



## Confronting fear at Halloween In Dublin cathedral

What are you afraid of? Is the central question of Christ Church Cathderal's Halloween programme in Dublin.

"We sometimes throw this question around as a challenge, a dare, and yet many of us face very real fears in our daily lives: fear of the future, of hurt, of betrayal, of death. How do we handle these fears? What can we do with them?

"This Halloween night, you're invited to bring those fears and hold them up to see them in a different light. Christ Church Cathedral will be open from 7 pm with interactive prayer installations relating to day—to—day fears. Prayer ministry will also be available for those who would like someone to pray with them about a need.

"An alternative style All Saints' Eucharist begins at 8 pm. The Rev Dr Anne Lodge will be the preacher. She is Intern Deacon in the parishes of Raheny and Coolock and Director, Church of Ireland Centre, DCU Institute of Education, DCU All Hallows' campus. The cathedral will remain open until 10:00 pm. Stop for just a little while or stay for the whole evening. All are welcome. Free of charge."

#### **Church Army's Open Nights in Belfast**



Church Army Evangelists are holding two Open Nights at the North Belfast Centre of Mission's new Connect Base in Shankill Road.

The open nights are aimed at parishes in the mid Belfast Rural Deanery, and parishioners are welcome to come along and visit the new facility, based in the Spectrum Centre, and learn more about the vision for Connect Base.

The Open Nights take place on Tuesday November 1 and Wednesday November 16. Both will run from 7-8pm and there will be tea/coffee and nibbles and Evangelists Karen Webb and Stephen Whitten will give a presentation on the vision for the new centre.

The format of both nights is the same to allow people to attend whichever night is most convenient

### Ain't gonna study war no more focus of annual Catherwood event

"Ain't gonna study war no more " is the theme of the Annual Catherwood Public Theology Event sponsored by Contemporary Christianity next month

The speakers are Alan and Elaine Storkey and the responder is Norman Hamilton

Dr Alan Storkey is an economist, sociologist and artist. He the author of War or Peace: The Long Failure of Western Arms. Elaine Storkey is a theologian, philosopher, social scientist and broadcaster. Norman Hamilton, OBE, is convenor for Public Affairs for the Presbyterian Church in

Ireland and was previously the minister of Ballysillan Presbyterian Church.

The organisers state - The accumulation of power by arms companies and the influence of militarism have continued for over a century. The time has come for people of faith to address these issues and to take seriously Jesus' words, "those who take the sword will perish by the sword.""

The event is on 24 November 2016, 7.30pm in Union Theological College, 108 Botanic Avenue, Belfast, BT7 1JT. The Catherwood Lecture in Public Theology has been an annual event since 1998.

# Kilmainham Gaol is a sacred space, Archbishop Martin of Dublin

We should make the dream of 1916 a reality, said Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin at a Mass in Kilmainham Gaol, where he described the national monument as a sacred space.

The Stonebreakers' Yard, where the 1916 leaders were executed, and the walls of the gaol around it are sacred because of the extraordinary

faith that was shown here when all else seemed to be dominated by brutality, said the Archbishop, who had an uncle who fought in the uprising.

Speaking in the gaol's chapel, Dr Martin said: "Kilmainham Gaol was a place of harsh punishment and death. It was also a place of nobility and idealism and of those things which represent the deeper dimensions of humanity. Each of those who was executed here was a person of faith. It varied from the mystical poetry of Plunkett to the doubting faith of Connolly who found his peace with God right here in this chapel."

Dr Martin said that "This is a place also where people accepted to face a violent death because they had a dream for Ireland. It was not a dream just for the Ireland of 1916, but it was a dream for us and for all the generations which will come after us also. Those executed here wanted us to benefit from their dream and for us then to realise our common dream for others.

"We have to ask ourselves each day, how have we given reality to that dream? What kind of Ireland do we want and what kind of Ireland have we achieved? Dreams are never realised; the nature of a dream is to challenge us to move beyond ourselves in goodness and truth, solidarity and generosity."

Speaking of society, he said that "No society will ever be the ideal one. It is of human nature that we fail sometimes through our own faults, sometimes through unforeseen circumstances. But the fact that we may never arrive at what is ideal, does not mean that we cannot and should not propose an ideal, a dream to which we can aspire and hope. The Gospel message about integrity is a vital one for defining what dream we wish for Ireland."

Dr Martin said that "The dream must be a dream about peace and harmony. In these days again we witness almost every day examples of senseless violence: there is the cold and unscrupulous violence of people shot deliberately, often in their homes and before their families. There is the repeated violence of stabbings, tragedies often unplanned, but nonetheless senseless and bringing tragedy to all involved. This violence attains nothing and as citizens we must all rise up against it in whatever way we can."

Among those present were members of the Kilmainham Gaol Restoration Society, who in

1960 saved the building from falling into ruin. Dr Martin told them: "We are all indebted to you. This building is a monument to the spiritual strength and the faith of the men and women who lived and died for an ideal which Irish men and women and children should be able to achieve. I am honoured to have been asked to celebrate with you this morning."

# Encouraging growth in Down & Dromore focus of bishop's synod review

Addressing members in the twentieth year of his episcopacy, the Bishop of Down and Dromore, the Rt Revd Harold Miller, was full of appreciation and encouragement as he reviewed the ministry of the diocese at the annual Synod in Holywood Parish Church on 20 October 2016.

The bishop noted some of the changes in society, but more particularly, in ministry and leadership, which had occurred since his consecration in 1997.

He compared figures from 1997–2016 and encouraged Synod that the diocese was well positioned for the future with 300 people



commissioned and licensed for the work of ministry on a diocesan level.

There continued to be opportunities for curates and a desire in the diocese to invest in fresh new ministries. This year the number of presbyters ordained was the second largest in 20 years and six individuals were likely to begin the Foundation year at CITI – three in their twenties, two in their thirties, and one in their forties.

Bishop Harold also noted that the types and gifting of 'ministry' were diversifying and changing, with evangelists and church planters being added at diocesan level, and with parish workers, children and youth workers at local

level. Diocesan reader ministry had also entered an exciting new phase with 23 readers recently embarking on the training course.

These realities, said the bishop, corrected the negative picture of a declining and ageing ministry which was all too readily believed, but which ultimately undermined the work of the church.

Looking to the future, Bishop Harold said that to be faithful and effective we needed to discern and release the gifts of the ascended Lord expressed in Ephesians 4:11 – those of apostles, prophets evangelists and pastor–teachers – and went on to speak about each in turn.

He concluded: "I want to say 'Thank you' to all who have used their God—given gifts over those nearly twenty years when I have been your overseer. We would not be where we are without your ministry, lay or ordained."

In Synod business, members approved revised Diocesan Regulations on elections and also agreed that the overall assessment for the Diocesan General Fund in 2017 would be a 2.5% reduction on the figure charged to each parish in 2016.

Synod members heard that the review and restructuring of the diocesan administration was nearing completion. The process was undertaken by the Joint Committee of the Diocese of Connor and the Diocese of Down and Dromore and Hon Lay Secretary (Down), Dr Elizabeth Leonard, acknowledged that it had been lengthy and difficult for all involved.

Special guests at Synod included MPs Lady Sylvia Hermon and Gavin Robinson, Gordon Dunne MLA, Alderman Deborah Girvin, Mayor of Ards and North Down and representatives from local churches.

# Meath & Kildare cook book will change leprosy sufferers' lives

A large crowd gathered in St David's Church, Naas on Sunday 23 October. The occasion was the launch of *Food for the Sole* cookbook. It is a cookbook with a difference, as proceeds will help change lives. Bishop Pat Storey, Church of Ireland Bishop of Meath and Kildare performed the launch.

A packed programme included musical items from the Baldonnel Singers and St David's choir.



Rhonda Willoughby and Bishop Storey

Those attending the launch included family, friends and supporters from all parts of the community. It also included members of Naas parish as well as people from the rest of the dioceses of Meath and Kildare.

The dioceses of Meath and Kildare has been running 'Good for the Sole', a project in partnership with Leprosy Mission Ireland. Leprosy still exists in some parts of the world and particularly in India. The effects on those who suffer from it are profound.

Last year members of the dioceses raised €41,000 to buy sandals, made out of recycled tyres. Sandals help protect the feet of those who suffer from leprosy in India.

For some people the sandals come too late and their feet are already badly damaged. Life changing foot surgery gives leprosy sufferers a new lease of life. It also means they can work and earn a living. Foot surgery only costs €50, which includes medical care, hospital stay and aftercare.

Rhonda Willoughby is the author and producer of *Food for the Sole*. She had the vision for the cookbook as she learned of the impact of leprosy. The cookbook is packed full of recipes, photographs as well as 'Thoughts for the Day'. Each cookbook sells for €10. Five cookbooks will raise enough money to buy a life changing foot surgery.

"The best thing about cookery is that all your experiments are edible!" said Rhonda Willoughby. She continued, "I realised that it was possible to extend the readers recipe and change a life at the same time". She lives in Naas and is an Honorary Secretary in the dioceses of Meath and Kildare. She is

passionate about food and cookery with over 10 years experience in the food industry. Rhonda has previously written the food column for Living It magazine.

In launching Food for the Sole Bishop Pat Storey said, "It is inspiring to see what can happen when someone has a vision to do something for others. I have also been struck by the support and goodwill from local people and businesses for this venture by Rhonda that will change lives".

Several thousand copies have already been sold. Copies are €10 / £10 + post & package. To order your copy email <a href="mailto:foodforthesole2016@gmail.com">foodforthesole2016@gmail.com</a> or visit: <a href="mailto:www.meathandkildare.org">www.meathandkildare.org</a>

#### **News briefs**

Ship TV programme - Last night BBC One NI,
True North: The Mercy Ship, told the story of
eight medical professionals from Northern Ireland
– surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses – who
travelled to the island of Madagascar to volunteer
on the floating hospital ship, Africa Mercy. One of
the nurses featured was Jane White from
Kilhorne Parish, Annalong, who we interviewed in



June 2016 when she had just completed 10 months as team leader on ship's busy general surgical ward. An account by Jane of her experiences can be found at -

https://www.downanddromore.org/news/2016/06/Notes-from-a-floating-hospital#.WA4yxNzrZ-V

+++ Healing focus to saint's day in Cork - St Luke's Day was celebrated in St Luke's Church, Douglas, Cork, with a special school Service. The focus was on Luke who is described in the Bible as a physician. Dr Ronan Curtin, a school parent, and consultant cardiologist at Cork University Hospital, was the special guest at this Service. He was interviewed by the rector,

Archdeacon Adrian Wilkinson, about his work as a cardiologist. The hymns and prayers all reflected the theme of healing and were led by the pupils. Later in the morning a Service of Wholeness and Healing in the context of the Eucharist was held. The congregation at this Service was joined by members of the parish healer prayer chain whose members pray for the sick and those in need each day in their own homes.

+++ 'The Stories behind the Stones' Book Launch - will be held in Lisbellaw Parish Centre on Friday 11th November – . 'The Stories behind the Stones' is a new book written by local people about the 160 men from the Lisbellaw and Tamlaght area who served King and country in World War 1. Using a wide range of source materials, including living family members, the book narrates the stories of not only those seventy men who died but also those who served and survived. The book recounts the lives the men left behind in Fermanagh, their journey to the trenches, their experiences upon arrival and the medals they were awarded. Information is included about their Regiments and the narrative is enhanced by photographs and other images. It

is the hope of the authors that the book will be a fitting and lasting tribute to those soldiers whose

+++ New pastor in Ligoniel - The Rev Campbell Dixon MBE was introduced as Priest-in-Charge of St Mark's Parish Church, Ballysillan, on Sunday October 9. Campbell, who is married to Jacqui, was a member of the clergy team at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, for almost five years, where his work focused on pastoral ministry and on administration. Campbell grew up in Ballyscullion Parish near Toomebridge. He studied Personnel and Human Resource Management at the University of Ulster, and has a Master's Degree in Human Resource Management. He worked with the police service for 33 years before training for ordination at the Church of Ireland Theological College, and was curate in St Patrick's, Jordanstown, for four and a half years before his appointment to St Anne's Cathedral. Campbell said: "St Mark's will be a new challenge. I am looking forward to working with parishioners and to taking the parish forward in the next chapter of its history."

+++ Further developments at The Dock - Ever since it started as a glorified garden shed in the Dock Cafe in Belfast's Titanic Quarter, and then

moved to its own unique, quirky space in Dock Market two years ago, the handcrafted homemade market has been based in the ARC apartments. But The Dock was recently invited to try holding the market in the pavilion area of the Odyssey – the bit you walk through from the Streat to W5 – which the organisers state "is exciting, humbling and an amazing opportunity! From Saturday 22 October, Dock Market will try its new home for size. Don't worry – the market will still be hand-made, unique, quirky, inherently 'Docky'. The rule will still be, "If you make it, you can sell it". And it will still be dog-friendly! But now a whole new world will be able to experience the unbridled creativity of the fabulous market traders."