

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Open learning

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Short reading and a prayer daily on this site

June 18, 2025

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Royal Portrush Golf Club facilitated insights for employment to students from local schools, and FE colleges ahead of The Open Championship.

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News

Rescue In Portrush Parish

On Sunday afternoon (14 June) Portrush All weather Lifeboat was requested to launch by Belfast Coastguard to reports of a fishing boat with four people on board in difficulty approximately one mile from the Harbour.



The Lifeboat under Coxswain Johnny Weston launched at 5.18 pm just ten minutes after the page and arrived on scene at 5.26 pm. Although it was overcast, visibility was fair, so the volunteer crew were on scene very quickly.

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Once on scene the crew carried out a risk assessment and agreed that the vessel had to be towed back to Portrush Harbour.

A tow rope was attached to the vessel and the ALB with the vessel under tow arrived back on the pontoon at the Harbour at 5.54pm.

Judy Nelson Volunteer Press Officer said: -

This was a standard rescue for our crew and weather conditions helped with a quick efficient execution of the tow. This is something our crew train for and are experienced at this type of scenario”.

Crew; Johnny Weston Cox; Tim Davis Mechanic; Colm Watters: Raymond Fletcher: Roo McCrudden
Launch Authority : Wesley Moore

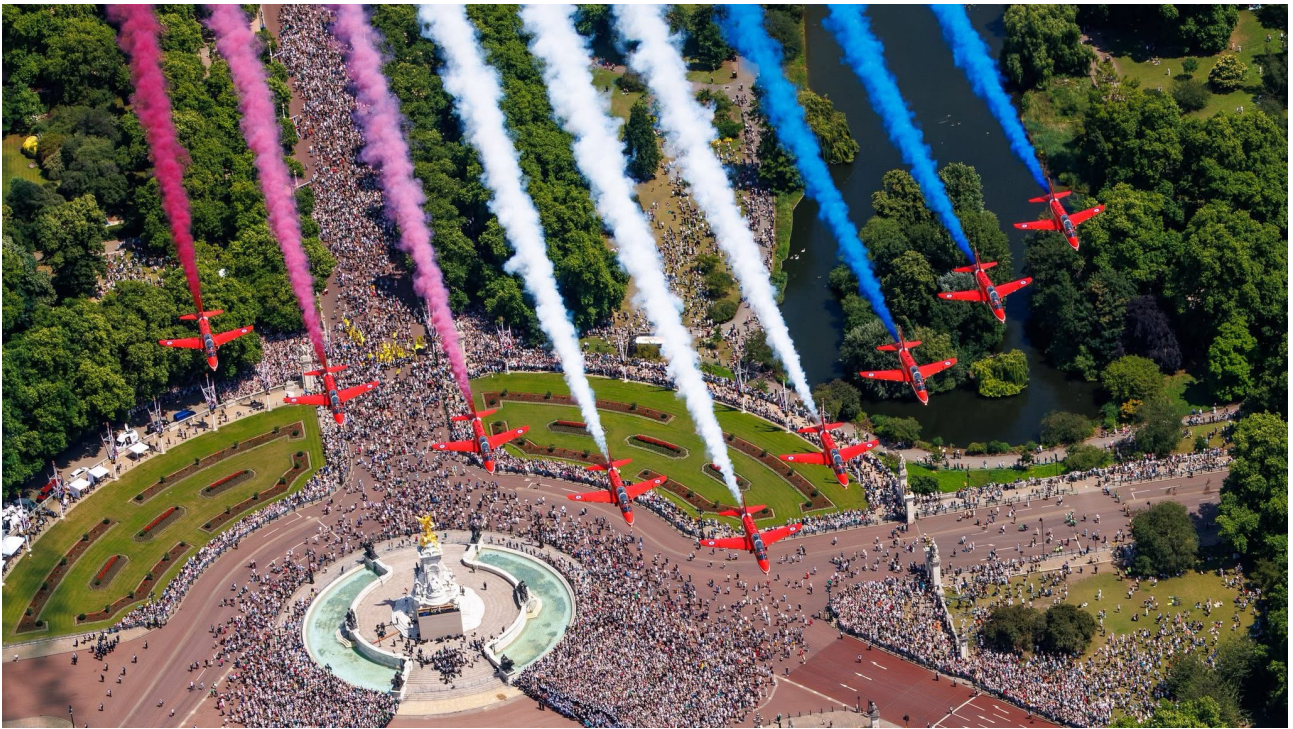


Wesley Moore.

Pope's message to priests of the Paris region

Pope Leo XIV sent a heartfelt message to the priests of the Paris region on the occasion of their priestly jubilee, encouraging them to strengthen unity and fraternity despite the difficult ecclesial and social context they face.

His message, read during Mass at Notre-Dame Cathedral by Bishop Dominique Blanchet of Créteil, was part of a Thcelebration marking the 60th anniversary of



The RAF flypast at the conclusion of the Trooping of the Colours on HM King Charles' birthday.

Presbyterorum Ordinis, the Vatican II decree on the priesthood.

Acknowledging their daily challenges, the Pope urged priests to deepen their love for Christ and their communities, embracing values such as compassion, humility, and simplicity. He emphasized that such love would make their witness credible and effective, even if they are not yet saints.

The Pope also called for stronger bonds among priests and with their bishops, and continuous prayer for the Church's unity. He invoked the Holy Spirit's help for priests to renew their vocational commitment daily and concluded by entrusting them to the protection of Our Lady and the intercession of saintly clergy from Paris' past.

Earlier that day, priests from the Île-de-France region gathered at spiritually significant sites for study and reflection with their bishops, particularly on ***Presbyterorum Ordinis***, before converging at Notre-Dame for a jubilee pilgrimage and Mass.

Lord's Prayer more recognisable than National Anthem, Shakespeare or Star Wars

The Lord's Prayer is still more easily recognised by people in Britain than some of the most famous lines from the National Anthem, Shakespeare, Dickens or Churchill, according to new research by the Church of England.

More than 2000 people across the UK were asked to match seven famous lines from literature, history and culture, including 'Give us this, our daily bread', with their source.

The famous literary lines were 'To be or not to be', from Shakespeare's Hamlet and the opening to Dickens's A Tale of Two Cities, 'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times'.

From British history, people were asked if they recognised the phrase 'Never in the field of human conflict, was so much owed by so many to so few' - Churchill's stirring words in the House of Commons in August 1940 amid the Battle of Britain.



Celebrating with the Sunday School of St Dorotheas Gilnahirk and a well done to Sheenagh and Julie.

Famous musical lyrics offered were 'You'll never walk alone' which was a hit for Gerry and the Pacemakers – also the anthem of Liverpool FC; and 'Happy and glorious / Long to reign over us,' from God Save The King.

From the world of film, they were asked if they recognised 'May the force be with you' from Star Wars.

Overall, the phrase from the Lord's Prayer was recognised correctly by the largest number of people (80.3 per cent), just ahead of Star Wars (79.9 per cent).



“The members of Seagoe Mothers’ Union branch have been busy this year. As a result I delivered 260 little hats and 50 other hand knit baby items to the Maternity ward of Craigavon Area Hospital”.

They were followed by Hamlet’s ‘To be or not to be’ (73 per cent) the extract from the National Anthem (63 per cent); the line from Churchill’s speech (61 per cent); and You’ll Never Walk Alone (58 per cent).

38 per cent correctly identified the opening line from Dickens's A Tale of Two Cities.

The survey then gave people the full wording of Lord's Prayer and asked them to select the lines they found most meaningful. The most commonly selected line was '...and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us'.

Overall 89 per cent of those surveyed said that they had previously heard of the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. This was highest among those who described themselves as Christian (95 per cent), but also by 88 per cent of those who said they had no religion.

89 per cent said they had prayed the Lord's Prayer and 58 per cent said they had done so in their daily life.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, is currently leading a 'Lord's Prayer Tour' of events at churches and cathedrals across the north of England attended by thousands of people, as part of his Faith In The North initiative. He said:

"These results reflect what we've been hearing across the North of England through our Faith in the North initiative, which invites people to explore the Lord's Prayer.

"Though ancient, its words continue to resonate with people of all faiths and none.

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“In a world of shifting cultures and changing circumstances, the Lord’s Prayer remains a steady guide - perhaps never more so than now.

“Lines like 'Give us this day our daily bread' speak powerfully to today’s challenges, reminding us to seek sufficiency, not excess, and to consider what ‘enough’ truly means.”

Education



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Welcome to Sir James Galway and Lady Galway



City of Belfast Youth Orchestra - We were honoured to welcome Sir James Galway and Lady Galway to our 70th Anniversary Concert. Welcome home Sir James!

New Principal of Malone College

Congratulations to Mrs Leslie who will be taking up the post of Principal of Malone College in September.

Mrs Leslie has been a dedicated member of staff at Hazelwood since 2006. During her 19 years at the College,



Mrs Leslie has led with dedication, vision, integrity and unwavering commitment to upholding the principles of integrated education. Mrs Leslie held the position of Vice Principal for a number of years, driving student success and wellbeing. For 2 years she has led the school as Acting Principal. Her passion for educational excellence and genuine love for the College is contagious and inspiring. Thank you Mrs Leslie, we wish you well with the next chapter of your leadership journey.

Skill Up Funded courses at Stranmillis

Stranmillis University college - We are delighted to be able to offer Skill Up Funded for 2025/2026 for various

postgraduate courses and modules, commencing September 2025.

Skill Up Northern Ireland is an initiative from The Department of the Economy, in cooperation with the Northern Ireland Office and the Department of Finance, offering funded courses to individuals in Northern Ireland who want to skill up, upskill, or reskill.

It focuses on improving the local workforce's skills by providing access to training through further and higher education providers. The program is part of the Flexible Skills Fund and aims to help people gain skills in various areas.

For more information on what is available please visit:
<https://www.stran.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/funded-skill-up-professional-and-postgraduate-courses/>

Ulster University Professors awarded MBE

Huge congratulations to Ulster University's Professor Peter Flatt and Professor Louise Dubras, who have both been awarded an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours List 2025 for their outstanding contributions to research, education and healthcare.

Professor Peter Flatt has made internationally recognised advances in the field of experimental diabetes, with pioneering research into pancreatic/gut hormones that has informed novel therapeutic approaches to diabetes. He is



ranked number one globally in experimental diabetes research and has supervised over 100 PhD students, many of whom now hold senior academic and industry roles.

Professor Louise Dubras, who joined Ulster University in 2018 as Foundation Dean of the School of Medicine, has played a pivotal role in establishing and growing the School. Under her leadership, the School welcomed its first cohort of medical students in 2021 and secured accreditation from the General Medical Council (GMC). Professor Dubras will retire this summer, following the graduation of the School of Medicine's first ever cohort of doctors - a historic milestone for the University and a testament to her visionary leadership. Congratulations, Professor Flatt and Professor Dubras.

Over 25 years of Project Zambia by Edmund Rice



Best wishes to the twelve pupils, four teachers, and Aidan Donaldson from our Board of Governors as they depart from Dublin Airport for Zambia.

Edmund Rice College is proud to see the revival of this incredible initiative, with pupils once again returning to Zambia to continue the vital work that began over 25 years ago through Project Zambia.

This year has been record-breaking in terms of fundraising for Project Zambia, a testament to the generosity and commitment of our school community.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all who have contributed, whether through financial or material donations, encouragement or support.



The group is eager to embark on this meaningful journey, looking fantastic in their specially embroidered O'Neills gear.

We wish them a safe and successful trip and look forward to providing regular updates as they engage in this impactful work in Zambia.

Clergy and ministry

Trinity from Kings Hospital now ordained

Ruth Jackson Noble writes - It was lovely to be with Rev Edward Lindsay for his Ordination in Longford.

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We were thinking of a lot of people who would have loved to be there and weren't able to - but great to have Lynne Wright there to fly the KH flag.

Can't imagine how long ago it last was when there were 3 people ordained from the one year group...not to mention one of us a Bishop... Adrian Wilkinson

Annalong institution



There was delight in Annalong on the night of 16 June as Revd Bryan Martin was instituted as rector of the parish.

The service took place in a packed hall as the church building is undergoing major renovation. Revd Trevor



The members of Seagoe Mothers' Union Branch have been busy this year. As a result I delivered 20 little hats and 50 other hand knit baby items to the Maternity ward of Craigavon Area Hospital.

Johnston, rector of All Saints' Parish Church and curate-in-charge of St Nicholas', Lisburn Road, gave the address. Kilhorne Parish Church.

None of the clergy present wore robes - a first for the C of I ? - and/or a statement of doctrinal ethos? Discuss... elsewhere...

New logo and mission statement for Drumalis Retreat

We were delighted to launch our new logo and mission statement for



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Drumalis Retreat at our garden party.

Drumalis is built upon the great work of many Sisters of the Cross and Passion down through many years and we will remain faithful to that charism and spirit as we move forward.

Pioneer Ministry casting the net

Members of the Clergy and Laity met at the McWilliam Park Hotel, Claremorris for the 1st "Casting the Net" Pioneer Ministry Information day in TLK Diocese.

With speakers Revd Rob Jones, Ven Barry Forde and the Rev Canon Phil Potter we shared food for thought re insight, challenges and opportunities to pioneer new ways within the church.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site



Church News Ireland

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

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