

Clontarf Choral Competition Hits the Right Notes



The junior winners of the Clontarf Choral Competition

The second annual Clontarf Choral Competition took place in the Church of St John the Baptist on Sunday last (March
churchnewsireland@gmail.org

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Dolce were the overall winners of the Clontarf Choral Competition for the second time.

3). With both junior and senior competitions, participating amateur choirs were drawn from Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Tipperary.

The competition exists to encourage the performance and enjoyment of hymnody and each choir sang two hymns or religious songs. Both the chief organizer, Nicole Robinson and the judges, the Revd Dr Anne–Marie O’Farrell, Bishop Trevor Williams and Joyce Williams were impressed with the quality of the performances from all the entrants.

The winning youth choir was Ossia Youth Choir who were presented with the William Young Memorial Trophy. Dolce were the overall winners in the senior section and were awarded with the Alfie and Pam Branagan Memorial Cup.

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This was their second year in a row to scoop the title. Anam were the winners of the judges' discretionary prize of the Audrey Flood Maharry Memorial Cup.

Church drawings digitized

The project to digitize, catalogue and make available online the Church of Ireland's collections of architectural drawings of churches housed in the RCB Library has reached another significant landmark, with the completion of imaging ten albums of early 19th-century drawings of churches, amounting to some 1,500 drawings. All digital copies of these drawings which cover a total of 591 different church buildings have now been uploaded to the searchable [database](#) and are now freely available for viewing and searching.

The six earliest albums contain drawings by the architect of the Board of First Fruits, James Pain (c.1779–1877), and record churches in the dioceses of Cashel and Emly, Cloyne, Cork and Ross, Killaloe and Kilfenora, Limerick and Ardfert, and Waterford and Lismore.

The four later albums contain the drawings by Joseph Welland (1798–1860) who trained in the office of John Bowden, the first architect employed by the Board of First Fruits. When Bowden died in 1822, Welland inherited some of his practice and also became architect for the province of Tuam.

Two of his albums cover the ecclesiastical province of Tuam and part of the province of Armagh and contain drawings of churches in the dioceses of Killala, Achonry, Ardagh, Elphin,

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Mural in Bangor Abbey



Kilmore,
Meath, Tuam,
Clonfert and
Kilmacduagh.

Collectively the albums provide a key source for understanding the Board of First Fruits church buildings in the period, 1780s to 1820s, many of which were subsequently repaired, rebuilt or extended from the later 1830s to the late 1860s.

The RCB Library is most grateful to architectural historian Dr Michael O'Neill for his painstaking and enthusiastic work for over eight years to make sense of the Church of Ireland's immensely rich architectural collections and ensure they can be appreciated by a worldwide audience.

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News briefs

+++Appointment in Armagh - The Rev'd Peter Smith has been appointed to serve as Rector to the Parishes of Loughgall and Grange. A date for the Institution Service will be announced in due course.

+++Cork confirmation candidates meet with bishop - Bishop Paul Colton hosted his annual morning of meeting and activities for the Confirmation candidates in the United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, on Saturday, 2nd March. This popular and fun event was held again this year in the Canon Packham Hall, Douglas, Cork and the adjacent Saint Luke's National School. A team of clergy and youth workers were on hand to make it all possible. Nearly 100 young people were present, for a morning of games, activities, singing and hospitality, and which gave them an opportunity to chat to the Bishop in person before their big day later in the year.

+++Oh What A Night - Tempo Church Hall was filled to capacity on Friday night with music, fellowship and fun. The annual church concert was a huge success with people in attendance from near and far. The 4 participating bands: Tempo Silver Band, Drum Accordion Band, Inver Flute Band and Thiepval Memorial Pipe Band entertained the large crowd who were also treated to a surprise musical interlude by Roy Crowe, Rodney White, Mark McDonald.

+++Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin's sixth candle-lit film series - on the theme of journeys, continues on Monday evening at 6.30pm in the cathedral's Music Room

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when The Straight Story (1999) will be introduced by Professor Jim Lucey, Director of St Patrick's Hospital. As always, the screenings are completely free of charge and all are most welcome. Doors will open at 6.15pm and no booking is required.

+++Looking to make more time for prayer and reflection

- during the season of Lent? This year's creative reflection series begins on Tuesday, 12 March, and all are welcome, no pre-booking necessary. For complete dates and...
facebook.com/cccdub/posts/1...

+++Dublin and Glendalough Retired Clerical Fellowship

- will meet in the Glenageary parish centre on Tuesday at 2.30pm for a celebration of Holy Communion followed by a talk entitled 'The Family Today' by Canon Ginnie Kennerley.

+++Limerick Wednesday lunchtime concert - begins in St Mary's cathedral, at 1.15pm, will feature Jennifer O'Sullivan (flute) and Michael Young (piano) who will play music by Mel Bonies.

+++Irish Language Service of Holy Communion - On Saturday 16th March, the Eve of St Patricks Day, an Irish Language Service of Holy Communion, will take place in St Mary's church, Dunmanway, the burial place of Sam Maguire, at 8.00pm. A warm invitation is extended to all wishing to attend an Irish language service during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

+++Presbyterian blog - Rev William Sinclair has been in ministry for nearly 30 years. In his first blog he writes openly and honestly about burnout and the three principal lessons

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he has learned about resilience in leadership in the face of conflict as a result. <https://bit.ly/2EEoGZc>

+++Food for thought - "Lent is about revival. It starts with dust and ashes and ends with Jesus resurrected from the dead. That's true revival!"

- Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry

March 11 & 10 in Christian history

March 11, 843: Eastern churches officially reintroduced and sanctioned icons, after an 89-year controversy that occasionally turned violent.

March 11, 1513: Leo X is elected pope. His eight-year tenure, marked by gross excesses and immorality, would culminate his 1520 excommunication of Martin Luther.

March 11, 1812: Fire engulfs missionary William Carey's print shop in Serampore, India, destroying his massive polyglot dictionary, two grammar books, sets of type for 14 eastern languages, and whole versions of the Bible. Undaunted, Carey said, "The loss is heavy, but as traveling a road the second time is usually done with greater ease and certainty than the first time, so I trust the work will lose nothing of real value . . . We are cast down but not in despair." News of the fire also catapulted Carey to fame, bringing in abundant funds and volunteer labour .

March 11, 1965: White Boston minister James J. Reeb dies after being beaten during a civil rights demonstration in Selma, Alabama.

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March 10, 1302: Pope Boniface VIII sentences Italian poet and politician Dante Alighieri, author of the Divine Comedy, to be burned to death for political reasons. He avoided the fate by living in exile, but he never saw his wife again.

March 10, 1528: Balthasar Hubmaier, called by his enemies "head and most important of the Anabaptists," is burned at the stake in Vienna after being deemed a heretic by a Roman Catholic court. In addition to his writings against Lutherans and Zwinglians, he penned one of the earliest arguments for religious toleration. Though other Anabaptist leaders rejected his pleas for a tolerant Christian government and judicious use of the sword, they adopted his arguments for adult baptism, tolerance, and free will.

March 10, 1681: Charles II makes English Quaker William Penn sole proprietor of the colonial American territory known today as the state of Pennsylvania. Penn gave legal rights not only to Native Americans but also to persecuted Christians like the Mennonites.

March 10, 1748: John Newton, the captain of a slave ship, converts to Christianity during a huge storm at sea. He had been reading Thomas a Kempis's *The Imitation of Christ*, and was struck by a line about the "uncertain continuance of life." He eventually became an Anglican clergyman, the author of the famous hymn "Amazing Grace," and a zealous abolitionist.

March 10, 1880: Commissioner George S. Railton and seven women arrive in New York City to establish the Salvation Army in the United States.

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March 10, 1898: George Mueller, English philanthropist and evangelist, dies. He, in his 93 years helped more than 10,000 English orphans.

March 10, 1913: Harriet Tubman, known as "Grandma Moses" for her work rescuing slaves and guiding them to the north on what was dubbed "the Underground Railroad," dies. Her 19 rescues (of about 300 slaves) were successful, she said, because God showed her the way. "'Twant me, 'twas the Lord," said the diminutive woman who herself escaped slavery. "I always told him, 'I trust to you. I don't know where to go or what to do, but I expect you to lead me,' and he always did".

News Links

[When Rev Craig Cooney was first asked to take over the breakaway group who'd left ...](#)

Belfast Telegraph

He was aware of the troubled history which led to the establishment of this church after a bitter split in the rural **Church of Ireland** parish of ...

[Controversial Irish-born Bishop from Church of England to talk at conference in Dublin](#)

Dublin Live

Irish-born, **Church of England** Bishop Wallace Benn will be a guest speaker at a Dublin conference next June despite his offer to withdraw as a guest.

[Controversial Church of England bishop to address Dublin conference](#)

Irish Times

Vatican meeting shows a church incapable of holding itself to account ... A spokeswoman for the **Church of Ireland** said the Theological Institute was ...

[Irish nun honoured with international courage award](#)

[RTE.ie](#)

RTÉ's **Religious** and Social Affairs Correspondent Joe Little met Sister Orla 15 months ago and has been tracking the campaign by the Loreto ...

[The Most Anti-Christian Country on Earth](#)

First Things

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“Call in the decrucifixers” is a perfect encapsulation of “modern **Ireland**,” ... crusade to create conditions in which no **religious** beliefs will be tolerated.

Irish Youth Training Choir

The Journal of Music

Irish Youth Training **Choir** 2019 will take place at the University of Limerick from 23rd-27th/28th(TBC) June 2019. IYTC provides young singers aged ...

Record number of Catholics attend drive-thru Ash Wednesday services in Ireland

Irish Post

AN INCREASING number of Irish Catholics are taking advantage of 'drive-thru' **religious** services in a bid to maintain their faith, albeit in a timely ...

Ireland's forgotten children

gulfnews.com

As local folk here in Tuam in County Galway in the west of **Ireland** will tell you, ... and **religious** history; one only now being written where vulnerable children Mick O'Reilly is the Gulf **News** Foreign Correspondent based in Europe.

Archbishop of Canterbury hails trailblazing women priests

La Croix International

She became the first woman to be consecrated in the **Church of England** ... first woman to be ordained in the **Church of England**, the **media** reported.

Elderly vicar found guilty of child sex abuse after Church of England cover-up

The Independent

A retired vicar is facing prison after he admitted to sexually abusing a young boy, as it emerged that the **Church of England** twice covered up his crimes ...

Bishop of Oxford resists gay-marriage amendment

Church Times

ANOTHER attempt to remove the exemption of the **Church of England** from same-sex marriage in churches was made in the ... Bill (**News**, 8 February).

News Briefing: from Britain and Ireland

The Tablet

Women's ordination celebrated. The **Church** of England has celebrated 25 years of women's ordination to the priesthood with a celebration at ...

Pope Francis: Abuse revelations are purifying the Church

Catholic News Agency

God is purifying his **Church** through the painful revelations of the abuse ... The United States, **Ireland**, Australia, Chile, Argentina and Germany are ...

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