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## Heroic WWI chaplain praised as model for reconciliation



**Irish film director Campbell Miller presents Pope Francis with a copy of the film Bravery Under Fire during last week's General Audience in St Peter's Square in the Vatican.**

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An Irish chaplain to the British army during World War I has been described as “imitating Christ” when he was bravely killed while administering Last Rites to a soldier.

Speaking ahead of the screening of a film last week in the Vatican detailing Fr Willie Doyle SJ’s life, directed by Campbell Miller from Newcastle in Down, Armagh’s Archbishop Eamon Martin said Irish Catholics in WWI are not “adequately remembered”.

Bravery Under Fire depicts Fr Doyle’s youth and family life up to his death by a bomb in No Man’s Land while trying to help fallen soldiers.

“In recent years we’ve been bringing to light the stories of thousands of Catholics and Protestants from towns and villages all over Ireland who died in the First World War,” said Archbishop Martin.

He said that a fitting tribute “to the principles for which men and women from the island of Ireland died in both world wars would be permanent peace in Ireland”.

Addressing clergy and journalists at the screening, he said it would be difficult for those from outside Ireland to understand the significance of an Irish Catholic priest comforting “say a Protestant Loyalist Ulster man, when back at home they might have been at loggerheads: they were united in the gruesome reality of war”.

Director Campbell Miller said: “We can only imagine the horror experienced as Fr Doyle ministered in the mud, decay, destruction and terror of unexploded shells and incoming fire.”

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He expressed the hope that Fr Doyle's cause for sainthood will be considered.

## **Diocesan schools service explores the meaning of 'Home'**

'A Place to Call Home' was the theme of this year's Dublin & Glendalough Diocesan Service for Primary Schools and Junior Schools. Pupils from all over the United Dioceses filled Christ Church Cathedral for the service this week which explored aspects of home.



**The Revd Ross Styles, the Revd Cathy Hallissey and Copperpot at the Diocesan Service for Primary and Junior Schools at Christ Church Cathedral with Dean Dermot Dunne and Archbishop Michael Jackson.**

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After a welcome by Dean Dermot Dunne, the service was led by the Revd Cathy Hallissey and the Revd Ross Styles. Archbishop Michael Jackson presided and the clergy were joined by a special guest, Copperpot, from Borneo but who lives with Rev Cathy.

Cathy and Ross looked at God in our homes, our place within God's home, those without homes, those without God in their homes and us as a home for the Holy Spirit.

Ross said that the word 'home' held a different meaning for each person. He said they were gathered in Christ Church Cathedral which was God's home but there were many people without homes both in Dublin and throughout the country. There were yet more people who were forced to flee their homes in other countries who found safety here.

"It is through us that the world will change. If we reach out to others, we will make a difference," he said. "We sit in God's home yet he lives within us. He works through us to make a better future."

Copperpot said he had come from Borneo because the trees he lived in were cut down. He said living with Cathy mean that he had a home where he felt safe and loved and where he felt he could be himself.

Archbishop Jackson brought the service to a close with prayer on the theme of home. He also prayed Christ Church Cathedral as the mother church of the dioceses, the courageous work of the Irish Refugee Council and Dublin & Glendalough in giving welcome to those who arrive in Ireland as refugees and all who work in education.

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## Retired bishops rebuff letter from fellow Evangelical bishops that warned of schism over marriage

TWO retired bishops, both Evangelicals, have criticised a letter from 11 serving bishops that hinted at a schism in the Anglican Communion should the Church of England change its teaching on marriage.

The 1800-word letter, posted on the website of the Church of England Evangelical Council last week, defines traditional teaching in the light of Resolution 1.10 from the 1998 Lambeth Conference, stating: “We believe that this vision of (1) sexual intercourse as ‘an act of total commitment which belongs properly within a permanent married relationship’, (2) [marriage](#) as a union of a man and woman in a covenant of love marked by exclusivity and life-long commitment, and (3) faithful, sexually abstinent love in singleness and non-marital friendships, is the teaching of scripture. It therefore expresses the character and will of God.”

It is addressed to the Bishop of Coventry, Dr Christopher Cocksworth, who chairs the co-ordinating group of the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) project. The project was set up by the House of Bishops as an attempt to look more deeply into matters of sexuality after earlier attempts failed to heal divisions ([News, 30 June 2017](#)).

In a critique of the letter, posted on the [ViaMedia website](#), the Rt Revd David Atkinson, a former Bishop of Thetford, argues that, far from being fixed: “Christian understanding of the ‘scriptural teaching’ on marriage and sexuality has

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developed from Augustine, Aquinas and Cranmer, and within Anglican theology in recent decades, not least post-Freud.”

He challenges the narrow definition used in the letter, stating: “If it is possible for a gay couple to make an act of exclusive, loving commitment within a permanent covenanted relationship and to experience God’s blessing in doing so, and find their lives displaying the fruit of God’s Spirit, then I believe we need a broader evangelical theology of covenanted same-sex friendship than can be found in what the bishops refers to as ‘Anglican tradition’.”

On the same site, the Rt Revd David Gillett, a former Bishop of Bolton, calls for a patient and humble approach



**The Institution of the Rev Andy Heber as vicar of Carnmoney, Connor diocese, took place this week.**

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to scripture. His prayer, he says, is that, “While preserving the tradition that marriage is a commitment to a faithful, life-long and intimate relationship between two people, we will now be able to see the tradition in a fully inclusive way — or, at the very least, hope that others who disagree will allow blessings of same sex marriages — thus leaving a variety of ways of living God’s story that recognises the full humanity and equality of our LGBT+ brothers and sisters.” (David Gillett ministered at the Centre for Reconciliation at Rostrevor prior to returning to England ).

Theme: **Harvest**  
Worship led by  
**Discovery Gospel Choir**

# Launch

21st October 7.30pm

St Thomas's  
Church of Ireland Church  
Cathal Brugha Street  
Dublin 1

**onedublin**  
STUDENT GOSPEL MUSIC  
SERVICES

On Thursday, another critique of the letter was published on [the same site](#) by the Revd David Runcorn, an Associate Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Warden Readers in the diocese of Gloucester, who is an associate faculty member at Trinity College, Bristol, an

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Evangelical theological college.

He notes that the letter argues that: “The Church must always be reformed according to the Word of God, and God has ‘more truth yet to break forth out of his Holy Word’.”

Mr Runcorn comments: “These words suggest a relationship with scripture that is always unfolding, never exhausted, and where understandings may need to change and evolve over time.

“It is precisely this understanding of the re-forming Word that leads folk like me to support the extending of the marriage covenant to same-sex couples. But the letter remains insistent there can be no change in the ‘traditional’ understanding of marriage. I want to ask — on the basis of the letter’s own understanding of the re-forming Word — why not?”

In a separate statement on Wednesday, the Christian LGBT campaign group [One Body One Faith](#) said that the 11 bishops “no longer spoke for all Evangelicals” and that their letter was both “disappointing and disingenuous” in its attempt to “undermine” the work of the Living in Love and Faith group.

“What may come as news to these bishops is that the evangelical world has moved on – indeed, perhaps this letter arises out of the fear of recognising just this reality.

“They no longer speak for all evangelicals; their sisters and brothers still hold their evangelical identity dear but have been courageous and open-hearted enough to see a bigger God emerge, God powerfully alive in [LGBTI+](#) people and



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longing to be known as good news for all, without exception.”

The statement concluded: “Over the coming weeks and months, it will be for the other members of the House of Bishops, in all their diversity of opinion, to hold these eleven of their sisters and brothers to account.”

[Read the letter in full here](#)

## **'The evangelical world has moved on', LGBT Christian group respond to letter from bishops**

A group representing LGBT Christians across the country has hit back at a number of bishops who this week urged the Church of England not to change its stance on sexuality.

OneBodyOneFaith spoke out after the clergy, who include the bishops of Durham and Carlisle, **wrote an open letter to the Bishop of Coventry** who is chairing the Church of England's 'Living in Love and Faith' (LLF) project.

In the letter, they warned of "major problems" and the danger of division if the Church changes its current position.

They said that the traditional Christian view of sex as being for heterosexual marriage alone "is the teaching of Scripture" and "therefore expresses the character and will of God".

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Responding to the letter, OneBodyOneFaith accused the bishops of being out of touch with UK evangelicals.

In a statement, it said: "What may come as news to these bishops is that the evangelical world has moved on - indeed, perhaps this letter arises out of the fear of recognising just this reality.

"They no longer speak for all evangelicals; their sisters and brothers still hold their evangelical identity dear but have been courageous and open-hearted enough to see a bigger God emerge, God powerfully alive in LGBTI+ people and longing to be known as good news for all, without exception."

In a call for change within the church, the group said: "Over the coming weeks and months, it will be for the other members of the House of Bishops, in all their diversity of opinion, to hold these eleven of their sisters and brothers to account. "But ultimately we must all answer before God for those we have drawn to faith, and perhaps especially for those we have turned away, blocking the movement of the Spirit and diminishing the Body of Christ."

## **The ceilidh comes to church: new Kirk hymn book**

The hymns are by the Rev Leith Fisher, who died in 2009, previously minister of Wellington Church in Glasgow's West End and a former Assembly committee convener.

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## **Rev Leith Fisher was often inspired by traditional Gaelic tunes**

When Leith couldn't find a suitable hymn to match the theme on a Sunday, he would write one. Seven of these were snapped up by the editors of the current Church Hymnary. But there were many more.

Some of these have now been rescued and set to music.

Leith Fisher was often inspired by traditional Gaelic tunes when he wrote. Capercaillie and Runrig were favourite bands. So in addition to those already with chosen tunes the editor has added others.

'An ubhal as àirde' was the first ever song in Gaelic to reach the UK top twenty (1995), performed by Runrig in the distinctive style of Gaelic psalm singing.

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'Soraidh leis an àit' (Farewell to the place) was written by Mairi nan Orain (Big Mary of the Songs) whose songs protested against the poverty, hardship and injustice experienced by Gaels, whether during the earlier Clearances or in her own time of the nineteenth century.

These and other tunes bring extra mileage to Fisher's hymns which are so often about hardship and injustice and the realities of life for many in our own time.

Former Moderator David Lunan shows in the book's introduction how the hymns grew from Leith Fisher's own ministry, initially in the Calton area of Glasgow. He writes:

*Leith never lost the perspective he gained from living and working in Calton, and he never failed to see life through the eyes of those whose lives are diminished by paucity of opportunity or social prejudice. ... Leith knew that people might be moved by a purple passage in a sermon, or retain its overall message; they might hold on to a phrase in a prayer, or the words of a scriptural blessing; but it is what we sing that we remember.*

Other tunes give strong support to Leith's new words.

'Cradle Song',



**Originally from Greenock, Rev Leith Fisher was the minister at Wellington Church in Glasgow**

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by the gifted Victorian-era violinist and dancing master of the North East, James Scott Skinner, has been set to a hymn urging us not to hide our gifts but develop and share them for the good of church and community.

'The Moss o' Barradale', about tinkers journeying to a gathering, has a new use in a hymn where Jesus calls the disciples to follow him on his journey to the cross, the grave, through to the great gathering in the Kingdom of God.

And the 'Bleacher Lass o' Kelvinhaugh', where the River Kelvin joins the Clyde not far from Wellington Church - one of the great body of folk songs which helped a community to live with love and loss, hardship and survival - is an apt inclusion in a book of hymns where the realities of life are never far away.

The hymns were edited and the music arranged by former Assembly Precentor Douglas Galbraith. As well as the tunes mentioned, standard hymn tunes are provided or suggested.

[Strange Majesty: The hymns of Leith Fisher](#), edited by Douglas Galbraith, Wild Goose Publications (Iona Community) 2018, £9.99 (also e-book), 22 hymns. With a Foreword by the Very Rev Dr David Lunan, Moderator 2008.

## **Christian Aid deeply saddened by scale of abuse across the aid sector**

Christian Aid has stated this week -

“We are deeply saddened by the scale of abuse which has affected both communities and staff across the aid sector.

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“Ongoing action is being taken to safeguard better the people we support and staff from abuse, exploitation and sexual harassment of any kind. We take the issues of safeguarding extremely seriously and have worked to provide a safe and trusted environment for all those connected to us, for a number of years.

“We recognise that changing culture and shifting the balance of power is key to address the entrenched gender, race and other inequalities that drive these behaviours. We are not complacent, nor will we tolerate any abuse of power in the work we do to expose and seek to eradicate the scandal of poverty around the world.

“For effective change, the voice and needs of the survivor should be at the heart of any response. We recognise the importance of listening to survivors and enabling them to take ownership of the solutions we want to see. We are working to tackle the issue of underreporting and improve reporting mechanisms, without losing sight of prevention being key.

“Christian Aid is working in collaboration with members of [Bond](#) (UK network for organisations working in international development) the British Overseas Aid Group (BOAG) and the Disasters Emergency Committee ([DEC](#)) to prevent sexual exploitation across the international development sector. As part of our commitment to safeguarding transparency, we have been assessed by independent bodies who confirmed our practices conform to a high standard.

## **What we are doing**

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“Christian Aid believes in having the right organisational culture, understood by every employee, trustee and volunteer throughout the organisation and in every country we work; all understanding, sharing and adhering to a code of conduct.

“We have appointed a dedicated Safeguarding Manager and Safeguarding Trustee, and involved wider groups of staff, globally, to improve awareness, run training programmes, act as safeguarding focal points and review reporting processes. All safeguarding incidents are fully investigated, reviewed by our trustees and reported to the Charity Commission.

“We seek assurances from our partners which includes working with them to ensure they know what behaviour they can expect from Christian Aid and that they and the people we support have access to appropriate means for raising feedback, concerns and complaints. Partners who cannot provide such assurance will no longer receive funds from us. We are committed to learning from the past and moving forward so that we can better protect staff and the vulnerable people we serve around the world.”

## **Pope Francis and South Korean president pray for peace**

South Korea’s President Moon Jae-in met with Pope Francis on Thursday after praying for peace on the Korean peninsula in St. Peter’s Basilica. The visit marked the 55th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Seoul and the Vatican.

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**Mr Moon  
Jae-in,  
President  
of the  
Republic  
of Korea  
meeting  
with Pope  
Francis**



“I come to you as president of South Korea, but also as a Catholic. My baptismal name is Matthew,” Moon said as he greeted Pope Francis in the Vatican Apostolic Palace Oct. 18.

The Korean president and the pope discussed their common commitment to fostering initiatives to overcome the tensions that still exist in the Korean Peninsula, according to the Holy See Press Office.

After the papal meeting, Moon met with Archbishop Paul Gallagher, Secretary for the Relations with States, and Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin.

The evening before the visit, Moon also participated in a “Mass for Peace” on the Korean peninsula celebrated by Cardinal Parolin in St. Peter’s Basilica.

“Peace is built with the choices of every day, with a serious commitment to the service of justice and solidarity, with the promotion of the rights and dignity of the human person,



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and especially through the care of the weakest,” Cardinal Parolin said in his homily.

The chief Vatican diplomat prayed that “even in the Korean Peninsula, after so many years of tensions and division, the word peace can finally resound fully.”

President Moon said after the Mass that their prayers in St. Peter’s will “resound as echoes of hope in the hearts of the people of the two Koreas as well as the people of the whole world who desire peace.”

“Just as your holiness prayed before the U.S.-North Korea summit, we are paving a desirable way toward assuring a peaceful future for the Korean Peninsula and the world,” Moon said.

The pope and the Korean president exchanged gifts, including a medallion of olive branches as a message of peace and a Korean image of the Virgin Mary.

When Pope Francis saw Moon’s gift of a sculpture of the face of Jesus by a Korean artist, he remarked that he could see the suffering of the Korean people in Christ’s crown of thorns.

## **News briefs**

**+++New partnership between Midleton College and Diocese of Cork**

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**Following the whole school assembly at Midleton College, first and second year students gathered with the Principal, Dr Edward Gash and the Bishop, to welcome the new Chaplain, the Reverend Andrew Orr.**

A new stage in the long history of connections between Midleton College (founded in 1696) and the United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, has been inaugurated with the arrival of the Reverend Andrew Orr to serve as Chaplain to the College, and also as Priest-in-Charge in the adjoining small parish of Youghal Union. On Sunday afternoon, 14th October, Andrew was licensed and commissioned at a Service in the Collegiate Church of St Mary the Virgin Youghal, attended by representatives of Midleton College, the parish, the local community, the Diocese, and many guests who had travelled from Cashel, [churchnewsireland@gmail.org](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.org)

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Ferns and Ossory, especially Tullow Union of Parishes. Among the guests were Councillor Mary Linehan-Foley representing the Mayor of Cork County, and Minister David Stanton, T.D. Dr Edward Gash, Principal of Midleton College, led a group of teachers and students, and a large number of the College Governors were present. The parish primary school, South Abbey National School, was represented by teachers and parents, led by the principal, Ms Sinead Solleveld.

Andrew Orr's arrival was completed the following Thursday, 18th October, at a full school assembly held at Midleton College at which he was introduced to the whole school by the Bishop, and welcomed by the Principal, staff and students. The Bishop paid tribute to Dr Edward Gash whose vision it has been, from the outset of his time as Principal, to have a Church of Ireland priest as Chaplain to Midleton College, and who took the initiative in entering into this partnership with the Diocese.

### **+++2,000-days captivity for archbishops**

Last week the 2,000-day mark since the abduction of 2 Syrian archbishops was passed. Syriac Orthodox Archbishop Yohanna Ibrahim and Greek Orthodox Archbishop Paul Yazigi haven't been heard from since gunmen kidnapped them outside Aleppo in 2013... [https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/yet-another-sad-anniversary-for-christians-in-war-torn-syria?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter](https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/yet-another-sad-anniversary-for-christians-in-war-torn-syria?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter) ... **#WCC**

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### +++The Priests: An Unexpected Journey

An evening of conversation and song, takes place at the Europa Hotel, Belfast, on Sunday, October 28. Fr Eugene, Fr Martin and Fr David's 12 Days of Christmas Irish tour begins in December and will visit venues in Strabane, Omagh, Armagh, Enniskillen, Downpatrick, Derry and Belfast. Full dates at [Thepriests.org](http://Thepriests.org)

### +++Meeting Christ in Advent: lay and clergy retreat Dromantine



*Meeting Christ in Advent: Praying the Advent antiphons* will be a retreat for clergy and lay people at the Dromantine Retreat and Conference Centre, Newry, Co. Down, on 15th–17th November 2018.

The speaker will be Dr Bridget Nichols, Lecturer in Anglicanism and Liturgy at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute. She has completed undergraduate and graduate studies in South Africa and has a doctorate in Literature and Theology from the University of Durham. She has lectured at the University of Durham and the University of Sunderland and has been a Visiting Scholar at Sarum College, Salisbury. Her current research interests include

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the psalter collects and the nature of liturgical language. Dr Nichols writes a column on the weekly Sunday readings for Church Times. Cost: €130/£115 per person to include retreat fee and all meals from 5.00pm, Thursday 15th November to 2.00pm, Saturday 17th November. For further details and a booking form, please contact Judy Peters ([judith.m.peters@gmail.com](mailto:judith.m.peters@gmail.com)) or Catherine Smith ([catherine.smith@rcbdub.org](mailto:catherine.smith@rcbdub.org)).

## **+++Parishes across Ireland asked to support World Mission Sunday this weekend**

October is 'Mission Month' and this year's theme is "Christian Families are Missionary Families". Welcoming this year's theme Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly SMA, chair of the bishops' Council for Missions said, "many families in Ireland have had a member or a neighbour who has served as a missionary outside of Ireland. This month gives us a special opportunity to appreciate their work and to support those currently on [churchnewsireland@gmail.org](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.org)

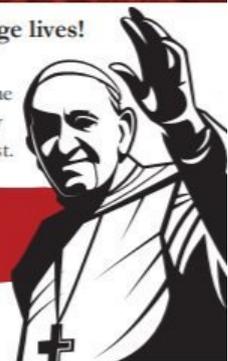


**Every church, every parish & YOU helping to change lives!**

World Mission Sunday is celebrated in every church worldwide to help support the fearless work of missionaries overseas. It's the one Sunday in the year that Pope Francis asks for your extra generosity so that faith, hope and love can be given to those who need it most.

**On World Mission Sunday please can you pray a little stronger and dig a little deeper?**

**WORLD MISSIONS IRELAND** [www.wmic.ie](http://www.wmic.ie) | Registered Charity Number: 2518



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mission through our prayer and financial assistance. Pope Francis has invited us to be missionary disciples and so together may we become missionary families and participate in the planned events during this month.” This weekend, 20 and 21 October, collections will take place for ‘World Mission Sunday’ at all Masses throughout the Universal Church. Mission Sunday is one of only three yearly Papal Collections. It has been especially chosen by the Holy Father as a way for all Catholics to give what they can to help support struggling dioceses in the developing world.

### **+++Longtower annual Novenna in Derry**

The Longtower annual Novenna starts this Sunday at 6 p.m. - some really interesting speakers including married deacon Martin Donnelly from Clogher diocese and German native Willy Krause <http://www.derrydaily.net/2018/10/16/lon>

### **+++Three CMSI teams for 2019**

CSMI is offering opportunities to visit Global Partners in Egypt, Uganda or Zambia...

<https://www.cmsireland.org/cmsi-teams>

### **+++PA Vacancy in Dublin**

PA to the Director of the Church of Ireland Theological Institute: The Church of Ireland Theological Institute (CITI) seeks to appoint a full-time PA to the Director to provide

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and develop administrative support for its teaching... <http://dlvr.it/QnIBzM>

### +++Surf project travels to Senegal

Safe travels to the team traveling to Senegal, West Africa at present where they will be staying for two weeks to run a youth camp. We have no doubt that this will be an amazing trip filled with so much stories,... <https://www.facebook.com/208523779256388/posts/1754095558032528/> ...



### +++Youth LinkNI at Irish Inter-Church Meeting

Leancha McGiven of YouthLinkNI gave a presentation to the Irish Inter-Church Meeting at Dromantine on 'Realities of young people growing up in societies emerging from conflict'

