



**Image of the day -
Living Faith Living History exhibition of primary school
children's projects at Christ Church, Dublin**

News Reports

Pope urges 'radical' climate response in exclusive BBC message

In a message recorded exclusively for the BBC, Pope Francis has called on world leaders meeting next week at the UN Climate conference in Glasgow to provide "effective responses" to the environment emergency and offer "concrete hope" to future generations.

Speaking from the Vatican for BBC Radio 4's Thought for the Day, the Pope talked of crises including the Covid-19 pandemic, climate change and economic difficulties, and urged the world to respond to them with vision and radical decisions, so as not to "waste opportunities" that the current challenges present.

"We can confront these crises by retreating into isolationism, protectionism and exploitation," the pontiff said, "or we can see in them a real chance for change."

He evoked the need for "a renewed sense of shared responsibility for our world", adding that "each of us - whoever and wherever we may be - can play our own part in changing our collective response to the unprecedented threat of climate change and the degradation of our common home."

The Pontiff was due to meet US President Joe Biden at the Vatican later. Mr Biden's domestic climate policies are yet to pass through the US Congress.

@catholicbishops



The Church is the family of God's children. A family in which we rejoice with those who are rejoicing, and weep with those who grieve or feel knocked down by life. A family in which we care for everyone, for God our Father has made all of us his children in Baptism.

- Pope Francis

Address of Pope Francis in Croke Park 25 August 2018

The message is a reminder of the emphasis Francis has placed on environmentalism throughout his pontificate.

He has frequently evoked the climate crisis in speeches, and in 2015 published an encyclical, or papal document, called *Laudato Si'* focusing on the issue. In the text, subtitled *On Care for our Common Home*, he decried environmental destruction, stressed the need to take mitigating measures and gave an unambiguous acceptance that climate change was largely manmade.

The letter was issued before the 2015 UN climate conference in Paris, COP21, and was seen as having some impact on pushing leaders towards an agreement. It was evoked during discussions, including by the president of Paraguay, who spoke of the Pope's "dramatic warning that we face a crisis and need to protect the world upon which we rely for life".

Six years on, world leaders are preparing to gather in Glasgow for this year's climate summit, COP26.

With growing evidence that the commitments made in Paris to keep global temperature rises "preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels" aren't being met, Pope Francis has again focused on the issue, hoping his intervention will have a similar impact.

Pope holds private talks with Joe Biden during US President's first official visit to the Vatican

Pope Francis met Joe Biden yesterday (Friday October 29), in the US President's first official visit to the Vatican since his inauguration.

Mr Biden, the second Catholic president in American history, is in Rome to attend the G20 summit taking place on October 30-31.

The President arrived at the Vatican's San Damaso Courtyard at 12 noon after his motorcade entered the



Vatican through an arch to the left of the entrance of St. Peter's Basilica.

Mr Biden and his wife, First Lady Jill Biden, were welcomed by Mgr Leonardo Sapienza, the regent of the papal household, as well as Gentlemen of His Holiness, who greet heads of state when they visit the Pope.

As Mr Biden shook hands with the lay dignitaries, he could be heard saying: "Thank you, it's good to be back. It's good to be back."

As he shook the hand of the last papal gentleman, Mr Biden joked, "I'm Jill's husband," before entering the apostolic palace to meet Pope Francis.

The encounter was Mr Biden's fourth time meeting Pope Francis, but his first as US President.

According to a brief Vatican statement, Pope Francis and President Biden met privately in the Pope's library for around 75 minutes.

After their private conversation, the two leaders, accompanied by Jill Biden, participated in a customary exchange of gifts.

Mr Biden gave the Pope a handwoven 1930s' fiddleback chasuble, the outermost vestment worn by a priest during Mass.

The chasuble was a gift from the archives of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Washington, DC, where Mr Biden frequently attends Mass. The chasuble was commissioned in 1930 by the famous Roman tailor Gammarelli.

The White House has also made a donation of winter coats in Pope Francis' name.

Pope Francis gave the President an image on a ceramic tile called The Pilgrim, volumes of the papal documents, the 2021 Message for Peace, the 2019 document on human fraternity, and a Vatican book about the Pope's March 2020 prayer service for an end to the pandemic.

The President also had private meetings with the Vatican's Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin and "foreign minister" Archbishop Paul Gallagher.

The pair previously in 2015 during the papal visit to the US when Mr Biden was Vice President.

The following year the two exchanged a greeting during a Vatican conference on regenerative medicine, at which Mr Biden spoke. Mr Biden also met Francis at his papal inauguration in March 2013.

Their meeting today was only the second time a Catholic US president has met the Pope after John F Kennedy met Pope Paul VI in 1963.

The United States and the Vatican formally established diplomatic relations two decades later, in 1984, under President Ronald Reagan.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who met Pope Francis in June, was part of Biden's delegation on Oct. 29.

Mr Biden has been at the centre of a debate in the US about the reception of Holy Communion by pro-abortion politicians.

After his election, Archbishop José Gomez, president of the US Bishops' Conference, noted the disagreement between Mr Biden and the bishops on the issue of abortion.

In November, the US bishops will meet in Baltimore, Maryland, for their autumn general assembly, at which they are expected to vote on a teaching document about reception of the Eucharist.

Pope Francis has previously called abortion “murder”, compared the action to “hiring a hitman” and said that unborn victims of abortion bear the face of Jesus. But he has called on clergy to take a pastoral approach rather than a political approach towards Catholic legislators who support the practice.

Mr Biden and his administration have taken a number of steps to either fund abortion outright or loosen regulations against the funding of pro-abortion groups.

Ahead of their meeting, a White House spokeswoman acknowledged that “the pope has spoken differently” than Biden on abortion.

Mr Biden, a Catholic, “is somebody who stands up for and believes that a woman’s right to choose is important”, White House press secretary Jen Psaki said at a briefing with reporters.

Unlike past meetings between the Pope and a head of state, the Vatican did not allow media to be present when Mr Biden and Pope Francis met and no video live stream was provided.

Before the coronavirus outbreak, a small group of journalists, including members of the president’s own media pool, would be present for the first handshakes and the initial exchange as they sat down before the formal and private conversation. Journalists would again be present to witness the exchange of gifts.

With COVID-19, the Vatican has no longer allowed media pools at meetings with heads of state. A Vatican spokesman said the same protocol was being followed for Mr Biden's visit.

Mr Biden is in Rome to take part in the G20 Heads of State and Government Summit, which takes place in a different country every year.

Other G20 leaders in Rome this weekend will also meet Pope Francis.

South Korea's President Moon Jae-in met the Pope Friday morning, shortly before Mr Biden.

On Saturday, Francis will meet India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Church of England launches consultation on plans to get to net-zero emissions in 9 years

The Church of England will consult dioceses, cathedrals, national institutions, parishes, schools and other interested parties on a proposed plan to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030, as papers are published for November's inaugural meeting of a new General Synod.

The draft plan, published among the General Synod papers, suggests how all parts of the Church of England can make changes together to achieve the ambitious target set by

General Synod in 2020 to be net-zero 20 years ahead of the government's targets.

It includes recommendations for building maintenance, heating and the availability of specialist advice for each setting alongside how the central church and dioceses can offer support.

The newly elected Synod will be formally inaugurated on Nov. 16 at the start of a two-day meeting.

C of E Synod members told to be 'less adversarial' as they debate gender, sexuality and marriage

Newly elected members of the Church of England's General Synod should "listen especially" to the "lament, fear and pain of LGBTQI+ people", say the bishops leading the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) consultation on marriage, sexuality and gender identity.

Synod members got the order in an "LLF Guide" sent out with papers for the first meeting in their new five-year term taking place on November 16 and 17 at Church House Westminster.

It will be the first time the CofE's legislative body has met in person since the start of the Covid pandemic.

The recent elections attracted a record number of candidates, with 956 standing for the Houses of Clergy and

Laity combined. A majority of those elected - 60 per cent - are new members.

The LLF consultation across the Church, is led by its Next Steps Group of nine bishops. It is chaired by the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, and includes the conservative evangelical Bishop of Maidstone, Rod Thomas.

The group has met 14 times since June 2020.

"It has produced the overarching strategy for engagement and listening across dioceses, and a timeframe for the discernment and decision-making phases of the process," the LLF guide says.

One section in the guide is headed "What steps can the LLF Next Steps Group and all of us in the wider church take to help make your most hopeful aspirations a reality?".

It tells Synod members to "listen to the lament and fear and pain of people, especially, LGBTQI+ people"; "move from a less adversarial to a more conversational listening approach that involves genuine encounter"; and "find ways of listening to all the voices, not just the loudest".

The guide also includes a doctrinal claim that the LLF resources "signal the belief that the Holy Spirit speaks through Scripture, tradition and the whole people of God as together we discern what it is that God is saying to the Church today about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage – and perhaps other aspects of our life and witness".

The CofE's official statement of its doctrine in Canon A5 presents the Bible as the supreme authority in matters of Christian belief and practice above church tradition and human experience.

"The doctrine of the Church of England is grounded in the Holy Scriptures, and in such teachings of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to the said Scriptures," the Canon says.

Over 11,000 people have registered on the LLF learning hub, the guide says.

The hub includes a five-session video course, podcasts and films, and a large online library of resources on identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

Archbishop of Canterbury on “small groups that claim extraterritorial jurisdiction”

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, on the Lambeth Conference 2022 website states:

[T]oo often [the Anglican Communion] has slipped into being a tool of power, the absolute opposite of discipleship in the service of Jesus Christ. Some groups are intent on changing the way in which the Anglican Communion works, so that those outside of a province may interfere with its actions and tell people what to do. There is a danger of becoming a communion that finds itself with a load of small groups that claim extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Without not naming names, Welby is referring to breakaway groups like the so-called Anglican Church in North America (ACNA), which falsely claim membership in the Anglican Communion through their enablers, those Anglican Communion provinces that are members of the Global Anglican Fellowship Conference (Gafcon).

Those breakaway groups are not invited to Lambeth. Many member provinces of Gafcon are boycotting Lambeth 2022.

People and places

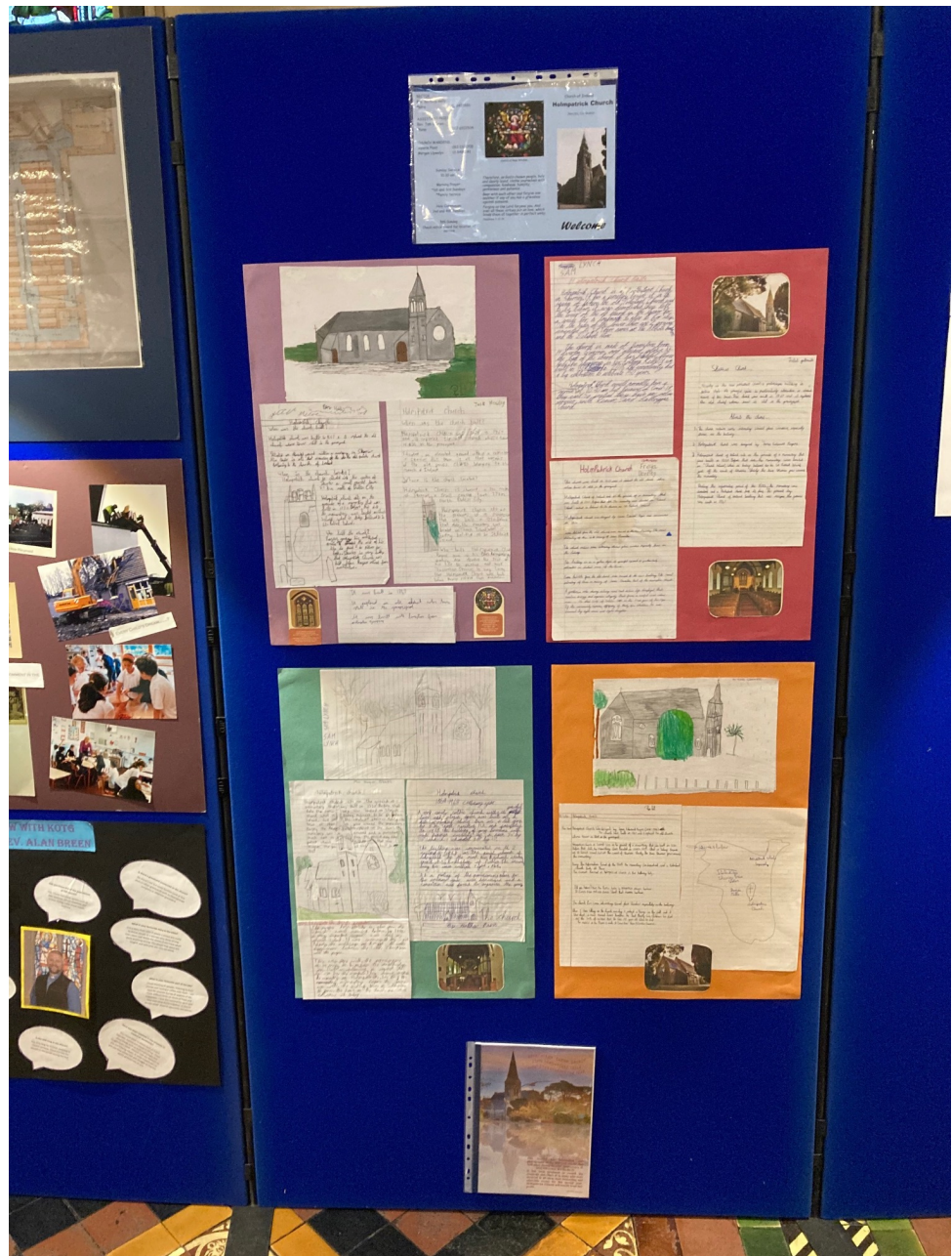
Living Faith Living History: School children's parish projects on display in Christ Church Cathedral

A new exhibition opened in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, this week. Living Faith Living History is an exhibition of primary school children's projects about their parishes and schools in the United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough.

Facilitated by the Revd Prof Anne Lodge, Director of the Church of Ireland Centre at DCU and Priest Scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, the exhibition continues until Thursday November 11 and all are welcome to come and see it. It is on display in the north aisle of the cathedral.

Ten schools took part in the project: Athy Model School; Castleknock National School; Drumcondra National School;

Holmpatrick National School, Skerries; Kill o the Grange National School; Kilternan National School; St George's National School, Balbriggan; St Matthew's National School, Irishtown; Springdale National School, Raheny; and Whitechurch National School.



Display by Holmpatrick National School, Skerries;

The children and their teachers in each school completed their projects in spite of all the limitations imposed by Covid-19. The children in one school, Holmpatrick NS, actually finished their projects during lockdown in Spring 2021 without help from anyone other than their families.

As part of their projects, children explored the history of their parish churches. They explored graveyards. They found out information about local history of their church and their school. They also explored the current life of their parish. They interviewed people involved with the parish. They found out the activities that happen in their parish as well as finding out about the links between their school and their parish. Some of them also wrote prayers for their parish and their school.

Many schools did a local exhibition first before giving us all their materials for the cathedral exhibition. In fact, the children produced so much material that we have not been able to display all of it on the 18 metres of display boards in the cathedral. It is planned to tweet some examples from the exhibition every day between now and November 11.

Prof Lodge and all the children involved would love if you could visit the exhibition in the cathedral. However, do not worry if you cannot get there. There is a book of the exhibition contents currently with the publishers who are doing the design work to do justice to all the material the children produced. It will be launched as soon as it is available – we will keep you posted. Copies will be given to all participating schools and parishes.

This project was inspired by the Come & C project and continues its work. It provides primary school children in Church of Ireland schools around the United Dioceses with an opportunity to find out about their own parishes, to share what they found with us all, and to invite us to ‘come and see’ their exhibition in the cathedral.

October 29, 2021

The project is led by the Church of Ireland Centre in DCU in partnership with the United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough and Christ Church Cathedral. It is also supported by generous grants from the Church Education Society and All Churches Trust.



Belfast centre The Hub invites

“Join us next Sunday evening as we launch Worship 101 in the city at St. Stephen’s. All students and young adults of

October 29, 2021

Belfast are welcome. We cannot wait to worship God and pray for our city with you!”



Big day at Windsor Castle for Derry rector

Canon Paul Hoey of Faughanvale (Eglinton) Parish in Derry Diocese was at Windsor Castle this week to be presented with an MBE by HRH The Prince of Wales. Photographed with his daughter Grace.

Building Blocks Conference - Change of date

The Children’s Ministry Network has made the decision to postpone its in person Building Blocks conference until the New Year.

Although the organisers had a suitable venue for social distancing and a wonderful programme line up, they were

The poster features a green and blue color scheme with a bokeh background. On the left, there is a logo with a green square containing a white cross and a blue square containing a white silhouette of a person jumping. The text 'buildingblocks 2021' is written in a large, blue, rounded font, with '2021' being significantly larger. Below this, 'Children's Ministry Conference' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The main title 'Advent and Christmas Online Training with Resource Pack' is in a bold, green, sans-serif font. To the left of the main title, there are four small blue boxes with white text: 'WHEN?' Thursday, November 18th, 7.30pm - 9.15pm; 'WHERE?' The comfort of your own home!; 'HOW?' Book on Eventbrite. Click here; 'WHAT?' Crafts, Prayers, Bakes, Story Booklets, Trails, Family Devotionals, Nativities and more! The resources can be adapted to services, Sunday Clubs, outdoor events or family homes. To the right of the main title, there is a blue box with white text: 'Here's a snapshot!'. Below this, the text 'YOU WILL...' is followed by three bullet points: 'take away lots of new resources and ideas and leave feeling inspired.', 'receive a training pack full to the brim for Advent and Christmas.', and 'learn tried and tested ideas from passionate practitioners.' Below the bullet points, the text 'HOW MUCH?' is followed by '€10 (but get in touch if that is prohibitive)'. At the bottom right, there is a blue box with white text: 'For more information, contact Lydia - lydia.monds@gmail.com'. The background of the poster shows a young child in a green jacket and grey hat on the left, and a young boy in a blue sweater holding a large orange leaf in front of his face on the right. The text 'ADVENT & CHRISTMAS FUN!' is written in a white, handwritten-style font in the center.

increasingly uncomfortable with people travelling from all over the island of Ireland while Covid cases are on the rise and responses to that are uncertain. However, Building Blocks is running an evening online Advent and Christmas Training event on Thursday, 18th November, with a great pack that will help people hit the ground running this Christmas.

Please see summary below with booking details, visit [www.facebook.com/BuildingBlocksConferences]

Lead Evangelist appointed for the Carraig Centre in Ballincollig

Carrigrohane Union of Parishes have announced the appointment of Matt Gould as Lead Evangelist and community leader at the Carraig Centre in Ballincollig.

Matt has spent thirteen years as youth worker in Carrigrohane Union of Parishes and has recently completed his Evangelist Training at the Church Army Training College in Sheffield, UK.

The Rev. Robert Ferris, Rector of Carrigrohane Union, said:

It is with great joy that I am able to announce this appointment. This is a brand new pioneering role in the staff team, which will see him taking a lead in developing the Carraig Centre, strengthening links with groups and individuals who use the building and its activities, as well as continuing to develop the outreach and worship activities of the centre.

Matt Gould comments: I'm humbled and delighted to be appointed to this new pioneering role within the parish in the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne & Ross. At the heart of this project is an amazing community of Christians who are stepping out in faith to share the good news of Jesus here in Ballincollig. I'm excited to see what God has in store in the years ahead.

This appointment is part of the Partnership between Church Army, Cork Cloyne and Ross Diocese and the Carraig Centre / Carrigrohane Union of Parishes. Matt will take up this role in mid-November.

Poem for today

The Cloths of Heaven by W.B. Yeats

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,

The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half-light,
I would spread the cloths under your feet:
But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

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