



**Visit
sunflowers
on the
north coast
in aid of
Portrush
parish and
RVH liver
group**

If you love sunflowers, then plan a trip to the north coast later this summer where a section of land running alongside the Whitepark Road in Portrush will

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be literally dancing with them!

It will be a sight to behold, and farmer Archie Linnegan, a parishioner of Holy Trinity Parish Church, Ballywillan



(Portrush), is hoping visitors to the north coast will swing by to enjoy the display.

Former Glebewarden Archie is planting the sunflowers as a fundraiser for the church building fund and the Liver Support Group at the Royal Victoria Hospital. He plans to put an honesty box at the roadside for passers-by to make a donation

Archie has planted 10 kilos of sunflower seeds on a half acre plot running lengthwise along the roadside. At the launch of the project at the parish family service on June 9, he gave the children at the service potted sunflower seedlings to take home – eventually the children will measure their sunflowers to see whose has grown the biggest!

The sunflowers will be at their prime in the second part of August. “People are always looking for something to do. They may drive up just to look around for a few minutes,” Archie said.

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“I am probably the only person in Ballywillan Parish with a farm, as it is a town parish. That in itself is generating interest.”

President attends funeral of civil rights activist Ivan Cooper

The President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, was among mourners at the funeral of the former civil rights activist and SDLP founder, Ivan Cooper, in Londonderry this afternoon. The Service – which was also attended by the Taoiseach’s Aide-de-Camp, Commandant Caroline Burke – took place in St Peter’s Church of Ireland in Londonderry, where Mr Cooper had worshipped regularly for the last ten years.

President Higgins signed a book of condolence as he was welcomed to the church by the Lord Lieutenant for the County Borough, Dr Angela Garvey, and by the Archbishop’s Commissary for the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe and Archdeacon of Derry, Venerable Robert Miller. Archdeacon Miller is the Rector of the Christ Church, Culmore, Muff and St Peter’s Group of Parishes and he conducted the funeral service along with the Group’s Pastoral Director, Rev Kate McAteer.

The mourners were led by Mr Cooper’s widow, Frances, and his daughters Sinéad and Bronagh. In his sermon, Archdeacon Miller described Mr Cooper – who died on Wednesday – as “a towering figure in Northern Ireland’s recent history,” and as “a man of faith” whose life was governed by that faith.

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The President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, signs the Book of Condolences at the funeral of the former civil rights activist and SDLP founder, Ivan Cooper, in Londonderry yesterday afternoon.

Archdeacon of Derry, Ven Robert Millar, who was Mr Cooper's rector, said, "My encounters with Ivan revealed a man of faith whose life was governed by that faith: a call to love one another as God has first loved us was a truth that shaped Ivan's whole life.

"At our first meeting Ivan had already prepared the ground with the usual Derry question: "Who's his father?" Well, it wasn't my father he knew so much as my grandmother and her sister who had both worked with him. He remembered them by name and shared some details of the common battles they had fought with management.

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“You see, Ivan was a man who was interested in people; he didn’t put them in groups or categories, they were individuals with particular needs and challenges. I found this in my own conversations with Ivan. His body was becoming increasingly frail but his intellect was undiminished. And his determination to see a peaceful resolution to the conflict across this island burned as brightly as ever.”

More than 1000 bishops and their spouses book for the Lambeth Conference 2020

More than one thousand bishops and their spouses have so far registered to take part in the Lambeth Conference 2020, the decennial gathering of the bishops of the Anglican Communion. Bishops from 40 Anglican Communion Provinces and five Extra Provincial Areas have been invited to the event by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

The Lambeth Conference Company – the team organising the event in collaboration with Lambeth Palace and the Anglican Communion Office – announced on Wednesday (26 June) that registrations had topped 566 bishops and 435 spouses.

“At its heart, the hope for the Lambeth Conference 2020 is to have the full voice, diversity and experience of our global family represented”, Phil George, the CEO of the Lambeth Conference Company said. “We are delighted that so many

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Members of the Lambeth Conference committee during their meeting in London earlier this month

of our international guests have already confirmed their attendance at this historic event and we look forward to welcoming more registrations in the weeks and months ahead.”

Under the theme of “God’s Church for God’s World”, Lambeth 2020 is held in Canterbury from the 23 July to 2 August 2020.

The programme will see participants meet together for prayer, Bible study, reflection, fellowship, worship and dialogue. The event will shape the priorities of the Anglican Communion for the decade ahead and make common

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commitments for how the church can address global issues and human need.

The announcement was made as the Lambeth Conference revealed details of the latest meeting of the international Design Group, who are charged with the task of building the programme for the conference. In [a blog post on the Lambeth Conference website](#), several members of the design group speak of their hopes for the significant event.

The theme of next year's Lambeth Conference is "God's church for God's world", which "reminds us that the church does not exist for itself, the church does not exist alone," the Primate of Southern Africa, Archbishop Thabo Makgoba of Cape Town said. "It exists by mission.

"God is busy reconciling the world to himself. We are invited in to that space. So the theme rightfully locates us as an Anglican church to say – what are we going to do about a world that does not trust? What are we going to do about the youth – creating space for today's generation and tomorrow's church? What are we going to do about our disagreements? It's not only about the church. . . God is always all the time sending us outside the church window, where God's world is really longing for his love, comfort and embrace."

Archbishop Thabo added: "We as Anglicans want to say to the world, we are there as bridge builders, there for peace, to address social needs, and in our brokenness to look at growth and rebuild trust in the world."

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Chaplain to the UK's House of Commons, Rose Hudson-Wilkin, named Bishop of Dover

A London-based Jamaican-born Anglican priest who serves as Chaplain to members of the UK's Parliament alongside her duties as Priest in Charge of St Mary-at-Hill near Monument in the City of London, has today been named as the next Bishop of Dover. The bishopric is an unusual one: it is a suffragan see in the Diocese of Canterbury, but the bishop effectively runs the diocese, allowing the Archbishop to spend more time on his Primatial duties for the Church of England and his role as primus inter pares in the Anglican Communion. Canon Rose Hudson-Wilkin will take up her new role in November, after being consecrated in London's St Paul's Cathedral.

Expressing "excitement" at the call to serve the diocese "with its long history of Christian witness", the bishop-designate said that she was "looking forward to journeying with the people of Kent, celebrating the good work that is already happening there and working together with its religious and secular leaders to ensure that the good news of hope, love and justice remains at the heart of our changed lives together."

The appointment was welcomed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, who said that "Rose Hudson-Wilkin has, over the last nine years, been one of the most influential and effective ministers in the public square through her long service as Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons. I have constantly been told that she

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The Bishop-designate of Dover, Rose Hudson-Wilkin, visits a school in the Diocese yesterday (Friday) with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

has been an effective pastor in one crisis or another, especially in the last few years.

“Before that she was a parish minister of great impact. She has been described as prophet, pastor and evangelist. She has challenged the Church of England over its engagement with UK minority ethnic groups, and has spoken forcefully and effectively at many evangelistic meetings.

“I am absolutely delighted that she is willing to move from her current role to be the new Bishop of Dover. She will bring great energy and a profound commitment to collegial working, an outward looking approach to the mission of the

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church and a profound spiritual life. We pray for God's blessing on her as she prepares to move."

The Speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow, offered warm praise for the appointment, saying: "Rose is one of the warmest, kindest and most loving people I have ever met, so she will be sorely missed by Members across the House, the staff and especially, by me.

"She has an unfailing sense of duty and an ability – more than she would herself ever know – to bring comfort in times of tragedy.

"Furthermore, her steely resolve when confronted with loss and evil, following the death of our dear colleague Jo Cox" – an MP who was murdered in June 2016 – "and in the wake of the Westminster Bridge attack, was plain for all to see.

"Both in the celebration of happiness and in condolence and prayer, she has the most reassuring, fortifying presence anyone could want.

"Personally, I would like to thank Rose for her steadfast support and friendship over the last nine years. Our loss is certainly the Diocese of Canterbury's gain.

"She will be the most excellent Bishop of Dover, and I will watch keenly the next stage of her spiritual journey."

She will succeed the Bishop Trevor Willmott, who retired last month.

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Archbishop O'Reilly on vandalised statue in Thurles cathedral grounds

Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly SMA, Archbishop of Cashel & Emly, has expressed his deep regret at the vandalism of the statue of Archbishop Patrick Leahy who was archbishop of the diocese from 1857 – 1875. Archbishop Leahy oversaw the construction of the Cathedral of the Assumption in Thurles.

Archbishop O'Reilly said, "Archbishop Leahy was an able scholar and accomplished orator, whose address at the First Vatican Council was widely acclaimed at that time. The statue was unveiled in his honour in 1911 as a tribute to his work on the cathedral and for the Church in Ireland, as well as his popularity as a pastor. I have been moved by the reaction of the people of the town of Thurles, and throughout the diocese, arising from this act of vandalism. It is my hope that the statue can be restored as soon as possible."

June 29 - Today in Christian history

June 29, 1810: After resolute petitioning of college students from Williams College and Andover Seminary, the Congregationalists of Massachusetts organize the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, America's first foreign missions society.

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June 29 - News briefs

Connor's Big Weekend -

Lisburn
Cathedral
Chapter is
working in
partnership
with Connor
Youth and
Children's
Development
Officers
Christina
Baillie and Jill
Hamilton to
host a very
exciting
weekend of
events for children, youth, and children's and youth leaders.

Connor's Big Weekend will take place on November 16 and 17 2019 in St Patrick's Parish, Ballymena. Lisburn Cathedral Chapter and the Church of Ireland Orphans and Children's Society are jointly funding the project.

CONNOR'S BIG WEEKEND



16 & 17 November 2019

St Patrick's Church of Ireland, Ballymena

Saturday 16th 2-4pm *Children's Praise Concert*

Sunday 17th 3-5:30pm *Workshops for Leaders*

SPECIAL GUESTS

Bob Hartman

Play It By Ear 'Drama Company'

Inspire 'Worship Band'

**A weekend of events for children and families with workshops for
children's leaders**

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The weekend's events will be led by storyteller Bob Hartman, along with the band Inspire who are coming over from England, and the Northern Ireland-based Play It By Ear drama group.

On the Saturday (16th) there will be a Children's Praise Concert with drama, storytelling, and worship along with a café and workshop. This event is open to children and families to come to along to together. It is also suitable for leaders to come with their children's groups.

On the Sunday there will be a practical training session for children's and youth leaders led by Bob Hartman, the Inspire Band, Play It by Ear, Catherine Little and Stu Bothwell. This training will be first class and is not to be missed; if you work with children or young people in your church, this training is highly recommended.

- Bob Hartman has been a professional storyteller for 30 years. He is an ordained minister who has written over 70 books, many of them retellings of Bible stories and passages. He is also the author of You Version's Bible App for Kids, which has been downloaded over 20 million times.
- Play It By Ear drama company share faith in a fun and creative ways. Not only do they perform bible stories, sketches and issue-based dramas, they also help children and young people to tell their own faith stories through drama.
- The Inspire Band creates and uses suitable music for a current all-age context, through writing their own songs and choosing and arranging other people's songs. The aim is to make both the words and the music accessible across generations.

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The teams in action at Dalkey

+++St Patrick's C of I Parish football welcome - The Dalkey parish welcomed over 40 visitors from Mosney Direct Provision Centre on Saturday last (June 22). The invitation was extended to the newly formed football team at Mosney and Saturday was their first match. St Patrick's has its own football team which trains each Saturday at Castle Park School. The prospect of an end of season game was much anticipated. On the day four teams from Mosney played four teams from St Patrick's. Players ranged in age from five years up to 12 years. The tournament was won by 'Super Strikers One' from Mosney. The quality of football they brought to the tournament was exceptional. "More important than the results though was the bridge that was built between the two communities and the friendships that will endure until the next meeting," stated St Patrick's Coach and Rector, the Revd Bruce Hayes.

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+++ Cork C of I Synod welcome new Roman Catholic

Bishop - At the recent meeting of the Diocesan Synod of the Church of Ireland United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross (the annual meeting of clergy and elected laity of the Diocese with the Bishop) those present unanimously passed a motion of welcome to the new Roman Catholic Bishop, Father Fintan Gavin, in anticipation of his ordination and consecration on Sunday 30th June.

The motion passed was as follows: 'On the occasion of his appointment by Pope Francis as new Bishop of Cork and Ross, this Diocesan Synod, on behalf of the Bishop, Clergy and People of the United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, welcomes the Most Reverend Fintan Gavin, and assures him of our friendship and ecumenical fellowship in the Gospel.'

Bishop Paul Colton added: 'As I mentioned when I first heard the news of the new Bishop's appointment, I know Fintan Gavin personally already and have worked with him in a number of contexts. In Christian fellowship and as a mark of commitment to the ecumenical journey together, our Diocesan Synod was delighted to pass this motion. I am looking forward, together with representatives of the Church of Ireland and other churches in Cork, to being present at the ordination and consecration on Sunday next in the Cathedral Church of Saint Mary and Saint Anne.'

June 29 News Links

[Ivan Cooper funeral: tributes paid to 'towering figure' of NI civil rights](#)

Irish Times

A member of the **Church of Ireland** and, briefly, a Young Unionist, he felt compelled to protest against the discrimination he witnessed as a shirt factory ...

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[IRA was right to stand up and fight British rule, claims Adams at funeral of former military chief](#)

[Independent.ie](#)

... IRA was right to stand up and fight against British rule in Northern **Ireland**. ... His funeral was held at St Mary's **Church** near his Co Monaghan home ...

[Irish university shines spotlight on adult **religious** education](#)

Vatican News

By Lydia O'Kane. As the saying goes, "you never stop learning". That can mean learning a new skill or brushing up on an old one. But it also applies to ...

[This year's Elvis festival will focus on country music side of The King](#)

The Nationalist

Baptismal records of the Presleys were found in Aghowle **Church of Ireland**, Co Carlow dating back to 1701, while members of the Presley family lived ...

[A Methodist perspective on intercommunion](#)

Church Times

... are before the General Synod for interchangeability of presbyteral ministry between the **Church of England** and the British Methodist Church (**News**, ...

[General Synod to prioritise youth violence](#)

Church Times

In contrast with the Synod's February meeting (**News**, 1 February), there ... It will provide for there to be an approved list of official **Church of England** ...

[Proposal from Evangelical Group of the General Synod is criticised](#)

Church Times

The statement would bring the Evangelical group into line with the basis of faith of the **Church of England** Evangelical Council (CEEC), the chair of ...

[Channel Islands report nears completion](#)

Church Times

AN ARCHBISHOP's Commission examining the relationship between the Channel Islands and the **Church of England** will issue its final report later ...

[IICSA digs deeper into Anglican safeguarding record](#)

Church Times

THE Archbishop of Wales, the Most Revd John Davies, and four **Church of England** bishops are among the witnesses due to give evidence at the ...

AN INVITATION

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