



Fundraising pair cook fish and chips on top of Kilimanjaro



Alan Hanna of Pitstop Fast Food in Kilkeel and Malachy Mallon, owner of the Dolphin in Armagh and Dungannon were joined by the President of the Kilkeel Chamber of Commerce Alan Knox to present £20,000 to the

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Fishermen's Friends (represented by Ingrid Perry and Lesley Hammond), and £7,000 to the Fortune Kids & Education Foundation Orphanage in Tanzania.

Representing some of the sponsors were Paul Allum and William Patterson from Golden Glen; Noel Horran from Key Pack Solutions; Craig Blaney from McWhinney's Sausages and Darren Kelly from V F Foods

Two award winning chip shop owners from Northern Ireland have raised £27,000 for charity after cooking fish suppers at the top of Mount Kilimanjaro, Belfast Live reports.

Alan Hanna, owner of Pitstop Fast Food in Kilkeel, and Malachy Mallon, owner of the Dolphin in Armagh and Dungannon, travelled to Tanzania to climb the 20,000ft volcano with a goal in mind. In a bid to give back to their own communities as well as those in need in Tanzania, the chippie owners took their business to the peak of the world's highest free-standing mountain.

They raised £20,000 for The Fishermen's Mission, a charity that delivers welfare support to fishermen and their families.

The charity works alongside rescue teams and provide emergency response for survivor's of fishing accidents and to families of those lost or killed at sea.

Mr Mallon said: "We wanted to raise more money for the Fishermen's Mission and we needed a big challenge to gain sponsorship.

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"So at the top of the world, we did what we do best, cooked fish and chips.

"We had trained well for the climb and the cooking was great fun, and of course it was an amazing adventure. But it's important to remember the real difference we can all make in the lives of those who face daily struggles.

"That mixture of cheering each other on and accepting the temporary discomfort, meant we could overcome eight days of climbing, because it was helping so many other people who have to overcome adversity every day."

During their trip, Mr Hanna and Mr Mallon presented £5,000 to Fortune Kids and Education Foundation Orphanage in Tanzania. A further £2,000 was donated to the orphanage on behalf of a local business man.

The donation provided food, mattresses, access to running water and a year's rent for the orphanage. It also helped pay for health insurance for the children and wages for the staff.

Mr Hanna and Mr Mallon received support from a number of food companies for their trip.

Mr Hanna said: "We had brought some of the food with us. We got potatoes at a local market and despite no running water and only a two ring gas stove, we practiced our pop-up cooking skills for the staff and children.

"The sausages, fish and chips were devoured."

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The duo set off at 11.45pm for the final climb to the summit, along with a small group of climbers.

Mr Hanna added: "Each stage was breathtaking. The nights were extremely cold and lack of sleep added to the worry of low oxygen levels and altitude sickness.

"One of the group had to pull out, just an hour from the summit. Knowing people had been donating and knowing how much the Fishermen's Mission needed the support, kept us focused."

Archbishop of Canterbury says Christians in the Middle East face 'imminent extinction'

Christians who were the foundation of the universal Church now face the threat of "imminent extinction", the Archbishop of Canterbury has warned.



In a letter written in The Sunday Telegraph, the Most Rev Justin Welby reflected on how long Christians have lived in the Middle East.

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Sharing a story, he said: "About 15 years ago I sat in the home of an elderly Palestinian Christian man in Galilee, on a hillside where Jesus himself may have walked.



"Foolishly, I asked, 'How long has your family been Christian?'

"The man - who was as vibrant as someone half his age - gave me a look and replied, 'Since about the time of Saint Paul, I should imagine'."

Christians have been in the Middle East for nearly 2,000 years.

Yet, the persecution against Christians in the region led to a Christian leader commenting that the Christians of the region are "facing the worst situation since the Mongol invasions of the 13th Century", Archbishop Justin said.

He stressed that it is important for Christians in the Middle East to know "they are not forgotten by the world, or treated

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as an irrelevant minority, a societal optional extra, or even a threat".

On Tuesday a service will take place at Westminster Abbey, in which The Prince of Wales will help lead celebrations and prayer for Christians in the region.

It is also hoped the event will raise Middle Eastern Christian's profile, while highlighting their plight.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's tribute to Former President George Herbert Walker Bush.

The Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry issued the following statement in tribute to Former President George Herbert Walker Bush.

"With a grateful nation, and many around the world, we of the Episcopal Church give thanks to God, the source of life and love, for the life, the public and private witness of President George Herbert Walker Bush.

"Through his enduring commitment to public service and his steadfast devotion to his family, he lived the way of Jesus through a life shaped by faith, hope and, above all, love. Through his unswerving service to our country and to the human community around the globe, he embodied the noblest ideals of his faith and his country.

"President Bush will be an enduring reminder that virtues like kindness, gentleness and goodness are among the

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things that truly endure, and that chart the way to our living as the human family of God.

In him we have beheld a great soul, and been reminded of the hope that, by God's grace, we can live likewise.

"May his soul and the souls of all the departed rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen."

God has given every person a guardian angel 'to help them in life', says Pope

Pope Francis told sick children visiting the Vatican this week that they could always talk to their guardian angel in times of difficulty.

The Pope made the comments during an [audience](#) on Friday with young oncology patients from Poland.

'Your journey in life is a bit difficult, dear children, because you have to get treated and overcome the disease or live with the disease. This is not easy,' he said.

He then told the children that God had given them a guardian angel so 'he may help us in life'.

'Become accustomed to talking to your angel so that he may take care of you, give you encouragement and always lead you to victory in life,' the Pope told them.

He encouraged the children, who were accompanied by their parents and healthcare specialists, not to give up



because there was 'no difficulty in life that cannot be overcome'.

'Victory is different for each person; everyone prevails in his or her way, but prevailing is always the ideal, it is the horizon for moving forward. Do not get discouraged,' he said.

The exact nature of angels and how they interact with humans is a source of debate among Christians.

John Piper wrote on his [Desiring God website](#) that the Scriptures were open to interpretation and could mean that one angel is assigned to each individual or 'that all believers have numerous angels assigned to serve them, not just one'.

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Regardless of whether each saint has an individually assigned angel, he argued that the 'better' promise contained in Hebrews 1:14 was that angels are working for the good of all Christians. Hebrews 1:14 reads: 'Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?' (NIV)

'This means that everything angels do, everywhere in the world, at all times, is for the good of Christians,' he said.

'An angel who does something by God's assignment anywhere in the world is fulfilling the promise that God will work all things for the good of all Christians — everywhere. This is a sweeping and stunning promise.

All angels serve for the good of all Christians all the time. They are agents of Romans 8:28.'

The late evangelist Billy Graham also took inspiration from Hebrews 1:14 in [offering](#) a broader interpretation on the question of whether each person has an individual guardian angel.

'Rather than only one angel, therefore, God surrounds us with a host of angels to protect us and go before us,' he said.

'Even when hard times come, Satan can never snatch us away from their protection – and some day they will escort us safely to heaven. The reality of God's angels should give us great confidence in the Bible's promises.'

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However, he cautioned people not to exalt angels above God and turn them into objects of worship.

'While the angels are real, we are not to become preoccupied with them or to worship them,' he said. 'Only God is worthy of our worship, and only Christ saves us.'

Huge pizza lunch for Derry and Raphoe Youth's plans

There was a feeling of expectation in the air as representatives of parishes throughout the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe converged on the Diocesan Centre in Londonderry – and it wasn't just to do with the imminent arrival of a huge pizza order from a local takeaway.

They had gathered to hear Derry and Raphoe Youth's plans for the coming year – plans which the new DRY chairman, Rev Peter Ferguson, said would build on the foundations laid by his predecessors.

Rev Ferguson spoke about his "Kingdom excitement and expectancy" for Derry and Raphoe Youth. "In Derg and Killeter," he said, "they have been big supporters of Derry and Raphoe Youth. We have seen the impact of Derry and Raphoe Youth on our young people. So, I want to be clear: we aren't starting anything from scratch. We want to honour all that has gone before and the amazing foundation of things that we can be so proud of."

Before being ordained, the DRY chairman spent a year through Crosslinks in a mission-orientated diocese in Tanzania, described his time there – in a diocese which was

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materially poor but spiritually rich – as “life-enriching and faith-enriching”. He recalled one piece of advice given by an African pastor who said to him, “Peter, let’s pray and see what God will do.” “I will never ever forget that,” Rev Ferguson said, “not ‘let’s pray and see what God might do’ but ‘see what God will do’.”



Rev Ferguson shared with those present – a mixture of clergy and laity, young and old – one of his favourite passages from the New Testament, Ephesians 3, 14-21. “From that passage,” he said, “there’s an expectation: an expectation to pray, to live and to work with the Lord with expectation, and to remember who God is. He’s the God of the immeasurably more than we could every ask or imagine. And it’s His power that is at work within us.

“When we partner with the Lord we should have expectation. We should pray for revival and growth. We should work for revival and growth. And we should expect

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revival and growth. And even more so, we must look out for and walk into sure and certain signs of revival and growth.”

The DRY board’s plans for achieving revival and growth were spelled out in detail by its vice-chairman, Rev Nigel Cairns. They include a prayer month in January; training on mental health issues in young people in March; two ‘DRY Invites...’ events with the Mark Ferguson Band in Raphoe (March) and Christ Church Londonderry (September); a DRY weekend in Fermanagh in the spring; ‘On The Move’ in July; and a leaders’ encouragement evening in November next year.

The parish representatives present were excited by the proposals for 2019, and went home encouraged by what they had learned and pleasantly filled by the pizza they’d shared.

Memorial service for former Royal Black leader William Logan

The Royal Black Institution has recognised one of its former leaders at a special memorial service in Co Londonderry. Family of the late William Logan MBE joined with Sir Knights on Saturday to pay their respects to the past Sovereign Grand Master, who died earlier this year.

Mr Logan, 86, played a prominent role within the loyal order for almost a quarter of a century, leading the organisation from 1998 to 2008.



Pictured at the memorial service are members of William Logan's family; his wife Dorothy and sons Ian and Robin, with Sovereign Grand Master, Rev William Anderson (left) and Grand Chaplain, Canon Rev William Murphy

Speaking during the memorial service, held at Castledawson Presbyterian Church, Sovereign Grand Master Rev William Anderson paid tribute to the outstanding service of one of his predecessors.

“When I reflect on the life, work and witness of Billy Logan there is just one word that sums up his life to me – and that word is serve,” Rev Anderson said.

“Billy Logan was not afraid to serve in whatever capacity he found himself. He didn’t shirk his responsibilities when

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others would have been saying to him ‘why bother - you’re never going to make a difference, just lie back, enjoy life and let somebody else have all the trouble’. That type of attitude did not exist within the physic of Billy Logan.”

“Billy quickly learned the ways and instruction of our Royal Black Institution, but not only did he learn them - he was prepared to live by them, to serve others by them and thank God to die by them.”

Speaking as a personal friend, Rev Anderson continued: “You see, the more and more I got to know Billy, as we trusted each other more and more, I became very aware of a man who had a deep spiritual understanding of what true service meant. For him it was no half-hearted approach, it was all or nothing.”

Rev Anderson praised Mr Logan’s commitment and devotion to the Institution he led, singling out the Belfast man’s integral role in the organisation of the loyal order’s bi-centenary celebrations in 1997.

He said: “That was the character of the man, he was not afraid of work, he as not afraid to give, he was not afraid to share. And yet all this was at a cost to his dear wife and family. They rarely seen him after his work as he rushed out to attend various meetings at all levels within our Institution.

“I don’t think we can ever truly understand the debt we owe to men like Billy Logan. And not only to the men but also to their wives and families. It was a burden they had to carry and yet one they too carried with great dignity.”

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Rev Anderson offered his sympathy to Mr Logan's wife, Dorothy, and his three sons, Ian, Colin and Robin. William Logan was a member of Belfast Cathedral where his funeral service was held. Report courtesy the News Letter

News briefs

Dublin school choirs singing carols every lunchtime

Christ Church cathedral, Dublin, offers a break from Christmas shopping to hear local school choirs singing carols every lunchtime from Tuesday to Friday at 1.30pm. Admission is free to hear Rathdown School Choir on Tuesday, Mount Carmel School Choir on Wednesday, Belvedere College Junior School Choir on Thursday, and Mount Sackville Choir in Friday.

Installation of Canon of Lisburn Cathedral

The Rev Mark McConnell, rector of Ballymena (Kilconriola) and Ballyclug, will be installed as a Canon of Lisburn Cathedral on Tuesday December 4 at 8pm.

At this service, there will be a number of changes in the Chapter of St Saviour. The Rev James Carson will transfer from the Dignity of Treasurer of Connor to the Dignity of Precentor, and the Rev William Taggart will transfer from the Prebend of Kilroot to the Dignity of Treasurer. The new Canon will become the Prebend of Kilroot.

Become a Christ Church Chorister for the day

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‘Become a Christ Church Chorister for the day’ is a fun Christmas workshop for boys and girls aged 8 to 16 which will take place on 8th December from 2–4pm in Christ Church cathedral, Dublin. Dress up in a choir robe, learn some Christmas carols and then perform them in the choir stalls of Christ Church Cathedral, led by the Director of Music, Ian Keatley. No singing experience required. For boys and girls aged 8–16. Email ruth.kenny@christchurch.ie to book a place.

Joint confirmation service for Belfast parishes

Sunday November 25 was a day to celebrate in the Rural Deanery of Mid Belfast, as several of the parishes came together for a joint confirmation service in St Mark’s, Ballysillan. The candidates from St Mark’s; St Andrew’s, Glencairn; Holy Trinity with Immanuel; St Matthew’s and St Columba’s, Whiterock, were confirmed by Bishop Alan Harper, former Bishop of Connor and former Archbishop of Armagh.

Dedication of a Lewis Organ

Yesterday The Bishop of Clogher, Right Revd. John McDowell dedicated the Lewis organ in Galloon Parish Church. This was postponed from an earlier date in October.

Prayer vigil tonight

Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union Prayer Vigil will be held tonight in St Patrick's Church, Monaghan at 8pm.

