



# CNI

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## Investiture of Archbishop Martin with pallium

Archbishop Eamon Martin has said he is “humbled at the honour that God has bestowed” on him by calling him to serve him as Primate of All Ireland and Archbishop of Armagh.

In his homily at a Mass in St Patrick’s Cathedral, Armagh on Saturday evening for the occasion of his investiture with the pallium, Archbishop Martin said, “The pallium reminds me that God expects a lot from me, but He gives me all the grace I need to do His will, and to be prepared to sacrifice my own will and desires in order to follow His way.”

The Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Charles Brown, conducted the investiture, which took place in the presence of representatives of the nine dioceses of the ecclesiastical province of Armagh, as well as priests and people from the diocese.



***Archbishop Eamon Martin receives the pallium from the Papal Nuncio.***

The Nuncio explained how the pallium symbolises the bond and union between an archbishop and the Pope.

Referring to the ceremony last Monday which Pope Francis celebrated with the world's newest archbishops, Archbishop Martin said the Pontiff had challenged them to be masters of prayer, and of faith, and to be courageous witnesses in the world. "No Christian community", the Pope told them, "can go forward without being supported by persistent prayer".

“Be ever faithful to the deposit of faith” and be courageous witnesses, “who are not ashamed of the Name of Christ and of His Cross”.

Archbishop Martin told the congregation of family and well-wishers from across Armagh that if he is to meet these challenges, “if I am to be true to God’s calling in my life, then I must try to conquer my sinfulness and selfishness and instead to offer my life for my sheep”.

The young Primate admitted, “To be honest, I sometimes feel daunted by this challenge”.

He recalled his visit on Wednesday while in Rome to the catacombs where the early Christian martyrs were buried.

“On the way I had the privilege of celebrating Mass in the little Church of Domine Quo Vadis, where it is said St Peter, who was running away from the dangers of persecution in Rome, met Jesus going the other way into the city to be with his flock.”

“It was all the more poignant for me because it was the Feast of St Oliver Plunkett who I know was not afraid to die for his people and his beliefs.”

He recalled a striking painting of St Oliver Plunkett which hung in his room at the Irish College in Rome which depicted the martyr kneeling before the gallows just before his martyrdom.

In the painting St Oliver's pallium lies discarded on the ground "where his executioners have hurled it; in its place over his head and shoulders is wrapped the hangman's noose".

Archbishop Martin also recalled his predecessor, St Malachy, who nine hundred years ago, travelled twice to Rome to seek the pallium – at first for Armagh and then for Armagh and Cashel.

The Primate reminded the congregation, "As you know he was unsuccessful and he died on the journey at Clairvaux in the arms of his beloved friend St Bernard."

A few years later, following the Synod of Kells, four pallia were indeed sent by the Pope to Ireland symbolising the recognition from the Holy See for the four new ecclesiastical provinces of Ireland: Armagh, Cashel, Dublin and Tuam.

Praying that his ministry will be less hazardous than that of some of his predecessors, the Primate said he couldn't help thinking that all

Catholics and Christians “are entering a time when we will need the gift of courage to stay faithful to the teachings of the Gospel”.

“We are living in the midst of a more insistently secular culture which expects conformity and compromise with the thinking of the day, and which sometimes tends to ridicule and even reject those who witness to timeless or absolute truths.”

“The world of today still yearns for the Good News of Jesus Christ. But we will need to find a language of faith and truth which can speak in fresh and powerful ways about the depth of the love of Christ to those who are finding life increasingly shallow or despairingly empty of meaning and purpose.”

“We should not be altogether surprised if, like Jesus Himself, our message is completely rejected by some, even in our own country.”

## **Shine a Light Sleepout at Christ Church Cathedral**

Focus Ireland has launched its Shine A Light Night Business Leader Sleepout and is calling on business leaders to sleep out for one night to



***CEO of Focus Ireland Ashley Balbirnie, the Dean of Christ Church Cathedral the Very Reverend Dermot Dunne and Newstalk's Bobby Kerr at the launch of Shine a Light Night in Christ Church Cathedral***

help raise vital funds to prevent and combat family homelessness.

The event takes place in Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin and in Cork's historic city Gaol, on October 16 next. It is part of a wider campaign to shine a light on the issue of homelessness as well as shine a light of hope for those who are experiencing homelessness right now in Ireland.

Newstalk's Bobby Kerr, CEO of Focus Ireland Ashley Balbirnie, the Dean of Christ Church Cathedral the Very Reverend Dermot Dunne and Paul Dunn from Merrion Fleet Management, (sponsor of this year's business leaders sleepout) officially launched Shine A Light Night 2015 at Christ Church this week.

The charity is calling on business leaders to join their peers across the country and to sleep out for one night to raise awareness of the issue of homelessness in Ireland and to raise crucial funds for Focus Ireland's services.

The night is Focus Ireland's flagship corporate event and since 2012 over €1 million has been raised from Shine A Light Night with over 200 business leaders taking part in the sleepout to date. These funds have been vital to ensure Focus Ireland services have been able to cope with a 43.75% rise in the numbers seeking support since 2012. In 2014 alone, Focus Ireland helped over 11,500 people compared to 8,000 in 2012 who were either homeless or at risk.

Bobby Kerr and Dean Dermot Dunne are among this year's participants along with top business leaders from Google and PayPal. Business leaders participate in a series of critical issue think-tanks on the night, before they swap their

executive chairs for sleeping bags and offer solidarity to those who have no place to call home and live in unstable, unsuitable and insecure accommodation, and who have to go through the trauma of losing their homes.

The charity is now urging more of Ireland's top business men and women to come together and sign-up for the event. Focus Ireland says they need the support of the Irish business community now more than ever. The appeal comes as the number of families becoming homeless has nearly doubled since last year and one in four of those in emergency accommodation is a child. Currently, more than one family goes through the trauma of losing their family home every single day in Ireland.

Focus Ireland lifeline services are working hard to support these families and to prevent others from losing their homes in the first place by providing advice and information. The charity is proud to say that 89 cent out of every euro received goes directly towards ending homelessness in Ireland.

This year Newstalk has been announced as the official media partner for Shine A Light Night and Editor in Chief at the station, Garrett Harte, says they are delighted to support this unique event.

“This is a real opportunity for corporate Ireland to make an impact on homelessness in Ireland. We have been supporting Shine A Light Night since its inception in 2012 and we are delighted to be Focus Ireland’s Media Partner for this year’s event. We hope our listeners get behind this great initiative,” he stated.

Meanwhile, Merrion Fleet are the official sponsor of the Shine A Light Night Business Leader Sleepout and Head of Sales Paul Dunn, says they are proud to be associated with the Focus Ireland event. “This is a hugely important fundraising event and an opportunity for business leaders across the country to be part of something really special. By coming together for just one night, the business community can help raise funds which will make a difference to people who are homeless or currently at risk of losing their home. Merrion Fleet is honoured to sponsor the 2015 Shine A Light Night Business Leader Sleepout and support such a worthy cause,” he said.

Learn more about Shine A Light Night, past participants and how to get involved by contacting Aoife on 01 881 5984 or [cooneya@focusireland.ie](mailto:cooneya@focusireland.ie) or visit [focusireland.ie](http://focusireland.ie)

## **Islamic community represented at funerals of Irish victims of Tunisian terrorist**

More than 1,800 people gathered at the Church of Saints Peter & Paul in Athlone on Friday morning for the funeral of Larry and Martina Hayes.

The Co Westmeath couple were killed in a terrorist attack on a beach in the Tunisian resort of Sousse on Friday 26 June 2015.

In a tragic twist of fate, the funeral took place on the birthday of the couple's only child, Sinead (31).

“Could anyone think of a sadder or more heart-rending way to celebrate your birthday than to attend the funeral of both of your parents?” commented Fr Liam Devine PP the chief celebrant.

The couple were well known in the town. Martina worked in a local pharmacy while Larry was a school bus inspector with Bus Éireann.

Before the Mass, a group of more than 30 Bus Éireann drivers and inspector marched in front of the funeral cortege as it was brought to the



church and Larry's work tie was one of the gifts brought to the altar.

There is nothing – no human experience of grief and loss – that could possibly prepare a family or a community for the devastating news that filtered through to Athlone last Saturday night and Sunday morning, said Fr Devine at the start of his homily.

“The violent deaths of Larry & Martina Hayes while nearing the end of their holiday in Tunisia has left the entire community in Athlone shocked, stunned and devastated. It is unprecedented. Unreal. It is almost impossible to come to terms with it.”

It was baffling he said to think that in the holy month of Ramadan – equivalent to Lent in the

Catholic religious tradition – that a violent atrocity claiming 38 lives, would also touch the lives of people in Ireland.

In a statement, the Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland (ICCI) condemned the “atrocious acts of terrorism” perpetrated in Tunisia and extended “heartfelt condolences to the Hayes family from Athlone on their tragic loss of both Laurence and Martina, and to the family of Lorna Carty from Robinstown who also was taken from them in such horrifying circumstances.”

We stand with all of Ireland in the condemnation of unjustified killings of the innocent, it said, adding that the ICCI “positively promotes integration, respect for humankind, and the protection of human life.”

“Whoever kills a person [unjustly]...it is as though he has killed all mankind. And whoever saves a life, it is as though he had saved all mankind,” said the statement, quoting from the Qur’an. (5:32)

Members of the Islamic community were among the mourners at Fridays funeral.

## Summer worship and outreach in Seagoe

Following a consultation in Seagoe Parish it has been decided to vary some of the services during the Summer in order to encourage people to attend Church more frequently when they are not away on holiday.

The main service at 10.30am will have a more informal feel to it and will include a greater variety of songs and hymns as suggested by Church members. The majority of the songs will be led by members of the music group rather than played on the organ. The services will be kept to an hour and there will be more to engage children, including activity packs, more input for children during the worship and activities for them in the Parish Centre during the sermon. On the last Sunday of the month there will be a shortened informal service of Holy Communion.

After the service, in addition to the normal refreshments that are served each week in the Parish Centre, ice-cream with a variety of toppings will also be offered; this has already proved to be extremely popular with all ages!

The evening services will also be more informal. During July services will be held at 7pm in the

main Church and during August services will be held in Kilicomaine at 6pm. Praise services will be held on the third Sunday evenings of each month.

The early 9am service will remain unchanged as a tradition service of Holy Communion.

Whilst people are being encourage to attend Church more frequently when at home over the Summer they are also being encouraged to make a point of attending a different Church whilst on holidays and to bring back ideas that may help with future developments in Seagoe.

Plans are also well underway for Church members to visit some of the new housing developments in the area throughout the Summer to introduce themselves and to invite the people who live there to area Bar-b-qs to encourage community engagement.

The now well-established and growing Holiday Bible Week during the last week in July is in the final stages of planning as is the Summer scheme organised for the month of July by Seagoe Youth Group. We are anticipating another year of growing attendance by children and young people from the area.

Seagoe's mission statement is: 'Seagoe Parish seeks to be a local Welcoming Christian family, Growing in our knowledge and love of God, Encouraging one another in Serving the wider community'. We therefore seek to engage as much as possible with people and to make them most welcome at all our services and activities.

## **Arklow Maritime and Marine Heritage Walk**

Jennifer Kavanagh is organizing the Maritime and Marine Heritage Walk, which will include historical tours and heritage walks:

Monday, 24th August – St Saviour's Church will be open to the public from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Tuesday, 25th August – Abercorn Masonic Hall, which dates back to 1903, will be open from 4 pm to 9 pm. Later that evening an Bat Walk will take place from 8.30 pm to 9.30 pm. The group will meet at the Arklow Bay Hotel.

Wednesday, 26th August – Old Kilbride Graveyard will be officially opened from 3 pm to 4 pm. The opening will be conducted by the Venerable Archdeacon

of the Church of Ireland and Rev Minister of Methodist Church. On the same day Arklow Methodist Church will be opened to the public from 2 pm to 4 pm and St Bridget's Church of Ireland, Kilbride will be open from 2 pm to 4 pm. Visitors will have a chance to see the Harry Clarke designed window dating back to 1834.

Further information is available from [jennifermjkavanagh@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermjkavanagh@gmail.com)

## **The Heart Ache and Heart Warming Story of Leah**

Leah Batchelor, a parishioner of St Michael's Parish, Belfast, was just 21 when in 2011 she suffered a massive aneurysm that left her with a rare condition known as locked in syndrome. Doctors said she would never walk, talk or even breathe by herself again.

Leah spent weeks in intensive care, conscious of all that was going on around her, feeling pain and emotion, yet not able to move a single muscle apart from her eyes.

But with the prayers of her family, friends, her parish of St Michael's and even strangers around the world, Leah fought back.

Her remarkable courage and determination was documented in Stephen Nolan's 'Story of a Lifetime' series on BBC Northern Ireland in March 2013. She also allowed her story to be told in Connor Connections in June that year.

Two years on, and Leah is continuing her remarkable journey to recovery. She is about to enter her final year as a graphic design student at the Ulster University, and after years of not being able to speak clearly, an operation on her palate has given Leah back the power of speech, the ability to communicate in person once again. "It has completely transformed my life," Leah says.

Videos at -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p015yy96>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHajYJso-mo>

## **United Society Golf Classic**

Us (the United Society) is holding a golf classic in Old Conna Golf Club, Bray, on Friday September 18, shotgun at 2.30 pm. The cost of



Us in Ireland focuses on the work of the Church in Swaziland, particularly primary schools and an income-generating farm project.

PLEASE CONTACT: GEOFFREY PERRIN 087 9174452

entry is €400 per team of four which will include green fees and a meal.

The event will raise money for Us, the Irish branch of which focuses its efforts on the Church in Swaziland. Funds are directed to primary schools there and to a farm project which generates income for the diocese.

To sign up please contact Geoffrey Perrin on 087-9174452.

For more information on Us in Ireland see: <http://www.lindaatuspg.blogspot.com/>

## English parish recruits new full forward



*Fr Michael Toner, parish priest of English in Co. Tyrone, presents Pope Francis with an English GAA jersey during a visit to the Vatican.*

## Clerical appointment

The Revd James Boyd, currently rector of the Parish of Dromore, Holy Trinity in the Diocese of Clogher has been appointed as vicar of the Parish of Willowfield in the Diocese of Down.

## **Church of England leadership shake up continues: Evangelical given traditionally Anglo-Catholic post**

A sixth woman bishop has been appointed in the Church of England, along with a male evangelical into a post once associated traditional Anglo-Catholicism.

The Queen has approved the nomination of Dr Graham Tomlin, Dean of the phenomenally successful evangelical training college, St Mellitus, in the diocese of London, to be Bishop of Kensington.

Dr Tomlin, former chaplain at Jesus College, Oxford and also former vice-principal of Wycliffe Hall, is a highly respected evangelical theologian who comes out of the influential Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB).

As Bishop of Kensington he will pastor to many of the churches planted in London by HTB.

At the same time, the Queen approved the appointment of Rev Anne Hollinghurst, Vicar of St Peter's in St Albans, to be the new Bishop of

Aston. Her appointment will bring the number of women bishops in the Church of England up to six and she is the second new woman bishop to be announced last week.

Hollinghurst described herself as both a "contemplative" and a "want-to-make-it-happen" person who likes walking and being outdoors and is keen on environmental issues. Her other interests include reading, the arts and real ale pubs.

She said: "I hope to contribute my experience and practice in mission in a whole variety of contexts, in walking alongside the many clergy and lay people of the diocese, who are doing all sorts of wonderful and exciting things—helping to focus in together on God's priorities and God's call. A lot of that is about encouragement and in the realising and releasing of gifts. Each step of my journey has been enormously exciting and stretching and now I take a rather large gulp as I look towards this next step in ministry to which I believe God is calling me."

The Bishop of Birmingham, David Urquhart, who will be her diocesan, said: "I am delighted that Anne has accepted the invitation to join in leading the mission of God across Birmingham and region. She comes with a wealth of

experience of nurturing discipleship and growing the Church. I look forward to having a new episcopal colleague and to seeing faith in Jesus Christ flourish in this generation.”

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