

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – St George's Ypres

Image of the day



St George's Memorial Church, Ypres

The church is one vast memorial with many of the pews given by their families are in memory is soldiers who fell at Ypres during the Great War.

Saint George's Memorial Church, Ypres (Ieper), Belgium, was built to commemorate over 500,000 British and Commonwealth troops, who had died in the three battles fought for the Ypres Salient, during World War I. It was completed in 1929.

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The church was built following an appeal led by The Ypres League and its President Field Marshal Sir John French, Earl of Ypres, for a British memorial church to be built. Land was given by the town, and the foundation stone was laid by Field Marshal Lord Plumer on 24 July 1927. The church was consecrated by the Bishop of Fulham on 24 March 1929. The architect was Sir Reginald Blomfield whose work included the Menin Gate (1922) and other war memorials.

The church has many plaques and memorials to regiments, associations and individuals.

The church is part of the Diocese in Europe of the Church of England and is also a Belgian national monument. The church is open every day from 9:30 am until dusk (4 pm in winter).

[\[https://www.stgeorgesmemorialchurchypres.com/\]](https://www.stgeorgesmemorialchurchypres.com/)

People and places

Mothers Union Ireland triennial conference

Mothers Union Ireland held its triennial conference for the first time since 2017. The delegates met at An Grianan.

Representatives present met the 5 VPs and Unit Coordinators who were present for the weekend.

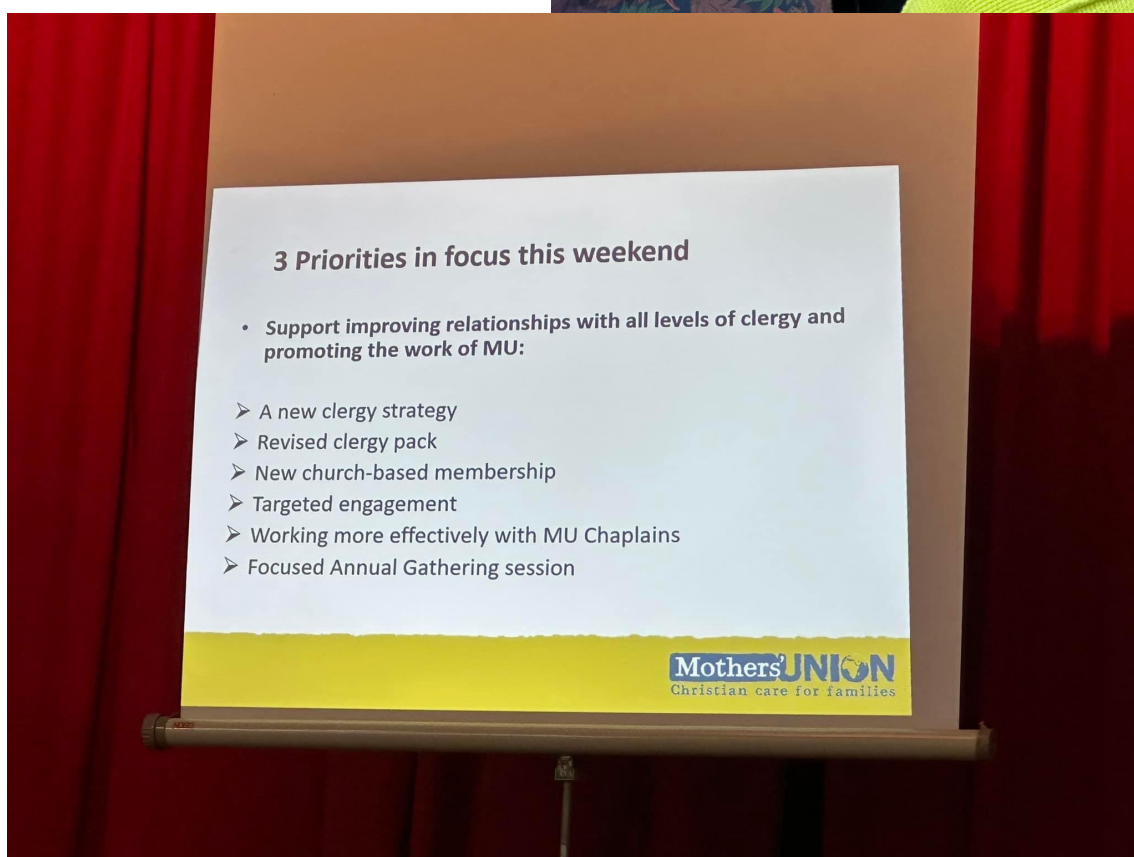


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Olive Good from MU Enterprises at Mary Sumner House(MSH) gave a presentation

Steph Nunn, the Head of Membership in MSH spoke about re-imagining, a topic also examined by the All Ireland Chaplain, Ven Dr. Stephen McBride.

Archbishop John McDowell was also present at the



conference which on Saturday morning started with a prayer walk organised by the ladies from Armagh with some lovely singing.

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Saturday was a BLAST



Rev David Nixon, President of the Irish Methodist Church and lay leader Tom Wilson joined young members at BLAST

Participants and leaders had a busy morning learning more about creative ways to pray and then a full afternoon packed with lots of fun, games and activities!



Energy levels were high and there were plenty of happy smiling faces during the action songs.

Castleknock and Mullhuddert Daffodil Day Coffee Morning.

A massive well done to Shirley and all the team who organised, baked, made cuppa's and set up for our Daffodil Day Coffee Morning.

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There was a real buzz about the Parish Centre and an amazing €5184 was raised for the Irish Cancer Society. Thanks was expressed to all who came along and donated.





AGM of the Irish Council of Churches

Pray for the AGM of the Irish Council of Churches, in its centenary year, being held at Limerick Cathedral this coming Thursday. Give thanks for the work and witness of ICC over the past 100 years.

Rugby legend Rory Best to walk 300K for Co Mayo lodge for children with cancer

Rory Best will set off on 300K walk to raise money for second lodge for children with cancer

Rugby legend Rory Best is preparing to embark on an immense challenge to raise funds in support of Cancer Fund for Children.

During May, the former captain of the British and Irish Lions, Ulster and Ireland will be walking from the Aviva Stadium in Dublin to Cong in Co Mayo.

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On his journey he will cover over 300 kilometres and travel through eight counties with the aim of raising over £1.5 million to help Cancer Fund for Children build a second The



KNOCK SHRINE
Tuesday, 28th March

@JP2AWARD



Pope John Paul II Award Youth Pilgrimage for Peace at Knock Shrine, this Tuesday 28th March
This is an open invitation to all schools, parishes and youth groups
View details: thepopejohnpauliiaward.comtherapeutic

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short break centre in Mayo, inspired by the charity's current Daisy Lodge based in Newcastle, Co Down.

Since opening in 2014, this restorative facility has provided over 3,000 families navigating cancer with a safe and supportive space where they can spend time together and escape from the realities of cancer.

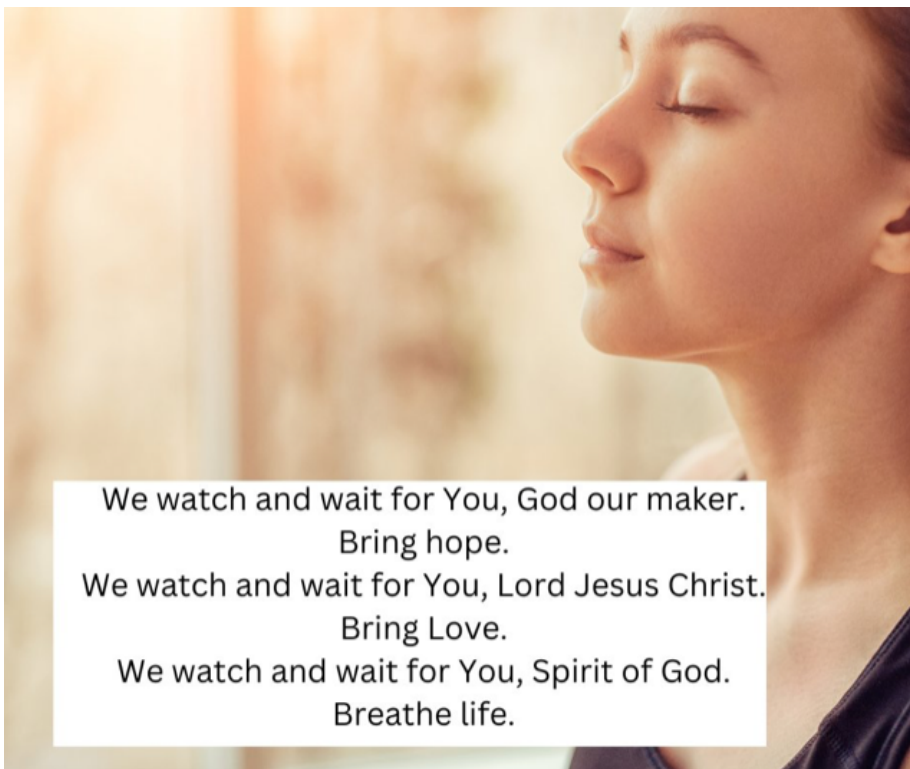
Rory said: "I'm taking on a mammoth walking challenge in support of Cancer Fund for Children this May.

"A childhood cancer diagnosis can impact on the whole family. Hospital appointments, treatment, and the pressures of navigating this experience can leave a family feeling disconnected and exhausted.

"Short breaks at Daisy Lodge provide children with cancer with a space to rest, spend time with their families and build

connections with others their own age going through the same thing.

"They get to be treated like the stars they are and that's why I'm delighted to be doing my bit to help bring another therapeutic



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facility like this to Co Mayo.

Anyone wishing to donate should go to at www.rorysmiles2mayo.com

Uplifting service in St. Macartin's Cathedral celebrates 400th year of parish of Enniskillen



St. Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen, has hosted a magnificent service to mark the Quadricentennial Year of the Parish of Enniskillen on Friday, 24 March, the Feast Day of Saint Macartin.

The uplifting service marking 400 years of worship on this site, was attended by many parishioners as well as people from across the Diocese and local community. They included the Lord Lieutenant for Fermanagh, Viscount Brookeborough and Lady Brookeborough.

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[A floral arrangement by Mrs Sabrina McCabe for the 400th anniversary service.](#)

The service was conducted by the Dean, the Very Revd Kenneth Hall and the Bishop of Clogher, Right Revd Dr. Ian Ellis.

Two former Bishops of Clogher, Archbishop Michael Jackson and Archbishop John McDowell also took part.

Bishop Ian Ellis gave the Absolution and the Blessing, while Archbishop Michael Jackson led the prayers and Archbishop John McDowell, Primate of All Ireland preached the sermon.

The Old Testament Lesson was read by Viscount Brookeborough, KG KStJ and the New Testament Lesson was read by Mr. Sam Morrow O ... ([click on title for full story](#))

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**OPEN DAY
SATURDAY 1ST
APRIL 2023
11AM-1PM**



Come and see The Hub @ QUB

On April 1st 2023 The Hub will be opening its doors for students (both prospective and current students) to take a look around this residential community. No need to sign up just turn up between 11am and 1pm.

News reports



Let's give volunteers the recognition they deserve - Coronation Champion award

Volunteers from all backgrounds and communities across the UK can be nominated for a Coronation Champion award across these 8 categories:

- Supporting older people
- Supporting young people and children
- Crisis and welfare
- Community
- Sports, culture and heritage
- Health and care

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- Sustainability and the environment
- Animal welfare

What's more, some of the volunteers will be invited to attend events taking place to celebrate Their Majesties' Coronation such as the Windsor Castle Coronation Concert or a Coronation Garden Party.

Find out more and submit your nomination here: <https://www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/volunteering/coronation-champions-awards/>?

Vatican returns fragments of Parthenon Marbles to Greece

Three fragments of the Parthenon Marbles were returned to Acropolis Museum in Athens on Friday afternoon. The pieces of marble sculpture, depicting a horses head and two male heads had been kept in the Vatican Museum for more than two centuries.

Following his apostolic journey to Cyprus and Greece in December 2021, Pope Francis told the Archbishop of the Orthodox Church of Athens, His Beatitude Ieronymos II, that he wanted to return the artefacts.

His Beatitude Ieronymos II presided over Friday's ceremony that was attended by a Vatican delegation with Bishop Brian Farrell, Secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity; Archbishop Jan Romeo Pawłowski, Apostolic Nuncio to Greece; Mgr Andrea Palmieri, Undersecretary of the

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Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity; and Professor Barbara Jatta, Director of the Vatican Museums.

In his address, His Beatitude Ieronymos II, expressed his great joy and gratitude for the reunification of the three fragments of the Parthenon from the Vatican Museums with the Parthenon architectural sculptures at the Acropolis Museum, "their natural place." He said this initiative of Pope Francis in donating the fragments has "historic importance, with multiple positive repercussions on several levels."

First, His Beatitude noted, it shows the "tangible proof of the fruits produced by the fraternal relations that exist among us Christians, guided by truth, love, mutual respect and understanding." It shows our world today, marked by injustice, that solutions to our problems are possible when there is goodwill and a sincere desire to resolve them. Second, he recalled how "truth is restored" and wounds from the past are healed with this reunification of inseparable parts of this special monument of the world's cultural heritage. In conclusion, he expressed his wish that the gesture of Pope Francis might be imitated by others. He thanked all those who contributed to making this celebration possible.

Bishop Brian Farrell, said that the gifting of the fragments marks "an ecclesial, cultural and social gesture of friendship and solidarity with the people of Greece." He recalled the origin of Pope Francis' desire to make this gesture and how it affirms "ever more strongly the friendship and spiritual closeness between our Churches." He conveyed the Pope's warmest greetings and prayerful good wishes to His Beatitude and the whole body of the Church of Greece.

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He added that "people of goodwill can see in this event the expression of a shared hope that our diverse cultures, and art itself, will always be a privileged means of dialogue and encounter among peoples. In that exchange, we enrich each other, in the wonderful diversity of our histories, our achievements and the universal aspiration to peace and fraternity."

In conclusion, he expressed hopes that "from the encounter between peoples and their cultures - of which the homecoming of the Parthenon fragments is one eloquent sign - will spring the understanding and solidarity that leads to peace."

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Survivors Handbook

The Survivor's Handbook provides practical support and information for women experiencing domestic abuse, with simple guidance on every aspect of seeking support.

<https://www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/the-survivors-handbook/>

CHURCH MUSIC
DUBLIN

Organize Your Skills

Hands-On Pipe Organ Workshop with David Adams



Saturday 6th May

10am-1pm

Monkstown Parish Church

eircode: A94 HH97

Book on churchmusicdublin.org

€25 per Participant

enquiries info@churchmusicdublin.org

Poem for today

Ireland With Emily by John Betjeman

Bells are booming down the bohreens,
White the mist along the grass,
Now the Julias, Maeves and Maureens

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Move between the fields to Mass.
Twisted trees of small green apple
Guard the decent whitewashed chapel,
Gilded gates and doorway grained,
Pointed windows richly stained
With many-coloured Munich glass.

See the black-shawled congregations
On the broidered vestment gaze
Murmer past the painted stations
As Thy Sacred Heart displays
Lush Kildare of scented meadows,
Roscommon, thin in ash-tree shadows,
And Westmeath the lake-reflected,
Spreading Leix the hill-protected,
Kneeling all in silver haze?

In yews and woodbine, walls and guelder,
Nettle-deep the faithful rest,
Winding leagues of flowering elder,
Sycamore with ivy dressed,
Ruins in demesnes deserted,
Bog-surrounded bramble-skirted -
Townlands rich or townlands mean as
These, oh, counties of them screen us
In the Kingdom of the West.

Stony seaboard, far and foreign,
Stony hills poured over space,
Stony outcrop of the Burren,
Stones in every fertile place,
Little fields with boulders dotted,
Grey-stone shoulders saffron-spotted,

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Stone-walled cabins thatched with reeds,
Where a Stone Age people breeds
The last of Europe's stone age race.

Has it held, the warm June weather?
Draining shallow sea-pools dry,
When we bicycled together
Down the bohreens fuchsia-high.
Till there rose, abrupt and lonely,
A ruined abbey, chancel only,
Lichen-crusteD, time-befriended,
Soared the arches, splayed and splendid,
Romanesque against the sky.

There in pinnacled protection,
One extinguished family waits
A Church of Ireland resurrection
By the broken, rusty gates.
Sheepswool, straw and droppings cover,
Graves of spinster, rake and lover,
Whose fantastic mausoleum,
Sings its own seablown Te Deum,
In and out the slipping slate

Church News Ireland

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