

St Patrick's World War 1 exhibition planned

President Michael D Higgins attended the annual Service of Remembrance in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday last where hundreds, including many war veterans, gathered to commemorate Ireland's war dead.

The service was broadcast live on RTE Radio 1 and was also attended by the Lord Mayor of Dublin Oisín Quinn and Major General The O'Morchoe, the President of the Royal British Legion in Ireland.

DUP MP Jeffrey Donaldson and Minister for the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Jimmy Dinnehan read lessons during the service. Wreaths were laid at the War Memorial at the North Transept of the cathedral by the President and Major General The O'Morchoe, who also read the exhortation.

The sermon was preached by the Revd Michael Stevenson, former Army Chaplain

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Enniskillen Remembrance Sunday 2013 - from left, Ms Theresa Villiers MP, (Secretary of State for Northern Ireland), The Viscount Brookeborough (HM the Queen's Lord Lieutenant for County Fermanagh), Mr Enda Kenny TD (Taoiseach of the Irish Republic), Dean Kenneth Hall and Mrs Arlene Foster MLA (Stormont Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment)

and Rector of Bunclody. Speaking about the sacrifice made by those who lost their lives in the First World War, he said that today we have developed an obsession

Prayer for Today

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Common Worship



with age and attempting to retain youth and prolong life.

He said that the corollary of this was the fear of death.

For the Christian, he said death had a very different aspect and said that people who had not faced up to the fact of death, that it is something that can happen to anyone at any time, had not begun to know what life was about. He continued that for a Christian death is not the end and life is something to be lived to the full – with the risks that entails but in the knowledge that sacrifice is not waste.



He said that the people being remembered at the service – the 50,000 Irishmen who lost their lives in World War I and the 7,000 who died in World War II – had to face up to the inevitability of death and lived their lives to the full. The fear of death meant that people could not live life to the full.

St Patrick's Cathedral is currently putting together an exhibition and education programme to mark the centenary of World War I. The exhibition will focus on the cathedral's role in commemorating the war

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and examine how it affected the cathedral community.

They are currently looking for personal stories from this time and would like to hear from anyone who has information or objects that would contribute to the exhibition.

Anyone interested can contact the education department at education@stpatickscathedral.ie, edassist@stpatickscathedral.ie or phone (01) 4539472.

Work on newly restored Garrison Parish Church almost complete

The last six months has seen the Church of Ireland church undergo a major facelift that has included the re-pointing of the tower, as well as the re-hanging of the tower bell.

Fermanagh Herald - The building as it is now, has existed since 1827.

"In a small community especially, I think it's very important," a spokesman told the Fermanagh Herald.

"No major work has been done on the building outside. It's an historical building, and being a rural area it's been really significant or us being able to do it."

Other work to the building included the complete replacement of the vestry and



Garrison church facelift nearing completion

the exterior of the walls of the church were re-plastered with lime mortar. The roof slates were all replaced on the main roof, and guttering and downpipes were also replaced and attention given to drainage and outside paths.

“There’s been a brilliant response,” the spokesman continued.

“Reverend Ngozi Njoku has only been here a couple of months back and she has made a tremendous change as well in getting people out to church. The local community has been a great support.”

The contractor is Terry McGovern, of McGovern Restoration, Enniskillen, and Lorraine offered additional thanks to the overseeing architect Colin Bell, a conservation architect from Sligo.

A fund-raising concert will take place on Friday November 8 at the Gilaroo Centre in Garrison with country musician Anthony McBrien. Doors open at 9.30pm, and tickets are £10 including supper.

When the internal works are finally completed the church and donated gifts will be re-dedicated by the bishop of Clogher

Rt Rev John McDowell,
on Sunday March 23
2014.

Bangor celebrates its saint

**Friday 22 November
will see Bangor Abbey
play host to a concert
to kick off a weekend
of events to celebrate
Bangor’s most famous
saint, Columbanus.**

Heading the concert is
Dana Masters from South Carolina,
USA, Bangor Ladies’ Choir & The
McClean Family.

Tickets £5, (Parish Office)

‘On the way’ Concert at Bangor Abbey.
7.30 pm. Tickets £5

Saturday 23 November
Archaeology for Kids
10 am to 1.00pm.

Lectures on Columbanus
12 noon and 1.00 pm.
Free, with light lunch between.

Sunday 24 November
Ecumenical service at
St. Columbanus, Groomsport Road. 6.30
pm

Dublin Seminar to help effect local communities

**The Dublin and Glendalough Diocesan
Growth Team has announced details of
an event taking place in the new year
aimed at exploring the challenges and
practicalities of creating a missional
discipleship culture. ‘Missional**

Discipleship in Ireland Today' will take place in Christ Church Cathedral on January 8 and 9.

The first session of the event is aimed at everyone – from church leaders to church planters and lay leaders. Topics covered will include empowering lay leaders, personal growth and development, creating a culture of discipleship and discipleship that leads to mission. The session will also hear from PJ Booth, leader of Open Arms Christian Fellowship and national leader of the AGI; Andy Carroll, minister of Donabate Presbyterian Church; and Ross and Lucy Hill, leaders of Hope Community Church, Ringsend.

The second session will be more interactive and practical and is aimed more specifically at church planters – those who are currently or have recently planted a church or those who are planning something new in their community.

The main speaker at this event will be Paul Maconochie who runs a network of church based on St Thomas Crooke's in Sheffield. Paul also oversees the European network of churches that have an affiliation with St Thomas'. He will share his experience.

"A number of contemporary writers pick up the biblical emphasis on making disciples as the foundation of building and growing the church and the consequent importance of building a discipleship culture. This is perhaps an important area for discussion and reflection as we consider the issue of making the church a welcoming place, which has been another important area for us in Dublin & Glendalough," Andrew McNeile of the Diocesan Growth Team explains.

"Indeed, Ric Thorpe, the Bishop of London's adviser on Church Planting,

spoke to a group of people in January of this year and last Wednesday led a day seminar in the Church of Ireland Theological Institute – an event that was

attended by some 40 people, mostly clergy from the Church of Ireland. 9 dioceses were represented. So Mission and Discipleship are very much contemporary issues in today's church," he adds.

This event will be run in Christ Church Cathedral but is overseen by an interdenominational group so there will be people from a variety of denominations there.

It is hoped that the event might be a helpful way to continue the conversation started at the Diocesan Growth Forum last year and will stimulate further ideas to find new ways of engaging with local communities in an effective way.

Spaces for the event will be limited so to secure a place please email Andrew McNeile at amcneile@eircom.net by the end of November. More details are available at www.irishchurchplanting.org.

Bible TV series is unique opportunity

'The Bible' is an epic TV mini-series which will be broadcast on Channel 5 this December, followed by a release on Blu-ray & DVD by Fox.

This is a unique opportunity to help the church to reach out to everyone in the community – especially those who don't normally read the Bible or join with the local church.

To help, Damaris has created an official Souvenir Guide which explores themes such as Faith & Life, Choices & Consequences and Forgiveness & Transformation – and is designed to stimulate discussion about the Bible.

"Each day we hear inspirational examples of churches planning to make the most of this opportunity," says Alice Mortimore



from 'The Bible' UK team. "Here are just some of them...

Giving one to every home in the parish
Each church member holding dinner parties for friends, using the Souvenir Guide to stimulate discussion

Giving one to everyone who attends the Christmas services

Giving one to parents of pupils in the local school

Church members buying quantities on a Sunday, praying together about who they will give them to, and giving them to their friends, neighbours and work colleagues through the week

You can see a preview of the guide and order copies [here](http://www.thebibleuk.org/resources-souvenirguide).

<http://www.thebibleuk.org/resources-souvenirguide>

Christmas advice from C of I Board

Christmas – the season of goodwill, celebration of God's amazing free-gift of himself in his son Jesus Christ. Born as a baby, his arrival was the best news the world will ever hear – but it so often becomes the most stressful time of the year - the Church and Society Commission of the C of I. The communication continues -

Seasonal Pressures

If marriages are under pressure, the cracks are often seen during the holiday

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period when expectations of happy families are so high; some divorce lawyers are at their busiest in January. Choosing to be patient, kind and forgiving is the best Christmas present any spouse can give to the other.

The root cause is often the pressure of spending too much money on Christmas – gifts, food and drinks, parties and nights out. January is often a miserable month as people struggle to pay for overspending at Christmas.

Think practical, think realistic

We want to encourage churches to set out few basic ideas – which are just good common sense, but can make all the difference. Some suggestions include:

- Instead of asking – 'What do you want for Christmas?' – work out how much you can afford to spend and then ask 'What's the best possible Christmas we can have on our budget?'
- Recognise that our children may put us under pressure for the next new thing – but the best gift we can give them is our time, attention, love and security.
- Work out how much you really want to eat and drink, and don't buy more than you need that will end up thrown away.
- Stop giving unnecessary presents – what about a family gift rather than something for each person?
- Arts and crafts and baking are back in fashion, and what could be nicer than someone spending their time and energy on making a gift for you?

Sharing the Season

At Christmas almost everybody wants to sing carols – invite your friends and family to your church carol services, Christingle services, Sunday School plays and any other Christmas events your church wants to run. Remember how lonely Christmas can be for people on their own, or away

from home, and look out for people who would welcome an invitation to join in with your celebration.

Ask for help

If you are worried about money don't let the pressure get too great – speak in confidence to your rector, or contact an organisation which specialises in helping people cope with their debts – Christians Against Poverty is just one example (capuk.org).

Please remember, all the good things of Christmas can magnify the problems people can face, so don't be afraid to seek or offer help where it is needed.

The communication ends with the Advent Collect -

Almighty God,
Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us
in great humility;
that on the last day
when he shall come again in
his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life
immortal;
through him who is alive and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Great Cathedral Bake Off

This Saturday 16th November – The Great Cathedral Bake Off will be held at 3.00pm in St Macartin's Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen.

Spectators will be able to watch some adult Parishioners compete at decorating a cake in their own 'unique style'. A special 'Mystery' judge will then award prizes to the Star Bakers and everyone will be able to have 'afternoon tea' and enjoy their tasty bakes. Children will have the opportunity to join in, decorating and eating cupcakes. This is an event for all ages with the emphasis on fun, please bring your friends along.

Diocesan readers prepare for commissioning

On Sunday next, 17th November, the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton will license four new Diocesan Readers to serve in parishes of the Diocese.

The Service is at 4 p.m. in St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork. All are welcome.

On Tuesday, 12th November, the Bishop met the four candidates for a final training session and briefing at Holy Trinity, Frankfield.



The four candidate Diocesan Readers outside Holy Trinity, Frankfield where they had their final training session with the Bishop himself. (l-r, Patrick Culleton from Bandon, Emmanuel Adebisi from Mallow, Carole Pound from Skibbereen and Gordon Coombes from Clonakilty).

Bishop Colton said: Readers are lay people who have been selected, trained and licensed by the bishop of a diocese to preach, teach and lead worship in a pastoral context. I'm thrilled to be licensing four new readers on Sunday to add to our team of 22 Diocesan Readers. For their final training session I brought them to the place

where, in 1980 I started off myself as a Diocesan Reader. It felt a bit like something Lord Sugar would do with his potential Apprentices, but Frankfield, is a normal sized, usual type of church in the Diocese, and it inspired me to share with the candidates the sorts of things I learnt myself in that place as I set out on the responsible task of preaching, teaching and leading worship. We are very fortunate to have people of the calibre we have serving as Diocesan Readers in our Diocese.

Presbyterians give support to human trafficking bill

In its submission to the Stormont Committee for Justice on the draft bill concerning human trafficking and exploitation the Presbyterian Church has welcomed many of the measures in the proposed legislation.

Emphasising its consistent view that the protection of the victims of trafficking is of paramount importance, the Presbyterian Church and Society Committee that prepared the response states that "we welcome the comprehensive measures



And a chance to try on the new robes

contained in the Bill; including tackling the demand factors which drive trafficking, given that the issue is not confined to those trafficked for prostitution or sexual exploitation."

However the Church does express some concern over the potential criminalisation of children and suggested that this area of the draft bill needs further consideration. "It is important not to criminalise children any more than is absolutely needed, and we have concerns that this issue of the potential criminalisation of children needs more clearly addressed in the draft Bill." The Church goes on to make the request that "special provision is afforded to children and that every attempt is made to keep them outside the Criminal Justice System."

The Church appreciates the provisions that the draft Bill would provide in terms of support and assistance given to victims of trafficking. It makes the suggestion that more attention is given to the role of all the agencies involved in support and assistance to the point of the Bill needing to be specific about what is expected of them in order that the needs of victims would be met.

The Presbyterian submission also makes the point that it would like to see the introduction of what it describes as a “reflective period.” The purpose of this “would ensure that unconfirmed or suspected victims of trafficking are not removed from the jurisdiction until such time as they can be screened and a definitive judgement made as to whether they are trafficked or not.”

One of the most controversial aspects of the draft bill is its clause 6 which would make it illegal in Northern Ireland to pay for sexual services. In commenting on this the Presbyterian submission does not consider that the case has been adequately made for such a blanket provision being included in a bill that is primarily dealing with human trafficking and thinks such an issue would be better dealt with in legislation specifically concerned with prostitution.

The submission states, “We do not believe that the case has been adequately made for such a blanket provision on payment for sexual services. To be absolutely clear, we do believe that prostitution is an evil in our society, but in the absence of any clear and coherent policy on dealing with the issue of prostitution (which is much wider than human trafficking), we are not convinced that such a wide ranging clause should be introduced into a Bill that is primarily dealing with human trafficking. Such a clause should be considered as part of a different, but much needed, Bill on prostitution in Northern Ireland.”

Christian Aid Typhoon Haiyan Appeal

Christian Aid launched an appeal to help those affected by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, thought to be the strongest storm in recorded history.

It is particularly concerned that some of the poorest communities in the islands seem to have been worst hit.

Further heavy rains forecast for the southern Philippines over the next 48 hours could seriously affect the progress of the huge emergency response in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan, says Christian Aid.

Lifelines such as power and communications, roads, bridges and ports have already been severely damaged and are not expected to be restored for another four to eight weeks, hindering the ability of aid workers to reach remote communities.

The threat of further heavy rain is of deep concern as an estimated 9.5 million people have already been affected across nine regions and almost 620,000 people have been displaced, according to the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Christian Aid, which has an office in Manila, has deployed three rapid response teams to affected areas in Samar, Leyte and Panay to assess the needs of communities and prepare its humanitarian response. Working with local partner organisations the immediate need is to provide food, shelter, repair materials and hygiene kits.

Christian Aid is receiving reports that on the southern island of Samar 95 per cent of all buildings have been damaged, but as yet there is no clear indication as to the number of casualties.

Cristina Ruiz, Christian Aid's Head of Humanitarian Programmes for Asia, said: ‘The needs of the communities affected by this disaster are huge; as yet we don't even know the full extent. More rain is expected within the next few days which will greatly hinder our assessments and the delivery of essential food and emergency shelter to those in desperate need. Without swift humanitarian

assistance the current situation could very quickly deteriorate even further.

'Christian Aid is planning to support the worst affected communities, marginal and landless farmers, fishing communities,



Bishop Trevor Williams, Chair of Christian Aid -

female-headed households, older people and children.

'The Philippines has a long history of typhoons and our partners work year-round with vulnerable communities to provide training to help them prepare for emergencies such as this. However the scale of this typhoon was simply overwhelming.'

Haiyan is the 25th tropical storm to hit the island group this year. Typhoon Bopha in 2012 killed more than 1,100 people and caused more than US\$1 billion worth of damage. Typhoons in 2006 and 2011 also each killed more than 1,200 people. Christian Aid has launched an emergency appeal for Typhoon Haiyan, to donate visit www.christianaid.ie/philippines-typhoon, or call the Christian Aid Dublin office (01) 611 0801

Christian Aid Ireland Board

Christian Aid Ireland has registered companies in Dublin and Belfast and is governed by the boards of these two companies.

The two boards meet as one board and include directors who are nominated by our sponsoring churches. Five directors serve on both the Republic of Ireland (ROI) and Northern Ireland (NI) boards and three directors also serve on the board of Christian Aid Britain & Ireland.

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The Right Revd Trevor Williams

(Chair), Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, Church of Ireland. (ROI/NI) (Britain & Ireland)

Mrs Gillian Kingston (Vice Chair), Methodist Church in Ireland. (ROI/NI) (Britain & Ireland)

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Rev Dr Colin McClure, Presbyterian Church in Ireland. (NI)

Mr Mervyn McCullagh, Irish Council of Churches. (ROI/NI)

Revd Dr Scott Peddie, Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland. (NI)

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Sheilagh Reaper-Reynolds, Religious Society of Friends. (ROI)

Mr Brian Ridsdale, Christian Aid. (ROI/NI) (Britain & Ireland)