

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Joyful Harvest

Image of the day



A Joyful Harvest Sunday at St Patrick's, Jordanstown

It was a truly wonderful morning of worship and a beautiful evening of Harvest music, filled with thanksgiving, fellowship, and praise.

A heartfelt thank you to Rev Canon James Carson, our guest preacher, for sharing such an inspiring Harvest



message.

And a special thank you to Clare, our choir, and our amazing children choristers for leading us so beautifully in song throughout

the day — your music filled the church with joy and gratitude.

It was a blessing to come together as a church family, giving thanks for all that God provides.

“Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God on the harp.” – Psalm 147:7

News

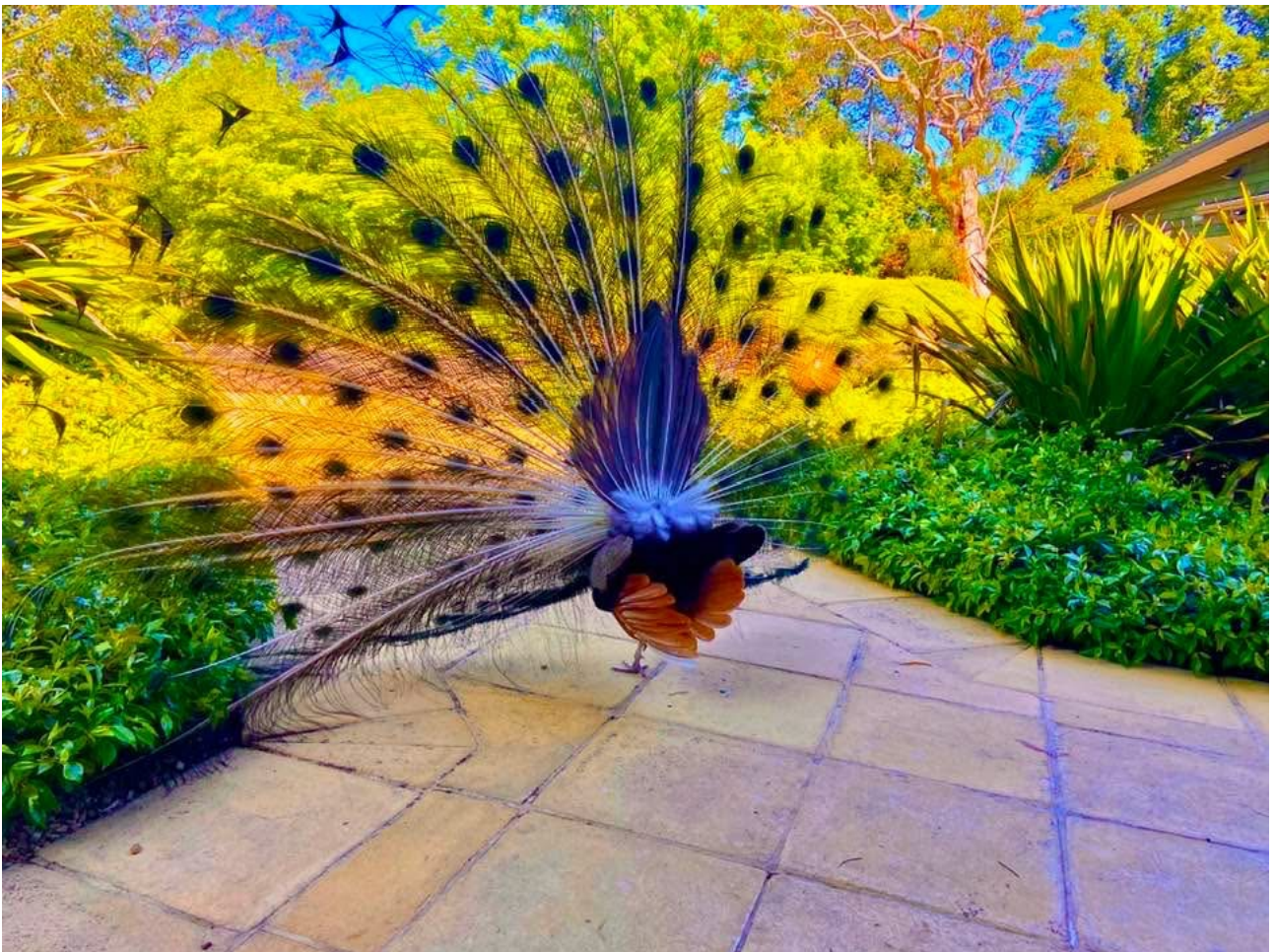
Archbishops' statement on the Church of Ireland and the Anglican Communion

The Most Rev John McDowell, the Church of Ireland's Primate of All Ireland and Archbishop of Armagh, with the Most Rev Michael Jackson, Primate of Ireland and Archbishop of Dublin have issued the following statement on the relationship between the Church of Ireland and the Anglican Communion following the recent communiqué from Gafcon:

In view of the recent communiqué issued by Gafcon, entitled The Future has Arrived, we feel it might be helpful to members of the Church of Ireland if we clarified some matters of fact, with particular reference to the Anglican Communion.

The Anglican Communion is a body of autonomous Anglican Provinces (including the Church of Ireland) who voluntarily join together in clearly defined ways. It has existed in a formal sense since 1867, when the Archbishop of Canterbury issued invitations to what became the first Lambeth Conference. From the beginning, the Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the convening of the Lambeth Conference were expressions of Anglican unity and identity which, as the Communion grew over time, were supplemented by two further instruments of unity – the Primates' Meeting and the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC).

This is the Anglican Communion to which the Church of Ireland belongs. The Preamble and Declaration (which is one of our foundation formularies) commits us to communion with the Church of England. The Preamble and Declaration is prefixed to the Constitution and included in the Book of Common Prayer. Our bishops receive invitations to and usually attend the Lambeth Conference. The Archbishop of Armagh attends the Primates' Meetings and the General Synod appoints representatives (clerical and lay) to the ACC. In fact, the next meeting of the ACC to which all Anglican Provinces have been invited to send representatives will be hosted by the Church of Ireland in Belfast in the early summer of 2026. In addition, the Church of Ireland plays a full part in the Commissions, Committees and Networks of the Anglican Communion and in this way



lives out this particular aspect of our discipleship of Jesus Christ.

There are many organisations and movements within the Anglican Communion who wish to reform aspects of the Communion and how it works. The Communion has always welcomed and accommodated debate and diversity of this nature. However, the Church of Ireland recognises no body other than the one described in the preceding paragraphs as the Anglican Communion.

We do not suggest that the Anglican Communion as it has existed in history and continues to exist today is a perfect organisation. It is inevitable that those who hold to the Anglican theological method involving Scripture, Tradition and Reason, and working out our discipleship in autonomous but interdependent Provinces will not agree on everything. However, praying always for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are committed to studying the Scriptures and learning from the insights of the past together with our fellow Anglicans, in communion, around the world.

Methodist Church wants prayerful and active engagement in Presidential election

This week voters go to the polls to elect a new President of Ireland to take up office in November.

The Council on Responsibility of the Methodist Church in Ireland has stated - As always, the Methodist Church in

Ireland encourages prayerful and active engagement with the political and democratic opportunities afforded to us.

Every election campaign will have its established procedures, strongly voiced opinions, surprises, debates and outcomes. And that is true of this campaign. Constitutional processes have been followed and there has been robust journalism to help us learn about the candidates and what they stand for.

Alongside this, there are also risks when someone puts themselves up for election. We are praying for the candidates and are wishing them well in this campaign and in the contrasting outcomes for them.

We encourage all those who have the privilege of having a vote in the Republic of Ireland to not spoil the opportunity and use it well this Friday, 24th October.

NI Cubs race to success

12th Bangor Cubs were flying the flag for NI at The Supreme Box Kart Championships at Goodwood Motor Circuit.

They even took home two trophies - one for reaching the final 16 and another for the highest overall score. What a fantastic achievement!

Read the full story: <https://shorturl.at/tfzBa>



Threads of Remembrance - Clogher parish Honouring the Fallen of the Great War 1914-1918

This project has been created by the Craft Group of Derryvullen North & Castle Archdale Parishes under the Coordination and Craftsmanship of Mr Derick Dunlop, with historical research and artefacts by Mr David Keys and others.

October 21, 2025

It will be an immersive exhibition featuring hand-crafted tributes, rare memorabilia, and personal artefacts that bring to life the stories of local men who served in the Great War. Through carefully researched displays and moving commemorative pieces, discover how the 1914-18 conflict touched and left its mark on our entire community.



Entry is free of charge. In the spirit of remembrance and ongoing service, donations received in the church will be divided equally between the Royal British Legion and Air Ambulance NI. There will be free refreshments in the parish hall, with any donations there, being put to help cover costs.

It will be open to the public in Derryvullen North Church (with refreshments in the hall) as follows:

Saturday 1st & 8th November: 10am-6pm

Sunday 2nd & 9th November: 2pm-6pm

Special: Sunday 9th November at 3pm: Annual Civic Remembrance Service with parade and wreath laying

On Sunday 16th Sept, some of the exhibits will be on display in Castle Archdale Parish Church. Interfaith Peace

Threads of Remembrance

Honouring the Fallen of the Great War 1914-1918



In Derryvullen North Church (Irvinestown, Co Fermanagh)

Address: Church Street, Irvinestown, BT94 1EH

What3words: ///calculating.states.situates

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Award for former teacher Ann Farr of Coventry

Sunday, 12 October, marked the start of the World Week of Prayer for Peace, originally a Christian event started in 1974 and now open to all faith traditions.

Resources are produced each year to help communities come together and pray and reflect on making peace, in the spirit of its original Chair Dr Edward Carpenter, former Dean of Westminster Abbey: 'The peace of the world must be prayed for by the faiths of the world.'

The opening on-line event, attended by more than 50 people, included the awarding of the Wilson/Hinks Peace Award, in memory of two former Chairs of WPWP, The Revd Gordon Wilson and The Revd Sidney Hinkes. The award recognises significant contributions by individuals, organisations or projects in furthering peace, justice and reconciliation.

This year the award was given to two women, Ann Farr from the UK and Francoise Nwabuto from Cameroon for her work on women's health care and education.

Ann has a life-long commitment to peace and peace education in particular and gives wonderful witness to the phrase: making the local global and the global local!

As a teacher in Coventry, Ann worked with the local authorities to produce resource materials for schools for, among other things, on the war history of Coventry and

Dresden and how this led to Coventry becoming a City of Peace. She also worked in an advisory role with schools, supporting teachers and nurturing peace and justice education. Ann has been a firm and constant presence in the Chapel of Unity in Coventry Cathedral, being part of their committee and organising, for many, many years, annual events for Hiroshima, Nagasaki and the Coventry Peace Month.

She has served on the Birmingham Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission and is a member of the Coventry Peace and Justice Group in its work. In recent years this group has focused on Local Authority Pension Investment in arms companies. This has included advocacy and campaigning work as well as nonviolent direct action to draw attention to the issue.

In 2004 Ann was part of a Pax Christi England and Wales delegation to the West Bank, and Bethlehem in particular. This exposure has led to many more solidarity visits to the West Bank, developing strong friendship links. In 2010 Ann became an Ecumenical Accompanier in Palestine and Israel and was based in a village near Nablus which experienced constant harassment from Israeli Settlers. Ann has returned several times, 'filling in' when others were unavailable and bringing her calm, strong presence to difficult and sometimes tense situations. She has also co-organised exposure visits to Palestine with Pax Christi E&W and with Pax Christi International. Between 2020 - 2024 Ann was Chair of Pax Christi England and Wales.

In her response Ann said: "We are sent out to be peacemakers, and we do that by working for justice, where

we see it is missing. We are privileged to be alongside and to accompany others at different times and in different places. We listen to them, speak out with them and take whatever action is possible for us at the time. And we do all this together.

"I give thanks for the privileges I have had in visiting so many significant places and people on this journey, for all those I have worked alongside and for all those family, friends, colleagues and fellow members of peace group, who have prayed, encouraged and supported in so many different ways, to make the work possible."

Links -

Week of Prayer for World Peace:

<https://weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk/peace-prize/>

Pax Christi: www.paxchristi.org.uk

Education

Campbell College disappearing croissants

Year 8 enjoyed celebrating European Week of Languages recently at break time with songs, a quiz and lots of French treats.

They enjoyed learning some French phrases with our year 14 French student Matthew. Well done to all who came along, the croissants disappeared in record time!

Ballymoney High Pupil Wellbeing Ambassadors

Today we welcomed our newly trained Take 5 Pupil Wellbeing Ambassadors at Ballymoney High!

As part of our involvement with EWTS (Emotional Wellbeing Teams in Schools), we are delighted to have Gráinne Rooney join us this year as our Emotional Health & Wellbeing Practitioner. 🌿 Gráinne will be working with different year groups throughout the academic year, supporting pupils and helping us build a stronger culture of positive mental health.

EWTS is a programme designed to strengthen emotional wellbeing in schools, giving both staff and pupils the tools to support mental health, resilience, and overall wellbeing. At BHS, this means more opportunities to raise awareness, encourage healthy habits, and ensure every pupil knows where to find support.

Today, Gráinne delivered training to our new Pupil Ambassadors, equipping them to promote the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing across our school community.

Stay tuned to see some of the exciting ideas our ambassadors will be sharing this year to promote wellbeing and mental health at BHS! ✨

Foyle College Mathematical Olympiad success

Huge congratulations to our Year 10 pupil who achieved the top score in Northern Ireland in the Junior UKMT Mathematical Olympiad.

The Junior Mathematical Olympiad is a prestigious competition run by the UK Mathematics Trust, designed to stretch the brightest young problem-solvers across the UK. It challenges pupils with tough, creative problems that test deep thinking, logical reasoning, and mathematical flair beyond the school curriculum.

We are incredibly proud of his outstanding achievement – a true testament to his hard work, talent, and passion for mathematics!

Cathedral Calls

Taste of Autumn at Lismore Castle in aid of St Carthage's Cathedral Restoration Fund

A Taste of Autumn at Lismore Castle brought together great food, conversation and community spirit in aid of the St Carthage's Cathedral Restoration Fund.

Chef and author Eunice Power – resident TV chef for RTÉ's Today Show, CEO of Waterford Festival of Food, and a powerhouse ambassador for Irish food and ingredients – prepared recipes that felt like a warm hug...

From beetroot starter and Dungarvan seafood chowder to autumn chicken tray bake, roast butternut & goat's cheese lasagne and iced coffee soufflés, guests enjoyed tasting along the way and hearing Eunice's tips first-hand.

Beautiful 'tablescaping' and autumn styling by wedding planner & designer Kristine Hayes, Dungarvan

Warm thanks to Lord & Lady Burlington, Blackwater Distillery & Caroline Senior, Austin O'Brien and the Lismore Castle team for their support.

Congratulations to Eunice on her new Tesco Foodie ambassador role and upcoming cookbook *My Irish Kitchen Table* – out in November, as seen on RTÉ's Today Show.

Raffle prizes included a week in Marbella, a stay at Ballyin Garden House, tickets for Don Giovanni at Lismore Castle, dining vouchers and more – congratulations to all our winners!

First Prize: One week's accommodation in a 2-bed apartment in Marbella – Rose Harvey

Second Prize: 3 nights' accommodation at the Grey House, Ballyin Garden House, Lismore – Brian Wakefield

Third Prize: Two Blackwater Valley Opera Festival tickets for Don Giovanni at Lismore Castle, May 2026 – Oonagh Poynton

Fourth Prize: €100 voucher for the Farmgate Restaurant, Lismore – Rachael Wilson

Fifth Prize: Lismore Castle Arts Friends Membership – Charles Keane

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Sixth Prize: Vase from Shanagarry Potters – Kathy Martin
Eunice Power

Outside Catering Blackwater Gin

Lismore Heritage Centre Visit Waterford

Taste Waterford @followers Blackwater Valley Opera

Festival Farmgate Lismore St. Declan's Way Cairde Credit

Union St. Mary's Church of Ireland Dungarvan Dungarvan &

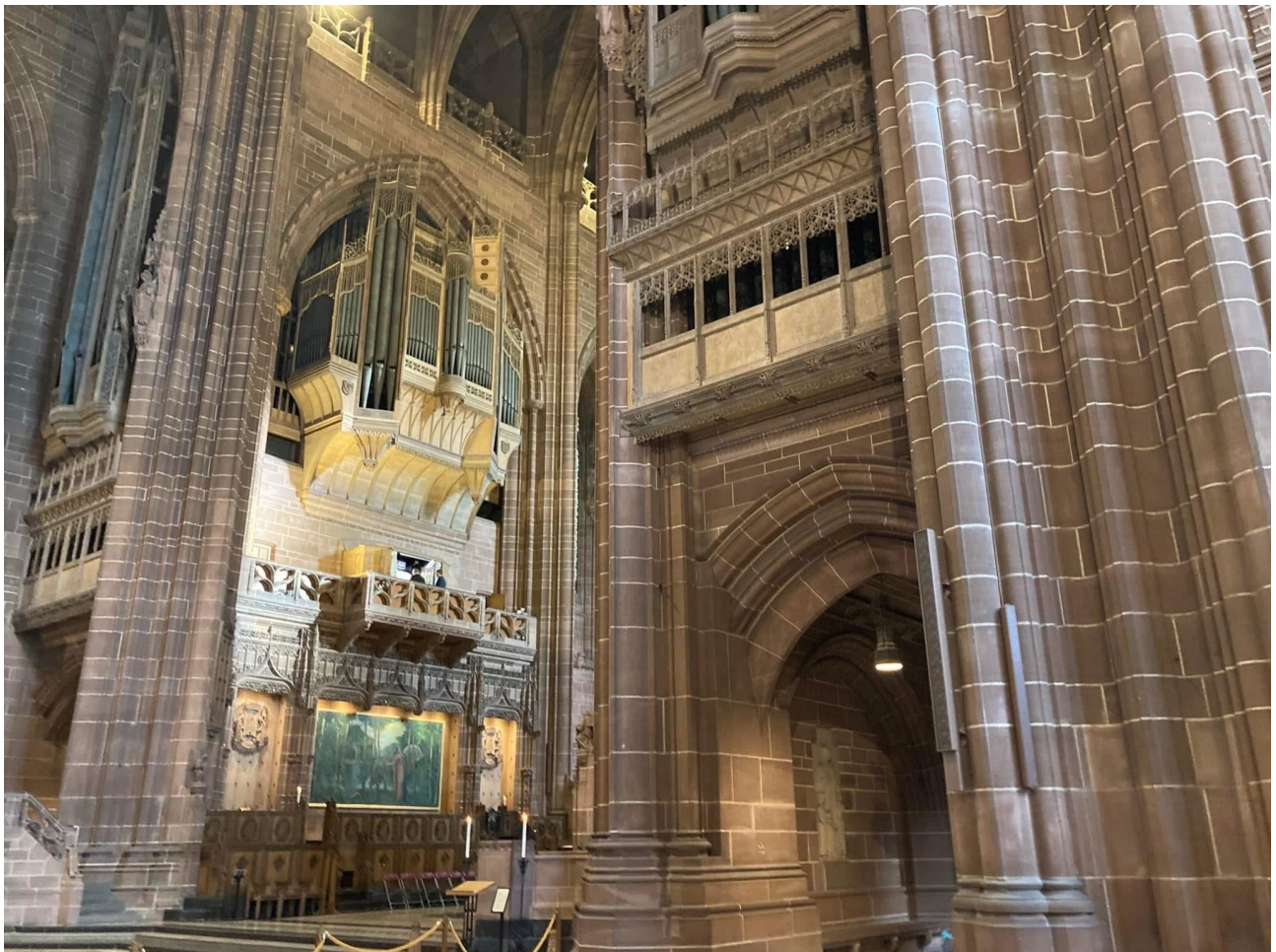
West Waterford Chamber Of Commerce Whats on in

Dungarvan & West Waterford Kristine Hayes Wedding

Design Blas Na HEireann Tesco Ireland Waterford Food

Scene Waterford Festival of Food

<https://www.stcarthagescathedral.ie>



99th Anniversary of Dedication of Liverpool Cathedral Organ

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On Saturday afternoon at Liverpool Cathedral, we commemorated the Dedication of the Cathedral Organ on 18th October, 1926.

The 99th Anniversary Festival Evensong and Anniversary Recital, was played by the Cathedral Organist, Ian Tracey for the 45th time.

The boys, girls, and adults of the Cathedral Choir sang music by Rawsthorne, Howell, and Parry.

Limerick's Knights Hospitaller of St John of Jerusalem



“Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum” — Defence of the Faith and Service to the Poor

Did you know that the Knights Hospitaller of St John of Jerusalem - later known as the Order of Malta - once maintained a Frankhouse (a guesthouse for

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pilgrims and travellers) on the site of Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.

From 1212 to 1540, the Knights cared for the sick and the poor here in Limerick, living out their motto of faith and service. Today, this legacy of hospitality and compassion continues to inspire the Cathedral community.

Clergy and ministry



Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church

Bishop Adrian Wilkinson attended the Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland which was held in Kilkenny.

Bishop Adrian said - It was good to meet lay people from every diocese, as well as bishops, priests and religious. Dr Jessie Rogers from Maynooth offered a reflection on the responses received from the participants.

Archbishop Dermot Farrell and the members of the Dublin Diocesan Synodal Animation Team were present at the Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Irish Synodal Pathway in Kilkenny.

From left: Sister Anne O'Sullivan, Deacon Dermot McCarthy, Peter Siney, Fr Gareth Byrne, Orla O'Grady Walshe, Archbishop Farrell, Fr Kieran McDermott, Natalie Doherty and Patricia Carroll.

Perspective

King's visit to Rome

Christian unity and care for the planet themes of King's visit to Rome

King Charles III and Queen Camilla will make an official State visit to the Vatican next Thursday, October 23, where they will be received by Pope Leo XIV.

The visit, confirmed by both the Holy See and Buckingham Palace, marks a historic moment in Anglican-Catholic



relations and will focus on two key themes: Christian unity and care for the environment.

As part of the day's events, King Charles will also be honoured with the title of Royal Confrater of Saint Paul at the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, recognising the long-standing ties between the British Crown and the Benedictine abbey attached to the basilica.

At 12pm local time, Pope Leo XIV will lead an ecumenical prayer service for the care of creation in the Sistine Chapel. Afterwards, a meeting will take place in the Sala Regia with individuals and organisations dedicated to environmental protection. Later in the afternoon, at 2.45pm, the King and Queen will visit the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, where King Charles will be formally granted the title Royal Confrater of Saint Paul.

Buckingham Palace has described the visit as "historic," aligning with the Jubilee Year theme Pilgrims of Hope, and

recognising the shared ecumenical efforts between the Catholic Church and the Church of England.

The two central themes of the Royal visit are Christian unity and care for the planet. At a Vatican press briefing on 17 October, Archbishop Flavio Pace, Secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, outlined the ecumenical aspects, while Sister Alessandra Smerilli, Secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, spoke about the ecological dimension.

Originally scheduled for April, the visit also coincides with the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis's environmental encyclical 'Laudato Si'. King Charles - who, as Supreme Governor of the Church of England, has long been committed to interfaith engagement - specifically requested to take part in a liturgy focused on creation care. That service will be led jointly by Pope Leo XIV and the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, in the Sistine Chapel.

The ecumenical tone of the visit will be reflected in the liturgy, which will include a hymn by Saint Ambrose of Milan - sung in an English translation by Saint John Henry Newman. Newman, a key figure in Anglican-Catholic relations, was Anglican for much of his life before becoming Catholic. He was canonised in 2019, an event King Charles attended personally. On 1 November, Pope Leo will declare Newman a Doctor of the Church during a major ceremony attended by a high-ranking Anglican delegation.

Music will be provided by the Sistine Chapel Choir, alongside choristers from the Chapel Royal at St James's

Palace and the Choir of St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle.

In the afternoon, the Royals will travel to the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, which maintains historical ties with the British Crown and its adjacent Benedictine Abbey. Notably, the Abbey's coat of arms includes the insignia of the Order of the Garter - one of Britain's most prestigious honours.

To mark the occasion, King Charles will be formally named Royal Confrater of Saint Paul by Cardinal James Michael Harvey and Abbot Donato Ogliari, with the approval of Pope Leo XIV. "It is a sign of honour and spiritual communion," said Archbishop Pace.

A specially designed chair bearing King Charles's coat of arms and the Latin inscription *Ut unum sint* ("That they may be one" - John 17:21) will be used during the ceremony. The chair will remain in the Basilica's apse and will be available for use by the King and his successors on future visits.

Following the ecumenical prayer service, Pope Leo and King Charles will participate in a private meeting in the Sala Regia with Church leaders, business figures, environmental advocates, and UN experts. Representatives from the *Laudato Si'* Movement will also attend.

"This meeting underscores the strong relationship between the Catholic and Anglican Churches on environmental issues," said Sister Smerilli. "Pope Francis often reminds us that everything is connected, and that environmental and

social crises must be addressed together. Pope Leo has continued this approach with further action."

She highlighted recent initiatives such as the July 9 celebration of the new Missa pro custodia creationis (Mass for the Protection of Creation) and the upcoming inauguration of the Borgo Laudato Si' on September 5, 2025. Sister Smerilli also praised the King's efforts to bring the private sector on board in the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss.

Both Archbishop Pace and Sister Smerilli emphasised the long-term significance of this visit. "It marks a historic moment in the journey of reconciliation between our Churches," said Archbishop Pace. "It celebrates how far we've come-and offers hope for the future."

Sister Smerilli agreed, calling it a powerful symbol of unity and shared responsibility for the environment: "These are themes that matter more than ever-for the generations to come."

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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Church News Ireland

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**Link in Monday through Saturday from
early morning**

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