

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – Secretary of State  
visits Down Cathedral**

August 25, 2022

## Image of the day

### Secretary of State visits Down Cathedral

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Shailesh Vara MP was welcomed to Down District earlier this month. Mr Vara visited Down Cathedral and was hugely impressed. Finbarr McCormick gave Mr. Vara a tour of the Cathedral.

## People and places



### Church Army Ireland Discovery Day

Church Army is holding a Discovery Day in Dublin on October 8 for anyone in Ireland interested in exploring

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## **the various pathways into Church Army and other resources.**

This takes place at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute, Braemor Park, Churchtown, Dublin, D14 KX24 from 10am to 3pm, and a light lunch will be provided.

The event is free. Find out more or register your interest here -

[\[\[ https://churcharmy.org/product/discovery-day-saturday-8th-october-2022-ireland/?v=79cba1185463 \]\]](https://churcharmy.org/product/discovery-day-saturday-8th-october-2022-ireland/?v=79cba1185463)

## **MindMatters on Twitter**

**The Church of Ireland MindMatters project team has set up a Twitter channel to highlight the initiative.**

This is a new way for the Church to share stories about good mental health from around the island. Similar stories can also be found on the Voices blog section on the MindMatters website which currently has three articles provided by people who have been involved in the project so far.

## **Belfast Winter Coat Project seeks support**

**St Michael's & St Stephen's Church of Ireland churches in the Lower Shankill/Falls area in Belfast will be running a Winter Coat Project in October this year and would appreciate your support.**



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With the rising cost of living crisis having a big impact on family finances and a potential challenging winter ahead, we want to help families in our local communities in a practical way.

In the recently published 'On The Edge' client report, Christians Against Poverty (CAP) highlight that '65% of their clients could not afford weather appropriate clothing for themselves or their family'. This winter with increasing energy, food and fuel costs, many more families may be unable to purchase coats for themselves and their children.

## **What is the Winter Coat Project?**

Heather Carson, Parish Development Officer writes - It's very simple. In partnership with our friends in Redeeming Our Communities (ROC NI), a local Christian organisation, and the Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy at Queen's University (The Hub), we are providing pre-loved winter weather clothing to children and adults in our community free of charge. Yes it's good for the environment and helping those in need, but it's not a recycling or re-use scheme. The Winter Coat Project is about helping provide practical support in a dignified and respectful way. We hope to help all ages.

## **How you can help?**

We will be collecting pre-loved coats which are in good condition and new or nearly new scarves, gloves and hats for all ages. Donations of items can be left in St Michael's Church Hall on Craven Street, Shankill Road, BT13 1JJ during daytime on weeks commencing 12th September and



St Philip and St James  
Holywood Parish Church



A lunchtime concert with  
**ORION DUO**  
*and Friends* \*

Wednesday 31st August 2022  
at 1.15pm

\*



Jonny Hayward



Evie Mills



Julie Piggott

**Hollywood Parish Church**  
71 Church Road, Hollywood, BT18 9BX  
[www.orionduo.co.uk](http://www.orionduo.co.uk)

19th September and on Monday and Thursday evenings up to 8.30pm in those weeks. If you prefer to gather items in your church or organisation we can also arrange to collect them. (Contact Heather on 079 5509 2898).

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“This is a great opportunity to show the love of Christ in a practical way and we would very much appreciate your support” Heather concludes.

## **NS Presbyterian Church Service at Kylemore Abbey**

**The Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, Rt Rev Lena Cockcroft and Clerk, the Very Rev Robert McKee were delighted to take part in a special service in the historic and picturesque Kylemore Abbey, organised by friends in the Unitarian churches in Dublin and Cork.**

The service was led by the Rt Rev. Lena Cockcroft, Moderator of NSPCI. The homily was preached by Rev. Mike O'Sullivan and readings were provided by Teresa Goggin and Neal Dunnigan. Musical praise was led by Pearse O'Donoghue and Clair McHugh with a beautiful flute solo by Doreen Grocock.

In attendance were the Abbess of the Benedictine community; Rev. Mother Maire Hickey OSB and members of the Benedictine community.

## **Lunchtime recital in Holywood Parish**

**Just a week to go until the lunchtime recital by the Orion Duo along with musicians who have featured in the NI Young Musician of the Year Competition.**

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Donations will be received at the event for the Elgar Organ Rebuilding Fund. See also page 5.

An exciting schedule of fundraising has been scheduled over the next few months to support the Organ fund, including a dinner event in early October , a concert with Belfast Operatic Company and a donors exclusive recital - the organisers look forward to sharing information very soon.

## **Lammas Fair refreshment**

**The Lammas Fair is returning. You will be able to obtain refreshments at Ramoan Parish Centre on the 29th August (Monday).**

There will be a selection of tea, coffee, soup, sandwiches, scones ,tray bakes and a comfortable seat on offer from 10am-4pm.

The Ramoan Parish Centre is located just off the Diamond, across from the Co-Op in Ballycastle.

## **New Islamic Centre in Belfast**

**Mascott have been awarded the contract for the new Islamic Centre at University Avenue in Belfast.**

The project is for the extensive refurbishment of the existing Aldergate House, a landmark building on University road, and Mascott are looking forward to ensuring the retention of



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the built environment and improving the streetscape of University Road

Mascott are delighted to be working with Belfast Islamic Centre Belfast City Council, CBS consulting and Taylor + Boyd on this prestigious project.

Works have commenced on site this week.

## Connor rector appointed

**The Rev Adrian Halligan, Priest-in-Charge of the Grouped Parishes of Craigs, Dunaghy and Killagan, has been appointed as Incumbent of the Grouped Parishes of Craigs, Dunaghy and Killagan.**



Adrian is married to Wendy and they have one daughter, Abigail. A former Telecommunications Engineer, he was ordained a Deacon in January 2011 in All Saints' Parish Church, Antrim.



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He served as Curate in All Saints', and was ordained there as Priest in November 2011. He did his first curacy in Antrim before moving to Skerry, Rathcavan and Newtowncrommelin in Broughshane for three years. During this time, he transferred from Non-Stipendiary to Stipendiary Ministry.

He was introduced in the Grouped Parishes of Craigs, Dunaghy and Killagan in September 2018.

## **Vacancies**

### **Director of Music**

Parish of Templepatrick and Donegore - is seeking to appoint a Director of Music for St. Patrick's (Templepatrick) who will lead the congregation in both traditional and contemporary styles of worship within an Anglican context.

Remuneration is comparable to RSCM salary rates and is open to negotiation. For further details and application forms please contact the Rector: Rev Jeremy Mould (07896839488 or email [jermould@gmail.com](mailto:jermould@gmail.com)).

For more information about the Parish please see the website: [www.templepatrick.connor.anglican.org](http://www.templepatrick.connor.anglican.org)

### **Three exciting job opportunities**

– YOUTH PASTOR (Part-time) | Edenderry Memorial Methodist Church

– FINANCE OFFICER (Full time) | Edgehill House, Belfast

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– YOUTH WORKER (Full time) | Thomas Street Methodist Church

Visit website for full details:  
[irishmethodist.org/vacancies](http://irishmethodist.org/vacancies)

## World News

### Christians to take steps to combat climate emergency

**Church of Scotland members are being invited to step out in support of climate justice and join others in Scotland and around the world on a virtual journey from Glasgow to Egypt.**

Taking place in the run-up to United Nations Climate Change Conference COP27, Walk2COP27 is based on the journey from COP26 host city Glasgow to this year's venue Sharm El-Sheikh on the Red Sea.

Over the 45 days of Walk2COP27, a dozen countries between Scotland and Egypt will host hybrid or virtual "Townhall" meetings to showcase the impact of climate change and the solutions that are being deployed in each nation, beginning with the Glasgow event on Thursday 22 September.

Sam Baker, who is leading Walk2COP27, said:  
"Walk2COP27 is all about mass-participation. We want those participating to learn from each other, to build a sense



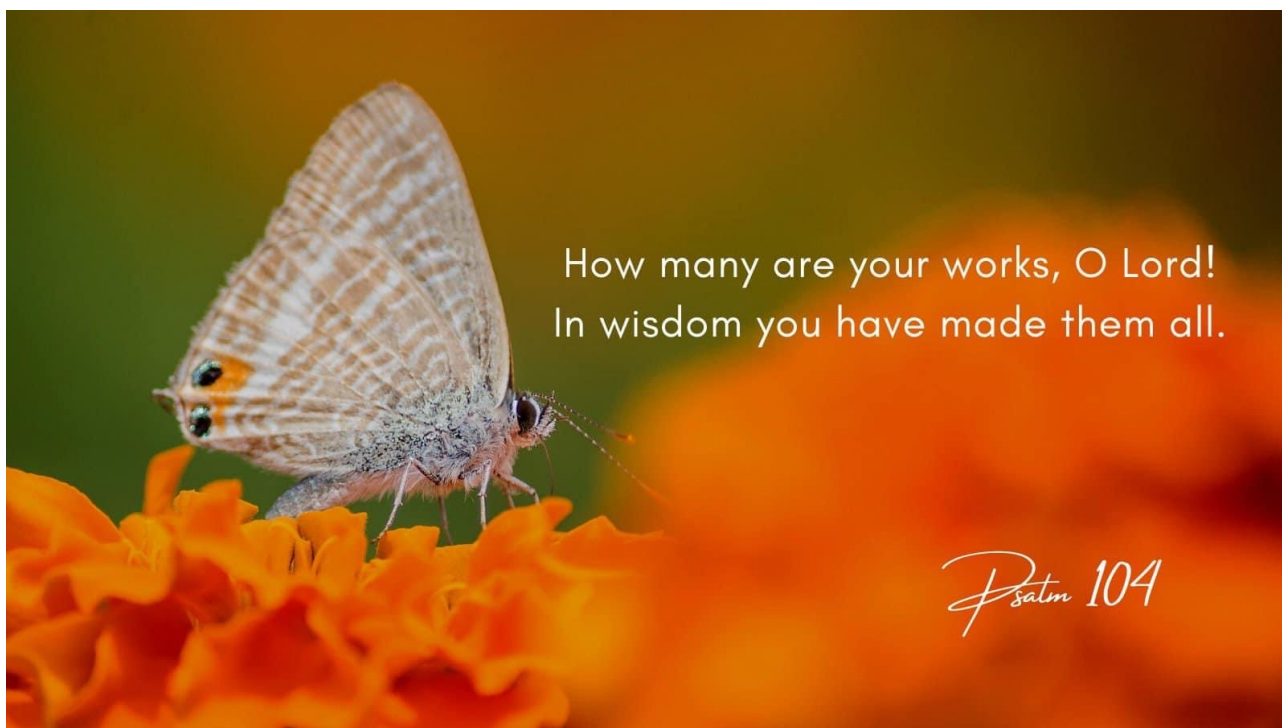
of solidarity in the fight against climate change across boundaries of every sort, and to make connections to catalyse climate action.

"The Church of Scotland recognises the immediate threat that climate change presents, and Walk2COP27 provides each individual, and each congregation an opportunity to respond to that recognition."

Last month the Church was among the signatories of a multifaith petition calling on the world's governments to honour the COP26 commitments made in Glasgow last November which was sent to UK Government minister and COP26 president Alok Sharma, as well as Prime Minister Boris Johnson and First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

### **A timely opportunity**

Eco-Congregation Scotland, which has been representing faiths on the Walk2COP27 Scottish steering group on behalf of the COP26 Interfaith Working Group, is also asking individuals, churches and faith groups to be part of Walk2COP27.



This could include taking part in their own COP27 journey by walking, running or actively travelling as far as they can over the 45 days by other means such as bicycle or wheelchair.

Their progress will be tracked on the atlasGO platform and trees will be planted by the Jane Goodall Institute for the kilometres travelled by the end of the virtual journey on 6 November 2022, providing a practical response to the challenge of climate change.

Eco-Congregation Scotland Chairperson, Richard Murray commented: "Towards the end of our journey, participants will contribute to a proclamation which will be delivered to the formal participants at COP27. Climate Justice is always a strong motivator for faith-inspired action and this offers a timely opportunity to join voices around the world, speaking as one on tackling the climate crisis."



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Scottish participants will also be encouraged to attend the in-person and online sessions, provide input to a proclamation to be published for COP27 and engage in local climate actions, including fundraising for the Jane Goodall Institute.

Rev Karen Hendry, convener of the Church of Scotland's faith Impact Forum, welcomed the initiative.

Be in and with our church,  
as we grapple with the need for change,  
and the reality of a future that is going to be  
very different from our past.  
Help us to recognise You at work  
already in our community, and to be  
listening for Your whispers of new possibilities  
and ways of living out our faith.  
God of wisdom, guide our paths.



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She said: "COP27 to be held on the Red Sea, is the next step in urging humanity to part with the practices that harm the planet.

"The Church of Scotland prays for a successful outcome and is pleased to support Walk2COP27 held over 45 days and beginning in Glasgow, enabling people everywhere to take part in building momentum towards this crucial summit meeting."

The journey starts on Thursday 22 September at 12.30pm with an open hybrid meeting hosted by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and including panel discussions on Scotland's climate change challenges and solutions.

## **C of E appoints first Racial Justice Director**

**A leading figure in the campaign to highlight the impact of the Windrush scandal has been appointed as the first Racial Justice Director of the Church of England, it was announced on Tuesday**

Church of England priest Guy Hewitt, a former Barbados High Commissioner to the UK, will take up the post in November, heading the Church of England's Racial Justice Unit.

The Unit has been set up following the recommendations of the Archbishops' Anti-Racism Taskforce report From Lament to Action, published in April last year.

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Located within the Archbishops' Council and reporting to the Secretary General, Revd Hewitt will work alongside the Archbishops' Commission for Racial Justice to ensure the taskforce recommendations and the work of the Commission are implemented.

London-born, of Barbadian and Indian parents, Revd Hewitt has a background in social policy and development, working internationally on issues of marginalisation, economic enfranchisement, racial justice, youth empowerment, and gender equality.

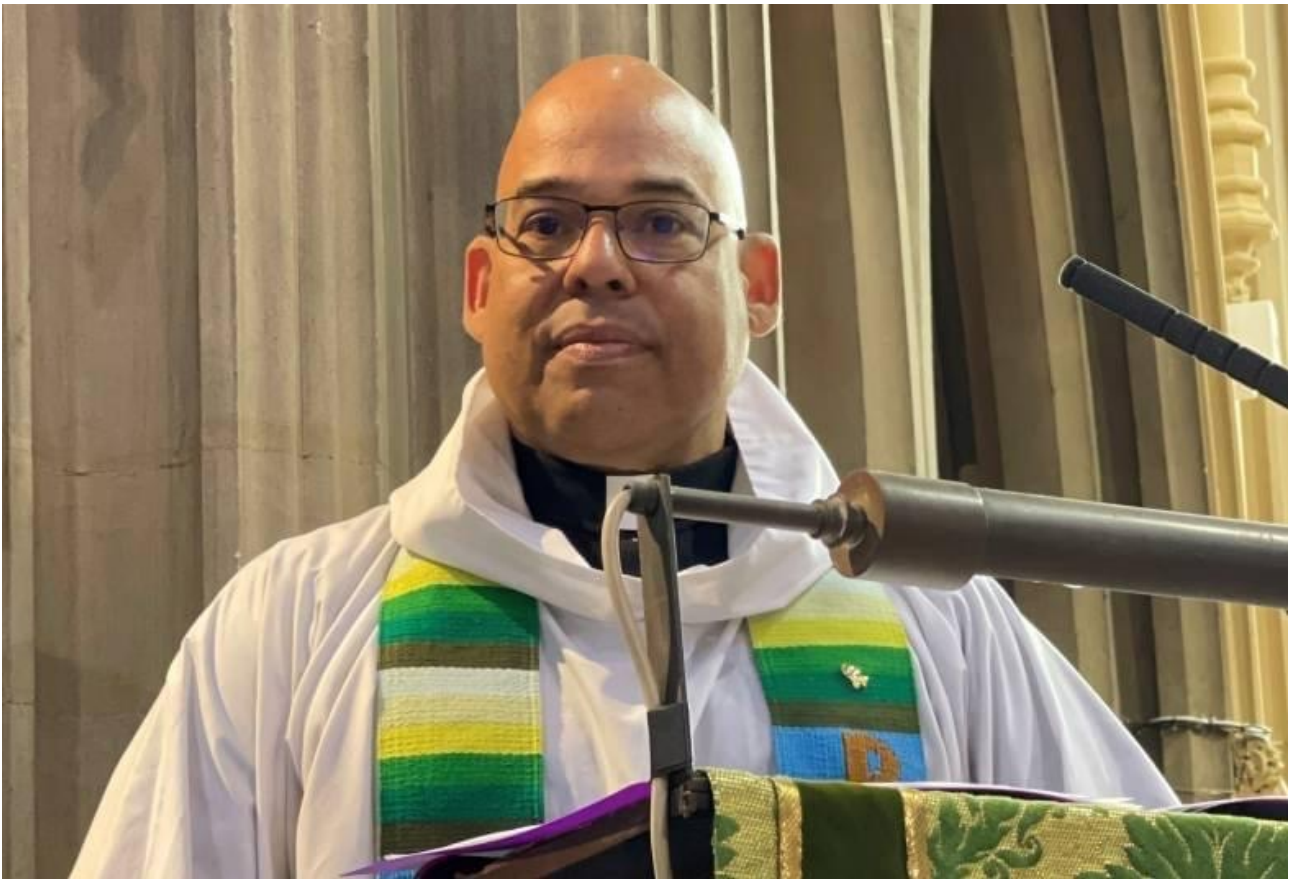
He is currently an Honorary Senior Research Fellow with the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London and an Advisory Board member of the Windrush Scandal Research Project based there.

Revd Hewitt was priested in Barbados in 2005, having trained for ordained ministry with the Diocese of Southwark.

He most recently served as priest-in-charge at St James in the Hill Church in Hollywood, Florida. He is currently Associate Vicar at All Saints Church in Fulham, southwest London.

"I am humbled by the confidence of those who have chosen me to serve as the inaugural director and look forward to what I plan to be a participatory and inclusive process of restoration," he said.

"The Commission on Racial Justice is an important step towards the Church becoming truly one in Christ Jesus.



**Church of England priest Guy Hewitt, a former Barbados High Commissioner to the UK, is the first Racial Justice Director of the Church of England**

“The indelible link between our faith and public life is reinforced at Confirmation with our vow to defend the weak, and to seek peace and justice.”

William Nye, Secretary General of the Archbishops’ Council, said: “I am delighted that we have been able to appoint the Revd Guy Hewitt to be the first Racial Justice Director for the Church of England.

“This is a vital post, helping the Church address the challenges of racial justice, and helping the Church speak into this agenda nationally.



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“Guy brings a wide experience of leadership from the public and third sectors in England and in Barbados.

“He will build a unit to support both the Archbishops’ Racial Justice Commission and the Committee on Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns (CMEAC) in addressing this important issue.”

Lord Boateng, who heads the Archbishops’ Commission on Racial Justice said: “The appointment by the Church of England of a long-awaited Racial Justice Director is to be warmly welcomed.

“The Revd Guy Hewitt brings a wealth of experience to the task at both Parish and International levels.

“The Unit he will lead must now be adequately staffed and resourced to deliver on the change promised. The Commission greatly looks forward to working with the Rev Hewitt going forward.”

The Very Revd Rogers Govender, CMEAC Chair, said: “The Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns (CMEAC) welcomes the appointment of Guy Hewitt to this important role.

“We look forward to working with him and the RJC as we seek racial justice and the full inclusion of UKME brothers and sisters in the Church of England.”

**CNI**

# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

## Book on John Cennick launched



**The Rev Dr Bob Cotter, left, at his book launch with Bishop Sarah Groves and Professor Crawford Gribben.**

**The Rev Dr Bob Cotter launched his recently published volume on John Cennick in Cennick Hall, Gracehill, on Wednesday evening, August 17.**

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The book is entitled John Cennick (1718-1755) Methodism, Moravianism and the Rise of Evangelism and is published by Routledge.

Guest speakers at the event were Professor Crawford Gribben from Queen's University Belfast and Dr David Ceri Jones, from the University of Aberystwyth. Dr Cotter also spoke. Moravian Bishop Sarah Groves was among the guests.

## Poem for today

### Dingle by Bernard Kennedy

From main roads through the pass  
and there, beneath,  
as if a mountain gate over  
a valley, lake or bay  
a golden road  
to visit a past,  
Peig, the Blaskets,  
basket of another age  
of literature,  
all writers on the island,  
an embryo,  
of Ireland, vacated  
to new lands.

Or round Sleah head,  
a bleak peak,

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a romance with Ryan's  
daughter.

A corner, fluid  
of memory and romance,  
Now we are too  
sophisticated,  
beyond the word  
of linking  
mountain and sea,  
and honesty.  
Dingle beautiful town.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## Church News Ireland

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