

## **Christian Aid Ireland supporter recognised for 20 years of charity work**



**(L to R): Rev Fran Grasham (Assistant Priest, Newbridge Union of Parishes), Jane Burns (Christian Aid), Trudy Jeffers (Diamond Award recipient), Dean Tim Wright (Dean of Kildare).**

August 4, 2018

Kildare local, Trudy Jeffers, received a special recognition award from Christian Aid Ireland recently for her charitable work over the last 20 years with the aid organisation.

Christian Aid Ireland's Church and Community Officer, Jane Burns said; "We are eternally grateful to Trudy for the incredible work and support she provides for us year on year. Without people like Trudy, we would not be able to provide help to those in most need, so it's hugely important to recognise the efforts of special people like Trudy in eradicating poverty. We'd like to say a big thank you to Trudy and everyone in Kildare for their continued support."

Trudy has been a church representative for Christian Aid Ireland for over 20 years and has organised many shopping centre and street collections all over the county, raising thousands in the process. Her tireless efforts have not gone unnoticed by the aid agency, and this month she received her award certificate.

This year's Christian Aid Week, which took place in May, focused on the organisation's work to support people who have been forced to flee their homes by conflict or extreme weather in countries like Haiti, but who are unable to leave their country.

"There are 43 million people worldwide who have been forced to flee and they suffer many of the same types of abuses and unstable living conditions that refugees face," said Jane Burns. "As they have not crossed an international border, they are largely ignored by the international community and are denied the official protection afforded to refugees. They are among the most vulnerable to poverty

August 4, 2018

and exploitation in the world.

“Christian Aid Week is supported by an incredible network of volunteers from local churches across the north and south, who fundraise in their own communities. The people of Kildare have always been so supportive and generous in their donations, especially people like Trudy, who go above and beyond to help us in our efforts to make the world a better place. We’d like to say a big thanks to Trudy, and indeed to everyone who has helped, for their tremendous support.”

To find out more visit [www.christianaid.ie](http://www.christianaid.ie)

## **Jesus is going to win - central message of Down Bible Week**

The essential message of the Book of Revelation is Jesus is going to win according to Bishop Grant LeMarquand who is leading Down and Dromore Bible Week at the end of August.

He says, “Revelation holds a fascination for many Christians who for two millennia have sought to understand the often confusing and difficult imagery.

“But don’t be put off, for this is a book that’s extremely relevant for our time.”

Bishop Grant explains: “It was written to a group of people who were facing oppression and suffering – a group of people whose faith was being challenged by the authorities

August 4, 2018

and by those within the church, so it's a book that has so much to say to us today."

Grant will be leading four studies looking at the throne visions in Revelation.

### **Bishop Grant LeMarquand - right**



He says, "The throne is the central image of this book and the fact that God is on the throne helps us to understand that God is sovereign, that God is in control, no matter what's going on in the world."

"So, we'll be exploring these different passages in the Book of Revelation which assure us that no matter what is happening to us, no matter what is happening to the Church, no matter what is happening in the world, God is in control.

"Jesus is going to win!"

Worship and Bible teaching from 28–31 August each evening at 7.45 pm in Willowfield Church, Belfast.

Programme:

- Tuesday 28 August: A Vision of God (Rev 4–5)
- Wednesday 29 August: A Vision of the Church (Rev 7)
- Thursday 30 August: A Vision of Judgement (Rev 20)
- Friday 31 August: A Vision of the New Heaven and the New Earth (Rev 21–22)

[Find out more here.](#)

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August 4, 2018

## **Zimbabwe's Churches call for calm following post-election violence**



**A supporter of Zimbabwe's opposition Movement for Democratic Change party of Nelson Chamisa wears a cone as they block a street in Harare following Monday's elections.**

Christian leaders in Zimbabwe have appealed for calm in the country following post-election violence in which at least three people have been killed. “Life is more important than everything else,” the Zimbabwe Council of Churches said on its Facebook page.

“Let us desist from acts of violence.” Official results from Monday’s poll – the country’s first without Robert Mugabe in almost four decades – gave President Emmerson Mnangagwa from the Zanu-PF 2.46 million votes (50.8 per

August 4, 2018

cent); and MDC opposition leader Nelson Chamisa 2.15 million votes (44.3 per cent). Chamisa has said that the MDC intend to launch a legal challenge against the official results.

Yesterday, ZCC's President Bishop Lazarus Mpande Khanye joined Archbishop Thomas from the Catholic Bishops Conference at a press conference in which they called on church leaders to "responsibly influence values that guide people into peaceful conduct." They also "encouraged continual call on to God for peace to prevail in the nation."

"Tonight, we note with sadness the recent violent development that is unfolding in our dear country," Bishop Lazarus said. "It is clear that there is a section of our population which is dissatisfied with the way the election has been handled. This has resulted in several incidents of violence being reported in some parts of Harare.

"As bishops and church leaders we re-emphasise that key to the gospel of Jesus Christ is the development of peace, peace, and peace. Our nation, having been through similar incidents in the past, we cannot allow ourselves to undergo another period of violence. I know wish to make clear that violence won't get us anywhere."

Yesterday, in a message on its Facebook page, the ZCC said: "Peace is the fundamental block in nation building. Violence only leaves the nation in pieces. Let us unite for peace in peace."

## **Bishop Fintan Monahan urges road safety this bank holiday weekend**

### **'Blessing of Roads' ceremony to take place at Cathedral**

Bishop Fintan Monahan is urging all road users to take extra care over this August bank holiday weekend.

Bishop Monahan's comments come as Garda statistics show 87 people have died on the roads up to 31 July. Data released this week also shows that over 60,000 motorists have been caught speeding in the first six months of 2018 while over 5,000 motorists drove while intoxicated.

Bishop Monahan said, "I firmly believe that prayer and reflection can change our driving behaviour, calm our aggression, remind us of the spiritual, moral and physical importance of what we are about to do.

"Bank holiday weekends are high risk times on our roads. These statistics show how important it is to make driver safety, and the safety of others on our roads, a priority at all times. Road deaths are preventable but care, attention and vigilance must always be at the forefront of the minds of road users – motorists, motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians – if this is to happen. It is always a heartbreak and a tragedy to hear of another life lost on our roads. We must be conscious that each of us has a responsibility when we get behind the wheel to ensure we are not putting our lives or the lives of others at risk".

August 4, 2018

Bishop Monahan continued, “In this special month, ahead of the 9th World Meeting of Families and the visit of Pope Francis, I am inviting parishioners to pray for families who have lost loved ones as it is the family who must carry the burden in such tragic circumstances”.

After 6.30pm Mass in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Ennis, Co Clare, this Saturday Bishop Monahan will lead a ‘Blessing of the Roads’ ceremony and offer prayers for the safety of all road users.

Bishop Monahan recommends the following dedicated prayers for motorists which can be said before driving:

17th century *paidir as Gaeilge*

In ainm an Athar le bua,  
In ainm an Mhic a d’fhulaing an phian,  
In ainm an Spiorad Naoimh le neart,  
Muire is a Mac linn inár dtriall. Áiméan!

A contemporary prayer in the English language

Holy Mother, hear our prayer,  
Keep us in your loving care,  
Whatever the perils of the way,  
Let us not add to them this day.  
So to our caution and attention,  
We add a prayer for your protection,  
To beg God’s blessing on this car,  
To travel safely near and far.  
Amen.



## News briefs



**+++Manorhamilton display of wedding dresses and baptismal gowns** - As something a little different this August Bank Holiday weekend, Manorhamilton Church of Ireland are holding a unique and unusual fundraising event. The Wedding Dress and Christening Robe Exhibition is being held in Manorhamilton Church of Ireland from 11am to 5pm on Saturday, August 4; Sunday, August 5 and Monday, August 6. The exhibition will include wedding dresses from the last 80 years and christening robes from the last 150 years will be on display. Enniskillen Castle Museum have very kindly loaned some of their collection for this wonderful event. Refreshments are available all day and all are welcome.

**+++Enniskillen Mums in May Coffee Party** - Saturday 11th August – Coffee Morning hosted by Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union to celebrate Mary Sumner Day in the Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen between 10am - 12 Noon. All proceeds in aid of Mums in May.

**+++Ardess Parish Garden Fete** - from 11.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday 18th August in the rectory lawn at 47 Main Street, Kesh. We will have something for all the family (face-painting, crafts for sale, cake sale, afternoon tea and even a challenge for all the men, a real digger for the big boys to play on and compete with each other!).

**+++Rockcorry Annual Charity Barbecue** - will take place on Saturday 18th August at Rockcorry National School

**+++Enniskillen Lunchtime Healing Service** - in the Iona Room, St Macartin's Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen from 1pm - 1.35pm on Thursday 23rd August – led by Revd Isobel Nixon.

**+++Derry institution** - Rev Paul Lyons, currently Rector of Greenisland in the Diocese of Connor, will be instituted as Rector for the Parish of Camus-Juxta-Bann. He succeeds Rev Canon Mike Roemmele, who retired last Christmas. The Service of Institution will begin at 8pm on 31 August in [St Mary's Parish Church, Macosquin](#), 36 Dunderg Road, Coleraine.

**+++Derry ordination** - Rev Sean Hanily will be ordained priest at a Service of Ordination in St Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry on Sunday 2nd September at 4.00pm. Sean, who is from Roscommon, has been serving as Deacon in

August 4, 2018

Rathfarnham and after his ordination will serve as full-time stipendiary curate in Drumragh (Omagh). [St Columb's Cathedral](#), 17 London Street, Londonderry.

**+++Armagh Institution** - The Revd Diane Matchett to the Parishes of Kildress & Altedesert, on Tuesday 11th September 2018 at 7.30pm in Kildress Parish Church. Diane is currently Rector of Castlerock, Dunboe (Articlave) & Fermoy, Diocese of Derry.

**+++Flower Festival, Cappagh** - The four-day long 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' Flower Festival opens in St Eugene's Church, Cappagh. The Flower Festival times are September, Friday 14th 2.00-9.00pm; Saturday 15th 10.00am-8.00pm; Sunday 16th 2.00-6.00pm; and Monday 17th 10.00am-6.00pm



August 4, 2018

August 4, 2018