

Bishops' Appeal needs funds for typhoon hit Philippines

The Church of Ireland is responding through the Bishops' Appeal emergency fund. Archbishop Richard Clarke and Archbishop Michael Jackson have sanctioned the immediate release of €10,000 to Christian Aid partners on the ground to provide tarpaulins, tents, food and hygiene kits to those who urgently need them.

They urge the Church to respond generously in the face of such overwhelming need.

It is hoped that there will be special collections over the next two Sundays in all churches.

Disaster relief efforts are in need of emergency funds after a typhoon with winds reaching 200 miles per hour hit parts of the Philippines causing flooding and extreme devastation.

People are being evacuated from severely hit areas.

Up to 10,000 people are feared dead and a further 150,000 are in need of assistance



Canon John Okoli is pictured during his Nets Work visit to Londonderry with (from left) Albert Smallwoods, Derry Diocesan Bishops' Appeal representative; Deborah Doherty, Head of Church and Community, Christian Aid Ireland; Cllr Martin Reilly; Bishop Ken Good; and Rosamund Bennett, Chief Executive Officer, Christian Aid Ireland.

to evacuate. Damage to infrastructure and buildings is on a scale not seen before.

To donate to this emergency relief response, please send funds to: Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal, Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6

Prayer for Today

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship*

Or contact: 00 353 1 4125610 for more information or lodgement details.

Black Santa Donation to the Philippines

The annual 'Black Santa' Appeal run by St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast gratefully receives occasional donations throughout the year as well as in the run-up to Christmas and so is in a position to respond to certain crisis situations.

As a result, the Cathedral's 'Black Santa' Appeal is today sending a donation of £5,000 to aid agencies working with all those affected by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

The Dean of Belfast, The Very Revd John Mann, says, 'We have been moved and deeply saddened to hear of the huge loss of life and of the suffering to so many brought about by Typhoon Haiyan. While our prayers are with all those who have been affected by the disaster we hope that this donation will help at least in some small measure in the practical relief directed to the most vulnerable and will show the solidarity of the people of Northern Ireland with the people of the Philippines.'

Bishop and Dean of Down Pay Tribute to Eddie McGrady

The Rt Revd Harold Miller, Bishop of Down and Dromore and the Dean of Down, The Very Revd Henry Hull, have paid tribute to the former SDLP MP for South Down Eddie McGrady who has died at the age of 78.

"Eddie McGrady was quite simply one of the nicest people you could ever meet," said Bishop Harold. "His life was spent in the cause of peace and mutual

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understanding in Northern Ireland. He was also a man of faith, committed to understanding across the churches.

"St Patrick's Day in Down Cathedral will not be the same without him," he continued, "and my last and treasured memory was praying with him during his illness in that most special of all places: his beloved Saul."

Dean Hull said:

"It is with deep sadness that I learnt of the death of Eddie McGrady yesterday. Eddie was a great friend and supporter of the Church of Ireland in Downpatrick and South Down. He was a model of tireless Christian service in the community and an outstanding example of political leadership working across the whole community for the greater good of all.

"My first encounter of Eddie, within a few days of arriving in Lecale, was as we organised a cross-community vigil following the 9/11 attacks. Following that we cooperated closely in promoting the Christian Heritage of this locality through the St Patrick's Centre and the St Patrick's Signature Project.

"His passing will be deeply felt by the whole community and our thoughts and prayers are for his family and all who will miss his friendship."

Limerick cathedral events

Upcoming events at St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick include:

Sunday 1st December - 7pm - Advent Carol Service; Saturday 7th December - 2 to 5pm Christmas Stall; 5.30pm - Come and Sing Carols - free admission, all welcome. Come along and join the cathedral choir in singing favourite carols.

With special guests the St Mary's Prize Band. Sunday 22nd December 8pm - Carols for the City

Cork Diocesan youth officer post

The United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross seek applications from suitably qualified persons (lay or ordained) for this full-time position in the Dioceses.

Further information from: The Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Office, St Nicholas House, 14, Cove Street, Cork. Fax: (+353 21) 432 0960 E mail: secretary@cork.anglican.org Closing Date: 20th December 2013

Bishop impressed by diocese

The Rt Revd Ferran Glenfield in his first Presidential Address to the Diocesan Synod of Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh, said he had been greatly encouraged by what he had seen in his time as bishop.

Speaking to the Synod in Bush Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon on Saturday 9 November 2013, he said -

LOOKING

As I travelled across the diocese I looked and observed what was going on. What did I find?

I found people at worship on Sunday and all generations were represented. I discovered a deep sense of pride in the local church which was energised in the renewal of church and community buildings making them fit for purpose. I came across this for example in

Killoughter, Derrylanne, Arva, Drunkerran, Lissadell, Drumshambo and Carrigallen. As I joined the Summer Madness group from the Diocese I encountered young people with a passion for Jesus, with a sense of belonging and a servant heart. Likewise as I visited the Holiday Bible Clubs hosted by a number of our parishes and delivered in partnership with friends from South Carolina and Scripture Union, I witnessed an energy and creative spirit to reach children with the love of Christ.

To be honest, I have been greatly encouraged by what I have seen with my own eyes. I want to thank Bishop Ken Clarke for the legacy he left and the team of clergy who inspire and encourage us to go forward together as disciples of the Lord Jesus.

LISTENING

I have listened carefully to those within and outside the church. One of the most valuable listening exercises undertaken was the conversations with representatives of parishes without a rector, the Bailieborough Group, the Kildallon/Swanlinbar Group, the Manorhamilton Group and the South Leitrim Group. Much was shared and agreed in these conversations enabling parishes to plan for the future and make provision for the present. I have listened attentively to the challenges facing our schools in the current climate. We need to be aware of the situation in our small National Schools and as a Diocese to be supportive to Principals and Boards of Management. Above all we need to be advocates for our National and Secondary Schools, they are such valuable assets for our community and mission.

I have been privileged to listen to young people with a sense of adventure. To those who went on a trip of a lifetime to South America this summer. To the leaders of our young people who are filled with much hope and faith. To three of our people



training for the ordained ministry: Linda Frost, Olivia Downey and Raymond Kettle, and to others who are considering the call of God on their lives; a remarkable work of God.

I have also been listening to those beyond the Diocese to glean other perspectives. Our friends in South Carolina have been very helpful in this regard. In the same way conversations with mission agencies have confirmed a sense of expectancy, that God is at work here among us.

LEARNING

I come from a background in education and so learning has always been an important element in my thinking. I have experienced learning at first hand on my travels:

- Learning how to be an effective witness for Christ in the wider community.
- Learning to be caring and supportive to people with particular needs, the very young, children with special needs, the sick and the elderly.
- Learning to empower people to minister in the church and in the community.
- Learning with parish and diocesan readers and exploring the contours of ministry with young clergy in the early

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Light party at St Bartholomew's, Belfast

years of their ministry.

- Learning from the wisdom and encouragement of those in senior leadership in the diocese.

All of this learning has been enriching and stretching.

As 2013 draws to a close and a new year awaits, I want to continue my exploration of the Diocese. In 2014 I intend to initiate a conversation across the Diocese with clergy and laity as to how we sustain ministry and mission in our local churches. I plan to meet up with key stakeholders in the Diocese, our Lay Readers and National School Principals and Chairpersons to draw on their experience and to forward ministry and learning. In the spring, we are planning to hold a resources day to enable local churches to build-up their capability. Likewise plans are afoot to enhance our work among children and young people, the lifeblood of our parishes. We could do so much more if more people were mobilized and our finances were more robust. We look to the Lord of the Church in all of these aspirations.

As I draw these three experiences together:

- Looking
- Listening
- Learning

I want to leave this with you.

That we might all commit ourselves to:

- Looking – seeing afresh who God is and the scope of His purposes in His World.
- Listening – hearing afresh the kind of life Jesus intends for His people.
- Learning – what the church is for and how we might encourage one another to live the Gospel in a way that connects with today's world

Nigerian visitors in fight against malaria welcomed to Londonderry

The Mayor of Londonderry, Cllr Martin Reilly, recently welcomed the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, the Rt Revd Ken Good, and two visitors from Nigeria to the city's Guildhall.

Earl Storey writes - Canon John Okoli and Nanlop Ogbureke were visiting the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe to promote the *Nets Work* project, a year-long Derry and Raphoe programme to raise enough funds to buy 20,000 mosquito nets, saving up to 40,000 lives.

Nets Work is a joint diocesan initiative with Bishops' Appeal (marking the organisation's 40th anniversary) and Christian Aid. Christian Aid's partner, the Anglican Diocesan Development Services, will distribute the mosquito nets.

Mosquito nets are a surprisingly effective weapon in the fight against malaria. The mosquito (the female is the one that passes malaria and is silent, unlike the

male) normally bites between 10.00pm and 5.00am. When people sleep under mosquito nets, it protects them during the most vulnerable time of the day.

In one area of Africa, where a project to distribute mosquito nets took place, it was estimated that the death rate from malaria fell by 67%.

A net costs around £5/€6, but for a family which spends more than 90% of its income on food, this is an expense they just cannot afford. Sadly, in many rural communities, having a fever is a way of life, so Nets Work also educates communities on how that fever is caused and how it can be prevented.

Bishop Good commented: "I am very excited that Derry and Raphoe has identified a life-saving project in Nigeria, providing thousands of mosquito nets for people who can't afford them."

A short promotional Nets Work video was shown at the Derry and Raphoe Diocesan Synod and can be viewed on the diocesan website: www.derryandraphoe.org

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Canon Okoli, Programme Manager of the Anglican Diocese of Nnewi Health and Community

Development Centre, lives and works in the Anambra State in Nigeria and, since 2008, has been working on projects which focus on children and their vulnerability to both malaria and HIV.

During his visit, he spoke at the Diocesan Synod.

Mrs Ogbureke, who works for Christian Aid Nigeria, has been monitoring the effectiveness of the Nets Work programme since its inception and spoke to a range of groups from the diocese during her visit.

Commissioning of Student Readers in CITI

The Commissioning Service for the licensing of students takes place in the Church of Ireland Theological Institute takes place on Wednesday November 13 at 5.00 pm. Archbishop Michael Jackson will officiate.

Foundation Day Festal Evensong in Christ Church Cathedral

Christ Church Cathedral will celebrate its foundation day with a Festal Evensong for the Feast of St Laurence O'Toole sung by the choirs of Christ Church Cathedral on Thursday November 14 at 6.00 pm.

This will be followed by a Foundation Day reception in the Crypt.

Canon McKinley reflects

Canon Horace McKinley's book entitled "As I Said...An Ordinary Priest Reflects", will be officially launched in the Old Schools, in the grounds of Whitechurch Parish Church on Friday November 15 from 7.30pm to 9.30 p.m. Archbishop Michael Jackson and parishioner Dr Harold Hislop will both speak at the launch of the book. Copies of the book will be on sale on the night.