



The new Scottish Episcopal Institute is dedicated during a service at St Ninian's Cathedral in Perth

New Scottish Episcopal Institute dedicated for ministry formation

The new Scottish Episcopal Institute has been dedicated by the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church with a challenge that the contexts of ministry that people are being called

to will "become ever more complex and demanding."

The [Scottish Episcopal Institute](#) (SEI) is tasked with the formation of those preparing for a variety of lay and ordained authorised ministries in the Scottish Episcopal Church. It will also train lay and ordained leaders in the United Reformed Church in Scotland.

The SEI says it is "shaping vibrant missional ministers for today's world" by encouraging "an ethos of ongoing learning for all involved in ministry, both through its oversight of Continuing Ministerial Development and in the encouragement and resourcing of lifelong enquiry in a learning church."

The SEI emerged from church-wide discussions following changes in the Church of England's training regime after a 2013 review, the SEI Principal Canon Anne Tomlinson, said. "This resulted in a new governance structure being instituted to enable the training to be much more closely allied to the Church's overall vision for mission and ministry in the 21st century, and a new curriculum developed which integrates theology and experience in a dynamic reflective practice," she said.

SEI's diplomas and degrees will be validated by Durham University's Common Awards from October 2016, "in keeping with the desire to form clergy and Readers who are reflective practitioners and missional leaders for twenty-first century Scotland," Canon Tomlinson said.

The SEI operates from its Provincial Office in Edinburgh, and throughout all seven dioceses of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

The service of dedication in St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth, was led by the Bishop of Argyle and the Isles, the Rt Revd Kevin Pearson, who serves as Convener of the SEI Council.

"This is a moment of celebration and hope," the Primus of Scotland, the Most Rev David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane, said in a sermon during the service. "The launch of the Scottish Episcopal Institute is an important moment for our church. We have planned, worked and prayed. Now we celebrate with joy.

"But ministry often isn't like that. In my experience, many of the moments which have spoken to me of the movement of the spirit of God in the hearts of his people have been half-whispered. They have been the words of people – about to turn the door handle on their way out

– standing in the relatives' room at the hospital – facing the breakdown of relationship - half understanding the way in which we are caught up in the working of God's grace. It is people who find themselves in the most challenging of circumstances saying almost without realising it the words of forgiveness, sacrifice and hope.

"But now and again a moment comes along – a moment at which we can celebrate and give thanks because something rather wonderful has come about. As William Barclay once said, we stand on the shoulders of our parents. As we mark the launch of the Scottish Episcopal Institute, we carry forward some of the story of Coates Hall and of TISEC – but we write a new chapter which is about our understanding of ministry in 2015 and onwards and we place that chapter in the ongoing story of the vocation of the SEC in Scotland in 21st century."

Bishop Chillingworth admitted to feeling "a little flat-footed in the presence of those who are training for ministry," saying that it was "a time when you live with a heightened sense of your calling – and you are in prayerful dialogue with it.

"So the forming of people for ministry tests and develops the very human vessel of temperament and character in which vocation is experienced

and held. It means the developing of skills and talents. It means over and over again shaping the spiritual life which says that 'this is not about us'. It prepares those who are committing their lives to ministry for the possibility – no certainty – that ministry will bring them at times testing and pain almost beyond endurance just as it will bring joy and fulfilment beyond expectation."

He said that the "community of learning" at the SEI "expresses the life of the Scottish Episcopal Church not just at this moment but as it will be in ten, twenty or more years from now.

You can read Bishop Chillingworth's full sermon [here](#).

<http://www.scotland.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/SEI-Launch-Service-sermon.pdf>

Shrine to St. Thérèse of Lisieux in Crossgar Parish

On 1st October, the Catholic Church celebrated the feast of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Last Thursday, in Crossgar, County Down, the Church of the Immaculate Conception marked the occasion with a special ceremony.

Bishop Noel Treanor celebrated Mass and dedicated a new shrine to St. Thérèse. The new churchnewsireland@gmail.com



shrine contains a statue of St. Thérèse donated by the Lighthouse Shop in Downpatrick, a relic of St. Thérèse donated by the Lynch family from Belfast and a painting of her parents Blessed Louis and Blessed Zélie Martin by Killyleagh artist Leo Casement.

Blessed Louis and Blessed Zélie will be canonised by Pope Francis in Rome on October 18th, during the Vatican's synod of Bishops which is focusing on the pastoral challenges for the family. The 14th General Synod on the Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and the Contemporary World is taking place in Rome from 4th October to 25th October. The parents of St. Thérèse of Lisieux will be the first ever married couple to be canonised together by the Church.

Fr. John Carroll, diocesan secretary in the Diocese of Ferns, was the guest preacher for the celebrations in Crossgar. Fr Carroll helped to coordinate the visit of the relics of St. Thérèse to Ireland in 2001.

Fr Carroll divided the message of St. Thérèse and her parents into three parts. He firstly asked “What type of God did St. Thérèse believe in? A loving God!” He used the example of the love that a parent has for the child and how they will do anything for their child. Fr Carroll explained that this was only a fraction of what God feels for us.

Fr Carroll moved on to his second point, by describing that we as a community should follow the way of St. Thérèse and do our day to day things with a thankful heart. “Talking to the stranger at the bus stop, helping our neighbour, we should do all these things with the same big heart that St. Thérèse would do.”

He concluded that Blessed Louis provided us with the best example of never giving up on faith. “He was a father who had lost everything; his wife, his daughters and he suffered with possible dementia, yet Blessed Louis never gave up on his faith.”

Both Blessed Louis and Blessed Zélie have been known as the devout parents of the “the greatest saint of modern times” in the words of Pope Pius X who described their remarkable daughter St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face of Jesus, known affectionately to Catholics as ‘the Little Flower’.

Local children from the parish, Conor and Chloe Davis presented Bishop Noel Treanor with an image of St. Thérèse along with her parents, Blessed Louis and Blessed Zélie, from Alençon.

Ms Christine Lynch presented the first class relic on behalf of her family to the newly dedicated shrine in the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The relic had been given to the Lynch family as a gift in recognition of their work and donations to the establishment of a seminary in the Diocese of Kuala Lumpur 50 years ago.

Bishop Treanor described the connection that exists between the Diocese of Down and Connor and the Archdiocese of Kampala in Uganda. In particular he explored the link between St Kizito Parish, Kibriri, Archdiocese of Kampala, Uganda and the parish of Crossgar in Down and Connor.

Connor Kids Big Adventure days return

Kids Big Adventure days return with two fun filled events taking place in Cloughfern Parish on Saturday October 10 and Ballymoney Parish on Saturday October 17.

The events, which will bring children together from right across Connor Diocese, run from 2pm-5pm on each of the two days.

This year the theme is God's Big Garden. Connor Children's Project Development Officer Jill Hamilton explains. "We will be focusing on creation and the fall of mankind and looking at how God responded by sending Jesus. We are hosting the event in two venues this year and really hope and pray that even more children and their leaders will come along and make Kids Big Adventure part of their yearly programme."

Jill said there is still time to sign up to participate. "It's a chance for the children in Sunday Schools and other children's organisations to meet other children from across the diocese, have fun, connect with others and feel part of something bigger than their own church setting," Jill said.



“For leaders, it is a chance to talk to others who are doing the same sometimes challenging job of teaching and enthusing children in their journey of faith. Many of the ideas, songs and resources used on the day can be used again by leaders in their own setting.” A leaders’ café will give leaders the opportunity to chat to others.

<http://www.rippleconnor.org.uk/kids-big-adventure-2015/>

Book launch - Preaching in Belfast, 1747–54

A selection of the sermons of James Saurin, edited by Raymond Gillespie & Roibeard Ó Gallachóir, will be launched in St Anne's Cathedral, Donegall Street, Belfast, on Tuesday 20 October at 6.15pm following Evensong which will be sung by the Cathedral Choir at 5.30pm.

The Bishop of Clogher, the Rt Revd John McDowell, will speak and the event is open to all.

Please email bursar@belfastcathedral.org to confirm attendance.

To learn more about the book, visit the Four Courts Press [website](#).

Revd Adrienne Galligan Appointed Canon of Christ Church Cathedral

The Revd Adrienne Galligan has been appointed a Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. Adrienne is Rector of Rathfarnham and is the Rural Dean of Taney. She is married to Canon Paul Houston. She has been appointed to the



Chapter of the Cathedral in succession to Canon David Moynan who resigned in September.

Announcing the appointment, the Dean of Christ Church, the Very Revd Dermot Dunne, said it was a delight to welcome the Revd Adrienne Galligan to the Chapter. “She brings to this foundation a rich and varied experience in ministry. Her commitment to promoting Gospel values and the development of a lived faith will deepen and enrich the life and ministry of the cathedral. A woman of independent mind and intelligence, Adrienne will bring these and many more gifts to the Chapter which is sure to be an enhanced body by her presence. A native speaker of our mother tongue, I look forward to Adrienne using this talent for the benefit of our

services in the Irish language. I wish her every blessing in her ministry with us,” he commented.

Archbishop Michael Jackson congratulated Adrienne on her appointment. “The Reverend Adrienne Galligan contributes to the life of the United Dioceses from a position of personal humility and deep spiritual life. Her work in two parishes has not only commended itself to the parishioners but has enabled them and her to engage with the community with a sense of witness and adventure combined. I have every confidence that Adrienne’s faith in God centred on neighbour and community, parish and prayer will add substantially to the daily life of our diocesan cathedral. I offer her my congratulations and commend the Dean and Chapter in this appointment,” he said.

Adrienne said she was honoured by the appointment and looked forward to this new phase of her ministry. “Christ Church Cathedral was a place of worship for me personally for many years before I moved to Wicklow town and subsequently began training for ordained ministry. But apart from my personal enrichment as a member of the congregation in those years and since, the reach of the Cathedral is vast given its pivotal role in the Dioceses, and also to its many visitors, in nurturing faith and

presenting all that is excellent in worship. While its history is remarkable, its intentional advocacy on behalf of the marginalized is both visionary and missional. I am enormously honoured that Archbishop Jackson and Dean Dunne have offered me this canonry in Christ Church cathedral and I look forward very much to serving the Lord and His church in this new sphere of ministry,” she stated.

Catholic churches facing mass exodus as lack of priests and falling attendances threaten closures

[Catholic churches](#) may be shut down completely as a chronic lack of priests and falling attendance sees Masses cancelled.

Irish Mirror - The situation nationwide is already so critical that weekday services have been cancelled and Sunday Masses in many places are only held every second weekend.

Ageing priests, a lack of young seminarians and a plummeting number of practising Catholics have left the Church facing an unprecedented crisis.

The institution in America has dealt with the same turmoil by shutting churches and clustering whole parishes.

And it may not be long before we are forced to do the same, it's been warned.

Anthony Neville from the Association of Catholics in Ireland told the Irish Mirror: "Weekday Masses are disappearing because if there's only one priest who has to travel around three or four churches, plus do funerals, weddings, visiting the sick and administration, it's impossible.

"There's a very high percentage of priests who are over 65. In some dioceses it's as high as 80% and there are very few seminarians coming along to replace them.

"Some parishes have more than one church but only one priest, so there might be Mass every second day in each church." But older people are now finding their local church doesn't have Mass and they can't get to another church so that's a major issue."

Priests across Dublin have been asked to count Mass-goers over the next three weeks, an audit which could lead to the cancellation of Masses which have poor attendance.

Although the paedophile priest scandal was hugely damaging, many who quit the Church in its wake are slowly returning.

Lay people in some parishes now hold their own prayer service because of the lack of priests and the cancellation of Masses.

Mr Neville added: “This needs a more formal structure but these are very positive signs. In some services, they have been allowed to give out Holy Communion.”

Autumn Edition of Search: a Church of Ireland Journal

Thoughts from different constituencies on the “reality check” on sexuality issues, urged for church leadership following the marriage referendum result in May, feature in the autumn issue of SEARCH, available from October 12th.

SEARCH offers a compendium of short answers to the question – “What do you consider the most important items for the ‘reality check’ on sexuality issues?” – which features a variety of individuals from different spheres.

Among them are a psychologist, an ecumenical ethicist, a feminist theologian, a university chaplain, a TCD undergraduate, a cleric from the Porvoo Communion, and Bishop Kenneth Kearon, who was invited on account of his experience as Secretary General of the Anglican Communion. All are offered simply as food for thought.

This issue also contains reflections on the 50th anniversary of the Corrymeela Community by its leader, Pádraig Ó Tuama, on the migrant crisis by Gordon Linney, and on the centrality of the Bible by Prof Paul Ballard.

Full colour pictures accompany Gesa Thiessen's thoughts on Theology and the Arts, and the edition continues with thoughts on the apocalyptic threat of climate change by Noel Coghlan, on 19th century plans for integrated primary schooling by Eoin de Bhaldraithe, and on Advent preaching from Luke by Janet Unsworth. There are also book reviews by an impressive team of senior clergy.

C of E statement on the sentencing of Peter Ball

Bishop Paul Butler, the C of E lead bishop on safeguarding issued the following statement -

“It is a matter of deep shame and regret that a Bishop in the Church of England has today been sentenced for a series of offences over 15 years against 18 young men known to him. There are no excuses whatsoever for what took place and the systematic abuse of trust perpetrated by Peter Ball over decades.

We apologise unreservedly to those survivors of Peter Ball's abuse and pay tribute to their bravery in coming forward and also the long wait for justice that they have endured. We note that there are those whose cases remain on file for whom today will be a difficult day, not least in the light of the courage and persistence that they have demonstrated in pressing for the truth to be revealed. We also remember Neil Todd, whose bravery in 1992 enabled others to come forward but who took his own life before Peter Ball's conviction or sentencing.

As the Police have noted Peter Ball systematically abused the trust of the victims, many of whom who were aspiring priests, whilst others were simply seeking to explore their spirituality. He also abused the trust placed in him by the Church and others, maintaining a campaign of innocence for decades until his final guilty plea only weeks ago. Since that plea was made processes in the Church have begun to

initiate formal internal disciplinary procedures against Peter Ball.

Operation Dunhill began as a direct result of the safeguarding officer at Lambeth Palace raising concerns about Peter Ball following a church initiated review of files. The approach to the police was a proactive step on the part of the national Church leading to a self-initiated referral via CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection centre) to Sussex Police in 2012. This led to active co-working between Lambeth Palace, the Diocese of Chichester and Sussex Police on a complex enquiry with full information sharing. We pay tribute to those detectives whose work on this case over the past three years has led to this conviction and sentencing.

Since Peter Ball's guilty plea on 8th of September this year questions have been raised about the Church's handling of this case. As a result the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has commissioned an independent review of the way the Church responded.

The independent review will examine the Church of England's cooperation with the police and other statutory agencies and the extent to which it shared information in a timely manner. It will also assess the extent to which the Church both

properly assessed the possible risk that Bishop Ball might pose to others and responded adequately to concerns and representations submitted by survivors.

Further information about the arrangements for the review will be available in due course. The Archbishop has confirmed that the report of the review will include a detailed account of how the case was handled within the church and will be published.

The Church of England always takes any allegations of abuse very seriously and is committed to being a safe place for all. To this end we have robust procedures and policies in place. But we can never be complacent. Any survivors or those with information about church-related abuse must always feel free to come forward with confidence that safeguarding procedures will be followed.

Should anyone have further information or need to discuss the personal impact of this news the Church has worked with the NSPCC to set up a confidential helpline no. 0800 389 5344."

Bishop escaped abuse charges after MPs and royal family intervened, court told - Guardian

http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/oct/07/bishop-peter-ball-escaped-charges-mps-royal-family-intervened-court?CMP=tw_t_gu

BBC/Guard/Premier

Reports that some of the sex abuse survivors of Peter Ball, the former Bishop of Gloucester and Lewes, plan to sue the CofE (Chichester Diocese) for hundreds of thousands of pounds. Ball will be sentenced at the Old Bailey today after admitting misconduct in a public office between 1977 and 1992 and two counts of sexual assault on young men in their late teens. Earlier this week, the Archbishop of Canterbury announced an independent review into the response of the CofE to the original allegations.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-34451946>

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/oct/06/sexual-abuse-victims-of-peter-ball-sue-church-of-england>

<http://www.premier.org.uk/News/UK/Victims-of-abusing-Bishop-Peter-Ball-to-sue-the-Church-of-England>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/11915828/Sex-abuse-victims-of-former-bishop-Peter-Ball-sue-Church-of-England.html>

Media digest

Display of art at RC teacher training college commemorating IRA and INLA terrorists unacceptable - News Letter

A display commemorating IRA and INLA terrorists at a teacher training college in west Belfast has been branded “shocking” and unacceptable in a publicly funded facility.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/st-mary-s-teacher-training-college-criticised-for-terrorists-tributes-1-6996472>

Inequalities in educational attainment - News Letter

The collapse of traditional manufacturing and a lack of role models have been cited as possible causes for Protestants’ persistently poor educational results.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/education-gap-between-catholics-and-protestants-worsening-report-1-6996407>

Ian Paisley’s vast personal library open to public - News Letter

The late Ian Paisley’s vast personal library has opened for any member of the public to come and browse through a collection of 55,000 volumes.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/ian-paisley-s-55-000-volume-library-open-to-public-1-6996632>

The story of a pioneering priest - Church Times

As Black History Month begins, Pamela Roberts celebrates James Arthur Harley, from Antigua, who served as a priest in Edwardian England

<http://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2015/2-october/features/features/the-story-of-a-pioneering-priest>

Migrant crisis: EU to begin seizing smugglers' boats - BBC News

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-34461503?ocid=global_bbccom_email_07102015_top+news+stories

Ind/Tel/Guard/Mail/Times

Reports and reaction to the Home Secretary Theresa May's speech to the Conservative Party Conference on immigration yesterday. In it Ms May said that mass migration was harming the social cohesion of the UK. The *Independent* says the speech caused outrage. The *Telegraph* says the Home Secretary was saying what everybody thinks. The *Guardian* reports that plans announced to limit the right to claim asylum in Britain were described as thoroughly chilling by the Refugee Council. For the *Mail*, Ms May is the woman with the guts to tell the truth over migrants. The *Times* reports that the speech received what it describes as a stern rebuke from the Institute of Directors.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-tory-conference-speech-home-secretary-sparks-outrage-with-pledge-to-crackdown-on-a6683951.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/conservative/11915376/Theresa-May-saying-what-everybody-thinks.html>

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/oct/06/theresa-may-announces-new-plan-to-limit-right-to-claim-asylum-in-uk>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3262645/Woman-guts-tell-truth-migrants-Theresa-faces-backlash-big-business-Left-following-conference-speech.html>

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4578374.ece>

Times

Reports EU plans to deport thousand of failed asylum seekers back to their countries of origin. The paper reports that the EU will threaten countries, many in sub-Saharan African, that it will withdraw trade deals and visa arrangements if they refuse to take back their economic migrants.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article4578486.ece>

Mail

Reports on an archaeological dig in Lichfield which has discovered the mass grave of 50 bodies, believed to be pilgrims seeking cures at the shrine of St Chad. The skeletons will now be examined to discover their gender, approximate age and cause of death.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3262109/Mass-grave-unearthed->

churchnewsireland@gmail.com

[medieval-pilgrimage-site-50-bodies-belong-pilgrims-travelling-visit-miraculous-remains-St-Chad.html](#)

Obituaries

Ind

The Revd Kenneth Leech: The priest who worked amongst the homeless and drug-addicts and founded the charity, Centrepoint.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/obituaries/reverend-kenneth-leech-priest-who-worked-among-the-homeless-and-with-drug-addicts-at-centrepoint-a6683816.html>