

# Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Magherafelt  
School of Sanctuary**

## **Image for today - Magherafelt School of Sanctuary Award**

### **News -**

Eglantine Mothers Union visits Eglantine House

Christ Church Cathedral to welcome American Bishop at annual Pride Service

Clogher Ecumenical Prayer Service for Pentecost

Canterbury says next Archbishop can be male or female but must have 'utmost integrity'

### **Education -**

Meath and Kildare Diocesan National School Service

A 'moving' Midsummer Night's Dream at Campbell College

Trinity Walton Club 10-year anniversary

### **Cathedral Calls -**

St Peter's Belfast End of Year Recital 2025

June organ recital series in Kilkenny is in full swing

Magna Cartas on display at Durham

### **Clergy and ministry -**

Policing expert ordained

### **Events -**

Pilgrimage to freely enter Wesley's Chapel

### **In the media -**

Concerns over clergy vulnerability - powers of Presbyterian clerk as 'determining church code shouldn't be for one person' : Church statements on rioting in Ballymena

### **Speaking to the soul -**

Short reading and a prayer daily on this site

## Image of the day

### Magherafelt School of Sanctuary Award

#### MHS receives prestigious 'School of Sanctuary Award'

"We are delighted to announce that we have been officially awarded the prestigious 'School of Sanctuary Award', recognising our commitment to making Magherafelt High School a safe, welcoming school community where everyone feels valued and supported.

The award was presented following an independent evaluation from **Israel Eguaojie** and a team from **Belfast City of Sanctuary**, who learned how we are trying to make sure our students' voices are heard and how we are working hard to be more inclusive and welcoming.

With support from the Education Authority's Intercultural Education Service, we have been reviewing our pastoral provision and practice to try to ensure that all students feel happy and safe. As a community, we want to promote kindness and to ensure that our young people grow into responsible citizens who can make a difference in the world.

Well done to **Mrs Gilmour** who coordinated the project, which required a sizeable portfolio of evidence, as well as an onsite assessment. Mrs Gilmour is pictured with some of our recently elected Cultural Ambassadors, representatives from Belfast City of Sanctuary, and Mrs Anderson.

# News



## Eglantine Mothers Union visits Eglantine House

**The ladies from the Mothers' Union went on a trip 'up the lane' from the church to visit House.**

Eglantine House was the home of the Mulholland family who built All Saints' Church. "We received such a warm welcome from Liz and Martin Reilly who are the current owners of the house and we would like to thank them for their kindness and their hospitality. A wonderful day was had by all."



June 12, 2025

For a really good overview there is none better than Lord Belmont AKA Timothy Ferris and his contributors. See-

## **Christ Church Cathedral to welcome American Bishop at annual Pride Service**

**Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin will welcome a special guest for the annual Pride Service, taking place tomorrow, Friday, June 13 2025, at 6:30 pm. The Rt Rev Dr Bonnie A Perry, Bishop of Michigan in The Episcopal Church in the United States, will preside at the annual service.**

A reception and celebration will immediately follow, honoring charitable partner BelongTo Youth Services, the national organization supporting LGBTQ+ young people in Ireland.

Bishop Perry will also lead a workshop at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday June 14 at 1:30 pm and will preach at the Cathedral's Trinity Sunday Patronal Eucharist on Sunday June 15 at 11 am.

Details on all events can be found at [bit.ly/christchurchpride](https://bit.ly/christchurchpride).

The annual Pride Service was first celebrated in 2021 in the Cathedral and continues to be organised by Changing Attitude Ireland (CAI). CAI is a church-based organisation founded to effect change in attitudes both within and without the church towards the LGBTQ+ community.



This year's special guest joins other luminaries that have served as previous celebrants and preachers. In 2024, Dr Mary McAleese, former President of Ireland, preached at the service. She was also welcomed as the new patron of CAI.

Bishop Perry is excited to visit Dublin to share the good news of her ministry. "I'm delighted to be part of the Pride celebration and conversation at Christ Church Cathedral," she says. "I'm very much looking forward to our time together, getting to know one another and having an opportunity to learn from each other. To be a part of Christ

Church Cathedral's storied 1000 year history as a guest preacher is an honor."

Bishop Perry is XI bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan in the United States. Following her consecration in February 2020, she made history as the first woman and openly lesbian bishop in Michigan. Her position oversees a diverse diocese of 78 worshipping communities and more than 14,000 baptized members. The diocese encompasses the Detroit metropolitan area and adjacent regions that stretch as far west as Lansing, Jackson, and Hillsdale.

Bishop Perry serves with a passion for congregational vitality, believing that all communities of faith should be relevant and engaged with their neighborhoods. She expanded the diocese's race relations work and launched the Spirituality and Race Mission, which focuses on exploring issues of racial equity within the context of spiritual redemption. Recognized as a leader in the movement toward sensible and safe gun culture, Perry was elected a co-convenor of Bishops United Against Gun Violence and co-founded End Gun Violence Michigan.

Bishop Perry's expression of ministry also gives focus for equality in voting rights and LGBTQ+ full inclusion worldwide. In November 2023, she was appointed to serve on Michigan's first-ever statewide LGBTQ+ Commission by Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Bishop Perry resides in Detroit with her spouse, The Rev Dr M Susan Harlow, a pastor in the United Church of Christ.





## **Ancient religious site hosts annual Clogher Ecumenical Prayer Service for Pentecost**

**The annual Ecumenical Prayer Service for Pentecost in Clogher Diocese, took place on Sunday afternoon, 8 June at Errigal Truagh Old Graveyard near Emyvale in Co. Monaghan.**

The Old Graveyard is one of the most ancient religious sites in the Province of Ulster and is believed to have been used for worship as far back as early Christian times. This ancient ecclesiastical site is one of great historical and archaeological significance and contains a remarkable



collection of carved gravestones, examples of 18th century folk art.

The service was attended by the two Bishops of Clogher, the Right Revd Dr. Ian Ellis from the Church of Ireland and Most Revd Larry Duffy from the Roman Catholic Church. Also taking part were Revd Tim Irvine, who is responsible for the parishes of St. Salvator's Church, Donagh Parish, Tyholland and Errigal Truagh and Fr. John Flanagan, of Ballyoisin and Errigal Truagh.

The praise was led by the Donagh Community Choir.

## **Canterbury says next Archbishop can be male or female but must have 'utmost integrity'**

**A job description for the next Archbishop of Canterbury has been published by the Diocese of Canterbury.**

**The Vacancy in See Committee** – the group that manages and oversees the diocese's role in the process – has published its 'Statement of Needs' and for the first time in the Church of England's history, the candidate may be male or female.

In a break from tradition, the next Archbishop should be someone 'who will ordain and consecrate women and men, will unequivocally affirm and support the ministry of both, and may themselves be male or female.'



**The Statement of Needs** will be read by candidates as well as the Crown Nominations Commission (CNC), the body that is meeting to pray, reflect and ultimately nominate someone to be the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury.

The document, which incorporates views which were gathered as part of a recent public consultation, says a leader with the 'utmost integrity' is sought and one who has 'theological depth'.

**Sexuality** is one of the main issues challenging the Church of England and the document says the next Archbishop 'will continue to work constructively with the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) process'. They will need to 'embrace those who pray for change to enable same-sex partners to marry in the CofE. They will also embrace those who hold the current CofE teaching on marriage.'

The Bishop of Leicester Rt Rev Martyn Snow stepped down from overseeing the LLF process last week, saying agreement couldn't be reached under his leadership.

Other requirements include developing a relationship of 'mutual trust, understanding and support with the Bishop of Dover', a 'commitment to growth, mission and worship' and an 'awareness of the burden which administrative tasks place on clergy and parish officers'.

The next Archbishop should be '**a servant leader** who shows compassion to the disadvantaged and marginalised' and someone who will be 'curious about and committed to understanding the realities of life for young people both in and outside the church'. He or she must be 'prophetic' addressing the social and political issues which impact the most vulnerable, and also 'unapologetic' about the Christian faith.

The Archdeacon of Canterbury Ven Dr Will Adam, who is Chair of the Committee writes in the foreword that 'We are praying for the calling out of a faithful pastor to be our Archbishop.'

The CNC will make its nomination to the Prime Minister who, if he accepts, will advise the King, who will formally appoint the next Archbishop of Canterbury. An announcement is expected in the Autumn.



June 12, 2025

# Education

## Meath and Kildare Diocesan National School Service



**St Patrick's Cathedral, Trim was full of fun and energy for the Diocesan National School Service, which took place in on 10 June.**

Gathering for the service were several hundred children and teachers from Church of Ireland National Schools across the Diocese of Meath and Kildare. A number of clergy were also in attendance.

June 12, 2025

Pupils from across the dioceses read the Bible readings, led prayers and performed a number of musical pieces. Our musicians for the Service were Rev Philip McKinley and Mr Edward Lowe, a teacher in St Peter's National School in Dunboyne.



Bishop Pat Storey was in attendance The Service was led by Canon John Clarke and the speaker was Rev Suzanne Harris, Rector of Castlemacadam with Ballinaclesh. Suzanne brought her gifts as a former teacher to give an excellent talk to the congregation.

The Diocesan National School Service is a wonderful reminder of the enthusiasm of children in our National Schools. We are thankful for everything they and their wonderfully committed teachers brought to this event.



There was the added excitement as the winner of the Bishop's Medal was announced. Each year pupils from our National Schools prepare models and put together a booklet around a particular theme. We are always amazed at the creativity and time that goes into every entry. This year the Bishop's Medal was awarded to Sandylane National School, Portarlinton. The judge for this year was Ms Caroline Whitely, who gave a lot of time and thought to each entry.

Photo Gallery at -

<https://meathandkildare.org/news/energy-and-fun-at-diocesan-national-schools-service/>

## A 'moving' Midsummer Night's Dream at Campbell College

**The CCB Junior Drama Society invites you to join them for a special promenade performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' - Shakespeare's funniest, most magical comedy.**

Step into an enchanted forest where fairies cause chaos, four young lovers get their hearts tangled, and a group of bumbling actors tries (and fails!) to put on a play. With love potions, mistaken identities, and plenty of laughs, this sparkling tale is packed with mischief and magic. Get ready for a night of fun, fantasy and unforgettable entertainment - you won't want to miss it!

Performances will take place on Tuesday 17th June and Wednesday 18th June at 5:30pm and 7:00pm.



June 12, 2025

Tickets are £10, are limited to 2 per person and can be purchased via the Hub: <https://bit.ly/45KXmmK>

The play will unfold in multiple locations across the school, with the audience walking between scenes. We apologise for any accessibility limitations this may pose.

## **Trinity Walton Club 10-year anniversary**

**Trinity Walton Club (TWC) is a STEM education initiative based in Trinity that is aimed at helping secondary school students gain a deeper understanding and greater appreciation for STEM subjects through dynamic and interactive learning experiences.**

Since its foundation, it has welcomed over 7,000 students!

One thing that has always been clear about TWC is that it was born out of passion - the passion of the academics and staff who wanted to pass on their love for STEM, and to foster curiosity among kids who are interested in it. The fact that it's still going strong ten years later, with so many eager to engage every weekend, really speaks to that success.

<https://lnkd.in/eM5hUtz5>

## **Cathedral Calls**

## **St Peter's Belfast End of Year Recital 2025**

**Join us for a joyful celebration of music as the St Peter's Choir presents their End of Year Recital on**

June 12, 2025

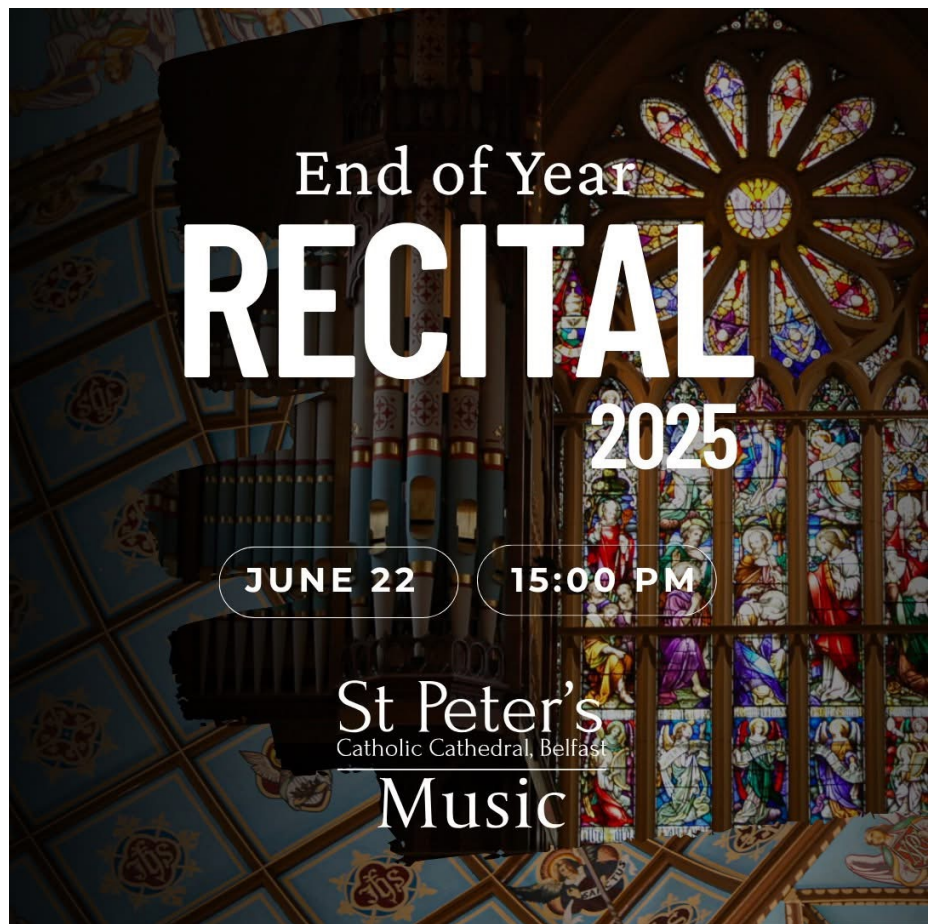
**Sunday 22nd  
June at 3pm.**

Come and  
enjoy an  
afternoon of  
beautiful choral  
performances,  
marking the  
end of another  
wonderful  
musical year.



**Tickets:**

£5 per person  
Children go  
free!



Tickets available from the Parish Office, any choir member,  
or at the door on the day.

St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast

All are welcome—bring your family and friends!

## **June organ recital series in Kilkenny is in full swing**

**There are 2 more Saturday recitals left: 14th and 28th of  
June.**

The Bevington/Crowe organ in Kilkenny is generally  
regarded as one of the finest pipe organs in Ireland. This is

# SUMMER ORGAN RECITALS AT THE CATHEDRAL 2025

**JUNE 7TH : HARRY MEEHAN  
(ST CANICES CATHEDRAL,  
KILKENNY)**

**JUNE 14TH : RÓNÁN MURRAY  
( ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, GLASTHULE)**

**JUNE 28TH : JUDIT MÁTÉ  
(ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH,  
DUN LAOGHAIRE)**

**ST. CANICE'S  
CATHEDRAL**  
— AND ROUND TOWER —

**ALL RECITALS ARE AT 5PM  
FREE TO ATTEND**





June 12, 2025

a great opportunity to hear it!

More info about the cathedral's musical life is available here:  
<https://www.stcanicescathedral.ie/music/>

## **Magna Cartas on display at Durham**

**After the Royal Maundy Service, The King and Queen visited the Deanery to see three rare Magna Cartas from the cathedral collection**

The 1225 Magna Carta was sealed by The King, and now they've been seen by the reigning King & Queen 800 years later!

The documents will be on display from 11 July to 2 November 2025, see more and book your tickets here  
[www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/magnacarta](http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/magnacarta)

## **Clergy and ministry**

### **Policing expert ordained**

**The Revd Michael Mulqueen was ordained to the diaconate at Saint Brendan's Cathedral, Clonfert on Monday June 9. He was ordained as a deacon before continuing for a further year of studies for the priesthood.**

June 12, 2025

The address was given by the **Revd Canon Nicola Milford**, Rector of All Hallows, Allerton and Area Dean of Liverpool South.

Father-of-four Michael Mulqueen is a County Galway native who left behind city life in Liverpool to set up home with his family in Ahascragh.

The ordination service, the first to take place in the ancient cathedral for many years, was at 8pm.



# RNLI OPEN DAY

**DONAGHADEE**

**THE HARBOUR**

**Saturday 14 June 2025**

**11AM - 4PM**

Featuring a variety of stalls.

Lifeboat open 12-3pm, followed by Lifeboat display.

 **DonaghadeeRNLI**

 **@DonaghadeeRNLI**



The FRAL is the charity that users help to owe Peppercorn in Righted and Wake. ©002036, Scaturd (Graciar) Ireland C0013055)  
such in intanastan utord Redaonish and the Incoursty of wot fr by

Michael, his wife, Róisín, and their children swapped their home near the world famous Penny Lane for Ahascragh, upon Róisín accepting a consultant doctor role in the Galway University Hospitals group. The two youngest children attend The Glebe National School in Aughrim. The eldest, Alex, is a primary school teacher in Spain, while Harry is studying for his B.A. degree at the University of Galway.

"We are blessed by strong friendships that have blossomed with our neighbours here in Ahascragh and Ballyforan, and by those friendships we still enjoy in Liverpool. It is also good to live near to Oranmore, where I was raised and where my mother and school friends still live," said Michael.

Michael will serve mainly in the Clonfert Union of Parishes, leading church services and offering pastoral care to the congregations of St Brendan's Cathedral, St Paul's Church, Banagher; St John the Baptist's Church in Eyrecourt and Christ's Church Portumna. He will also assist in the neighbouring Aughrim and Creagh Parish Union, within which is located St Catherine's Church, Ahascragh.

"By their wonderful encouragement and affection to Róisín, myself and the children, the Church of Ireland family here in east Galway has done so much to share God's love with us as we face the awesome reality of imminent ordination," he added.

"My role will be a self-supporting, local one, working this coming year to assist the priests already serving the people



of both parish unions, Reverend John McGinty and Archdeacon John Godfrey.

"The clergy's service to the Church in Word and Sacrament - my calling - is a vital and distinctive one. It sits among the priesthood of all Christian believers. I look forward to listening, chatting, and rolling up my sleeves to give practical help, as we, together in faith, commit our lives to building God's kingdom in this beautiful but broken world," he said.

Few may have predicted Michael's call to priesthood. Over a long career, he has worked as a journalist, a senior police officer and, although now retired and working in the home, remains a university professor.

"To serve in each one of these varied roles has been a great privilege and learning. Each exists to help us build a better world. Yet, each, in turn, propelled me to ponder Christ's eternal love, justice and mercy. In whichever role we do, we need to turn to Christ as the source of true healing and transformation. I've discovered the same in living a life continuously marked by sin and the shame of hurting others. I badly needed the precious gift of Christ's forgiveness to piece things together again and try better.

"When eventually these realisations really sank in, I sensed a gentle but insistent calling to help people open out to Christ's love. The ordination is a moment to witness how Christ, who can't help but love us, will always make use of anyone who asks for God's help. In Christ there is always hope," he added.

Michael is Emeritus Professor of Policing and National Security at the University of Lancashire, having led one of England's largest police and forensic science schools. He climbed the academic ladder with spells as a lecturer, full professor and head of school in universities in Limerick, Liverpool and, finally, Lancashire.

He also served as a high ranking police officer in Leicestershire, holding command of emergency policing for a population of up to 1 million people in one of England's most religiously diverse cities, and across a web of towns and small rural parishes.

He started out as a broadcast and print journalist, at one point winning the prestigious ESB Radio Journalist of the Year Award.

Michael is due to complete his theological and ministry studies at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute in Dublin. Among his previous academic qualifications are a Ph.D. from U.C.D., where he was a Government of Ireland Scholar, and, from the University of Galway, a B.A. (Hons.) and H.Dip, as well as a postgraduate certificate from Teesside University in England.

## Events

### Pilgrimage to freely enter Wesley's Chapel

**What would John Wesley's message be today?**

June 12, 2025



Pilgrimage to freely enter Wesley's Chapel with others to hear Revd. Canon Dr Julian Pursehouse (above), Chair of the Editorial International Board of the Holiness Journal affiliated with Wesley House Cambridge talk on “What would John Wesley’s message be today?”

Your host, the London Methodist Lunch Club, warmly invites you to the historic Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission:

Date: Friday 12 September 2025

Time: 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Address: Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission  
49 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU.

To book your free seat, register on Eventbrite:



June 12, 2025

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/london-methodist-lunch-club-87588879133>

LMLC Tele: +447928016681.

The Pilgrimage Programme: 1:00pm to 4:30pm

1:00pm – 1:30pm Reception and refreshments

1:30pm - 2:15pm Welcome, freewill donations collected, introduction of the speaker, Julian's talk, and question and answer.

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Option A: Walkabout and talk led by Carole Merriman

Option B: Visit to the House and talk led by Peter Richardson (£10 per person to be paid by the visitor)

3:15pm Closing Act of Worship led by Revd Canon Dr Julian Pursehouse. Refreshments and fellowship after worship

Julian is a Methodist minister serving in the Aire and Calder Circuit, in the Yorkshire West District, where he has pastoral charge of three churches, with responsibility for developing a Creative Arts Project based at Newmillerdam. He is a qualified supervisor in the British Methodist Church.

The Pilgrimage to Wesley's Chapel is sponsored by the London Methodist Lunch Club. The Club meets regularly, for lunch and to hear an invited speaker, on the second Friday of each month from October to May in the Lancaster Hall

June 12, 2025

Hotel, 35 Craven Terrace, London, W2 3EL. Alcoholic and soft drinks are on sale by the Hotel with your lunch.

Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission is considered the "Mother Church of World Methodism," incorporating the iconic Georgian Methodist Chapel, Museum of Methodism plus the home of Methodism founder, John Wesley (28th June 1703 to 2nd March 1791). The tomb of John Wesley, a Grade: II Listed Building, is located in the burial ground of Wesley's Chapel.

Entry to Wesley's Chapel, the Museum of Methodism and the grounds is free of charge and donations to Wesley's Chapel are always very welcome. The Chapel is a welcoming space for worship, solitude, and reflective pause.

For travel directions to Wesley's Chapel visit:

<https://wesleyschapel.org.uk/visiting-us/>

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, London, EC1Y 1AU.

## In the media

### **Concerns over clergy vulnerability - powers of Presbyterian clerk as 'determining church code shouldn't be for one person' - Belfast Telegraph**

**A former Presbyterian minister and a faith group have hit out at comments made by the principal of Union Theological College on the power that can be exerted**

## **by the clerk of the church's General Assembly - Angela Davison reports in the Belfast Telegraph 11 June 2025**

Professor Michael McClenahan made the remarks at a special service in which this year's soon-to-be Moderator, Dr Trevor Gribben, who has also served as the clerk of the General Assembly for 11 years, was given an honorary doctorate.

During the service, which broke with tradition by being held in April rather than the end of May, Prof McClenahan said: “At the heart of the clerk's responsibility is the requirement to interpret The Code — a 184-page church document by which “every court, congregation and members of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is governed and protected”.

Prof McClenahan added that as clerk, Dr Gribben had played a number of roles, “that of referee, or perhaps more appropriately for this Moderator-Designate, umpire”.

In an organisation where ministers are viewed more as 'office bearers' than employees, some have expressed concern that Presbyterian ministers could be left open to the judgment of one man's understanding of the church's rulebook.

A spokesperson for the Faith Workers' Branch of Unite the Union said: “It shouldn't be down to one individual to be determining the church code. Guidelines should be set out very clearly so that people know exactly what they mean — there shouldn't be any ambiguity or need for interpretation.



“Ministers should be treated as employees. If ministers don't have employment rights, how do they get redress if they feel they are being discriminated against or if there is an issue?

“Presbyterian ministers' rights as employees have never been fully tested in court. It's not just the Presbyterian Church, it's the same for the Church of Ireland. Ministers can have a lot of stress — organising Sunday schools, mother and toddler groups, visiting people in hospital continually or the elderly in their own homes — and parishioners pay their salary as such.

“The minister can feel under pressure to please a whole congregation and it can leave ministers feeling very vulnerable, especially when there's a manse involved too. Not only could they lose their job, they could lose their family home too.”

A former Presbyterian minister, who didn't want to be named, also voiced concern. “Nowhere in the code does it say that the clerk of the General Assembly has the responsibility to 'interpret' the code.

“The role of the clerk is an administrative and advisory function.

“In Presbyterianism, no single person should ever have responsibility for decision making on that level because Presbyterianism at its very core is about shared decision making.”

Dr Gribben is the 13th minister to hold the office of clerk since the formation of the General Assembly and will be the seventh clerk to serve as Moderator.

Rev Dr David Allen will become acting clerk for a year before Dr Gribben resumes his post when his Moderatorship ends. A spokesperson for the Presbyterian Church in Ireland said: “The General Assembly, as the supreme governing body of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, has agreed that one of the key responsibilities of the clerk of the General Assembly shall be 'to advise on The Code and its interpretation and on policy that has been set by the General Assembly'.

“This has been included in the job description/outline of the role of the current Clerk and all former clerks of Assembly.

“So, the responsibility of interpreting both The Code of the church and the policies of the church has been given to the clerk by the General Assembly itself.”

## Statements on rioting in Ballymena

**A statement from the Bishop of Connor, the Rt Revd George Davison, and the Rector of Ballymena, the Revd Canon Mark McConnell:**

Like many others who love the town of Ballymena, we have been distressed to see the scenes of violence on the streets over the past two evenings. The destruction and fear that we have witnessed does nothing to create a better society for us all.

The real indignation felt by us all as we heard the news of an alleged assault on a young woman in the town was

legitimate and righteous. Violence against women is a scourge in our society that must be addressed with urgency. Voices of protest should and must be raised when we encounter such wickedness.

It must be said though, that since the alleged perpetrators have been identified as belonging to an ethnic minority, a number of individuals have turned from legitimate protest about the assault to violence actions focussed on migrant communities and the PSNI as they seek to protect all who live and work in Ballymena.

Violence against women knows no racial boundaries. The majority of such crimes in Northern Ireland are committed by people who are not from ethnic minorities. The racism and violence that we have witnessed on our streets cannot be excused or explained in this way. The vast majority of those who have made their home in this country make a valuable contribution to our communities and seek to live peacefully with their families and neighbours.

We call for calm at this time and ask all people of goodwill not to participate in any activity which would lead to further violence and fear on our streets

### **Methodist Church in Ireland statement on recent violence in and around Ballymena.**

Rev Dr David G Clements of Cullybackey and Rev Ruth E Patterson of Ballymena write -

The Methodist people in Ireland and particularly those in Ballymena and Cullybackey strongly condemn the recent



June 12, 2025

violence in Ballymena and some other areas. Racism, attacking the PSNI, and the burning of houses and cars can have no place in our community.

We ask our people to show care and love for all of our neighbours and to pray for an immediate end to this violence. We have already expressed our support to local politicians and the Chief Constable as they deal with this difficult and dangerous situation.

**Rev Dr David G Clements of Cullybackey and Rev Ruth E Patterson of Ballymena write -**

## 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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

---

June 12, 2025

# Church News Ireland

[www.churchnewsireland.org](http://www.churchnewsireland.org)

**Link in Monday through Saturday from  
early morning**

**Please recommend to your friends**