

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Waterford Organ Festival

Image of the day

Waterford Organ Festival begins Thursday

The third annual Waterford International Organ Festival will begin on Thursday in Christ Church cathedral and continue until the following Sunday. The Festival will present diverse, creative classical music concerts featuring the pipe organ, choral and instrumental forces.

The Festival will open with an evening of chamber music with Kilkenny-based organist Malcolm Proud, Dublin-based Mexican curtal player, Mariana Paras, and Cork-based Finnish baroque violinist, Marja Gaynor. They will present a programme in honour of the four hundredth anniversary of William Byrd's death.

The second evening will feature virtuoso Swiss organist, Vincent Thévenaz, professor of organ and improvisation at the Haute Ecole de Musique in Geneva and titular organist and carillonneur of Saint-Pierre cathedral. Thévenaz will present the fascinating sound-world of avant-garde composer György Ligeti, celebrating this composer's centenary.

The weekend programme of events will begin with a children's concert and workshop led by Cathedral organist Simon Harden and an arrangement of Prokofiev's 'Peter and the Wolf' by Heinrich Grimm.

The Saturday evening concert will feature Sestina, a Belfast-based chamber choir directed by Mark Chambers. Sestina is highly regarded for historically informed performance and a freshness in their delivery of early music.

The final day of the festival will see Simon Harden in musical dialogue with leading Irish Trumpeters Colm Bryne and Eamonn Nolan and a tour de force of 'organ-plus' repertoire. C of I Irish Times notes

For more information go to
<https://waterfordinternationalorganfestival.ie/>

News reports

Reports book for General Assembly 2023 is one of the largest in recent memory

This year the all-Ireland dPresbyterian Church's highest decision making body will open on the evening of the longest day, Wednesday, 21 June and close on the afternoon of Saturday, 24 June.

The Opening Night will also see the election and installation of Rev Dr Sam Mawhinney as Moderator, the Church's principal public representative. The minister of Adelaide Road Presbyterian Church in Dublin, will be the first minister from a congregation in the Republic of Ireland to hold the Church's highest office in nearly a quarter of a century.



Bringing together Presbyterians from across the country, Rev Trevor Gribben, Clerk of the General Assembly, (photo) explained that upwards of 1,000 ministers, elders and others are entitled to attend

from the denomination's 500-plus congregations, along with overseas representatives of PCI's partner churches and organisations from around the world.

This year will be Mr Gribben's ninth General Assembly as Clerk and he is looking forward to a busy and productive week. "The General Assembly is a coming together of people the length and breadth of this island of ours. As we meet in General Assembly, we do so not just to take decisions that will affect the life and ministry of our Church in the coming months and years, we come together to worship, to pray, and to bring glory to Christ in all that we do."

Mr Gribben continued, "For the first time since the year 2000 our Assembly will be chaired by a Moderator who is from a congregation in the Republic of Ireland and I look forward to

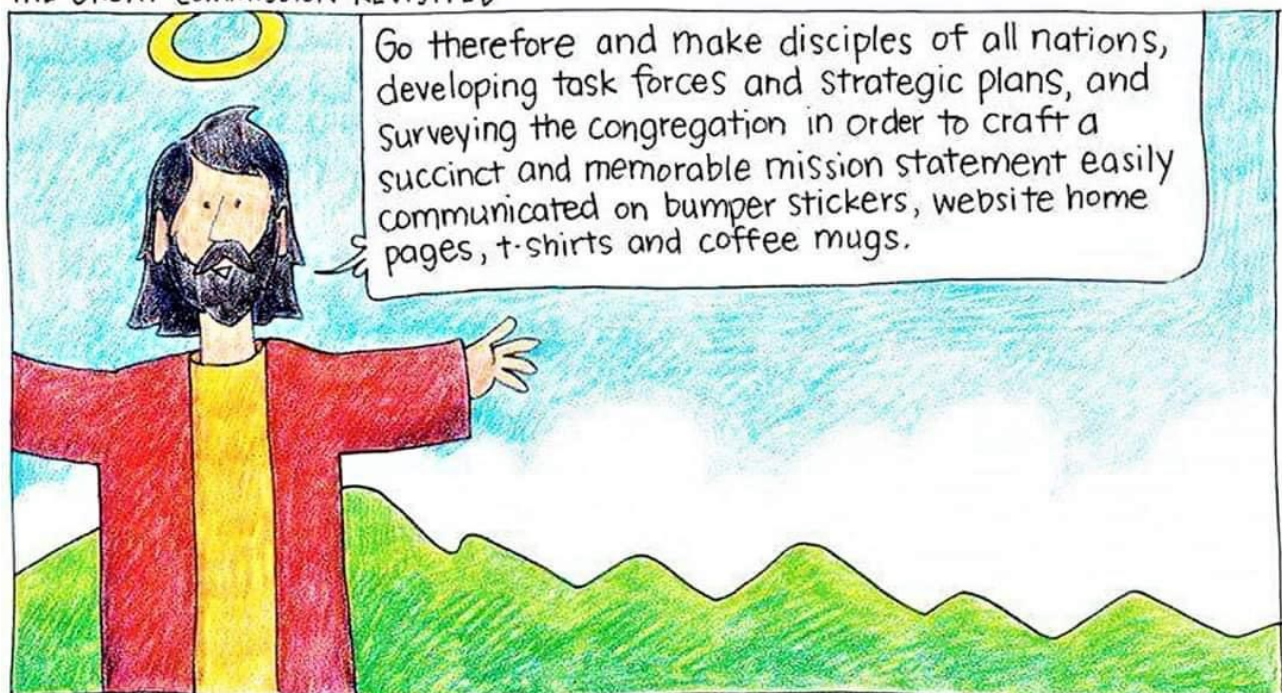
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Dr Mawhinney's Opening Address to us on the Wednesday evening and to working with him."

Starting at 7pm that Wednesday, Right Reverend Dr John Kirkpatrick, will take his leave as PCI's Moderator and reflect in his address on his year in office. The service of worship, which will be attended by civic guests and members of the public, will also be live streamed.

Mr Gribben continued, "Over the last few years members have discussed a range of issues that have required further wide-ranging discussion and debate within the Church itself. Having consulted and reviewed responses from our 19 regional presbyteries, the General Assembly will be making final decisions on a range of important church related issues. This is perhaps why the 'Blue Book', which contains the General Assembly reports and resolutions that members will discuss, is 416 pages this year. Over 140 pages longer than 2022's, it is one of the largest in recent memory. So it will be a busy and important few days.

THE GREAT COMMISSION REVISITED



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“As we come together from across Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, joining as one to worship the risen Lord Jesus, it is always a special and precious time. This year worship will take place on Wednesday’s Opening Night, on Thursday afternoon at 12.15pm and during the General Assembly Communion Service, which will be held on Friday at 11.45am. Everyone is welcome,” Mr Gribben said.

The Assembly’s popular Evening Celebration will take place on Thursday evening at 7.45pm. Led by PCI’s new Moderator, the speaker will be Rev Jonty Rhodes, founding pastor of Christ Church Central, a relatively new church plant in Leeds, which is part of the International Presbyterian Church.

Listening to the Global Church

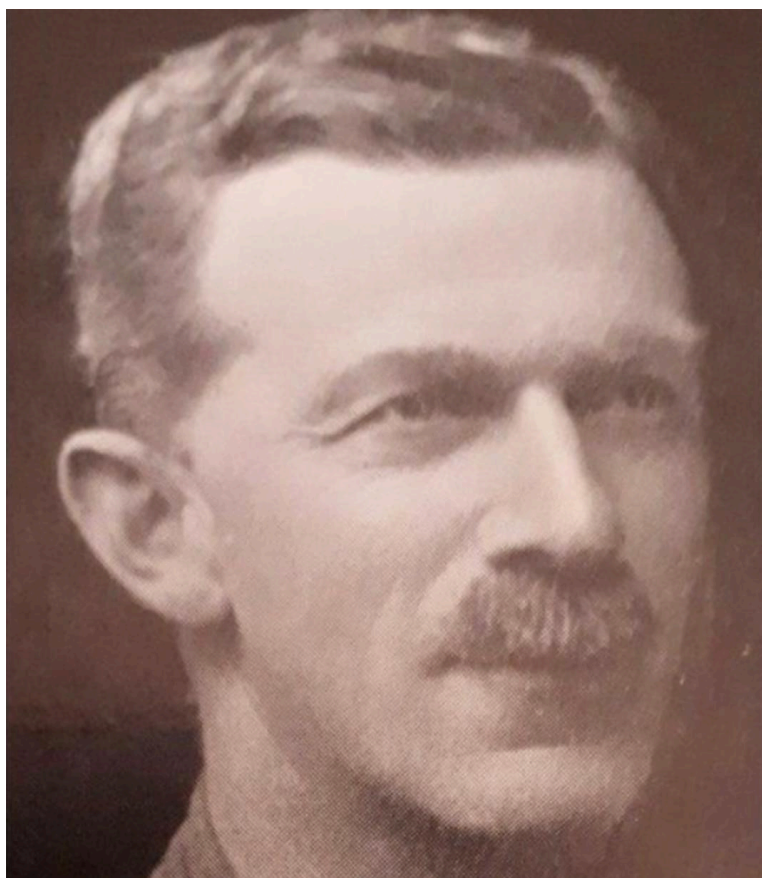
As in previous years, the 2023 General Assembly will have what has become one of the highlights of the annual meeting, the informal presentation ‘Listening to the Global Church’. Organised by PCI’s Council for Global Mission, it will involve some of the overseas guests who will be attending the General Assembly and will take place on Friday afternoon.

Mr Gribben concluded by saying, “As we carry on making plans for this year’s General Assembly, and indeed throughout our meeting later this month, we will continue to seek God’s guidance and His grace, as we look forward to the time that we will have together.”

Members of the public are welcome to attend the public gallery for the Opening Night, the other worship times and of

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course the main business sessions, which start at 10.00am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning. Full details of all business and other information can be found at www.presbyterianireland.org/ga23 where most of the Assembly's proceedings will be livestreamed. They can also be followed on Twitter @pciassembly using the hashtag [#pciga23](https://twitter.com/pciassembly).



Sion Mills to remember life and witness of Brigadier General Ricardo

The Parishes of Urney with Sion Mills (Derry & Raphoe) are finalising plans to mark a milestone in the parishes' history next month.

They will be celebrating the life and witness of Brigadier General Ambrose St. Quentin Ricardo at a special 100 year commemoration service in Church of the Good Shepherd, Sion Mills on Sunday 9th July at 3pm.

The Rector, Rev Jonathan McFarland, invites you to join them for this very special service as they celebrate God's faithfulness to us, through "the extraordinary life and witness

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of this great man who planted so much good seed in his service to both the Church and this country, all those years ago”.

Raheny and Coolock welcome new rector

Parishioners of Raheny and Coolock gathered on a beautiful sunny evening to warmly welcome their new Rector, the Revd Kevin Ronné. He was instituted in All Saints Church, Raheny, on Thursday June 1 at an uplifting service led by Archbishop Michael Jackson.

As the new chapter of ministry for both Kevin and the parishes began, Kevin was joined by his wife Arlene and their children Tyrell,

Tatum and Trent and their partners and grandchildren as well as many parishioners, from the Dunleckney Union where he served for 10 years and colleagues in ministry.

The sermon was preached by the Revd Conor O'Reilly, Rector of Athy. Kevin preached at his Institution last year. He congratulated Kevin and said that his calling to serve as a spiritual leader was both an honour and a great responsibility. “The weight of this calling should never be taken lightly, for you have been entrusted with the care and nurture of souls and with the sacred task of shepherding God’s people,” he commented.

He noted that Revd Kevin was beginning his ministry in the midst of a pervasive secular culture in which faith and all things of a religious nature were increasingly marginalised.



The Church Wardens of Raheny and Coolock with Archdeacon Neal O’Raw, Archbishop Michael Jackson, the Revd Kevin Ronné, the Revd Conor O’Reilly, Archdeacon David Pierpoint and the Revd Sean Hanily at All Saints Church Raheny.

He said people of faith must ask themselves how they could effectively proclaim the Good News in a society that may not readily embrace it.

“To effectively preach the Gospel in a secular society, we must strive for relevance. This does not mean compromising the core truths of our faith, but instead finding ways to communicate these truths in a language and manner that resonates with the hearts and minds of those we seek to reach. We must be sensitive to the questions, doubts, and struggles that people face in their daily lives and address



The Revd Kevin and Arlene Ronné and their family after Kevin's institution as Rector of Raheny and Coolock.

them with compassion, understanding, and authenticity,” he said.

He added: “In a secular society, we must also be willing to engage in meaningful dialogue. We cannot simply retreat into our own faith communities and isolate ourselves from the world around us. Instead, we should actively seek opportunities to engage with others, to listen to their stories, to understand their perspectives, and to share the truths of the Gospel in a humble and respectful manner”.

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The preacher urged the parishioners of Raheny and Coolock to receive their new Rector with open hearts and open minds and to embrace the vision and direction that he would share with them. “Let us always remember that we are one body, united in our faith and purpose. Together, we can create a nurturing and loving community, a place where souls are transformed, where brokenness is mended, and where lives are enriched by the power of God’s grace,” he commented.

Veritas Publications invites you to the launch of

A New Ireland

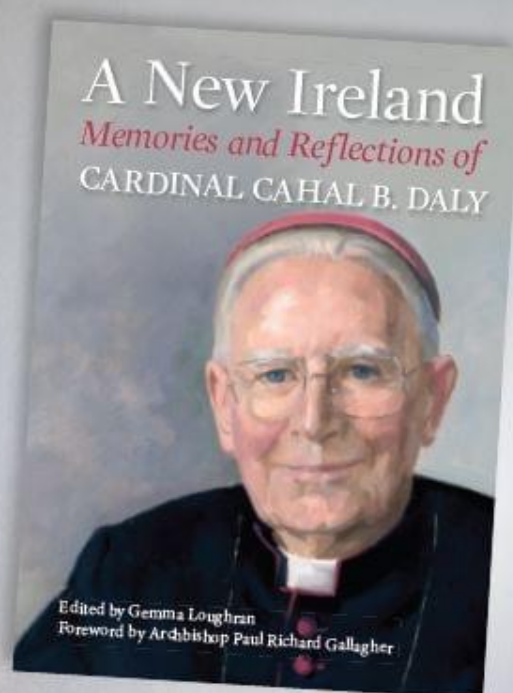
Memories and Reflections of
CARDINAL CAHAL B. DALY

Edited by Gemma Loughran

Launched by
Rev. Dr Ruth Patterson

Wednesday, 7 June
at 5 p.m.

St Malachy’s College,
36 Antrim Rd,
Belfast,
BT15 2AE



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Following the service, parishioners Ciara and Anne welcomed Kevin and Arlene and their family to Raheny and Coolock on behalf of the parishes.

Fr Cyril Mangan, currently PP in Howth and Sutton but recently appointed to Raheny, welcomed Kevin on behalf of the ecumenical clergy. He assured the family that they would receive a very warm welcome in the area and added that there had always been very good relations between the churches on the Northside.

Archbishop Michael Jackson said it was a great privilege to welcome Kevin to Dublin and Glendalough. He said that the combination of the two parishes presented a wonderful challenge for Kevin. “The care of the community is part of the care of Christ and it is the gift of the churches to offer that care. Kevin comes with a deep personal faith and an international experience of faith as well as local experience in the Church of Ireland,” he said.

The final speaker of the night was Kevin who thanked everyone who came to support he and Arlene including his former parishioners. He paid tribute to all who had worked so hard to prepare for his arrival and reserved special mention for the Rural Dean, Canon Lesley Robinson, for preparing the service. He said he had been asking himself what he had to offer to the people of Raheny and Coolock. “God has called each of us to do what Jesus did, to do the work of God... God has a perfect plan for all things and for this community. We will continue to work that God has been doing in this place among His children. Thank you for choosing me as your Rector,” he said.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



**Pop Up Summer Ideas
for Children & Families**
Zoom Swap Shop!
Join with CFM
Volunteers & Clergy
from across Ireland

**Is your Church
Summer Ready?!**

**June
12th
7.30pm**

 Church of Ireland
Board for Ministry with
Children & Families

C of I Summer Swap-Shop for children and family ministry - zoom

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“We want to inspire you this summer to try something new! On June 12th we're opening up the zoom doors for a "Summer Swap-Shop!"

Join us to hear a range of ideas for pop up family events your church can run to reach out and stay connected with Children and Families in your community during the school holidays. Bring your ideas too - the more we swap the sunnier we'll be!”

June 12th @7pm. For Church of Ireland CFM Volunteers, Staff and Clergy. Register here to ensure you get the zoom link: <https://bit.ly/3C0boVb>

Christ Church cathedral organ recital today

Today, Monday 5, at 6pm the series of organ recitals will continue in Christ Church cathedral, Dublin. The recitalist will be the Cathedral's Director of Music, Tom Little.

Choral Evensong by Choir of King's College, Cambridge

On Wednesday 14 June at 16:00, the Choir of King's College, Cambridge will be live from the College Chapel on BBC Radio 3 - Choral Evensong. We hope you can tune in!

Responses: Smith

Psalms 73, 74 (Stainer, Soaper, Deffell, Wesley)

Magnificat octavi toni a 8 (Vivanco)

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Nunc dimittis quarti toni (Palestrina)
Anthem: Jubilate Deo (Gabrieli)
Voluntary: Fantasia (Gibbons)

Daniel Hyde (Director of Music)
Paul Greally (Organ Scholar)

Summer Music at Sandford

The series of Summer Music at Sandford continues in Sandford parish church, Ranelagh.

On Friday, at 1.10pm, Hilda O'Mahony (violin) & Darragh Brogan (piano) will play music by Brahms and Pärt.

Fibrus Play it Forward Fund

Fibrus have recently announced they are pledging £30,000 to support on-the-ground children's sports projects across Northern Ireland.

Organisations can apply for up to £1000 of funding, the money can be used for new kits and equipment, to improve their existing facilities or towards training fees.

Applications are now open and will close 27th June.

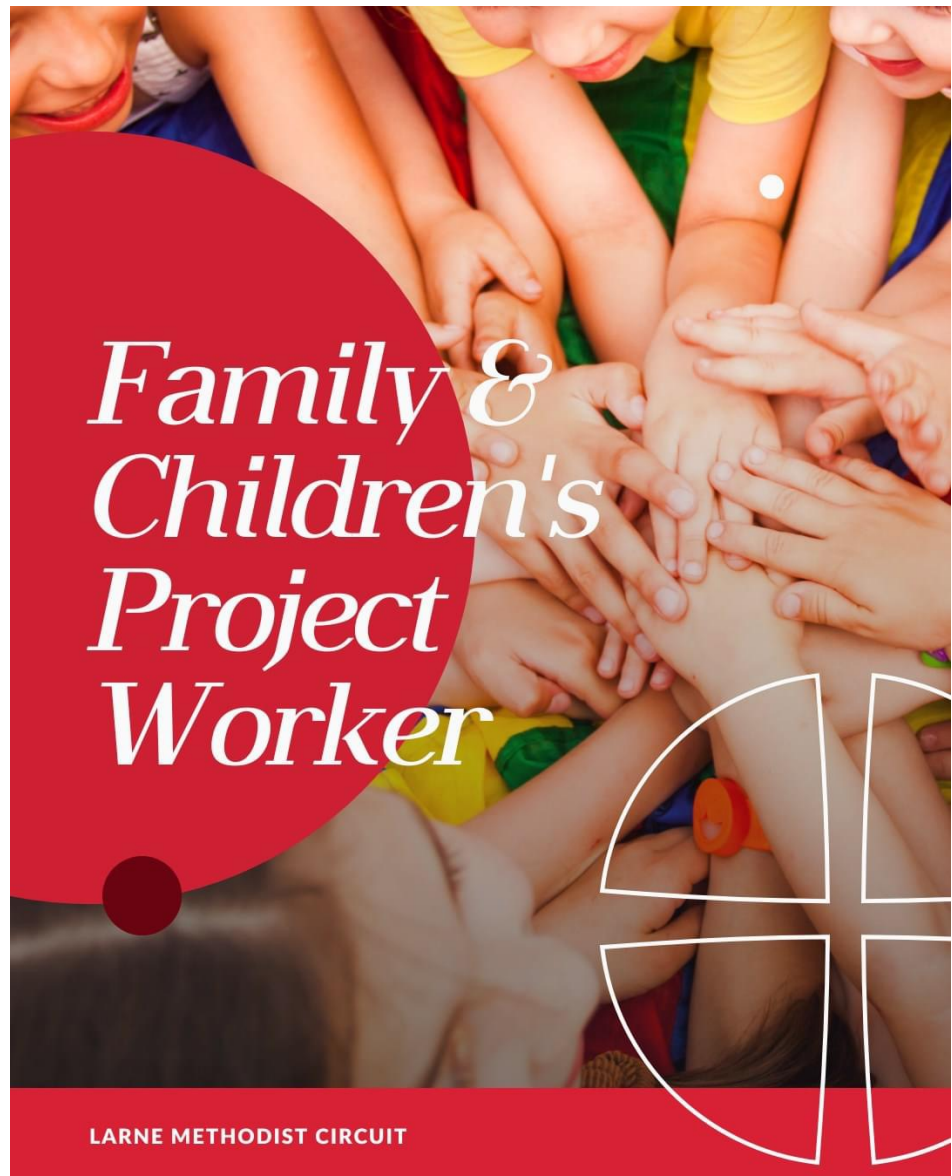
For more info contact Fibrus via:

sponsorships@fibrus.com.

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Family & Children's Project Worker sought

“We’re hiring a Family & Children’s Project Worker for Larne Methodist Circuit : incorporating Carnlough, Craigyhill & Larne Methodist Churches.”



£29,000 / Full Time (40 hours). Closing date: Friday 23rd June, 12noon

For full details and to apply now, visit: bit.ly/3H0FtEZ

Armagh Cathedrals' Partnership - Outing to Belfast

This year's outing is to Belfast on Tuesday 20th June 2023

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and will include a visit to the First Presbyterian Church, Rosemary Street; Belfast Synagogue; Clonard Monastery; and Botanic Gardens. A coach will leave St Patrick's RC Cathedral Car Park (Moy Rd entrance) at 10.15am and will return at approximately 5.30pm. Those going on the outing may wish to bring a packed lunch or avail of local facilities. This promises to be a very enjoyable day but there are limited places. The cost of the outing is £20.00 per person and booking can be made with Lorraine at Armagh Robinson Library (Tel: 028 3752 3142).

Poem for today

A Statesman's Holiday by William Butler Yeats

I lived among great houses,
Riches drove out rank,
Base drove out the better blood,
And mind and body shrank.
No Oscar ruled the table,
But I'd a troop of friends
That knowing better talk had gone
Talked of odds and ends.
Some knew what ailed the world
But never said a thing,
So I have picked a better trade
And night and morning sing:
Tall dames go walking in grass-green Avalon.

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Am I a great Lord Chancellor
That slept upon the Sack?
Commanding officer that tore
The khaki from his back?
Or am I de Valera,
Or the King of Greece,
Or the man that made the motors?
Ach, call me what you please!
Here's a Montenegrin lute,
And its old sole string
Makes me sweet music
And I delight to sing:
Tall dames go walking in grass-green Avalon.

With boys and girls about him.
With any sort of clothes,
With a hat out of fashion,
With Old patched shoes,
With a ragged bandit cloak,
With an eye like a hawk,
With a stiff straight back,
With a strutting turkey walk.
With a bag full of pennies,
With a monkey on a chain,
With a great cock's feather,
With an old foul tune.
Tall dames go walking in grass-green Avalon.

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
