

Church News Ireland



In recognition of her service to King and Country,
this window is dedicated to the memory of
Nurse Edith Harkness (later Mrs Walter C McFarlane)
who served in
France during the Great War 1914-1916 and
Ripon Military Hospital, Yorkshire 1916-1920.
'Invaluable Service and Self-Sacrifice'
Presented by members of Upper Badoney Parish Church and
Edith Claire McElhinney (Grand-daughter of Nurse Harkness)
and author of "Tell Them of Us"
Dedicated by The Rt. Revd Andrew Forster,
The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe
20th November 2022

Image of the day

Memorial window to parish's First World War nurse

A new window commemorating one of the nursing heroes of the Third Home Rule period and of the subsequent First World War has been dedicated by the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Rt Rev Andrew Forster, at a service in Badoney Upper (Plumbridge).

Sunday afternoon's service, in St Patrick's Church of Ireland, was led by the Rector of the Ardstraw Group of Parishes, Rev Ivan Dinsmore, and attended by descendants of Edith McFarlane (née Harkness), the woman depicted in the memorial window.

Before she was married, Edith and her friends from the Newtownstewart area, became a detachment of the Ulster Volunteer Medical and Nursing Corps. At the time of its formation, it was envisaged that the Corps would serve in Ulster, treating those fighting against Home Rule. In fact, that scenario was averted by a much greater conflict, the First World War, which began in 1914.

Early in 1914, Edith enrolled as a Voluntary Aid Detachment Nurse with the Ulster Volunteer Company in Plumbridge. When war was declared in August that year, Edith volunteered her services to the Ulster Volunteer Medical and Nursing Corps. She was part of a group of nurses – mostly from north Tyrone – who set off to Pau in southern France to



nurse wounded French soldiers. Edith served in France until 1916, when she relocated to Ripon Military Hospital in Yorkshire, where she remained until 1920 (a total of six years' service).

A plaque beneath the new window says, 'Presented by members of Upper Badoney Parish Church and Edith Claire McElhinney (Grand-daughter of Nurse Harkness) and author of "Tell Them of Us"'. Ms McElhinney said proceeds from the book - which was produced

In his sermon, Bishop Forster said that Upper Badoney Parish Church was the community of faith that

nurtured, helped and encouraged Edith Harkness. Her service was borne out of love for God, that called her to do greater things than perhaps she had ever imagined.

Bishop Forster acknowledged the courage and compassion of Nurse Harkness during those six years when she helped treat the physical and mental scars of war. "Isn't it simply wonderful," he said, "that all these years later, we can say truly she is not forgotten? Her service is honoured, and for time immemorial, people will come into this church and see

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a picture on a window that talks of love, and compassion, and prayer and all that it was to give your best for your country and for those whom you loved.”

Leighlin enthronement



Bishop Adrian Wilkinson was enthroned as Bishop of Leighlin in St Laserian's Cathedral on Sunday afternoon.

The Bishop after the service with ecumenical colleagues Bishop Nulty, Fr Pat Hennessey and The Reverend Susan Gallagher.



70th Anniversary of Lisbellaw Mothers' Union Branch

The 70th Anniversary of the formation of the Lisbellaw Branch was marked with a special service and a visit by Clogher Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union, Mrs Heather Ellis. The members provided refreshments and collated a display.



Rathlin Island Remembrance

Remembrance Day on Rathlin follows a week after when church, civic, services and ex-service representatives gather and remember in particular those lost in HMS Racoon and HMS Viknor.

The remains of several members of both ships' companies were interred on the island and are marked by the distinctive Commonwealth Graves Commission headstones.





The Church of St Thomas on Rathlin. The rector is the Reverend Patrick Barton.

Praise Service Celebrating 20 Years of Roe Valley Christian Radio



Worship led by Myroe Music Group with special musical guests - the Derramore Singers

Special interviews by presenters; past and present.

Speaker: Rev David Brownlow

Light refreshments served afterwards

Celebrating 20 years of Christian broadcasting

A service to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Roe Valley Christian Broadcasting will be held in in Ballykelly Presbyterian Church on Sunday November 27 at 7 pm.

The organisers state it will be an uplifting evening of praise and thanksgiving. There will be music by Myroe Music Group, the Derramore singers and Sue Whitla as well as interviews with presenters and a chance to hear the history of RVCR.

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Other RVCR presenters will also be taking part and the epilogue will be delivered by Rev. David Brownlow, a new presenter last year. There will be some refreshments served afterwards as well. A warm welcome awaits.



Ballyclare churches winter coat giveaway

The team at The United Parish of Christ Church & St John's in Ballynure and Ballyclare worked tirelessly to get everything ready for Collection Day in the Church Hall on the Doagh Road, Ballyclare. It was an incredible effort by the team to sort through the hundreds of top quality items that were donated so generously by you over the past few weeks, to help those who need them most in our community.

The Hall at St John's opened from 9am - 1pm for folk to call by and check out what was available. There was a fantastic selection of adult and children's coats, hats, scarves and gloves to choose from in a range of colours, styles and sizes. Callers got a warm welcome and a wee cup of tea and a chat. The facility was organised in co-operation with ROC Northern Ireland

Dublin lunch time concert

On Thursday at 1.20pm there will be a lunchtime concert in St Ann's church, Dublin, where the Degani Piano Trio will play the Cecile Chaminade Piano Trio No. 1 in G Minor.

Botany, gardens and books at Armagh

In the Armagh Robinson Library at 7.30pm on Thursday the Rokeby Lecture will be given by Dr Elizabeth Boran, Librarian of the Dr Edward Woth Library in Dublin. She will speak on 'Botany and the Garden in the Libraries of Dr Edward Worth and Archbishop Richard Robinson'. Admission is free but booking is essential at admin@armaghrobinsonlibrary.co.uk or 048/028 3752 3142.

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

Liturgical resources for the new Church Year

The Liturgical Advisory Committee (LAC) of the Church of Ireland has made Sunday and Weekday liturgical resources for the new church year available online.

Through the Church of Ireland website, worship leaders and others can access:

The Collects, Readings and Post Communion Prayer as well as some hymn suggestions for each Sunday;

Resources and Orders of Service for daily worship including Holy Communion, Morning and Evening Prayer, the Late Evening Office, and Compline; and

A PDF download of the Sunday and Weekday Readings from Advent Sunday 2022 until the day before Advent 2023.

Each of these pages allows access to a calendar which enables users to navigate directly to the date of their choosing.

Speaking about the resources, the Ven Ricky Rountree, the LAC's Vice–Chair, said:

“These resources, which include readings and resources for Sunday Services and Daily Prayer, form the bedrock of our worshipping life in the Church of Ireland. Increasingly, clergy and other worship leaders and parishioners are using the website to access these resources digitally. The LAC remains indebted to our former member, the Revd Ken Rue, who continues to draw these resources together each year for upload to the Church of Ireland website. We are glad to commend these resources for the next liturgical year to the use of the Church.”

Booklet

The annual Sunday and Weekday Readings booklet is also now available, with a view to helping worship planners and lesson readers know the appointed readings for Sundays and weekdays, and those who wish to follow a personal course of Scripture readings which is tied in with the Church calendar.

Sunday and Weekday Readings may be obtained from the Church of Ireland's online bookstore or from Richard Ryan at the Book Well, Belfast

Email: info@thebookwell.co.uk mobile: 07581143596).

The price is £3.50/€4.00 per booklet.

Poem for today

A November Day by Francis Duggan

The pleasant scent waft in the breeze of the freshly mown
hay

And the blackbird singing sweetly in the warm sun of the
day

And the capeweed in their yellow blooms in their billions one
can see

In the paddocks and roadside margins by the roadway to
the sea

The rumble of the surf waves tells the ocean is quite near

And the familiar flute of the magpie is so pleasant for to hear

The last week of November and Spring is near a close

And a healthy rich red colour on the petals of the rose
A nice and a warm day in very late Spring and from the
shrubs and blossom laden trees
The intoxicating scent of Nature's perfume is blown out by
the warm and freshening breeze
The coastal countryside bathed in sunshine and white
butterflies are dancing in the sky
And the dark winged welcome swallows are chirping as they
fly
Above the sunlit coast lands on this beautiful Spring day
And in the warm breeze blowing the scents of bloom and
hay.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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