

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Dunmanway fundraiser rally

Image of the day

St Mary's Dunmanway Tractor Run fundraiser

Over 100 vintage cars and tractors gathered at Cox's Hall in Dunmanway for the annual St Mary's Tractor Run. This event is one of the highlights of the year, with parishioners and people from the local community gathering to raise funds for local charities.

The three charities this year were Multiple Sclerosis West Cork, St Mary's Church Dunmanway, and Co-Action Dunmanway. Sean Murphy from MS West Cork thanked the organisers of the Tractor Run for all the work they put into making it a wonderful event.

The Rev. Cliff Jeffers commented, "It was not only an enjoyable fundraising event, but also wonderful to be able to meet again socially and see many people from the parish, local community and from around West Cork coming together on Rogation Sunday."

People and places

Pauline Webb Ecumenical Fund open for applications

Through the Pauline Webb Fund, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) awards grants to support women's participation in ecumenical work. The programme was established with the support of the late Dr Pauline Webb of the Methodist Church in honour of her leadership in



Dr Webb

ecumenism, internationally and closer to home. The closing date for applications is: Friday, 1st July 2022

Throughout her career Dr Webb held a series of significant leadership roles in the World Council of Churches and the Methodist Conference of Great Britain. She played a key role in significant ecumenical dialogues and campaigns and in the world of religious affairs broadcasting. She was a powerful advocate for women's rights and leadership through her speeches and publications, but above all through her example.

She was keen to support and encourage the participation of women in the ecumenical movement, especially through support for younger leaders to gain ecumenical experience early in their careers. The Fund was established before her death in 2017 and since then has continued in her memory. CTBI wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the

personal contribution of Dr Webb to this fund through a legacy donation.

Programme overview

The fund awards grants of up to £1,000 as a contribution towards travel or other costs to enable women to:

- Attend an ecumenical event

- Undertake a course or study visit in the area of ecumenism

- Conduct research in the area of ecumenism

As part of the application process participants are asked to provide details of how they will use the experience gained to contribute to the promotion of ecumenism.

Please note that grants are only awarded where other financial support for this activity is unavailable.

Grants do not normally cover more than 75% of the total cost.

Who can apply?

The fund is open to people who meeting the following criteria:

- Women, normally resident in Britain or Ireland, and
- Members of a church that is in membership of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, or one of the national ecumenical instruments. (Evidence of support from a

sponsoring church or ecumenical body is required as part of the application process.)

In accordance with the focus of this fund on enabling early career leaders to have an experience of ecumenical engagement, preference is given to women under forty years old.

CTBI particularly encourages applications from women from minority ethnic communities in Britain and Ireland, and those working in areas where access to funding and other resources limits opportunities for engagement.

How to apply

Please download the application pack (Word) and return the completed form by email. Pauline Webb Fund -
[[<https://ctbi.org.uk/?s=Pauline+Webb>]

Decisions on the awarding of grants are made by the trustees of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

The deadline for the current round of applications is 5pm on Friday, 1st July 2022.

Please see CTBI's privacy policy for how the organisation would use your information.

[[<https://ctbi.org.uk/about-ctbi/privacy-policy/>]

CNI

Retirement thanks to Connor cleric and his wife



The Rev John McClure and his wife Margo with Killead Church Wardens, Mrs Dorothy Molyneaux and Mr Victor Sefton.

Thanks were expressed to the Rev John McClure and his wife Margo on the occasion of John's retirement as rector of St Catherine's, Killead.

John and Margo were presented gifts by the Church Wardens of St Catherine's on behalf of the Select Vestry and the congregation in recognition of their dedicated



Farewell gifts presented in St Jude's, Muckamore

service to the church and the community in Killead. John unfortunately had to take early retirement due to ill health.

John, who was rector of Muckamore, Killead and Gartree, thanked the Church Wardens, Mrs Dorothy Molyneaux and Mr Victor Sefton, along with the Select Vestry and congregation for all their support, encouragement and the gifts presented to him and Margo. Miss Amy McMillan presented Margot with a bouquet of flowers.

John and Margo have made many friends in the area over the years and will be sadly missed by all. The Select Vestry said he will be 'especially remembered for his teaching of The Word of God and for his special invaluable humour and the great ability at being able to laugh at himself at times.'

On Sunday May 22, it was the turn of Muckamore and Gartree parishioners to say farewell to John and Margo at a special retirement service held for him at St Jude's, Muckamore.

This wonderful service celebrated the work and dedication that John and Margo put into the three parishes of Muckamore, Killead and Gartree, and was followed by a presentation of gifts and a time of fellowship where many parishioners got to catch up with John and Margo over refreshments.

Derry parish celebrates ordinary people who do extraordinary things

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe has paid tribute to parishioners of Glendermott – past and present – who, by sharing their talents and gifts, have helped build the kingdom of God in their parish.

Bishop Andrew Forster was speaking during a Service, on Tuesday evening, in Babington Hall, opposite Glendermott Parish Church, during which the hall was re-dedicated following an extensive renovation, and memorial gifts bestowed by families of people who had worshipped in Glendermott or socialised in the hall, were also dedicated.

The Rector, Rev Canon Robert Boyd, led the service of worship. He was assisted by the Curate of Glendermott and Newbuildings, Rev Iain McAleavey, and by Bishop Andrew, who preached the sermon.



Canon Boyd outlined a brief history of Babington Hall, which was built in 1893 in memory of the first Rector of the parish, Canon David Babington, and his wife. Canon Babington came as Curate, on St Patrick's Day 1848, to what he described as "a dingy and dilapidated little church". At the time it had a congregation of 38. By the time of his death, the church was regularly filled to capacity – with more than 500 attending – and the newly-built sister church of All Saints Clooney was also filled.

Canon Babington had described his own preaching as "good, rough, strong, country preaching" and over the years, Canon Boyd said, his predecessor turned the parish around. Canon Babington dedicated his life to the poor and needy, and, after his death, his grateful parishioners built the parish hall in thanksgiving for Mr Babington's 41 years of work in Glendermott.



In his sermon, Bishop Andrew said he was happy to be in Glendermott to celebrate the “generosity of the people of God”. He thanked them for their kindness and for being, what he called, Kingdom-builders in the building of God’s Church.

The reading at the service came from Nehemiah, Chapter 3, which recounts the repair and rebuilding of Jerusalem’s walls and the rebuilding of its gates. Bishop Andrew said the reading helped us see our part in the building of God’s Kingdom. Nehemiah had been heartbroken, Bishop Andrew said, that what had once been a structure that stood to the glory of God was in ruins. Nehemiah got permission from a King to return to his homeland and rebuild the walls. When he got there, he was overcome by the scale of the task that lay in front of him.



“Sometimes for us,” Bishop Andrew said, “in the world that we live in, the role and the task of the Church in a secular society almost seems too much, almost seems too difficult, now, whenever faith is denigrated, whenever God’s word is ignored, and the place of the Church put way down the pecking order. Sometimes the role of building the Kingdom of God, today, seems too much for us.

“It was too much for Nehemiah, but God led him through difficult times – through times of political turmoil, led him through times of famine, and led him through times even of pandemic – to do great things for his saviour. And for you and me, I think the story of Nehemiah, and the story of this parish, should encourage us, as the people today, never to underestimate what God can do through those who are committed to his plan and path for their lives.”

Bishop Andrew noted that the names of those who had helped Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem's walls were never mentioned again in the Bible. "They were never heard of again. You know why? Because they were normal, ordinary people called to do great things for God...Such great things that these names – that are never mentioned again in Scripture – all these years later, we read them out tonight in the Babington Hall in Glendermott Parish and celebrate ordinary people who did extraordinary things for God. Tonight, what I celebrate, are the ordinary people of Glendermott Parish who are prepared to do extraordinary things for God."

The music for Tuesday evening's service was provided by Mrs May Boyd, on the piano. Among those in the congregation were Rev Canon Derek Creighton, who had been Rector of Glendermott for 16 years until his retirement six years ago. After the service, the families who donated gifts joined clergy and other parishioners for supper in the adjoining Canon Kelly Hall.

Limerick international choral festival returns next month

Limerick Sings International Choral Festival will take place over the weekend of June 10 to 12 with concerts, workshops, a choral trail and a special outdoor choral performance at the Cliffs of Moher, Patrick Sullivan writes in the Limerick Post.

An Evening of Choirs in Concert will see choirs from Ireland and abroad performing a diverse programme of sacred,



traditional and folk songs. These include 'For The Beauty of the Earth' by John Rutter, Beethoven's 'Sanctus' and 'Rhythm of Life' by Coleman.

London-based Tenebrae will be the guest choral group this year. The award winning professional choir is one of the world's leading vocal ensembles, renowned for their passion and highly-acclaimed interpretations of choral music ranging from Renaissance to choral masterpieces.

The Afternoon Proms Concert will take place in Adare on Sunday, June 12 when there will be plenty of music to enjoy for audiences of all genres, from pop to folk to classical music.

Among the in-person and online workshops is 'The Tenebrae Effect' which offers a fascinating insight into choral singing, and the techniques that make Tenebrae's sound so

distinctive. It will also offer a glimpse into the concert repertoire and is designed to challenge and advance every participant.

Acclaimed Irish conductor David Brophy will host a workshop at the University Concert Hall, before traveling to the Cliffs of Moher for the Festival's Outdoor Chorus.

Killybegs Church of Ireland offer thanks for public support following vandalism

A spokesperson for St John's Church of Ireland in Killybegs have expressed much gratitude to the local community for their many many offers of help, support and assistance after a vandalism incident there at the weekend, Michael McHugh reports in Donegal Live.

The 'little library' at the gates of St John's Church of Ireland in Killybegs was needlessly vandalised for the second time in three years.

But a replacement cover has been ordered and the library should be operational again by the weekend, they have said.

“We are so thankful to the local community, who have always been so positive in supporting us down the years and we do not wish to detract from that”, a spokesperson told the Donegal Post/Donegal Live.

It is understood that those associated with the Church are much more interested in the huge positivity and local

support of Killybegs people that resulted from the news which followed the weekend incident, rather than the negative publicity, that it initially generated.

On a initial Church Facebook posting they said: “It was disappointing for our community to see that someone recklessly vandalised our little free library . . . it’s strange that the same thing happened here exactly three years ago to the day.

The incident had been reported to local gardai, they also subsequently confirmed.

In the media

Institutionally racist? The Church of England has fallen victim to institutional cowardice

The Telegraph

Robinson has no doubt the decision to ban him was based on his conservative beliefs along with a hostility to the right-leaning GB News. “It's not my ...

[[] <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2022/05/24/institutionally-racist-church-england-has-fallen-victim-institutional/>]

Vicar accused of antisemitism faces removal from Church of England at disciplinary hearing

The Jewish Chronicle

May 27, 2022

A vicar accused of sharing a platform with a Holocaust denier and promoting antisemitic material online is facing removal from the Church of England.

The Rev Dr Stephen Sizer is facing 11 instances of alleged antisemitism, as outlined yesterday at the opening of a Church disciplinary hearing – the first of its kind to be held in public.

He denies the allegations or the claim that he is any way antisemitic.

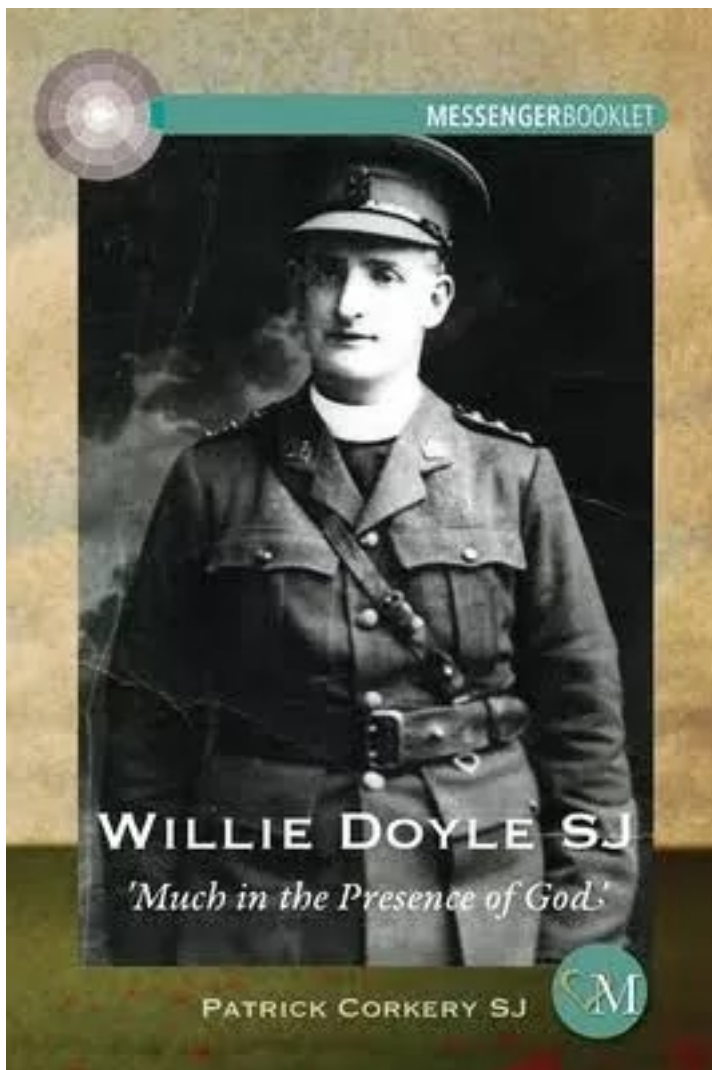
[[] <https://www.thejc.com/news/news/vicar-accused-of-antisemitism-faces-removal-from-church-of-england-at-disciplinary-hearing-3BfOl2HhZVLj74O55NuCba>]f

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Willie Doyle SJ - a complex hero on the path to sainthood?

A multifaceted mix of wartime heroism, penitential spirituality, practical joker and a tender care for his fellow humans, Willie Doyle continues to fascinate people today, one hundred years on from his death in the First World War.

Some admire his selflessness, others are attracted to his deep spirituality and desire to bring the word of God to the broadest possible audience. Many draw attention to his



sense of humour, positive attitude and upbeat disposition which supported the soldiers to whom he was Chaplain during dark and dangerous times in the trenches of WWI. Maybe it is a combination of all this that has seen the cause for his canonisation gain momentum in recent times?

A new booklet by a contemporary confrère, Patrick Corkery SJ, sheds some light on this conundrum of a man. Willie Doyle SJ: 'Much in the Presence of God' offers a multidimensional portrayal of a man who touched the lives of so many. As well as biographical detail, the booklet offers points of reflection and considers the relevance of this complex and moving figure for today's self-focussed world.

May 27, 2022

Patrick Corkery is an Irish Jesuit from Cork, currently working in Gonzaga College SJ, Dublin. In his studies for the priesthood he has spent time in the United Kingdom and the United States. He is the author of *St Ignatius of Loyola: A Convert's Story. To Bring Comfort and Consolation: Bereavement Ministry* by Patrick Corkery SJ is published in Ireland and the UK by Messenger Publications. Priced at €4.95/£4.50.

A New Beginning? Recovering Well After the Pandemic

by Adult Learning at St Paul's Cathedral

London was at the UK epicentre of the pandemic in 2020. Amid the suffering it was a time when profound questions were asked about how we might live better: economically and politically, culturally and spiritually, individually and collectively. What does a healthy society look like now?

Leading voices from diverse sectors will consider what the crucial questions for our city are and how London can be a place of flourishing for all people.

This is an in person event but if you are unable to attend it will also be live-streamed. Please select the correct ticket when booking. If you are registering for the live-streaming option, you will receive the link the day before the event.

Panellists for the evening are:

May 27, 2022

Deborah Bull - Vice President, Communities & National Engagement and the Senior Advisory Fellow for Culture at King's College London; Crossbench Peer.

Stephanie Flanders - Senior Executive Editor for Economics at Bloomberg News and Head of Bloomberg Economics.

Victor Adebowale - Chair of Social Enterprise UK and the NHS Confederation; Crossbench Peer; Co-founder of Visionable and a Governor at the London School of Economics.

The evening will be chaired by Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London, and include plenty of time for questions and answers.

BSL interpretation will be provided at this event: please let us know if you require seats in the area reserved for this.

The event is free, but if you are able to make a donation to the continuing learning programme at St Paul's Cathedral when you register for the event they would be very grateful.

[[] <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-new-beginning-recovering-well-after-the-pandemic-tickets-291271901097>]

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
