

## ACC to meet in Ireland in 2025



**The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby spins a ball for a ceremonial dragon during a cultural evening following the closing Eucharist of ACC-17 at St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong.**

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Before the ACC-17 meeting concluded, the host provinces for the next two Anglican Consultative Council meetings were announced. West Africa will host ACC-18 in 2022; and ACC-19 will be hosted by the Church of Ireland in 2025.

## **Church leaders from around the globe left Hong Kong “to advance God’s mission”**

“Go forth into the world in peace” were the words of the choir’s anthem at St John’s Cathedral in Hong Kong on Sunday 5 May. It was sung to celebrate the conclusion of the 17th meeting of the triennial Anglican Consultative Council (ACC-17). More than 110 delegates and guests from around the world have gathered in Hong Kong this past week to shape the international work of the Anglican Communion for the coming years.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, was the celebrant of the Eucharist and the Archbishop and Primate of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui – the Anglican Church in Hong Kong, Dr Paul Kwong, preached. Archbishop Paul is also the elected Chair of the Consultative Council.

Archbishop Paul based his sermon on the Gospel reading of the day from John 21: 1-19. On the theme of hospitality, he said: “‘Bring some of the fish that you have just caught’, said Jesus. ‘Come and have breakfast.’ Of all the things to do on a quiet morning, what could be more natural? What could be more hospitable than someone cooking breakfast for their friends?”

He stated that hospitality was central to the conversations during ACC-17, and he affirmed “how important the simple actions of giving and receiving, of taking care of one



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**The Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon, is prayed for by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, during the closing Eucharist of ACC-17 in Hong Kong.**

another, of loving one another, are in our Christian lives together.”

He thanked all of the members of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui who had met and cared for those involved in ACC-17.

He also spoke about what it is to be a practical Christian. In challenging the congregation to love each other even when they disagree. In referencing ACC-17, he said: “we have had our arguments, our disagreements, our disappointments, just as much as we have had our genuine achievements. But I believe very strongly that our

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arguments and disagreements and disappointments have all taken place within the Body of Christ: that, however passionately we feel about the rightness of our cause and our beliefs, we return to listen to the Word, to share the Peace, to break bread, to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, and to be sent out into the world to do His will.”

After an invitation to follow Christ, he concluded the sermon saying: “And as I say thank you to each and every delegate to ACC-17, and as I bid you travel safely back to your homes, reflecting upon these powerful Bible readings and this extraordinary Mass of Christ, I ask you only to remember Christ’s words to Peter, on behalf of the Communion and on behalf of the faithful Christians who have hosted you here in Hong Kong. Let us follow Christ, wherever He may take us. Amen.”

Members of the Standing Committee read the lessons and lead the intercessions. The music included Ernest Yang’s “Fount of love, our Saviour God”, “Great are thy mercies” to the Chinese folk song “Song of the Hoe”. The sung parts of the Eucharist were to a setting by Victor Chan.

The theme of the ACC-17 meeting was “Equipping God’s People: going deeper in intentional discipleship”. The work in the past week had included daily Bible studies, reports, presentations, resolutions, and briefings on a wide variety of ministries. There were also opportunities to visit local parishes and see their social ministry work.

During the closing Eucharist, after a time of prayer Archbishop Justin commissioned the ACC-17 members, the Standing Committee and the Staff of the Anglican



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**The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, prays for three departing Anglican Communion Office Directors: Adrian Butcher, Dr John Gibaut, and the Revd Canon Terrie Robinson**

Consultative Council to work together to advance God's mission worldwide.

He prayed particularly for three departing members of the Anglican Consultative Council's staff: Director for Unity, Faith and Order, Dr John Gibaut; Director for Women in Church and Society, Canon Terrie Robinson; and Director for Communications, Adrian Butcher.

He also prayed for the Anglican Communion's Secretary General, Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon.

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## **Presbyterian presence at Royal Ulster show**

Among the trade stands, pavilions, food stalls, show rings and general exhibitors you will find at this year's Royal Ulster Agricultural Society's Balmoral Show, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI) will once again be offering a warm welcome to everyone on its stand, which can be found in the Eikon Exhibition Centre at the show grounds at Maze.

This year's Show, which is Northern Ireland's largest agri-food event, takes place from Wednesday 15 May-Saturday 18 May, and is the fifth year that PCI's Dromore Presbytery - one of Church's 19 local regional bodies - has had a presence at the show since 2014.

Rev Kenny Hanna of Second Dromara Presbyterian Church, who helped to organise the stand, said that every one of all faiths and none are welcome to visit. "PCI has traditionally drawn much of its strength from rural communities and for many generations of Presbyterians have attended Ireland's agricultural fairs and shows – Balmoral included.

"Since we first came to Balmoral, we have been delighted by the warm response we have received, as we welcomed folk from all over. Our Presbytery actually takes in the show grounds at Maze, but that isn't the main reason that we come each year.

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“We are very much a rural presbytery and our congregations are home to many rural families and farming folk, so it is important for us that we have a presence at the show, not only offering hospitality, but also a compassionate listening ear,” he said.

With face painting, tea, coffee and light refreshments, along with space to rest weary legs and just chat, Mr Hanna

said that there would also be literature available to signpost farming families and the wider rural community to help if it is needed.



“Balmoral is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the best of Northern Ireland farming and rural life. Farmers and farming

*The Friends of Bangor Abbey*  
*Annual St Comgall Lecture 2019*

**BOETHIUS**  
Scotland & Ireland in the Medieval World

**Bangor Abbey Parish Centre**  
**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019 @ 11.30 am**

**Dr Kylie Murray**  
(Balliol College, Oxford)



**Donation - £7.00**  
[you are invited to stay for soup & rolls,  
tea/coffee after the Lecture]

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families, however, continue live with the unique pressures that come with life in the countryside, which in recent years has been added to by the uncertainty around of Brexit.

“As we have said before, as a rural presbytery we want to continue to show our support for farming communities and bring an opportunity to show God’s love, through Jesus who died for us, to those who work on the land and in the rural economy. We are also hear to listen, and if needs be to pray,” Mr Hanna said.

The Presbytery’s stand, EK28 (which is listed as ‘Presbyterian Church in Ireland (Dromore Presbytery)’ ) is located in the Eikon Exhibition Centre, which is situated between the cattle tents and the fun fair.

## **Six killed after gunmen attack Catholic church in Burkina Faso**

Authorities say gunmen have attacked a Catholic church in Burkina Faso, killing a priest and five worshippers.

The attack on Sunday took place in Dablo, about 200 kilometres (124 miles) from the capital, Ouagadougou.

Urbain Kabore, a government spokesman for the West African country's Sahel region, said the gunmen also set fire to a health centre and destroyed all places serving alcohol.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but the attacks bore the hallmarks of Islamic extremists who are



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known to be active in the area. An attack on a Protestant church about two weeks ago left six people dead.

Burkina Faso has been increasingly destabilised by jihadists from across the border in Mali. Attacks have included the kidnapping of foreigners.

## **Anti-gay US pastor banned from Ireland**

A controversial preacher who's called for the death of Barack Obama has been banned from speaking in Ireland.

The country will block his entry despite his claim that he's preaching and 'soul winning' in Dublin on 26 May.

It is first time Ireland has used a law introduced 20 years ago which permits banning foreign nationals from entering.

It comes after online petition calling for a ban gained over 14,000 signatures.

Anderson runs Faithful Word Baptist Church in Arizona but has been accused of openly expressing anti-gay and anti-Semitic views.

Spotlight was put on his church in 2009 when he preached a sermon titled 'Why I hate Barack Obama'. In it he argued the US would "benefit" from Obama's death.

Anderson has already been banned from the UK.

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## **Papal Almoner breaks-in to restore electricity for poor**



Cardinal

Konrad Krajewski climbed down a manhole Saturday to restore the power supply to a disused, Italian state-owned property in Rome where many homeless persons have been living.

The building's power was cut by the electricity supplier May 6 because it had accumulated a debt of some 300,000 euro (\$337,000).

It has been occupied since 2013 by the Action movement, and in addition to housing, it hosts several workspaces.

"I intervened personally last night to turn back on the meters. It was a desperate gesture. There were over 400 people without electricity, families with children," Krajewski, almoner of the office of papal charities, told Ansa May 12.

Matteo Salvini, Italy's deputy prime minister, said, "I expect that the pope's almoner, who intervened to turn the power back on in an occupied building in Rome, will also pay the 300,000 euros in back bills."

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The politician of the center-right populist party Lega Nord added at an electoral meeting: “I think you all are making sacrifices to pay your bills; if someone is able to pay the bills of those Italians in difficulty, we are happy.”

As papal almoner, Archbishop Krajewski is responsible for distributing donations to those in need on behalf of Pope Francis. Other initiatives he has carried out include a dormitory, barber services, and showers for those in need.

## **Today in Christian history**

**May 14, 1572:** Gregory XIII, who reformed the Julian calendar into the calendar used today and celebrated the killing of French Huguenots (Protestants) with a Te Deum (a Latin hymn), is named pope.

**May 14, 1607:** Robert Hunt holds the first Anglican service in the New World Day after the Virginia Company lands in Jamestown.

**May 14, 1759:** Anglican evangelical John Berridge preaches his first outdoor sermon. Outdoor preaching became a prominent feature of his ministry, as it did for George Whitefield, John Wesley, and the early Methodist movement as a whole.

## **News briefs**

**+++ Official launch and first commissioning of Dublin Street Pastors** - The official launch and first commissioning service for Dublin Street Pastors will take place on Wednesday at 7.30 pm in Christ Church Cathedral. Dublin. Street Pastors, as a local initiative of the [churchnewsireland@gmail.org](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.org)



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global Street Pastor movement, seeks to mobilise Christian volunteers from different churches to engage relevantly with issues of social vulnerability and substance misuse, by facilitating training and organisation enabling volunteers to effectively care, listen to, and offer help to those who may be at risk in the context of the Dublin's night time economy. The Revd Les Isaac, pioneer of the Street Pastors movement and founder of Ascension Trust, will be one of the evening's featured speakers, and the first trainee cohort to be commissioned at the service represents the range of Christian churches across Dublin.

### **+++ Methodist support of Larne Food Bank -**

On Sunday morning the Larne Circuit gathered for a united service to celebrate fifty years of mission, witness and discipleship on the present buildings at Craighyhill Methodist Church. MCI President, Rev Billky Davison comments, "Before the



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service, I had the pleasure of dedicating the Larne Food Bank facility located adjacent to the church halls and heard how the Food Bank is providing much needed support for the most vulnerable. We give thanks for all that has been achieved on the Larne Circuit and for the special day of worship and fellowship led by present minister, Revd. Christopher Skillen.”

**+++ National Bible Society hosts speaker from Lebanon**

- The National Bible Society of Ireland is holding a public meeting this Thursday, May 16, in St Ann’s Church, Dawson Street, at 3pm. The speaker will be Dr Michel G Bassous, General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the Bible Society – Lebanon. Entitled ‘The Word from Lebanon, Dr Bassous will speak on the challenges facing the Society there. All are welcome.

**+++ Hadyn and Mozart in Carlow** - Carlow Choral Society perform Haydn Nelson Mass and Te Deum and Mozart Ave Verum and the Lacrimosa from his Requiem this Saturday night 18th May in the Cathedral of the Assumption Carlow at 8pm. Conductor Blanaid Murphy with the Irish Choral Sinfonia Orchestra and soloists. Tickets (€20.00 for adults, children free accompanied by adult) available from [eventbrite.ie](http://eventbrite.ie) [carlowchoralsociety.net](http://carlowchoralsociety.net) or from Hosey's post office.

**+++ Connor appointment** - The Rev Peter Jones, rector of Mossley Parish, has been appointed Warden of Readers for Connor Diocese.

He succeeds the Rev Canon Kevin Graham who took up the role of Diocesan Director of Ordinands following the retirement of the Rev Canon Will Murphy at the end of April.

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Peter is married to Kim and dad to Timothy and Hannah. He has been rector of Mossley since August 2017.

**+++ Omagh steps out in faith** - More than 30 intrepid parishioners from Drumragh with Mountfield stepped out in faith – quite literally – on Saturday morning when they set off from St Columb’s Cathedral in Londonderry to walk the 35 miles to St Columba’s Church in Omagh.

Their marathon walk is a fund-raiser for the parish’s ambitious renovation project. An estimated half a million pounds is needed to pay for a large-scale scheme of works to repair and replace St Columba’s stonework, pointing and guttering. The walkers were sent on their way by the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Rt Rev Ken Good, and the Dean of Derry, Very Rev Raymond Stewart. The two church leaders prayed with the walkers in St Columb’s Cathedral before their 6 a.m. start. The parishioners are being led on their journey of faith by their curate, Rev Sean Hanily, and Diocesan ordinand Claire Henderson who is still “jet-lagged” having just returned from the United States of America.

**+++ Cork Readers Licensed and Precentor Installed** - in St Fin Barre’s Cathedral, Cork: On Sunday afternoon, 12th May, two new Diocesan Readers – Lynn McAdam O’Connell and Michael Kenning – having completed the required training, were licensed by the Bishop, the Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton, during Evensong at St Fin Barre’s Cathedral

**+++ Portstewart rector instituted** - There was standing room only in the Church of St John the Baptist, Portstewart, on Friday May 10 when the Rev Malcolm Ferry was instituted as rector of the Parish of Agherton. Malcolm was previously rector of St Augustine’s Parish Church, Diocese



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of Derry and Raphoe, and a Canon of St Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry. He served his first curacy in Agherton following his ordination in 1996, and says he has many happy memories of the parish. He was instituted rector on Friday by the Ven Paul Dundas, Archdeacon of Dalriada, and Commissary to the Bishop of Connor. The preacher at the service was the Ven Robert Miller, Archdeacon of Derry.

**HERITAGE** "...on 19 May 1649 an Act of Parliament decreed that England should henceforth be governed 'as a Commonwealth. or a Free State, by the supreme authority of this nation'. For the next decade Ireland too would be governed as a republic. How strange that the birth of Irish republicanism should be attended by the unlikely figure of Oliver Cromwell." ATQ Stewart, The Shape of Irish History

**PRAY FOR** - Student Christian Organisation Malawi (SCOM). SCOM's mission is to introduce students in secondary schools, colleges and universities in Malawi to Jesus Christ, in the hope that they can grow in their spiritual lives and become responsible members of their churches throughout their lives. Give thanks for SCOM staff and volunteers and pray for the work they do. Pray that many students will devote their lives to Christ. Pray too that Christian students will share their faith with their friends. Remember too, all those in Malawi and other parts of central and southern Africa who have been affected by recent cyclones and heavy rain.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT** - "Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point, which means at the point of highest reality." CS LEWIS

## News Links

### [Bishop opens up about the mess of life](#)

The Irish News

When he was confronted with the double blow of a cancer diagnosis and mental ill health, Alan Abernethy, the **Church of Ireland** Bishop of Connor ...

### [Boyle Arts Festival celebrates 30 years](#)

Leitrim Observer

Prepare to be spellbound by stunning melodies and harmonies, when Galway three piece The Whileaways perform in the **Church of Ireland** on July 22 ...

### [Meath priest 'deeply saddened' by thefts during Mass](#)

Irish Mirror

Man appears in court accused of ATM theft in Northern **Ireland** ... I'm sure there has been thefts from **churches** before but this is the first time that I've ...

### [Garda says thefts during Mass are 'new low'](#) [BreakingNews.ie](#)

Fr Declan Hurley, Parish Administrator has said he is 'upset' and 'deeply saddened' at the thefts during 6pm Mass at St Mary's **Church** in Navan last ...

### [Government pledges to release historical abuse compensation 'as soon as possible'](#)

Belfast Telegraph

Northern Ireland Secretary of State Karen Bradley is to act to release ... Catholic Church, the **Church of Ireland** and the children's charity Barnardo's.

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**Religious** teacher jailed for molesting student has sentence tripled

Irish Times

A **religious** teacher jailed for molesting a young student at a Dublin mosque has had his 14 month jail term increased to 4½ years by the Court of ...

**Irish president criticises those who perpetuated and ignored institutional abuse**

Peeblesshire News

President of **Ireland** (@PresidentIRL) May 10, 2019 ... She says she still does not feel Irish, and will not until the **Church** and State are completely ...

**Pope issues decree for all Catholic clergy to report sexual abuse**

Irish Times

It is already mandatory in **Ireland** for Catholic **Church** authorities to report all allegations of child abuse to the civil authorities. The document ...

**Leaders find 72 reasons why Church of England is growing**

The Northern Echo

Church leaders in the North-East have found 72 reasons why the **Church of England** is growing, despite congregations shrinking nationally.

**Church** rejects report which says clergy should be allowed to go to police with sex abuse confessions

**Telegraph.co.uk**

Now, unless **Church of England's** bishops decide differently next week ... the **Church of England's** failure to admit agree that abuse disclosed during ...



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[Pompeo says religious freedom a 'pillar' of security during UK visit](#)

Crux: Covering all things Catholic

Lambeth Palace is the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, the head of the **Church of England** and worldwide Anglican Communion.

[What happened to US evangelicals? In early America, they were our freedom fighters.](#)

Washington Post

... would now call evangelicals — many of them carried out by leaders of local churches associated with the **Church of England**, or Anglican parishes.

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