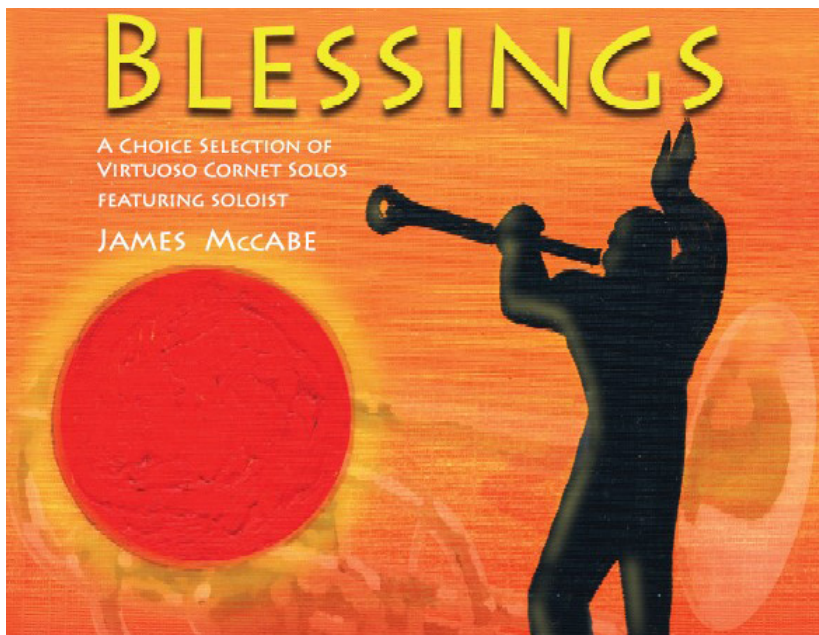


Jordanstown musician releases CD for Tanzania



Musician James McCabe, a native of Jordanstown and a parishioner of St Patrick's Parish, has released his first solo album which will raise funds for a Tanzanian orphanage.

James, whose parents are St Patrick's Church Warden Marshall McCabe and his wife Grace, is a former co-principal of the famous Black Dyke Band from Yorkshire, and a past British Open Cornet champion.

His CD, entitled 'Blessings' will raise money for the [Tanzanian Christian Farm Development Fund](#) – a home for babies and young children. The home is run by John and Pauline Tuff from Cullybackey, Co Antrim.

James said: "John and Pauline moved to Tanzania in April 2013 and are now looking after 25 children – and counting! Funds are required to finish a new building and support the development and education of the children there."

The music on the CD features Belfast Salvationist composer David Catherwood on two tracks with arrangements of popular gospel tunes such as 'Come Thou fount of every blessing' and 'When He Cometh'.

'Variations on Rule Britannia' and James's own arrangement of 'Bonnie Mary of Argyle' are also included amongst classical music of Gabriel Faure.



James McCabe (foreground) at the famous Whit Friday March competition.

The artwork on the front cover and CD is by another St Patrick's parishioner, Ricky Darling. Ricky's image combines the theme of a brass instrument in a rural African setting along with a young children's play theme.

Ricky, James and his mum Grace and a number of St Patrick's parishioners have been out to mission projects supported by Northern Ireland folk in Tanzania in recent years including kids4school and the Leprosy Mission.

The CD in support of the orphanage project is available to purchase from James's website address: www.james-mccabe.co.uk .

[More information](#) about James and the CD.

Presbyterian Church welcomes McElduff resignation



The victims of the Kingsmill massacre (clockwise from top left): Robert Chambers; John Bryans; Joseph Lemmon; James McWhirter; Robert Freeburn; Robert Walker; Reginald Chapman; Kenneth Worton; John McConville and Walter Chapman

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI) has welcomed the resignation of Barry McElduff as Member of Parliament for West Tyrone, following

his tweet on the recent anniversary of the Kingsmills Massacre.

A PCI spokesperson said:

In resigning Barry McElduff has done the right thing and bowed to the inevitable. We welcome his resignation and hope that this deeply offensive episode, that hurt so many, will be a salient lesson for all in public leadership.

In response to Barry McElduff's initial tweet, Very Rev. Dr. Norman Hamilton, convener of the Council for Public Affairs, called the incident 'deeply wrong' and said that it clearly demonstrated 'ethical poverty and a lack of awareness and understanding of the pain that many people are still living with.'

See also Belfast Telegraph report

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/barry-mcelduff-resigns-right-for-him-to-quit-what-now-of-mairtin-o-muilleoir-asks-jim-allister-36488684.html>

NI Attorney general challenges court humanist wedding verdict

Judgment has been reserved in a bid to overturn a landmark ruling which extends legal



Model Laura Lacole goes into the High Court in Belfast on Monday

recognition to humanist marriages in Northern Ireland, The News Letter reports.

Attorney General John Larkin QC and a Stormont department are both appealing the decision that Belfast model Laura Lacole and her international footballer partner Eunan O’Kane were treated unlawfully because of their belief system.

Lord Chief Justice Sir Declan Morgan pledged to deliver his verdict as soon as possible. Ms Lacole has already wed Mr O’Kane, a Republic of Ireland and Leeds United midfielder, in a

legally valid humanist ceremony. But following closing submissions in the Court of Appeal she expressed her hope that they will not be the only couple able to obtain such a marriage in Northern Ireland.

She said: “There’s clearly massive demand, a lot of people are waiting to see how this case will pan out. “We want them to be able to have the same outcome as us.” Under current law a couple seeking such a humanist wedding must also have a separate civil registration for it to be officially acknowledged.

The same situation applies in England and Wales, but not in Scotland or the Republic of Ireland.

In June last year Belfast woman Ms Lacle won her High Court challenge to the refusal to grant official status for her wedding ceremony.

A judge held the marriage was a manifestation of the model’s beliefs, and that she was denied equal treatment to that given to religious couples – a breach of her human rights. He ordered the granting of temporary authorisation for a humanist celebrant to oversee a legally binding wedding.

Despite the celebrity couple then going ahead with their wedding, Mr Larkin and the Department of Finance pressed ahead with a challenge to the verdict and its wider implications.

According to the attorney general humanist couples will suffer no discrimination under current legislative arrangements. He argued that the 2003 Marriage Order includes provisions for the solemnisation of civil marriage – ensuring no breach of the European Convention on Human Rights. A panel of three appeal judges were told the claims made on behalf of the humanists were “evidentially undercooked”. Counsel for the department contended that any interference with Ms Lacle’s rights was minimal and justified.

Read more at: <https://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/crime/attorney-general-challenges-court-humanist-wedding-verdict-1-8330992>

Impact Roadshow launch of childrens’ mission project in Down & Dromore

Two parishes will host the 2018 CMSI (Church Mission Society Ireland) Impact Roadshow this

month: Seapatrick, Banbridge, on 25 January and St Gall's, Carnalea on 30 January.

Each event features a one-hour programme of news and stories from CMSI and their partners, followed by refreshments and chat with staff and other supporters.



The presentation includes a brief introduction to the new CMSI Children's Resource, **Crossing Bridges**, which launches on 15 January.

The programme will also feature stories from Global Partners and an update on the wider

work of the society. Both events begin at 7.30 pm.

Crossing Bridges - The newest resource focuses on Egypt – introducing the country and sharing something of the work of the Diocese of Egypt. There's a chance to raise funds to support the diocese in some of its mission projects.

The pack includes original material for four sessions, with DVD films and activity workbooks. The four Bible stories are set in Egypt and they each help develop the main themes of the resource: crossing over, making connections, forging friendships and making peace.

Dublin seminar on Religion, Law and Rights

The Featherstonhaugh Seminar Series on Ministry in a Contemporary Context will continue at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute next Wednesday afternoon (17th January) when Professor Neville Cox, Professor of Law at Trinity College Dublin, will speak on 'Religion, Law and the clash with RightsTalk'.

The seminar will take place between 3pm and 4.30pm. Each seminar in the series is free and open to the public but due to a limited number of spaces, attendees are encouraged to register their interest with Rhiannon Carey Bates (Academic Administrator):
rhiannoncareybates@theologicalinstitute.ie

Christian footballer Cyrille Regis dies aged 59

Former England footballer and Christian, Cyrille Regis has died aged 59 after suffering a suspected heart-attack.

Regis, who made nearly 300 appearances for West Brom and 274 at Coventry City, later became a trustee at Christians for Sport.

Graham Daniels is the general director at Christians in Sport and was also a close friend to Regis.

He told Premier News Hour that Regis will be remembered as a "humble man" and an "ambassador for Christ".

"He shared influence as a Christian at the highest level of football and a role model to



hundreds of professionals and thousands of young people, who wanted to stand for Christ, but hadn't had a role model," Daniels said.

"He did both which is remarkable in one career."

Regarded as a pioneer for black footballers during the 1970s, he became a Christian following the death of his colleague Laurie Cunningham in a car crash in 1989.

Regis, who attended the Renewal Christian Centre church in Solihull, West Midlands played for England five times before retiring from football in 1996.

Speaking with Christians In Sport about his conversion, he once said: "I meet people all the time, some famous, some not who are all looking for hope and peace.

"I have learned that money cannot buy peace of mind so I simply tell people how I found hope and peace in God.

"The great thing about it is that anyone can have the peace that I have, you just need to know God."

Regis worked as a coach at West Brom before becoming a football agent.

A ten-foot statue honouring Regis and fellow footballers Laurie Cunningham and Brendon Batson was unveiled in West Bromwich four years ago.

Half of Brits say that they pray, including 20 percent with no faith

A new survey has found that 51 per cent of adults in the UK say they pray, and a fifth of them are not affiliated with a religion.

Christian humanitarian charity Tearfund, which commissioned the survey, said the results of the nationwide poll were an encouraging reminder that people still recognise the importance of prayer.

Rev Virginia Lockett, Tearfund's UK churches team director, told Premier News “I found that really encouraging because it shows God is on the move whether people recognise him themselves personally or not.”

Among those who pray but are not religious, 55 per cent say they pray in times of personal crisis or tragedy, 32 per cent say they pray on the off chance that something could change and 24 per cent say they pray as a last resort.

The poll also revealed women are more likely to say they pray than men and while half of UK adults pray, far fewer attend church regularly. Only 9 per cent do so at least once per month.

Family is ranked the number one topic of prayer for the half Brits who say they pray. It's followed by thanking God, healing and friends.

Worldwide issues, such as praying for global poverty or natural disasters, rank seventh on the list, which Tearfund said highlights a challenge for the charity.

Rev Lockett said “Prayer is absolutely essential to our work. We don't believe we could tackle global poverty without prayer. We understand the root cause of poverty is broken

relationships... and we know it's only Jesus Christ that can truly change people's hearts and minds."

As a part of Tearfund's 50th anniversary, the organisation has set a goal to see 1 million prayers raised this year to help end extreme poverty. It has invited people to join them.

Message of hope expected as Pope arrives in Chile

It's hoped the Pope will bring a message of peace to Chile as he begins a week-long visit to his home continent of South America yesterday.

His visit follows three days of violence in the capital, Santiago, over claims of abuses by the Catholic Church.

Over the weekend, **three Roman Catholic churches were firebombed** and a note was left at the scene threatening the pontiff.

Pope Francis will later travel to Peru.

Illari Aragon, Catholic Agency For Overseas Development's (CAFOD) programme office for



Peru, told Premier News how influential the pontiff is in the country.

She explained: "In Peru everyone was a bit surprised that Pope Francis decided to visit this... problematic region of Peru that, on one hand, is really beautiful and is full of biodiversity and ecological wealth.

"But on the other hand, it's been devastated."

The pontiff has told reporters on board the plane for his trip to Chile that the world is one step away from nuclear war.

His comments came after Hawaii issued a false missile alert that provoked panic in the US state and highlighted the risk of an "accidental nuclear war" with North Korea, a point made in **the Pope's "state of the world" speech.**

Aragon told Premier how important his presence in the countries will be.

She said: "I do think that his visit there has a point and I do think that his message is about protection, it's about hope for the people suffering in this region and [to make us] all think about that."

World Communications Day to be held on May 13

World Communications Day, the only worldwide celebration called for by the Second Vatican Council ("Inter Mirifica", 1963), is marked in most countries, on the recommendation of the bishops of the world, on the Sunday before Pentecost, which in 2018 will fall on May 13. In some countries, the day is marked as the solemnity of Ascension.

Pope Francis' message will be published on 24 January, the feast day of Saint Francis de Sales (1567 – 1622), bishop of Geneva and founder of the Visitation Sisters. Saint Francis de Sales is the patron saint of writers, editors and journalists.



Pope Francis announced the theme for World Communications Day on Twitter on 29 September last, the feast of the Archangels Michael, Raphael and Gabriel, with Gabriel being designated the patron saint of telecommunications. Pope Francis will focus on the harmful effects of fake news against journalism for peace, in his message for peace for World Communications Day. This year's theme is "The truth will set you free' (Jn 8:32). Fake news and journalism for peace."

The first World Communications Day was observed on May 7, 1967, under the pontificate of Blessed Pope Paul VI, who wanted to draw attention to the communications media and the enormous power they have for cultural

transformation. This year's observance will be the 52nd edition.

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