

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Blessing of boats at Rathlin

Image of the day



Blessing of the Boats on Rathlin

At the Blessing of the Boats on Rathlin island on Saturday. Rev Patrick and Fr Brian, were feeling blessed, listening to the children of Rathlin Primary School singing.

People and places

Pathways presentations

Last Thursday, in the chapel of DCU St Patrick's Campus, certificates were presented to those who had completed the Pathways: Exploring Faith and Ministry programme.

May 30, 2022

Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Dermot Farrell.

Twenty-seven people recently completed the two-year, one-evening-a-week adult faith development course, which is run by the Archdiocese of Dublin.

For further information on Pathways, email pathways@dublindiocese.ie or visit www.missionministry.ie. Photos courtesy John McElroy





Killyleagh remembers

On the 40th anniversary of his death, Killyleagh paid tribute to its Falklands War hero, James Hughes. James died when his ship, the Atlantic Conveyor, was hit by an Argentine Exocet missile on May 25th 1982.

A short act of remembrance was held at the War Memorial at 11am on the anniversary, conducted by the rector, the Rev Colin



Darling, with James' sister Janet and brother Joe laying a Falklands wreath in his memory. Killyleagh did him proud by turning out in such numbers.

Here and there

On Saturday the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne & Ross gave the keynote talk entitled 'Buildings: A Parson's Dilemma' at an all-day symposium in Nano Nagle Place of the Buildings of Ireland Charitable Trust, and on Wednesday Dr Colton will attend a reception at the Lord Mayor's Chamber, City Hall, Cork, for the Irish Lebanese Cultural Foundation.

On Thursday evening in Christ Church cathedral, Dublin, an exhibition of icons by Adrienne Lord will be opened. The exhibition will run until 11 October.

A new season of Summer Music at Sandford began last week. There will be lunchtime concerts at Sandford parish church, Ranelagh, every Friday during the summer from 1.10pm until 1.50pm. Next Friday Jantien Vandenberg (flute) and Maja Elliott (piano) will present 'Moods, melody and murmurs: music inspired by film, poetry and prose'.

Stunning West Cork church decorated by Maharajah of Gwalior nears amazing restoration

It is one of Cork - and Ireland's - most unique churches, standing over a stunning West Cork bay, decorated with dazzling mosaics gifted by a grateful Indian Prince.

And a new video from the team behind the restoration of the Church of the Ascension in Timoleague, West Cork shows how an ambitious project to restore the seaside church to its former glory is reaching its end.

The campaign to raise funds to preserve the famous Timoleague Mosaics continues after a huge effort by locals, the parish, the Church of Ireland diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross and well-wishers all over the world. A new video, narrated by the Rev Kingsley Sutton, is being shared by the Kilgariffe Union of Parishes.

They are having an open day at the church in the village that shares the same bay as Courtmacsherry on June 6th and all are welcome to see this unique, beautiful chapel.

This romantic church may look like an ordinary stone chapel from the outside - but inside, it is sumptuously decorated with dazzling mosaics that have a fascinating story.

The remarkable interior mosaics were created between 1918 and 1925 to commemorate members of the Travers family and Surgeon-General Alymer Martin Crofts.

Crofts, who had family links with Timoleague, was born in Cork and joined the Indian Medical Service in 1877. He remained in India until 1914 and was tutor, mentor and lifelong friend of the Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia of the princely state of Gwalior, south of Delhi. At one stage, the Cork doctor saved the life of the Marajah's favoured son.

Courtesy of Joe O'Shea of Cork Beo

Bishop wept at flower festival

Busloads of people made their way to the north coast on Friday for the opening day of the ‘Lord, for the Years’ Flower Festival which took place last weekend in Christ Church Castlerock.

The visitors made their way from far beyond the resort to see a floral display that celebrated what the Rector, Rev Chris MacBruithin, called a “belated 150th anniversary”. The festival had originally been conceived three years ago, but plans had to be put on hold because of the Covid pandemic.

The ‘Lord, for the Years’ Flower Festival was Christ Church’s first such festival in quarter of a century. The church was transformed for the occasion by the festival’s artistic director, the renowned floral artist and national demonstrator, Alan Beatty, who was assisted by James Burnside. The festival was project managed by Castlerock parishioner Evelyn Conn. All proceeds are going towards church funds. Among the first there to see the flowers on Friday were Hazel and Archie Thompson, who are members of the same Mid-Ulster Flower Club that the artistic directors belong to.

In his sermon, at the opening Service, the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Rt Rev Andrew Forster confided that he had had an unpleasant close encounter with a display of lilies at a different flower festival a number of years ago. “Lilies and me don’t agree,” the Bishop said. “I could feel my nose beginning to tingle a bit. Then I started to sneeze, and I

carried on. And then my eyes began to water and by about minute four or five I was a blubbering mess. I then tried to move over to the lectern to continue the sermon, but we just had to give up. Now, in about four or five minutes” – the Bishop said, to peals of laughter – “you will maybe be



St Philip and St James
Holywood Parish

Platinum Jubilee
Hymns of Praise
accompanied by
Festival Brass



A retiring collection
will be made towards
The Elgar Organ
Rebuilding Fund

Sunday 5th June 2022 at 7.00pm
on the lawn at St Philip & St James,
Holywood Parish Church

Rain or Shine! The event will move into the church building if necessary.



WATERFORD INTERNATIONAL ORGAN FESTIVAL

'Fireworks from Aloft' at Christ Church Cathedral 10th-12th June 2022

Friday, 10th June

20:00 Opening Concert: 'Fireworks from Aloft'

Laura Schlappa, recent winner of the
Northern Ireland International Organ Competition

Saturday, 11th June

11:00 Children's Workshop: 'Introducing the King of Instruments'

20:00 Organ and Orchestra Concert: 'All Stops Out'

Hibernian Orchestra (Conductor **John Finucane**) with works by
Wagner, Tchaikovsky, Williams and Saint-Saëns
Simon Harden (Organ) **Patrick Rafter** (Violin)

Sunday, 12th June

10:00 Festive Eucharist featuring music by **Eric Sweeney**

14:00 Choral Workshop: 'Awaken your Voice'
with **Mornington Singers**

20:00 Choral concert with organ improvisation: 'Night on Earth'
Mornington Singers (Conductor **Orla Flanagan**)
with **Aleksandr Nisse** (Organ)



<https://waterfordinternationalorganfestival.ie>

Tickets: at the Cathedral Shop and
at <https://www.eventbrite.ie>



hoping that I'll have to give up again, but I'm feeling very safe at the moment."

Bishop Andrew said the floral displays in Christ Church were stunningly beautiful. "In some ways, in the world that we live in – that seems to revolve around bad news and difficult news and sad news – to appreciate again the beauty of creation can ground us in the love of God and in the good purposes of God. And we have the joy and the privilege of living in a corner of God's creation that so many people come to see because of its beauty, because of its landscape, because of what we see around us.

"Unfortunately," the Bishop said, "whenever we're caught up in this downward spiral of news, our eyes can be blinded to the beauty around us, and an event like this helps us to open our eyes again to beauty, to open our eyes again to the intricacy of the creation of almighty God, because what you see today is God as the artist – the artist of the beauty in the world around us. And doesn't it say so much about the art of our God, doesn't it say so much about the ingenuity and creativity of our God that every flower in this building is different; that every colour is different; that every leaf is different; and that every person here is different; and yet we are made in the image of God?"

Bishop Andrew talked to the congregation about the evocative power of scent: the bouquet of flowers, the smell of coffee, the scent of baked bread, and the fragrance of perfume, could awaken in us powerful memories. "In 2 Corinthians, St Paul says of you and me that we are to be 'the aroma of Christ', so that in our lives, in our witness, in the people that we are, there'd be that scent of the beauty of

Jesus, and in the way we live our lives, the aroma of Christ would be evident. Let's be those people who take our part in God's creation, who celebrate beauty and creativity, who build for new generations, and that in this village and far beyond people will recognise in us the aroma of Christ himself."

Moderator reaches new heights

With just under a month to go until he steps down as Moderator at this year's General Assembly, Right Reverend Dr David Bruce reached new heights recently when he took to the skies over central London with some of PCI's forces chaplains in an RAF Puma Mk 2 helicopter.

The flight was part of a two-day Tri-Service visit to the Church's Armed Forces' Chaplains in England where he met some of PCI's padres in the Royal Air Force, Royal Navy and Army. Encouraging and praying with them, he heard how they support personnel and families in all three services.

Speaking after his return from RAF Benson in Oxfordshire, where his 15 minute trip to London would have normally taken an hour and a half by car - Dr Bruce praised the work of PCI's chaplains. "Chaplaincy by definition is a specialist ministry, be it in hospitals, prisons, colleges, or universities. Forces chaplaincy inhabits a world that most of us never see, and I am full of admiration for the selfless way our men and women serve Christ in all three services," he said.



The Moderator over London in a RAF Puma helicopter Mk2 where you can see Hammersmith Bridge below

“I was delighted to be able to offer my encouragement and prayers for them personally and express the appreciation of the General Assembly as they fulfil God’s calling upon their lives.”

Accompanied by the Convener of PCI’s Armed Forces’ Panel, Very Reverend Dr Rob Craig, Dr Bruce began his visit at RAF Benson, where Rev Dr Philip Wilson, RAF, is Station Chaplain. Often known as ‘Padres’, Dr Wilson explained that Armed Forces’ Chaplains offer religious services, pastoral support and ethical instruction to service people, their dependants, families, and civilian staff. To become a padre, ministers go through the same selection and rigorous training as other serving personnel –



At RAF Benson with PCI chaplains (left to right) RAF padres Rev Michael McCormick and Rev Dr Philip Wilson, Army padre Rev Ivan Linton with Very Rev Rob Craig, Convener of PCI's Armed Forces Panel, Dr Bruce, and RAF padre Rev Jonathan Newell

with one important exception – chaplains do not carry weapons.

“It’s been great to have the Moderator and Dr Craig come to visit and for them to learn more about what we’re doing at this important time. It is also important that the military knows that the Church is there for them and remembers them in the innumerable stresses and strains of life, not only in the Royal Air Force, but in the in Army and Royal Navy,” Dr Wilson said.

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland has a long pastoral association with the UK's three services and is one of the recognised 'Sending' churches having 'sent', or provided chaplains to the military for over 100 years. Today, PCI has 13 full-time and part-time forces chaplains, many of whom have supported their comrades on active service overseas.

During his visit to RAF Benson, Dr Bruce met PCI RAF Padres Rev Michael McCormick and Rev Jonathan Newell, as well as PCI Army Padre, Rev Ivan Linton. From RAF Benson, which is part of Joint Helicopter Command, the Moderator and Dr Craig travelled to the West Country and Royal Navy Air Station Yeovilton in Somerset for the second stage of their visit. The Station is one of the Royal Navy's two principal air bases, and one of the busiest military airfields in the United Kingdom.

Hosted by PCI's Royal Navy padre, Rev Dr Brent van der Linde RN, Dr Bruce and Dr Craig spent time with RNAS Yeovilton station commander, Commodore Niall Griffin, MBE, RN, had lunch in the galley with some of the sailors stationed there, and met air traffic controllers.

Speaking about his visit, Dr Bruce said, "One of my recent predecessors described Forces Chaplaincy as 'a unique kind of ministry' and he was right. Dr Craig and I very much appreciated the warm welcome we received from Philip and Brent, and their colleagues. The flight over London in the Puma was something that I won't forget in a hurry! Neither will I forget the patience, dedication and commitment of our chaplains.

“I would earnestly encourage our people to pray for all our men and women in forces chaplaincy, along with their families, as they walk with Jesus in this unique calling, especially since their work often means spending time apart from loved ones and sometimes in harm’s way,” Dr Bruce said.

The Reverend Patrick Thomas Craig, CF

The death has taken place of The Reverend Patrick Thomas Craig, formerly of the Diocese of Connor and the Royal Army Chaplains’ Department.

Following an assistant-curaçao in St Mary’s Belfast with Canon Charles Sansom, Paddy joined the Department in 1968 and served in Berlin with 2 Light Infantry. After a posting to Munchengladbach, he moved to be the chaplain of the Junior Leaders regiment at Bramcote. He was appointed as senior chaplain in 39 Brigade in Northern Ireland based in Lisburn from 1975 until 1979, when he was posted to 7 Armoured Brigade in Hohn. He returned to the UK in 1979 to serve in Larkhill and then in 1982 at Bovington. He relinquished his regular commission in 1989, and was granted a reserve commission to serve as the chaplain of Sussex ACF.

There is to be a thanksgiving service in St Peters church West Lydford, Somerset TA11 7BD on 1 Jun 22 at 1430 hrs.

Prince Charles and Archbishop of Armagh praise ‘courage and heroism’ of RUC at commemoration service

Prince Charles has praised the “acts of courage and heroism” of former Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) officers at a service to mark the 100th anniversary of the formation of the police force.

The prince sent a message to mark 100 years since the RUC was formed, which was marked on Sunday with a commemoration service at St Anne’s Cathedral in Belfast organised in response to the RUC George Cross Foundation.

He said: “In this centenary year, it is deeply appropriate that we mark together the sacrifices, honour the acts of courage and heroism and pay tribute to the achievements of all those who served in the RUC.

“We remember particularly the widows and families and those who supported the serving personnel with such fortitude and devotion.”

The prince spoke about recently meeting members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross Foundation, which he is patron of.

“It was a meeting that has left an indelible impression on me and, while I cannot be in Belfast today, please know that you are all very much in my thoughts as you commemorate this centenary of policing in Northern Ireland,” he said.

Hundreds of people attended the service, including church and political leaders.

Fionnuala Jay O'Boyle, the Lord Lieutenant of Belfast, represented Queen Elizabeth.

PSNI Chief Constable Simon Byrne was expected to attend the service, as well as former PSNI chief constable Sir Ronnie Flanagan.

Garda Commissioner Drew Harris was also at the event in Belfast.

A garda spokesperson confirmed that he received a formal invitation to attend the service.

In a sermon at the service, the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Armagh, Most Reverend John McDowell, expressed his own gratitude for the dedication of those who served.

Archbishop McDowell told the congregation: "They did it to keep their families safe, and because it was their conviction that if they didn't serve, then the future was either going to be in the hands of a revolutionary junta or a rabble of gangsters and drug dealers. Both groups would have swept away much of what officers of the RUC GC have held dear.

"There is hardly a parish church in the dioceses where I served that does not have a grave in the churchyard or a memorial in the church building to a member of the RUC who was murdered, some in the most horrific of circumstances.

“Deaths which achieved nothing except to break hearts.”

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Interfaith Perspectives on Healing - online event

Registration is now open for ‘Interfaith Perspectives on Healing’, an online event on Tuesday, 7 June, organised by the Church of Ireland Interfaith Working Group.

This is the first such online engagement event organised by the IFWG and will use the framework of Scriptural Reasoning to facilitate discussion.

Scriptural Reasoning is a form of reading, listening to and reflecting on scripture from different religious traditions addressing a selected theme. The IFWG has selected the theme ‘Healing’, which also is the theme of this year’s Refugee Week (20–26 June). It is hoped that this interfaith engagement around the theme in early June will help to raise awareness around Refugee Week and encourage faith communities to mark it in some way later in the month.

The three contributors for the event will be Shaykh Dr Umar Al–Qadri, Chair of Irish Muslim Peace and Integration Council and Chief Imam of the Islamic Centre Ireland; Dr Iva Beranek, Ministry Facilitator, Church’s Ministry of Healing –

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Ireland; and the Rev David Kale, Leader, Belfast Jewish Community.

As part of the session, each contributor will be invited to give a brief introduction and reflection on their selected passage of scripture on the theme of 'Healing'. Attendees will then be placed into smaller breakout rooms for a facilitated time of discussion and reflection on the three texts presented.

Tickets for the event are allocated according to faith tradition. The purpose for this is not to exclude or limit participation, but rather to ensure that some diversity of representation will be possible across the discussion groups.

To register interest in this event, please visit this link.

To learn more about Scriptural Reasoning, please visit www.scripturalreasoning.org

Church posters to welcome Ukrainians

These simple posters can be printed and placed on church notice boards or in windows to share church events and activities.

You can download them at the site - Together at Home.
<https://www.tath.co.uk/welcome-ukraine>

Click the image on the website to download a full set of posters covering all 7 days of the week then print the correct

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one(s) for your church and add the time.

Robinson collection online


The lecture series relating to Archbishop Robinson's collection of over 4,000 16th–18th century prints, continues at lunchtime tomorrow, Tuesday via Zoom at 1–2pm.

This week's lecture by Elenor Ling, Curator within the Department of Paintings, Drawings and Prints at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, will be on 'Lord Fitzwilliam and his Prints'. Free places may be booked online – at <http://armagh-robinson-library.arttickets.org.uk> – or by email to admin@armaghrobinsonlibrary.co.uk or by telephoning 028/048 3752 3142.



Шановні українці, ласкаво просимо сюди.
Dear Ukrainians, you are welcome here.

Церковне Служіння
Church Service



Неділя @
Sunday

Guide to Holy Land

A new book on the Holy Land aimed at encouraging pilgrims to follow in the footsteps of Christ will be launched in Omagh, Co. Tyrone this week.

An Irish Pilgrimage Guide to the Holy Land by Editor of The Irish Catholic Michael Kelly explores a variety of themes, from an in-depth look at the important sites associated with the ministry of Jesus, to the culture, history, cuisine and more.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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