

Chrism Eucharist At Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin

**Clergy,
Deacons and
Lay Ministers
from all over
the Dioceses
of Dublin and
Glendalough
gathered in
Christ Church
Cathedral on
Maundy
Thursday, for
the Chrism
Eucharist.**



The service was celebrated by Archbishop Michael Jackson. During it the Lay Ministers, Deacons, Priests and the Archbishop renewed their commitment to Ministry. Oils for use during services and in pastoral care during the year were also consecrated. The Archbishop washed the feet of some of the congregation.

In his sermon, the Archbishop addressed the themes brought up during Holy Week and on Maundy Thursday. He said that Holy Week brought a heightened tension and in the final three days, an increase in pressure, power and patience.

He spoke of fear and the self-realisation and self-recognition it could bring. Self-delusion, stockpiles to keep questions about ourselves at bay, could be faced and addressed by the cold wind of fear in a way that would never be done without fear driving us, he said.

“As Holy Week is structured for us, in Word and Sacrament, we get a real sense of such fear growing and escalating around and within us. For all four authors of the written Gospel, there is a sense of surging, eschatological movement as Jesus, the living Gospel, makes his way authoritatively through the city of Jerusalem. There is also a strong sense of confrontation. People meet in narrow streets and they always seem to need more space than the geography of the place allows them. So many of the characters with whom we have seen Jesus engage in the three short years of his ministry *resurface*,” Archbishop Jackson said.

He talked about clergy who needed care and attention to enable them to do their jobs. He said that like roads which were resurfaced in order to provide infrastructure to support walkers, drivers and cyclists, clergy needed care and attention. “Like the roads, we also need to be resurfaced for a number of very good reasons: our role is to give to other people confidence and compassion in the name of Jesus Christ and through the ministries of the church; in order to do this we need a very well maintained spiritual infrastructure and the most important form of care and support is the care and support we offer to ourselves and to one another,” he explained.

Roads in Mayo get prayers and blessings in a bid to reduce road deaths

The ceremonies will take place at all Catholic and Church of Ireland churches in the county on **Sunday**. The Journal.ie - The roads in County Mayo will be blessed this



Fr. Michéal Mannion from the parish of Westport, Co. Mayo blesses the road to raise local awareness of road safety and the grief associated with loss of life and serious injury caused by road accidents.

week in what Mayo County Council describe as a “novel ceremony” aimed at reducing the number of people who die in traffic accidents each year.

A special ‘blessing of the roads ceremony’ will take place in most parishes and services throughout the county on Easter Sunday as religious leaders back the campaign to make the roads safer, said the council.

The ceremony, which will place at all Catholic and Church of Ireland churches on Sunday is being promoted by the Road Safety office of Mayo County Council.

Noel Gibbons, Road Safety Officer for Mayo County Council said that the blessing of roads also takes place in Australia in a bid to raise awareness of road safety, adding that this year, they were introducing the initiative to Mayo.

Gibbons added that six people were killed on Mayo’s roads last year. The total so far this year is three.

Tuam Archdiocese spokesperson Father Fintan Monaghan said the church was “fully behind the campaign. We all need to play our part to reduce the number of road deaths”.

PCI Ignite Team of Healthcare Workers getting ready to Go!

A team of 12 healthcare professionals are making their final preparations for going to Malawi next week.

Dr Moyna Bill from Lowe Memorial Presbyterian Church, Belfast is leading the team, which has members from various PCI congregations.

This ‘Go-See-Do’ medical team, will enable participants to experience something of the challenges of mission and healthcare provision in an overseas context and will work alongside with PCI Missionary Dr [Neil Kennedy](#).

The team met on Thursday night last to finalise their preparations. They are due to depart for Malawi next **Friday, 25th April** and return on 10th May.



President to Attend Battle of Clontarf Commemoration Service



President Michael D Higgins, will attend the Ecumenical Service to commemorate the 1,000th anniversary of the Battle of Clontarf in the Church of St John the Baptist, Seafield Road West, Clontarf, on Wednesday April 23 at 12.00 noon.

The date coincides with the actual anniversary of the infamous battle fought on Good Friday 1014 between the forces of Brian Boru and the forces of the King of Leinster, Mael Morda mac Murchada, supplemented by Viking mercenaries. It ended in a rout of Mael Morda's forces and the death of around 10,000 warriors including Brian.

The theme of the commemorative service will be Peace and Reconciliation. It will be attended by representatives of the six Christian churches in Clontarf, as well as the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Revd Dr Michael Jackson. The address will be given by the Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin, the Most Reverend Eamonn Walsh, representing Archbishop Diarmuid Martin.

Representatives of local business, sporting, educational, leisure and political interests will be present along with the Danish Ambassador to Ireland, Niels

Pultz, and the Norwegian Ambassador to Ireland, Ronald Names as well as representatives of the Irish Defences forces. A yew tree will be planted in the church grounds on the day to commemorate this major event for Clontarf and its environs.



Craigavon Area Hospital annual Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance

The annual Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for families bereaved through the death of a baby at Craigavon Area Hospital will take place in the Medical Education Centre (main hospital site) at 3.00 pm on Sunday 11 May.

The Trust Choir will lead the worship and the speaker is Sr. Fiona Galligan.

The event is being organized by the Chaplaincy Team who warmly invite anyone who has been bereaved through the death of a baby to take time out to reflect and to remember them.

There will be an opportunity during the service to create a floral tribute so in light of this some may wish to bring a flower in memory of their loved one.

Refreshments will be served afterwards and there will be an opportunity to chat with the chaplaincy team and other support staff.

General Synod dates

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland will take place from Thursday 8 May to Saturday 10 May at Christ Church Cathedral in central Dublin.

The Synod is scheduled to commence in the nave of the cathedral at 10.00 am on Thursday 8 and to finish at 4.30 pm on Saturday 10. The Synod Eucharist will be held in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin on Thursday 8 at 7.30 pm.

Further details on the business of the General Synod will be made available closer to the time. The [General Synod's website](#) will provide useful information and materials on a rolling basis during the three days.



Church member and Independent MLA David McClarty dies

The independent unionist Northern Ireland Assembly member David McClarty has died after an illness.

David was a member of the Church of Ireland and a parishioner of Killowen, Coleraine, in Derry diocese.

Read more:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-27076640>

I can't just sit and watch the misery of divorce, says judge as he quits


A senior judge has called for action to 'stem the tide' of family breakdown – as it was revealed Britain has more failed marriages than almost any other country.

Mailonline - Sir Paul Coleridge retired from the High Court's Family Division on Thursday after he was formally warned over campaigning for marriage.

He said he could not 'sit here day after day' seeing the effect of family breakdown without speaking out against it.

In December he was reprimanded by heads of the judiciary after setting up the Marriage Foundation think tank and airing views in a newspaper

Join us for Taizé Prayer around the Cross for all who are ill...
Good Friday 7.30-8:30pm

If you would like us to pray for someone please send a text to
+353 87 3939142
or tweet their name or
live-tweet your prayer request during the service
 @goodfridaycuh #goodfridaycuh

Chapel of Christ the Healer, Cork University Hospital

On Good Friday from 7:30pm there was an ecumenical 'Service of Prayer around the Cross' in the Chapel of Christ the Healer at Cork University Hospital. In addition to being broadcast on Hospital Radio CUH102FM this year there was an open invitation for people outside the hospital to share in this prayer through social media and SMS text.

article.

At a retirement ceremony yesterday, Sir Paul said: 'I know how consoling and good a good marriage can be and how it gets better over the years and also how ghastly family breakdown can be. Something can and should be done to stem the tide of family breakdown.

'Family judges have a unique experience of this and therefore a unique contribution to make.

'We should not be afraid to speak out ... I cannot sit here day after day watching misery and doing nothing.'

Sir Paul's comments came as an international report found barely half of UK adults are married – and almost one in ten are divorced or separated. Only four countries in the West have a higher proportion of divorcees who have not remarried.

Last night Norman Wells, of campaigners Family and Youth Concern, said the rise in unmarried cohabitation, outlined in the report, was a 'disaster for children' as it meant their parents were more likely to separate.

How evangelical Christians are using social action to revivify church brand

From food banks to job clubs, there are signs that evangelical Christians are reclaiming idea of church as community servant

Andrew Brown in The Guardian - [The archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, told the Guardian this week](#) that "there is a certain toxicity about the brand" of [Christianity](#). It is a concern most keenly felt among evangelical Christians. One senior source at the Evangelical Alliance, an umbrella organisation representing about a million British Christians, says part of their job is to "detoxify the brand". These are extraordinary admissions from what is normally the most boosterish and self-confident part of the Christian church.

There are increasing signs that evangelical Christian groups are using social action to detoxify their brand, weaving their charitable work into the fabric of people's lives. As the welfare state retreats, faith groups are increasingly supplying volunteers, local knowledge, and sometimes money to the places left behind.

The Christian charity the Trussell Trust runs 420 [food banks](#). In Wales, Evangelical churches run social projects worth more than £100m a year, according to Elfed Godding, of the Evangelical Alliance in Wales. Most of these run on very small grants but they cover an enormous range of needs. Church projects in Wales include street pastors, debt counselling, help for young offenders and ex-offenders, fitness classes, job clubs, and help for fathers and their children, as well as food banks and projects to supply food for schoolchildren in the holidays when they don't get school meals.

Godding was one of the 20 church leaders who went out into the streets of Cardiff on Maundy Thursday to shine the shoes of passersby. This is a piece of theatre borrowed from the Catholic tradition of foot-washing on Maundy Thursday – an imitation of Jesus's action on the last week of his life. It symbolises the idea that the church is there as the servant of the community – increasingly important in evangelical self-image. More at -

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/18/evangelical-christians-social-action-revivify-church-brand?CMP=twf_fd

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