

Church News Ireland



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Image of the day

Inter-diocesan ferries

It is that wonderful time again when you can take the ferry from Derry to Raphoe. The ferry across the Mersey doesn't even compare. On the Derry side you leave Magilligan and twenty minutes later you are in Donegal. A visitor writes - take the Foyle or Swilly ferry. Fantastic, especially if its sunny. Just 15 minutes between Greencastle and Magilligan, but it feels like a wee holiday!

News

Kildare effort for Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Ireland is grateful to The Very Rev Isobel Jackson, Rector of Newbridge and Kildare Church of Ireland Parishes and Dean of Saint Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare, for hosting a coffee morning in the rectory garden which raised around €1,400 for Christian Aid Week.

CAI thanks go to everyone who baked the cakes, poured the coffee and helped with the washing up. Their thanks also go to everyone who came along to support the event with their donations.

Community Safety Programme at St Michael's C of I, Belfast

May 31, 2025

“Thank you to Keeva from ROC NI for leading our Community Safety Programme it was very informative and of course we had good fun - and super goodie bags too!! We also appreciated the involvement of our neighbourhood police team.”



From Fear to Friendship

Dr Eburn A Joseph delivering the keynote address at the Dialogue of Friendship conference on the theme of ‘From Fear to Friendship: Cultivating Acceptance, One Conversation at a Time’.

“With so many shattering examples of anti immigration expressions in Ireland and online today, it was powerful to meet, across faiths, to discuss ways in which people of faith

can build communities of friendship”, said Rev Philip McKinley.

Tidy sum raised by Kilcronaghan for Macmillan

Well done Paul & June Kelly of Kilcronaghan Parish in raising £1,341 at their Macmillan coffee morning last Saturday. A massive thank you to all who helped and all who came along.

Response by Synod members to Bishops’ Appeal for World Aid and Development

The collection for the Bishops’ Appeal for World Aid and Development at the General Synod Service of Holy Communion in St David’s Church, Naas, on Friday, 9th May, came to €2,200 (equivalent to £1,850).

Many members and guests at General Synod took home sunflower seeds from the Bishops’ Appeal stand to remind them of the seeds of hope planted through the work of Bishops’ Appeal overseas. Bishops’ Appeal is grateful to everyone who supported us at Synod.

Donations for Bishops’ Appeal, and its individual appeals in response to emergency situations, can be made at any time online, by cheque, standing order, or through parish collections. A full list of ways to give can be found on the Bishops’ Appeal website at <https://bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org/give>



Raphoe diocese pilgrims at Lourdes

In the evening, our pilgrims made the short procession from St. Joseph's Oratory to the Chapels of Light, crossing over the River Gave to light our Raphoe diocesan candle.

While a simple gesture, it represents the prayers and intentions of our diocese—left burning at the feet of Our Lady, even after we journey home.

The Chapels of Light, opposite the Grotto, welcomes thousands of pilgrims each year who come to entrust their hopes, sorrows, and thanksgiving to Mary through the light



of a candle. Our candle now joins theirs, a quiet symbol of shared faith.

Fr. ohnny Moore lit the candle on behalf of the diocese, offering the intentions of our pilgrims—those present in Lourdes and those who remained at home.

Danny McGroddy and Kieran Gallagher did a fantastic job carrying our diocesan banner throughout the week. Well done to both lads—it was no small task, and they carried it with real dedication.

We've shared a selection of photos from the walk—hopefully you'll spot a few familiar faces, and be reminded of the simple joy of walking together in Lourdes.

London bishop to be next Archbishop of Melbourne

The Suffragan Bishop of Islington in the diocese of London, Dr Richard (Ric) Thorpe, is to be the next Archbishop of Melbourne in the Anglican Church of Australia.

He succeeds the Rt Revd Philip Freier, who retired in February.

Dr Thorpe was elected by Melbourne Diocesan Synod on Friday. He and three other candidates were proposed to the Synod by the Board of Nominators, made up of elected clergy and lay representatives.

The other candidates, all from Melbourne diocese, were eliminated in two rounds of voting. They were: the Executive Director of CMS Victoria, the Revd Dr Wei-Han Kuan; the Vicar St John's, Diamond Creek, the Ven. Dr Tim Johnson; and the Vicar at Deep Creek Anglican, the Ven. Megan Curlis-Gibson.

Dr Thorpe, who works primarily in church-planting across the Church of England, was decisively elected in the third ballot. He becomes the first overseas candidate to be elected to Melbourne since the election of the Rt Revd Frank Woods, a suffragan bishop in the diocese of Manchester, in 1957.

Dr Thorpe trained at Wycliffe Hall Oxford and was ordained priest in 1997. He served his title at Holy Trinity, Brompton

(HTB) until 2005 when he became priest-in-charge, then Rector, of St Paul's, Shadwell. He was priest-in-charge of All Hallows, Shadwell, until his consecration as Suffragan Bishop in 2015.

Posting on social media on Sunday, Dr Thorpe said that he was “humbled and deeply honoured” to have been elected. He and his wife Louise, with whom he has three children, were looking ahead “with faith and hope as we prepare for this next chapter to serve the people and parishes of the diocese of Melbourne”.

The Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally, posted her congratulations on Saturday. “For decades, Ric has been a driving force behind church growth in London,” she said. “He will be missed here.”

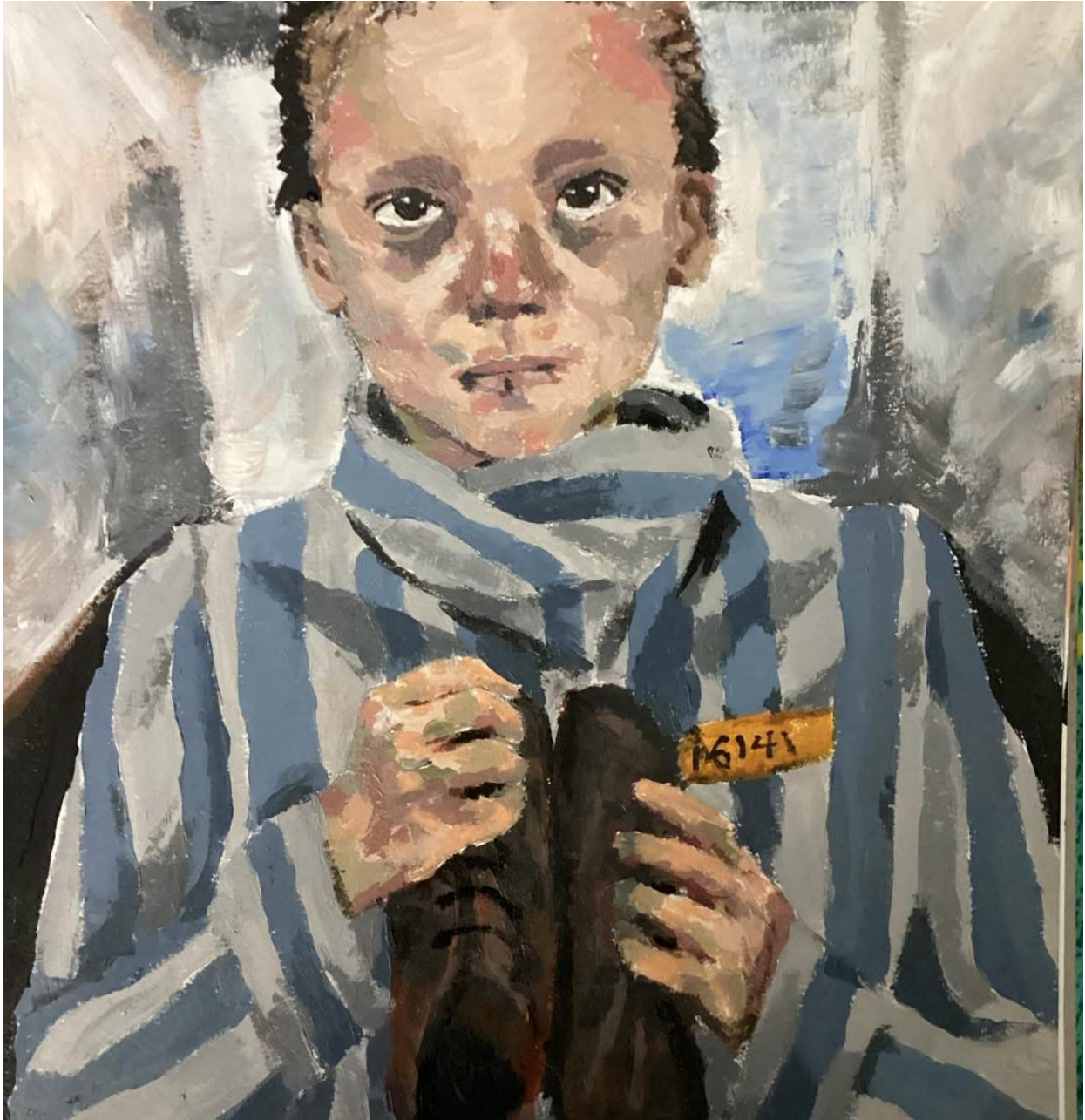
Dr Thorpe is expected to be enthroned as Archbishop of Melbourne later this year.

Education

Mary Elmes Prize in Holocaust Studies winner

**Pictured are two of
the winners from this**





years Mary Elmes Prize in Holocaust Studies from Carrigallen Vocational School.

It has been truly inspiring to see all of the work created by secondary school aged students in response to Mary Elmes and her life story.

Our full list of winners will be published shortly.

May 31, 2025

Carrigallen Vocational School writes - Congratulations to 5th Year History Students Abaigh Sweeney and Illia Yastreb whose entries to the Mary Elms Prize(administered by Holocaust Education Ireland) have been recognized for excellence. Abaigh was announced as the overall winner of the Art Category with her amazing painting below and Illia was awarded second place in the Music Category for his original accordion composition. Thanks to teachers Miss Comyns and Miss Flynn who helped the students with their entries.



Marian Garden in Holy Cross Boys Primary School

HCB writes - Thank you to Aidan Donaldson and Dominic Donnelly from The Down and Connor Catholic



Schools Trustee Service for their outstanding partnership with HCB in helping to create this beautiful Marian Garden in HCB where classes will now visit on a regular basis for prayer and reflection.

We had a lovely ceremony in front of our Year 7 boys and invited guests led beautifully by Fr Frank. A special mention to Mrs. Martin (Music Specialist) and Mr. Wallace (RE Coordinator) for ensuring a well organised and spiritual event. Well done to our Liturgical Leaders (P4-7 pupils) for playing a key role in this initiative and for their readings and presentation of the flowers (Marigold, Lavender, Golden Rose and Lily).

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Thanks to Mrs. Mohan for her paint work on the statue of Mary, our Year 7 teachers, Mr. Johnston and Mr. McEvoy, Lorraine for refreshments and to two special friends of HCB, Donna Hawkins and Thomas Turley for attending.

Thanks to Nichola Bradley for sorting our builders (Paul, Kells, Dingus and Gerry) who did a superb job in preparing the Marian Grotto.

Finally, it was lovely to have John McCusker (who taught in HCB in 1960) alongside his daughter, Deirdre McCusker (Principal of St Malachy's College, Belfast) in attendance to celebrate this special occasion with us.

Ballyclare Secondary support for three charities chosen by a class.

On Friday 2nd May, 100 members of Ballyclare Secondary School took part in a Sponsored Walk for three charities, chosen by the class.

The charities chosen were 'Air Ambulance NI', 'Chest, Heart and Stroke', and 'Families with Ups and Downs'. The class raised a total of £1644 in their Sponsored Walk, and they will be donating £548 to each of the three charities. They took time in assembly to share this with the rest of their year group. Well done to every pupil in the class!

Cathedral Calls

Swiss pilgrims at St Brigid's Kildare

St Brigid's Kildare was delighted to welcome Roisin O'Connell Hussey, Fr Olivier and Fr Jean Marc from the Abbey of Saint-Maurice in the Valais



region of Switzerland, who were all visiting in advance of the remarkable new exhibition in the National Museum of Ireland, entitled "Words on the Wave: Ireland and St. Gallen in Early Medieval Europe", which was officially launched in Dublin.

New plaque in Chichester Cathedral honouring Leonard Bernstein



A special moment in Chichester Cathedral's 950th anniversary year – a new plaque honouring Leonard Bernstein was unveiled in the Cathedral Quarter on Saturday, marking 60 years since the UK premiere of his Chichester Psalms.

Organised by Bernstein in Chichester, the plaque was unveiled by Dame Patricia Routledge who had the unforgettable privilege of working with Bernstein in 1976 and is patron of the commemorative plaque.

Well's Cathedral cope

We had the pleasure of welcoming Carolyn Partleton— local textile artist and owner of Cloth on the High Street



—for a special presentation of the stunning new Easter Cope, which she designed and crafted entirely by hand.



First worn by the Dean at Easter services this year, the cope is a true labour of love. Carolyn stopped counting after 2,000 hours of work!

Inspired by Renaissance paintings, she spoke movingly about her creative process, especially her deep love for the image of the dove as a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which

takes pride of place on the cope's hood. Each feather on the wings of the dove and angels was shaped and stitched by hand to form a beautifully textured, three-dimensional effect.

If you missed this talk, don't worry—Carolyn will return to present the unveiling of the second of her creations, the Pentecost Cope.

Events

A taste of New Zealand at Ballane House Spring Fair

Aside from craft, book and plant stalls the annual Spring Fair offers Kiwi sausage sizzling, welly wanging and fun hands on activities for younger family members.

This year including recycling wastepaper into plant pots ready for seed sowing under the guidance of the LCCC waste management team.

However, the star attraction for many on Sat, June 7 is Lisburn based choir 'Harmony Too' led by the redoubtable Kirsty Orr. This award winning choir, one of seven coached by Kirsty, recently enjoyed success at Bangor International Choral Festival after high profile performances at The Tower of London and in the Barbican.

Earlier in the afternoon visitors to the home farm of famed NZ Prime Minister John Ballance will be piped in by Harry Ferguson Memorial Pipe Band members.

May 31, 2025

An outing for all, including dogs with well-trained owners, The Ballance House Spring Fair offers free parking, tea barn, disabled access and the chance to tour the 'Half a World Away' exhibition.



St John's Parish Church
Newtownhamilton



The Knitted Bible Exhibition



Friday 30th May - Sunday 8th June

<u>Service Times</u>	<u>Viewing Times</u>
 <p>Friday 30th May~Opening Service @ 8pm Guest Preacher - Bishop Ken Clarke</p> <p>Sunday 1st June~ Hymn Singing Evening @ 7.30 pm Special Guest, Wilson Beare (Bible Society)</p> <p>Sunday 8th June~Closing Service @ 7.30pm Guest Preacher - Rev Trevor Johnston (former parishioner of Ballymoyer)</p>	<p>Friday 30th May - 4pm-6pm (No Catering)</p> <p>Saturday 31st May - 10am-6pm (Catering available)</p> <p>Sunday 1st June - 2pm-6pm (Catering available)</p> <p>Friday 6th June - 4pm-6pm (No Catering)</p> <p>Saturday 7th June - 10am-6pm (Catering Available)</p> <p>Sunday 8th June - 2pm-6pm (Catering available)</p>

"A KNITTED JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE"



For further details
email Stjohnsnth@outlook.com, view Facebook,
or contact Alyson 07856 749740

Resources

THY KINGDOM COME

a global prayer movement
from Ascension to Pentecost



Mothers' UNION

Thy Kingdom Come prayer resource by Mothers' Union

Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost.

May 31, 2025

Running from 29th May - 8th June, join in with praying for five people you know, that they may come to know the love of God for themselves.

We are also encouraging members to 'Pray for Five, Invite One', using this as an opportunity to invite one individual each to a Mothers' Union event.

Find out more about Thy Kingdom Come and how to get involved today - www.mothersunion.org/ThyKingdomCome

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

Church News Ireland

May 31, 2025

www.churchnewsireland.org

**Link in Monday through Saturday from
early morning**

Please recommend to your friends