

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Churches feature in Royal visit

May 26, 2023

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Churches feature in Royal visit

Church members representing various voluntary groups and public services were noticeable at the Garden Party. The Church leaders met with the King and worshipped together. In Armagh.



Hillsborough Garden Party, Armagh and Enniskillen further highlights in King and Queen's visit

The visit of King Charles and Queen Camilla continued with a Summer Garden Party on Wednesday afternoon and a visit to Armagh and Enniskillen yesterday. King Charles and Queen Camilla were in Northern Ireland on

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the royal couple's first official visit outside England since the coronation earlier this month.

Church members representing various voluntary groups and public services were noticeable at the Garden Party,.

(Photo above) The Methodist Church in Ireland President Designate the Rev David Turtle and his wife Pamela were guests.

The Reverend Chris Hudson from All Souls, Belfast, Dean Shane Forster of Armagh Cathedral and Rev Ronnie Lawrenson from Belfast Cathedral were also guests.

Commenting on attending the Garden Party, President Designate, the Rev David Turtle said:



King Charles greeted individually each of the Lord Lieutenants Cadets. These individual cadets accompany the respective Lord Lieutenant for a city or county. The Air Cadet above is a member of Campbell College Combined Cadet Force and their band.

“It was a great privilege for Pamela and I to have the opportunity to attend the Summer Garden Party at Royal Hillsborough this afternoon. The King and Queen took time to greet and speak with many of those in attendance. I was particularly pleased that the Queen was personally introduced to father and daughter, Colin and Holly Bullock who are part of the church family in Florencecourt Methodist Church in Enniskillen. She spoke at length with them both.”



The members of the Church Leaders Group (Ireland), along with other church representatives, yesterday morning met with His Majesty King Charles III when he visited St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral on the Hill of Armagh.

On the site of St Patrick's 5th century 'Great Stone Church', The King had the opportunity to hear something of the work of the Church in Ireland in relation to peace building, environmental issues, and work with the impoverished and with those from other places in the world now living in the local community in Northern Ireland.

A period of reflection and intercession followed during which the Church Leaders prayed for God's blessing and guidance for The King.

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The King was hosted by the Dean of Armagh, the Very Revd Shane Forster, who welcomed His Majesty to the ecclesiastical capital and to 'this shared sacred space, where for centuries pilgrims have come to learn, pray and experience the loving presence of God.'

The Cathedral Choir, which was founded by a charter of King Charles I in 1634, was honoured to sing the words of 'St Patrick's Breastplate' upon the King's arrival and the gentle and calming words of the 'Irish Blessing' to a setting by Bob Chilcott during the time of prayer.

The Hill of Armagh has been a place of Christian worship since the 5th century AD. It has connections to both St Patrick and to another King as it is the burial place of Brian Boromhe (Boru), High King of Ireland, who died at the Battle of Clontarf in 1014.

As Prince of Wales, His Majesty was previously the guest of the Cathedral on a visit to Armagh in June 2000 and was hosted by St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral when he returned to the city in May 2019. The Cathedral was honoured to welcome Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, when it held the Royal Maundy Service in March 2008.

Archbishop McDowell remarked, 'The King is no stranger to Northern Ireland, nor indeed to the whole island of Ireland, for which I know he has a particular affection and friendship. I know too that he comes today with words of encouragement to the Church Leaders as we continue to work towards a reconciled future. Our prayers of blessing for The King and Queen today will continue as together they



enter ever more fully into their vocation in the years ahead.’

The Reverend Chris Hudson at the Royal Garden Party with a member of the Hillsborough Fort Guard

Dean Forster commented, ‘In this Coronation year it was a great honour to welcome His Majesty The King to the

Cathedral and have the opportunity to share something of the story of this ancient holy site and place of pilgrimage with him before all present joined in prayer with The King and for The King. It was also a particular joy for the Cathedral Choir to sing for The King as they are the current members of a foundation which is linked to one of His Majesty’s predecessors and namesake, King Charles I. A moment the young choristers will remember for a very long time to come.’

The King and Queen also met members of the Methodist College Belfast choir, who sang at the coronation in Westminster Abbey.



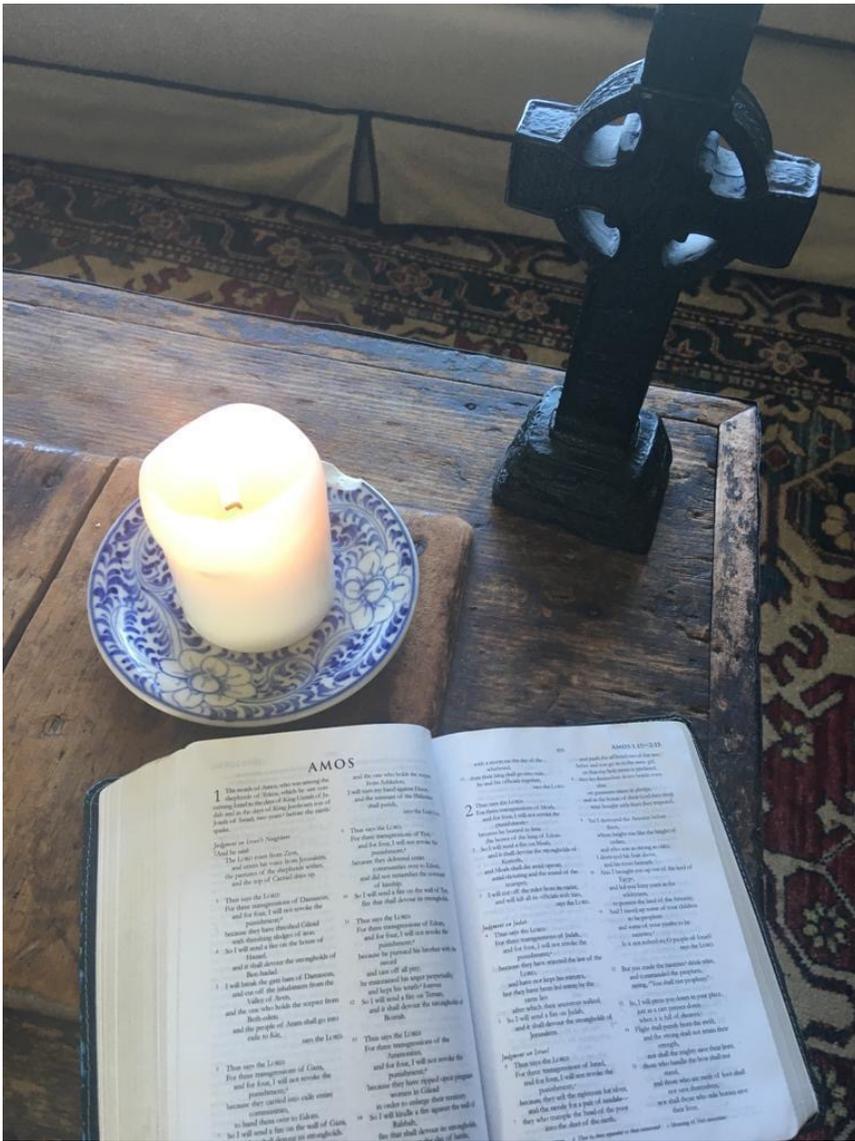
The King and Queen spent an hour at Enniskillen Castle where they met community groups and were entertained by Irish and Ulster-Scots dancers.

Crowds of well wishers cheered as Charles and Camilla approached the 16th century castle.

They were greeted by the High Sherriff for Co Fermanagh Noelle McAlinden and Fermanagh and Omagh council vice chairman Allan

Rainey while they were serenaded by the Caritas Chamber Choir.

Local school children and army cadets were lined up to welcome the King and Queen into the historic courtyard while a community choir performed Rather Be by Clean Bandit.



People and places

Corrymeela in the City this Sunday

Corrymeela in the City takes place this Sunday afternoon, 5pm at Fitzroy Presbyterian, University Street Belfast.

This gathering for worship is relaxed and reflective -- with song, scripture, prayer and silence.

“Whenever we gather for worship as Corrymeela we meet around a lit candle (to symbolise the divine light already in our midst), a turf cross (to remind us of our rootedness to this earth, to this island, and to a faith that predates our divisions of Catholic and Protestant), and an open Bible (so that we use scripture to start conversations rather than to end them).”

All are welcome. And there's a cuppa afterwards.

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Installation of Canons in St. Macartin's, Enniskillen

**A Service of Holy Communication including the
Installation of Canons will be held on Wednesday 31st
May at 7.30pm**

The clergy to be installed as Canons are the Revd Canon Alan Irwin as Prebendary of Kilskeery; The Revd Canon John McClenaghan as Prebendary of Tyholland; The Revd Canon John Woods as Prebendary of Donacavey in St. Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen at 7.30pm

Holiday in Kerry?

Kilcolman Union is offering free usage of a luxury mobile home on the banks of the River Laune, Killorglin to Clergy and Diocesan Lay Readers and families in exchange for taking 2 Sunday services each week.



Interested?

Contact: Ven. Simon Lumby
Archdeacon of Limerick, Ardfert,
Aghadoe & Emly

Email:

archdeacon@limerick.anglican.org

Phone: 086 8703997

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The preacher will be the Archdeacon of Armagh, The Venerable Dr. Peter Thompson

There will be tea afterwards in the Cathedral Hall. R.S.V.P. by Monday 29th May 2023 to The Very Revd Kenny Hall, Enniskillen Cathedral Office, St. Macartin's Cathedral Hall, Hall's Lane, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. BT74 7DR; Email: dean@clogher.org Church of Ireland Clergy, Clergy representing other denominations, Diocesan and Parish Readers are invited to robe.

Dunluce parish art exhibition raises £2,585 for charity

The 2023 Dunluce Parish Art and Photography Exhibition – the 14th annual event – proved to be a record breaker, raising a total of £2,585 for charity.

The event was held in the Parish Centre over the weekend of April 28-May 1, and this year's beneficiaries are the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal and a small local charity, Friends of Pavestone Centre, a vocational and rehabilitation centre in Coleraine for people with mental or physical disabilities.

On Sunday May 21, Rhoda Baxter from Friends of Pavestone attended morning service to thank Dunluce Parish for its donation and to speak about the work of the Centre and how the funds raised would be used for the benefit of their clients. After the service a cheque was



Presentation to Rhoda Baxter from Friends of Pavestone
Photo by Billy Creighton.

presented
to Rhoda
by the Rev
Sam
McVeigh on
behalf of
the parish.

St. Columba's
CHURCH FETE
Saturday 10th June 2023
From 2:00 pm
The Rectory Garden
Church Road Swords
K67 V9PO

Afternoon Teas
Face Painting
Fruit & Veg
Plants
White Elephant
BBQ
Books
CDs & DVDs
Tuck Shop
Games

ENTRY €2
KIDS & OAP.
FREE

TOUR
OF
ST. COLUMBA'S
CHURCH YARD
3 PM

ST. GEORGE'S
BRASS
BAND

PONY
RIDES

RAFFLE

in aid of Parish funds

News reports

Chief Rabbi tells the General Assembly of journey towards healing through dialogue

The Chief Rabbi has told the General Assembly that working together with the Church of Scotland there was a determination to "engage in a process of healing through dialogue" whilst acknowledging that "relationships are sometimes difficult to sustain".

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, who previously addressed commissioners in 2014, represents the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth.

He thanked all those who participated and contributed to their monumental work on a new Jewish-Christian Glossary describing the efforts to bring it to fruition as a sacred journey together.

He encouraged people across the Church of Scotland to make use of the Glossary, published after more than a year of work and discussions involving both Church of Scotland ministers and rabbis.

"Please do read the Glossary - so much was invested in every word of it. It is so informative, so important, let not there be another statement or declaration relating to...Judaism without consulting the document first," he said.

"It is a mine of information and a great resource to inspire.



"You can only achieve peace if there is constructive communication," he added, as "we embark together on a brave journey."

Healing through dialogue

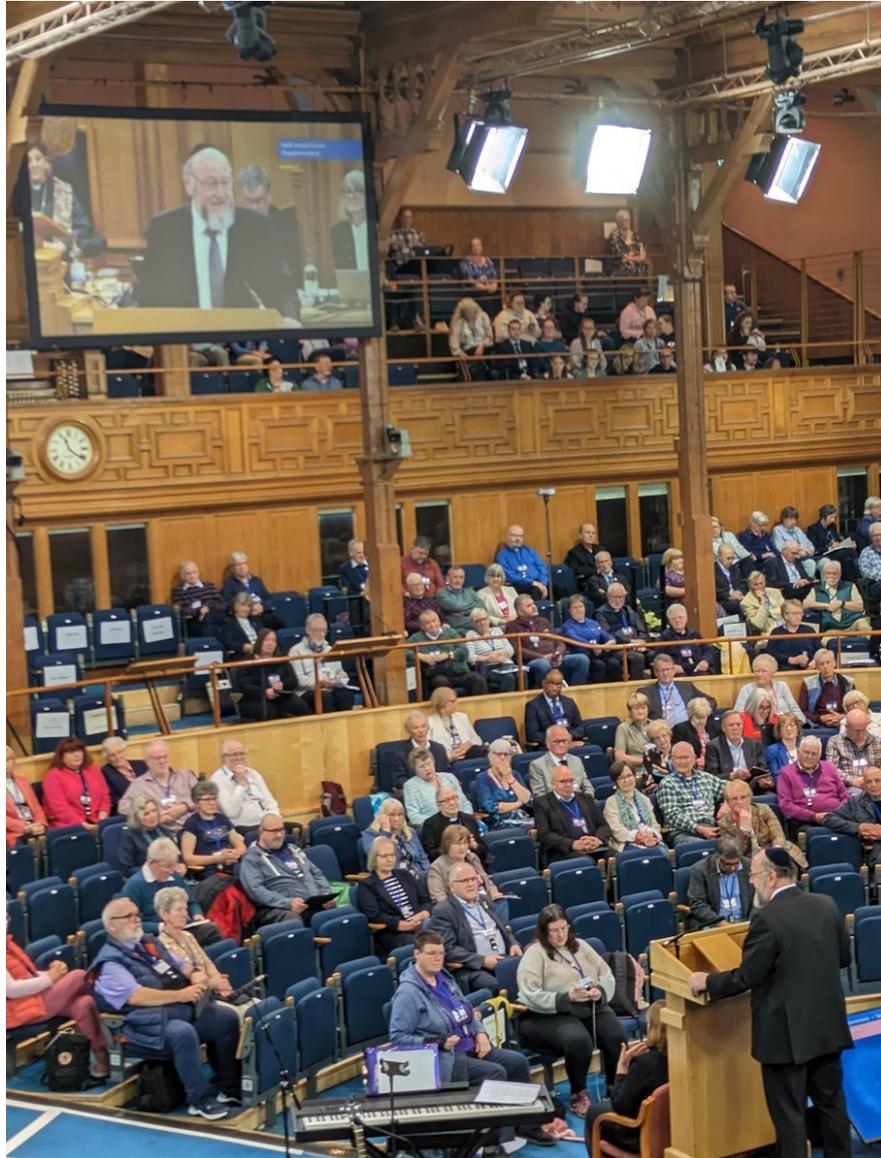
Work on the Glossary began following Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis's previous visit to the General Assembly after he had warned that a Church and Society Council report, *The Inheritance of Abraham?*, which was critical of Israel, had caused concern within the Jewish community and was putting a strain on inter-faith relations.

He said:

"And the relationship between the Church of Scotland and the Jewish community, unfortunately, suffered a setback...with the publication of the *Inheritance of Abraham?*"

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report, and as a result, there was a difficulty. There was a crisis. There was a challenge and some of you will recall my previous address to this august body at that time, but what did we do about it?



"We were determined to engage in a process of healing and we achieved that through dialogue."

The Chief Rabbi went on to commend the process of working together:

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"So we've been on a journey, and it's been a wonderful journey. I would like to congratulate our Church of Scotland colleagues. Thank you for your openness, for your sincerity, for your honesty for your humility. Thank you for listening.

"Because the most important ingredient of constructive dialogue is not what you say, but it's how you listen. We listened, you listened, and together, we restored a good relationship as was alluded to before by the Very Reverend Dr Susan Brown, it's not yet perfect. We've still got some way to go. We still got some work to do. There are still some painful issues, but we continue to engage with warmth and in friendship on this sacred journey because we cherish the value of unity and peace and we don't ever more want to find ourselves in a position of painful divisiveness.

"You know, we have veered away from the traditional mantra and global interfaith circles where we say, let's focus on all that which we share in common as opposed to dwelling on our differences. And we will then appreciate that what we have in common by far is more than what separates us. We disregarded that. We devoted our attention exclusively to what divides us.

"We tackled the elephant in the room - and that is because it was that previous divisiveness which led to the Inheritance of Abraham report and which led to that nadir in our relationship."

The Chief Rabbi also highlighted that in an increasingly secular world it was important to work together and that whilst there will always be differences between the two

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faiths, constructive dialogue is essential in order to avoid "painful divisiveness".

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Right Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, warmly welcomed the speech stating "Chief Rabbi, friend, I have rarely heard such powerful inspiring words in this General Assembly.

"Thank you for your challenging, supportive, and uplifting words.

"You have shared your deep wisdom with this General Assembly and our discernment will be enriched by it.

"When faith communities talk together, work, learn, the face of God shines through it.

"God be with you, God be with us all."

Describing the Glossary as "a labour of love", Mrs Foster-Fulton also asked for those across the Church of Scotland to take note of its contents.

"The Jewish Christian Glossary gives us a solid platform for genuine, respectful, informed dialogue between our communities.

"Please use it, listen to it, use the model, get together.

"This Assembly craves your blessings and prayers and assure you of ours," she said.

Commissioners welcomed the Glossary following Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis's speech, with Rev Dr Leslie Milton

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saying he "hoped it will enter into the life of our congregations".

Dr Yvonne Dianna Wright, who is attending on behalf of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America also spoke of her support to "affirm the document".

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

PLANTING *seeds* **OF** *hope* **TOGETHER**
IN A POST-COVID REALITY

THINKING ALLOWED

WHERE DO YOU SEE HOPE?

Bishop Pat Storey

Revd. Scott Evans

Ruth Garvey-Williams

Revd. Vasyl Kornitsky

Thursday 1st June :: 7pm
VENUE: UCD CINEMA, UCD STUDENT CENTRE

ECUMENICAL
BIBLE WEEK 2023 

www.bibleweek.ie

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Thinking Allowed

Thinking Allowed' takes place on Thursday 1st June at 7pm at UCD Cinema in the UCD Student Centre. Join an exciting panel of speakers to explore and discuss - "Where do you see hope!"

This year's theme is Planting Seeds of Hope Together in a post-COVID reality. Christian life is based on hope. EBW 2023 will explore how this hope can be sown and passed on by people of different traditions working together in our current context.

Living Wholeheartedly Podcast

In the next episode - next week - of the Living Wholeheartedly Podcast, Heather Morris sits down with President Designate 2023-24 of the Irish Methodist Church, the Rev David Turtle.

Subscribe now to catch up on previous episodes.
Also available wherever you listen to your podcasts:
bit.ly/LW-Pod

Charles Wood Singers - Limited Places Remaining

There are still spaces for 2 tenors to join the Charles Wood Singers this year. A unique opportunity to develop your skills, with expert tuition from David Hill, Philip Scriven and Paul Farrington.

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Perform on BBC Radio 3, sing with John Rutter and premiere a new work by Bob Chilcott. Submit your application today - don't miss out!

bit.ly/3JdOcGc

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com