



Yesterday morning RTÉ 1 broadcast a Service of Music, Readings and Prayers led by the Peregryne vocal ensemble and instrumentalists directed by Dr Stuart Kinsella. See News briefs.

C of I parish church included in Dublin pilgrim walk for WMOF2018



St Minchan's Parish Church in Church Street, Dublin, will be one of the stations in the WMOF2018 Pilgrim Walk.

The organisers say the theme for this station is the fostering of forgiveness among families and that the inclusion of the church is part of the ecumenical dimension of the Pilgrim Walk. This is an event being organised by the Dublin Diocesan Preparatory Committee and which is supported by the WMOF2018 Office.

From Saturday 18 August to Saturday 25 August, pilgrims are invited in a single day or over the period of the week, to undertake the WMOF2018 Pilgrim Walk.

This will involve visiting seven designated churches, spending time in prayer in each of them for a special intention related to families and finishing the visit with the WMOF2018 prayer.

Each pilgrim will be issued with a pilgrim walk passport, which will be stamped at each station, in the ancient tradition of the Camino of St James. A pilgrimage certificate of completion will be stamped when they arrive at the last of the seven churches. The churches can be visited in any order. Families, groups, individuals, adults and children are all invited to participate in the pilgrim walk. There is no charge to participate.

The route for the WMOF2018 Pilgrim Walk includes seven Churches in the city:

- **Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Whitefriar's, Aungier Street.**
The theme for this station is love at the heart of the family.
- **St Teresa's Carmelite Church, Clarendon Street.**
The theme for this station is the gift of parents to the family.
- **St Audoen's Church, High Street**
The theme for this station is the gift of grandparents to the family.
- **St Michan's, Church Street**
The theme for this station is fostering the gift of forgiveness among families.
This is an Anglican Church, and its inclusion is part of the ecumenical dimension of the Pilgrim Walk.
- **St Michan's, Halston Street**
The theme for this station is the gift of children to the

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family.

- **St Saviour's, Dominick Street**
The theme of this station is God walks with families when times are tough.
- **St Francis Xavier's, Gardiner Street**
The theme for this station is the role of teachers in enriching the children of our families.

Pilgrims are also invited to visit the Cathedral Church of the Archdiocese of Dublin:

- **St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Marlborough Street.** The theme for this station is the gift of brothers and sisters within the family.

Please note that The Pro-Cathedral will close after 12:45pm Mass on Thursday 23 August until Sunday 26 August in the morning.

Church Opening Times: 9:30am to 7pm.

You can download the Pilgrim Walk map in PDF version [here](#)

Catholic theology off the cards for Trinity students

A religion department in Dublin's Trinity College will no longer be offering an undergraduate degree in Catholic Theological Studies following significant internal changes between departments within the university.

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The Loyola Institute, which was established in 2012 following an agreement between Trinity College Dublin and the eight religious congregations associated with the Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy, will not have a new intake of undergraduate students for the degree in the upcoming academic year.

Speaking to The Irish Catholic, Director of the Loyola Institute, Dr Fáinche Ryan, said that there will be a new degree in Religion with an option to pursue Theology, which will have its first intake of students in September 2019. “Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology had its five-year review last year.

“As a result of the review, some changes are taking place, namely the change of title, so we will now have the School of Religion, and all of us are going to cooperate in offering one undergraduate degree. The degree will have three different exit routes, one of which will be an exit route in theology,” she said.

Dr Ryan added that the Loyola Institute will still have some input in the undergraduate degree, but that the main focus of the department will be on postgraduate research.

“The Loyola institute will continue to offer some teaching in the theology area of this undergraduate degree. The Loyola institute will focus henceforth on postgraduate teaching and research.

“So we’re continuing to offer our successful M. Phil in Christian Theology which can be taken full-time or part-time and were developing that. We are continuing to increase

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our number of doctoral students, our research seminars, and of course, our normal outreach: conferences, lectures, etc.," she said.

Edinburgh church splits from Scottish Episcopal Church over gay marriage dispute

One of the biggest churches in Edinburgh has left the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) over a disagreement on the definition of marriage.

According to yesterday's Sunday Telegraph, St Thomas parish split from the SEC because of the Anglican body's decision to endorse same-sex marriage.

The Rev David McCarthy, Rector at St Thomas' told the newspaper the decision was extremely difficult.

"We have not done it easily. We have had many tears and many sleepless nights. It is a tragic necessity," he said.

"But it is the Episcopal Church who are leaving us. They are leaving orthodoxy."

In June 2017, the SEC voted to amend canon law and allow same-sex couples to be married in church.

The move made it the first branch of the Anglican Communion in the UK and Ireland to allow same-sex marriage.

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SEC members voted to remove the doctrinal clause which stated that marriage is a "union of one man and one woman", replacing it with a clause which asserts that clergy who do not wish to preside over same-sex weddings will not be compelled to do so "against their conscience".

The Anglican Communion, the international association of the world's third largest Christian denomination, punished the SEC for its decision last year.

Now SEC leaders are not be allowed to represent the Anglican Communion and cannot take part in any votes the Communion holds regarding doctrine or new rules.

In response to the discipline, Most Rev Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, said it was a decision that was made with much prayer, theological debate and personal testimonies, but in the end the Church decided to allow those of different views to "walk together".

Pope Francis to join with recently engaged and married couples at Saint Mary's Pro-Cathedral

As part of Pope Francis's visit to Ireland for the ninth World Meeting of Families this month, he will join with recently engaged and married couples at Saint Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Dublin, on Saturday 24 August.

All couples participating at the event will received a specially packaged copy of the *Family Prayer Book*

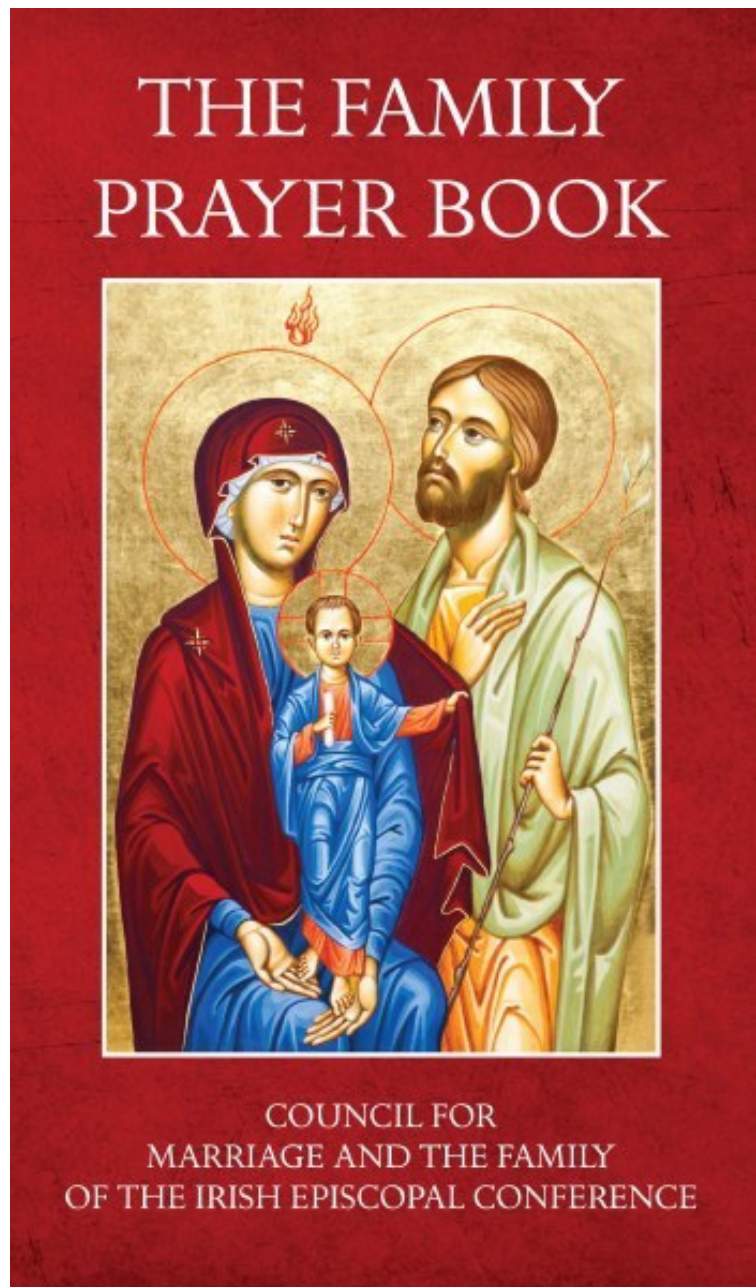
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produced by the Council for Marriage and the Family of the Irish Episcopal Conference which was recently re-published by Veritas. This best-selling book was first published in 2013 and can be used by those preparing for Marriage and married couples, by family members and families, by individuals and by those who want to pray for marriage and family life for personal prayer and prayer together.

The new version of the *Family Prayer Book* is updated in the context of the upcoming World Meeting of Families and drawing on Pope Francis 2016 apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (*The Joy of Love*). It will also include the Official Family Prayer for World Meeting of Families 2018 in both English and Irish.

Welcoming the news, Father Peter Murphy, Secretary of the Council for Marriage and the Family, said, 'The *Family Prayer Book* invites readers to bring their hopes and concerns and the needs of families to God. It offers prayers

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for daily use or it can be dipped into from time to time, using the section and prayer titles as a guide towards choices.'

He continued 'From its launch in 2013 when first published by Veritas, *The Family Prayer Book* from the Council for Marriage and the Family of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference has become a very popular bestseller and as a gift. The Council for Marriage and the Family is very happy to welcome the 2018 reprint of the prayer book which is now *Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)*, WMOF2018 and *Grow in Love* friendly.'

The *Family Prayer Book* can be purchased from Veritas stores across Ireland or on www.veritasbooksonline.com for €14.99.

Christians called to join in on 100 days of prayer

Christians across England have been encouraged to start a journey of 100 days of prayer.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Presidents of Churches Together in England have called on churches to pray for peace and reconciliation to mark the 100th anniversary of National Day of Prayer starting on 4th August.

On 4th August, 1918 when King George V and Queen Mary joined members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords at the Church of Saint Margaret, Westminster; 100 days later the Great War ended.



Catherine Butcher from Christian charity Hope Together, which has organised the campaign, commented that Christians should pray for “personal peace, peace in our families, peace in our nation and also in other nations”.

She added that Christians can also use the 100 Days of Prayer as an evangelism tool.

“A huge percentage of the population say they pray at some time or another but they don’t always know who they’re praying for,” she said.

“It’s an opportunity for us as Christians to be talking to people during these 100 days and say ‘do you pray?’ and people mostly say ‘yes’ and when you ask people ‘would you like to me to pray?’ I’ve never had anyone say ‘no don’t pray for me’.”

Buckingham Palace also recognise the significance of the National Day of Prayer.



MU Footballer gives back to hometown church

It's been revealed that Manchester United footballer Nemanja Matic has been generous to a church in his Serbian hometown.

According to the BBC's World Football podcast, Matic has financed repairs for an Orthodox church in the small village of Vrelo.

Last year he paid for a new roof, spire and fence for the historic church. He also donated money for it to be repainted, and for new clocks to be installed.

According to locals the new clocks were special because they "run on time which hasn't happened in for a good 100 years".

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The footballer also donated a fountain to the church, in which he was married in and where his children were baptised.

The priest of the church said Matic is a humble person and he's sure the footballer would rather not have had his name on a small brass plaque marked on the fountain.

A local man said: "He's a world star but he's the same guy he was ten or 15 years ago. He's modest, always ready to talk to you, to help you."

Matic's philanthropy also includes paying off debts that villagers owed at a local grocery store and building a football stadium in the area.

News briefs

+++ Peregryne broadcast - Yesterday morning RTÉ 1 broadcast a Service of Music, Readings and Prayers led by the Peregryne vocal ensemble and instrumentalists directed by Dr Stuart Kinsella. The music included the 14th century Irish 'Angelus ad Virginem', 'Osculetur me' by Lassus, 'Wir glauben all' an einen Gott' by Schütz, a Daniel Purcell 'Nunc dimittis' a Thomas Roseingrave 'Gloria', an 'Ave Maria' by Haydn, Vinea mea from Poulenc's 'Quatre motets pour un temps de penitence' and Tristis est anima mea from 'Seven Passion Texts, no. 1' by Wolfgang Rihm.

+++ Galway church re-dedicated - A service of Rededication and Thanksgiving was held yesterday evening in Holy Trinity church, Errislannan, Co. Galway. The church

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was maliciously damaged last October and work is nearing completion to restore it to its former glory. The service brought together members of the local Church of Ireland Omey group of parishes, and the Friends of St Flannan's who have worked tirelessly to restore the church. Incredible support from across the whole country means that this sacred place is once again able to provide a treasured place of tranquillity on this peninsula on the western seaboard. The address was given by the Church of Ireland Bishop of Tuam, Killala and Achonry, the Rt Revd Patrick Rooke, and the Catholic Archbishop of Tuam, the Most Revd Michael Neary, responded.

+++ Limerick Cathedral recital - On Wednesday the lunchtime recital in St Mary's cathedral, Limerick, will be given by Andrea Banciu (viola), Adrian Mantu (cello) and Aileen Cahill (piano). Andrea Banciu and

+++Music at Sandford - Aileen Cahill will play again in Dublin at the 'Summer Music at Sandford' series of recitals in Sandford parish church, Ranelagh, on Friday at 1.10pm.

+++ Clonfert diocesan appointments - Bishop John Kirby has announced the following diocesan appointments for clergy which will take effect from 24 August 2018:

- Father John Garvey, PP, Ballinasloe, is on sabbatical leave for one year.
- Father Bernard Costello, Chaplain Portiuncula Hospital to be Administrator Ballinasloe for one year.
- Father Joe Long SPS, CC, Kilrickle to return to Saint Patrick's Missionary Society.
- Father John Hickey SSC, CC, Abbey to be CC Kilrickle.

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- Father Charles Nyameh, Jalingo Diocese, Nigeria, to be curate in the Parish of Loughrea.

+++Youth2000 Festival cancelled - One of the biggest events for young Catholics in Ireland has been cancelled this year due to low bookings and slow fundraising with volunteers and attendees opting to focus on the World Meeting of Families this August. Although there is some disappointment among organisers, they will now set their sights on the WMOF. Youth 2000 National Leader, Lana Wilson-O'Driscoll, said it was a once off occurrence "and to be honest, it's perfect, we're happy to do that because it's an important event taking place, and with the Pope coming as well it is very exciting". Youth 2000 will have a booth during the WMOF congress in the teen space at the RDS in Dublin. "In hindsight, when the Pope had announced his visit, we should have tried to maybe move it to another date," she added. All other Youth 2000 events will remain unaffected, with their next event taking place in autumn.



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