



Photo shows one of the ancient High Crosses at St James's Church in Castledermot, the Catherine O'Brien window depicting St Margaret in St Bartholomew's Church in Dublin and the Knightly Effigy at St John's Church in Ballymore Eustace. Examples of the many objects of interest in Dublin and Glendalough.

Help make an online Dublin parish history trail

A new trail of Dublin and Glendalough's historic objects and places is being compiled to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the unification of the dioceses. 'A History Trail of the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough' will highlight objects, artefacts and stories from parishes throughout the United Dioceses and they will be nominated by the parishioners and clergy of the dioceses. Together they will highlight the vibrant tapestry of the wonderful and beautiful objects and places of interest that make up Dublin and Glendalough.

Every parish in the dioceses has a story to tell, whether it be a person from history buried in the graveyard, an ancient font or high cross or beautiful stained glass window. Now is the time for them all to shine.

The top nominations will be compiled into an image based trail of objects of historical significance which will traverse the dioceses from rural to urban. The downloadable booklet will consist of a series of images of the objects and places of interest and an illustrated map to show where they can be found.

The booklet will be designed by award winning illustrator, Mark Wickham. It will be made

available to download from the diocesan website.

So get nominating – the organisers would love to hear from every parish in Dublin and Glendalough. Look for the hidden gems or well known historical points of interest and stories from the past in your parish and send the information to: dublinandglendalough800@gmail.com. The closing date for nominations is September 20 2016.

C of I Overseas Mission Conferences

The Council for Mission will run two one–day conferences to raise awareness of overseas mission within the Church of Ireland, under the theme of *‘Global Shaping Local: Two–way Mission’*.

This reflects the Council’s hope of increasing the Church’s understanding of its calling to assist the developing world, while also acknowledging that we have much to learn from the developing world in its experience and approach to faith and mission.

The conferences will be held in two locations in November:

- **St. Columba's Parish Centre, Omagh** – Saturday 5th November, 10am–4pm. Facilitated by the Rt Revd Kenneth Good, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe.
- **The Charleville Centre, Tullamore** – Saturday 12th November, 10am–4pm. Facilitated by the Rt Revd Kenneth Kearon, Bishop of Limerick, Killaloe and Ardfert.

The keynote speaker at both events will be the Revd Dr Mark Welsh, Mission Development Officer with the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. There will be an interview with a mission partner and a choice of five workshops, facilitated by the Association of Missionary Societies (AMS).

The Council for Mission is inviting every parish in the country to send a representative, to inform themselves of the current challenges in overseas mission and how we can better address mission in our local context. Participants will have the opportunity to attend two of the following workshops: Engaging Youth in Mission; Helping without Hurting; The Bible as a Key to Mission;

The Five Marks of Mission; and Two-way Mission: When Global Shapes Local.

There will be a small charge £8/€10 to help to cover costs. Places can be booked by **Friday, 30th September** by contacting Mrs Brigid Barrett on 00 353 (0)74 9145226 or by email at: brigid.missionbookings@gmail.com

In advance of the conference, the Council for Mission is also encouraging as many members of the Church of Ireland as possible to complete the following survey to determine the level of involvement in global mission: www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016GMS

Foreign aid failing to reach Christians fleeing ISIS, Middle Eastern bishops say

Most Western humanitarian aid is failing to reach the thousands of Christians who have fled their homes as ISIS fighters have swept through Iraq and Syria, three Middle Eastern bishops said at the 134th Knights of Columbus convention in Toronto.

“It’s time for election (in the United States) and also it is time to rethink American policy in the Middle East,” said Chaldean Archbishop Bashar Warda of Irbil, in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq. “Call on the government to direct the help directly to the people affected.”

Aid sent to refugee camps in the region never reaches the Christian minorities who do not feel safe inside the camps. The only aid reaching Christians in the region comes from churches, he said. Western governments need to get over their reluctance to directly fund church organisations, he added.

A visibly angry Melkite Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeanbart of Aleppo told journalists: “The governments send their money to the people in the camps and to the fighters and nothing to us.”

Archbishop Jeanbart argued that aid is needed as a way of keeping Christians in the region ready to reclaim their homes when the war involving thousands of foreign mercenaries in Syria is over.

“Syria is a holy land because millions of Christians have shed their blood in this land —

fathers of the church who preferred to die than leave their faith,” he said.

The destruction of ancient Christian communities in Syria and Iraq is a loss to the world and a fundamental change in a once pluralistic and multi-ethnic society in Syria, said Archbishop Jeanbart.

“It is our country. We were there before the Muslims and the Muslims know it,” he said. “It is very important to keep this relic of holy history. We are sons of Abraham effectively, not theoretically.”

Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan, head of the Syriac Catholic Church, dismissed Western policy regarding the Syrian civil war as Machiavellian and hypocritical, driven by global strategic interests and the price of oil.

“We and other minorities have been abandoned, and also we can say we have been betrayed,” said Patriarch Younan. “We don’t have a nation who will defend us. We don’t have this oil to bribe anyone.”

Americans have a moral responsibility to protect the minorities they left vulnerable after the 2003

invasion by a U.S.-led coalition to topple President Saddam Hussein, said Patriarch Younan, who served for 14 years as bishop of the New Jersey-based Diocese of Our Lady of Deliverance for Syriac Catholics in the United States and Canada.

Cathedral and choral



Willie Hughes, composer; An Taoiseach Enda Kenny; Ambassador Kevin O'Malley, USA; Brian Grogan SJ

Taoiseach and ambassadors promote *The Story of Love* concert

The Taoiseach Enda Kenny and ambassadors from around the world got in line recently for a photo shoot promoting *The Story of Love concert*.

The concert, composed by Dublin-born musician Willie Hughes, will be streamed live to millions around the world and takes place in Knock Co. Mayo on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 October, 2016. ([Watch short video here](#))

The concert brings together a production team of top Irish professionals including Niamh White former director of *The Late Late Show*; Mark Cahill music producer for Liam Lawton; Fiona Cunningham production designer *The Voice of Ireland*; Luis Peveda, *Riverdance*. After the performances in Knock Co Mayo, *The Story of Love* will tour the USA.

Many embassies were represented at previous performances of the concert in Farmleigh and Dublin Castle, including: US, Canada, India, Mexico, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Poland, Romania and Estonia.

Hughes says the event is an antidote to the social and political breakdown unleashed in

recent times and the general fracturing of societies and communities around the world.

“In many places around the world we are witnessing the shattering and tearing apart of community. Brexit is threatening the stability of the EU and fracturing the UK. The North’s peace process is now a cause for concern.”

But he says there is another voice also being heard.

“Young people especially are talking about the vision of unity and community that first inspired the founding fathers of the European Community. There is a growing call from almost every side for a new spirited re-emphasis of these founding values. *The Story of Love* answers this deep felt need for human solidarity and caring for one another and our planet.”

The opening sequence of the concert is a screen presentation of creation, along with the Sistine Chapel Choir.

Screenings feature throughout the concert which ends with a massive Universal Choir of Love made up of choirs from around the world including the Sistine Chapel Choir Rome; St

Patrick's Cathedral Choir New York; Metropolitan Cathedral Choir Mexico City.

It also features choirs from Hiroshima, Manila, Melbourne, and many more countries.

In a grand and groundbreaking finale, they will all video link in to sing: 'We Believe: It's All About Love'.

+++ Christ Church Cathedral, Waterford

Sunday 7th August. Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
8.30 Holy Communion. 10.00 Holy Communion.
Celebrant The Rev'd Jim Wallace. Hymns:587
(omit vv2 +3), 97, 323, 81. Daily Communion
from Monday to Friday at 1.15pm

+++ National Cathedral of Saint Patrick,

Dublin 9.15 Eucharist said in the Lady Chapel.
11.15 Choral Eucharist sung by Peregrine
Josquin des Prez: Missa Pange Lingua, Anon.:
Deus Deorum, Taverner: Gaude plurimum,
Preacher: The Very Revd G.J.O. Dunstan, B.Th.,
M.A., Prebendary of Swords. 15.15 Choral
Evensong sung by Peregrine with Seanma
Responses: Smith, Humfrey in E minor, Psalm:
37, Purcell: Jehova, quam multi sunt hostes mei,
Voluntary: Bach: Prelude in Eb major. Compline
is sung at 17.30 on Monday and Friday.

Evensong is sung at 17.30 on Tuesday and Thursday. Evening Prayer is said at 17.30 on Wednesday. Eucharist said at 11.05 on Saturday. For further information visit www.stpatrickscathedral.ie or telephone 01 453 9472.

+++ St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick Sunday 7th August: The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity. 11.15am: Eucharist (Rite 2) with Holy Baptism. Hymns: 539, 391 (t. 55), 145(ii), 86, 446. The cathedral choir is on vacation. Postlude: Prelude in E Flat (BWV 552ii) J.S. Bach. 1900 Evening Prayer.

+++ Saint Bartholomew's Church, Clyde Road, Dublin 4 Sunday 7 August 2016 9am Said Eucharist. 11am Solemn Eucharist sung by the Elgin Chorale. Willan, Missa Maria Magdelene. Harwood, Let all the world. There is no Evensong in August.

+++ Come and Sing Choral Evensong in Cork - The Director of Music at St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork – Peter Stobart – has organised a 'Come and Sing Choral Evensong' which will be held in St Fin Barre's Cathedral on Saturday 17th September. All singers are encouraged to attend and all abilities are most welcome! There

will be a rehearsal at 2pm and the Service itself is at 5pm. Tea and coffee will be served at 4.15pm. Music will be provided and will include John Rutter's beautiful anthem 'The Lord bless you and keep you'.

News briefs



+++ Parish support for rector getting on his bike -

Parishioners at St James's Church, Donagheady, turned out in force early yesterday morning to support their Rector, the Reverend Dr Robin Stockitt, and a dozen friends as they prepared to

head off on a three–day sponsored cycle to raise funds for a new parish hall and for the mental health charity Cycle Against Suicide. The group (*pictured above*) set off at 8 o'clock on Friday morning. Their 240–mile route will include visits to seven Church of Ireland cathedrals in Northern Ireland – Derry/Londonderry, Enniskillen, Clogher, Armagh, Dromore, Lisburn and Belfast – and one in the Republic, St Eunan's, Raphoe. Dr Stockitt, who took up cycling a year ago, says his interest in mental health stems from the loss of his mother, Carol, to suicide 30 years ago.

Northern Ireland has the highest suicide rate in the United Kingdom and Rev Stockitt says he has been amazed by the number of other people he has met in the community who have been bereaved by suicide. If you want to support Dr Stockitt's cycle, you can donate online by visiting www.sponsorme.co.uk/robinstockitt/eight-cathedrals-sponsored-bike-ride.aspx Money raised from the 3–day cycle will be shared evenly between the parish hall restoration and Cycle Against Suicide.

+++ New Horizon conference at Coleraine -

Speakers: Scot McKnight, Gavin Calver and Trevor Morrow. You can see a full list of this

year's seminars [here](#). They all look brilliant and tough choices will have to be made, but below are a few EA highlights:

Monday - A snapshot of the Church in Northern Ireland - Church context, stats and stories and why they matter, with me and David Smyth (also check out Glynn Harrison and Gavin Calver).

Tuesday - Question Time panel with Attorney General John Larkin, Communities Minister Paul Givan, former Presbyterian moderator Trevor Morrow and Nicola Brady of the Irish Council of Churches (also check out Glynn Harrison, Gavin & Anne Calver, Paul Coulter and Ken & Helen Clarke!).

Wednesday - Scot McKnight and I will be debating whether Christians should be involved in politics (I am stepping in for Nola Leech) and David is part of a seminar with CARE on the importance of marriage (also check out Gavin Calver, Home for Good, Paul Coulter and Alain Emerson).

Thursday - Gavin Calver has a great seminar on evangelism, also check out Paul Coulter again.

Friday - *'It's a winter's night; snow has made driving across the Sperrins impossible. Louise and Bronagh, with similar but different backgrounds, end up in the back room of a pub. A conversation they never expected starts about their families and about 1916, the Somme and the Rising.'* And so begins 'The Halfway House', a play written by Philip Orr and commissioned by Contemporary Christianity. With their help and in a change to the publicised schedule, we are very excited to be bringing this play to New horizon as our Friday seminar contribution on dealing with the past. (also check out Jude Cairns and Andy & Dana Masters).

http://newhorizon.org.uk/the-event/nh-explore/nh-explore-schedule/?mc_cid=2aa42b2b5c&mc_eid=b530a87c33

+++ Diocese of Down and Dromore Annual Bible Week -

The Diocese of Down and Dromore warmly invites you to their 10th Annual Bible Week, taking place each evening at 7.45pm from 30 August–2 September. The speaker in 2016 is Revd Dr Iain Provan and the venue will be Willowfield Church, Belfast. Iain has been the

Marshall Sheppard Professor of Biblical Studies at Regent College, Vancouver, since 1997, and will take as his theme, *The Big Picture: Reading the Bible for All That's There*.

Iain says: 'Our theme is "The Big Picture: Reading the Bible for All That's There," and I'll be sharing with you one of my passions – to get all of God's people reading all of God's Word (Old AND New Testaments) and understanding it as one Great Story in which we are supposed to live our lives.'

Programme

- Tuesday, 30 August – In the Beginning and Now: God Creates (Psalm 104:24–35)
- Wednesday, 31 August – Of Covenants and Promises: God Commits (2 Samuel 7:4–16)
- Thursday, 1 September – Of Evil and Suffering: God Saves (Psalm 73:1–14)
- Friday, 2 September – A Holy People: God Calls (Isaiah 42:1–9)

Prayer ministry is also available every night.

+++ The Catholic Historical Society of Ireland Annual Conference - takes place on Saturday, 10 September 2016, at St Patrick's Campus, Dublin City University, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.

Registration opens at **10am** with the first paper beginning at 10.30am by Salvador Ryon from the St Patrick's College, Maynooth. Other speakers include John McCafferty (UCD), Daithí Ó Corráin (Dublin City University) and Mr Brendan Twomey (Church of Ireland Historical Society). The conference will conclude at at 3.30pm. Full details of the programme can be found here: [Catholic Historical Society of Ireland Annual Conference](#). Those wishing to attend are asked to pay €15 (€10 for unwaged) at the registration desk. Anyone is welcome to attend this event. For further inquiries, please contact the conference secretary, Professor Marian Lyons, at the following address: marian.lyons@nuim.ie

+++ Learning Disability and the Church -

Belfast Bible College is running an evening class course in September and October to explore the indispensable place of people with learning disabilities in the local Christian church. Using biblical teaching, stories and personal experience, the course will consider the practical outworking of a theology of disability – encompassing the nature of God, our common humanity, what church is and how Christian

communities can bring enrichment to all by the appropriate inclusion of people with learning disabilities. **Dates:** 13th September to 18th October **Time:** 7.00–9.15pm **Location:** Glenburn House, Glenburn Road South, Dunmurry, Belfast, Co. Antrim, BT17 9JP. The fee is £70 and more information, including booking details, is available at www.belfastbiblecollege.com/learning-disability-and-the-church. The course will be led by Ian Dickson and Rachael Mackarel. Ian is the Director of Tio – the Centre for Disability Theology and Ministry at the college.

+++ ‘Worrying’ rise in anti-Semitic incidents, charity says -

The number of anti-Semitic incidents in the UK rose by 11% in the first six months of this year, charity figures have suggested. The Community Security Trust said 557 incidents targeting Jews were reported to the charity from January to June, up from 500 in the same period last year. The charity’s chief executive, David Delew, said it was a “worrying trend”. Home Secretary Amber Rudd condemned the “deplorable rise” of incidents, which included 41 violent assaults. The CST, which has compiled data on anti-Semitic

hate incidents in the UK since 1984, said there was no “obvious single cause” for the high number. It said that just under a quarter of all the incidents recorded – 133 – involved the use of social media. Its report said social media had become an “essential tool” for those who wish to harass, abuse and threaten Jewish public figures.

News links to reports on faith, politics and education

Republic pledges over £1m in funding for NI peace projects

BBC News

The Republic of Ireland's foreign affairs minister announces over €1.2m (£1.02m) of funding for reconciliation projects.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-36980187>

BBC/Guard/Tel/FT/Mirror/Mail

Reports that the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) will continue "without delay" and a new chair appointed, Home Secretary Amber Rudd has said, after the resignation of Justice Goddard, the Inquiry's chair. IICSA was set up in March 2015 to examine claims made against public and private

churchnewsireland@gmail.com

institutions including the C of E. Justice Goddard was selected after two previous chairwomen quit.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-36982049>

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/aug/04/dame-lowell-goddard-resigns-as-head-of-child-sexual-abuse-inquiry>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/04/child-sex-abuse-victims-say-inquiry-has-descended-into-farce-as/>

[https://next.ft.com/content/](https://next.ft.com/content/06e80210-5a7b-11e6-9f70-badea1b336d4?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel%20Moreover//B2B)

[06e80210-5a7b-11e6-9f70-badea1b336d4?](https://next.ft.com/content/06e80210-5a7b-11e6-9f70-badea1b336d4?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel%20Moreover//B2B)

[FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/](https://next.ft.com/content/06e80210-5a7b-11e6-9f70-badea1b336d4?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel%20Moreover//B2B)

[Channel Moreover//B2B](https://next.ft.com/content/06e80210-5a7b-11e6-9f70-badea1b336d4?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel%20Moreover//B2B)

[http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/dame-](http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/dame-lowell-goddard-quits-child-8563810#ICID=nsm)

[lowell-goddard-quits-child-8563810#ICID=nsm](http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/dame-lowell-goddard-quits-child-8563810#ICID=nsm)

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-3724245/Head-British-child-sexual-abuse-inquiry-quits.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

[article-3724245/Head-British-child-sexual-abuse-inquiry-quits.html?](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-3724245/Head-British-child-sexual-abuse-inquiry-quits.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

[ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-3724245/Head-British-child-sexual-abuse-inquiry-quits.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

[0](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-3724245/Head-British-child-sexual-abuse-inquiry-quits.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

BBC/Guard/Christian Today/Northern Echo/ Newcastle Even Chronicle/ITV

Reports that a retired clergyman and former archdeacon has been convicted of sex abuse in the 1970s and 80s. Granville Gibson, 80, abused two men while he was vicar at St Claire's Church in Newton Aycliffe, Durham Crown Court heard.

He denied the charges but was convicted of two counts of indecent assault after trial. He was cleared of five other charges. The Bishop of Durham, Paul Butler, offered an unreserved apology to all the survivors and those affected by this news and added a review would now be conducted.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tees-36977270>

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/04/george-granville-gibson-church-of-england-guilty-indecent-assault>

<http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/bishop-durham-promises-review-after-11704385>

<http://www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/2016-08-04/former-county-durham-vicar-found-guilty-of-historic-sex-offences/>

Christian Today

Reports that churches in the area of Russell Square are open and offering prayers after the fatal stabbing of an American women on Wednesday night. A spokesman for St George's Holborn is quoted and various Twitter posts featured.

Tel/Mirror

Report the names on David Cameron's resignation honours list. They includes a DBE (Dame Commander) title for Caroline Spelman, the Second Church Estates Commissioner and lately Cabinet Minister, for political and public service.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/08/04/david-camerons-full-honours-list-revealed/>
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/full-list-david-cameron-crony-8562747#ICID=nsm>

Christian Today

Further coverage of the advice on the potential use of social media apps offered to the C of E in a [blog](#) by Tallie Proud, digital officer for the Archbishops' Council. "It's not a question of if your church should be on social media, but how is your church going to make a difference through social media - and when," she explained.

Mail

Reports that the benefits cap has directly encouraged at least 23,000 households into work, according to new figures from the Department for Work and Pensions. The paper concludes that they show that the cap of £500 a week for households with children - and £350 for single claimants - is making work pay, while

noting the opposition of the Bishops in the House of Lords to the legislation, which introduced the cap.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3724575/23-000-work-thanks-Iain-Duncan-Smith-s-benefits-cap-Households-impacted-rules-41-cent-likely-job-new-figures-reveal.html>

Christian Today

Report that churches are preparing for the UK's largest gay pride march this weekend in Brighton. Tens of thousands are expected to turn out on the seafront in Brighton and Hove for the annual "pride parade" on Saturday morning. The Diocese of Chichester has said its churches will be open and welcoming and have "created a range of inclusive events to celebrate" the festival.

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