

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – The Hub laps the Lough**

JUNE 2, 2023

## Image of the day

### The Hub laps the Lough



Team photo at Ballyronan Marina

**Members of the Hub Chaplaincy at Queen's University, Belfast, have been fundraising for for Waakisa Ministries Trust NI and Abaana.**

This effort will also enable a team to go to Africa for 17 days to visit and work at these centres which help children in Kampala to get off the streets and into education.

JUNE 2, 2023

The C of I and Methodist chaplaincy says every donation whether it's £2 or £20 goes a long way to help.

A team recently undertook a sponsored ride round Lough Neagh. These cyclists put in a big shift! If you would still like to donate then please hit the link

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/hublapsthelough>

For more photos and information see the Hub's Facebook page -

[<https://www.facebook.com/thehubbelfast/>]

## People and places

### Hill of Tara annual open-air service

**The annual open-air service in the Dioceses of Meath and Kildare will be held on Sunday 25th June, 2023 at 4.00p.m.**

Music lead by The Trim Brass Band. The Preacher will be The Revd Canon Alastair Graham, Rector, Mullingar Union of Parishes.

Prayers will be included for Pets, Animals and our Care for Creation and there will be Blessing of Pets

Bring Picnics (and food & water for your pets!). Hopefully the weather will be warm and sunny!

JUNE 2, 2023

The organisers say, “Please encourage all age-groups, family members, neighbours and friends to attend and use this opportunity to worship God together in the “out-of-doors”. This year, we offer thanks for our pets and seek God’s blessing on them. Please come along and make this a good day out in the delightful setting around the grounds of Saint Patrick’s Church, Hill of Tara.”

Contact: The Revd Canon John Clarke (046) 9021172 .  
Email: [navanunion@gmail.com](mailto:navanunion@gmail.com)



## Scouting on Lough Neagh

**All Saints Parish Scouts in Antrim visited Lough Neagh Rescue Antrim Station on Tuesday 23rd May. The Scouts had a great time at the station.**



# JOINT CONCERT



REDEMPTORIST CENTRE OF MUSIC  
CONCERT BAND



CONDUCTOR: DR. ANDREW JORDAN

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY  
WIND ENSEMBLE - USA



DIRECTOR: MR. RON GERHARDSTEIN

WORKS BY HINDEMITH, GIROUX, O'RIADA AND MANY MORE



FREE  
RECITAL

ST. MARYS  
CATHEDRAL,  
BRIDGE ST.  
LIMERICK

SUNDAY 4TH  
JUNE - 8PM



## Queen's Catholic Chaplaincy has decamped to Lourdes

**It seems  
Chaplaincy has  
decamped to  
Lourdes!**

Alumni and teaching staff from QUB Medicine and Nursing are accompanying the NI Cancer Pilgrimage.



JUNE 2, 2023

Current students and members of the Chaplaincy team flew for a short visit, and their Chaplain, Fr Dominic, had the privilege of celebrating morning Mass at the Grotto.

“What graced days we’re enjoying. Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette, pray for us”.



## Sun shines on Methodist Book Club

'The sun always shines in Thomas Streetcar Methodist Church is surprisngly true at the moment.

So where better for the church book club than the back garden of the manse.

JUNE 2, 2023

## An invitation to Hollywood

**“Do please join us for Choral Evensong in Hollywood Parish Church this Sunday (4th June) at 5.30pm; a quiet, contemplative service enriched by beautiful music.”**

The anthem this Sunday is the sublime "Almighty and everlasting God" by Orlando Gibbons.



The poster features a light green background with a sunflower in the top right corner. In the top left, there is a circular icon of a potted plant. The church logo, a red rooster, is positioned above the text 'ST MARK'S Parish of Dundela'. The main title 'Plant Sale' is written in a large, dark green, cursive font. Below the title, the date and time are listed in a bold, dark green, sans-serif font. The location is provided in a smaller, dark green, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text 'REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE' is centered. The bottom edge of the poster is decorated with illustrations of three people: a woman on the left holding a plant, a man in the center holding two plants, and a woman on the right.

**Plant Sale**

**SATURDAY 3RD JUNE 2023**

**11AM - 3PM**

HEYN HALL, ST MARK'S DUNDELA  
SYDENHAM AVENUE/HOLYWOOD ROAD,  
BELFAST BT4 2DR

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



JUNE 2, 2023

## **Brendan McManus SJ on Camino duty**

**Belfast-based Father  
Brendan writes, “I’m  
off on my travels  
again, working as a  
volunteer in the  
Camino pilgrim  
reception centre in  
Santiago de  
Compostela.**



“Seems like a perfect job for me having done a lot of Caminos myself, it’s a chance to give something back, helping pilgrims process their pilgrimage experience. The initiative run by the Irish FCJ Sisters is called Camino Companions and is on the first floor of the main pilgrim office in Santiago.

“Very emotional for me arriving back at the Jesuit residence here in Santiago. I remember being here in 2011 at the end of my epic Camino struggle (cf. Redemption Road) where I was completely spent and thinking it was all over but God had something surprising in store for me. Hopefully something similar happens this time!”

<https://www.facebook.com/CaminoCompanions>

## News reports

### Archbishop of York's mission to Sheffield

**The Diocese of Sheffield has announced that the Archbishop of York, The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell, will be visiting from the 16-18 June.**

The mission will include a visit to Sheffield Cathedral on the Friday for evensong before having dinner with Bishop Pete and others from the Diocese. On Saturday Archbishop Stephen will meet at Diocesan Church House with Churchwardens and church grafting teams before visiting a War Memorial at All Saints' Church at Laughton En Le Morthen to mark 100 years of the monument being there. Summer Fayres are included on the itinerary for Saturday at Laughton En Le Morthen and St Leonard Dinnington – proof you can't have too many Summer Fayres in one day!

A prayer walk is also scheduled on Saturday before evening teaching with Focal Ministers at St John Kimberworth Park. Archbishop Stephen will preach at Doncaster Minster on Sunday morning before hosting a lunch at St Mary's Sprotbrough, to which all curates and their families have been invited, along with the IME team who support and train the curates in the Diocese of Sheffield.

He will later attend café church at St John's Balby, the same place where he visited with Archbishop Justin Welby to announce triennium funding. Archbishop Stephen will meet

JUNE 2, 2023

with volunteers and service users in Balby of the multibank in operation there.

Speaking ahead of his visit, Archbishop Stephen said:

‘I’m so looking forward to visiting the Diocese of Sheffield in June and fascinated and inspired by your “you are the light of the world” (Lights for Christ) agenda.

‘I hope to bring a little bit of light and warmth to the Diocese of Sheffield. I look forward to working alongside Bishop Pete, Bishop Sophie and others in the Diocese, both to see what you are doing but also hopefully to have opportunities to share with others something of the goodness, the peace and the light which we see in Jesus Christ, and because of his death and resurrection – and by his spirit – can be ours too.’

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

### **Tobar Mhuire Conversations on Life, Faith and Hope**

The final evening in the series 'Conversations on Life, Faith and Hope' takes place this coming Tuesday evening at ToBar Mhuire at 7pm. This evening is open to all.

JUNE 2, 2023

There will be a warm welcome for Fr Aidan Troy CP at Tobar Mhuire on Tuesday 6th June. Fr Aidan was ordained a priest in the Passionist Congregation in 1971. He was Provincial of St Patrick's Province of Passionists before being appointed a member of the



General Curia based in Rome. He returned to Ireland in 2001 when appointed as parish priest in Holy Cross, Ardoyne. On his arrival he was faced with the Holy Cross Girls School blockade by loyalists. Over the years Fr Aidan has spoken out strongly on the issue of suicide.

Tea/coffee served from 6.30pm. “

This series has been a great success and we thank you for your support. Please come and join in the conversation”.  
Voluntary Donation.

## **Artists invited to meet St Canice's Cathedral mascots**

Calling all aspiring artists! Join in a unique event - Cruinniú na nÓg on 10th June at St Canice's Cathedral. Meet Michael O'Brien the artist behind our incredible new



Cathedral mascots, Milo the Badger monk and Rua the Fox knight and learn to create your own mascots based on Kilkenny's Medieval personalities and wildlife.

On this workshop you will be given a tour of St Canice's Cathedral and get to know the people who lived and worked in the Cathedral, then Michael will show you some illustration techniques to draw your own mascot.

JUNE 2, 2023

This is a free event; all materials will be provided for. This workshop is suitable for ages 9-12 and takes place from 10 am-12 noon, 10th June.

Tickets on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meet-the-artist-tickets-645874446857>

## **CIYD needs Connect Cafe team for Summer Madness**

We still have a couple of spaces left on our Connect Cafe team for Summer Madness from the 30th June - 4th July in Portglenone. You don't need any previous experience of working in a cafe. If you are interested, get in touch soon!  
Email: [admin@ciyd.org](mailto:admin@ciyd.org)

## **Belfast Cathedral seeks part-time Assistant Organist**

Belfast Cathedral seeks to appoint as part-time Assistant Organist a skilled and enthusiastic Organist who will work collaboratively with the Master of Music, the Dean, Cathedral Board and other cathedral staff, playing a key role in the development of the music department.

The Assistant Organist will act as principal accompanist for all Cathedral services, namely Choral Eucharist and Choral Evensong each Sunday, and other Principal Festivals as listed.

JUNE 2, 2023

The Assistant Organist post will be available from 1st September, 2023. An earlier start date may be negotiable.

Applications should be made using the Application Form below and addressed to:

The Dean, The Very Reverend Stephen Forde at [trevor@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:trevor@belfastcathedral.org) .

Organists interested are welcome to arrange an informal discussion, contacting the Master of Music Jack Wilson at [jackwilson@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:jackwilson@belfastcathedral.org) .

The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 16th June, 2023

## **Methodist monthly themed Prayer Focus guide**

The June issue is now available. This month the Rev Dr Heather Morris “invites us to pray for the Connexion, reminding us of the important role of the teams based in Edgehill House for supporting the work of local churches and encouraging us to pray together for Conference 2023”.

Download/print now to help guide your prayers. Worship slides available too:

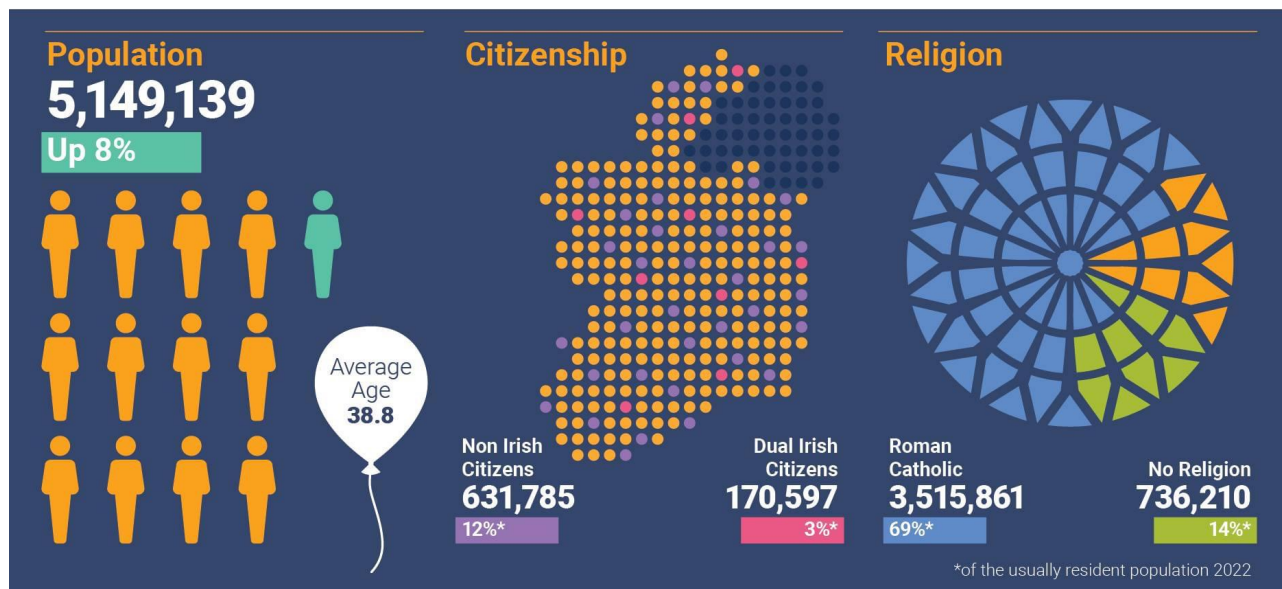
[bit.ly/3S2GJNe](https://bit.ly/3S2GJNe)

# Perspective



DAONÁIREAMH  
CENSUS 2022  
www.cso.ie

Census 2022  
Summary Results



## Census 2022 religion results

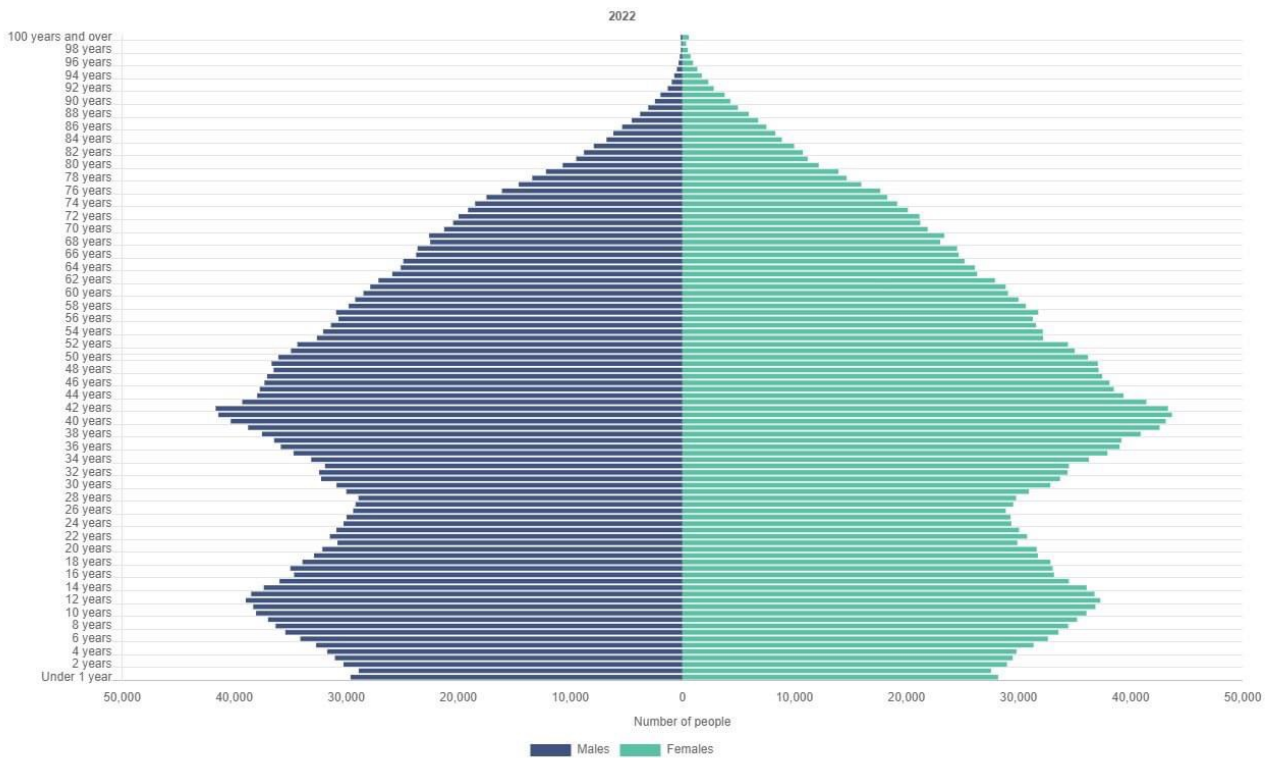
**The results of last year's national census have just been released and there are some interesting trends in the Religion data, Archdeacon David Huss writes on Facebook.**

The headline, widely reported in the media, is the ongoing decrease in affiliation to the Roman Catholic church (down from 79% in 2016 to 69% in 2022) and the increase in those ticking the box 'No Religion' (up from 10% to 15%), Archdeacon David Huss writes on Facebook.

The Church of Ireland population of the state is almost exactly the same as six years ago, at 126,658. However,



JUNE 2, 2023



May 30, 2023 11:00:00 UTC

overall population increase means this is now a smaller percentage of the total - around 2.5% of Ireland's population identify themselves as Church of Ireland/Anglican.

In Donegal, the number of Church of Ireland members continues to decrease, and now stands at 6,370 (down from 6,756 in 2016 and 6,974 in 2011). This equates to 3.8% of the county's people.

There are substantial numbers of other Christians in the county, besides Roman Catholics (127,969) and Presbyterians (5,496) there are:

- 1,041 Orthodox
- 837 Christian (not specified)
- 482 Methodist
- 204 Apostolic or Pentecostal
- 160 Baptist
- 122 Evangelical

JUNE 2, 2023

114 Born again Christian  
82 Protestant (not specified)  
52 Lutheran

You can find the data here (scroll down to find Religion data):

<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/migrationanddiversity/>

PS There are discrepancies in the figures, for example the main text on the above page gives a total C of I population of 124,749 but the data table lists it as 126,658.

PPS The two pictures in this post are (1) an infographic giving some census headlines and (2) a population pyramid for Ireland, which helps show why we have such a large confirmation class this year - there is a large national population bulge around ages 12-13.

*The Ven David Huss is Archdeacon of Raphoe*

## Poem for today

### June by Francis Ledwidge

Broom out the floor now, lay the fender by,  
And plant this bee-sucked bough of woodbine there,  
And let the window down. The butterfly  
Floats in upon the sunbeam, and the fair  
Tanned face of June, the nomad gipsy, laughs

JUNE 2, 2023

Above her widespread wares, the while she tells  
The farmers' fortunes in the fields, and quaffs  
The water from the spider-peopled wells.  
The hedges are all drowned in green grass seas,  
And bobbing poppies flare like Elmo's light,  
While siren-like the pollen-stained bees  
Drone in the clover depths. And up the height  
The cuckoo's voice is hoarse and broke with joy.  
And on the lowland crops the crows make raid,  
Nor fear the clappers of the farmer's boy,  
Who sleeps, like drunken Noah, in the shade  
And loop this red rose in that hazel ring  
That snares your little ear, for June is short  
And we must joy in it and dance and sing,  
And from her bounty draw her rosy worth.  
Ay! soon the swallows will be flying south,  
The wind wheel north to gather in the snow,  
Even the roses spilt on youth's red mouth  
Will soon blow down the road all roses go.

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## 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)

