

Church News Ireland



Image of the day

Paradise - Milfort Sound, South Island New Zealand

People and places



Rector tractor in Rathcoole

The Rector of Rathcoole , the Reverend Arlene Moore said “It was fun to escort “Rector in a tractor”, Rev William Orr, around the Newtownabbey churches last night after meeting our Bishop George Davison and Select Vestry at St



Comgall's, receiving our donations (for Sands NI (Stillbirth And Neonatal Death Support) and St. Mark's, Portadown) and playing us a wee tune on the flute....well he was in the 'Coole after all!"

Gold Award for Cathedral Choir member

Armagh Cathedral Choir member Ross McCrea recently attended Buckingham Palace to collect his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award.





New Armagh Diocesan MU President

At a recent Mothers' Union Festival Service - Debbie Davidson was commissioned as Armagh Diocesan MU President and Heather Montgomery and Claire Smith were both commissioned as new Diocesan MU Trustees. Congratulations and God's blessings ladies.



Men's Shed opens in Derry parish

Bishop Andrew Forster has opened the Parish of Glendermott's new Men's Shed on a reclaimed site behind the Parish Hall on Church Brae in Londonderry.

The project is the brainchild of Select Vestry member Joanne Miller and the six men who comprise the Glen Fruit and Vegetable Growers group. The team, with help from the Rector, Rev Robert Boyd, cleared an area of land in a hollow to the rear of the rectory, and planted it with a variety of vegetables and fruit. They also erected a large polytunnel which has been filled with raised beds containing more 'fruit and veg'.

Rev Boyd said the project – which was conceived and completed during the pandemic – had been “a lifeline” for some of the men involved.

Bishop Andrew cut an improvised 'ribbon' – in reality a piece of twisted sacking, or “recycled ribbon”, as it was jokingly described – to officially ‘open’ the Men’s Shed.

Bishop Andrew said he was delighted to see the land being reclaimed and used for greater glory. He said the Men’s Shed spoke clearly about the Parish’s commitment to its community. “What we have, here,” he said, “is a wonderful example of how as a community we can thrive together, and how we can reach out to the wider community, as well.

“One of the really important things to us, as followers of Jesus Christ,” the Bishop said, “is also how we care for the environment, and tend the environment around us, and I think that’s becoming more and more of an issue for us as Christians as we realise what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. [It means] to care for the creation that he gives us.





This is a fabulous example of how we tend creation, care for creation, and delight in the created order that God gives us. When we walk inside this and see the tomato plants and onions and everything else growing, isn't it wonderful to see the creativity of God?

“The third thing I want to say is this: in Mark's Gospel, there's a little verse that we often skip over. It talks about Jesus choosing his disciples and it simply says this: he chose them that they might be with him. Now what does that mean? For me that talks about friendship and companionship, and the world that we live in – we're very connected with social media, and so on – but we're not the friends we used to be. People tend to be apart and isolated, and we suffer because of that. And what Glendermott Parish, through this brilliant project, is doing is supporting friendship and supporting companionship, which is at the

heart of the Gospel. And for this Parish to lead the way in this project is an example to us all.”

After the opening ceremony, parishioners, clergy and members of the Men’s Shed team enjoyed refreshments in the hall. The fare on offer included homegrown salad sandwiches (made with leaves grown literally a few metres away), and a stunning cake, baked by parishioner Catherine Boyd, which looked like a work of art. Indeed, the cake – which had been decorated to look like a flourishing allotment – looked so good, the Bishop said, that it was almost a sin to cut it. But he did cut it. And it tasted every bit as good as it looked.

Dr Kenneth Milne appointed Lay Canon of Armagh Cathedral

The Most Revd John McDowell, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, has announced the appointment of Dr Kenneth Milne as a Lay Canon of Armagh.

Dr Milne succeeds to the stall formerly occupied by the late Canon Dr Muriel McCarthy. Armagh Cathedral has six Lay Canons – the first were appointed in 1997 and Dr Milne will be the 12th to take up office.

Archbishop McDowell said, “I am delighted to have had the opportunity of asking Dr Kenneth Milne to accept an appointment as Lay Canon of St Patrick’s Cathedral, Armagh.

June 3, 2022

I have known Dr Milne for 30 years and have admired the work he has undertaken for the Church of Ireland during those years. However, his involvement in the work of the Church stretches back long before that and shows no sign of diminishing.

“Dr Milne’s contribution to the historiography of the Church of Ireland is well known, as was his work in education. He has helped keep alive an expansive vision of the role of the Church, in Ireland and in



Europe, and I hope this canonry, in some small way, goes towards a recognition of the quiet wisdom and graciousness with which he has brought into the treasury of the Church”.

On the announcement of his appointment, Dr Milne said, ‘I greatly appreciate this honour and keenly look forward to having an association with Armagh Cathedral.’

Details of the installation service at St Patrick’s Cathedral, Armagh, which will take place after the summer, will follow in due course.

Kenneth Milne was educated at Mountjoy School and Trinity College, Dublin.

He served as Secretary to the General Synod Board of Education prior to his appointment as Principal of the Church of Ireland College of Education and was for some years on the Council of Dublin University and on the Board of Tallaght Hospital. As a member of the General Synod he represented the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough on its Standing Committee for several years.

He currently chairs the Literature Committee of the Central Communications Board and is a member of the Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue and of its European Affairs Working-Group. He is also an Advisor to the Library and Archives Committee of the Representative Church Body.

Dr Milne has represented the Church of Ireland on the Conference of European Churches, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, the Irish Inter-Church Meeting and the Irish Council of Churches, having been Convenor of the ICC's European Affairs Committee.

He was a member of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, chairing its Religious Education Course Committee.

At present he holds the position of Church of Ireland Historiographer and is also a member of the committee of the Church of Ireland Historical Society. His publications include *The Irish Charter Schools* (1997), *Irish Anglicanism* (ed. with Paul Harron, 2019), and *A short history of the Church of Ireland* (5th ed. 2022).



Recognition of service to music

Richard Yarr, has been recognised with an MBE for Services to Music in Northern Ireland in the Jubilee Honours. Richard's tireless work for young musicians is staggering and relentless, and his contribution includes broadcasting, organ and choral festivals.

"Dad, why is my sister's name Rose?"
"Because your mother loves roses"
"That's nice – thanks Dad"
" No problem, Stanford in Bb."



Kildress Mothers' Union
in conjunction with
Kildress & Altedesert Parish Churches

 **PLATINUM JUBILEE**

Tea Party

at **Kildress Parish Church**
on **Saturday 4th June**
from **2-5pm**

Attractions include...

- Vintage Cars & Tractors
- Bouncy Castles & Competitions
- Scottish Dancing
- Fancy Dress Competition
- Plus much more!

 Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council



www.gortreaghprinting.co.uk 028 8676 3377

Crinken Church opens kitchens to people from Ukraine

Members of Crinken Church near Bray have been forging new friendships with families from Ukraine who are now living in the area. Parishioners have opened up the kitchen facilities at St James's Church for refugees and are planning a Ukrainian Family Fun week in July.

The idea came early on in the crisis at a vestry meeting in Crinken at which it was wholeheartedly agreed to share the hall and kitchen facilities with Ukrainian refugees. The thought was that individual families staying in different houses in the vicinity could come together to cook a meal and get to know other people from Ukraine. Less than a week later the church received an enquiry from someone in the Royal Hotel in Bray where 300 refugees are staying. A group wanted to use the kitchen to help with their celebration of Orthodox Easter.

"To cut a long story short they came to cook bread and cake on the Friday and Saturday for all the people staying at the hotel so they could celebrate their Orthodox Easter on the Sunday," explains Crinken's Rector, the Revd Trevor Stevenson. "I was asked to come and bless the bread before it left Crinken. I was then invited along with two folk from the church to come to the hotel on Saturday evening. I was not sure for what purpose but found out when we got there that they had arranged for many volunteers around Bray to come so they could say thank you for all the assistance they are receiving. It was a humbling,



The Revd Trevor Stevenson with some of the people from Ukraine and the cake baked in Crinken.

and highly emotional experience. To be honest your heart would break thinking of the suffering they have left behind and those they have left behind.

During Crinken's celebration of Easter, the church organised a trail for children of the parish around the grounds telling the story of Easter as they found one clue after another. They reserved Saturday afternoon for people from Ukraine. They got all the literature translated into Ukrainian and provided refreshments.

At the moment they are working with two other churches in Bray and some people from Ukraine to plan a Ukrainian Family Fun Week in the grounds of Crinken. There will be fun for all ages as well as a place to sit and relax away from the hotel. The week will run from July 4 to 9.

The video below was recorded and edited by one of the Ukrainian people involved and shows the bread and cake being cooked in Crinken's kitchen followed by the celebration in the hotel.

Members of Crinken Church near Bray have been forging new friendships with families from Ukraine who are now living in the area. Parishioners have opened up the kitchen facilities at St James's Church for refugees and are planning a Ukrainian Family Fun week in July.

The idea came early on in the crisis at a vestry meeting in Crinken at which it was wholeheartedly agreed to share the hall and kitchen facilities with Ukrainian refugees. The thought was that individual families staying in different houses in the vicinity could come together to cook a meal and get to know other people from Ukraine. Less than a week later the church received an enquiry from someone in the Royal Hotel in Bray where 300 refugees are staying. A group wanted to use the kitchen to help with their celebration of Orthodox Easter.

"To cut a long story short they came to cook bread and cake on the Friday and Saturday for all the people staying at the hotel so they could celebrate their Orthodox Easter on the Sunday," explains Crinken's Rector, the Revd Trevor Stevenson. "I was asked to come and bless the bread before it left Crinken. I was then invited along with two folk from the church to come to the hotel on Saturday evening. I was not sure for what purpose but found out when we got there that they had arranged for many volunteers around Bray to come so they could say thank you for all the assistance they are receiving. It was a humbling, tear jerking

and highly emotional experience. To be honest your heart would break thinking of the suffering they have left behind and those they have left behind.”

During Crinken’s celebration of Easter, the church organised a trail for children of the parish around the grounds telling the story of Easter as they found one clue after another. They reserved Saturday afternoon for people from Ukraine. They got all the literature translated into Ukrainian and provided refreshments.

At the moment they are working with two other churches in Bray and some people from Ukraine to plan a Ukrainian Family Fun Week in the grounds of Crinken. There will be fun for all ages as well as a place to sit and relax away from the hotel. The week will run from July 4 to 9.

Poem for today

Having To Live in the Country by Patrick Kavanagh

Back once again in wild, wet Monaghan
Exiled from thought and feeling,
A mean brutality reigns:
It is really a horrible position to be in
And I equate myself with Dante
And all who have lived outside civilization.
It isn't a question of place but of people;
Wordsworth and Coleridge lived apart from the common
man,
Their friends called on them regularly.

Swift is in a somewhat different category
He was a genuine exile and his heavy heart
Weighed him down in Dublin.
Yet even he had compensations for in the Deanery
He received many interesting friends
And it was the eighteenth century.

I suppose that having to live
Among men whose rages
Are for small wet hills full of stones
When one man buys a patch and pays a high price for it
That is not the end of his paying.
"Go home and have another bastard" shout the children,
Cousin of the underbidder, to the young wife of the
purchaser.
The first child was born after six months of marriage,
Desperate people, desperate animals.
What must happen the poor priest
Somewhat educated who has to believe that these people
have souls
As bright as a poet's - though I don't, mind, speak for
myself.

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
