

# Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Stamps of approval for CMSI**

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## Image of the day

### Stamps of approval to and from CMSI

CMS Ireland posted - Brilliant to have Billy & Maureen Creighton from Dunluce Parish in Bushmills drop into the office this morning with used stamps they've collected during lockdown from various friends.

Billy is the People's Warden and Maureen is the parish rep for Church Mission Society Ireland. Under the faithful leadership of Canon George Graham, the parish recently celebrated their 200 year anniversary. Praise God for the Parish's faithful support of Mission over many years - and congratulations on your bi-centenary celebrations

## People and places

### Focus of the 15th Lambeth Conference

**Archbishop Justin Welby said this week - "Exploring what it means to be 'God's Church for God's World' is the focus of the 15th Lambeth Conference.**

"As we come together to discuss a number of themes in church and world affairs, we will consider the Five Marks of Mission and what it truly means for the Anglican Communion to be responsive to the needs of our 21st Century world.

"The themes of the Lambeth Conference will include Mission and Evangelism, Safe Church, Reconciliation,

# GOD'S CHURCH FOR GOD'S WORLD



LAMBETH CONFERENCE  
God's Church for God's world

Discipleship, Environment and Sustainable Development, Christian Unity and Inter-Faith relations and Anglican Identity.

“Sisters and brothers of the Anglican Communion - we look forward to welcoming you to this event.”

To find out more about the programme overview, visit:  
<https://www.lambethconference.org/programme/programme-overview/>

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## Irish representatives at British Methodist Conference



L-R – Tom Wilson, Margaret Copeland, and Rev David Nixon.

**The British Conference was held in Telford with Irish representatives, the Rev David Nixon (President), Tom Wilson (Lay Leader), and Margaret Copeland (Conference elected) in attendance.**

The Irish President opened the Conference with prayer and was also the preacher at one of the four services held on Sunday 26th June.

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Using the analogy of a super sea-going yacht he saw in Monaco; it had among other things - two anchors.

The President likened these to the Love of God and the Ordinands Call. He spoke of a cable which brought power from an on-shore power source and he encouraged those to be ordained to be constantly fed with the power which comes from God.

Using John 15 he reminded them that there would be no fruit without being in the vine.

## **Challenging changes ahead for Cork, warns Bishop Gavin**

Bishop Fintan Gavin said he is having to make “difficult decisions” for the diocese to “ensure our Church moves into the next generation so our young people” have the Faith.

The bishop described the decline in vocations as both “a challenge and an opportunity”.

## **Being Presbyterian in company with John Bell**

**Rev. John Bell is a well known Scottish hymn writer and Church of Scotland minister, he’s a member of the Iona Community and a frequent broadcaster.**



## **Rev. John Bell on Being Presbyterian**

He often presents programmes on the BBC majoring on contemporary religious songs from various parts of the world. John is no stranger in Ireland and has made many visits to lecture and speak at a variety of events.

On Saturday 24th September 2022 he will participate with Being Presbyterian at an event in Hillsborough Presbyterian Church.

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Since 2021 John has been a patron of the Open Table Network, an ecumenical community for LGBT people and their allies.

There will be two sessions one in the morning and one in the afternoon, which will cover two different but relevant themes:

## **Programme**

10.30am Arrival with tea/coffee

11.00am – 12.30pm ‘The Divine Bias in Favour of Diversity’

12.30pm – 2.00pm Lunch break

The organisers state “We encourage you to bring lunch with you and we will provide tea/coffee or you may wish to lunch in the village or nearby. There are quite a few convenient options close to the church.”

2.00pm – 3.30pm ‘Belief Shaped Not By Sermons’

3.30pm – 3.45pm Closing plenary session

## **THE DIVINE BIAS IN FAVOUR OF DIVERSITY**

From Genesis One to the Tower of Babel to the Ten Commandments and the Gifts of the Spirit, there runs a golden thread which celebrates that God delights in diversity.

But how does this sit with churches which seek not just unity but uniformity?

And what light can this shine on how we deal with vexatious issues which beleaguer the Body of Christ?

Such things will be the stuff of our deliberations.

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## **BELIEF SHAPED NOT BY SERMONS**

The song of the church was in Reformation times so important that only Psalms were sung. They came with the endorsement of Jesus and their purpose was more to shape spirituality than give people a good feeling.

Times have changed, yet what we sing – though preachers might deny it – has as much significance in shaping our belief as sermons.

This session, in which there will be plenty of singing, does not require vocal dexterity.

To register your interest simply email:  
[beingpresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:beingpresbyterian@gmail.com)

[[] <https://beingpresbyterian.com/> ]

## **Pope appoints Visitor for Ukrainian Catholics in Ireland**

**Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London, is named as Apostolic Visitor for Ukrainian Greek Catholics in Ireland, Vatican News reports.**

Pope Francis on Monday named Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London as Apostolic Visitor for the Greek Catholic Ukrainian faithful residents in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.



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A press release from the Eparchy noted that the Pope's decision was taken following a determination by the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

Speaking about the appointment, Bishop Nowakowski said: "I am grateful for the support and trust that His Holiness Pope Francis and His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, have placed in me. I look forward to working closely with the Bishops of Ireland in ensuring good pastoral care for the Ukrainian Catholics in Ireland."

"There is currently one Ukrainian Catholic parish in Ireland located in Dublin with Fr Vasyl Korentsky assigned to serving Ukrainian Catholics in the Archdiocese of Dublin."

"With the recent arrival of thousands of displaced Ukrainians fleeing harm's way since the 24 February invasion of Ukraine by Russia, I hope to work very closely with the Roman Catholic Bishops of Ireland and Northern Ireland in seeking ways to respond in positive ways to the humanitarian and pastoral needs of the growing Ukrainian Community."

According to data from Ireland's Central Statistics Office, nearly 39,000 refugees fleeing war in Ukraine have arrived in the country.

The highest percentage of those arriving, some 15,850 individuals, have been categorised as 'one parent with children'.

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Men of conscription age, aged 18 to 60, were banned from leaving Ukraine after February's invasion by Russia.

Bishop Hlib Lonchyna served as an apostolic visitor for Ukrainian Greek Catholics in Ireland until September 1, 2019.

## World news

### Pope pledges to step down 'when I see that I cannot do it'

**Pope Francis has given the clearest sign yet that he will resign if his health deteriorates.**

Speculation has been mounting about the future of his papacy, compounded by recent health issues and his surprise decision to call the meeting of cardinals in late August, a time when the Vatican is usually on holiday.

Francis also previously announced a visit to L'Aquila, an Italian town linked to Celestine V, a pope who resigned in the late 13th century, leading to speculation that he was planning to follow in his footsteps.

In an interview on Monday he denied that he was on the brink of retiring, saying the prospect had not crossed his mind in recent months.

The Pope added that he would step down if he becomes physically unable to continue in the role. "When I see that I

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can't do it, OK ... I will do it in the great example of Pope Benedict," he said.

Benedict XVI, who is 95, quit in 2013. It was the first papal resignation in nearly 600 years, announced during a meeting with cardinals – the same kind of assembly Pope Francis scheduled for next month.

The pontiff's comments go further than remarks he made in June, when he said: "I believe that a Bishop of Rome, a pope, who feels that his strength is failing – because these days we are living longer – has to ask the same questions that Pope Benedict asked."

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'I'm still alive. I am well, I am slowly getting better'

Buenos Aires-born Francis, 85, has recently used a wheelchair or a walking stick in public owing to a torn ligament in his right knee.



The ailment forced him to cancel a trip to Congo and South Sudan that was scheduled for this week.

He said “I’m still alive” when asked about his knee, adding: “I am well, I am slowly getting better.”

Pope Francis also dismissed rumours that an operation a year ago, in which part of his colon was removed, was because of cancer.

“It [the operation] was a great success,” he said, adding with a laugh that “they didn’t tell me anything” about the supposed cancer, which he dismissed as “court gossip”.

During the interview, Francis said he would like to go to Moscow and Kyiv, possibly in September, to “try to help in some way” with peace. “And now it is possible, after I come back from Canada, it is possible that I manage to go to Ukraine,” he said.

“The first thing is to go to Russia to try to help in some way, but I would like to go to both capitals.”

Pope Francis has been accused of not going far enough in his criticism of Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, though he has condemned the war in Ukraine.

Last Thursday he implicitly accused Moscow of waging a “cruel and senseless war of aggression”.

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Responding to his comments, a Ukrainian foreign ministry spokesman said yesterday: “It is time to deepen connections with those who sincerely desire it.

“We renew the invitation to Pope Francis to visit our country and urge you to continue praying for the Ukrainian people.”

Elsewhere in the interview, he was asked about the US Supreme Court overturning the landmark Roe v Wade ruling establishing a woman’s right to have an abortion. The pontiff said he respected the decision but did not have enough information to speak about it from a juridical point of view.

But he strongly condemned abortion, comparing it to “hiring a hitman”.

He said: “I ask: Is it legitimate, is it right, to eliminate a human life to resolve a problem?”

## **Church to fund net-zero drive with borrowed money**

**The Church of England has invited money lenders into the temple as its main foundation borrows cash for the first time to finance its net-zero drive.**

The Church Commissioners for England, which manages a £10 billion investment portfolio on behalf of the church, has hired Wall Street giants JP Morgan, Morgan Stanley and Bank of America to gauge market interest about a bond sale.

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The borrowed money will be used to fund environmental and social projects as well as other general purposes, Bloomberg has reported.

It comes as the Church embarks on an aggressive environmental drive with the aim of becoming net zero by 2030.

The Church of England's target is more ambitious than that of the Government, which has an overall target of 2050, with a pledge to ban gas boilers in new buildings from 2025 and to prevent them being sold at all from 2035.

Last year, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, likened climate change to the rise of Nazism, although he later apologised for the comparison.

Earlier this year, clergy members said Archbishop Welby's eco-drive could force churches to close and leave congregations shivering in the pews.

The Church proposed to cajole vicars into replacing traditional boilers with green alternatives, a move likely to pile excessive costs on parishes when some are already close to collapse.

The timing of the bond sale is unusual as it comes when other organisations are scrapping debt raisings because of market volatility.

Borrowing costs have also spiralled in recent months.

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## **Double Consecration of northern bishops at York Minster**

**The Archbishop of  
York, Stephen  
Cottrell will  
preside at a  
double  
Consecration  
service at York  
Minster on Friday 15th July at 11am.**



The Reverend Canon Arun Arora, Vicar of St Nicholas Church, Durham, and Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral will be consecrated as the Suffragan Bishop of Kirkstall, in the Diocese of Leeds. The Revd Canon Arun succeeds The Right Reverend Paul Slater following his retirement.

The Reverend Canon Robert Saner-Haigh, Residentiary Canon of Newcastle Cathedral and Director of Mission and Ministry for the Diocese of Newcastle, will be consecrated as the next Suffragan Bishop of Penrith in the Diocese of Carlisle.

The Revd Canon Robert succeeds The Right Reverend Dr Emma Ineson, following her appointment in April 2021, as the Bishop to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

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Arun and Robert will be consecrated in front of family and friends who will be attending the first full consecration service at York Minster since March 2020. The Choir of York Minster will perform at the service. The service will be live streamed.

Commenting on the double consecration service, Archbishop Stephen said: “Bishops are ordained to service in God’s church, participating in God’s mission, and encouraging and enabling the ministry of the whole of the people of God. They are the lead pastors and lead evangelists in the diocese – caring for their clergy and building up the Kingdom of God, preaching justice and peace for all. Please pray for Arun and Rob as they take up their new roles, pray for their families and pray for the communities among whom they will minister and serve.”

## In the media

### **Somme Nursing Home receives £65k boost thanks to fundraising efforts of Royal Black Institution**

**A fundraising appeal by the Royal Black Institution is to provide a vital boost to the Somme Nursing Home which cares for ex-service personnel and members of the emergency services, the News Letter reports.**

The institution has presented a cheque for £65,000 to the nursing home – the proceeds of its latest Designated Charity Appeal.



Imperial Grand Treasurer David Livingstone handed over the cheque to representatives of the care facility at a special event held in the institution's new headquarters in Loughgall, Co Armagh.

Steven Phillips, chairman of the nursing home, said the donation would be used to install an energy efficient heating system at the Circular Road property in Belfast. The home has its origins in providing care for shell-shocked casualties of the First World War, and was built on land gifted by Lord Craigavon, the first Prime Minister of Northern Ireland.

The present care facility was built in 1994 on the land where Craigavon House – the old UVF hospital – still stands.

Mr Phillips said the donation from the institution was “absolutely vital” to the continued maintenance of standards of service at the home, which has a 50-bed unit.

He said the “dramatic” rise in the cost of energy, which one month saw a gas bill of £20,000, was the biggest challenge affecting them.

He stressed this could not be sustained long term, and they had identified air-source heat pumps as the way to provide an alternative to fossil fuels and to reduce costs.

“It’s a very worthy project for us, and we plan to undertake it this summer, and to have the new system in place before the winter,” he said.

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Sovereign Grand Master Rev William Anderson said the institution was “delighted to have been able to give financial support” to the nursing home, and in support of those veterans who had given so much during their working lives.

Fundraising for the project started in 2020, but the Covid-19 pandemic impacted on the progress in holding certain events.

He said Royal Black members across Northern Ireland, plus those in Cavan and Monaghan, as well as Scotland and England, had contributed to the total raised.

One feature of the fundraiser involved relay teams taking part in a sponsored lap – on foot and bicycle – of Northern Ireland.

Named the Centenary Circuit, and also reflecting on the 100th anniversary of the foundation of Northern Ireland, the event took place over a 10-day period last August.

Rev Anderson said the institution was pleased to be funding such “an environmentally friendly project”.

## **Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books**

### **New episode of the Historical Belfast Podcast**

You would be forgiven for being completely unaware of the rich Jewish heritage that exists in Belfast. Despite being a



relatively small community today (less than 100 and still declining...) the Jews of Belfast have left an indelible mark on the history of our city.

For Episode 27 of the Historical Belfast Podcast I've been speaking to Steven Jaffe, Director of the Jewish Heritage Project.

Listen to the full episode here: <https://bit.ly/3yDIKZZOn>

Spotify: <https://spoti.fi/3NGoRotOn>

Apple Podcasts: <https://apple.co/3AlitzW>

## **Moule Memorial Lecture by the Archbishop of York**

The annual Moule Memorial Lecture, named in honour of C.F.D. "Charlie" Moule was delivered on 9 June 2022 by Stephen Cottrell the Archbishop of York, on the theme "Travelling Well: Pilgrimage and discipleship".

To watch the video and read more on this, please visit: <https://www.ridley.cam.ac.uk/news/moule-day-lecture-2022>

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## Archbishop Welby on Lambeth Conference

I am delighted to be welcoming over 1,000 people to Canterbury for the 15th Lambeth Conference in just a month's time. Together, we will explore what it means to be God's Church for God's World in the challenges and opportunities we face.

When we meet, we will ask God how the Anglican Communion can share the task of transformation in the name of Jesus Christ.

To find out more about the upcoming Lambeth Conference, visit:

<http://lambethconference.org>

## Poem for today

### Once By The Pacific by Robert Frost

The shattered water made a misty din.  
Great waves looked over others coming in,  
And thought of doing something to the shore  
That water never did to land before.  
The clouds were low and hairy in the skies,  
Like locks blown forward in the gleam of eyes.  
You could not tell, and yet it looked as if  
The shore was lucky in being backed by cliff,  
The cliff in being backed by continent;  
It looked as if a night of dark intent  
Was coming, and not only a night, an age.

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Someone had better be prepared for rage.  
There would be more than ocean-water broken  
Before God's last Put out the light was spoken.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## Church News Ireland

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