

Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – Trinity service
for new academic year**

October 4, 2025

Image of the day



Trinity service for new academic year

The TCD Chapel community were delighted to have Bishop Adrian Wilkinson with them to preach at an ecumenical service to mark the beginning of the academic year at Trinity College, Dublin.

Bishop Adrian responded -

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“It’s many years since I passed through Front Gate at Trinity College as an undergraduate.

“So it was wonderful to be invited back by Canon Paul Arbuthnot and the other chaplains to preach at a service in the College Chapel to mark the start of the academic year”.



News

Archbishop-elect of Canterbury ‘assured of prayers’ of members of Church of Ireland

The Most Rev John McDowell, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland has welcomed today’s announcement that Bishop Sarah Mullally is the new Archbishop-elect of Canterbury.



Archbishop McDowell said, “On behalf of the Church of Ireland, I express my best wishes to Bishop Sarah Mullally on her nomination to become the next Archbishop of Canterbury following today’s announcement by the Crown Nominations Commission, and assure her of the prayers of the members of the Church of Ireland as she enters into this challenging and important role in the life of the Anglican Communion.”

Anglican Centre in Rome

As the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Representative to the Holy See, the Anglican Centre in Rome rejoices in the nomination of the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury — a focus of unity and one of the four 'Instruments of Communion' of the worldwide Anglican Communion, composed of the 42 autonomous churches in communion

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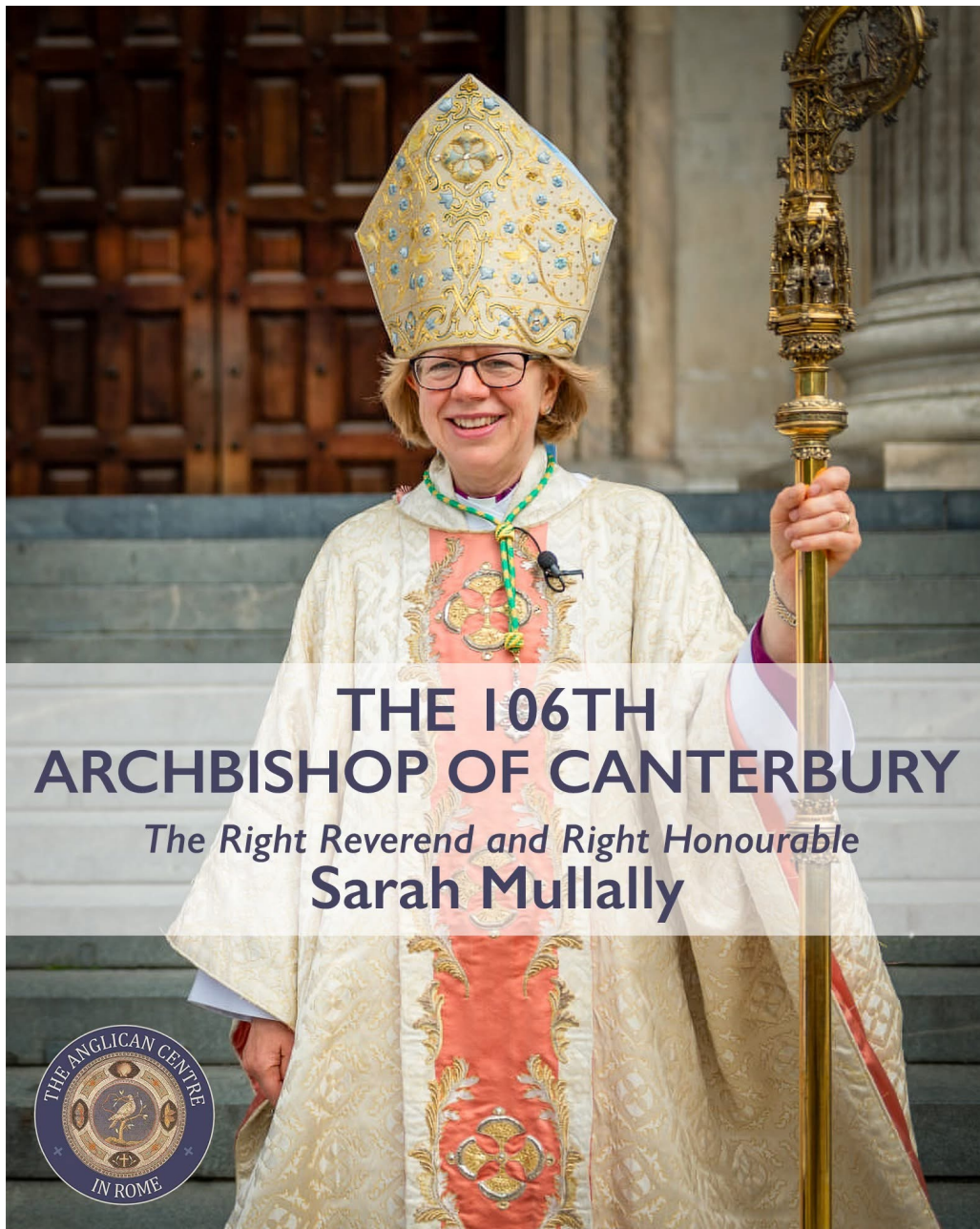
with the See of Canterbury. We offer Archbishop-Designate Sarah our prayerful support as she prepares for her new role over the coming months.



Dean of Westminster

The Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle, has welcomed the appointment of the Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury.

Commenting on the announcement, Dr Hoyle said: 'In company with the Abbey community, I offer Bishop Sarah our prayers, our friendship and our loyalty as she assumes even greater responsibility in the service of God and the church. We ask so much of the Archbishop of Canterbury. It is an exceptionally demanding office. We are fortunate in



having in Bishop Sarah someone who proved long ago that she has the faith, courage and resilience to bear such a great burden. Bishop Sarah brings grace and hope to this high office. We look forward to sharing in a ministry that speaks of that grace and hope to the world. She knows the Abbey well, and it will be a joy to welcome her back as Archbishop.'

Bishop Rose in Canterbury

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Bishop Rose shares her thoughts after the announcement this morning that Bishop Sarah Mullally will be the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury.

Today we have witnessed history in the making, the first woman ever to be appointed to this role which has been in existence for over 1400 years. This is a significant moment for the Church of England, the Worldwide Anglican Communion and the Diocese of Canterbury.

"On your behalf and that of the whole diocese of Canterbury, I extend the warmest of welcome to her and the family. I look forward with great anticipation in our shared ministry together, as we seek to proclaim in words and deeds, God's transforming love.

"I want to pay tribute to all those who have been involved in the nomination process: locally in our diocese; those nationally; and from the wider Anglican Communion; for their commitment, their diligence and prayerfulness which has led to the appointment of Bishop Sarah."

Bishop Sarah is the first woman ever to be appointed in this role in its 1,400-year-history. Read more about this momentous story on our website: <https://www.canterburydiocese.org/news/latest-news/106th-archbishop-of-canterbury-announced.php>

Read the full story on the Church of England website at: www.churchofengland.org/media/press-releases/rt-revd-and-rt-hon-dame-sarah-mullally-dbe-become-106th-archbishop-canterbury

Cardinal Vincent Nichols assures the Jewish community of his prayers

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, has released a statement expressing his shock and assuring the Jewish community of his prayers after the terror attack on the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Manchester (2 October).

"The killing of two Jewish worshippers, the injuries inflicted on others, and the attempt to drive a car into a crowd in Manchester today are expressions of utter hatred that must not be tolerated in this land. That such an attack is directed at the Jewish community, and on Yom Kippur, this most solemn of days, shocks me to the core.

"Jewish and Christian people are closely bound together in our common faith in God. Indeed, in the Catholic tradition, Jewish people are held to be the 'elder brothers' in faith of our Christian family.

"My prayers, and those of the Catholic community, are heartfelt and profound: for those who have died, the bereaved, the injured, and those who will feel less safe tonight.

"It is a duty of us all to work together to ensure a more cohesive and respectful society, one in which such violence and inhumanity have no place."



A Belfast topper

Christian Aid at PCI's creation care conference

Christian Aid Ireland were delighted to go along to Church House in Belfast last Saturday for the Presbyterian Church in Ireland's creation care conference, entitled God's work: Our responsibility?

Christian Aid Ireland was invited along as one of PCI's development partners because so much of our international work involves helping farming communities to adapt to the climate crisis, while also advocating for deep cuts in the emissions of climate-changing gases here at home.

“We were represented by our Head of Fundraising and Supporter Engagement, Ruth Cooke who is pictured with the conference organiser, Neil Harrison, PCI’s Mission Development Officer.



Retired Clergy Association members visit Parliament Buildings

A number of intrepid members of the Retired Clergy Association (NI) resumed their travels after the summer break with a visit to Parliament Buildings on Friday September 26.

Education

MLA - Coleraine parents want answers on three school merger

Ms Claire Sugden in a statement says - Parents across Coleraine are telling me they need clear answers about the new Causeway Academy, due to open in 2026.

She continues - I've asked the Education Minister to confirm:

- ➡ Has a permanent site been secured, and when will it be ready?
- ➡ How will pupils be allocated across the three sites from Day One?
- ➡ When and how will parents be told where their child will attend?

This is a huge change to post-primary education in Coleraine, parents and pupils deserve certainty and transparency.

I'll continue pressing for answers so families can plan with confidence.

St Malachi's Year 8 Men of the Month Awards - September 2025



A huge congratulations to our very first Year 8 Men of the Month!

The focus this month was positivity and each of these young men have shown kindness and courage tackling the first month of a new school. A big well done to Killian, Ethan, Sonny, Odhran, Jacob and Conor.

Dalriada School's Bible project prizes

The Religious Studies Department are delighted that 32 of our Year 10 pupils were awarded prizes for a competition they took part in at the end of last year.

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Anna Atkinson was awarded second prize in the UK-wide competition! An amazing achievement.

The pupils pictured received prizes for the high quality of their competition entries. Absent from the photo were Eva-Rose Blair and Claudia Obrycka.

These are fantastic achievements and a great way to start off the year. Well done, everyone! N

Campbell College farm field trip

Campbell College Year 9 pupils had a fantastic couple of days at Streamvale farm on their Geography field trip.

They explored how primary, secondary, and tertiary industries connect in the real world, from hands-





on farming and food production to the services that support them. It was a brilliant opportunity to bring classroom learning to life while experiencing first-hand the different stages of industry.

Cathedral Calls


Nicean Creed focus at St Mary's Limerick

This year marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea a landmark moment in the life of the Church.


To mark this occasion, the Dean and the Curate are offering a special course on the Creeds over three evenings.



Together we will reflect on the history, meaning, and living significance of the creeds we profess in our worship.

 Open to all – parishioners, friends, and anyone wishing to deepen their faith.

We would love for you to join us!

 “We believe...” – come and explore what this truly means.



GFS walk in the Armagh footsteps of St Patrick

Girls' Friendly Society members, leaders, family, and friends came to the Hill of Armagh on Saturday 27th September 2025 to walk, explore, and pray.

The special gathering marked the 150th anniversary of GFS globally and the location meant that all present were able to literally walk in the footsteps of St Patrick.

Over one hundred people took part and were welcomed to the Cathedral by the Dean of Armagh, the Very Revd Shane Forster.

The weather remained dry for the afternoon, and the GFS members had great fun in the monastic gardens behind the Cathedral, connecting with nature, looking at the apples in the orchard, and running through the maze.

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The more intrepid then ventured into the crypt on the next stage of the journey. There were art and craft activities inside the Cathedral and as everyone walked around the building, they were encouraged to collect pictures of loaves and fish from baskets placed in the aisles and side chapels.

A picnic lunch was then enjoyed before an informal service led by the Dean. The scripture reading was the 'Feeding of the five thousand' and so the pictures of bread and fish that had been gathered on the walk were shared around so that everyone present received something.



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There was a lovely atmosphere in the Cathedral, lots of happy faces and great singing. A wonderful way to celebrate a birthday by gathering with friends in a special place!

First solo Choral Evensong by Choristers

The Director of Music at Belfast Cathedral is on song - “So proud of this lot, who sang their first solo Choral Evensong “today. It was wonderful.



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Clergy and ministry



Congratulations to Fr Brian D'Arcy on being inducted into the IMRO Hall of Fame

Celebrating not only his wonderful work on BBC Radio Ulster and BBC Radio Foyle but 50 years of remarkable broadcasting and a lifetime dedicated to the community.

Subscribe to Sunday with Brian D'Arcy on BBC Sounds and never miss an episode:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b007cpj5>

New CITI Ordinands Commissioned as Student Readers



Photo: Student Readers Augustine Ndulue and Ryan Parke (centre) with Archbishop Michael Jackson and the Revd Dr Patrick McGlinchey.

Two new ordinands were commissioned as Student Readers at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute yesterday evening (Wednesday October 1).

Augustine Ndulue from Dublin and Glendalough and Ryan Parke from Derry and Raphoe were commissioned by Archbishop Michael Jackson during the weekly Community

Eucharist. They are among 11 ordinands who have embarked on their first year of study in CITI this year.

The students were presented for licensing by the Revd Dr Patrick McGlinchey who coordinates student placements. Student Readers are called to lead worship, proclaim the word of God and assist in the distribution of Holy Communion.

Archbishop Jackson addressed the students as they embark on a life of ordained ministry and offered them three priorities in ministry which have mattered to him.

The first is self-care which, he emphasised, is not self-delusion, self-superiority or selfishness. "It is the preservation under God of the self for the glory of God and for its expression in this world. Let me explain: God created each of us in his image and likeness. This beauty imposes on us the responsibility of care of ourselves for as long as, and as is best fitted to, the purposes of God. In more sobering terms, this is the long journey from birth through life to death. Throughout the whole of our life, it requires our engagement with programmes of health and self-love in order to fulfil the calling to happiness and to blessedness, within the love of God, that is human being and that is Christian discipleship. Only in this way will we be able to sustain the calling of God to whom and to which we seek to respond," he explained.

The second priority is service of others. Archbishop Jackson pointed out that the ordinands live in and contribute to a world of unlicensed individualism and a society of self-service on a massive scale. The world is also plagued by

war and megalomania and society is fed by “carefully curated anger”. He added: “In all things spiritual and vocational, I ask you to keep in mind the following: you have more time than you think, or than others think. Such a perspective is a lived personal expression of your being Prophet, Priest and King in following the preaching, teaching, healing ministries of Jesus who sought to redeem the world by sharing in every way he could the love of God with the unreceptive and the ungrateful, the mercenary and the destitute.”

The third priority the Archbishop offered is salvation of the world. Salvation is of God, he said and it shapes the Liturgical Year to which the ordinands will be obedient. “In most of your regular praying and preaching, you will have to grapple with it – with people who are anything from bored to uncomprehending, preoccupied to beside themselves with anxiety. They are not particularly interested in hearing from you that Jesus kept saying the same thing in all situations. They will be more interested in how Jesus interacts with the people in everyday situations into which they can imagine themselves - this will be your challenge as discerners and interpreters of the word of God in their midst. But you can enable them to see that it is salvation itself that Jesus leaves with them when, for example, he tells them to go and do likewise: Go now and do to other people what I have done for you! In the work of salvation, the ordained person is not the celebrity performer like Michael McIntyre strutting incessantly along the stage; the ordained person is the midwife of grace, of hope and of peace in God’s work of salvation,” he concluded.

Church News Ireland

The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com

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

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