

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – London – Paris Cycle in support of Marie Curie

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London – Paris Cycle in support of Marie Curie

Congratulations to RBAI Governor James Rutherford (RBAI 1970-77), who recently completed the 560km London – Paris Cycle in support of Marie Curie. James (pictured second from left) is Acting Convenor of the RBAI Foundation.

News

Vote for East Belfast Mission's Refresh Cafe

Refresh Cafe has been nominated for the Consumer Facing Award at the Social Enterprise NI Awards 2025. Please vote for this good cause.

Refresh cafe enables East Belfast Mission to help a thousand vulnerable people every week to have a roof over their heads, get into work and improve their mental health.

Every weekday Refresh Cafe provide hot meals to over 250 local people who otherwise wouldn't get a good nutritious meal and we provide training for scores of people who are unemployed, helping them get back into work.

Please vote for them using this link -

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C9HSS3J>



Senior Organ Competitor in Armagh from Montreal

Meet Áron Sipos (20), a student at McGill University, Montreal was one of the senior competitors in the recent NI International

Organ competition.

His performance in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh included:
Raffaele Manari: Concert Étude on "Salve Regina"
JS Bach: Fugue in A minor, BWV 543 ("The Great")
Dupré: Évocation, Op. 37: iii. Allegro deciso

Facebook page for Ukrainian Greek Catholic Chaplaincy in Belfast

The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Chaplaincy in Belfast has created a new Facebook page for the "Protection of the Theotokos"

August 14, 2025

This is a Chaplaincy of the Diocese of Down and Connor for Ukrainian Greek Catholics across Northern Ireland.

Divine Liturgy is celebrated on the Second Sunday of the month at 13:00 in St Patrick's Parish, Donegall Street, Belfast.

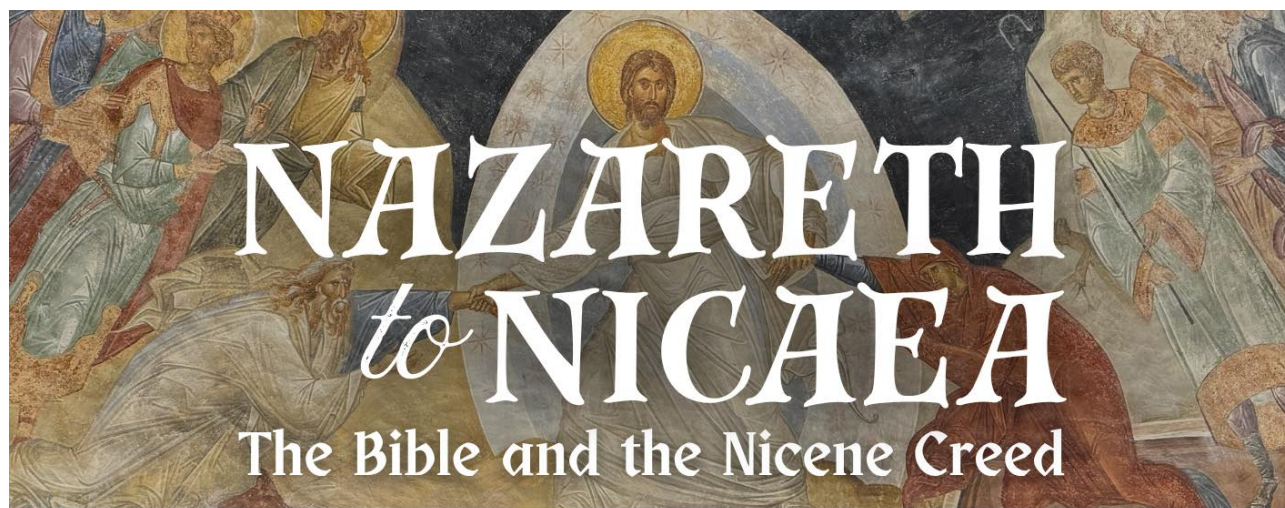
Confession is available before and after Liturgy. For Baptisms and other services please email contact to arrange - ugccbelfast@gmail.com

Nazareth to Nicaea: The Bible and the Nicene Creed – Ecumenical Bible Week 2025

This year marks 1,700 years since the first ecumenical council of the Christian church took place: The Council of Nicaea, held in 325 CE.

The meeting of this council was a significant moment in history as it gave rise to the Nicene Creed. This year's Ecumenical Bible Week, sees a number of events which will explore the connection between Scripture and the Nicene Creed, under the title "Nazareth to Nicaea".

Ecumenical Bible Week runs from September 7 to 14. The week will begin with the Holden Evening Prayer by Marty Haugen in St Finian's Church, Adelaide Road, Dublin, on Sunday September 7 at 7pm.



The Ecumenical Bible Week for 2025 has organised events in Dublin to reflect on the Nicene Creed and celebrate the anniversary of the first ecumenical council of the church, held in 325 CE...

THINKING ALLOWED

Wednesday, September 10th - Donnybrook Parish - 19:30-21:00

Join six representatives from different Christian denominations as they reflect on what the Nicene Creed means to them.

SATURDAY SEMINAR

Saturday, September 13th - St. Brigid's Church, Stillorgan - 10:30-14:00

Hear presentations from three speakers on the role of Scripture within the Council of Nicaea.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Sunday, September 14th - Christ Church Cathedral - 15:30-16:30

Join us for Choral Evensong on the final day of the Ecumenical Bible Week.

**All Events Are Free to Attend.
Scan the QR Code for More Information**

ECUMENICAL
BIBLE WEEK 



United Dioceses of
Dublin & Glendalough



Archdiocese of Dublin
And Denise Aina Clagh



Thinking Allowed takes place on Wednesday September 10 in the Church of the Sacred Heart in Donnybrook at 7.30pm. Six speakers representing different Christian denominations will offer personal reflections on what the Nicene Creed means to them

Each speaker will offer a five-minute personal reflection and there will be an opportunity for those in attendance to pose questions and take part in the discussion.

The speakers are: Fr Calin Florea of the Romanian Orthodox Church in Dublin, Gillian Kingston of the Methodist Church and President of the National Bible Society of Ireland, Dr Andrew Pierce of the Church of Ireland and lecturer in the Irish School of Ecumenics, the Revd Alan Boal of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Archbishop Dermot Farrell, Catholic Archbishop of Dublin and the Revd Nick Park, Chair of the Evangelical Alliance, Ireland.

The Saturday Seminar will take place on September 13 in St Brigid's Church, Stillorgan, from 10.30am to 2pm. Three speakers will present on the biblical background to the Council of Nicaea touching on the theological questions which were central to the discussions of the council and their roots in Scripture. It will also explore how the council used Scripture in counteracting the Arian controversy, which called the divine nature of Jesus into question.

The speakers will be Sean Goan, biblical scholar and retreat leader; Fr Kieran O'Mahony OSA, a member of the Order of St Augustine and a biblical scholar; and Julie McKinley, CEO of the National Bible Society of Ireland.

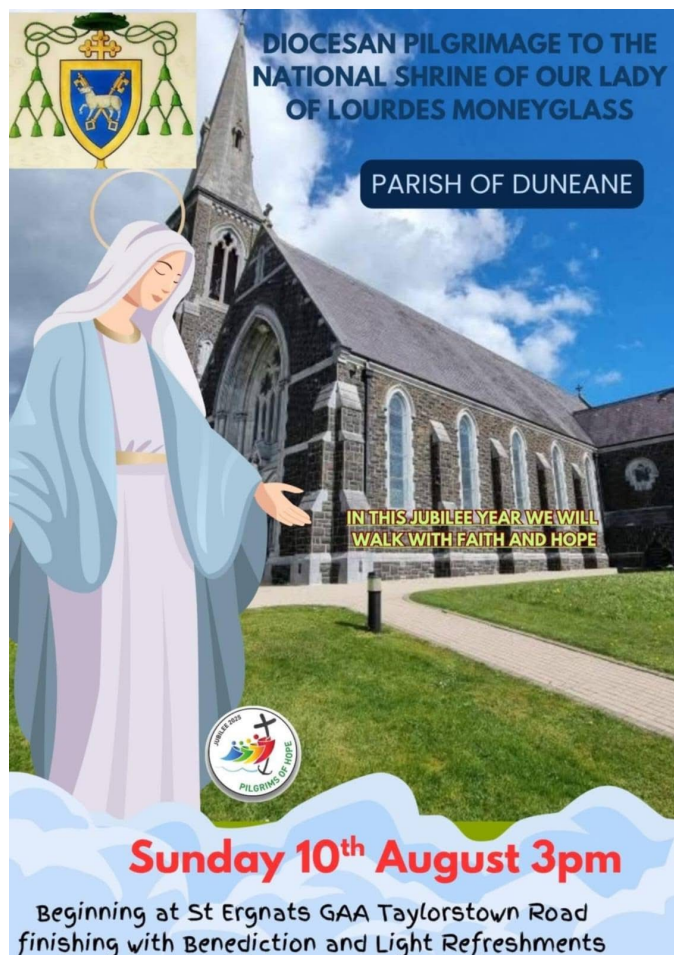
August 14,2025

Ecumenical Bible Week 2025 will conclude with Choral Evensong in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on Sunday September 14 at 3.30pm.

All of the events are free to attend. However, for the Thinking Allowed and Saturday Seminar, the organisers would kindly ask that you register via their website at <https://sites.google.com/view/bibleweek/home>

Ecumenical Bible Week is supported by the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough and the Archdiocese of Dublin.

Diocesan pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes , Moneyglass



It was a blessed great afternoon for the pilgrims of Hope, Prayer and Love at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes , Parish of Duneane Moneyglass led by Bishop Alan and priests including Fr. James, the organizer of this event, Area 2 Provincial Chaplain Fr. Henry, Fr. Vincent of St. Vincent de Paul Ligoniel and few more. This is to celebrate the centennial of



the National Shrine.
CK2 and Ballymena
Council brothers
participated in the
exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament
procession, a rosary
prayer and benediction
at the end. Credit to
Elaine Kelly for great
photos captured and
shared.



Education

Belfast and Carrick players in National Youth Band

Recently Harry Lloyd (Henry) attended the The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain summer course in Oundle School just outside of Cambridge.



Also selected for the course was Soph Hueston from Third Carrickfergus Band.

A spokesperson for the NI bands said it is great to see collaboration and networking between our young brass players who are making music along with the cream of the UK's young banding talent.



The NYBBGB summer course took place from 2nd August and culminated in a concert on 9th August at Royal College of Music London, led by Guest Conductor Martyn Brabbins with guest Soloist Tim de Maeseneer (tenor horn).

“Celebration” was this years theme, with the sold out concert celebrating the 80th birthday of renowned composer Edward Gregson. It also paid tribute to two of England’s most distinguished composers, Herbert Howells and Edmund Rubbra.


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August 14, 2025

Cathedral Calls


Experience the
beauty of Rutter's
Requiem live at
St Peter's
Cathedral, Belfast

Rutter's Requiem at St
Peter's Cathedral,
Belfast





1/5

3 FACTS ABOUT SIR JOHN RUTTER AND HIS MOVING REQUIEM



@belfastphilchoir
www.belfastphilharmonic.org.uk



2/5

John Rutter

Rutter was born in 1945, so 2025
is his **80th birthday year.**

@belfastphilchoir



3/5

John Rutter's Requiem

Composed in 1985, first
performed partially on 14 March
1985 (Sacramento), with the
complete premiere on 13 October
1985 in Dallas, Texas, conducted
by the composer.

@belfastphilchoir



Experience the beauty of Rutter's Requiem live
With the Belfast Philharmonic Choir & Ulster Orchestra
17 October 2025



Clergy and ministry

Healthcare Chaplaincy Association commissions survey by Queen's University

The NI Healthcare Chaplaincy Association (NIHCA) have commissioned Queen's University Belfast to undertake a survey regarding the experiences of people who have



used healthcare chaplaincy services in Northern Ireland.

The research team is keen to hear from people of different faiths and beliefs who have accessed the service.

You could have experience as a patient, family member of / someone close to a patient, or an employee of the healthcare setting.

→ The survey is open until the end of October:
forms.office.com/e/YFbeeb2Zcjm

Events

Homelessness can end – if we act now

Simon Community - Homelessness isn't inevitable. With the right support at the right time, and your voice, we can end it.

One Big Sleep Out is a powerful step towards a future where everyone in Northern Ireland has a home. Together, we can make change happen.

Join us on **10th October** for the One Big Sleep Out 2025 and make a change -

<https://simoncommunity.org/get-involved/events/one-big-sleep-out-2025>



Belfast Hills Partnership
20 years caring for the Belfast Hills, their wildlife and people

SONGS OF THE BELFAST HILLS

Friday 29th August 2025
Doors 7.30pm, Music 8pm
£10 per person
Belfast Castle

Join Belfast Hills Partnership for a celebratory night of song, history and storytelling to mark 20 years since the Partnership's inception. Compered by Cave Hill Conservation Campaign's Cormac Hamill, with entertainment from Jane Cassidy and Maurice Leyden, this promises to be a spellbinding evening in recognition of the Hills and the achievements of the Partnership since 2005.

Renowned folk musicians Jane Cassidy and Maurice Leyden will be delving into the traditional songbook of the Belfast Hills

Book tickets online: www.belfasthills.org

✉ info@belfasthills.org ☎ 028 9060 3466

Songs of the Belfast Hills Anniversary Celebration

Excitement is building for our 20th Anniversary Celebration, Songs of the Belfast Hills!

We're looking forward to welcoming you to **Belfast Castle** on Friday the **29th August** for an evening of song, history and storytelling courtesy of folk musicians Jane Cassidy and Maurice Leyden. Tickets are just £10 for what promises to be a spellbinding evening - book early to avoid disappointment!

<https://belfasthills.org/events/songs-of-the-belfast-hills/>

Paws for a Cause Dog Walk Fundraiser for East Belfast Mission

1 September 2025 - 30 September 2025

Join our Paws for a Cause Dog Walk Fundraiser this September.

Walk, wag, and make a difference! Take part in our virtual dog walk challenge throughout September to raise vital funds for EBM. Whether you're strolling through your neighborhood or hitting the trails, every step counts!

Then, don't miss our Celebration Day on Saturday 27th September at Victoria Park from 11am to 2pm, a tail wagging finale packed with fun stalls, prizes, and a big group walk with fellow dog lovers.

We ask for a fundraising target of £150.00!

- * Please note that the VIP Ticket includes a free photoshoot at the Celebration Day. This is a short photoshoot and you will receive 3-5 digital photos sent to you.

World - renowned Irish Guards band are visiting Northern Ireland

Celebrating 125 Years of Loyalty and Bravery

Between 4th and 7th September, the Band of the Irish Guards is traveling to Northern Ireland alongside the Irish Guards for a weekend of events across the country, celebrating the regiment's 125th anniversary.

The Beating Retreat Ceremony

Thursday 4th September - 16:00 - 17:00

 Carrickfergus Castle

Service of Remembrance

Friday 5th September - 11:00

 Belfast City Cenotaph

The Beating Retreat Ceremony

Friday 5th September - 18:30

 Edenmore Golf & Country Club

Bangor Parade and Concert

Saturday 6th September - 15:00

 Castle Town Hall

Parade and Laying up of Colours

August 14,2025

Sunday 7th September - 14:00

 Belmont Road St Marks Dundela

Boyne Valley Trails September Festival

The Boyne Valley Trails September Festival is back! From 14th to 21st September we will be taking you on a series of guided walking tours, hikes, trails and evening talks, delving deep into the history, mythology and nature of the Boyne Valley.

"Beaulieu Estate & Gardens" is without a doubt one of our most popular tours, and we love our visits every time we go back. Join guide Dusty and enjoy the nature and wildlife on this immersive adventure.

More information and the link to purchase tickets can be found at <https://boynevalleytrails.ie/event/beaulieu-estate-and-gardens-2/>

Lets go exploring!

The Boyne Valley Trails September Festival is supported by LoveDrogheda and Fáilte Ireland

Islandmagee Witch Trial at The Gobbins Visitor Centre

Experience the Islandmagee Witch Trial brought to life through a live storytelling performance with music and visual imagery.

Created by professional storyteller Vicky McFarland and musician Lee McFarland, the production is based wholly on Andrew Sneddon's extensive research into the trial. This 45-minute intimate and powerful performance is for ages 12yrs+.

Performances will take place on the following dates:

Saturday 23 August 2025 - 11:00

Sunday 31 August 2025 - 11:00

Cost: £6.00 per participant. For more information or to book contact The Gobbins Visitor Centre +44 (0) 28 9337 2318 or e-mail info@thegobbinscliffpath.com

St Anns Dublin lunchtime recital August 21st

Thursday, August 21st, 2025 | 1:20 PM Adam Parrish (Piano) A classically trained pianist, organist, and composer, Adam Parrish has performed internationally and collaborated with renowned artists. His recital promises an exciting mix of classical and contemporary works.

In the media

Mary Robinson warns governments are 'increasingly complicit in genocide' after visiting Gaza border

August 14,2025

In a statement, Robinson called on political leaders to put pressure on the Israeli government and “end its atrocity crimes”.

The Journal

<https://www.thejournal.ie/mary-robinson-governments-complicit-genocide-gaza-6788515-Aug2025/>

Madonna urges Pope to visit Gaza 'before it's too late'

BBC News

[<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly39694g30o>]

What deal might emerge from the Trump-Putin summit?

RTE.ie

<https://www.rte.ie/news/world/2025/0812/1528132-trump-putin-summit/>

RTE to Broadcast Canonisation Ceremony of Blessed Carlo Acutis

The canonisation of the Blessed Carlo Acutis from St. Peter's Rome will be broadcast on RTE 1 television on the morning of Sunday, September 7th. Carlo was a remarkable young man who had a personal relationship with Jesus. Interestingly his parents were non-churchgoers but Carlo brought them back to belief.

Heritage

Jeremy Taylor and John Wesley

Jeremy Taylor, an Anglican Divine was a controversial figure. He was a protégé of Archbishop William Laud,

hence a “high churchman” and a Royalist, who fell from favour during the Commonwealth period.

During that period he became the private chaplain of the Earl of Carbery, and it was at this time that he wrote his two most important works: **Holy Living and Holy Dying**. He then moved to Ireland, where he was eventually consecrated **Bishop of Down and Connor**, eventually upsetting both Presbyterians and Catholics in about equal measure.

His significance for Methodists is that his book On Holy Living much influenced **John Wesley** from about 1720 onwards and could be said to have put some of the “method” into Methodism. Wesley acknowledges this influence in his Plain Account of Christian Perfection.

Wesley’s father was of a similar religious persuasion to Taylor, and John himself (initially at least) followed in his footsteps. And perhaps in writing about peacemaking and toleration while being very strident in personal relationships, it is possible Wesley followed Taylor’s example more than he should have!

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

Church News Ireland

www.churchnewsireland.org

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

Please recommend to your friends