selected to represent Service men and women, as a Royal Navy Petty Officer, a tribute to His Majesty’s military career.

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She said: "Having served most of my senior career as an Aircraft Engineer on 845 Naval Air Squadron at RNAS Yeovilton where His Majesty originally trained and served as a pilot, I am deeply honoured and humbled to play my part in this historic event. Coming from a farming family His Majesty has always been such a great advocate for our community and someone I have admired growing up."

Baroness Benjamin and Dame Elizabeth Anionwu are amongst recent appointees to the Order of Merit, the final members to be chosen for the Order by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Baroness Benjamin said: "I feel honoured and privileged to be part of the historic Coronation ceremony. To be selected to carry the Sovereign's Sceptre with Dove, which represents spirituality, equity and mercy, is for me very symbolic as it's everything I stand for and sends out a clear message that diversity and inclusion is being embraced."

Participating in the act of Recognition of His Majesty whereby His Majesty will be presented to the Congregation at the start of the Service will be:

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Baroness (Valerie) Amos LG, Lady Elish Angiolini LT, and Christopher Finney GC, Chair of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association.

During the Coronation Service the Regalia will be presented to Their Majesties. Those presenting have been chosen on the advice of Government. Those presenting Regalia to His Majesty will be:

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The Lord Carrington, Lord Great Chamberlain –
Presenting the Spurs

The Lord (Syed) Kamall – Presenting the Armills

Baroness (Gillian) Merron – Presenting the Robe Royal

**The Most Reverend John McDowell, the Church of
Ireland Archbishop of Armagh – Presenting the Orb**

Lord (Narendra) Patel KT – Presenting the Ring

Lord (Indarjit) Singh of Wimbledon – Presenting the
Coronation Glove

**The Most Reverend Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray,
Ross and Caithness, and Episcopal Primus of Scotland
– Presenting the Sceptre with Cross**

**The Most Reverend Andrew John, the Archbishop of
Wales – Presenting the Sceptre with Dove**

**The Archbishop of Canterbury – Performing the
crowning with St Edward's Crown**

Those presenting Regalia to Her Majesty will be:

**The Rt. Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin CD, The
Bishop of Dover – Presenting The Queen Consort's Rod**

**The Rt. Reverend and Rt Hon. Lord Chartres –
Presenting The Queen Consort's Sceptre with Cross**

Brigadier Andrew Jackson, The Keeper of the Jewel
House at HM Tower of London – Presenting The Queen
Consort's Ring

**The Archbishop of Canterbury – Performing the
crowning with Queen Mary's Crown**

On presenting Regalia to Her Majesty, **The Bishop of
Dover** said: “I am surprised, excited and honoured to have
been asked to play a part in this historic once in a lifetime
occasion. As I make my presentation, both Their Majesties

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will remain in my prayers as they seek to serve the nation and the Commonwealth.”

Chasuble to celebrate women workers of Derry at St Eugene's Cathedral 150th Anniversary Mass



Pictured is Marie Horton presenting the beautiful chasuble to Fr Paul Farren, Administrator of St. Eugene's Cathedral. What a lovely celebration of the many women and girls who worked in the shirt factory industry in the city.

To mark the 150th anniversary of St Eugene's Cathedral Mass

will be held on Sunday, 30th April at 3:00pm, celebrated by Bishop of Derry, Donal McKeown.

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At this Mass Bishop McKeown will be wearing a new chasuble (over-vestment) that has been specially made for the occasion.

The chasuble has been designed and created by Marie Horton, a former shirt factory worker to remember and celebrate the women of Derry who worked for so many years in the shirt making industry.

The name of every shirt factory in Derry as well as an image of the Rosemount Factory, in the Cathedral parish, is embroidered onto the vestment.

There are also other images marking the shirt making industry, including a cross made from shirt material.

Methodist Church annual conference

The 254th Conference of the Methodist Church in Ireland will take place at Assembly Buildings Belfast from Thurs 8th - Sat 10th June, 2023.

The theme is - Forming our lives together around the practices of Jesus - for His kingdom and the transformation of the world.

The Representative Session of the Conference will begin with the Service of Installation of Rev David L Turtle as President of the Methodist Church in Ireland on Thursday 8th June at 7.30pm and will end with the Ordination Service, which will take place at 5:00pm on Saturday 10th June.

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Another beautiful sunny late afternoon over looking Broglasco Farm in Myroe, with the rapeseed in full bloom and Binevenagh Mountain as a backdrop. Thanks to Aerial Vision NI for the photo.



Antidepressants make me feel like Eeyore, says Archbishop Welby

The Archbishop of Canterbury has described how taking antidepressants allows him to function normally rather than be overcome by despair.

The Most Rev Justin Welby says medication prevents him from becoming ‘something much worse’

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Taking them makes him feel like “Eeyore” rather than “something much worse”, he said.

The Most Rev Justin Welby has spoken in the past about taking antidepressants, but he has now opened up further about them, telling worshippers recently that they play a vital role in helping to manage his mood.

Referring to the gloomy but likeable donkey in AA Milne’s Winnie-the-Pooh stories, he said: “I am on antidepressants. They work very well. They restore me to Eeyore status from something much worse.”

In the third of three lectures at Canterbury Cathedral to mark Holy Week, on the three themes of optimism, despair and hope, he went on to say: “As the psychiatrist I see tells me, the aim is not to make me so laid back that I’m horizontal, but just to settle things enough that I react like an average sort of human being.

“I’m sad when things are sad and happy when they’re happy.”

In the first of the lectures, the archbishop said that Milne’s characters provide a shorthand for explaining personality types, from Tigger, the exuberant tiger, to gloomy Eeyore.

Archbishop Welby, 67, said: “Some of us are Tiggers, some of us are Eeyores. Probably some of us are many of the other characters in Winnie-the-Pooh.”

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He also spoke of the despair he and his wife felt when his second child fell seriously ill and had to undergo neurosurgery, just a year after the death of their eldest child.

He said: “We felt the absence of God. Where was the hope then? There’s always hope because the hope is the faithfulness of God through the whole Church to the whole Church.”

In the media

Irish nuns should be thanked – not demonised

A good news story related to Irish Catholicism featured across mainstream news outlets this week as 21 Cameroonian women travelled to Ireland to give thanks to the Irish Holy Rosary Sisters who taught them decades ago in Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School in Mankon Cameroon, Dulta Roughneen writes in the Catholic Herald

Graduating in 1986, the class came together from across the world to arrive at Dublin Airport. They were greeted by Sr Mary Neville, who will be 90 years old next month and worked as principal of the school from 1981 until 1985. The longtime graduates arrived from the UK, the United States, Cameroon, Norway and Switzerland.

Quoted in the Irish Times, Dr Claire Minang, a pharmacist in Houston, Texas, explained why it is was so important to

them to come to Ireland and express their gratitude to the Irish religious community who shaped, formed and changed their lives:

“[The sisters] made us understand that we are enough as women in a world where it’s very masculine, and especially in Africa, where girls are even looked at less than the boys even more so. But they made us understand that we are up to, that we are important and we are enough,” Dr Minang said at the airport.

“We’re so very grateful because it made us who we are. We got the self-confidence, we knew that we could be whatever we wanted because they gave us that and that’s why today we are also taking up space in the global stage in different careers, we have doctors, lawyers, engineers, pharmacy, you name it, we got it.”

RTE, the Irish national broadcaster, also covered the story. Speaking to Nagella Nwana Nukuna, now a technical manager at DuPont, the multinational chemicals firm, Ireland learned of the appreciation the girls, now women, had for their teachers, and that the school, while strict and structured, allowed them to grow.

“They were loving sisters to us. And, as we have grown up, we could all see that that level of structure is sometimes good.”

It is heartening for many Catholics in Ireland to hear witness on mainstream media of the self-sacrificial works of the Irish religious.

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Michael Kelly, Editor of the Irish Catholic tweeted “We will never see the likes of these heroic Irishwomen again. From this small island, our religious sisters brought life and living to the most vulnerable communities in the world.”

Matt Moran, author of *The Legacy of Irish Missionaries Lives On*, on Facebook, was grateful for some positive coverage for the work of Irish Missionaries.

“Credit and ‘thank you’ to the journalists in RTÉ News and the Irish Times who published this good news story in praise of the work of Irish nuns in Cameroon.”

David Quinn, commentator and director of the Iona Institute, was more sanguine, highlighting an uncomfortable reality: “Those who love to demonise nuns need to take a good look at this video and see the sheer happiness on display when these Cameroonian women meet the Irish nuns who taught them.”

Quinn’s comments raise an important point. In recent years, the legacy of Irish nuns, both in Ireland and abroad has been attacked almost incessantly and the use of the term “dehumanised” is increasingly appropriate. The change in attitude towards Irish religious has come about as the country changed significantly in the last 30 years, pivoting from being the most Catholic country in Europe, to arguably the most anti-Catholic.

The various abuse crises that have hit the Church globally, have hit particularly hard in Ireland, with reports into Magdalene laundries and mother and baby homes being used to create a particular caricature of nuns in Ireland that

is diametrically opposed to the warm coverage of the Cameroonian visitors.

The 2021, the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Mother and Baby Homes was released, anticipated to provide the damning evidence into the iniquity of the religious institutions that ran many of them. Like the McAleese report into the Magdalene Laundries, the facts did not align with what much of society desired – a public annihilation of all things Catholic.

However, the mother and baby homes report said something quite different and unacceptable.

“It is important to also distinguish between the mother and baby homes and the county homes ... the available evidence suggested that, while the living conditions in the mother and baby homes were basic, there is no indication that they were inadequate by the standards of the time, except in Kilrush and Tuam.”

The report further elaborates “Conditions in the county homes were much worse than in any mother and baby home, with the exceptions of Kilrush and Tuam. In the mid-1920s most had no sanitation, perhaps no running water; heating, where available was by an open fire; food was cooked, badly, often in a different building, so it was cold and even more unpalatable when it reached the women. Many county homes had no place for children to play or space for the women to sit.”

The county homes were run by the government.

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The report, while critical, was essentially an exoneration of the Irish nuns on the most part. Upon its initial release, the Irish Times like other outlets, without being able to read the 2,685 page report had to run with the headline finding: the nuns were not the problem.

Such was the inflammatory response, led by misleading accusations of 800 bodies being buried in a septic tank mass grave, that even the celebration of St Brigid was hijacked in 2022 with a dehumanised actual caricature of a nun, in a red habit, wielding a cross, poised like some sort of goblin, as part of the Herstory Light Show, and projected directly on to St Brigid's Cathedral, in County Kildare.

The transfer of ownership of St Vincent's Hospital from the Religious Sisters of Charity to a non-religious entity as part of plans to move the National Maternity Hospital to a new site under the management of St Vincent's was a particular flashpoint, with a concerted attack on religious sisters as secular groups feared that a religious ethos would be used to oppose abortion services being available in the national hospital for delivering babies.

Such was the opprobrium directed at the nuns, that Irish Senator Ronan Mullen, was obliged to remark: "The National Maternity Hospital controversy has been a cover story for some very modern bigotry and intolerance and hardly anyone has called it out."

The hospital was established by Mother Mary Aikenhead, founder of the Catholic order Religious Sisters of Charity, at the Earl of Meath's former home at 56 St Stephen's Green, Dublin, in 1834, and for nearly 200 years, healthcare was

delivered to Irish women by the religious sisters, much of that in the absence of any state funding or support, and indeed, in the absence of any state at all.

So why do women from Cameroon celebrate Irish nuns while the Irish themselves do the opposite?

For a long time Ireland was a poor country, conditions were harsh – and the harshness certainly contributed to the social mores that evolved with economic improvements. All one has to do is translate the past to current situation in many developing countries. Girls that become pregnant in Sierra Leone (and other countries) in today's world are not allowed continue in school, for example.

Residential institutions – mainly run by the religious – are commonplace because the many women and children have nowhere else to go. Many well-meaning volunteers from Ireland spend summers in these places helping out. They are overcrowded, the facilities are poor; often they get no state support but are dependent on assistance from overseas or from former residents. They could be better but making things better is not an easy thing to do. Social and political change takes time.

Those graduates travelling to Ireland understand that the Irish nuns made a difference to their lives when no one else was willing to do so. They can still see the sacrifice that was made to provide them with an education and the benefits it brought to their lives. Thanks to the Irish nuns, they are now globetrotters.

But will those nuns be vilified in the future? Just as Ireland turned its back on Mary Aikenhead, removing all religious imagery from St Vincent's hospital, once secularised, wealthy and facing up to the failings of its past, will Cameroon turn on the religious when they look for a scapegoat?

Will they forget that their society was not necessarily cold or uncaring but a product of a complex intermingling of circumstances primarily underpinned by the state of the economy – there is limited welfare state, only a limited functioning tax system, not a lot of wealth to be drawn down and governance is challenged beyond the administrative level.

Many people live subsistence lives. Many rural families face the same pressure of unproductive land and ever-decreasing smallholdings that affected Ireland in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

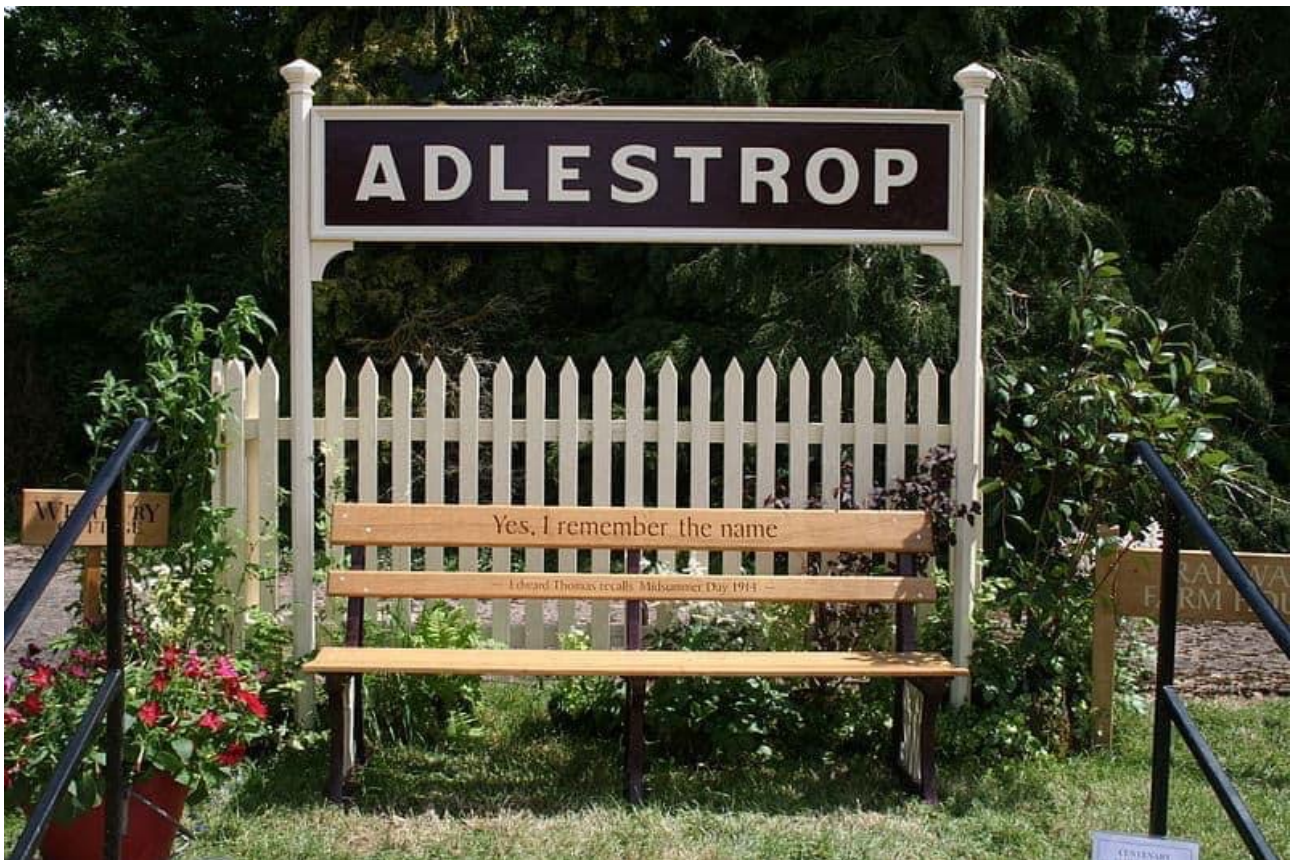
The story is a complex one as it was in Ireland, yet the trope of the Catholic bogeyman remains, even after a rigorous independent report into the mother and baby makes clear that such a simple denigrating of the religious is not only misguided but false.

As Orwell observed, “we are all capable of believing things which we know to be untrue, and then, when we are finally proved wrong, impudently twisting the facts so as to show that we were right. Intellectually, it is possible to carry on this process for an indefinite time: the only check on it is that sooner or later a false belief bumps up against solid reality”.

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In Ireland, we celebrate the warm and fuzzy story of Cameroonian women visiting Ireland to thank these elderly Irish women for giving them an education. In Ireland, we dehumanise the same elderly Irish women for doing the same thing for Ireland.

Poem for today



Adlestrop by Edward Thomas

Yes. I remember Adlestrop—
The name, because one afternoon
Of heat the express-train drew up there
Unwontedly. It was late June.

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The steam hissed. Someone cleared his throat.
No one left and no one came
On the bare platform. What I saw
Was Adlestrop—only the name

And willows, willow-herb, and grass,
And meadowsweet, and haycocks dry,
No whit less still and lonely fair
Than the high cloudlets in the sky.

And for that minute a blackbird sang
Close by, and round him, mistier,
Farther and farther, all the birds
Of Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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