



Queen pays tribute to Army chaplains at celebration of 100 years since 'Royal' title

February 23, 2019

Yesterday marked the 100th anniversary of Army Chaplains being bestowed the prefix of 'Royal'. To mark the occasion, HM The Queen attended a special service of celebration and commemoration.



The Army Chaplains Department was granted the prefix “Royal” 100 years ago.

The Queen has paid tribute to members of the Royal Army Chaplains’ Department, calling them an “integral part of the well-being of our armed forces”.

The Queen, who is their patron, wrote to them as part of a service to celebrate 100 years since the department was granted the prefix “Royal”.

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Formed in 1726, the department was given the title by her grandfather, King George V, on February 22 1919 in recognition of their “outstanding service and sacrifice” during the First World War, her letter read.

Reflecting on this sacrifice, the Queen wrote: “They have remained quietly dedicated and steadfast in their calling, providing spiritual support, moral guidance and pastoral care to all soldiers, wherever they serve.”

There are currently 129 regular and 49 reserve serving chaplains, five of whom are serving overseas, Army London said.

The Queen was welcomed to the Guards' Chapel in Wellington Barracks by Reverend Stephen Dunwoody, senior Chaplain for London, and the Chaplain-General, the Venerable Clinton Langston.

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The band of the Grenadier Guards played a military fanfare as she entered the chapel and followed the procession down the aisle.

Army chaplains are professionally qualified officers who wear the British Army uniform and travel overseas with units, but as non-combatants they do not bear arms.



Three paintings had been specially commissioned to commemorate the centenary, depicting sacrifice, engagement and service, aspects which reflect chaplaincy over the last 100 years.

The artist, Harry Parker, served in Iraq and Afghanistan with the Rifles Regiment and lost both his legs while on active duty in 2009.

He said: "I hope she liked them. She asked me what I was up to and I told her I was painting and writing and she said 'Well done', which was really nice."

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While serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, Mr Parker said the chaplains were “always such an amazing reassuring presence around the camp”.

The Queen then greeted serving and former chaplains including the most recent recruit, known as the “youngest” chaplain, Mike Rutter.

He said: “It’s just [a] wonderful occasion and, I’ll be honest, my knees did give away a little bit. It was lovely, such an honour. One of those moments in life that I’ll never forget.”

During the service, extracts from chaplains’ diaries were read, including one kept by Reverend Maurice Murray, who ministered to soldiers during the Great War. Commenting on burying soldiers while in the trenches, Rev Murray said crosses for graves were made from “reverting timber or two pieces of iron tied together with telegraph wire”.

All serving chaplains were then asked to reaffirm their “commitment and rededicate themselves in service” to the department. Chaplains around the world also paused at the hour to join the re-dedication in an “act of global unity”.

Celebrating St Patrick’s Radiant Faith

A New Resource from the Church of Ireland

Looking ahead to St Patrick’s Day, the Church of Ireland Council for Mission has produced an all-age family service

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resource – /Celebrating St Patrick's Radiant Faith/– for use across the island of Ireland. This resource includes prayers and actions that focus on how St Patrick's ministry reflected the themes of the Anglican Communion's Five Marks of Mission, and how Christians can follow his example and live out their faith in Jesus today. The Five Marks of Mission are:

- 1 To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom;
- 2 To teach, baptise and nurture new believers;
- 3 To respond to human need by loving service;
- 4 To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation;
- and
- 5 To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The resource relates each of these to St Patrick's life i.e. in his return to Ireland to tell people about the love of God in Jesus Christ, his teaching on the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, leaving his country to follow God's call and serve the people of Ireland, and his experiences both as a slave and a shepherd.

RADIANT FAITH: Living out the Five Marks of Mission



Celebrating **St Patrick's Radiant Faith**

**AN ALL AGE
FAMILY SERVICE**



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The Revd Adam Pullen, Chairman of the Council for Mission, said: 'The radiant faith of St Patrick, our patron saint, led to his proclamation and sharing of the good news of Jesus in faith, action and symbol. I hope that all who use this imaginative and interactive resource, prepared by the Council of Mission, will find it to be an encouragement as we celebrate St Patrick. May it help us as we radiate our faith in prayerful and practical ways across this island.' The resource is available to download from the following link: <http://bit.ly/2EerGLV> <http://bit.ly/2EerGLV>

Annalong young people serve up a smile

What a wonderful encouragement it was to the church family at Kilhorne, Annalong, when after the All Age Service in February, the Youth Fellowship provided and served the congregation with a soup and hotdog lunch.



Revd Robert Smyth, the Diocesan Curate, said, "Too often our young people are the subject of criticism

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rather than praise. It was indeed humbling to witness such a positive example of servant–heartedness. It was run like a military operation as they quietly and quickly attended to over 170 people.”

Donations of over £800 were received which will go towards youth work in the parish.

News briefs

###Derry Cathedral this Sunday - 10.00am family service sung by the Ladies Choir. A service of Choral Matins follows at 11.00am sung by the Boys and Gentlemen of the Choir. Music is by Charles Villiers Stanford (Benedictus in C) and John Rutter (All things bright and beautiful). 4.00pm Choral Evensong sung by the Chamber Choir. Music is by Richard Ayleward (Evening Canticles in Eb) and Henry Balfour Gardiner (Evening Hymn).

###Christ Church, Dublin this Sunday - Eucharist Service will be sung by the Cathedral Voluntary Choir . Preacher - The Canon Chancellor.

###Methodist President’s week ahead - Rev Billy Davison writes, “Make sure to surround your life with prayer and songs which celebrate God’s great deliverance in Christ. Thank you for surrounding us with your prayers as we travel each week.”... Here’s is his schedule for the week:
Sunday 24th February: North West Methodist Mission
Monday 25th: Meeting in Belfast
Tuesday 26th: Stormont Reception --- Home for Good
Wednesday 27th: Stationing Committee Edgehill House

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Thursday 28th: Inter Church Meeting in Dundalk

Friday 1st March: Home Office

Saturday 2nd: Soul Mates

###Mothers' Union online courses on modern day slavery

-The MU in collaboration with The Clewer Partnership has created two online safeguarding courses to help end modern day slavery by 2030. Read more about the history of the Clewer partnership and our project aims on our website: <https://www.mothersunion.org/projects/mothers-union-clewer-partnership...>

Teaching Series

26th Feb	Bishop Fanta Clarke - "Body Beautiful" - God's Vision
5th March	Listening Ears and Seeing Eyes
12th March	Big Heart
19th March	Renewed Mind and Dirty Hands
26th March	Beautiful feet
2nd April	"Body Beautiful" - The next step?

Bishop Fanta Clarke quotes:
"We often hear that the local church is the hope of the nations. Yes sometimes it is the source of disappointment and disillusionment. What is God's vision for the Church? In this series we will catch a fresh vision of His exciting vision."

Tuesdays at 7.45 pm
in the Coffee Bar

Coffee is served
from 7.30 pm

All Welcome

###Bishop Clarke and the body beautiful -

Bishop Ken is doing a five week teaching series beginning on Tuesday February 26 at Christ Church Parish, Lisburn, on the theme of 'Body Beautiful.' Bishop Clarke spoke at morning worship in Christ Church on February 3 as preparation. The rector of Christ Church, the Ven Paul Dundas,

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Archdeacon of Dalriada, said: “As a parish we are looking forward to this teaching series from Bishop Fanta to explore God’s Word, encourage one another and build each other up as disciples for Christ in our witness and outreach.”

###CMD Seminar on Intergenerational Church - was held yesterday at Edgehill House. Guest speakers were Meg Prowting and Gail Adcock who offered an engaging and hands on approach to the day! [<https://www.irishmethodist.org/continuing-ministry-development...>] (<https://t.co/oyK0Z8rIGe>)

###Children’s Ministry Easter Workshop Alert - The organisers write - We have very limited places for a Good Friday and Easter Family Special Training Event. Do you need resources for an event or a Sunday Club over the Easter period? Lynn Storey will be leading a very hands on session on Tuesday 12th March from 11:00 - 1:00 (with a light lunch to follow) in the Church of Ireland Theological Institute. Only 8 places remaining and they will be allocated on a 1st come, 1st served basis. Contact here

admin@cmn.ireland.anglican.org

to book your place! Church of Ireland Children’s

Ministry]<https://www.facebook.com/>

[churchofirelandchildrensministry/](https://www.facebook.com/churchofirelandchildrensministry/)

###Sponsored shave for Abaana - Shane Anderson of Henry Brothers is doing his Sponsored Shave tonight - He is a member of the Uganda 2019 team who, along with Deborah Madden and The Rainey School, is heading off to help the Abaana Charity to build a new primary school, helping to empower children to lead a better life through education. Shane’s Sponsored Shave is taking place this

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Saturday night at the Drop-In Well, Ballykelly and everyone is welcome to attend! if you'd like to donate to this very special cause, then go to their Go Fund Me page www.gf.me/u/n33xsp

###Observed on Facebook - The Christian Resources Exhibition announces that its breakfast will “be gin with prayer” It gives a new meaning to spirit-filled worship... As the RSCM motto says ‘I will sing with the spirit...’

###Col Vacancies: Clerical - Priest-in-Charge – Omev Group of Parishes, Clifden (Dioceses of Tuam, Killala & Achonry): The Omev Group of Parishes, Clifden, seeks to appoint a Priest-in-Charge (part-time) for this group of three small parishes in the heart of Connemara. Closing date for applications – Monday 1st April 2019 Full details and profiles from: The Diocesan Secretary, Mrs Heather Pope, 11 Ros Ard, Cappagh Road, Barna, Co. Galway (secretary@tuam.anglican.org)

C of E General Synod rebels - attempt to quash wedding and funeral fees. Almost a third of the synod supported an attempt to abolish all fees for funerals and marriages, after an impromptu campaign led by the Bishop of Burnley, the Rt Revd Philip North.

###Opinion - Andy Pollak - Regular readers of this blog will know that I have been a lonely voice over the past 15 months expressing concern over the Irish government's steely 'not an inch' strategy over the so-called 'backstop', the insurance policy to ensure there will be no hard border caused by the British withdrawal from the EU. My motivation was a relatively narrowly-focused one, based on concern

churchnewsireland@gmail.org



"Reducing the causes of climate change is essential to the life of faith. It is a way to love our neighbour and to steward the gift of creation."

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury



www.churchofengland.org/environment

that the relationships that are so vital to maintaining peace and ensuring progress in the North - between the Irish and British governments, and between the former and the DUP - are not damaged in the fall-out from Brexit. <http://2irelands2gether.com/2019/02/22/is-it-time-for-the-irish-government-to-compromise-on-the-backstop/>

February 23 in Christian history

February 23, 155 (traditional date): Polycarp, the bishop of Smyrna, is martyred. Reportedly a disciple of the Apostle John, at age 86 he was taken to be burned at the stake. "You try to frighten me with fire that burns for an hour and forget the fire of hell that never burns out," he said. The flames, legend says, would not touch him, and when he was run through with a sword, his blood put the fire out (see issue 27: Persecution in the Early Church).

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February 23, 303: Diocletian begins his "Great Persecution," issuing edicts that call for church buildings to be destroyed, sacred writings burned, Christians to lose civil rights, and clergy to be imprisoned and forced to sacrifice. The following year he went even further, ordering all people to sacrifice on pain of death (see issue 27: Persecution in the Early Church).

February 23, 1455 (traditional date): Johannes Gutenberg publishes the Bible, the first book ever printed on a press with movable type.

February 23, 1685: George Frederick Handel, composer of the oratorio "Messiah," is born. He died in 1759, having spent the last six years of his life in total blindness.

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