

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Consecration at Christ Church

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The Bishop of Cork, The Archbishop of Dublin, The Bishop-elect of Cashel and his chaplain prior to the service of consecration on Sunday afternoon. See page

News reports



100 years of Mothers Union in Ballymena

St Patrick's, Ballymena, was the venue for Mid Connor Mothers' Union Area Service on October 17.



Pictured cutting the anniversary cake marking 100 years of St Patrick's Parish, Ballymena, MU, is Sally Cotter, Diocesan President, Jean Kennedy and Anne Adams

The Service of Holy Communion was led by the Rev Canon Mark McConnell, assisted by the Rev Andrew Moore.

After the opening hymn, a wall hanging which was made to celebrate 100 years of St Patrick's Parish, Ballymena, branch, was dedicated by Diocesan President Sally Cotter.

The address, on the MU theme 'Transformation – NOW!' was given by the Very Rev John Bond, former Dean of Connor. He spoke about the many ways in which Mothers'

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Union transformed lives in the past and is still changing lives today.

After the service, members were entertained to refreshments which included a special anniversary cake. (Photos by Loraine Watt).

Bart Players to present hilarious Irish comedy "Nobody's Talking To Me"



Actors Con McAlister (above) and Letitia Fitzpatrick were on air yesterday afternoon talking about the latest play Bart Players are about to present - the hilarious Irish comedy "Nobody's Talking To Me" by Tommy Marren.



Letitia Fitzpatrick

This is the first time the show has been produced in Northern Ireland although it has played in theatres across Ireland since 2017. Set in 1968 in rural Ireland, it's the eve of the 40th wedding anniversary of Maggie and Mattie Conway who haven't spoken a single word to each other in 10 years. Disaster strikes when the local parish priest Father O'Toole decides to surprise them by renewing their marriage vows. All hell breaks loose as a rollercoaster ride follows. Not to be missed.

Curtain up at 7.30pm on 4 and 5 November 2022 at the Canon Lindsay Hall, 183 Stranmillis Road, Belfast. Tickets are £10 and available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/bartplayers or at the door.

Consecration of Bishop Adrian Wilkinson



The Bishop of Cork, The Archbishop of Dublin, The Bishop-elect of Cashel and his chaplain prior to the service of consecration on Sunday afternoon. See page

The Consecration of the new Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory took place in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on Sunday afternoon.

A congregation of friends, colleagues in ministry, and parishioners greeted the Rt Revd Adrian Wilkinson as the new Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory on Sunday



afternoon (30th October) at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. Bishop Wilkinson was consecrated by Archbishop Michael Jackson, with Bishops Pat Storey and George Davison as co-consecrators.

The preacher was Bishop Paul Colton, whom Bishop Wilkinson assisted in his previous role as Archdeacon of Cork, Cloyne and Ross while serving as Rector of the Douglas Union of Parishes. The Bible was read by Mr Gary Wilkinson (Numbers 27:15–20, 22, 23), Mrs Hazel Corrigan

(2 Corinthians 4:1–10) and the Revd Dr Edwin Aiken (John 21:15–17) with Psalm 119:165–174 sung by the Cathedral choir.

Bishop Colton, reflecting on the passage from 2 Corinthians 4, noted how St Paul described ministry in the book's previous chapter: "It is the ministry of the new covenant. God's promises are fulfilled in Jesus. The day of salvation has come. The activity of the Spirit of God is seen in the lives of believers. It is a ministry that brings righteousness – it won't fade – it will last. All of this, says Saint Paul, gives us hope and this hope emboldens us."

He recalled the words of the New Testament scholar, Paula Gooder, speaking in Cork recently, who reflected that in several Scripture passages, "nothing external happens to enable hope to happen" and "that which should transform everything has already happened ... Hope is running rampant in the world. The question is whether we can join with it. There is hope because God is there. Jesus is there."

Bishop Colton remarked that St Paul is "quite open and frank about his own vulnerability and his weaknesses" later in this letter and lists an entire catalogue of the challenges and predicaments he encountered, in 2 Corinthians 11.

Concluding, and highlighting the timeless template for the ministry of a bishop in the words of the Ordinal, Bishop Colton asked the congregation to remember that, "the task of oversight is not exercised by the bishop on his or her own," adding: "Ministry is entrusted to all of us – it is a God-given calling, responsibility, opportunity and joy passed to all

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of us together. Yes, these are tough times and the calling is daunting, but ‘Since it is by God’s mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.’”



The Bishop of Cork, The Mayor of Cork, The Bishop-elect from Cork and a Senator from Cork.

The Revd David Nixon and the Revd Laurence Graham, representing the Methodist Church in Ireland as current and past presidents, joined Church of Ireland and other Anglican bishops in the laying on of hands as part of the act of consecration.

The Most Revd Denis Nulty, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, and the Most Revd Alphonsus Cullinan, Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, attended the service as ecumenical guests.

The congregational hymns were ‘For all the saints, who from their labours rest’, ‘Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire’, ‘Christ is the King, O friends rejoice!’ and ‘Angel–voices ever singing’.

At the close of the service, Bishop Wilkinson led the procession from the Cathedral, carrying the Bible and pastoral staff presented by Archbishop Jackson. Guests gathered after the service for refreshments in the nave of the nearby St Patrick’s Cathedral.

Bishop Adrian Wilkinson was born in 1968 and ordained in 1994. He initially served as Curate in Douglas Union with Frankfield, Rector of Dunboyne Union, and Rector of Rathmolyon with Castlerickard, Rathcore and Agher, before returning to Douglas Union as Rector in 2002. He was Archdeacon of Cork, Cloyne and Ross from 2014 onwards. Bishop Wilkinson is married to Jacqui, who is a lecturer in teacher education at the Church of Ireland Centre at Dublin City University, and they have three grown–up children – two sons and a daughter. He graduated in geography and sociology from Trinity College Dublin before training for ordination, and his interests in his free time are walking, travel and reading.

The United Dioceses of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory covers the south–east of Ireland, including counties Wexford, Carlow and Kilkenny in full, most of county Waterford, and parts of counties Wicklow, Laois and Tipperary. Bishop Wilkinson succeeds Bishop Michael Burrows, who served as Bishop from July 2006 to April this year, when he was

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translated into the new role of Bishop of Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe, covering most of the west of Ireland.

South Korean church leaders grief-stricken after Seoul stampede tragedy

Christian leaders in South Korea have expressed their shock and grief after over 150 people were killed in a stampede in Seoul over the weekend.

Churches in Korea are asking Christians to pray for the victims and their loved ones.



Christmas Market
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**THURSDAY 1ST DECEMBER
6PM-9PM**

*Local Business Stalls,
Christmas Cafe
& More*

**Free
Entry**

**DISABLED ACCESS & PARKING
VIA CHURCH DRIVEWAY**

Many churches took a moment to remember them in their Sunday services.

Rev Young-mo Ryu, of the United Christian Churches of Korea (UCCK), said, "We express our deepest condolences to the victims and their bereaved families in this

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shocking tragedy. We also pray for the injured to recover as soon as possible.

"I pray that God's comfort will be with the bereaved families who have been grieved, and we express our deepest condolences together with the people of Korea."

Pastor Song Tae-seop, also of the UCCK, said it was all the more tragic that many of the victims were in their teens and 20s.

"I can't believe how such a terrible disaster could happen in the middle of Seoul in the 21st century," said Han Gyo-yeon.

He called for "comprehensive and systematic" safety measures to be put in place.

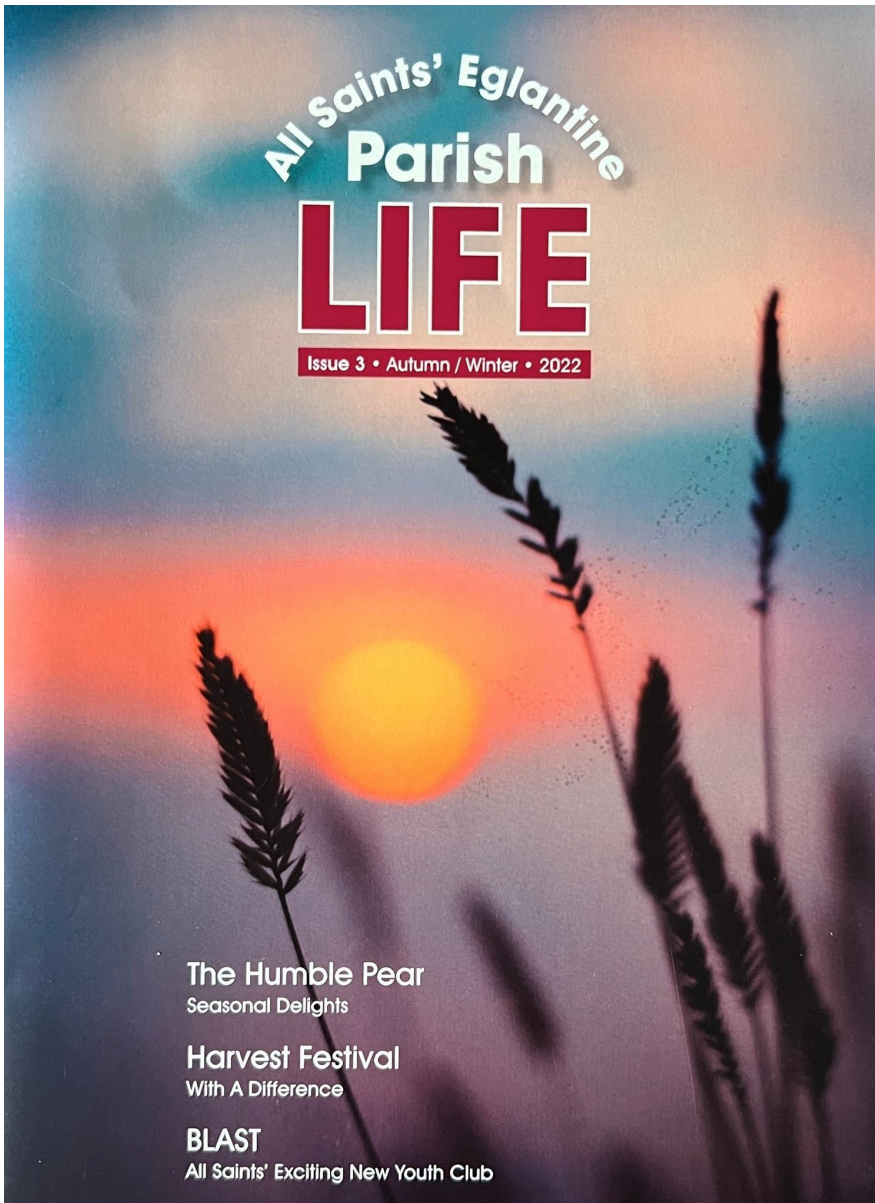
The tragedy unfolded during Halloween festivities in the Itaewon district of the South Korean capital, an area that is known for its nightlife. At least 154 people have died and a further 82 were injured.

President Yoon Suk-yeol has called for an investigation into the cause of the disaster and declared a period of national mourning.

Rev Soon-chang Lee, chairman of the Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK), said lessons must be learnt to ensure the tragedy does not happen again.

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He urged the government to ensure that families are supported and asked churches to pray for the injured and bereaved.



**Webinars,
music,
resources,
broadcasts,
and books**

**Stunning
parish
magazine
from
Eglantine,
Lisburn**

The Autumn/
Winter Edition of

Parish Life sets a high standard in both presentation and content.

Included is a one page feature on Canon Fred Graham, a former C of I Youth Officer and more besides. The article also includes the distinctive contribution of his wife Catherine .

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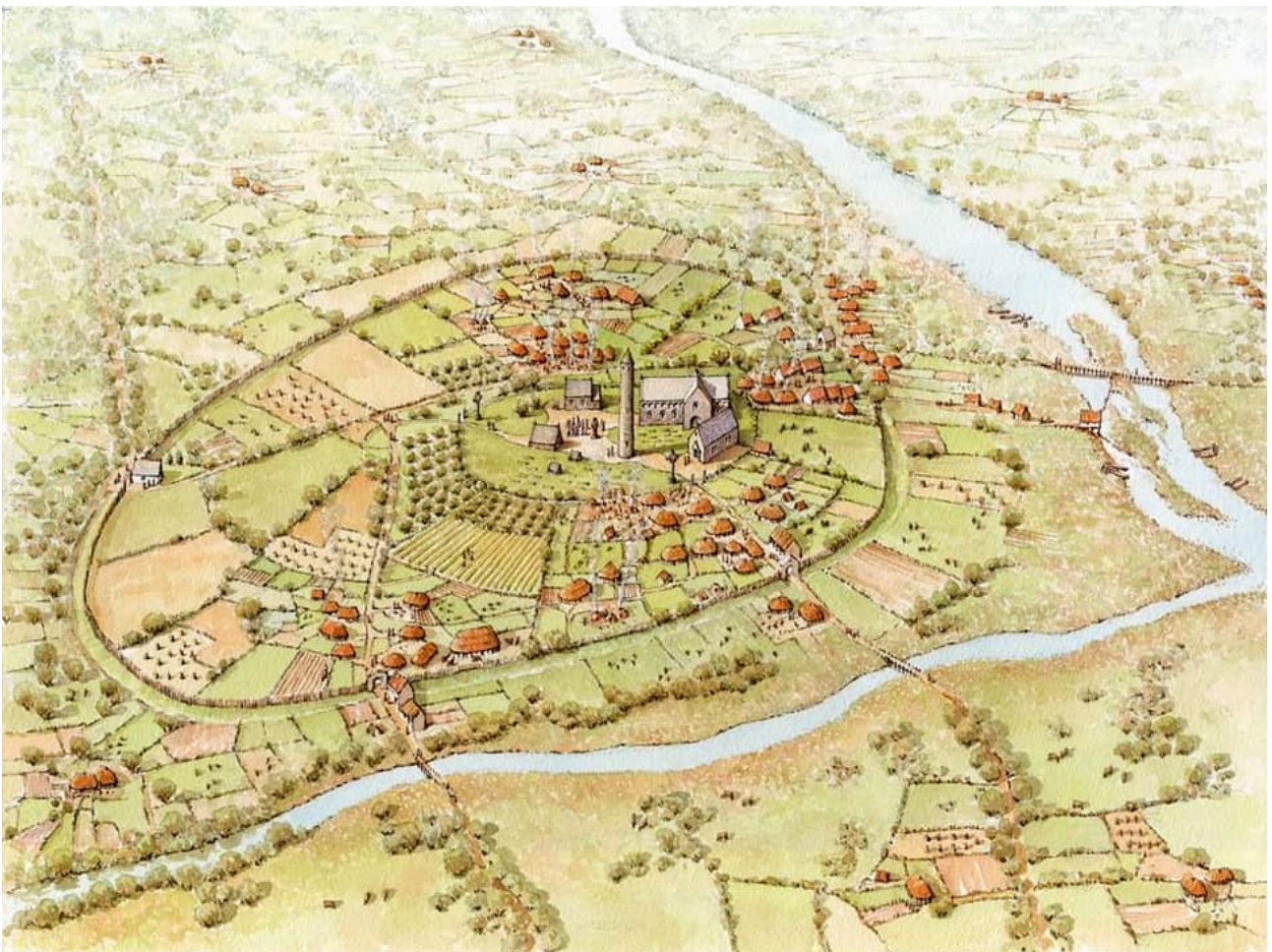
See for yourself at -

https://www.eglantine.org/_files/ugd/a86ba0_2d1785765ab4442c947e7eb82a81e0a1.pdf

Heritage

St Canice's roots in medieval church settlement

Last week Kilkenny Archaeology gave a presentation on the round tower of St Canice's.



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This wonderful reconstruction painting brings to life the early medieval church settlement of Cill Chainnigh, now occupied by St Canice's Cathedral. Christian worship began here nearly one-and-a-half thousand years ago and continues to this day. It was a monk from the north of Ireland named



Canice that founded a monastery here on a hill overlooking an ancient fording place on the river Nore. Kilkenny takes its name from the Irish for the church of Canice, Cill Chainnigh. During its first centuries the monastery was overshadowed by more powerful neighbouring churches, in particular St Patrick's at the opposite end of Kilkenny. Life was not easy during these years: waste food from a stone toilet-pit that was excavated in the Deanery Orchard showed the monks lived largely on porridge, nuts and berries, with only a small amount of meat.

However, great changes happened in the ninth century after St. Canice's was chosen by the king of Ossory as a royal monastery. Now the monks dined on roast beef, salmon, and vegetables washed down with fine wine! And instead of praying in the old timber church a fine stone building took its place. This looked out on the king's palace, the Bishop's house and a thriving settlement, with monks, lay brothers, craftworkers and farmers, all busy at work.

The round tower is the only building from the early monastery that still stands today. This was used for ringing the bell that marked time in the monastery. Round towers are to be found in only the most prestigious monasteries and this example was probably raised shortly after St. Canice's became the cathedral and chief religious centre for the diocese of Ossory in 1111 AD. As a centre of power St. Canice's was a target for the conquering Anglo-Norman armies in 1169. This was to bring about immense changes to the monastery. - Painting by Philip Armstong (Paint the Past) and C oil n   Drisceoil, for the dean and Select Vestry of St Canice's Cathedral.

Poem for today

Haunted Houses

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

All houses wherein men have lived and died
Are haunted houses. Through the open doors
The harmless phantoms on their errands glide,
With feet that make no sound upon the floors.

We meet them at the door-way, on the stair,
Along the passages they come and go,
Impalpable impressions on the air,
A sense of something moving to and fro.

There are more guests at table than the hosts
Invited; the illuminated hall
Is thronged with quiet, inoffensive ghosts,
As silent as the pictures on the wall.

The stranger at my fireside cannot see
The forms I see, nor hear the sounds I hear;
He but perceives what is; while unto me
All that has been is visible and clear.

We have no title-deeds to house or lands;
Owners and occupants of earlier dates
From graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands,
And hold in mortmain still their old estates.

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The spirit-world around this world of sense
Floats like an atmosphere, and everywhere
Wafts through these earthly mists and vapours dense
A vital breath of more ethereal air.

Our little lives are kept in equipoise
By opposite attractions and desires;
The struggle of the instinct that enjoys,
And the more noble instinct that aspires.

These perturbations, this perpetual jar
Of earthly wants and aspirations high,
Come from the influence of an unseen star
An undiscovered planet in our sky.

And as the moon from some dark gate of cloud
Throws o'er the sea a floating bridge of light,
Across whose trembling planks our fancies crowd
Into the realm of mystery and night,—

So from the world of spirits there descends
A bridge of light, connecting it with this,
O'er whose unsteady floor, that sways and bends,
Wander our thoughts above the dark abyss.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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