

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Armagh walk of witness



Image of the day

Armagh walk of witness

Archbishop Martin and Archbishop McDowell led the annual Eve of St Patrick's Prayer Walk, between the two Cathedrals in Armagh.

People and places

St. Patrick's Day celebrated around Clogher Diocese

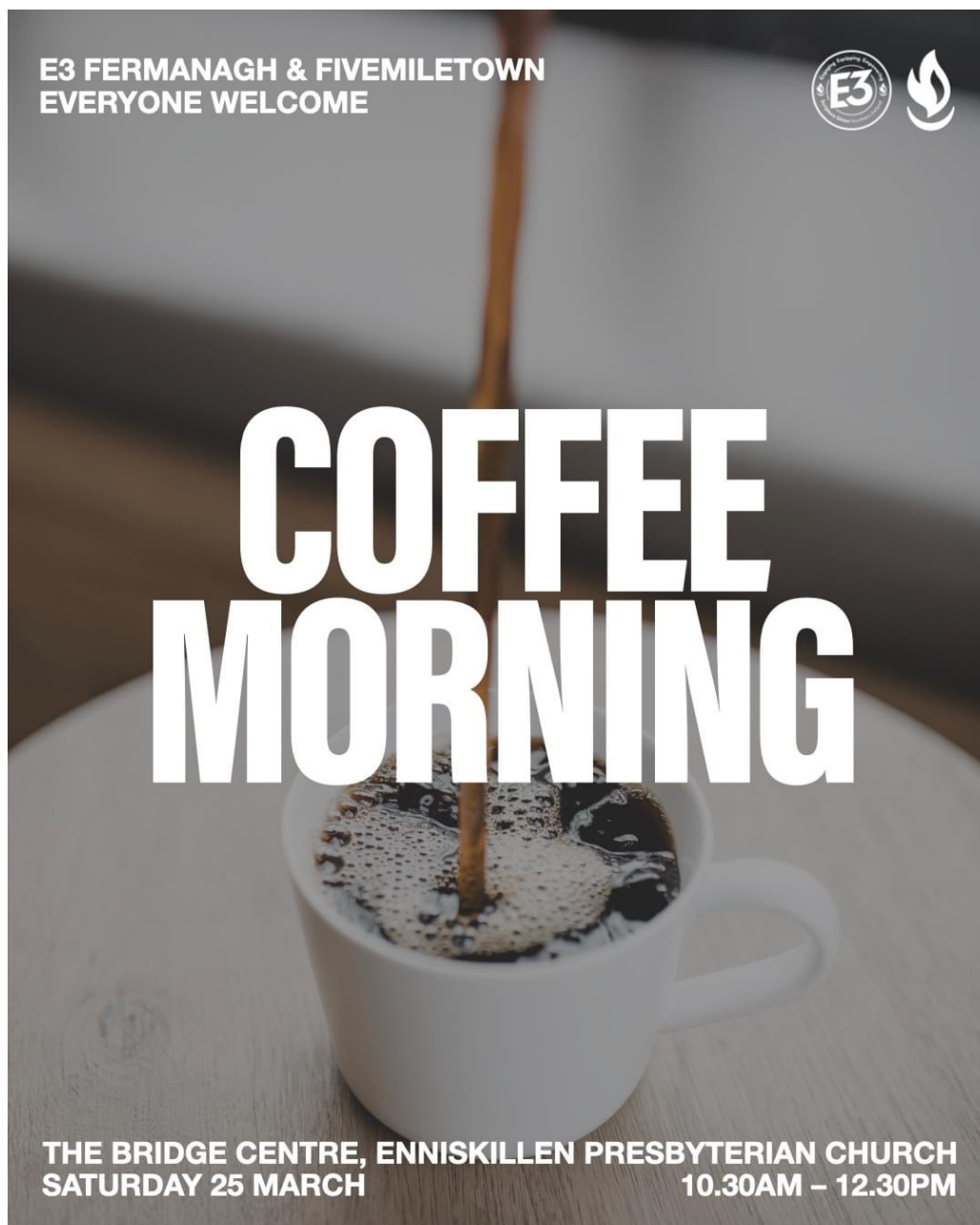
St. Patrick's Day was celebrated around Clogher Diocese with plenty of opportunities to meet up and share in some traditional food and fellowship.

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Parishioners of St. Salvator's Church, Glaslough along with St. Sillian and St. Muadain, took part in a community walk in the area.

Fivemiletown Parish with Kiltermon, organised a cake and flower sale in the morning followed by a St. Patrick's Day stew lunch.

Irish stew was certainly on the menu in many places.



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Trory and Killadeas parishes came together in Ballycassidy Hall last night for a cabaret style evening celebrating Ulster-Scots heritage with music provided from an ensemble from Trory Accordion Band and with a two-course meal featuring Irish Stew and wheaten bread.

Irish stew nights were also hosted by Aghavea, Aghabog and Lisnaskea parishes, with dancing and music afterwards.



Bishop ringing a bell for St Patrick

Bishop Adrian Wilkinson - "My first St Patrick's Day in Kilkenny began with celebrating the Eucharist in St Canice's Cathedral followed by bell ringing with the Mayor of Kilkenny



Cllr David Fitzgerald, under the guidance of tower captain Ian McCullagh. Next stop the parade.”

Parish Auction in Richhill

On Saturday 1 April in the Colthurst Hall, Richhill from hundreds of items are up for sale including household furniture, - tables and chairs, pictures, mirrors, Wade and Royal Dolton china, coffee machine, children’s’ toys, bicycles, a hen ark, strimmer, items of costume jewellery to name but a few.

Viewing from 12.30pm with auction starting at 2pm
Catalogue and bidding card £2.00. You will not go hungry as light refreshments will be available and a donation would be

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appreciated. All proceeds to St. Matthew's Church Building fund.



£10

**AN EVENING OF
PRAISE & WORSHIP WITH
WARREN SMYTH & AVODA**

**FRIDAY 24TH MARCH
CHRIST CHURCH STRABANE
@ 7:30PM**

**PLEASE CONTACT:
SAMMY - 07798740966 MARGARET - 07542062703**

Anglican Communion Forest puts down Roots in Cork, Cloyne and Ross

Among the news Bishop Paul Colton brought back to Cork, Cloyne and Ross from the Lambeth Conference 2022 was that of the inauguration at Lambeth Palace, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, of the Anglican Communion Forest.

Bishops from around the world were asked to commend this new initiative to their diocese as part of everyone's implementation of the fifth of the Five Marks of Mission in the Anglican Communion, namely

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Marks of Mission – Anglican Communion

In Cork, Cloyne and Ross, as other bishops are doing in many other places around the world, the Communion Forest idea is being planted and practical work is beginning. With the permission of the Communion Forest office in London the artwork has been adapted for use in Cork, Cloyne and Ross.

The idea of gifting a tree to each person being confirmed took off among bishops at the Lambeth Conference. Spring time and the Easter Season in Ireland, however, when confirmations happen in Cork, Cloyne and Ross, are not the best time for planting trees. So, on behalf of all being confirmed in 2023 in Cork, Cloyne and Ross, Bishop Colton

reached out to the Irish voluntary group Reforest Nation. As a result, on behalf of those being confirmed in Cork, Cloyne and Ross in 2023, Bishop Colton has arranged that Reforest Nation will plant an entire forest of 300 trees in their name between now and 2024. Reforest Nation also periodically invites volunteers and supporters to travel to join in the actual planting of the trees.

Each person being confirmed this year will receive an especially created certificate which combines the certificate of Reforest Nation, with the artwork of the Anglican Communion Forest adapted, with permission, for use in Cork, Cloyne and Ross. Confirmands may sign up to the Communion Forest initiative themselves if they wish.

Reforest Nation also are delighted with the partnership. They said: We are thrilled to hear that you are planning to gift trees to those being confirmed this year. It is heartening to see the Church taking an active role in safeguarding the integrity of creation and renewing the life of the earth. The Archdeacon of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Venerable Andrew Orr, who is also chairperson of Eco-Congregation Ireland introduced the young people to the idea of the Anglican Communion Forest at the Confirmation Morning with the Bishop recently. In Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Archdeacon is keen to emphasise that the Communion Forest is not only about planting trees:

The Communion Forest is such an important initiative, bringing together Anglican environmental action from around the globe. Ireland is the least wooded country in Europe and we are delighted that our confirmation candidates will be

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doing their part to develop our native woodlands and increase biodiversity across the entire island

So, young people attending the Confirmation Morning with the Bishop were each given a gift, by the Bishop, of a 'bee bomb.' Bee Bombs are native Irish wildflower seedballs designed to bring the bees back. At Diocesan Synod in 2019, Bishop Colton had already given these to each parish in the Diocese so that could ensure that there was a wildflower area at each Church property, Now each confirmation candidate in 2023 has one to plant. In addition, the confirmands are each being gifted one of the wooden Communion Forest pin badges given to each bishop at the Lambeth Conference 2022.

Death of Sr Verity Anne CSJE - the last Anglican sister in Ireland

Sr Verity Anne with Archbishop Michael Jackson following the celebration of the final Service of Holy Community in St Mary's Chapel.

It is with sadness that we share the news of the death of Sr Verity Anne Clarendon CSJE on March 7 2023. Sr Verity was the last remaining Anglican nun of the Community of St John the Evangelist.

Before moving to Saint John's House, Sr Verity Anne and her fellow nuns resided in Saint Mary's Home and they worshiped regularly in St Bartholomew's.



Sr Verity Anne with Archbishop Michael Jackson following the celebration of the final Service of Holy Community in St Mary's Chapel.

The Rector of St Bartholomew's, Canon Andrew McCroskery said: "Their faith, service and witness, both in Dublin and at Saint David's Cathedral in Wales, has been very special and touched the lives of so many. Sr Verity's death marks the end of an era for the Community, but we are grateful for all they have done for us in lives that were remarkably disciplined and though all the sisters who gave so much of themselves in service of God."

The Community of St John the Evangelist celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2012. In 1912, the Vicar of St John's, Sandymount, Fr Le Fanu, established the order of Anglican nuns, the Community of St John the Evangelist (CSJE) at 1 Clyde Terrace. In 1915, the sisters opened St Agnes School for Girls in the next adjoining house on Clyde Terrace. They

accepted girls from All Saints' Children's Home, Grange - gorman. By 1918, with the profession of more sisters, the CSJE became a full community.

The Community agreed to take over St Mary's, Pembroke Park, Ballsbridge, a home for elderly ladies of the Church of Ireland; it had been a school run by another order of Anglican nuns, the Community of St Mary the Virgin. In 1966 it was decided to close the Convent on St John's Road and to keep St Mary's as the Community's Dublin base with the 'mother house' moving to St David's in Pembrokeshire, Wales. The sisters dispersed: 10 went to St Mary's and 16 to St David's. The Community then established a new 'mother house' in Bridgend in Wales, which, in turn, closed in 1995–96. The remaining sisters then came back to Dublin to live at St Mary's.

By the time St Mary's Home closed on Pembroke Park and relocated in St John's House on Merrion Road in November 2019, Sr Verity Anne was the only surviving nun.

Archbishop Michael Jackson celebrated the final Service of Holy Communion in St Mary's Home on Friday November 29 2019. Sr Verity Anne had lived in St Mary's for many years but was looking forward to the move. Recalling the centenary commemoration of the founding of the Community of St John the Evangelist, which took place in the nearby St Bartholomew's Church in 2012, she said with a smile: "I'm the only one left". She added that the demise of the Community was a great loss.

St Verity Anne is loved and remembered by her sisters and brother, extended family and friends.

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Sr Verity Anne's Funeral Service will take place on Thursday March 23 in the Chapel of St John's House, Merrion Road, Dublin, at 10.30am and afterwards to Deans Grange Cemetery. For those unable to attend the Service, you may join online here:

<https://rip.ie/death-notice/sr.-verity-anne-clarendon-dublin-4-dublin/528659/print>

Additional information on the history of the Community of St John the Evangelist from the Church of St John the Evangelist website.



Back in Belfast after the Oscars ...

James Martin congratulated by his dad Ivan.



St Patrick's Cathedral Patronal Feast Day changes

For services at St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin yesterday the altar frontal was changed to a gold set and the clergy wore gold stoles.

Although we are in the season of Lent, on their Patronal Feast Day, there is a break from their fast for one day, singing the Gloria in Excelsis.

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News reports

York Minster makes the UK's Top 50 Visitor Attractions list for 2022



York Minster was one of the 50 most popular visitor attractions in the UK in 2022 according to figures

released by the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions (ALVA) yesterday (Friday 17 March).

A vertical poster for a 'Spring Sing!' event. The background is a light blue and yellow gradient with musical notes and a field of yellow flowers at the bottom. The text is arranged in a central column. At the top, 'Spring Sing!' is written in a large, black, cursive font. Below it, 'Enniskillen Methodist Church' is in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Then 'Saturday 25th March' and '7.30pm' are in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Next is 'Special Guests Include' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below that, 'SILVER TONES' and 'MALE VOICE CHOIR' are in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Then '"THE ORIGINAL TENORS"' and 'CHILDREN'S CHOIR' are in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, 'For Tickets' is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font, followed by 'Contact Ingrid 07968 85 65 08' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, and '£10 Supper Included' and 'Children under 12 Free' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Spring Sing!

Enniskillen Methodist Church

Saturday 25th March

7.30pm

Special Guests Include

SILVER TONES

MALE VOICE CHOIR

"THE ORIGINAL TENORS"

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

For Tickets

Contact Ingrid 07968 85 65 08

£10 Supper Included

Children under 12 Free

Last year, York Minster welcomed 620,591 visitors for worship and tourism, an increase of 133% on 2021 (266,183) and not far short of the cathedral's record visitor number of 706,484 in 2019. The increase helped the cathedral to rise from 80th to 49th position in ALVA's listing.

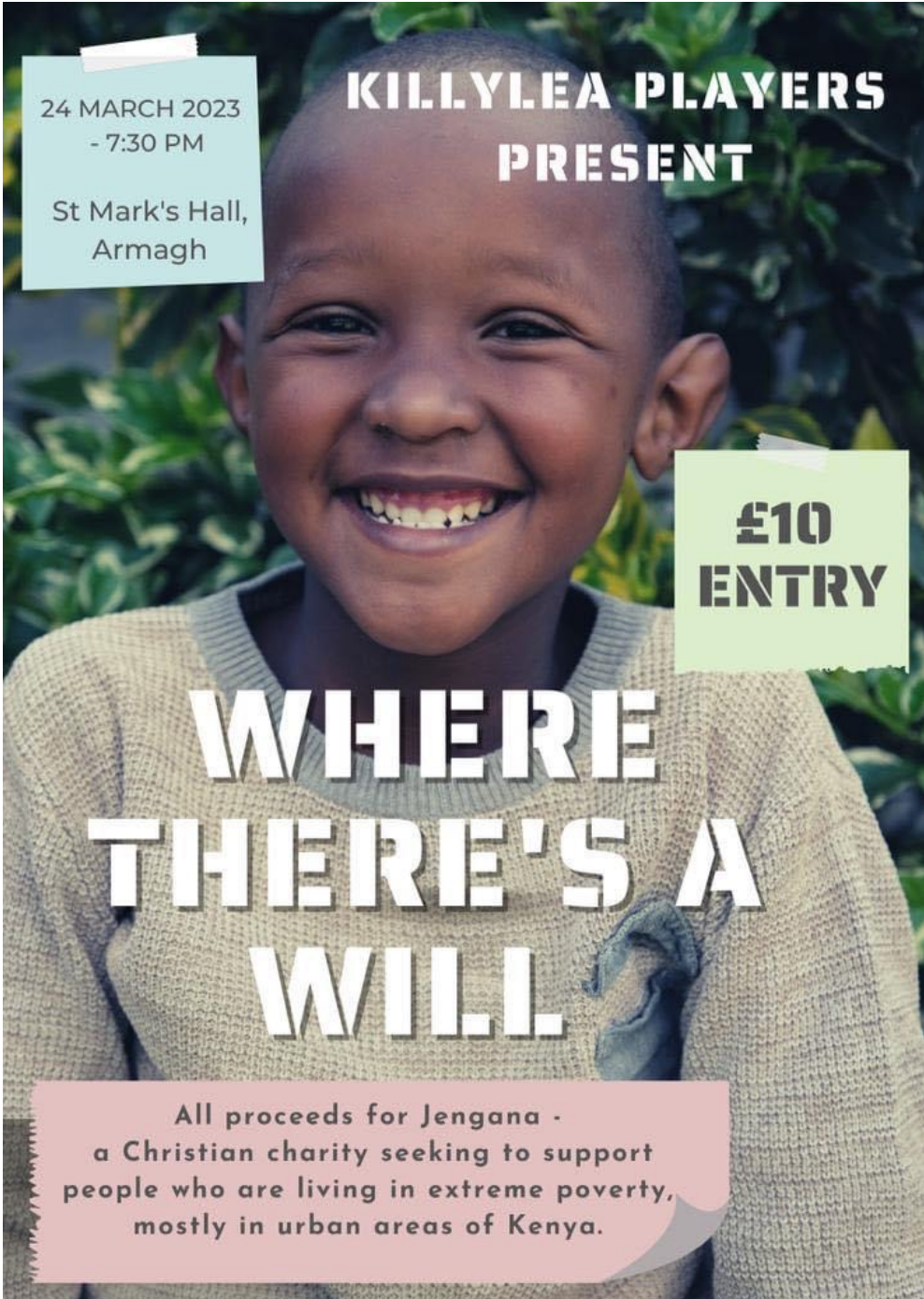
Barbara George, Director of Visitor Experience at York Minster said: "This is great news for the team at York Minster and a tribute to their energy, resilience and commitment after a tough couple of years. Great hospitality is at the heart of everything

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we do and it is reassuring that so many people made the journey to York to visit the Minster last year. We will continue to work hard to deliver a world-class welcome for all of our visitors.”

York Minster is preparing for another busy year. The Royal Maundy Service will take place at the cathedral on Thursday 6 April in the presence of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Consort.

The cathedral’s programme for 2023 includes a summer recital series and a children’s concert featuring the recently restored Grand Organ, an updated exhibition Majesty: Monarchy & York Minster celebrating the



**KILLYEA PLAYERS
PRESENT**

24 MARCH 2023
- 7:30 PM
St Mark's Hall,
Armagh

**£10
ENTRY**

**WHERE
THERE'S A
WILL**

All proceeds for Jengana -
a Christian charity seeking to support
people who are living in extreme poverty,
mostly in urban areas of Kenya.

Coronation and a Christmas tree festival in December. Visitors are also invited to join daily worship and to complete their day with an Evensong service in the Minster's Quire. Evensong is the most popular service of the day, an opportunity for prayer and reflection and to experience superb English Choral Music performed by the internationally renowned Choir of York Minster.

York Minster is open for sightseeing visitors from Monday to Saturday 9.30am to 4pm and Sundays from 12.45 to 3.15pm. For more information about the cathedral or to book tickets visit www.yorkminster.org.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

New book on St Patrick launched

New book on St Patrick launched at The Saint Patrick Centre in Downpatrick which plays host to Eurovision winner Dana

The Saint Patrick Centre in Downpatrick has helped to launch a new book on the patron saint of Ireland as well as welcoming Eurovision winner Dana.

The book 'Patrick – From Patron Saint to Modern Influencer' by Cork-based author Alannah Hopkin looks at the historical

man, his writings from the fifth century, the legends and myths.

Dr Timothy Campbell, director of the The Saint Patrick Centre, the world's only permanent exhibition to St Patrick, spoke at the launch on Tuesday.

“This is an opportunity to explore the story of Patrick, someone who continues to have an impact on modern culture,” said Dr Campbell.

“Interest in Patrick continues almost 1600 years after his death and it is one of the reasons The Saint Patrick Centre continues to draw people from home and abroad.”

Dr Campbell said he was delighted to welcome Alannah Hopkin to Saint Patrick's country: “Alannah is an accomplished writer, who can weave facts into beautiful prose, having just not written five non-fiction books but also some fascinating short stories.”

“Patrick is an intriguing subject for any author and this is a fresh and very worthwhile examination. The story of Ireland starts with Patrick because he wrote his story down and it's a gift to be able to read his writing and have someone with the skill of Alannah bring them to life with a forensic analysis.”

Emma Killen, Chairperson of The Saint Patrick Centre, said this new book was very timely, ahead of St Patrick's Day, and coincides with the launch of the centre's new exhibition with funding of £200,000 from Tourism NI.

Ms Killen said: “The exhibition has been reimaged by the best designers on the island and now features Saint Patrick

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Around the World. We are showing the different ways St Patrick continues to inspire new generations as far away as the United States and New Zealand.”

Eurovision winner Dana helped to launch of updated exhibition with a new song ‘Light the Fire’.

She said: “We really need a new hymn to St Patrick for today because the message of St Patrick is not belonging to a past generation. And it’s not just for Ireland. It’s a message for today and for the whole world.”

Dana - Light The Fire (A Saint Patrick Song)

A new song for Saint Patrick. Eurovision legend Danna celebrates the launch of the St Patrick Centre exhibition,



Downpatrick with “Light a Fire“. Click on above - and it might work! Otherwise Google the title...

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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