

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Dublin to Belfast fundraiser

June 9, 2022

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Dublin to Belfast fundraiser

Irish Guards veteran aims to fundraise for others. See report in this issue.

People and places



Influence of St Columba continues to cascade - Bishop of Derry and Raphoe

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe told people gathered at a sunny St Columba's Abbey in Gartan, on Pentecost Sunday, that the influence of St Columba continued to



cascade down through the centuries into the lives of people like them and him.

The Bishop was preaching at Gartan's first 'Service of Thanksgiving for the life and ministry of St Columba' in three years. The annual event last took place in the summer before Covid arrived.

Sunday's service was hosted by the parishioners of Gartan on the idyllic Abbey site, overlooking Gartan's lakes, about half a mile from where the saint was reputedly born. The service was led by the Rev Canon Judi McGaffin, who was assisted by Rev Canon Katie McAteer, Rev David Houlton and Rev Heather Houlton. Music was provided by the Britannia Band.



Welcoming the congregation, Bishop Andrew said, “What a super day, what a glorious setting and what great company.” He thanked the Rector for organising the service; local parishioners for their huge input; and the Britannia Band for returning, again this year, to provide music for worshippers.

In his sermon, the Bishop said Columba wasn’t “just our saint”. He was the saint of this island, of Iona, of Scotland and of Britain. “He’s someone whom we share,” Bishop Andrew said, “and we share in him because we share in Jesus Christ.”

“We know the DNA of the followers of Jesus Christ through the gift of his spirit on the Day of Pentecost, that we remember this Pentecost Sunday. And I would so love it if we, in our Diocese of Derry and Raphoe and beyond, that we became so much part of the story of Columba and the



legacy of Columba that it would become our DNA, that we would be people in mission with the Good News of Christ: sharing his story, blessing his world, and – because of what we can do through the gift of the Spirit and the Good News of Jesus – make the world that we live in a better place.”

After the service, Bishop Andrew and his fellow clergy joined the Gartan parishioners and friends from other parishes for refreshments on-site.

Popular priest Fr Power celebrates the golden jubilee of his ordination

It was a case of standing room only in St. Brigid’s Parish Church, Kilrush, on Sunday as members of the clergy along with a very large group of parishioners gathered for a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving to



Members of the clergy in attendance for Fr Joe Power's jubilee mass. (Pic: courtesy Joe Guinan)

mark the 50th anniversary of the ordination of parish priest, Very Rev. Joseph Power, Brendan Keane writes.

The chief celebrant was Bishop of Ferns, Most Rev. Dr. Gerard Nash, who said it was his first golden jubilee of the priesthood since he became bishop of the diocese.

In his homily, the bishop recalled first meeting Fr Power a few months ago and found him to be “a man full of joy, with a smile on his face, feeling that the world is a good place”.

Noting Fr Power’s many appointments since his ordination in 1972, Bishop Nash said his gifts, talents, insights and wisdom would be of value to all as they went forward.

A large number of diocesan priests, including 96-year-old, Very Rev. Canon Seamus de Vál, were in attendance and seated on special seats behind the altar.

Members of Fr Joe's family, including his sister, Rev. Sr. Regina, from Convent of Mercy, Carrick-on-Suir, Co Tipperary, and his brothers, Tom and William, were seated in other reserved sections facing the altar.

Before the mass, PJ Arthur, master of ceremonies and retired principal of Ballyroebuck National School, welcomed Bishop Nash, members of the diocesan clergy including Rev Trevor Sargent and Rev David Bayne, from the Church of Ireland, and members of the wider Church of Ireland community along with parishoners from Kilrush and Askamore.

Courtesy The Enniscorthy Guardian.

Man with a mission in his wheelchair from Dublin to Belfast

10 years ago this month (9th June 2012 to be exact) LCpl Bryan Phillips was the victim of an IED explosion in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

The IED attack resulted in Bryan losing his legs above the knee.

This was an extremely difficult time for Bryan and his family however 10 years on and Bryan has achieved many things by way of setting himself goals which have been achieved



time after time, he completed a cycle on his hand bike from Mizen Head to Malin Head in Donegal, he also created poppy100 where he participated in wreath laying ceremonies to commemorate the ending of WW1, he placed wreaths in N Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland.

His latest challenge which coincides with him losing his legs in that dreadful IED attack 10 years ago is to push himself in his wheelchair from Belfast to Dublin starting at first light on Saturday 11th June in the Santry area of Dublin, from there



he will make his way eventually to Belfast (Shaw's Bridge) with only a few scheduled stops along the way.

Supporting him from stop to finish will be Franko G McCracken, Alan Aiken, Lt Col John Mateer MBE and David McKibbin. Bryan has decided to raise funds for the Irish Guards Benevolent Fund, he is however acutely aware that times are hard for everyone, however if you feel you could make a donation it will be greatly appreciated, the link is as follows:-

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/poppy100?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=poppy100&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=b6991b42a35f48b5892f242714483d26&fs=e&s=cl



Armagh Diocesan Healing Service

A Diocesan Healing Service will be held in Aghavilly Parish Church (4 miles from Armagh City off the Monaghan Road - signposted from the main road) on Sunday, 12th June, 2022, at 3.30pm.

Everyone very welcome. If you would like help with transport please contact the Rev Suzanne.

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If you have any names of people - Christian names only - which you would like to be included in the prayers for healing at the Service please forward them to Rev Suzanne to pass on to Rev Jim Campbell or Rev Matthew Hagan.

Lady Joy Hastings

Lady Joy Hastings, wife of the late Sir William Hastings passed away peacefully at her home in Killyleagh, at the age of 90.

She was educated at Victoria College Belfast and was Head Girl in 1950, proceeding to graduate in languages from the Queens University, Belfast, and taught at Lisnasharragh High School in 1959. Lady Joy married Sir William in 1960 and they had 4 children, 9 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

She will be sorely missed by all the Hastings Hotels family, and our thoughts are with Howard, Julie, Allyson, and Aileen at this time.

Her funeral service will be held in Downpatrick Cathedral tomorrow morning.

Hiring Children's and Family Pastor

All Saints, a lively and diverse Anglican church in the heart of Peckham, South East London is looking for a creative and ambitious person to spearhead the ministry to 0-11 year olds and families. In 2022, we will be welcoming a new vicar to All Saints. Raising a passionate generation of young

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Christians will continue to be essential to the life of All Saints, and we are seeking a team member with the faith, fire, and imagination to be a key part of this new season.

If you are a servant-hearted team-player, who knows Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour and are passionate about seeing children, and their families, grow and flourish as active disciples of Christ, this could be the role for you.

The role comes with a salary of £24-26K, is full time hours to include Sunday mornings and would require you to be / become a worshipping member of our church family here in Peckham. Closing date 5pm, 16th June. To apply, download the job description at www.allsaintspeckham.org.uk/vacancies

In the media

PM to begin fightback with Protocol law

Daily Telegraph

Boris Johnson is set to table legislation within days to go it alone over the Northern Ireland Protocol, as he seeks to draw a line under the confidence vote with a string of policy announcements. The proposed law to allow the UK Government to unilaterally suspend parts of the Brexit agreement that governs trade in Northern Ireland could come as soon as this week.

Dearth of vocations means difficult transition ahead, cautions Bishop Router

The Irish Catholic

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Speaking at a Mass that marked the departure of the Marist community from Holy Family Parish, Dundalk, after more than 40 years of service, Bishop Michael Router warned of a "transition" period for the Church as numbers of clergy decline.

However, this provides "a wonderful opportunity for all the Faithful to realise that they have a crucial role to play", he said.

Michaela McAreavey video: Northern Irish convenience store chain sacks worker

Belfast Telegraph

A convenience store in Northern Ireland has confirmed it has "terminated" the employment of one of its staff in relation to a video which mocked the death of Michaela McAreavey.

Ukrainian students robbed of a graduation ceremony have returned to the rubble of their school determined to celebrate the milestone moment.

Daily Telegraph

Anna Episheva posted a photo on Twitter of her niece in a red ballgown standing in front of what remains of her school in Kharkiv.

"My niece was supposed to graduate this year from her high school.

"She and her friends bought dresses and were looking forward to this day. Then Russians came.

"Her school was directly hit and destroyed. Today she came back to what is left of her school and her plans," she wrote.

 Read more: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2022/06/07/school-shelled-now-ukrainian-students-return-celebrate-graduation/>

UK missiles help to chase fleet

Ukraine has pushed the Russian navy 60 miles back from the Black Sea coast with the help of anti-ship missiles supplied by Britain. Russian forces have turned to coastal missile systems to try to reassert control of the area. It came as ex-German chancellor Angela Merkel defended her policy towards Moscow while in office, saying she had "nothing to apologise for" even as the Ukraine war casts a pall on her legacy.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Mary McAleese to speak on the 17 Irish Martyrs

Mary McAleese, the former President of Ireland, is scheduled to speak on the Feast Day of the Irish Martyrs on Monday, June 20 at 7pm at All Hallows College in Dublin.

Drawing from revelations explored in her latest release, The 17 Irish Martyrs, Dr McAleese will evocatively uncover the

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stories of the Irish martyrs beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1992.

With estimates revealing that over 460 individuals were sacrificed for their faith in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Ms McAleese will reflect on what made these 17 individuals stand apart from the rest of the fallen faithful.

The discussion is being hosted by The All Hallows Trust and the introduction will be given by Fr John Joe Spring, former vice president of All Hallows.

Free admission. For more information, contact dtallon@allhallows.ie or the publisher Columba Books on info@columba.ie

Presbyterian Church Talks Education

In January, around 120 delegates and guests attended PCI Talks Education: a vision for the future in Northern Ireland. If you weren't able to attend, you can now watch the conference again on the PCI website.

On the special 'PCI talks education' page, you can also download the attendee booklet and some statistical information on education in Northern Ireland.

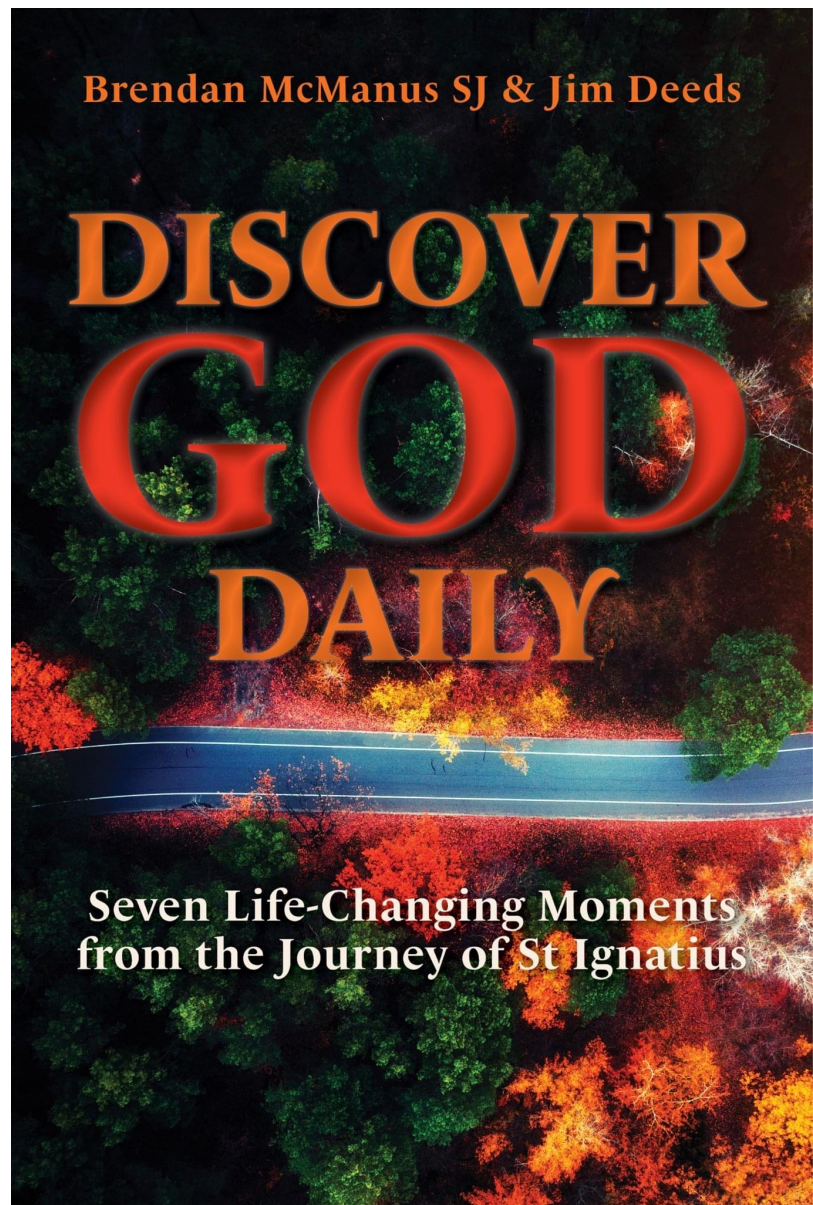
Let's Talk Education informed PCI's submission to the Independent Review of Education which you can also download from this link:

www.presbyterianireland.org/letstalkeducation

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Seven distinct moments from the life of St Ignatius

The much-anticipated new book from Brendan McManus SJ and Jim Deeds is now available. Using seven distinct moments from the life of St Ignatius, the authors illustrate how God works through the unexpected twists and turns of life. The Ignatian spirituality points from each are drawn out and explained in imagined conversations with God, reflections, scripture pieces and real-life applications



In bookshops and this online bookstore now:

<https://www.messenger.ie/product/discover-god-daily-seven-life-changing-moments-from-the-journey-of-st-ignatius/>

Living Wholeheartedly Podcast from Methodist Church

Out now! In Episode 1 of the Living Wholeheartedly Podcast, Heather Morris sits down with the President of the Methodist Church in Ireland for 2022-23, Rev David Nixon.

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– WATCH episodes 1-3 now on YouTube or listen on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or wherever you listen to podcasts.

Links at: bit.ly/LW-Pod

Plight of Ukrainian refugees - Presbyterian Herald article

Following a recent trip to Poland, Professor Stephen Williams offers a personal reflection on the plight of Ukrainian refugees there.

Read for free online 📌

https://issuu.com/presbyterianireland/docs/presbyterian_herald_june_2022/s/15934392

Connor parish and a supernatural pact with the Devil

The story of Coole parish in County Antrim includes a forgotten town, a supernatural pact with the Devil, a footballer buried in the wrong grave and the history of today's Church of the Holy Evangelists. A fascinating history.

<https://www.belfastentries.com/places/church-of-the-holy-evangelists/>

Poem for today

I am of Ireland by William Butler Yeats

I am of Ireland,
And the Holy Land of Ireland,

And time runs on,' cried she.
'Come out of charity,
Come dance with me in Ireland.'

One man, one man alone
In that outlandish gear,
One solitary man
Of all that rambled there
Had turned his stately head.
That is a long way off,
And time runs on,' he said,
'And the night grows rough.'

'I am of Ireland,
And the Holy Land of Ireland,
And time runs on,' cried she.
'Come out of charity
And dance with me in Ireland.'

'The fiddlers are all thumbs,
Or the fiddle-string accursed,
The drums and the kettledrums
And the trumpets all are burst,
And the trombone,' cried he,
'The trumpet and trombone,'
And cocked a malicious eye,
'But time runs on, runs on.'

I am of Ireland,
And the Holy Land of Ireland,
And time runs on,' cried she.
"Come out of charity
And dance with me in Ireland.'

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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