

Church News Ireland



Gaming for God

News

Gaming for God

Gaming for God is a new approach by the C of I Youth Department.

It aims to explain the life of faith through computer games. CIYD helped to host the first of these events in Kilmore Parish, County Cavan this week.

If you would like to host a Gaming event in your parish then CIYD can provide VR goggles, Nintendo Switches, and Bible reflections for each game free of charge. Contact luke@CIYD.org for more information.

<https://www.facebook.com/474829761344038/posts/1178112854349055>



Archbishop Dermot Farrell condemns unprovoked attacks on members of the Indian community in Dublin

Recent attacks on members of the Indian community in Dublin have been truly shocking. These unprovoked attacks on people, including a child, who were apparently targeted solely because of their ethnic identity have generated understandable fear and alarm among the Indian community.

The truth is that the Indian community in Dublin comprises many people who have come to Dublin to make an important and valued contribution to our society. We are all familiar with the vital presence of Indian professionals in our healthcare system, without whom many healthcare needs simply could not be met. Others apply their skills in other important sectors of the economy and also contribute to funding public services through their taxes.

It is not only through their work lives that our Indian neighbours and fellow citizens are enriching our society. The diversity of Indian culture and traditions add to the vitality of life in Dublin. In particular, many Indian families are playing an increasingly prominent role in the parishes and school communities of the Archdiocese of Dublin. Indian priests, religious and lay volunteers are an increasingly important presence in the pastoral life of the Church in Dublin. That gives the lie to the vile and blasphemous claims of some who spread the poison of racial hatred on social media and

otherwise that their views are somehow protecting Christianity.

It is time to call out those who peddle racial hatred. It is time to stand up to those who seek to divide our community through rumour and malice.



Our parishes and school communities have already given a warm welcome to Indian families who have made their homes here. I urge them to strengthen that spirit of solidarity, not only with Indian members of parish communities, but with all our Indian neighbours. I call on everyone to support the Gardaí in every way to confront and defeat those whose actions have contributed to the fear now being experienced in the Indian community in Dublin.

New investigation of the Narrow Water atrocity

The body tasked with probing outstanding cases from the Troubles is to investigate the Narrow Water atrocity

in which 18 British soldiers were killed in Co Down in 1979.

The Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information (ICRIR) will also investigate the 1974 M62 coach bombing in England, which killed nine soldiers and three civilians.

They are among the latest cases that have been accepted by the commission and are in the information recovery stage.

New Horizon



CMSI were part of the mission hub at New Horizon last week in Coleraine. Staff have had good engagement over the weekend.

Pray that we have connected with attendees who are interested in exploring opportunities in global mission; and hearing more about our work.



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The Narrow Water atrocity occurred on 27 August 1979, as a convoy of vehicles transported Parachute Regiment soldiers from Ballykinler barracks to Newry, Co Down.

As they passed the old Narrow Water castle ruins outside Warrenpoint, the IRA remotely detonated the two bombs from a firing point across the Newry River in the Republic of Ireland.

Eighteen soldiers were killed, the highest death toll suffered by the British Army in a single day during the Troubles.



There was also a 19th victim – Michael Hudson, who had been visiting the Republic of Ireland from London, who was killed by army gunfire across the river following the blasts.

Nobody was ever convicted over the attacks.

Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath elected 45th Moderator for the United Church of Canada

Every three years, when The United Church of Canada's General Council meets, a new Moderator is chosen. The 45th General Council, currently taking place in person and online at the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre from August 7–11, just selected Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath as the next Moderator, after three ballots.



In sharing her hopes for the church, she says, "As Moderator I will help to build up the church by deepening

faith in Jesus, strengthening what is small and encouraging life-giving connections."

The installation of Rev. Dr. Heath as the 45th Moderator will take place at Knox United Church, 506 4 St. SW, Calgary, Alberta, on Monday, August 11 at 7:00 p.m. MT (9:00 p.m. ET). The service is open to anyone who would like to attend in person; it will also be available on our YouTube channel, with live interpretation in English and French.

Read the full news announcement: <https://united-church.ca/news/rev-dr-kimberly-heath-elected-45th-moderator-united-church-canada>

Northern Ireland International Organ awards

Congratulations to Nathan Whitley (18, Ireland) who has won The John Pilling Trust First Prize of £500 in this afternoon's Intermediate Category.

Second Prize and £300 - presented by





the Pipe Organ Preservation Co. - went to Chamberlain Ofosu (15, UK)

And Third Prize and £200 - also presented by the Pipe Organ Preservation Company - went to Gavin Lawrence (17, Ireland)



Bravo to each and every performer. Hugely memorable performances, which received high praise.

Education



Inst rugby starts

Huge congratulations to Ollie Taylor, Dylan Gray, Cian McClean (captain), Elliot Magowan and Reuben McIlwrath who represented Ulster U18 Schools' in their first interprovincial vs. Munster. Well done, boys.

Best of Banbridge

Jack Best of Banbridge with his Dad Simon after representing Ulster U18s against Munster. Well done Jack.



Honouring a Legacy Through Education

When Kathleen Dick passed away, her family wanted to create something significant to honour her memory and the standing she had in her community.

They established a scholarship to support young women to access third-level education.

Her son Brian Dick, President and CEO of Golden State Foods, shared:

“This is a gift from all six of Kathleen’s children. We just want the scholarship to quietly help someone the way others helped our mum - and the way Queen’s helped me. The opportunity provided to our mother encouraged her to go into education and to ensure that all her own children had the chance to attend university, which we all did.”



Read more: https://lnkd.in/gP_Btj9F .

Events

Celebration of Youth - An evening of prayer, reflection & connection

Join us in the beautiful Church of the Most Holy Redeemer at Clonard Monastery for a special celebration of youth, hope, and faith.

Jubilee Year of **HOPE**

Diocese of Down & Connor

'Celebration of Youth'

*A time of prayer
and reflection led by
Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ*

FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2025

7:15 PM – 8.30 PM

CLONARD MONASTERY, BELFAST

All youth and young adults welcome!

Queen's University Belfast
Catholic Chaplaincy

**CLONARD
BELFAST**

Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ invites youth and young adults from across the diocese to gather as pilgrims of hope on the evening of Friday 26th September — the great Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian — to pray with and for one another in this Jubilee Year.

All youth and young adults are warmly welcome. Spread the word!

Train it at Whitehead

Come along to Whitehead Railway Museum on Saturday, 16th August for a great day out.

On our 1907 platform, you will board our train for a 10-15 minute trip within our premises. The train is pulled by our 106-year-old locomotive, Guinness, and you will travel in a carriage built in 1922.

Your train ticket will also give you access to our wonderful 5-gallery museum.

Feeling peckish? Our Cups and Carriages tea house will be open, waiting to serve you snacks.

Trains will be operating between 11am and 3pm.

Heritage

Once at risk, now saved

Former Church of Ireland School, Church Street, Ballymoney

Included in Buildings at Risk, Vol. 3, this former multi-gabled Church of Ireland school house, built of basalt with yellow brick dressings to openings was constructed in 1874-1876 by Young and MacKenzie. The symmetrical frontage has twin 'sentry box' porches set either end of three tall windows rising into gablets. The school closed some time after 1927



and was subsequently used as a church hall until it was superseded in 1973 by a more modern structure. The building then fell into a state of disrepair and was added to the #HeritageAtRiskNI Register in 2003.

However, in 2015 the building was restored by the Church with support from the congregation, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Ulster Garden Villages, Garfield Weston Trust, All Churches Trust and



The Pilgrims Trust. The building is used by the church which aims to reach out to the most vulnerable, isolated and marginalised people in the community. More recently fundraising events have been held in the hall to support local charities.

UAH - Ulster Architectural Heritage - have been working with the Department for Communities Love Heritage NI since 1993 to record heritage at risk, and encourage its reuse and regeneration through the Heritage At Risk Northern Ireland project. Since 2003 over 360 structures have been removed

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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www.churchnewsireland.org

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

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