



Youth festival to give away 20,000 pounds

The organisers of this year's "Summer Madness" have announced they are giving away £20,000!

A spokesperson for Summer Madness said, "Throughout the history of our festival, God has sparked something in young people that leads

them to go and bring transformation and change to their local communities. Many lives and areas have experienced the love and renewal of Jesus through your acts of Kingdom kindness.

“Our prayer is for that movement of mission to continue. So, at this year’s festival, we’re partnering with our good friends at Cinnamon Network to help youth groups return home and start community projects to bless others. We’re aware that projects and initiatives cost money and this is where the £20K comes in.

“At this year’s festival, your youth group will have the chance to present your community project ideas to Cinnamon Network and pitch your dream for your area. We’re hoping to give 10 successful youth groups £2000 each to get your ideas up and running.

“In the next week we will be giving you and your youth leaders a little bit more information about how you’ll be able to pitch at the festival and meet with Cinnamon Network. Yet in the meantime...

“Get thinking! Get dreaming! Get scheming!”

More dialogue between state & faiths urges head of RC church in England

The head of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, has called for a broadening of a constructive dialogue between secular authorities and communities of faith to meet today's challenges.

At a symposium on St Thomas a Becket at Lambeth Palace on Friday, the Cardinal said only such a dialogue could enable our multiple and complex identities and loyalties be brought together, rather than separated out, to meet the challenges we face.

The Cardinal rejected the narrowing of a perspective towards a single test of loyalty that would serve only to betray the complexity of our human nature and impoverish the richness of the fabric of our society.

Looking back to Pope Benedict's address at Westminster Hall in 2010, he affirmed that "religion is not a problem for legislators to solve, but a vital contributor to national conversation," and for all of us "to defend those arenas of life in which true religion flourishes, open to the



challenges of its' day yet confident that its' insights and gifts are so rooted in human reality as to possess qualities that truly endure”.

The aim of the symposium is to explore the importance of Thomas Becket, historically and today, in the week that one of his relics is being brought back to the UK from Hungary, where it had been kept at Esztergom since his martyrdom in 1170.

Following services at both Westminster Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, the relics will be taken to Canterbury, the site of his murder.

St Thomas Becket is patron saint of both English and Hungarian parochial clergy and a reminder

in his martyrdom to all Christians of their dedication to Christ rather than the prevailing powers of the state, helping us “to remember and focus on this fruitfulness of courage and faith which is always the seed of the Church”.

Cardinal Nichols recognised that the relationship between Church and state is never an easy one and is always a point of tension, but “St Thomas’ martyrdom reminds us what can happen when the state seeks to dominate religious belief and reshape it to its own ends, to its own selection of values. When observance of those particular values becomes absolute requirements then we are on a path of confrontation.”

In the words of Pope Benedict, “Each generation, as it seeks to advance the common good, must ask anew: what are the requirements that governments may reasonably impose upon citizens, and how far do they extend? By appeal to what authorities can moral dilemmas be resolved.”

30+ events at Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention

Bangor Worldwide has released details of one of its biggest programmes planned for its missionary Convention week.



Bangor Worldwide has released details of one of its biggest programmes ever planned for Convention week

More than 30 events will take place between August 19 and 27, the majority held at Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church. The theme for the summer Convention, which celebrates its 80th year, is Great is Your Faithfulness.

Chairman Tom Clarke said: "Conrad Mbewe Kabwata Baptist Church in Zambia will be making the journey to Bangor, along with a host of other international speakers, to celebrate our 80th anniversary. Our first evening meeting will be held at the Assembly Buildings in Belfast on Saturday 20th August. Joining Conrad will be

George Verwer from OM and Bob McAllister, former missionary to the DR Congo.

"A new venture we are trialling this year is a satellite event in Magherafelt on Thursday 25th August, to be held in Union Road Presbyterian Church. This is to allow people across Northern Ireland to get involved in the work of our Convention and hear what God is doing across the world from our international speakers."

For more information, visit www.worldwidemission.org or follow on social media @BangorWorldwide on Twitter, Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention on Facebook.

Growing Dublin C of I primary school extended

There will be great celebrations at Whitechurch National School on Thursday June 9 as the new extension is dedicated and officially opened.

Whitechurch National School is a Church of Ireland managed primary school in Rathfarnham, located near the back of Marlay Park bordered by The Grange Golf Club, Marlay Park, and Edmondstown Golf Club. The Chairperson of the Board of Management is Canon Horace McKinley and the Principal is Ms. Sarah

Richards. The school was first opened in 1823 in the grounds of the local Parish church. However it closed down in the 60s due to dwindling numbers. The school reopened on new grounds in the 80s and has steadily increased in size since then. There are now 17 members of staff and 183 pupils.

The school has seen a particularly large increase in numbers of pupils applying in recent years. This has led to the growth of the school from a 6 class school to an 8 class school. The school received funding from the Department of Education and Skills to build an extension comprising of 2 additional classrooms, a new reception area and offices, and Special Education rooms. The parking area, heating system and sewerage systems for the whole school were also upgraded.

The architect for the project was Mr. Louis Burke and the builder was Hugh Keogh. The project started in August 2015 and was completed during the Easter holidays this year. 1st and 3rd Class are delighted with their new classrooms and are enjoying the bright and spacious rooms.

The extension will be officially opened on Thursday 9th June by the Archbishop of Dublin and Glendalough, Dr. Michael Jackson, and

longstanding Board member and original Trustee of the school, Mr. Stewart Paul. There will be a thanksgiving service in the church followed by the official opening and blessing of the new extension with refreshments served in the school hall afterwards by the PTA.

Cathedral, choral and musical

In **St Patrick's cathedral, Armagh**, on Wednesday evening there will be a service to mark the **centenary of the Royal College of Nursing in Northern Ireland**. The address will be given by Professor Michael Wheeler.

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Parents who have lost a child, either during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, have the opportunity to remember that child at the Mariposa Trust's **Saying Goodbye service in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast**. on Sunday June 5. In the past four years, 66 Saying Goodbye services have been held across England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland, France and the US. The service, which begins at 3.30pm on June 5, will be the third annual service in St Anne's. The preacher will be the Rev Mark Niblock, Dean's Vicar, who will speak on the theme of 'Hope.'

There will be opportunities during the service for families to mark their losses if they choose to. Poignant features of this service include special music, candles and bells. A collection will be made towards the work of St Anne's Cathedral and the Mariposa Trust. Saying Goodbye can offer support and befrienders for anyone who has gone through the loss of a baby and anyone who might find this helpful can speak to the team on the day of the service.

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St Mary's cathedral, Limerick, the cathedral community hosted its first **Heritage and History Weekend Festival** this past weekend. On Saturday there were guided tours of the cathedral, flower displays and an artefact exhibition. At 5pm the Cathedral Choirs of Kilkenny, Waterford and Limerick gave a concert which included Schubert's Mass in G and Parry's 'I was glad'. Fr. Martin Browne OSB from Glenstal Abbey was the preacher at Festival Eucharist. In the afternoon a free concert was given by the Limerick Wind Ensemble who performed Mozart's Gran Partita K 361. A Festival Evensong brought the weekend's programme to a finale.

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Dean of Lincoln - The Queen has approved the nomination of the Venerable Christine Louise Wilson, Archdeacon of Chesterfield, in the diocese of Derby, to be appointed to the Deanery of the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Lincoln, on the resignation of the Very Reverend Philip John Warr Buckler, MA, on 31 January 2016. See also News Links below.

News briefs

Church of Ireland **Archdeacon David Huss**, who is chairman of Glebe National School in **Donegal** Town school, was present during the **Prince of Wales**' visit to the town last week. He looked on as the royal visitors spent more than half an hour shaking hands. "It's fantastic, a brilliant moment for Donegal town," he said. "The Prince and Duchess are very, very welcome. We are delighted that they chose, of all places, Donegal town. The children were very keen to come and see them but definitely we thought it was an important day. It's an historic moment and a moment they will remember forever - it's unlikely they will have another opportunity." Callum Sweeney, 12, from Glebe School, managed to sum up the visit in a sentence: "The Prince is here in Donegal to get a suit from Magee's and

get sausages in McGettigans and he's promoting peace in Northern Ireland."

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Twenty four hours of **Eucharistic Adoration** for the feast of the Sacred Heart will be held in **St John's Church in Middletown Co Armagh**. It will commence with a Mass at 7.30pm on Thursday June 2. There will be a guided holy hour at 11pm and Mass at midnight. Adoration will continue throughout the night and conclude with Mass and Anointing of the sick at 7.30pm on Friday June 3.

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Carnmoney Parish Summer Fete at the Church Hall on Saturday June 11 from 10am – 1pm. There will be a host of attractions for all the family. Proceeds to church funds. Carnmoney Parish Church Hall , 75 Church Road , Newtownabbey, BT36 6DJ

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A hospital visitors' training course, run in partnership by the NI Healthcare Chaplains' Association and Edgehill College, will commence on Thursday September 29. This is an

opportunity for people who may wish to work as volunteer visitors alongside our Hospital Chaplains. The course will run on Thursdays from 7.30-9.30pm at **Edgehill College, Belfast**, from September 29 until December 8, with half-term break on November 3. It is aimed at lay people who are interested in hospital visitation, either within the local church context or within a chaplaincy context, or who already visit hospitals as part of their church responsibilities.

For further information and an application form contact: Mrs Kay Irvine, College Administrator, Edgehill Theological College, 9 Lennoxvale, Belfast BT9 5BY Email: kirvine@edgehillcollege.org Tel. (028) 9068 6938

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Yesterday (Sunday) afternoon the Archbishop of Dublin presided and preached at the **St Doulagh's Open Air Service at Balgriffin** where the music was provided by the Dublin Conservative Club Male Voice Choir and the 1st Dublin Company Boys' Brigade Brass Band. The Archbishop also launched an Appeal Fund for the repair and restoration the church which is believed to be the oldest place of worship in Ireland still in regular weekly use.

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Yesterday RTE televised Morning Worship with the parishioners of the **Athy union of parishes**, led by the Revd Olive Donohoe, while on South-East Radio the Sunday Service was from the **Enniscorthy & Monart** union of parishes.

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Bishop Jered Kalimba, from Shyogwe diocese in **Rwanda**, preached in **Whitechurch, Co.Dublin**, reflecting the parish's on-going mission link with Shyogwe diocese

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The Church of England's Diocese in Europe has opened a new parish in central France. The new church of St Alcuin of York will serve an English-speaking congregation in the Touraine. It will meet in two separate buildings: l'Eglise Protestante in Tours and the Roman Catholic l'Eglise St Michel in Savigny-en-Véron.

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You are invited to make a positive contribution to research and science by volunteering to take part in a health research study in the **School of Psychology in Trinity College Dublin**. TCD are currently seeking male and female participants over the age of 60 to take part in a study

examining decision-making and health. The study is being conducted as part of Sinéad Moylett, PhD Candidate, under the supervision of Associate Prof. David Hevey. The study can be completed online or in person and will take approx. 25 mins to complete. For more information please contact Sinéad, email: moyletts@tcd.ie; tel: 083 8342455. Survey link: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2557836/TCD-Decision-Making-Health>

News links to reports on faith, politics and education

Kevin Myers on last week's remembrance service in Dublin - overdue but welcome

News Letter

A man who has long campaigned for the recognition of the British dead of 1916 has welcomed Thursday's service in Dublin to mark formally those fatalities.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/northern-ireland-news/dublin-service-to-mark-british-1916-dead-overdue-but-welcome-says-kevin-myers-who-campaigned-for-it-1-7405797>

A fresh look at academic selection in NI schools

News Letter

The DUP's new Education Minister Peter Weir has told the News Letter he will look at ways to make the use of academic selection across Northern Ireland easier for pupils, parents and schools.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/peter-weir-academic-selection-safe-and-i-want-to-improve-it-1-7403671>

BBC News

First Minister Arlene Foster has said she wants to address one of the biggest issues in education in Northern Ireland - the transfer tests.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-36403231>

Student fees plan is 'an attack on the right to education'

Irish Times

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/education/student-fees-plan-is-an-attack-on-the-right-to-education-1.2664876>

Hundreds march in Dublin to protest housing crisis

Irish Times

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/hundreds-march-in-dublin-to-protest-housing-crisis-1.2664865>

Christian Today

Reports the live Facebook video discussion between the Archbishop of Canterbury and Head of the Catholic Church Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Friday's stream from Lambeth Palace was an unscripted discussion. "Cardinal Vincent and I spend quite a lot of time meeting and we do so quite regularly," Archbishop Welby said to introduce the discussion. "It seemed a good idea to

open it up and share some of our conversation about things that have happened recently and also have the chance to answer any questions that come in."

BBC/Lincolnshire Echo

Reports that Lincoln Cathedral has appointed its first female Dean. The Venerable Christine Wilson, currently the Archdeacon of Chesterfield, replaces Philip Buckler, who retired in January. She said, "I was thrilled, and a little daunted, to be offered the post of Dean of Lincoln." Mrs Wilson, the C of E's eighth female Dean, will be installed at Lincoln Cathedral on 22 October.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lincolnshire-36398257>

<http://www.lincolnshireecho.co.uk/New-Dean-hopes-cathedral-reveal-extraordinary/story-29328224-detail/story.html>

BBC/Guard

Reports a bone fragment relic of St Thomas Becket will be carried into Canterbury Cathedral today, 845 years after his death (see above). Hungarian dignitaries plan to walk with it for a mile and a half from a church on the outskirts of the city. The event ends a week long pilgrimage from Hungary to London and Kent. There will be a short service at the Cathedral, before the relic goes on display in the crypt on Sunday.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-36397808>

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/27/thomas-becket-priest-elbow-return-to-site-of-murder-canterbury>

BBC

Further coverage of a bereaved vicar who has asked people to pray for a burglar he believes stole his late wife's wedding ring. The Revd Simon Harvey, of St Mary's church in Islington, disturbed a man who claimed to be a decorator. The thief had stolen five rings belonging to Simon's late wife. He posted the photograph of the suspect on Twitter, where it has been retweeted more than 1,700 times. "Thank you for amazing response! Please join me in praying for the man who stole my wife's jewellery. Light needs to come into this darkness," he later added.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-36396764>

Mail

Reports that pupils who tweeted about their former teacher who called police after students threw eggs on the last day of school have been asked to delete their messages. Headmistress Kerry Targett reportedly asked officers to attend St Andrew's C of E High School in Croydon, South London, after Year 11 pupils threw water bombs and daubed threatening and abusive graffiti about her on walls and furniture.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3612695/Pupils-tweeted-ex-vice-principal-called-police-students-threw-eggs-day-school-forced-delete-messages.html>

Comment

Guardian: The Guardian view on 'disappearing Christianity': suppose it's gone for ever?

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/may/27/the-guardian-view-on-disappearing-christianity-suppose-its-gone-for-ever>

FT: In a post-Christian society we still seek the spiritual life.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/8e959926-2339-11e6-9d4d-c11776a5124d.html#axzz49vV1GYCH>

Ind: Janet Street-Porter writes, “I believe in God – and so do most Brits, whatever the latest surveys tell you.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/i-believe-in-god-and-so-do-most-brits-whatever-the-latest-surveys-tell-you-a7052261.html>

Times: Seed planted in Rome in 1966 is blossoming today: Stephen Platten Rector of St Michael’s, Cornhill, and chairman of governors at the Anglican Centre in Rome.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/seed-planted-in-rome-in-1966-is-blossoming-today-68cxkrnbz>

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