

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Awaiting General Synod

May 13, 2023

Image of the day

Awaiting General Synod



Clergy and bishops about to enter St Iberius for the pre - General Synod service

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People and places



President receives Pope's representative

Archbishop Luis Mariano Montemayor, Apostolic Nuncio, presented his Letters of Credence to President Michael D. Higgins at Áras an Uachtaráin this week.

The ceremony inaugurates his ministry as the Pope's representative in Ireland and his role as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps accredited to Ireland.

His Excellency was accompanied to and from Áras an Uachtaráin by an Escort of Honour consisting of a motorcycle detachment drawn from the 2 Brigade Cavalry

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Squadron, Cathal Brugha Barracks, Dublin, under the command of Lieutenant Dillon McAuliffe.

A Guard of Honour was provided by the Air Corps, Casement Aerodrome under the command of Lieutenant Eric Lawless. Lieutenant Kevin Redmond from the Air Corps was the flag officer.

Captain John Carpenter conducted the Army No 1 Band which is based in Cathal Brugha Barracks, Dublin.



Pictured at the The Methodist Church in Ireland Stand at the Balmoral Show are (from left to right) Clem Gilbert (Magheragall Methodist) Tom Wilson (MCI Lay Leader) Rev Daphne Hanna Joanmount Methodist Church and Rev David Nixon (MCI President)



Duty to God and the King

Some of the Scouts and leaders from Northern Ireland who Assisted with stewarding and other duties in London and Windsor at the recent Coronation events.





Catholic Church leaders of these islands at the Coronation

Catholic Church leaders of these islands who attended the service in Westminster Abbey, London, for the coronation of King Charles III:

Archbishop Eamon Martin, Primate of All Ireland
Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Primate of England and Wales;
Archbishop of Mark O'Toole of Cardiff & of Menevia and,
Bishop Hugh Gilbert of Aberdeen.

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Beating the Bounds prayer walk at Dundela this Monday



This Monday night (May 15th) is the annual ‘Beating the Bounds’ prayer walk around the parish boundaries of Dundela Parish, Belfast.

The walk will take almost three hours but parishioners and friends should feel free to join the group at any point. They will start at Heyn Hall at 5.25 p.m. and continue along the following route (times are approximate):

- 5.50 pm: Hollywood Arches
- 6.15pm: Ballyhackamore Library
- 6.30pm: SD Bell's Cafe
- 7pm: Massey Avenue
- 7.30pm: Bottom of Quarry Road
- 7.55 pm: Little Lea on Circular Road
- 8.15pm: Ashfield Girls' School

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Zadok the Priest moves to No.10

Everyone's favourite anthem from the King's coronation...

Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' is voted to No.10 in Classic FM's Great British Classics.



Alzheimer's
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YOU ARE INVITED

SPRING CONCERT

IN MEMORY OF DENNIS GRATTAN

IN AID OF

ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK

HOSTED BY YAZMIN BOWERS
MISS NORTHERN IRELAND FINALIST

FEATURING A NUMBER OF
AMAZING LOCAL ARTISTES

WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE 2023
7.30PM - ST BRIGID'S CHURCH
GLENGORMLEY BT36 5HL - £10



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/...format=jpg&name=large>

Lord Eames in the House of Lords

Strong speeches in the House of Lords on Northern Ireland Troubles Bill

There were strong speeches in the House of Lords opposing current provisions within the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill.

Baroness Margaret Ritchie, Lord Nigel Dodds, Baroness Nuala O'Loan, Baroness Hoey and Lord Eames to name but a few who wish to see substantial amendments to this Bill regarded by many as deeply flawed

News reports



PRAY FOR LIFE
NOVENA
23-31 MAY
Feast of the Visitation

Join us at
www.prayforlife.ie

An Initiative of the Council for Life of the Irish
Catholic Bishops' Conference



Models used for illustrative purposes only. Shutterstockphoto.com/Rawpixel.com. All rights reserved. © 2022, Pray for Life Novena.

Abortion: Changing the Narrative' – statement of the Catholic Bishops

At Masses across Ireland this weekend, dioceses will be remembering in prayer in a special way unborn children five years on from the May 2018 referendum which

removed the constitutional guarantee of the equal right to life of unborn children and their mothers.

The Bishops of Ireland have issued a new statement that also takes into account the recent review by Government of the abortion legislation introduced following the referendum. At that time the bishops said, “a new situation now exists in Ireland. It is essential for us as a Church, which cares passionately about the gift of life, and wants to support both mothers and their unborn children, to seek better ways of responding to this new and very challenging reality”.

In their new message, bishops reaffirm the deep conviction of our faith, namely, stating “that the dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death, is a value for the whole of society, rooted in reason as well as in faith. No matter what legislation is passed, the fundamental right to life for all human beings at every stage of development still prevails.”

The bishops remain convinced that the relevant law, the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 will, in due course, be repealed. Bishops said, “in the meantime, the Church will continue to seek loving and supportive protection for every mother and for every child in the womb, including babies diagnosed with a disability or a life-limiting condition. We will continue to do their best to change the narrative through dialogue and by testifying, in season and out of season, to the Gospel of Life.”

How can People of Faith help? Read the full statement on www.catholicbishops.ie



Themes of reconciliation and gratitude again to fore in Archbishop McDowell's priorities

The Church of Ireland's General Synod opened in Wexford yesterday morning (May 12) with Archbishop John McDowell delivering his Presidential Address shortly after the start of business.

The Archbishop of Armagh recalled the themes of reconciliation and gratitude on which he chose to focus in his first General Synod as Primate of All Ireland in 2020. "There is much on our island that needs to be reconciled and much to give thanks for," he remarked.

The Primate drew on the example of the humility or sacrifice of Senator George Mitchell in chairing the multi-party talks which led to Northern Ireland's peace agreement in 1998.

“The spirit in which we do such things is so important because sacrifice is at the heart of the nature of God, and is therefore at the heart of all things,” he added. “Sacrifice is the ultimate reality. At the heart of the new city, the heavenly Jerusalem, a King sits on a throne – and that king is the Lamb that was slain to bring reconciliation and peace; to put back together things that were broken apart.”

Sacrifice, he continued, is the inner structure of love – “the yielding up of something so as to possess it more deeply” – and brings a peace which is “a mighty confidence that equips us for every task we have been given at the hand of the Prince of Peace.”

Archbishop McDowell also reflected on the meaning of being a citizen. “Part of the purpose of Christian community,” he said, “is to learn to treat people as capable of civic dignity and freedom; as people capable of contributing to their nearer and wider social and political environment by free decision taken in consultation.”

He highlighted the modern revival of pilgrimage as an opportunity for local churches to re-engage with people who may be distant from church life but who may also be receptive to what the Church has to say. He also welcomed discussions to reflect the ethnic diversity of today’s Ireland more fully in the life of the Church, and the consistent, nuanced and pastoral work of the Centenaries Working Group over the island’s Decade of Centenaries, and recognised the efforts being made to welcome people fleeing the war in Ukraine into communities across our island.

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In outlining the Church's developing commitment to looking after the environment, Archbishop McDowell encouraged dioceses and parishes to create projects which find more ways to care for creation, following the example of the Lighten Our Darkness youth group, from Mullingar Union of Parishes, which will make a presentation on this theme tomorrow afternoon at General Synod.

Full text of the Archbishop's address at - <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/news/11862/archbishop-mcdowell-encourages-reconciliation-and>

You may keep up to date with proceedings at General Synod at the dedicated website: [synod.ireland.anglican.org/2023](https://www.ireland.anglican.org/2023)

Pioneer ministry is an outcome of an honest look at ourselves - Archbishop McDowell

In his opening address to the General Synod the Archbishop of Armagh highlighted aspects of the Pioneer Ministry development which is getting underway in the dioceses of the Church of Ireland.

The Archbishop said, "Long before Covid the seeds were being sown around the idea what we are now calling Pioneer Ministry. The long-term trends of attendance were being noted and formal and informal conversations were taking place in the House of Bishops, in conferences and seminars and of course, in this Synod. A great deal of that seed sowing was done by Bishop Patrick Rooke, before his

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retirement as Bishop of Tuam, Killala, and Achonry, and I want to pay tribute to Patrick for his

Bishop Patrick Rooke

vision and his drive in taking the conversation from a theoretical to a very practical one through the most inaptly named IDLE (Inter Diocesan Learning Experience) process.



“If you’ll forgive the mixing of metaphors, the seeds have been sown, and now the foundations are being laid for the “mainstreaming” of this initiative into the DNA of the Church of Ireland in the form of the terms of reference of Pioneer Ministry. I am not going to go into detail in this address about this subject which will be very ably laid before Synod later in our proceedings, except to say that, as well as coming in various stages of development to successive General Synods, it has been the subject of rigorous scrutiny and debate by the Standing Committee, the Representative Body and the House of Bishops. The fact that it is the

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Church Army with whom we as a Church are to be partners for the formation and training elements of the Pioneer Ministry Initiative is a source of much gratitude and reassurance. I know that Synod will give the initiative its close attention.

The Archbishop stressed that “Pioneer Ministry is one of the outcomes of what might be described as an honest look at ourselves – where we fit into the world we are called to serve and what form that service might take – because if we are not a blessing to the communities in which we live, then history seems to suggest that we will be a curse, or at best an irrelevance”.

He concluded this aspect of his comments stressing, “We must work this out for ourselves as we come to the realisation that history is not simply a discipline to be studied or a process to be endured. Instead, it is a thing to be made – made by our conscious choices, by our importuning voices which express the compassion of our Lord”.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Christian Aid Ireland in RTÉ One's Service

Christian Aid Ireland is participating in RTÉ One's Service on Sunday, which will broadcast this Sunday (14 May) at



RTÉ Service on Sunday

**Join with us on Sunday
14 May at 11.10am**

11.10am - perfectly timed to share about this year's Christian Aid Week appeal!

The guest speaker, Bob Kikuyu, will share powerful stories about the impact of the climate crisis on the lives of people in Malawi and beyond, and the reason the affected communities have to hold on to the hope they have in God. Orangefield Presbyterian Church's worship team who will lead the praise – .

You can watch the service through this link:

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<https://caweek.ie/RTEPlayer>

Alternatively, you can listen in on the cordless at 11am:

<https://caweek.ie/RTERadio1>


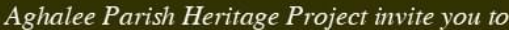
Soldierstown - A Caroline Church

- a talk by Simon Walker
- Tues 23rd May, 7:30pm in Soldierstown church
- All welcome.

Simon is the head of History and Politics at Dromore High School. He is also author of the book 'Historic Ulster Churches' (Pub. The Institute of Irish Studies, 2000).

Simon will speak about the architecture of Holy Trinity Church and how it relates to other churches of the C17th Caroline period.

The talk will be held in Holy Trinity Church, which has recently been restored as part of Aghalee Parish Heritage





Soldierstown: A Caroline Church

A talk by - **Simon Walker**


in Holy Trinity Church, Soldierstown
on Tuesday 23rd May at 7:30pm

All Welcome.

 @Aghalee Parish Heritage

Made possible with  **Heritage Fund**

Thanks to National Lottery Players



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Project - allowing visitors a chance to view the newly restored church.

See Church Army ending youth homelessness

Join the amazing young people and staff from Church Army Ty Bronna and hear how we're ending youth homelessness in Cardiff. Hear from young people on how Ty Bronna has helped them build a better future. Weds 19th July at 7pm.

Watch here  <http://bit.ly/TyBronnaLIVE>

The OU in Northern Ireland

·Want to know more about the OpenUniversity?

Study around your life and unlock a world of possibilities with a qualification you didn't think was possible. OU advisers will be in Bangor Library on 16 May & Lisburn Library on 17 May from 10am - 4pm. Come and chat

Preparing for Pentecost

C of I Children's Ministry present a Pentecost Headband activity which can be downloaded either in full colour or in black and white to allow for colouring. Simply print, cut, stick and wear! Download from their website here: <https://cfm.ireland.anglican.org/pentecost-headband/>



<https://www.facebook.com/239169528439033/posts/285613353794650?>

Church News Ireland

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