

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – Tulip fields in Holland**

August 27, 2022

# People and places

## Bishop goes offshore



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On Sunday last 21st August, the parishioners of the Church of St Thomas on Rathlin Island welcomed the Bishop of Connor, Rt Reverend George Davison and his wife Nadine for the Bishop's first service in St Thomas' where he celebrated the Baptism of baby Eli.



## Three night blitz of activities by Derg Valley youth

**Young people in the Derg and Killeter parishes in Derry & Raphoe Diocese brought the curtain down on the summer holidays in style this week.**

They took part in three separate nights of activities: a campfire; a quiz (with pizza); and a games night (with BBQ). There was a lot of fun to be had; a lot of fellowship to be enjoyed; and a lot of food to be eaten.

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Night 3 was a great end to Derg and Killeter's 'Youth Adventure Blitz'. The fun was obvious from the way everyone got stuck in. Thanks were expressed to Tippy and Tommy for arranging the games and Sammy for putting on



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the BBQ. Oh, and the rain stayed off until they were packing up.

The Rector, Rev Peter Ferguson, was very happy with the success of the parishes' youth outreach. "It was great to have our Diocesan Youth Officer Claire Hinchliff with us each evening and she shared what's coming up in Derry Raphoe Youth. What a week we had. We're already planning next years!"

## **Sacred Music Director at Queen's Chaplaincy featured**

**The Queen's University Catholic Chaplaincy Director of Sacred Music, Marcella Walsh, features in this week's edition of The Irish Catholic Newspaper.**

Ruadhán Jones interviews singer Marcella about her relationship with her faith.

"Music and the Faith have been a part of Marcella Walsh's life from a very young age.

Marcella's family were always involved in the Faith, both within the family and in the diocese. "From a young age I always remember us holding hands and singing grace around the dinner table," she recalls.'

If you're a QUB student and would like to join Canticle, the Chaplaincy Choir, drop the a message.



## Transforming Leadership Programme

On Friday 9th September 9.30am to 1pm there will be an opportunity for those, particularly in challenging ministry to look at the Transforming Leadership Programme evaluation, and to hear from some participants and have an opportunity to join some round table discussion on Leadership challenges. To register please email [info@thriveireland.org](mailto:info@thriveireland.org) or for more info call Diane on 07749 056403.

## Vacancies - Youth and Children's Workers

Thomas Street Methodist Church is seeking to appoint a full-time Youth and Children's Worker. The role will include building on existing church and community work with young people and also developing new and innovative ways to reach young people with the Gospel.

For a full job description and application form visit <https://irishmethodist.org/vacancies>

Closing date - 12noon, Thursday 22nd September  
Hours & Salary - Full Time / £22,607 - £23,738. Contact -

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Contact person [darrin.thompson@irishmethodist.org](mailto:darrin.thompson@irishmethodist.org)

**WE ARE  
HIRING**

St John's Parish | Moira

**Children's & Youth Development Officer**  
*Full time*

For more information please contact  
[kelly@moiraparish.org.uk](mailto:kelly@moiraparish.org.uk)

**Applications close Friday 9th September**  
**@ 12noon**

## Possible split in the Boys' Brigade organisation

**The Boys' Brigade (BB) movement in the British Isles has stressed that it “remains united in its Christian mission” after news emerged of a possible split in the organisation.**

The Northern Irish wing of the organisation is reportedly considering breaking from the main bulk of the movement in Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, to become a separate outfit altogether.

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The BBC's Robbie Meredith said he had learned that the Northern Irish wing was mulling over whether to "become an autonomous organisation" in the wake of concerns about how the movement – headquartered in Hertfordshire, just north of London – is being centrally run.

He reported that he had seen a "policy document" which is due for wider discussion at a BB meeting in mid-September, which said: "The environment in Great Britain is culturally different to that in NI, especially regarding the relationship with the church.

"A core component of the object of the Boys' Brigade is 'Advancing Christ's Kingdom', however, the implementation

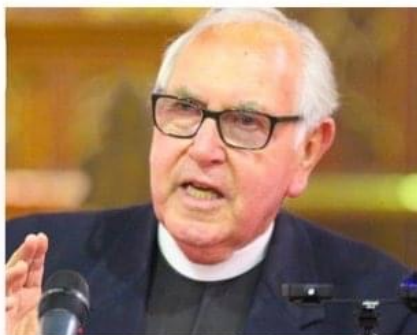
## Healing Service



7.30PM THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH OF IRELAND  
BALLYMACARRETT  
220 NEWTOWNARDS ROAD  
BELFAST BT4 1GZ

BR. DAVID JARDINE  
*"HEALING THROUGH SURRENDER"*



WORSHIP: JORDAN BALLENTINE



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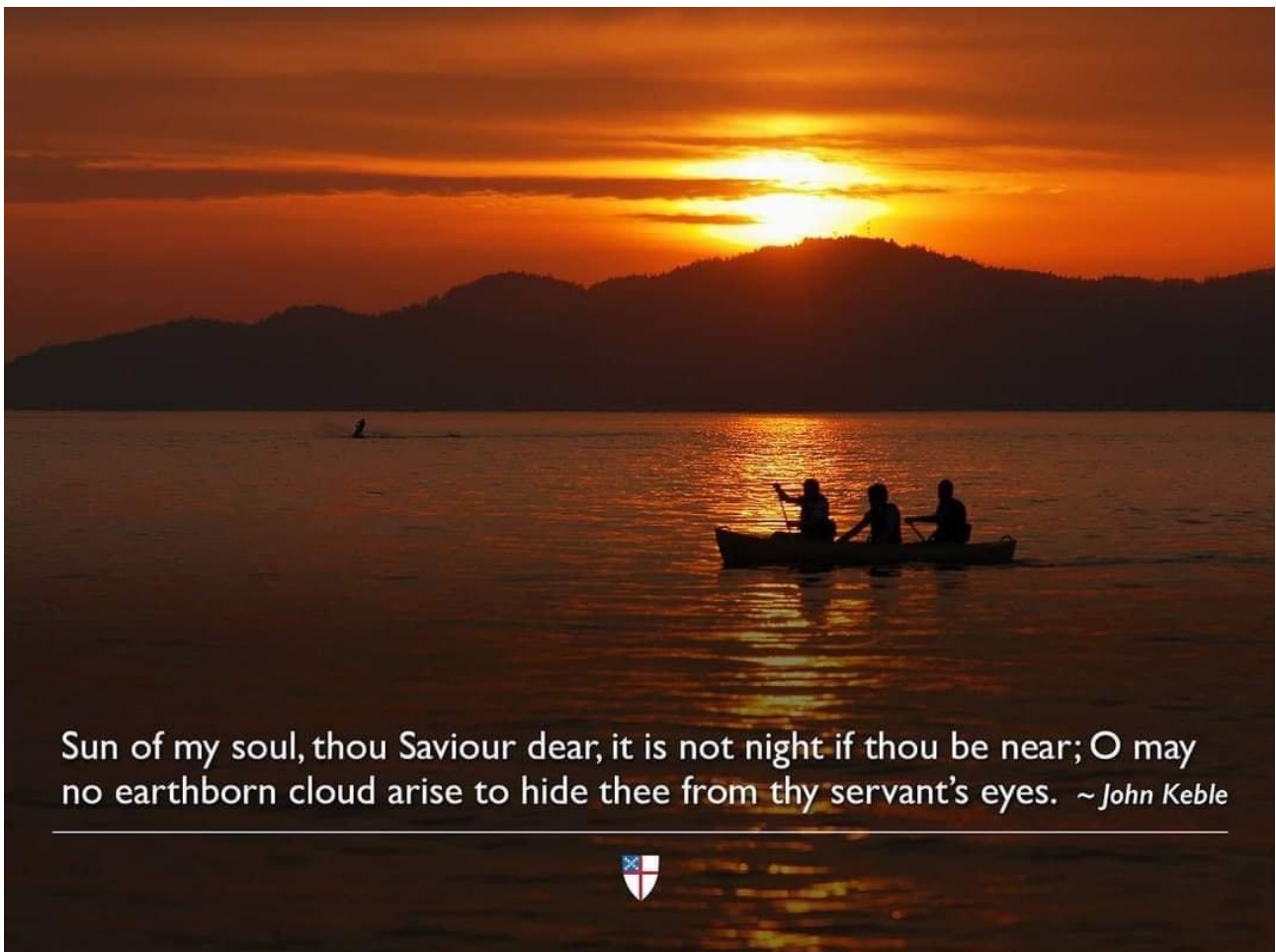
of this object is not clearly defined in the five-year strategy for BB UK & RoI.

“The new vision, mission and values of BB UK and RoI appear to be receiving greater effort, promotion and exposure than the object of the Boys’ Brigade.

“The Boys’ Brigade in Northern Ireland does not hold doctrinal positions but respects those held by every denomination with which we partner.

“If BB UK and RoI does not respect those positions, the very existence of the Boys’ Brigade in Northern Ireland is at risk.”

The overall BB movement told the News Letter the following in response: “There are discussions taking place between



Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear, it is not night if thou be near; O may no earthborn cloud arise to hide thee from thy servant's eyes. ~ John Keble



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The Boys' Brigade UK & RoI and The Northern Ireland District of The Boys' Brigade.

“Those discussions are to ascertain the best governance arrangement for both parties in the future and nothing more.

“This is an internal matter and neither party will make any further comment until those discussions conclude.

“The Boys' Brigade family remains united in its Christian mission.”

When contacted, two senior individuals in the Northern Irish leadership declined to say what exactly the crux of the dispute is.

The BB was founded in Glasgow in 1883 – some 24 years before Robert Baden-Powell founded the Scouts.

The BB's founder was Sir William Alexander Smith, a businessman, military officer, and member of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

It describes itself as “ the first voluntary uniformed youth movement in the world”.

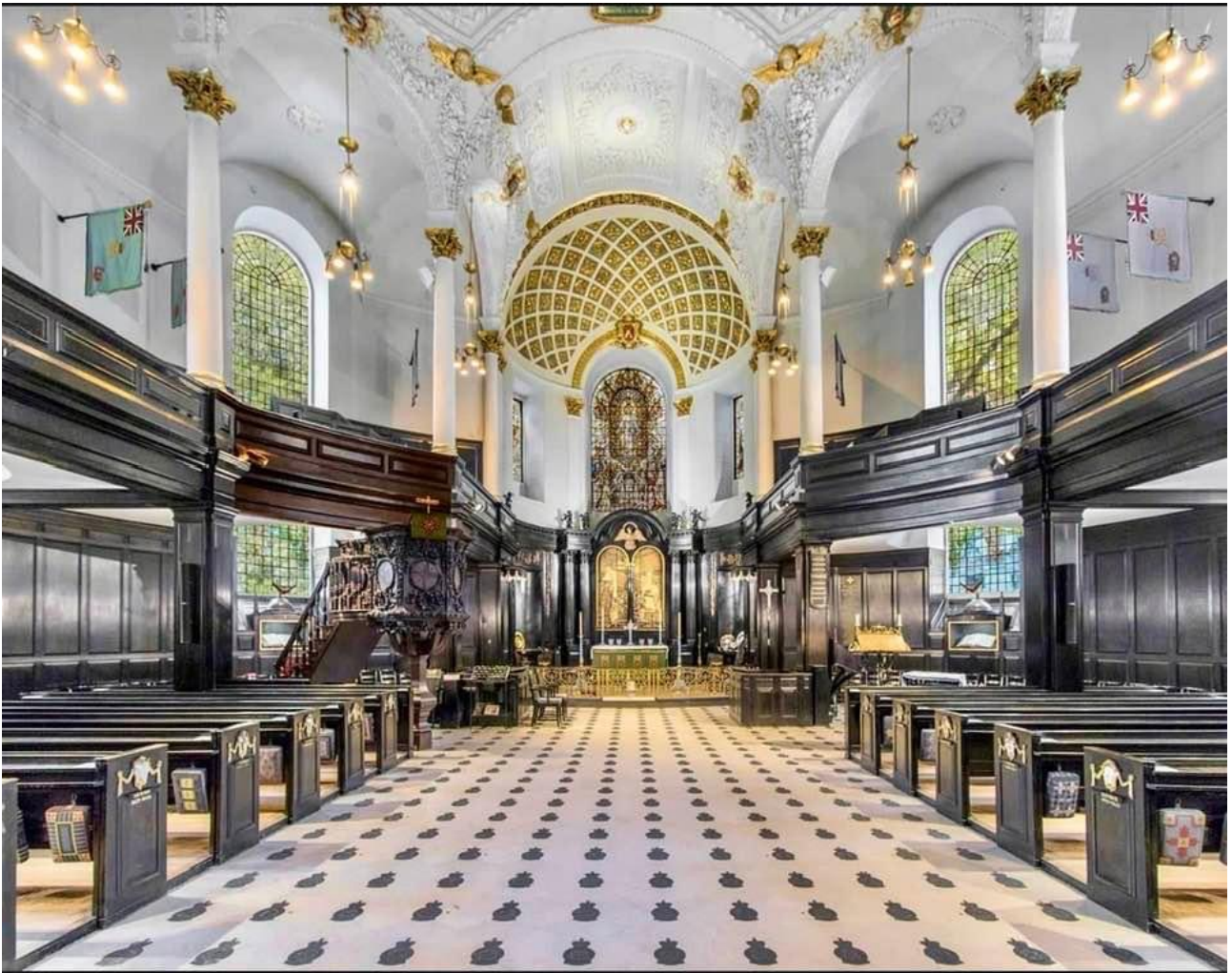
There are now 1,200 or so BB companies.

The object of the BB is: “The advancement of Christ's kingdom among boys and the promotion of habits of obedience, reverence, discipline, self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness.”

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Its motto is: “Sure and Steadfast” (taken from The Book of Hebrews, 6:19) and its “vision” is that “children and young people experience life to the full through coming to know Jesus for themselves”.

## Christian heritage – St Clement Danes



Welcome to a new feature in Church News Ireland

St Clement Danes Strand was almost completely destroyed in the Blitz. It was restored in 1958 it is the central Church of the R.A.F. There has been a church on this site since the 9th century.

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St Clement Danes is an Anglican church in the City of Westminster, London. It is situated outside the Royal Courts of Justice on the Strand. Although the first church on the site was reputedly founded in the 9th century by the Danes, the current building was completed in 1682 by Sir Christopher Wren. Wren's building was gutted during the Blitz and not restored until 1958, when it was adapted to its current function as the central church of the Royal Air Force.

The church is sometimes claimed to be the one featured in the nursery rhyme "Oranges and Lemons" and the bells do indeed play that tune every day at 9 am, noon, 3pm and 6pm—as reported in 1940 the church's playing of the tune was interrupted during World War II due to Nazi bombing.[3] However, St Clement's Eastcheap, in the City of London, also claims to be the church from the rhyme. St Clement Danes is known as one of the two 'Island Churches', the other being St Mary-le-Strand.

[<https://stclementdanesraf.org/>]

## World news

### Anglican Communion Secretary General pays tribute following death of Metropolitan Kallistos

**The Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon, has paid tribute to the Co-Chair of the International Anglican-Orthodox Theological Dialogue, Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia, who died in the early hours of Wednesday morning.**

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Metropolitan Kallistos founded an Orthodox parish in Oxford, England, as part of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. Since his consecration in 1982, he has served as an assistant bishop in the archdiocese.

Writing to the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew today, Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon said: “it is with great sorrow that I heard today of the death of His Eminence Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia. I want to assure you of my prayers and those of many in the Anglican Communion, for the repose of his soul and giving thanks to God for His Eminence’s ministry as a bishop, theologian and teacher.

“Metropolitan Kallistos’ stature as an internationally recognised theologian was immense. His books on the Orthodox Church have always remained in print, and, together with his other writings, have influenced several generations of students in many parts of the world and in many traditions. Anglicans in particular owe him a great debt.

“Metropolitan Kallistos was Co-Chair of the International Anglican-Orthodox Theological Dialogue and had a significant role in the Agreed Statement ‘In the Image and Likeness of God: A Hope-Filled Anthropology’, which was presented to your All-Holiness at a service in Westminster Abbey. As Co-Chair His Eminence combined formidable scholarship with a skilled and kindly voice in the work of the Commission. Members of the Dialogue remember also the times when he presided at the Divine Liturgy, and how he



**The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, presents Metropolitan Kallistos with the Lambeth Cross for Ecumenism for his "outstanding contribution to Anglican-Orthodox theological dialogue."**

brought his awareness of the holiness of God into all that he did.

“I pray that he may rest in peace and rise in glory.”

In 2017, Metropolitan Kallistos was awarded the Lambeth Cross for Ecumenism by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in recognition of his "outstanding contribution to Anglican-Orthodox theological dialogue".

Born in Bath, England, in 1934, Timothy Ware, as he was then known, was educated at Westminster School and

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Magdalen College, Oxford. While he was still a schoolboy he discovered the Orthodox Church, although it was not until 1958 that he was received into Orthodoxy. He travelled widely, spending time in North America, Jerusalem, on the Holy Mountain of Athos and at the Monastery of St John the Theologian on Patmos and engaging in academic research.

In 1963 his classic work “The Orthodox Church” was published; in 1964 “Eustratios Argenti: A Study of the Greek Church under Turkish Rule” appeared, and in 1965, the year in which he was ordained deacon, he completed a doctoral thesis for Oxford University on the Ascetical Writings of St Mark the Monk.

As a deacon he served both in Patmos and on the staff of Archbishop Athenagoras II of Thyateira and Great Britain. In 1966 he was appointed Spalding Lecturer in Eastern Christian Studies at the University of Oxford.

He was ordained to the priesthood and tonsured as a monk, taking the name Kallistos. He was tasked over and above his academic work with establishing a Greek Orthodox Parish in Oxford. At the time the Russian Orthodox Parish of the Annunciation was worshipping in St Gregory’s House and offered hospitality to the newly formed Greek Orthodox Parish of the Holy Trinity, before the two parishes together oversaw the building of the church which now stands on Oxford’s Canterbury Road, and which was shared in equal partnership by both communities.

Writing on the parish website, the current priest, Father Ian Graham, says: “Many of us still remember Father Kallistos from this time, and how the rigours of his academic work

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were combined with his parish duties. His teaching in sermons and talks, his love shown in Confession and pastoral care and above all his prayer with and for his people will be abiding memories.

“We rejoiced when he was elected and consecrated Bishop of Diokleia in 1982 – the first Englishman to be consecrated as a Bishop in the Orthodox Church since the schism of the 11th century – and although this meant that increasingly we had to share him with a wider world we continued to benefit from his love and care.”

He added: “In his essay ‘Go Joyfully The Mystery of Death and Resurrection’ Metropolitan Kallistos reminds us that ‘Death is a separation which is no separation. . . The chasm of death is not impassable, for we can all meet around the altar of God.’ In our temporary parting from him we can continue to remember him in our prayers, and we can be sure that he is also praying for us. May his memory be eternal!”

## **20 new cardinals today**

**Today, Saturday, Pope Francis will create 20 new cardinals at a consistory.**

A "consistory" is a formal meeting of the College of Cardinals, most commonly for the creation of new cardinals by the reigning pope.



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Meet the new cardinals: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2022-05/pope-announces-21-new-cardinals-from-around-the-world.html>

## Archbishop of Wales gives support to Pride Cymru

**The Archbishop of Wales has said there is no place for discrimination in society, in his message of support for Pride Cymru this weekend.**

Most Rev Andrew John said the Church in Wales fully supports LGBT+ communities across Wales and wished them a safe and happy event.

In a message published on Thursday, he wrote: "It is a privilege for me as the Archbishop of Wales to offer my support to Pride Cymru. The Church in Wales has long supported Pride Cymru and each year we take part in the Faith Tent celebrations. It's important that the Church in Wales offers its full support to LGBT+ communities across Wales because justice is one of the hallmarks of the Christian faith and there is no place for discrimination in society."

Last year, the Church in Wales passed a Bill to allow same-sex blessings in its church buildings.

Since then it's called for a ban on conversion therapy and campaigned against a proposed law in Ghana which would criminalise LGBT+ people.

It was also part of those who called on the Lambeth Conference to redraft the controversial Call on Human Dignity.

Pride Cymru begins on 27th August in Cardiff.

## Poem for today

### In Memoriam - Francis Ledwidge by Seamus Heaney

The bronze soldier hitches a bronze cape  
That crumples stiffly in imagined wind  
No matter how the real winds buff and sweep  
His sudden hunkering run, forever craned  
Over Flanders. Helmet and haversack,  
The gun's firm slope from butt to bayonet,  
The loyal, fallen names on the embossed plaque —  
It all meant little to the worried pet  
I was in nineteen forty-six or seven,  
Gripping my Aunt Mary by the hand  
Along the Portstewart prom, then round the crescent  
To thread the Castle Walk out to the strand.  
The pilot from Coleraine sailed to the coal-boat.  
Courting couples rose out of the scooped dunes.  
A farmer stripped to his studs and shiny waistcoat  
Rolled the trousers down on his timid shins.  
At night when coloured bulbs strung out the sea-front  
Country voices rose from a cliff-top shelter  
With news of a great litter — “We'll pet the runt!” —

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And barbed wire that had torn a Friesian's elder.  
Francis Ledwidge, you courted at the seaside  
Beyond Drogheda one Sunday afternoon.  
Literary, sweet-talking, countrified,  
You pedalled out the leafy road from Slane.  
Where you belonged, among the dolorous  
And lovely: the May altar of wild flowers,  
Easter water sprinkled in outhouses,  
Mass-rocks and hill-top raths and rafted byres.  
I think of you in your Tommy's uniform,  
A haunted Catholic face, pallid and brave,  
Ghosting the trenches with a bloom of hawthorn  
Or silence cored from a Boyne passage-grave.  
It's summer, nineteen-fifteen. I see the girl  
My aunt was then, herding on the long acre.  
Behind a low bush in the Dardanelles  
You suck stones to make your dry mouth water.  
It's nineteen-seventeen. She still herds cows,  
But a big strafe puts the candles out in Ypres:  
'My soul is by the Boyne, cutting new meadows...  
My country wears her confirmation dress.'  
'To be called a British soldier while my country  
Has no place among nations...' You were rent  
By shrapnel six weeks later. 'I am sorry  
That party politics should divide our tents.'  
In you, our dead enigma, all the strains  
Criss-cross in useless equilibrium  
And as the wind tunes through this vigilant bronze  
I hear again the sure confusing drum  
You followed from Boyne water to the Balkans  
But miss the twilit note your flute should sound.  
You were not keyed or pitched like these true-blue ones  
Though all of you consort now underground.

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# Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## 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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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