

Sixth annual Down & Dromore children's praise party a success

'Praise Party' now is firmly established as a highlight of the Diocesan year for children and those who work with them in Sunday School. And 2017, the sixth year 'Praise Party', was another huge success, with Sunday School children of primary school age and their leaders once again making their way to Moira Parish Centre on Saturday afternoon (May 20) for three hours of fun and fellowship. 'Powered Up' was this year's theme, with the activities designed to underline the fact that God calls us to be superheroes in and for His kingdom.

New rector in South Leitrim

The Revd Linda Frost has been appointed as Rector of the South Leitrim Group of Parishes in the Diocese of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh. She has been Bishop's Curate in the South Leitrim Group (which consists of Mohill, Carrick–on– Shannon, Ballinamore, Farnaught, Annaduff, Drumreilly, Drumshanbo, Aughavas, Fenagh and Kiltubrid) since 2014 and is delighted to be able to continue serving in the group. Linda is married to Steve who is a paramedic, lay reader and Director of the charity, 'Love in Action Philippines'. They have three children, two sonsin-laws and four grandchildren.

Faith leaders support 'Get Together' in memory of murdered MP

Leaders of the UK's main faith groups have all thrown their weight behind a huge 'Get Together' in memory of the murdered MP Jo Cox. Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist and other faith groups are joining together to celebrate what we hold in common over the weekend of 16-18 June. Tens of thousands of streets parties, BBQs, picnics and iftars are being held in all corners of the country. Brendan Cox, Jo's widower, said he wanted the first anniversary of her murder to be marked by a joyous occasion that helped bring communities together. He said this would be more relevant than ever after polling day in the General Election, and welcomed the fact that so many people of all faiths and none would be taking part.Rev Canon Aled Edwards, Chief Executive of Cytun, Churches Together in Wales, said: "The Great Get Together is a fitting tribute to Jo, who www.churchnewsireland.org Page 2 we remember did so much for refugees and others in need in our society."The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said the events would be a fitting tribute to "her commitment to the inclusion and flourishing of all people in society".

C of E General Synod timetable published

The timetable for the July 2017 group of sessions of the General Synod of the Church of England has been <u>published here</u>. Synod will meet in York from Friday July 7 until Monday July 11. The full agenda will be published with the first release of papers on Friday June 16.

Emotional outpouring on Global Day of Prayer to End Famine

On 21 May – the Global Day of Prayer to End Famine – millions of people from faith communities, organizations and neighborhoods across the world prayed, tweeted, posted and talked face-to-face about the urgent action needed to aid 20 million people facing famine in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen and Nigeria. Standing with those caught up in the crisis, people prayed for peace, and for a galvanized international response to what the UN has called the worst humanitarian crisis since 1945. Led by the World Council of Churches and the All Africa Conference of Churches, the Global Day of Prayer brought an emotional outpouring of love and hope that crossed world borders via social media, news headlines and quiet circles of prayer rippling out from churches everywhere. Responders, residents, relief workers, families – many have loved ones either caught up in the crisis or responding to it.

