

# Church News Ireland

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**Image of the day – Holy Cross Church, Vancouver**



November 9, 2022

## Image of the day

**Holy Cross Anglican Church, Vancouver**



“All Saints’ day —- We decorated our church with a thousand paper cranes. One thousand origami cranes are the symbol of blessings.”

## News reports

**Ode to Joy – Crumlin parishioners thank long serving organist**

**This year’s Harvest Thanksgiving Service in St Mary’s Church, Crumlin, Dublin, marked the end of an era.**



### **Joy Elliott at the keyboard during her final service as organist at St Mary's Church, Crumlin.**

After 64 years at the keyboard, organist Joy Elliott was retiring. Parishioners gathered to say farewell and to celebrate all she had contributed to the parish.

Joy not only led the music in the church for over six decades and played for parish musicals and dances in times past, she was also a link to the foundation of the new church in Crumlin. The Rector who appointed Joy to her position in 1958 was Canon Walter Burrows, who was the Rector who built St Mary's Church. "It could well be said that Joy in her music has shaped this church community almost as much as Canon Burrows," the current Rector, the Revd Ruth Noble stated.





Joy with Daphne Deacon and Ava and the cake baked to mark the occasion.

Joy began her career as organist at the age of 13. She first played in the Black Church in Dublin and then in Malahide before coming to St Mary's, Crumlin.

Speaking at the reception following the Harvest Service, Revd Ruth spoke of Joy's "constant and unflapping service".

"As the Covid pandemic highlighted so powerfully to us, church without music and real singing is but a pale shadow. In fact we know throughout scripture that music is at the heart of life – right from David as a small boy bringing comfort to King Saul to the scenes of all the creatures and angels and saints singing praise to God in heavenly places," she said.

The Rector continued: "Joy, as someone who has always played with life and meaning, who has so wisely chosen

hymns and encouraged us to sing all sorts of hymns, who has had an uncanny knack of choosing the right hymn even when she didn't know what the clergy were preaching about. Down to that special touch of the choice of vesper hymn, that last moment of thought and reflection before we head off, so often so fitting."

She added that Joy had been an honour to have with her at so many moments in the church and paid tribute to her patience. "All any of us can say is, Thank you Joy," she concluded. To mark the occasion Joy planted a rose in the church garden. There was a special cake based on Joy's favourite hymn, baked by Daphne Deacon and Ava, and the choir composed a hymn for the day entitled Ode to Joy.

## **Launching the Cork, Cloyne and Ross programme for MindMatters Col**

**MindMatters Col is a three-year project aimed at promoting and supporting positive mental health within the Church of Ireland and the wider community.**

The Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross have launched a series of talks in support of this project, beginning with the keynote speaker Dr Chris Luke on the 3rd December. Dr Chris Luke's topic will be Mind-ing Mental Health: our role and ourselves.

The Rev. Terry Mitchell, Diocesan Further Education and Training Officer, writes:

There is still a significant level of stigma in relation to mental health and these series of talks and discussions, in an informal setting, will help to address this issue. The talks will also help to provide the necessary information around mental health, for one's own well being as well as supporting others.

After the initial launch on 3rd December 2022, the programme will continue early next year and follow a similar format of a guest speaker, sharing a meal together and a group discussion. Some of the topics planned for next year include mental health and bereavement, suicide, dementia, gender identity, migration, addiction, homelessness and supporting people with a disability.

It is hoped that participants will find these talks and discussions both informative and helpful, and we would like to encourage everyone to attend. We would also like to thank Victoria Trust Cork and MindMatters COI for their financial support for this important project.

Those who are interested in the event and would like to attend should please register via the event on Eventbrite.ie.

## **Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Association Remembrance Services in London and Armagh**

**On Saturday, 12 November 2022 the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Association will hold a Remembrance Service at the Fields of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey, London to honour the memory and sacrifice of their fallen comrades.**

**Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Association**

**ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY GC  
CENTENARY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**



**Field Of Remembrance  
Westminster Abbey, London  
&  
County Armagh Memorial Wall  
St. Mark's Church, The Mall, Armagh  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
At 10 30am**

At exactly the same time a 'mirror' Remembrance Service will take place at the County Armagh Memorial Wall, St. Mark's Parish Church, The Mall, Armagh.

The short service consists of a welcome, the laying of wreaths, the RUC GC Collect, the Royal British

Legion Exhortation, Last Post/Piper's Lament, two-minute silence, the Kohima Epitaph and the Lord's Prayer.

Anyone who would like to attend either of the services should assemble at the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Plot at the Fields of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey or at the County Armagh Memorial Wall, St. Mark's Parish Church, The Mall, Armagh from 10:15am. Both services will start at 10:30 am sharp.





## Garvaghy Sunday School marks the Platinum Jubilee



This week the Children of Garvaghy Church Sunday school (Down & Dromore) planted a tree for the Platinum jubilee of her late Majesty's reign 2022. The deputy Lord Mayor Tim



November 9, 2022


McClelland and Alderman Paul Rankin were present for the occasion.

St. Mark's Players & Knock Drama present  
an amateur production

# MURDERED TO DEATH

*A Comedy by Peter Gordon*

**Parish Hall, St. Mark's Dundela**  
(corner of Holywood Road/Sydenham Avenue,  
parking available in adjacent church grounds at own risk)



*Curtain Up @ 7:30 pm*

**10th, 11th & 12th November 2022**

For further information and bookings please call 02890 654090  
Admission £10, inc. £1 charitable donation to Helping Hand  
Includes refreshments - Pay at door



The image contains two promotional posters for Saint Columb's Cathedral. The top poster is for a 'CANDLELIGHT ADVENT PROCESSION' on Sunday, 27th November, at 7.30 p.m. It features a photograph of the cathedral at night with a large lit candle in the foreground. The bottom poster is for 'NINE LESSONS & CAROLS' on Sunday, 18th December, at 7.30 p.m. It features a stylized 'C' logo with a cross and the text 'NINE LESSONS & CAROLS' in large, ornate letters. Both posters include the text 'The First Sunday of Advent' and 'The Fourth Sunday of Advent' respectively. A small logo for 'Derry City & Strabane District Council' is visible in the bottom right corner of the second poster.

*Saint Columb's Cathedral*  
**CANDLELIGHT ADVENT PROCESSION**  
**From Darkness to Light**

**Sunday**  
**27th November**  
The First Sunday of Advent  
**7.30 p.m.**

**NINE LESSONS &**  
**CAROLS**

**Sunday 18th December**  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
**7.30 p.m.**

Derry City & Strabane  
District Council  
Cathedral Chapter  
on Trinity Day  
Derry City & Strabane  
District Council

## **Derry dates for your diary**

Here are a couple of dates for your diary - dramatic events to help get you in the mood for the festive season. St Columb's Cathedral will mark the beginning of Advent with a candlelight procession, 'From Darkness to Light' on Sunday 27th November, and on Sunday 18th December the Cathedral will hold a Service of 'Nine Lessons and Carols'.

## Bereavement

**Irish Benedictine monk and former prior of Glentsal Abbey, Fr Placid has died aged 104 in Limerick.**

Born Michael Murray in Lismore, Co. Waterford in 1918 he made his simple profession in 1937 and was subsequently sent to Belgium where he studied philosophy and started studying theology.

He published a book in 1969 on St John Henry Newman called Newman the Oratorian: Oratory Papers (1846 – 1878), for which he received a doctorate in theology.

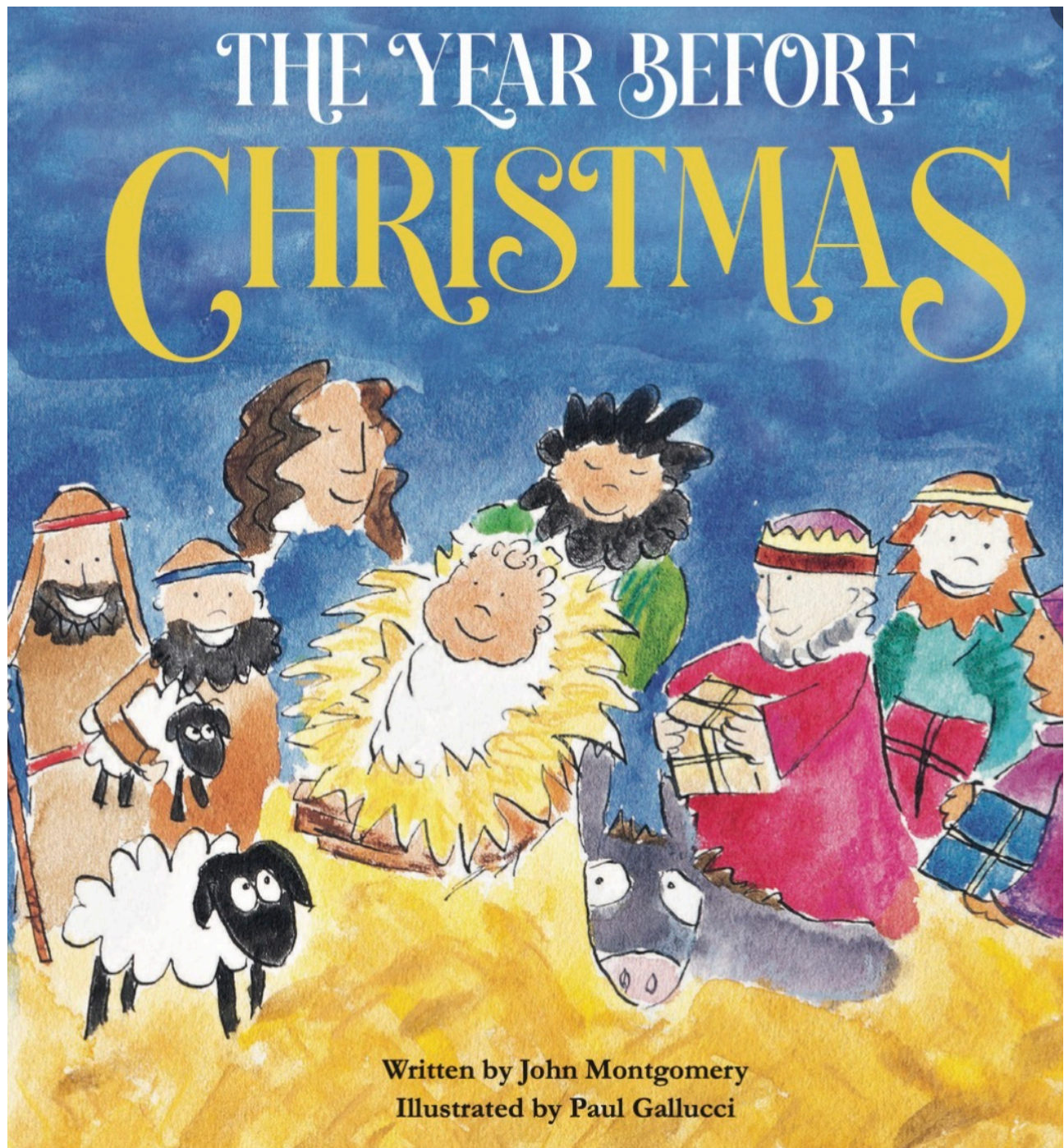
## Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

### The Year Before Christmas – the Rev John Montgomery's poem brought to book

**The Rev John Montgomery has written a book featuring a poem with illustrations, 'The Year Before Christmas.'**

This book has been wonderfully illustrated by Paul Gallucci and its aim is to raise funds for the Methodist Child Care Society which supports families who are struggling.





The book costs €6 or £5 and all profits go to this society.

To pre-order/order your copy please use the following link:  
<https://form.jotform.com/223012826485353>.

**CNI**

## Perspective

### Forget an election, we need a complete review of institutions by Jon Tonge

**If anyone finds the secretary of state's credibility, could they please hand it in to their nearest lost property office? It's been missing since October 28.**

Credit to Chris Heaton-Harris for finally seeing that no one with a pulse believed a December election was a useful Christmas gift.

But his grandstanding over the election-that-never-was has led to huge and entirely needless embarrassment. How does he hope to be believed in future?

The Northern Ireland secretary's political hero, Boris Johnson, appears before the Privileges Committee soon over whether he deliberately misled Parliament.

The ungenerous might want Heaton-Harris up there too, given his dissembling to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee about how he would definitely call an election.

Perhaps it would have been useful to have checked with the boss, Rishi Sunak.

His intervention — “Are you sure this is a good idea, Chris?” — appears to have stopped the madness of Heaton-Harris and his sidekick, Steve “on this, there will be no U-turn” Baker, Northern Ireland's Laurel and Hardy.

Quite why it did not occur to the secretary of state that an election in which the only possible seat-gainers were Sinn Féin and the DUP might be a bad idea is unclear.

In the process, he has achieved the remarkable feat of making some of his predecessors look like Einstein in comparison.

In defence of Heaton-Harris, he was lumbered with a shocking piece of legislation from one of those former post-holders, Brandon Lewis. His Northern Ireland (Ministers, Elections and Petitions of Concern) Act was a shocker.

It preserved a pointless zombie government, allowed 24 weeks of prevarication and focused on removing Assembly petitions of concern, which are no longer a problem anyway.

Where to now? As a referee, Heaton-Harris must have been keen on stoppage time, as the election game is still in play.

The idea that a January election could somehow resolve the NI Protocol standoff is equally improbable.

Much more plausible is emergency legislation containing the magic formula that the secretary of state will determine when an election may be called.

If Heaton-Harris wants to keep alive a snap election, a more credible position would be to moot the idea of holding it next May, on the same day as the local elections.

That has several advantages. First, voters might be able to exercise the voice on the outcome of negotiations on the protocol.



Second, the DUP might — just might — be willing to return to the institutions (but I'm not holding my breath).

Third, electors will be heading to the polls anyway. There is not a huge difference between council and Assembly election turnouts. Fourth, two elections in one day saves much-needed money.

What is really needed now, though, is not an election but a fundamental review of the power-sharing institutions. During the past five years, they have been suspended for a longer percentage of time (58%) than during their first five (48%), when instability was excusable. The taoiseach has called for such a review. We've yet to hear anything substantial from Sunak. The looming 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement provides an ideal opportunity.

That review needs to examine how to leave veto-land behind. Should MLAs have to designate permanently as unionist, nationalist or other?

Why not move to weighted majority voting, requiring 65% support for a measure, rather than preserve communal designations?

Could a voluntary Executive coalition of parties willing to serve replace mandatory coalition? When will the 'others' be recognised as a bloc? Is there a need for both a first and deputy first minister? If there is, should they be retitled as joint first ministers?

Joint authority has not been worked out and is not going to happen soon. Nor is a border poll imminent. So power-sharing is all that is on offer. One day it might even happen.

**Jon Tonge is Professor of Politics at the University of Liverpool.**

**Courtesy Belfast Telegraph 05. November, 2022**

## Poem for today

### Dulce Et Decorum Est from Horace-Wilfred Owen

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,  
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,  
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs  
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.  
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots  
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;  
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots  
Of disappointed shells that dropped behind.

GAS! Gas! Quick, boys!-- An ecstasy of fumbling,  
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time;  
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling  
And floundering like a man in fire or lime.--  
Dim, through the misty panes and thick green light  
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,  
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams you too could pace  
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,  
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,  
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;  
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood  
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,  
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud  
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,--  
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest  
To children ardent for some desperate glory,  
The old Lie: Dulce et decorum est  
Pro patria mori.

## Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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## Church News Ireland

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