



CNI

BIBLE WEEK SPECIAL EVENT

THINKING ALLOWED

All Hallows College
Gracepark Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9
Thursday 28th May
@ 7:30pm

This event will be a chaired panel discussion with audience participation. The topic will be "What is the Spirit saying to the churches?". Unlike the other events, this is to take place only once. The panel will be made up from the leadership of different churches and traditions (See list below).

Archbishop Michael Jackson	Anglican Archbishop of Dublin
Archbishop Diarmuid Martin	Catholic Archbishop of Dublin
Fr. Calin Flores	Romanian Orthodox Priest
Pastor Sean Mullarkey	AGI National Leader, St Mark's Church Leader
Pastor Tunde Adebayo-Oke	Redeemed Christian Church of God
Philip McKinley (Interviewer)	

No admission charge for any events, small donations accepted. For further details, including maps of locations, go to our website www.bibleweek.ie
www.facebook.com/bibleweek
Contact us at info@bibleweek.ie

32 Events
18 Presenters
15 Venues
4 Days

24th - 31st May 2015

Adelaide Rd • Arran Quay • Arklow
Drumcondra • Kilcullen
Killiney (Ballybrack) /Johnstown
Rathgar • Tallaght • Whitehall

Dublin's third annual Ecumenical Bible Week

Ecumenical Bible Week is a week-long celebration of parish-based events around Dublin and surrounding areas focused on Scripture.

Now in its third year, Ecumenical Bible Week 2016 will run from Sunday 15 May to Sunday 22 May (Pentecost Sunday to Trinity Sunday).

The theme chosen this year is 'In the beginning God created...' (Gen 1:1) and this will explore Christian attitudes to the crisis of the environment and global warming.

EBW 2016 will feature 45 events, across 13 locations in Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow, with over 40 presenters. There'll be debate, talks, music and lots of participation the organisers have promised.

Ecumenical Bible Week started in 2014 as an experiment which flowed from the ecumenical dimension of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress. In an effort to tap into that collaboration, the Rev Ken Rue, a priest of the Church of Ireland, came up with the idea of an *Ecumenical Bible Week* – one week in the year when the different traditions would read, pray and celebrate the Bible together.

An executive drawn across the traditions was formed and a programme was devised. The co-chairs are Dr Kieron O'Mahony on behalf of the Catholic Church and the Rev Ken Rue on behalf of the Church of Ireland.

The faith groups involved are represented on a plenary group which acts as an umbrella for everyone from the Orthodox tradition to Quakers to Evangelical groups and some movements like the Mothers Union and other groups with a faith component.

The Scripture Union is also involved with schools through a programme called the 'Pentecost Project' which seeks to nurture and develop scripture through art and digital art.

More information: <http://www.bibleweek.ie>

Bring the Christian message of hope to those who are struggling, new Secretary of Irish Churches' council

The Irish Council of Churches earlier this month appointed **Dr Nicola Brady** as general secretary. Dr Brady comes to the role with a wealth of ecumenical experience and a commitment to social justice, having served as research coordinator for the Council for Justice and Peace of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Northern Ireland Catholic Council on Social Affairs.



As part of this role she has coordinated inter-church engagement in a wide range of social policy areas, including poverty, migration, mental health, and peace and reconciliation. She was also a member of the management committee of the Irish Churches' Peace Project, 2013-2015.

Commenting on her appointment Dr Brady said. "Churches bring a unique and valuable perspective to the major challenges facing our society"

"Most importantly, they bring the Christian message of hope to those who are struggling. I look forward to building on the significant work that has been done to date by the Irish Council of Churches and the Irish Inter-Church Meeting

to respond to the many different needs in our local communities, united by a shared commitment to Gospel values.

Derry schools and Churches project marks Easter Rising and the Battle of the Somme

Leaders of the four main churches in the North West joined students and teachers from a dozen schools at the Guildhall in Derry–Londonderry on Thursday afternoon to celebrate the success of the ‘Journey Together’ project, which has been marking the centenaries of the Easter Rising and the Battle of the Somme.

The project brought together more than 60 students – from across the community and from both sides of the border – to “explore this complex period in our history sensitively, imaginatively and collaboratively”. Pupils made joint visits to the Somme Centre, near Belfast, and to historic sites in Dublin; they took part in an ‘Ethical and Shared Remembering’ workshop, facilitated by the Junction; and they participated in a series of workshops run by the Nerve Centre, which used animation and new technology to explore the historic events creatively.

Thursday afternoon's event show-cased some of the work done by students involved in the 'Journey Together' project. Three of the students – Oisín Bowyer from Carndonagh Community School, Tegan Nesbitt from Foyle College and Jack Long from St Columb's College – shared their reflections on the experience.

There was a photographic presentation by John Collins from Carndonagh CS. Carndonagh's traditional music group performed a number of pieces for the audience, and there was an organ recital by Darrell Smith from Lisneal College. All those who took part in the project received a certificate and a commemorative photograph, and presentations were made to the schools involved.

The event included a short religious service, in which the Methodist Church's District Superintendent, Rev Peter Murray, the Moderator of the Presbytery of Derry and Donegal, Rev Craig Wilson, Father Michael Canny (representing the Bishop of Derry, Donal McKeown) and the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Ken Good all took part. Prayers were said for "peace in a broken world" and for "commitment to reconciliation".

Speaking on behalf of the church leaders, Bishop Good said they felt there could be a real value in facilitating and encouraging young people in our schools in facing and exploring 1916 together rather than separately. He acknowledged “the leadership, commitment and generosity” of school principals and history teachers who had supported the project.

Bishop Good said he believed Thursday’s event did not mark the end of the project. “The project will be ongoing – informally at least. But it is a time to take stock, to share, to hear what’s happened, to listen to reports, to give thanks to God and to individuals, and to commit ourselves to journeying together into the future.” The Bishop said he, personally, felt very thankful for project. “I do believe this is a good news story. I think it is a good thing that will flow out and ripple out, and news of it will spread from this city – which is often the forerunner of good news stories.”

The ‘Journey Together’ project was coordinated by the Churches’ Trust, which was founded by local church leaders 30 years ago as a response to deprivation in the North West. The promotion of a more united, shared and cohesive society is central to the Trust’s ethos. The Trust’s Chief Executive, Fiona Fagan, paid tribute to all those

who had helped the ‘Journey Together’ project, and who had had the “foresight to recognize the value of this project”.

She acknowledged the support of funders who had made it possible: Derry City and Strabane District Council, The Nerve Centre through the Creative Centenaries Programme, The Honourable the Irish Society, the Enkalon Foundation, the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin and the church leaders.

Ms Fagan also thanked the principals and teachers of the twelve schools which took part: Lisneal College, Foyle and Londonderry College, St Mary’s College, St Cecilia’s College, St Joseph’s Boys’ School, Thornhill College, Lumen Christi College, Carndonagh Community School, Moville Community College, Scoil Mhuire (Buncrana), Royal and Prior Comprehensive School and St Columb’s College.

Director appeals for more support for music ministry

An authority on liturgical music has appealed for more quality music at liturgies but maintains that this must come “from the top down”.



Ian Callanan, Director Music Ministry Together

“There are some very fine choirs and musicians in our churches and for the most part people are doing the best that they can. We are blessed with some excellent choirs however some parishes struggle and they need help,” Ian Callanan Director of Music Ministry Together (MMT) told CatholicIreland.net. But he added, “priests and bishops need to put more resources into choirs and music,”

Music Ministry Together runs workshops during the year to train members of choirs and

according to its director, often hears choir members wishing that their priests might come to these courses too.

He sees people providing music as being involved in a real ministry. “Music is central to what is happening at mass. Members of choirs think of themselves as ‘just being in a choir’. But it is a ministry.”

Mr Callanan says some choirs sing at four main spaces of the liturgy (beginning, end, offertory and communion), instead of music being integral to the Mass, with parts like the Lord have mercy, Holy, holy, Great Amen and Lamb of God being sung.

Asked why there was still quite a preponderance of music which is fifty years old or older in some Irish churches, Mr Callanan said “It comes down to resources. Some do not have the resources available to them to adapt or they are scared of the unknown.”

He appealed to priests to attend music liturgy workshops (like those provided by MMT). “If they could get enthused about music in liturgy, they could encourage the choir directors to be enthusiastic. Liturgy should be joyful.”

Music from pre Vatican II which is still popular in Ireland often has 'old theology'.

By contrast there is some fine liturgical music coming from the post Vatican II tradition.

As an example of this Mr Callanan praised the work of the St Louis Jesuits whose songs (eg *Here I am Lord*), reinforce scripture, and the work of other writers like David Hass (*You are mine*), Marty Haugen (*Shepherd me oh God*) and Fr Liam Lawton (*Cloud's Veil*).

Music Ministry Together's summer school runs from Tuesday 16 to Sunday 21 August 2016 at the Cistercian College Roscrea with the theme 'Make Your Home in Me'. The full cost is €300.

"During the summer school, we will gather together as music ministers. We will have various sessions to teach and learn church music together. Choir leaders will experience being choir members and hopefully, some choir members will have a go at being choir leaders," comments Ian Callanan.

The school (for singers, directors and those playing musical instruments) will explore various styles of liturgy, have moments of catechesis and time to relax and have fun with organised activities and entertainment through the week.

May 9

For information see [www. musicministry.ie](http://www.musicministry.ie)

1,500 attend Presbyterian Women's annual meeting

Presbyterian Women (PW), the organisation for women within the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, launched its theme for 2016/2017 'This is the day', at its two Annual Meetings in Belfast last Friday.



Held in Assembly Buildings, the meeting opened with the hymn 'Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy', and saw PW Overseas Vice President,

Jean Farlow, succeed Sandra Stokes as PW President for the forthcoming year.

The Annual Meetings – held in the afternoon with a second repeated meeting in the evening – attracted over 1500 women from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland's 465 PW Groups. As women's fellowships within the Church, PW's principal aim is to encourage women to become disciples of Christ. Each group across Ireland also seeks ways to actively reach women in its own area for Christ and supports mission at home and overseas.

Incoming PW President Jean Farlow, who attends Main Street Presbyterian Church in Garvagh, has been involved in PW for over 40 years. Looking forward to her year in office she said, "I am very much a people person and it has already been a real joy, over the past year as Vice President, to speak at PW Group meetings and PW services. I look forward to sharing my mission experiences and our wonderful theme, This is the Day, with different Groups and PW Services in the year ahead.

"This is a position I never imagined I would find myself in, but God has me here for a purpose and with God's help I aim to serve Him in this year of opportunity," she said.



Presbyterian Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Ian McNie with incoming President Jean Farlow

The theme, as Jean explained, is based on Zephaniah 3:5, which says ‘...every new day He does not fail.’ “If we commit our lives to Christ we are assured that He will use all of our days, no matter how difficult, for the good of others, ourselves and ultimately for His Glory.”

Addressing the Annual Meeting, Presbyterian Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Ian McNie brought the greetings of the General Assembly and thanked the outgoing President, Sandra Stokes of Edengrove Presbyterian Church in Ballynahinch,

for her hard work. He also thanked the PW Groups up and down the country for their generosity and dedicated contribution to the life of the Church.

Elaine Duncan, the Chief Executive of the Scottish Bible Society was the guest speaker at the Annual Meeting. PW Acting General Secretary Charlotte Stevenson said. "Elaine both challenged and inspired us, and I am so pleased she gave our seminar. It was entitled 'This is your day, joining with God in His work every day'.

News briefs

Think, Pray, Vote - EU referendum resources for churches. The 24 page publication comprises a series of briefing notes produced by the Joint Public Issues Team of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church with the support of the Scottish Churches Parliamentary Office. It covers different topics and includes background information, issues for debate, and questions, and can be used for conversations with groups or for personal reflection. Available to download free at - <http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/wp-churchnewsireland@gmail.com>

content/uploads/Think-Pray-Vote-EU-Referendum-resource.pdf.

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As part of the annual sinking of the **Lusitania commemoration** a headstone to Margaret MacKenzie EU was unveiled at St. Multose Church in Kinsale. The Lusitania was the world's largest passenger ship when it was launched in 1906. Of the 1,962 passengers onboard the ship, it is thought that 1,191 lost their lives including 128 American citizens which proved a significant factor in the US declaring war on Germany two year later. The boat had been on its way from New York to Liverpool when it was torpedoed. The Rector of Kinsale is the Rev. Peter Rutherford.

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The Revd Simon Genoe, currently Vicar in Lisburn Cathedral in the Diocese of Connor, has been appointed incumbent of the **Parish of Magheralin** in Dromore Diocese. The date of the service of institution will be announced in due course.

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Election of Dean of National Cathedral - In **St Patrick's Cathedral Dublin** this afternoon (Monday) the cathedral chapter will meet to

elect a successor as dean to the Very Revd Victor Stacey who has retired from the stipendiary ministry. The chapter consists of twenty-four canons and must elect from among their own number.

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The **Dublin & Glendalough Retired Clergy Fellowship** will hold its AGM in Glenageary Church Centre next Tuesday. Following the meeting the Revd Robert Kingston, Chaplain to the Mageough Home in Dublin, will talk on 'Ministry in Town and Country'.

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On Friday morning the **Church of Ireland Council for Mission** will host a General Synod Mission Breakfast at 8am in Christ Church Parochial Hall, Park Road, at which the speaker will be Ms Lydia Monds, Education Advisor to the Bishops' Appeal.

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The Diocese of Down and Connor Annual Diocesan Liturgy Seminar, entitled 'The Liturgical Service of God's Mercy' was held on Saturday 7th May in St Brigid's Parish Hall, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast. It was presented by Brother Pat Mullins O.Carm. The Seminar was open to all.

On Saturday 14 May the 200th anniversary of the **Claremont Institution for the Deaf** will be celebrated. A commemorative plaque will be unveiled at St Clare's Home and at Deaf Village Ireland, at Cabra, the Deaf Heritage Centre will host an exhibition, storytelling and a drama show covering the history of the Claremont Institution. Copies of the history of the institution, *The Avenue* may be obtained from the author, Rachel Pollard, at clarmontdeafheritage@gmail.com

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On Saturday morning as part of the link between the **Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough** and the **Diocese of Jerusalem** the Revd Dr William Olhausen, Theological Advisor to the Archbishop of Dublin, led the first in a two part course which is designed to broaden knowledge of life in the Diocese of Jerusalem. The study is based on 'Land of Promise', an Anglican exploration of Christian attitudes to the Holy Land, and will begin in the Church of Ireland Theological Institute at 10am.

Cathedral and choral

Last Wednesday, Mrs Heather Grindle visited the Dean and the Master of Choristers and the

Organist at **Belfast Cathedral** to make the very special donation to St Anne's of **Dr Harry Grindle's unpublished chants**. The cathedral already uses some of Harry's chants, as do other choirs, but there are more that are at the moment inaccessible. These will now be digitised (probably over the course of the Summer) and made available through the cathedral for free access. It is Heather's particular request that there be no restriction on their use.

Heather has already presented a number of Harry's books that are currently in the cathedral archive. However, **St Anne's is also receiving Donald Davison's music books**, the gift of Mrs Rosemary Davison, who also came to the cathedral, with Debbie her daughter, as the gathering of old friends gradually grew to include Catherine Harper. The Grindle/Davison collection of music related books is ultimately to be treated as one, and have a special place in the cathedral library, where again they may be consulted by anyone.

A further gift is that of Donald Davison's organ music. This too will be catalogued and made available to organists and especially those learning the organ. A system for this to work effectively has yet to be devised, but the intent is

that the music may be borrowed by organ scholars for extended periods of time.

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Belfast Community Gospel Choir will be performing at **Banbridge Leisure Centre** on Saturday June 18, 2016. Their aim is to bring the Banbridge community together to share in this joyful night whilst raising money for mental health support in Sri Lanka.

Belfast Community Gospel Choir (BCGC) are Northern Ireland's first and only multicultural gospel choir. They are comprised of over 100 auditioned singers from all over the province. Their dynamic performances, are charged with passion and energy. Their aim is to bring the Banbridge community together to share in this joyful night whilst raising money for mental health support in Sri Lanka.

Event Date: Saturday, 18 June, 2016 - 19:30.

Venue: Banbridge Leisure Centre, 15 Downshire Rd, Banbridge, County Down, BT32 3JY

Church or Organisation: Belfast Community Gospel Choir. Email: info@bcgc.biz

Website with further details: <http://www.bcgc.biz>

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The Parish of **St John the Evangelist, Orangefield, Belfast**, seeks to appoint an **Organist/Choirmaster** (part-time)

- to accompany the choir on the organ at our traditional services; and
- to lead, develop and grow this robed choir

Looking for:

- a Christian who is enthusiastic about developing traditional worship within a local church setting
- an accomplished organ-player and musician experienced in leading worship alongside a choir
- a well organised communicator and team player

Hours and salary: 12–16 hours per week including two services every Sunday, plus one evening's choir practice each week. Salary is negotiable but based on the Royal School of Church Music recommended rates. range details available on request. For further information please make contact on email:

office@stjohnsorangefield.org or tel: 028 9070 4493.

News links to reports on faith, politics and education

Fr Brian D'Arcy 'would have voted yes' to same-sex marriage

Irish Times

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/fr-brian-d-arcy-would-have-voted-yes-to-same-sex-marriage-1.2639729>

The nuns poured boiling water on our heads

News Letter

Margaret McGuckin is the stalwart campaigner for victims of historical institutional abuse in NI. In this harrowing interview she talks about the horrendous years she spent in the notorious Nazareth House orphanage

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/the-nuns-poured-boiling-water-on-our-heads-1-7368969>

Ashers two year wait has been worth it - manager's wife

News Letter/Irish Independent

The wife of the bakery manager at the centre of the 'gay cake' case has told how the two-year ordeal has been worth it, despite the difficulties linked to the controversy.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/ashers-two-year-gay-cake-ordeal-worth-it-says-amy-mcarthur-1-7370145>

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/news/irish-christian-bakers-praying-for-just-outcome-in-gay-cake-appeal-34690315.html>

Northern Irish election: Peace process generation turning away from traditional religious politics

The Independent

This election is the first one in which Northern **Ireland's** so called 'peace babies' or children born in the year of the Good Friday Agreement can vote.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/northern-irish-election-2016-younger-voters-abandon-traditional-religious-politics-for-newer-a7017256.html>

Priest in 'affair' allegations to be prison chaplain

Irish News

A priest who was stood down from ministry following allegations of an affair with a parishioner, has been nominated by the Diocese of Down and Connor for a role as prison chaplain, to administer pastoral care to prisoners.

http://www.irishnews.com/news/2016/05/03/news/fr-ciaran-dallat-priest-at-centre-of-affair-allegation-nominated-as-prison-chaplain-506505/?mc_cid=6e4022a4ad&mc_eid=23f2f80c40

BBC

Report that teaching unions have welcomed the government's decision to ditch plans to force all state schools in England to become academies. Includes comment from Andy Miller, head teacher at St Nicholas CofE Primary School in Blackpool, who says the forced academisation plan had been a mistake.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-36234989>

S Times

Report that as many as 1,000 primary schools are expected to be turned into academies after failing to

ensure that sufficient 11-year-olds pass the new tougher national tests in maths and English to be sat this week. Article notes this week's Government change of policy - instead of taking legal action to compel the remaining 17,000 schools under council control to join academy trusts, it now plans to convert failing schools and encourage good ones to sign up. Article includes comment from Helen McDaid, head teacher at St Margaret's CofE Primary School in Durham, who talks about the stress on pupils due to tests.
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/academy-threat-to-fa-i-l-ing-sch-o-ols-9p07gg6zt>

S Times

Report that Islamic Relief is to use bus adverts with a slogan praising Allah to raise funds for victims of war and disasters in countries such as Syria during Ramadan next month. Article notes that the campaign may raise eyebrows among Britain's practising Christians as last year leading cinema chains banned an advert that featured the Archbishop of Canterbury reciting the Lord's Prayer.
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/allah-goes-on-the-buses-to-aid-syrians-6n8fmkxw0>

S Exp

Short news item on the decline in church weddings includes comment from CofE saying 1,000 couples marry each week in a church in 'personal, spiritual and uplifting services'.
<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/668094/Couples-shunning-traditional-church-weddings-love-marriage-unity>

Mail/Guard/BBC

Range of reports on Labour's Sadiq Khan becoming the first Muslim Mayor of London. Articles all note that the human rights lawyer is the son of a London bus driver and was one of eight children. *Guardian* includes quote from Shuja Shafi, the secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain, who said Khan was "a figure of unity for all Londoners".

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3578049/Bus-drivers-son-Sadiq-Khan-1st-Muslim-London-mayor.html>

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/may/07/our-moment-tooting-muslims-sadiq-khan-london-mayoral-election-victory>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2016-36232392>

Mail

Feature on Scottish Tory leader Ruth Davidson, now Leader of the Opposition at Holyrood, having doubled her party's number of seats in this week's elections. She is described as a practising Christian (and has been a Sunday school teacher) and article notes that the politician, who is openly gay, struggled with her sexuality for years before deciding not to 'live a lie'.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3578058/Is-Ruth-Davidson-Maggie-21st-century.html#ixzz47x9knL39>

Christian Today

Report that an international plea for a global day of prayer for Christians in Aleppo has gone out for this Sunday, 8 May. Article says it is prompted by the intensive bombing that has recently brought yet more devastation to the city, killing hundreds and even hitting

hospitals according to Open Doors, the charity that serves persecuted Christians.

Guard

Report that one of Britain's biggest cemeteries, the City of London Cemetery, is leading the way on a solution to the nationwide shortage of grave spaces. Article notes that experts say finding ways to stop cemeteries overflowing is vital, but the most effective way of doing so – re-using graves – challenges some people's deeply held beliefs about burial. Article notes that re-use remains legal under church law but many churchyard burial grounds are now closed.

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/may/06/re-using-graves-means-uk-cemetery-will-never-run-out-of-space>

Tel/Mail

Reports on the Queen joining in celebrations for the 475th birthday of Berkhamsted School in Hertfordshire (St Albans's Diocese) as well as unveiling a board at the parish Church of St Peter's to mark her Diamond Jubilee.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/06/queen-helps-celebrate-berkhamsted-schools-475th-birthday/>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-3576904/The-Queen-wears-eye-catching-fuchsia-ensemble-meets-schoolchildren-Berkhamsted.html>

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May 9

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