

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – 9,000 Duke of Edinburgh Awards**

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## Image of the day

### 9,000 Duke of Edinburgh Awards



This week, The Duke of Edinburgh will welcome over 9,000 young people to Buckingham Palace as they celebrate achieving their D of E Gold Award.

His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Antrim, Mr David McCorkell, KStJ,

attended the D of E Gold Award event at Buckingham Palace as one of the D of E NI representatives.



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# People and places



## Lisburn Coronation Service of Thanksgiving



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Mr Freddie Hall, OBE, QGM, DL, represented the Lord-Lieutenant at Lisburn council Coronation Service of Thanksgiving. The High Sheriff of County Antrim, Mr Peter Mackie, DL, was also in attendance



## Methodist President's reflections on C of I Synod

**The following is a reflection from the President of his attendance along with the Lay Leader to the Church of Ireland's General Synod. Rev. David Nixon writes.**

Tom Wilson and I joined others attending the Annual General Synod held this year in Wexford City, in the sunny



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South East of Ireland. The Synod has a membership of over 600 although following a decision at a previous Synod, this is going to be reduced gradually over a number of years.

The Synod began on 11th May with the opening Service being held in St. Iberius in the heart of the City. It was a service Holy Communion where the Rt. Rev. Adrian Wilkinson was the preacher (I was honoured to attend his

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***St Mark's Church***  
220 Holywood Road, Belfast BS4 1DR

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Episcopal Ordination as Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory on 30th October).

The Synod business began with the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Rev. John McDowell presenting his Presidential Address. The debates followed on after this.

While the debating and discussion were formal, the atmosphere was relaxed and good humoured.

The members of the Synod were reminded that the 21st Anniversary of the Covenant between the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Church in Ireland, is soon to be celebrated.

Mrs June Butler, All Ireland President at Synod highlighting the MU concern for silent abuse

This was contained in the Report of the Covenant Council proposed by Canon Dr. Maurice Elliott

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in which he reported that the Covenant continued to celebrate a shared understanding in many aspects of faith, worship, heritage, ministry and governance. A Bill was brought to Synod which will leave it easier for us to administer Holy Communion in Church of Ireland churches. In responding to this Report, I expressed my appreciation for the work the council is doing and said: “there were many aspects of mission which could be enhanced as we work together as brothers and sisters.”

Among the other subjects discussed were:

Seeking ways of enabling the church to deal with the trauma of the Troubles

A powerful message opposing racism and anti-migrant sentiment and actions

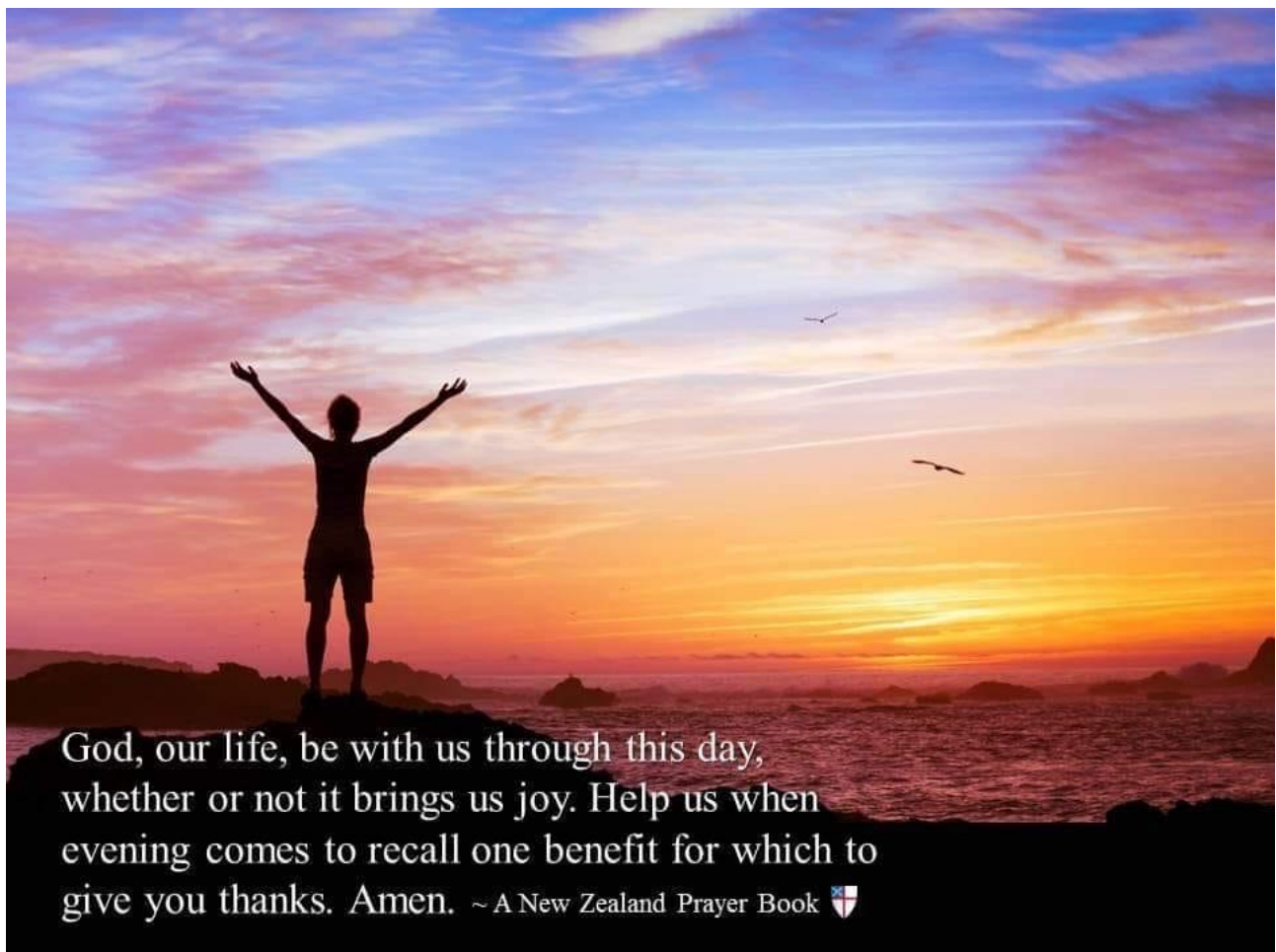
The length of tenure of clergy



## Scone on the lawn in Omagh

While this was my first time attending General Synod I soon sensed certain elements mirrored in our own Conference - Friends meeting up, new friends made. I even met a member who I had not seen since she attended our wedding 33 years ago!

Like the other ecumenical guests, Tom and I had a “minder”, Carolyn Good who not only ensured we had our tea, coffee and lunch; but who sat beside us during the sessions and explained what was happening. This is something we could learn from when it comes to looking after our guests at Conference... Another thing was that those taking part in the debates always gave their names and diocese.





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Beating the bounds and praying for St Mark's parish Dundela, all who live, work and provide services. A lovely evening walk in the sunshine; 15,000 steps, 3 hours and 25 minutes of talking, fellowship and prayer.

## News reports



### **Archbishop Hosam installed as Primate of Episcopal Church of Jerusalem & Middle East**

A group of pilgrims from a parish church in the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui joined diplomats and church leaders in Jerusalem this weekend for the installation of the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, the Most Revd Dr Hosam Naoum, as the President Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. Archbishop Hosam succeeds Bishop Michael Lewis of Cyprus and the Gulf,



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who will retire from next month. The handover of the primacy took place at the Cathedral Church of Saint George the Martyr during a special Eucharist, a day after the Provincial Synod meeting.



The Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Theophilus III alongside Archbishop Hosam

In his sermon, Archbishop Hosam named all former Primates who held office since the province was formed in 1976, and he praised them for their achievements during their ministry.

He noted that the primates had come from the Dioceses of Iran, Cyprus and the Gulf, Jerusalem, and Egypt, which has now formed its own province of Alexandria, serving ten countries along North Africa and the Horn of Africa.

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He linked this to the Gospel reading from Matthew 25: 14-30, the parable of the talents, and said that all Christians, whether bishops, ordained or lay, had a calling and have been given gifts, charisms and talents from God. “We need to remember one thing”, he said, “that we do not bury these gifts and talents”.



[Archbishop Hosam presents Bishop Michael Lewis with an icon of Saint George the Martyr](#)

The British Consul General Jerusalem, Diane Corner, and the Chief of the US Office of Palestinian Affairs, Mr George Noll, attended the service alongside ecumenical Christian leaders in the region, including the Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Theophilus III



The Archbishop of Canterbury was represented by the Revd Dylan Turner, the Church of England's Anglican Communion Relations Officer, and the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion was represented by the Revd Canon Dr Stephen Spencer, Adviser on Theological Education and Lambeth Conference Implementation, and by Gavin Drake, Director of Communications for the Anglican Communion.

The Revd Dylan Turner read a message from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. In it, Archbishop Justin praised Archbishop Hosam's leadership not only in the Diocese of Jerusalem, but also in the Anglican Consultative Council. Archbishop Hosam is Vice Chair of the Anglican Communion Standing Committee. Archbishop Justin also praised Bishop Michael for making "an enormous contribution to the life of the Church in this region and the wider Anglican Communion."

Gavin Drake presented a gift to Bishop Michael from the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, Bishop Anthony Poggio, and also read a message expressing thanks for his global ministry, saying: "I thank you for leading the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East and commend your work in a part of the Communion that has complex realities. I pray that the Church continues to grow with love and compassion."

Canon Stephen Spencer presented a gift from Bishop Anthony to Archbishop Hosam and read a separate message. "Your ministry as a priest, dean, bishop, archbishop and now primate, has been focused on reconciliation," Bishop Anthony's letter read. "Your ecumenical work in the holiest of cities is one example of

this. Another example is the challenging role that you and your diocese play in your part of the world. That spirit of reconciliation is needed, too, in the Anglican Communion. I know that you are somebody who strives to bring people together in unity. . .

“Please be assured that your ministry is surrounded by the prayers of me, my colleagues at the Anglican Communion Office as well as other Anglicans around the world. As we pray for you, we also do as King David extolled us to do: we pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).”

Archbishop Hosam presented Bishop Michael with an icon of Saint George the Martyr, the local saint of whom the Cathedral in Jerusalem is dedicated. Bishop Michael kissed the icon and said that it had sentimental importance to him because his son, who died in 2017, was named George.

The following day Bishop Michael preached at an English-Arabic Eucharist service in Saint George’s Cathedral. Taking his text from the New Testament reading of the first letter of Peter, 3:13-end, Bishop Michael asked “Why do some Christians ignore the Counsel of Peter to account for the hope with us with gentleness and respect?”

He cited the crusades and the ‘hit and run evangelism’ after the 2003 invasion of Iraq as particularly egregious examples, and suggested that the answer might be that some Christians “tend to be afraid of the humility of God revealed in the gentleness of Jesus Christ.”



# Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



## Enabling a culture of faith-sharing in your church

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How could you enable a culture of faith-sharing in your church?

Leading in Evangelism is a free C of E online resource supporting church leaders to develop a faith-sharing culture that fits their context.

Find out more at [leadinginevangelism.org](http://leadinginevangelism.org).

## **C of I Young Leaders In Ministry Fund now open**

**The next round of applications for CIYD's Young Leaders In Ministry Fund is now open and the closing date for this is the 31st May.**

If you're interested, please get in contact with CIYD via the link in the bio where we can send you the form to apply.

The fund is open to young people aged between 15 and 25 years who can demonstrate a current involvement in the Church of Ireland.

It seeks to support training and development courses, mission teams, leadership opportunities and placements that can be shown to:

1. significantly develop the faith of the young adult applicant;
2. grow the skills of the applicant especially, but not confined to, leadership skills; and
3. be of significant use to the ministry of the Church of Ireland in the 12 months following the completion of the opportunity.

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If you're interested, we would love to hear from you!

## The Charles Wood Festival

**The Charles Wood Festival is delighted to release details of two special events as part of the 30th Festival programme, which celebrate the role of communal singing and the joy that it brings.**


### **A Festival of Choirs: Sing Hallelujah!**

Five local choirs showcase their talents, culminating in a massed performance of Handel's famous Hallelujah Chorus.

### **Come and Sing with John Rutter**

Star composer and Festival Patron, John Rutter, leads singers of all ages and abilities in a selection of popular choral classics, including some gems of his own. Don't miss the composer's only appearance in Northern Ireland this year!

Full details of the rest of our extra-special programme will be released at the end of June.

 [bit.ly/3ppQdIR](https://bit.ly/3ppQdIR)

## Poem for today

### **To Daffodils by Robert Herrick**

Fair Daffodils, we weep to see  
You haste away so soon;



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As yet the early-rising sun  
Has not attain'd his noon.  
Stay, stay,  
Until the hasting day  
Has run  
But to the even-song;  
And, having pray'd together, we  
Will go with you along.

We have short time to stay, as you,  
We have as short a spring;  
As quick a growth to meet decay,  
As you, or anything.  
We die  
As your hours do, and dry  
Away,  
Like to the summer's rain;  
Or as the pearls of morning's dew,  
Ne'er to be found again.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## Church News Ireland

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