

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Making Hay in Myroe

I

mage for today - Making Hay in Myroe

News -

Templepatrick team on India ministry trip
Run the Runway 5k at Enniskillen Airport
Greener Clare's 23 churches undertaking biodiversity
Pope presides at Mass for his holiday neighbours
Christian MP calls for UK revival in deserted Commons chamber

Education -

The Negotiator - new documentary on Senator George J. Mitchell
3 from Inst in IRL U18 Boys win EuroHockey U18
First Ballymena Academy Past Pupils' Podcast; Willie John McBride
TCD Alumni Impact Report

Cathedral Calls -

Lunchtime organ concert at St. Columb's
Free Lunchtime Concert – Saint Mary's Limerick

Clergy and ministry -

C of E New Revs campaign

Events -

Lunchtime recital St Ann's Dawson Street, Dublin
Book now for Connor Takes the Castle 2025
From classrooms to construction sites—first aid training
Children's Summer Singing School, Stranmillis College
Glories of the Sistine Chapel, music in St Patrick's Belfast

Speaking to the soul -

Short reading and a prayer daily on this site

July 22, 2025

Image of the day



Making Hay in Myroe

'Make Hay whilst the Sun Shines' well maybe straw instead at Broglasco Farm in Myroe, Limavady.

Farmers out working long into the evening as the sun lowers in the sky before the wet stormy weather forecast for last Thursday.

Beautiful Binevenagh in the background.

Thanks again to our friends at Aerial Vision



News

Templepatrick team on India ministry trip



Team from Templepatrick Parish travelling to India are, from left: Rory Gordon, Katie Wallace, Josh Brobyn, Matthew Mould, Jacqueline Mould and the rector, the Rev Jeremy Mould.

A team of six from Templepatrick Parish left on Monday July 21 for a ministry trip to the Indian Christian Mission Centre (ICMC) in Salem, Tamil Nadu.

Run the Runway 5k at Enniskillen Airport



Dozens of runners and walkers found a new track to race on this evening - the runway at Enniskillen Airport.

A novel 5k Fun Run and Walk organised by Trory and Killadeas Parishes took place at the Airport when some serious runners, fun runners and walkers all enjoyed a beautiful summer's evening on one of the best surfaces.

After registration, they all gathered at the end of the main runway and ran the full length before making a return trip back and finally making their way to the finish area.

All competitors received medals and a goody bag for finishing.

Greener Clare's 23 churches undertaking biodiversity

Greener Clare shares - We held a number of biodiversity workshops on wildflower and grass identification at Christ Church Spanish Point and St Marys Church Quin with Botanist Phoebe O'Brien which covered identifying

common plants, flower insect timed counts and mowing regimes.

Spanish Point and Quin are some of the 23 churches undertaking biodiversity actions such as wildflower meadow creation on church grounds in Co. Clare. The actions completed under the Return to Nature Clare Church Biodiversity Project help declining pollinator populations.' This event is supported by Clare County Council's Biodiversity Office and the Local Biodiversity Action Fund

Pope presides at Mass for his holiday neighbours



More than 1,500 faithful participated in the Mass presided over by Pope Leo XIV in Albano, just two kilometers from his summer residence.



The Pope recalled that, in a way, he came to meet the community, as he was to take possession as cardinal-bishop of Albano on May 12, but was elected Pope on May 8.

"The Holy Spirit decided otherwise," he joked, reflecting on the ways God acts: hospitality, service, and listening, through Abraham, Martha, and Mary.

Christian MP calls for UK revival in deserted Commons chamber

A Christian MP has told Parliament that the UK needs a social and political Christian revival.

Despite the chamber being empty when Danny Kruger spoke, a video of his impassioned speech has garnered over 1.3 million views online.

The Conservative MP for East Wiltshire highlighted the role of Christianity in British politics, calling it “the wellspring of democracy”.

He noted that the Houses of Parliament themselves are built on the site of a former royal church, St Stephen’s Chapel, and that the government is forever entwined with the Christian faith through the Church of England.

"The Church of England is not some private club, just another eccentric denomination," said Kruger. “The parish system covers every square inch of this country... We all belong, even if you never set foot in your church from one year to the next, even if you don't believe in its teachings, it is your church, and you are its member.”

However, Kruger’s main point hinged on what he sees as spiritual—and thereby political—decline in the nation.

“It's no surprise that both the church and the country itself are in a bad way, divided, internally, confused, badly led,” said Kruger. He claimed that a “new religion” is creeping over the nation, “a hybrid of old and new ideas, and it doesn't have a proper name, and I don't think ‘woke’ does justice to its seriousness.

“It is a combination of ancient paganism, Christian heresies, and the cult of modernism all mashed up into a deeply

mistaken, deeply dangerous ideology of power, hostile to... families, communities and nations.”

Kruger suggested that recent parliamentary votes—such as the decision to back assisted dying legislation—reflect a lack of care for the most vulnerable in society.

“We have a choice,” he urged. “A new restoration is needed now. A revival of the faith, and the recovery of Christian politics... The route to a prosperous modernity is founded on respect for human dignity, responsibility for the created world, and the worship of God.”

Education

The Negotiator - new documentary on Senator George J. Mitchell

Consello is proud to partner with Queen's University Belfast to support the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security, and Justice.

Our collaboration aims to build a permanent home for the Institute, which will serve as a global center of excellence for the study of conflict resolution and peacebuilding. The Institute is named in honor of Senator Mitchell, whose unparalleled contributions to the establishment of the Good Friday Agreement in 1998 have left a lasting impact on Northern Ireland and peacebuilding efforts around the world.

July 22, 2025

The Senator's remarkable efforts have been highlighted in the new documentary, *The Negotiator*. The film recounts his journey from Maine to Washington DC to being appointed special envoy for Northern Ireland by President Clinton, where his diplomacy, patience, and an unwavering commitment to dialogue led to the resolution of the decades-long conflict.



3 from Inst in IRL U18 Boys win EuroHockey U18 Championship

Proud of John Cunningham, Michael Hollway & Matthew McAreavey, all members of the Ireland U18 team. John scored four goals in the final.

July 22, 2025

The IRL U18 Boys overcame Italy in Alanya to secure the EuroHockey U18 Championship II silverware. Four goals from John Cunningham, a smart finish from Noa Mulvey, and a penalty corner from captain Rob Olden on the final whistle propelled Ireland to a 6-1 win. What an incredible achievement!

First Ballymena Academy Past Pupils' Podcast

The first Ballymena Academy Past Pupils' Podcast was released on the eve of the first British & Irish Lions Test in Brisbane, Australia.

In this episode, **Willie John McBride CBE** sits down with Past Pupil **Stephen Walker**, to share stories from his illustrious playing career and to reflect on his time at Ballymena Academy.

www.ballymenaacademy.org.uk

TCD Alumni Impact Report

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni and friends, Trinity is growing and thriving, creating new opportunities for students and advancing research and teaching. Together we're making a difference.

Our 2023/2024 Impact Report is filled with real stories of the change your support makes possible.

July 22, 2025

Just look at our Weston Scholars: a new generation of responsible business leaders driven by purpose and empowered by philanthropy.

We believe the future is in very good hands and we couldn't do it without you.

Read more in our Impact Report:
<https://lnkd.in/epZQZCig>

Cathedral Calls

Lunchtime organ concert at St. Columb's

Our fourth lunchtime organ concert is presented by Mr Ben McGonigle, Organist and Director of Music at Christ Church.

A highly regarded recitalist, accompanist and conductor, Ben is also Musical Director of Cantemus NI and the Hamilton Flute Band.

Ben's connection to St. Columb's Cathedral runs deep. He began as a boy chorister, later singing in the back row, and was awarded the Philip Mehaffey Memorial Organ Scholarship—marking the beginning of a distinguished musical journey.

We're excited to welcome him back to the organ console this Thursday 24th July from 1.10pm to 1.50pm.

Free entry. All welcome

**LUNCHTIME ORGAN
CONCERTS AT
ST. COLUMB'S
CATHEDRAL**



BEN MCGONIGLE

THURSDAY 24TH JULY 1.10PM - 1.50PM

OUR FOURTH LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERT IS
PRESENTED BY MR BEN MCGONIGLE, ORGANIST AND
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH AND FORMER
PHILIP MEHAFFEY SCHOLAR AT ST. COLUMB'S

Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle Chathair
Dhoire & Cheantar
an tSrátha Bain
Derry City & Strabane
District Council



Free Lunchtime Concert – Saint Mary's Limerick

Take a break in the middle of your day and enjoy the beauty of live music in a stunning setting!

Tuesday, 22nd July 2025. 1:15 PM. Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick

July 22, 2025

Join us for a free lunchtime concert featuring beautiful music performed in the peaceful surroundings of Saint Mary's Cathedral. Whether you're working nearby, exploring the city, or simply looking for a moment of calm and inspiration – this is for you.

Everyone is welcome – no tickets, no booking, just come in and enjoy.

Clergy and ministry

C of E New Revs campaign

"Cathedrals and larger churches this month will host around 100 ordination services for deacons and priests from diverse backgrounds who have responded to God's call in their lives.

They will join nearly 20,000 other clergy who are actively serving communities across England."

Read about this year's NewRevs campaign at cofe.io/NewRevs2025.

Events

Lunchtime recital St Ann's Dawson Street, Dublin

Thursday 24 July, 1:20pm. Debbie Armstrong, piano

July 22, 2025

Featuring evocative works by Ravel and Chopin, including La vallée des cloches and Valses Nobles et Sentimentales. BDebbie's recital is rich in refinement and colour. She is a celebrated Irish pianist and educator whose international career spans Canada, the U.S., and the Middle East. As always, tickets are 10 euros, children are free, and all are welcome.

Book now for Connor Takes the Castle 2025

**Booking is
now open for
Connor Takes
the Castle
2025. Come
and join us for
our annual
youth
residential
weekend at Castlewellaan Castle.**



As well as having all of the fun and fellowship that we normally have, this year we are excited to welcome Rev Peter Blair to open God's word for us.

If you want to be part of CTTC this year, make sure you have a chat with your youth leader first to make sure your

July 22, 2025



group is going and use the link in bio or below to register your place.

Please note, spaces are limited.

<https://forms.gle/8btAKugyhdgG52wHA>



From classrooms to construction sites—everyone can benefit from first aid training

St John's Ambulance NI - We recently ran a First Aid at Work course in Belfast,

and it was fantastic to see such a diverse group taking part.


Teachers, construction workers, and professionals from all walks of life came together to learn life-saving skills in a hands-on, supportive environment.

These action shots show just how engaged and committed everyone was to making their workplaces safer. 💪

July 22, 2025

Want to join a course like this?

 <https://bit.ly/publictrainingcourses>

 (028) 9079 9393

 corporate.Training@sjani.org



Children's Summer Singing School

THE RELUCTANT DRAGON

by John Rutter

Ages 5–8 Songbirds Course | Ages 9–15 Junior Course

Monday 11 – Friday 15 August, 9am – 4pm daily

Stranmillis College, Belfast, BT9 5DY

The Ulster Consort Foundation is very excited to present Stranmillis College as the venue for the Children's Summer Music School 2025! Children, ages 5–15, will receive expert daily tuition provided by some of Northern Ireland's leading musicians whilst having great fun preparing and singing music for a grand concert on the final evening. Our featured work this year is Sir John Rutter's charming and heart-warming musical fable, *The Reluctant Dragon*.

Stranmillis College provides the perfect location for a week of music-making, great outdoor spaces for break times, and a fantastic theatre for the end of week concert. It also allows for super easy drop off and pick up by parents/guardians.

Cost: £200, which includes all musical tuition, a cooked lunch each day, snacks, group activities, a branded top, music, music folders, and stationery. To book now, visit eventbrite.co.uk

Further information is available by emailing hello@ulsterconsort.org

Audience Grand Finale tickets (£10, free admission for children) are available in advance via eventbrite.co.uk, and on the evening at the door.



THE ULSTER CONSORT

Glories of the Sistine Chapel

THE MUSIC OF ALLEGRI AND PALESTRINA

Friday 25 July, 6pm – 7pm

St Patrick's Church, Donegall Street,
Belfast, BT1 2FL

Tickets: £15 available in advance via
eventbrite.co.uk, and on the evening at the door

Allegri	<i>Miserere mei, Deus</i>
Palestrina	<i>Sicut cervus</i>
Palestrina	<i>Exultate Deo</i>
Palestrina	<i>Missa Aeterna Christi munera</i>
Palestrina	<i>Pater noster</i>
Allegri	<i>Beatus vir</i>

THE ULSTER CONSORT
MATTHEW OWENS conductor

Palestrina was one of the foremost composers of the Renaissance and wrote extensively for the singers of the Sistine Chapel in Rome. The Ulster Consort celebrates his 500th anniversary with a performance of one of his best-loved mass settings, alongside other music from this glorious chapel, including that of Gregorio Allegri, whose best known work – *Miserere mei, Deus* – is normally sung in Lent but provides a moment for poignant reflection at any point in the year.

Photo: istockphoto.com



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

Church News Ireland

www.churchnewsireland.org

Link in Monday through Saturday from
early morning

Please recommend to your friends