



RUBICON
exploring the interplay between culture and the gospel

Scott Sauls serves as senior pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tennessee. Previously, he was a lead and preaching pastor for Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, where he worked alongside Dr. Timothy Keller.

Nov 14 : 9am-5pm | College of Education Chapel, Rathmines
Nov 15 : 12pm | Holy Trinity Church

Cost : €20 (plus Everbrite handling fee)
Booking: www.wearerubicon.com

*With many additional guests from the spheres of media, sports, politics, arts and entertainment, business, the social sector and the church.

www.wearerubicon.com
email: info@wearerubicon.com | twitter: [@wearerubicon](https://twitter.com/wearerubicon)

Wide range of themes at Dublin faith exploration

The big questions surrounding culture and the Gospel will be up for discussion at Rubicon which takes place in the Chapel of the Church of Ireland College of Education in Rathmines on Saturday, 14th November.

Tickets are on sale now for the fourth day–long gathering of people eager to explore how God’s intention is showing up in the lives of their peers and in the cultural projects they create.

Rubicon is a yearly event to intentionally collaborate and explore ideas about how people of faith can continue to engage in all spheres of influence.

The contributors are numerous and varied; all but one are Irish practitioners from the areas of media, arts, sports, politics, entrepreneurship and philosophy, gathering with 130 new influencers to chat in a ‘TED’–esque format with interaction, table discussion and tea. The event was co–founded by Greg Fromholz and the Revd Rob Jones as a Holy Trinity Rathmines initiative and is open to all.

The keynote speaker this year is author of *Jesus Outside the Lines: A Way Forward for Those who are Tired of Taking Sides*, Scott Sauls. He is senior pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tennessee. He will speak around the theme of Kingdom Narrative – one that builds trust and encourages collaboration. He will also talk about LGBT conversation and practical mission. He writes a blog at www.scottsauls.com

Other guest speakers include Irish Times columnist and Irish teacher Breda O'Brien and Gladys Ganiel, author and Research Fellow in the Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation and Social Justice at Queen's University, Belfast. Her blog, 'Building a Church Without Walls,' is at www.gladysganiel.com Scholar and human rights activist Senator David Norris will also contribute as will executive director of Evangelical Alliance Ireland, Nick Park.

Also at Rubicon will be Scott Evans who will talk about Paradoxology at Electric Picnic, Ruth Garvey Williams of VOX magazine who will highlight the results of their recent young adults survey and Senior Registrar in Adult Psychiatry, Mater Hospital, Dr Richard Duffy who will speak about the practicality of living out faith.

There will be an in depth interview with Fr Peter McVerry on homelessness. Sharan Kelly of Tearfund will speak about persecution and Philip McKinley of Discovery Gospel Choir will address the topic of integration.

Photographer David Cavan will talk of his experience in Syrian refugee camps, author Greg

Fromholz will address the subject of his latest book *Broken: Restoring Trust between the Sacred and Secular*.

Entrepreneur and government advisor, Daniel Ramamoorthy will address the gathering and there will also be an LGBTQI panel. The Revd Rob Jones, Vicar of Holy Trinity Rathmines will be interviewing and moderating.

“Rubicon is less a yearly gathering and more of a shot in the arm when hopefully we need it most,” explains co-founder Greg Fromholz. “The hope is that those who come along engage in challenging conversation. We might not come to any conclusions but sometimes conversations without conclusions are exactly what we need.”

Further information about Rubicon and booking is available on the website

www.wearerubicon.com

All are welcome to attend and tickets cost €20.

150th anniversary of St Patrick's Church, Parish of Bright

On Sunday October 25, Bishop of Down and Connor, Most Rev. Noel Treanor along with Auxiliary Bishop, Most Rev. Anthony Farquhar,

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and other local members of the clergy, gathered with parishioners of the Parish of Bright and surrounding areas to celebrate the 150th Anniversary Mass for St. Patrick's Church, Legamaddy.

Bishop Treanor celebrated the Mass, during which both the parish choir and children from the local primary school enhanced the overall liturgy with their singing. Bishop Treanor praised the “immense surge of voluntary work” that took place in order to restore the Church and its surroundings. He commented that the 150 years existence of the Church, dedicated to St. Patrick,

“...who according to tradition walked [the] fields and pathways and baptised the local Prince, Ros, brother of Dichu of Saul, mark a short episode in the long, rich history and heritage of the parish of Bright.”

He continued that in our time 150 years on, “... it is our task in this century of human promise and fragility to shape living Christian and pastoral communities where all can come to know and experience that love of Christ.” Bishop Treanor concluded that in the forthcoming Year of Mercy, we will be invited to receive God’s mercy fully and go beyond scruple to the profoundly challenging step of sharing, bestowing mercy and forgiveness on those who have hurt us.

A wide and varied range of events have taken place over the course of the celebrations for the 150th Anniversary of St. Patrick’s Legamaddy. Since December 2014 the local community have hosted a craft fair, guest tea and auction, a photographic exhibition, a ceili and a golf classic, amongst many other events. To date parishioners have raised over £25,000 for the refurbishment of the historic church and grounds.

Bishop and Belfast Rabbi meet

Bishop Harold has visited the synagogue on Somerton Road, north Belfast, at the invitation of Rabbi David Singer.

Rabbi Singer is the spiritual leader of the Jewish community in Northern Ireland which is one of the country's oldest ethnic and religious minorities. Although the community is today down to under 80 members it continues to make a contribution to life in Northern Ireland out of proportion to its numbers. Belfast also boasts a thriving branch of the Council of Christians and Jews which is the leading nationwide forum for Christian – Jewish engagement.

Bishop Harold said, "I grew up near the synagogue and it was a pleasure to meet Rabbi David Singer for the first time and to spend some time sharing together."

Senior appointments at Christ Church, Dublin

Two new senior dignitaries have been appointed to the Chapter of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. Former Chancellor, Canon Neil McEndoo has been elected Precentor of the cathedral by

the Chapter in succession to Canon Peter Campion who was recently installed as Precentor of St Patrick's Cathedral. The Rector of Greystones, the Revd David Mungavin, has been appointed to the role of Chancellor by the Archbishop of Dublin.

The new dignitaries will be installed, along with the Revd Adrienne Galligan who was appointed 12th Canon earlier this month, on Sunday November 8 at Choral Evensong at 3.30 pm.

Announcing the appointments the Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, the Very Revd Dermot Dunne, said it was a delight to welcome the two new dignitaries to the cathedral chapter.

"Canon Neil McEndoo brings to the Precentor position a deep knowledge of the cathedral having many years of commitment to its foundation. He also is gifted in music knowledge and is a former chorister both of which will help him in his new role. I couldn't think of a better person to become acting Dean in my absence from the cathedral during my forthcoming sabbatical leave," the Dean said.

"I am also very pleased with the Archbishop's appointment of the Revd David Mungavin as

Chancellor of the cathedral. David has a rich experience of the worldwide church having lived in Hong Kong and ministered in the Episcopal Church of Scotland. David has a pastoral heart and an independent mind both of which will benefit his presence on the chapter. It is a good development that a priest of the Glendalough diocese occupies such a senior position on the chapter. I wish both men every blessing in their ministry with us,” he added.

Without the Pope’s leadership, the synod would have been ‘fractious’, says Cardinal Nichols

Without the leadership of Pope Francis, the synod on the family would have been “fractious”, Cardinal Vincent Nichols has said.

The Archbishop of Westminster [spoke to America magazine](#) on Monday, the day after the three-week synod concluded at the Vatican.

“Without the leadership of the Holy Father this synod would have been fractious and it would have had a real struggle to hold together,” Cardinal Nichols said.



Cardinal Vincent Nichols of Westminster at the closing synod session

“So what we have lived through is a great reason for every Catholic to rejoice in the charism and the grace that is given to the Bishop of Rome. It is such a gift and strengthens and enriches the Church as we have seen and lived through in the last three weeks.”

He added: “It’s very noticeable that this is the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the synod, and in my mind this synod in particular, even more so than the extraordinary one shows that the synod process is beginning to gain maturity.

“And that, I think, has a lot to do with the style of Pope Francis and his insistence on welcoming people, making them feel that they are at home in his presence, and then saying speak freely, and speak with passion.”

In the interview, Cardinal Nichols also spoke of the significance of what was discussed at the synod.

“The first thing is what does this synod mean for the Church? It means a fresh look at the theology of the family, a deepening of that look and seeing how inseparable the family and the Church are,” he said.

“The second thing I think it means is that this synod has decisively chosen a way for the Church for the next period of refreshing its pastoral stance and saying that we must find specific, detailed ways in which the great mercy of God becomes real to people in their lives through the ministry of the Church.”

Cardinal Nichols said that during synod discussions he had been impressed by the “ability, certainly in the small group, for all of us, whether we were married people, single people,

bishops, priests, to identify ourselves with the family.”

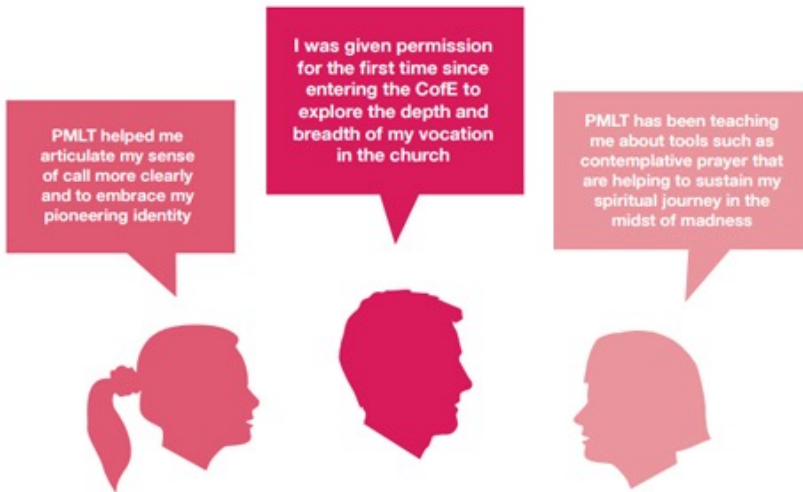
Research shows positive effect of CMS Pioneer Mission Leadership Training Course

An independent report on the first five years of the CMS (Church Mission Society) Pioneer Mission Leadership Training course has revealed a big success story.

The report, which was commissioned by CMS in order to provide an objective evaluation of the course shows it has had a positive impact not just on students but on what they are doing in their communities.

Asked what practical results they attributed directly to being students at CMS, more than a third said they had started a new project or community.

In addition, half the students said they had taken a major new step in their projects as a result of the course, while two thirds said they had improved what they were already doing.



The report's authors, Cocrete Consulting, said the wider church should "embrace the creativity of pioneers in mission as they advance the gospel and the kingdom."

CMS Pioneer students do a huge range of things: from boxercise to comedy clubs, community gardens to a singing cafe for people with dementia; there are pastors, pig farmers, surfers and men in sheds.

The pioneers have a strong focus on communities on the margins, whether on estates or at pagan festivals.

Students travel from all over the country to the study with CMS. Pioneer Mission Leadership Training began with a pilot year in 2010. In 2012, it was approved as a pathway for training ordained pioneer ministers in the Church of England and it now offers individual modules, a certificate, diploma and MA under the Church's Common Awards, accredited by Durham University.

The report says pioneers have found in the CMS course "a place to call home". The sense of a supportive learning community and a network of genuine friendships with other pioneers was one of the stand-out benefits for students.

They also credit the course with giving them a language and theology for the practical work they are already doing. This in turn helps them to explain often-misunderstood pioneer mission work to others.

Another important area of impact for students was the emphasis on personal spiritual growth or "soul work".

Andy Schofield, one of the report's authors, has some advice for pioneers based on the findings.

"Pioneering seems to work best with the support of others," he says.

"Surrounding yourself with networks of like-minded people can help you 'hang in there' for the long term in what can otherwise feel like a lonely challenge. This also creates the context for reflecting on practice, a key and valuable aspect of the course. Thinking about and tracking the impact of pioneering work can help pioneers stay on track and improve what they do. Lastly, based on the positive experience of pioneers who have been on it, consider taking the course!"

Jonny Baker, course leader and director of mission education at CMS, said "I am convinced that pioneers are a great gift to the church. It's so encouraging to know that the training and community we have created at CMS in the last five years is doing what we hoped when we set out – enabling pioneers to find confidence in what they bring and share Christ in mission beyond the edges of where the church usually operates. It's doubly reassuring to have an external company reflect this back to us."

Cocreate Consulting based their findings on 110 students who have either completed or are

currently studying on the CMS Pioneer course, using a combination of interviews, questionnaires, self-evaluation scores by students, before and after video interviews and other data. They analysed the results in relation to success criteria set out in 2011 using the Transformational Index measurement tool.

Plight of refugees is examined in Lent study course from Us

The plight of refugees and the global issue of migration is the focus of a Lent study course produced by the Anglican mission agency United Society (Us).

The free five-week course, for Lent 2016, features stories from Brazil, Malawi, Myanmar and Zimbabwe, under the heading “Migration and Movement”; and also looks at the lives of Filipino migrants living in London.

“These are topics that are seldom out of the headlines and that touch all of us,” Rachel Parry, director of global relations for Us, said. “Indeed, our church partners around the world have been talking to Us about these issues for many years,



Refugee camp in Haiti following the earthquake in 2010

with the arrival and departure of people from communities creating both challenges and opportunities.

“These are very complex issues, and we do not claim to have the answers. But we hope this course will inspire and challenge Christians and churches to engage more deeply with the issues and to consider how we might respond.”

The course will examine economic migration, the plight of refugees and communities displaced by climate change, as well as human trafficking.

People like David and Isabel who moved to Sao Paulo in the hope of a better life.

“They paid a recruiter in Bolivia to find them a job and were required to hand over their personal documents,” Us said. “They had been tricked. They ended up sewing clothes on a production line, being forced to work 15-hour days, then sleeping on the premises. When they asked for wages they were verbally abused and threatened with being reported to the police for having no documents.

“At this point, a legal organisation working with the local Anglican church stepped in and brought the case to the attention of the police. On this occasion, the factory owners were arrested after being caught red-handed in a police raid. But such happy endings are few and far between; thousands of immigrants are suffering in silence.”

The Us Lent Study Course, Migration and Movement, is available online, and free printed copies can be ordered.

- [Click here](#) for more details.

Former Episcopal Bishop Heather Cook sentenced to seven years in drunk-driving death of cyclist



Former Episcopal Bishop Heather Cook was sentenced Tuesday to seven years in prison for killing a cyclist in a drunken crash in Baltimore two days after Christmas.

[[The Baltimore Sun](#), by Ian Duncan in [The Baltimore Sun](#) - The sentence came at the end of a two-hour hearing in which the wife, mother and sisters-in-law of Thomas Palermo directed their grief and anger at the disgraced clergywoman.

Prosecutors said Cook was far above the legal limit for alcohol and sending a text message as she drove her Subaru Forester in Roland Park on the afternoon of Dec. 27. She struck and killed Palermo, a 41-year-old software engineer and father of two young children, as he enjoyed a ride.

- [Click here](#) to read the full report by the Baltimore Sun

Media digest

Mail/Even Stand/BBC

Reports on the conviction of retired CofE priest Vickery House at the Old Bailey. He was found guilty of five charges of indecent assault on four victims in the 1970s and 1980s while working as a curate and vicar in Exeter and Chichester dioceses. He will be sentenced on Thursday. A [diocese of Chichester statement is quoted](#) and reports also mention House's link with Bishop Peter Ball and notes the CofE has launched a review into how allegations against Ball were originally handled.

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3292689/Paedophile-vicar-sex-abuse-covered-decades-perverted-bishop-finally-faces-jail-attacks-against-four-victims.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490
<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/right-hand-man-of-disgraced-bishop-of-lewes-vickery-house-convicted-of-molesting-teenagers-a3100476.html>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-34650242>

Exp/BBC/Times

The government has announced a review into the workings of Parliament after its defeats in the House of Lords over tax credit cuts ([see Bishops' speeches during the debate](#)). The review will examine "how to protect the ability of elected governments to secure their business", and will consider "how to secure the decisive role of the elected Commons in relation to its primacy on financial matters and secondary legislation". Labour has accused the government of "intimidating" the House of Lords.

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/615122/Tories-David-Cameron-war-peers-House-of-Lords>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-34651772>

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4598103.ece>

BBC

The Business Secretary has called for an emergency EU summit to discuss the steel industry. Sajid Javid, will meet European commissioners today to discuss the sector.

The move comes as steel workers prepare to lobby MPs after thousands of jobs were lost at plants in recent weeks. The industry blames cheap Chinese imports and high energy costs for the collapse in steel prices.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-34654403>

Ind (Tues)

Guy Hayward, a former choral scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge, has developed a guide to the 'world-class' music performed everyday in Britain's cathedrals and churches. The online service, which focuses on Choral Evensong, is designed to attract a new audience into churches. Those looking for music can type their postcode into choralevensong.org which will then compile

nearby churches offering services, along with the start times and types of choir.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/guy-hayward-former-choral-scholar-at-trinity-college-cambridge-creates-time-out-style-guide-of-a6709756.html>

Tel

Research conducted by scientists from Oxford suggest joining a choir is a good way to make friends. Societies, they conclude, need to sing for social bonding, but few people sing together in modern society. The study, looked at how people attending adult education classes grew closer over seven months and concluded that singing groups bonded more quickly than creative writing or craft classes.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/science/11958201/Join-a-choir-to-make-friends-more-quickly-says-Oxford-University.html>

Comment

Guardian: The tax credits vote shows why Cameron should act on Lords reform

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/27/tax-credits-vote-cameron-lords-reform>

Mail: Forget the rabble that's the Lords. The real battle is to wean Britain off decades of welfare dependency.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-3292825/MAX-HASTINGS-Forget-rabble-s-Lords.html>