



Image of the day - The miracles window, Canterbury

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We Saw His Star in the East theme for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is taking place from 18 -25 January 2022. The theme chosen for this year is ‘We Saw His Star in the East’. Materials for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the churches of the Middle East.

The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world’s diversity – different religions and cultures – that comes to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 has been prepared by the churches of the Middle East, the history of which was, and still is, characterised by conflict and strife, tainted with blood and darkened by injustice and oppression. The Christians of the Middle East offer these resources conscious that the world shares many of the travails and much of the difficulties that it experiences, and yearns for a light to lead the way to the Saviour who is the light that overcomes darkness.

Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to the human being, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalised. It requires from the churches transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with each

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other. This means churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest society. This is a call for churches to work together so that young people can build a good future according to God's heart, a future in which all human beings can experience life, peace, justice, and love.

Archbishops of Armagh mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022

A video marking the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has been prepared by Archbishop Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh and Archbishop John McDowell, the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Armagh. In this video the archbishops reflect on the theme of Christian unity.

Link at -[<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/news/11154/archbishops-of-armagh-mark-christian>]

A new Prayer inspired by the theme for 2022

Heavenly Father,
as the Magi journeyed towards Bethlehem led by the star,
so by your heavenly light,
guide the Catholic Church to walk together with all
Christians during this time of synod.

As the Magi were united in their worship of Christ,
lead us closer to your Son and so to one another,
so that we become a sign of the unity that you desire for
your Church and the whole creation.

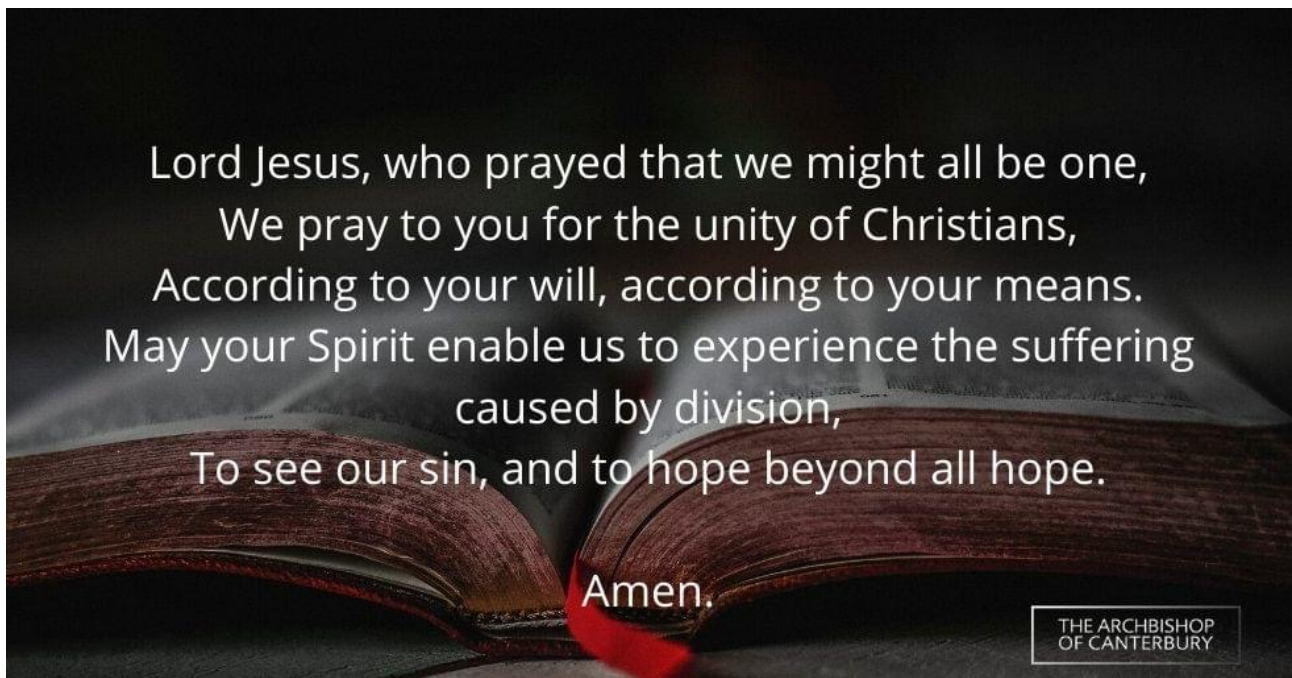
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

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Using Social Media

Those taking part in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are invited to share photos and social media posts to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Twitter wall – simply add the #wpcuwall hashtag to your tweet (note there is a delay before they appear). You can also find updates about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Twitter by following the [#wpcu2022](#) hashtag.

Archbishop of Canterbury's invitation



Jesus' last public prayer in John 17:21 was 'that all of them may be one.'

As we begin this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, please join us in this prayer written by the Chemin Neuf Community, which is said every day at Lambeth Palace.
WPCU22

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Bishop's response to Capuchins leaving Carlow next summer

Statement by Bishop Denis Nulty on the news that the Capuchins will leave Carlow next summer

“The Capuchins have been close to the heartbeat of Carlow for 44 years. Carlow town will be the poorer for their going, but much the richer for their having been here” – Bishop Denis Nulty

The Capuchins opened their friary in Carlow in 1978. The Order was looking for a new foundation to provide accommodation and a suitable training centre for new aspirants who would study at Saint Patrick's College. They

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were welcomed by Bishop Patrick Lennon. Work in earnest began converting what had been the Bank of Ireland building on Dublin Street into a place of prayer. Bishop Lennon blessed and opened the new oratory dedicated to Saint Anthony in May 1978.

Today, the Feast of Saint Anthony, the father of monasticism, is a very sad day for the people of Carlow. The friary on Dublin Street has for the past forty-four years been an oasis of prayer in the middle of a busy town. The Capuchins who have served here and the present community have all been 'Ministers of Mercy'. I thank you publicly for that ministry today. Over the years the Capuchins were Spiritual Directors to the seminarians in Saint Patrick's; for that important role on behalf of the college alumni, I say many thanks. The Secular Franciscan Order (Third Order) has strong roots in many people across Carlow town and beyond and that membership has brought blessings on many. The assistance the community offer local priests and parishes is deeply appreciated. For many, including myself, the quiet moments of Eucharistic Adoration just in off the busy street is deeply treasured.

These are changing times for religious communities and for congregations. While the history of the Capuchin foundation in Carlow and in the diocese is relatively short, for us the people, it seems as if they have always been part of the fabric of the town for a long time. Today's announcement that their friary will close next summer will be greeted across the town with great sadness. The Capuchins have been close to the heartbeat of Carlow for 44 years. Carlow town will be the poorer for their going, but much the richer for their having been here.

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Mothers Union man's new post in Derry & Raphoe



Mothers' Union in Derry & Raphoe recently expressed heartiest thanks to Kaye Stewart (above), for her kindness, her consistent and professional dedication to the post of Honorary Diocesan Treasurer and wished Kaye every blessing in the days ahead.

The MU has warmly welcomed Peter Clampett as Honorary Diocesan Treasurer for Mothers' Union in Derry & Raphoe.

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“Peter comes to us with a wealth of professional experience and as a Mothers’ Union member in Urney MU. We pray that Peter will enjoy and find fulfilment through this ministry within MU, said the Diocesan President

Presentations to six former Antrim MU branch leaders



All Saints’ Antrim MU branch leaders over the years with Archdeacon Stephen McBride. From left: Jennifer Campbell, Sheila Thompson, Sylvia Smyth, Sylvia Barton, Paddy Wallace and Helen McBride.

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On Sunday morning, January 16, All Saints', Antrim, held its Mothers' Union enrolment service at which new office bearers and committee were enrolled.

The vicar, Archdeacon Stephen McBride, also made presentations to the six ladies who have been branch leaders in his time as vicar.

The ladies are Jennifer Campbell, Sheila Thompson, Sylvia Smyth, Sylvia Barton, Paddy Wallace and Helen McBride.

Glorious farewell to Zion

Parishioners of Zion bade a "glorious" farewell to their Rector on Sunday January 16. The Revd Stephen Farrell has been appointed Dean of Ossory and Rector of Kilkenny Union and he and his wife Laura and their daughters are embarking on a new adventure after almost 11 years in the south Dublin parish.

In his final sermon, Stephen said it had been a privilege to be part of the Zion parish family. He said they had welcomed he and Laura with open hearts, rejoiced with them over the arrival of their daughters and supported them in times of need.

He thanked all the people of the parish for the roles they play and the select vestry for the way in which they labour together. "Parish life here is taken seriously," he commented. "But you have not forgotten that joy is part of Christian life."



He had also loved being involved in the life of the parish national school and said he would miss the pupils of Zion and looked forward to seeing all the glorious things they do in the future. Similarly he had appreciated the links nurtured between the parish and the High School.

“As a family our sadness at leaving is exacerbated by having to move house but tempered with a growing sense of excitement for the future. For our future and for Zion’s,” he said. “The parish will boldly continue to live out the plans God has for it. Please know to take to heart how special this place is and continue to grow. Go out and tell others the good news we have to share and that this is a community to which everyone can belong.”

He added: “Please pray for us as we step out into the unknown. Laura and I feel like we have grown up here. We are leaving home. We are leaving home with a huge sense of gratitude.”

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Speaking on behalf of the parishioners of Zion, Brian Hunt said Stephen had brought many 'firsts' to Zion. He said that the biggest change was the arrival of their beautiful children and he added that Laura had been a huge part of the parish. He praised Stephen's willingness to roll up his sleeves and get stuck in. In recent times, Brian said he had excelled in lockdown with online services, virtual wine tastings and 'walk and talk' time for parishioners.

"You have influenced the parish in so many ways. You have modernised worship with the message of God still coming through," he said.

Diocesan reader and former parish administrator Margaret Healion said Stephen had brought spiritual movement and growth to many people and working with him had been incredible fun. "You have shown that faith isn't remote from the condition of human life. There have been profoundly moving times. We value tradition and you have kept and encouraged that," she said.

Laura Farrell thanked the parishioners for their kindness and agreed that they had grown up in Zion. "I am so grateful to everyone for the sense of community, of family, of love and belonging. And I thank Stephen for bringing me on this first adventure and the next one," she said.



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Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts and books

Holocaust Memorial Day

On 27th January 2022, WartimeNI will mark Holocaust Memorial Day with a special event at the Linen Hall Library in Belfast. “This year's theme is "One Day", and we will focus on the day on 24th-25th February 1946 when the first of up to 100 young Jewish orphans arrived in Northern Ireland...

“Flight Lieutenant Alexander Appleby of the Royal New Zealand Air Force piloted the first Douglas Dakota to touch down at Sydenham Airfield from Prague. On board were 25 young refugees, orphaned and stateless. They had suffered greatly under Nazi rule in occupied Europe but were on their way to a safe haven in Ulster.

“We hope to be joined virtually on the day by Rachel Levy, one of those on board the first flights from Prague to Northern Ireland. She has kindly agreed to give some of her time to help tell this unique story...”

Register now at -

[[] <https://linenhall.com/events/from-auschwitz-to-ulster-one-day-that-changed-and-saved-lives-with-scott-edgar/>]

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Four Corners Festival

Details of the Belfast festival can be found at -
[<https://4cornersfestival.com/>]

Week of prayer for Christian unity

Information on the week of prayer for Christian unity can be found at:

[] <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/>
[]

The Gettys sing Amazing Grace

John Newton's popular hymn was first sung 250 years ago.

[] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=My6f0WEXZ3A>]

Another rendition!

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUANMI4L6-A&t=700s>]

Racial Justice: What's it got to do with me?

This is the theme for Racial Justice Sunday on 13 February.
[cte.org.uk/racialjustices...]

In the bleak midwinter

“In the bleak midwinter”, one of the anthems from Sunday afternoon's Epiphany Carol Service with the Armagh diocesan singers

[<https://youtu.be/S--LtnbJNpM>]

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Causeway Methodist service

The morning service on Sunday 16th January 2022 from Coleraine Methodist Church with Rev Tommy Stevenson (and Global Mission Fellows Isabelle and Tom working with The Surf Project) is available at -
[youtu.be/BbknU-fUXU8]

Reading the Bible like an Episcopalian

Reading the Bible like an Episcopalian (Scots) was a series of talks reflecting on ways in which Episcopalians understand Holy Scripture.

Following the conclusion of the lecture series, they have now been made available online at our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2X3DYVIuZH4>

News Reports

Bishops to discuss “Leadership and Ministry in a Conflicted World”

Bishops will discuss “Leadership and Ministry in a Conflicted World” as part of the journey towards the Lambeth Conference in 2022.

Bishops of the Anglican Communion are being invited to take part in a new series of Bishops’ discussions in 2022 as part of the journey towards the Lambeth Conference.

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“Ministry in a Conflicted World” will run online in February, March, and April 2022.



Guest contributors to the video series - The Rev'd Canon Dr Joseph Zebedayo Bilal Kenyi, the Rev'd Dr Manfred Deselaers, Pastor Ray Minniecon, the Rev'd René August, the Right Rev'd Dinis Sengulane and the Right Rev'd Dr Eleanor Sanderson

Through a range of Biblical reflections, films and discussion, the series will offer theological, strategic and practical input on three formational habits that can help to shape ministry and leadership. It will explore what it means to “Be Present, Be Curious, and Reimagine.”

Then series will continue the “listening phase” of the Lambeth Conference, which is focused on helping bishops

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pray, meet, and prepare for the full event in July 2022. During 2021, the Lambeth Conference team ran a 6-month series of Bishops' Conversations, where bishops studied the book of 1 Peter and started discussing some of the conference themes.

Anthony Poggo, Adviser to the Archbishop of Canterbury on Anglican Communion Affairs, said: "The Lambeth Conference theme is all about exploring what it means to be 'God's Church for God's World'. The world we live in today is complex and divided. Bishops around the world are often leading and ministering in situations facing conflict, challenge, or polarisation. Our hope and prayer for this new series is that it will provide bishops with a space to share and listen to one another, as they learn from each other's contexts and the challenges they face."

The course is being delivered by the Lambeth Conference in partnership with Difference, part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's reconciliation ministry. The series includes video contributions from theologians and practitioners from around the world whose ministry has been formed in particularly complex and divided situations.

'I Have A Dream': Martin Luther King's powerful words still relevant today

Pope Francis addresses Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream

One of Martin Luther King Jr.'s most recognized addresses is his "I Have a Dream" speech. Pope Francis assures that MLK's dream of "harmony and equality for all people," is still

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very relevant today, over 50 years later.

"In today's world, which increasingly faces the challenges of social injustice, division and conflict that hinder the realization of the common good, Dr. King's dream of harmony and equality for all people, attained through nonviolent and peaceful means, remains ever timely," the pope stated in a message



addressed to King's daughter, Bernice A. King in 2021.

"Only by striving daily to put this vision into practice can we work together to create a community built upon justice and fraternal love," he explained, noting it is imperative to see people "in the truth of our shared dignity as children of Almighty God."

"Each one of us is called to be an artisan of peace by uniting and not dividing, by extinguishing hatred and not holding on

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to it, by opening paths of dialogue," Pope Francis shared, quoting his encyclical "Fratelli tutti."

During the Beloved Community Commemorative Service, hosted by The King Center to mark MLK Day, the Holy Father prayed for "divine blessings of wisdom and peace," for all its participants, which included bishop of The Potter's House, T.D. Jakes, according to Catholic News Agency.

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr., the pope also blessed a special MLK jersey from NBA team the Atlanta Hawks last week. King was born in Atlanta on January 15, 1929.

The Hawks will wear these special jerseys when they host the Minnesota Timberwolves on January 18.

In June 2020, Bernice King told the Vatican News she felt a "strong sense of harmony between her father and Pope Francis," who she's previously met with twice.

If Martin Luther King Jr. were alive today he "would be guided by his philosophy of nonviolence, which corresponded with his following of Jesus Christ," Bernice King expressed.

"He would, as he often did while he was living, share that we cannot cure violence with violence, which he said is a descending spiral. Of course, I believe he would compel us to embrace nonviolence, which is strategic, courageous, love-centered and organized."

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Archbishop of Canterbury visits Duchy of Cornwall Cornish development inspired by The Prince of Wales

The Archbishop of Canterbury has praised the Duchy of Cornwall's Nansledan development and called for "collective action" to tackle the nation's housing crisis.

Last week Archbishop Justin Welby visited Nansledan, the community development pioneered by HRH The Prince of Wales on Duchy of Cornwall land at Newquay in Cornwall, to look at examples of best practice in housing. This follows the publication last year of the landmark 'Coming Home' report on the housing crisis, commissioned by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

During his visit, the Archbishop saw Newquay Community Orchard, where he heard about their environmental education and social impact programmes, before touring Nansledan and The Hub, a Methodist community space for activities including a faith-based youth group.

The Archbishop also visited Pras Trewolek, local Duchy-owned farmland which has been transformed into wildflower meadows and wetland areas now managed for biodiversity and for the local community to enjoy.

In February 2021, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York published 'Coming Home: Tackling the Housing Crisis Together'. The report urged the Church of England to lead by example, including delivering more truly affordable homes on its own land.



The report called for a collective effort at all levels of society including Government, local authorities, landowners and property developers as well as the Church is needed to help tackle the housing crisis. It said good housing should be sustainable, safe, stable, sociable and satisfying.

This work is now embedded within a team led by a new Bishop for Housing, the Bishop of Chelmsford Guli-Francis Dehqani, as part of the Church's commitment to using its land well and building strong communities.

Archbishop Justin Welby said: "It's been wonderful to visit Nansledan today and see not just new housing, but homes that provide jobs, build strong community and work in harmony with the natural environment. I'm deeply impressed by the work the Duchy of Cornwall have achieved, their

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engagement with the local community and commitment to biodiversity.

“The necessity of staying at home during the Covid-19 pandemic has shown us just how important our homes are to our lives. Where we live is so vital to our health, wellbeing, opportunities and flourishing. Following the publication of the ‘Coming Home: Tackling the Housing Crisis Together’ report last year, I hope the Church can be inspired by what’s been achieved at Nansledan - and use its land and resources to build homes that encourage neighbourliness, commitment to place and sustainable futures.

“It is the poorest and most marginalised people who are suffering the burden of our housing crisis. That will only change if we take collective responsibility and action. My prayer is that together we reclaim the very purpose of housing – as the basis for community, and a foundation for human flourishing.’

Nick Pollock, Head of Planning for the Duchy of Cornwall and executive team lead for the Archbishop’s initiatives on housing and community, said: “Nansledan is an example of how the Duchy of Cornwall is using its land to create a sustainable and inclusive community for social and environmental benefit. By embracing sustainable land stewardship, major landowners like the Duchy of Cornwall and the Church of England can play a vital role in delivering the vision outlined in the ‘Coming Home’ report.”

Ben Murphy, Estate Director at the Duchy of Cornwall, added: “We were delighted to welcome Archbishop Justin

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and show him the strength of community at Nansledan and the role landowners can play in building mixed use, mixed income communities that meet local housing need, create jobs and help improve people's quality of life and opportunities. We hope that what we are learning at Nansledan and at other Duchy of Cornwall developments can inform the housing debate in the UK and help create vibrant and inclusive communities.”

Notes on Nansledan:

Nansledan is a mixed-use community for around 4,000 homes with employment space for a similar number of jobs integrated within the development so that local goods and services can be accessed within a five minute walk of every home. Affordable housing is provided at 30% which is indistinguishable from market homes, and there is a range of community facilities including a new primary school, nursery, play areas and green space for ecology.

The Duchy of Cornwall is committed to achieving net zero carbon in construction and operation by 2030 and is looking to achieve RIBA 2030 and LETI 2030 in new buildings at Nansledan by 2025. Provision of Biodiversity Net Gain will far surpass the 10% required under the Environment Act. Around 500 homes have been completed at Nansledan to date and there almost 30 small businesses based in the development.

The Duchy leases land to Newquay Orchard, which has grown into a successful community enterprise providing mentoring, skills and social prescribing. [<https://nansledan.com> <https://newquayorchard.co.uk/>]

Poem for today

Upon Westminster Bridge, Sept. 3, 1802 by William Wordsworth

Earth has not anything to show more fair:
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This City now doth like a garment wear

The beauty of the morning: silent, bare,
Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky,
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.

Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour valley, rock, or hill;
Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep!

The river glideth at his own sweet will:
Dear God! the very houses seem asleep;
And all that mighty heart is lying still!

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