

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Walled City Hope

Image of the day

Walled City Hope

A symbolism of the spirit of reconciliation and hope for the future in Derry/Londonderry.

This iconic statue, which stands next to the Craigavon Bridge, was created by local sculptor Maurice Harron. It was erected in 1992 towards the end of The Troubles.

People and places

Accord marriage preparation attendance equals pre-pandemic figure

Accord has released its latest attendance figures for couples undertaking Sacramental marriage preparation courses throughout Ireland.

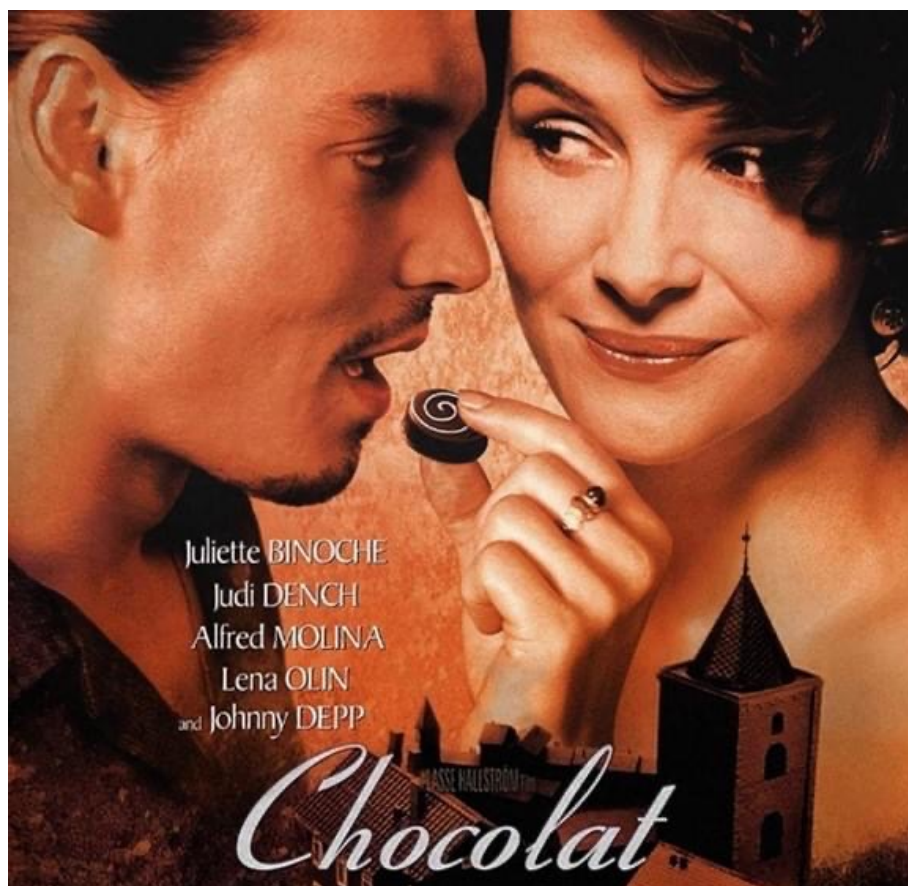
The 2022 figure of 4,610 couples hosted through 297 marriage preparation programmes is equal to 2019's pre-pandemic figure of 4610 couples hosted at 285 programmes.

Speaking at St Valentine's shrine on Whitefriar Street Monday, Director of Accord CLG, Mr Tony Shanahan said

February 18, 2023

that “it is reassuring to see that the figures are back up to their pre-Covid levels”.

Parish takes up **Chocolat** for Lent



St Mark’s Dundela parish is inviting folk for an evening of chocolate indulgence (chocolate fountain, truffles, popcorn and hot chocolate) on Shrove Tuesday (21 February), at 7.30 pm in the Parlour.

“We’ll be screening the movie *Chocolat* about a woman who opens a chocolaterie in a small French town with interesting consequences.

“The film is the background to our Lenten study series which will take place on Sunday evenings at 4.00 p.m.”

February 18, 2023

Women's Aid support from parish 'Extra Mile' initiative



Archdeacon Stephen McBride, vicar of All Saints', Antrim, and the Rev Peter Blake, curate, present a cheque to Arlene Creighton, Communication and Engagement Manager Women's Aid.

All Saints' Parish Church, Antrim, presented a cheque for £4,200 to Women's Aid at a service on Sunday February 12, with the funds raised through the parish 'Extra Mile' initiative.

This originated a number of year ago, when the 'Extra Mile' bucket was placed on the Churchwardens' Table to collect parishioners' loose change.

February 18, 2023

The monies raised have been used to fund a variety of projects including five extendable wheelchairs for Mozambique through the Girassol charity, and the provision of water filters for Tanzania, with £2,100 donated, enabling the parish to purchase 70 filters.

In February 2022, the focus of the 'Extra Mile' was the provision of fuel vouchers for families suffering hardship and fuel stress in the local community and this was run in conjunction with Women's Aid.

As a result of the generosity of parishioners, the Extra Mile appeal raised £4,200 for fuel vouchers, and on February 12, Arlene Creighton, Communication and Engagement



Antrim Rural Deanery
Lenten Midweek Services
7:30pm

22.2.23 Templepatrick
1.3.23 Gartree
8.3.23 Randalstown
15.3.23 Ballynure
22.3.23 Antrim Parish
29.3.23 St Patrick's Antrim

February 18, 2023

Manager Women's Aid ABCLN, attended All Saints' to receive cheques for £4,200 and a donation of £500 from Antrim Rotary Club.

Over the next four weeks, parishioners in Antrim are being encouraged to donate to the Bishops' Appeal in response to the earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Following that, the next 'Extra Mile' project will support the Shelter Box charity which supplies emergency accommodation and tools to areas hit by disaster.

Former RTÉ presenter praises Bro. Kevin as a 'living saint'



Bro. Kevin Crowley (centre) is pictured with Bro. Declan O'Callaghan, and Bro. John Manley. Photo: David Creedon

Lined up to narrate the Concerts in Aid of the Capuchin Day Centre for the Homeless, former RTÉ presenter Aonghus McAnally has described Brother Kevin Crowley as a "living

February 18, 2023

saint” and the work of the Capuchin Day Centre as more vital than ever. Courtesy The Irish Catholic Newspaper

St Mary’s Crumlin new art project to capture memories and stories



The sanctuary of St Mary's Church, Crumlin, with the carved pulpit. Photo credit: Ros Kavanagh

St Mary’s Crumlin, Dublin is to launch new art project to tell the stories of the parish All are welcome to attend the launch on March 9.

February 18, 2023

St Mary's Parish Crumlin has announced the launch of a new art project set to capture the memories and stories of St Mary's parishioners in clay. The project is being supported by a grant from Dublin City Council's Neighbourhood/Voluntary Arts Scheme and by Ulster University.

Dublin City Council Historian in Residence, Cathy Scuffil will launch the new art project for the parish on Thursday March 9 at 8pm in the church. As part of the launch, Cathy will give a talk on one of her great passions: Dolphin's Barn bricks. St Mary's Parish Church is the last building to have been constructed with these local bricks. As such, the talk in the church is a 'dream come true' for Cathy.

The aim of St Mary's new art project is to create panels reflecting life in the parish over the years.

Starting this month, ceramicist and Ulster University lecturer, Michael Moore will work with parishioners old and young, of long-standing and new to the parish, to gather information and memories and support the creation of works in clay that tell those stories. This approach mirrors one taken at the time of the building of St Mary's. The pulpit is decorated with small carvings which reflect life in the parish at that time. There will be an exhibition of the finished ceramic panels created by the parishioners and Michael at the end of the year.

Rector of St Mary's Crumlin, the Revd Ruth Noble stated: 'We are delighted that Michael approached St Mary's after attending a talk by Cathy about Dolphin Barn Bricks. Now, everything has come together and we look forward to an invigorating project that captures and celebrates the life of

MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH

A series of lunchtime lectures

Tuesdays in March 2023 @ 13.10

Music Room, Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin

Tuesday 7 March

MUSIC & LITURGY IN THE
MEDIÉVAL CATHEDRAL

Frank Lawrence

University College Dublin

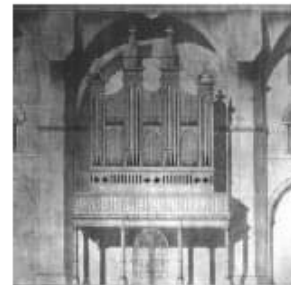


Tuesday 14 March

THE ROSEINGRAVES & 18TH CENTURY
CATHEDRAL MUSIC IN DUBLIN

Kerry Houston

Technological University Dublin



Tuesday 21 March

THE VICARS CHORAL OF THE DUBLIN
CATHEDRALS IN THE 19TH CENTURY

Paul Arbuthnot

St Ann's, Dawson Street



Tuesday 28 March

MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH
IN THE 20TH CENTURY

David O'Shea



ADMISSION FREE. ALL WELCOME.

Supported by the Friends of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin

E: archives@christchurch.ie | W: www.christchurchcathedral.ie

February 18, 2023

our community past and present’.

If you would like more information about the art project or, as a past or potential future parishioner of St Mary’s, like to get involved in the project, please contact the Revd Ruth Noble e: crumlinandchapelizod@gmail.com or ph: 087

052 3450. The launch and talk will take place on Thursday March 9 at 8pm in St Mary’s Church and is open to everyone.

New rector in Naas

A large congregation from across the community joined parishioners and colleagues for the Institution of Rev Craig McCauley to Naas Union of Parishes, at 8pm on 15 February 2023.

The congregation included members of Craig and Vida’s family, members of his former parish in Co Cavan, as well as new clergy colleagues from across Meath and Kildare. Local political and civic representatives were also in attendance.

The Institution took place in St David’s Church in Naas and was conducted by Bishop Pat Storey. The preacher was Archdeacon Ian Horner, a colleague from Craig’s time in Kilmore.

Ordained in 1999 he served in Banbridge, Co. Down, Kill O The Grange in Dublin and for the last 18 years as Rector of the Virginia Group of Parishes in Co. Cavan, where he was also an Archdeacon.



L to R: Canon Alastair Graham, Rev Carol Hennessey, Ms Karen Seaman (Diocesan Registrar), Bishop Pat Storey, Rev Craig McCauley, Archdeacon Leslie Stevenson and Archdeacon Ian Horner.

Craig is married to Vida and they have two children. Laura is a final year business studies student at Dublin City University and Matthew is completing 6th year at the Royal School Cavan.

February 18, 2023

Craig was born in Dublin but grew up in Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan. Vida is originally from near Boyle in Co. Roscommon.

At the end of the service there were a small number of speeches, before people made their way to a reception in Lawlor's Hotel, in Naas. This part of the evening was MC'd by Ms Rhonda Willoughby, a member of Naas parish.

During the speeches Craig, Vida and their family were welcomed to their new parish and home. Appreciation was also expressed to Canon Alastair Graham, Rev Carol Hennessy, Rev James Reid and Rev Alan Melbourne who had pastoral oversight for Naas Union during the vacancy.

Prior to beginning his ministry in Naas, Craig said he was, "looking forward to coming to Naas and to the Diocese of Meath and Kildare ... and seeing what God has in store as we begin this new chapter of ministry. Until then I ask you to pray for me and my family as I will be praying for you."

Methodist President appreciates his roots and teachers

The President, the Rev David Nixon, writing in the March issue of the Methodist Newsletter says, "I had a blast from the past on 8 January.

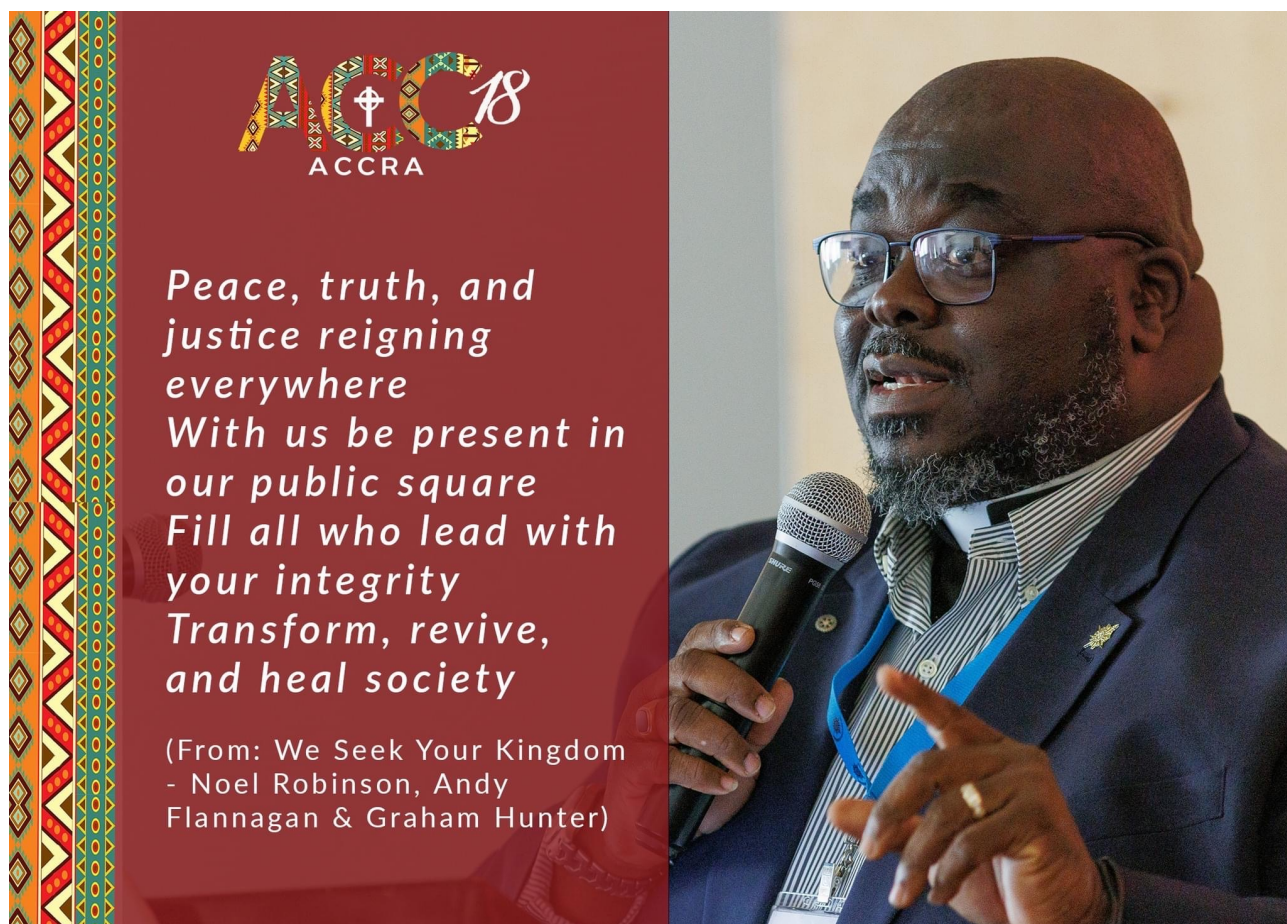
"I was delighted to see my former boss, Oliver Haslette, and my woodwork teacher in Secondary School, Mr Kelly, in the congregation in Manorhamilton.

February 18, 2023

“Tom (Lay President) and I were at an evening circuit service with the Rev Jeremy Nicoll.

“As I shared what had happened over the 33 years since I left my carpentry job in Manorhamilton, I expressed my appreciation to both of them as God had used their teaching and influence on my life for the development of the skills training centre in Zambia. Thank God for all our teachers and all who are involved in education....”

ACC 18 - Transform, revive and heal society



Speaking at a Bible Study on transforming unjust structures, Revd Canon Reid Simon from The Province Of The West

February 18, 2023

Indies invited the conference to explore the 4th Mark of Mission to 'Transform'.

News reports

Liverpool Lay Canon elected unopposed as Chair of global Anglican Consultative Council

A lay canon from Liverpool in England, Canon Maggie Swinson, has been has been acclaimed as the new Chair of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC).

The Acc is one of four “Instruments of Communion” or “Instruments of Unity” of the global Anglican Communion of 42 independent-yet-interdependent national, and regional Churches. The Council meets in plenary every three-or-so years, and is currently gathered in Accra, Ghana, for its 18th plenary meeting.

As chair of the Anglican Consultative Council, Maggie Swinson will also chair the Standing Committee of the Anglican Communion. This comprises the Archbishop of Canterbury, as president, five primates elected to represent the regions of the Anglican Communion., a vice chair, and seven members elected by members of the Council.

Maggie Swinson is a lay canon of England’s Liverpool Cathedral, a chartered accountant and company secretary in private practice. She has served as vice-chair of the ACC since her election in Lusaka, Zambia, at the 16th meeting of the council (ACC-16) in 2016.



In that time, Maggie has chaired the Inter Anglican Finance and Administration Committee, led the group which implemented the Anglican Communion Office structure review, chaired the panel for the appointment of Bishop Anthony Poggo as the new Secretary General and attended the Lambeth Conference as an observer.

“I believe the key challenges for the ACC are in taking forward the mission of the Communion to serve the Kingdom”, she said. “Developing a governance structure which better reflect the instruments whilst maintaining the key voices of laity and non-episcopal clergy. Developing a financial model which reduces reliance on member contributions and increases sustainability and enabling all Provinces to continue to find a place within the Communion in spite of their differences.”

Commenting on Canon Swinson's unopposed election as the new Chair of the ACC, Archbishop Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury said: "I have worked with Canon Maggie for many years and she has faithfully served the Church – both the Church of England and the Anglican Communion in many ways. I am delighted that her gifts will continue to be shared with the Communion as the new Chair of the Anglican Consultative Council and the Standing Committee."

The Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, Bishop Anthony Poggo, said: "I am delighted that Canon Maggie Swinson has been elected, unopposed, by the ACC as Chair. This is in recognition of and a vote of thanks for her work in her previous role as Vice-Chair of the ACC, a role she has been in since her election in Zambia in 2016.

"In her role as Vice Chair of the ACC and Chair of the Inter-Anglican Finance and Administration Committee (IAFAC), she has worked superbly and has been an asset to each of the Committees. As Secretary General, I look forward to working with her as she takes on this new role as Chair.

"I know she will continue to guide the Standing Committee and the ACC as we journey together into the next phase and season. We assure her of our prayers as she takes this on role."

News of her election has been welcomed in her home diocese of Liverpool, England. The Bishop of Warrington, Beverley Mason, said: "I am so delighted to hear of this appointment. Maggie brings years of experience of serving

February 18, 2023

the Church of England nationally and locally as provides a vital lay perspective.

“She brings immense experience, wisdom and insight to the Anglican Communion, and is so well-placed to take on this extra responsibility. In these challenging days, Maggie will play a vital role in listening to and ensuring voices are heard across the communion.

“In Liverpool, we are very proud and give the assurance of our prayers for Maggie and the work of the ACC.”

Canon Swinson assumes the chair at the end of the ACC-18 meeting and serves for the next two meetings of the Anglican Consultative Council. She succeeds Archbishop Paul Kwong, the former Archbishop of Hong Kong, whose term of office has come to an end. Elections for vice chair and five other members of the Standing Committee will take place later this week.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

The Marriage Course online

The Church of Ireland Marriage Council is hosting The Marriage Course, a series of seven online sessions designed to help couples invest in their relationship and build a strong marriage.



The Alpha Marriage Enrichment Course, which is free, gets underway on Thursday April 20, and will run each Thursday evening from 7.30–9.30pm. There's no counselling and no group discussion involved.

Nicky and Sila Lee, authors of *The Marriage Book*, developed The Marriage Course for couples looking for practical support to strengthen their relationship. The course is designed to help couples build strong foundations, learn to communicate more effectively and resolve differences well.

The course is hosted by the Revd Jonny Campbell–Smyth, rector of Ballynure and Ballyeaston (Ballyclare) and his wife Alison.

Online registration here -

[<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-marriage-course-tickets-541197565487>]

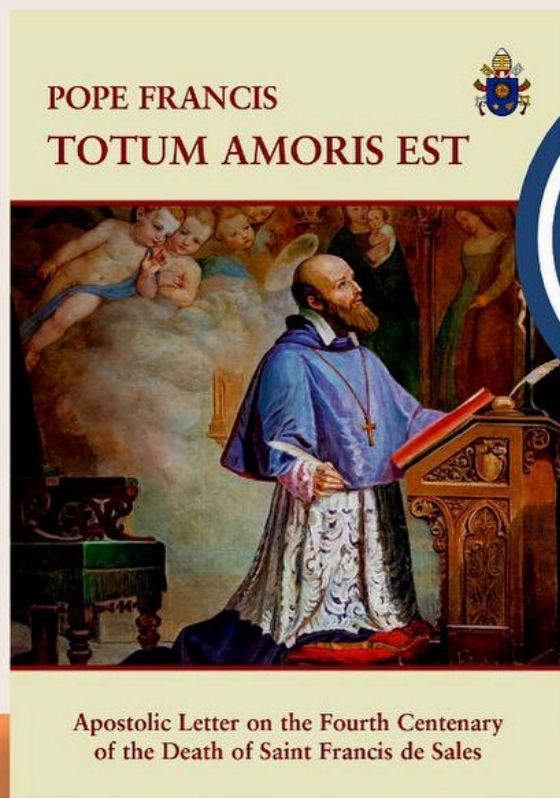


St Patrick's High Crosses for sale

In the Down Cathedral shop, there are St Patrick's High Cross replicas for sale.

A beautiful miniature copy of the original 8th century cross which stood on the traditional site of St Patrick's Grave at Down Cathedral.

Priced at £10, these would make a great gift for friends and family.



Now Available
in Stores.

Pope Francis - Totum Amoris Est

In a new apostolic letter, Pope Francis marks the fourth centenary of the death of St Francis de Sales, honouring this ‘far-sighted’ saint and Doctor of the Church.

In Totum Amoris Est (‘Everything Pertains to Love’), Pope Francis reflects on the legacy of St Francis de Sales on the 400th anniversary of his death.

Published by Veritas. Available online and in store. 4.99 Euros

Poem for today

Inniskeen Road: July Evening by Patrick Kavanagh

The bicycles go by in twos and threes -
There's a dance in Billy Brennan's barn tonight,
And there's the half-talk code of mysteries
And the wink-and-elbow language of delight.
Half-past eight and there is not a spot
Upon a mile of road, no shadow thrown
That might turn out a man or woman, not
A footfall tapping secrecies of stone.

I have what every poet hates in spite
Of all the solemn talk of contemplation.
Oh, Alexander Selkirk knew the plight
Of being king and government and nation.
A road, a mile of kingdom. I am king
Of banks and stones and every blooming thing.

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

