

# **CNI Evening Post May 27**

## Archbishop and Mayor of Dublin visit Jerusalem next week

Tomorrow (Sunday) as a part of the recently– instigated Dublin–Jerusalem diocesan link, the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Michael Jackson, will travel with the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Brendan Carr, to Jerusalem at the invitation of Archbishop Suheil Dawani.

On Monday they will be in Jerusalem and Ramallah where they will visit St Andrew's church and the Episcopal Technical and Vocational Training Centre. The day will conclude in St George's Guest House with a session on the Dublin Diocesan 'Come & C' initiative.

On Tuesday they will visit Bethlehem, the Mount of Olives and the Princess Basma Centre. Following a tour of the Old City they will return to St George's Guest House for a session on Kids4Peace. The Archbishop is presently involved in discussions with the Lord Mayor and others around the Inter Faith Charter for Dublin.

#### **Belfast service for loss of babies**

'Saying Goodbye', a special service for anyone affected by the loss of a baby at any stage during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, will be held in St Anne's cathedral, Belfast, tomorrow (Sunday). It is organised by The Mariposa Trust, a UK charity founded in 2012 by Zoe and Andy Clark–Coates, who saw a critical lack of support for people who, like them, had gone through baby loss.

#### Balgriffin annual praise service tomorrow

St Doulagh's church on the Malahide Road, at Balgriffin, will host its Annual Service of Praise & Thanksgiving tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon at 3.30pm. The theme is 'Jesus Christ, the Same, Yesterday, Today, and Forever' and the guest preacher will be the Revd Brian O'Reilly, Rector of Rathdrum & Derralossary with Glenealy. Music will be provided by the 1st Company Boys Brigade Brass Band. During the service a collection will be taken up to support the Friends of St Doulagh's Slate Appeal Fund, as part of its restoration. Further information may be had by calling 087–6711547.

#### A welcome today in Tralee

This evening (Saturday) the Bishop of Limerick & Killaloe, the Rt Revd Kenneth Kearon, will preside at a service of welcome for the Revd Jim Stephens in St John's church, Tralee. Mr Stephens, who was ordained in 1991, has been assisting in the Kilcolman group of parishes.

# Princess Anne delivers message of love at General Assembly in Edinburgh

Terrorism must not be allowed to create disunity and "destroy the message of love"," HRH The Princess Royal has said.

The Queen's only daughter has praised the "generosity" of the General Assembly for allowing a Muslim to address it two days after the Manchester terrorist attack. Princess Anne said His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad of Jordan was "brave" to stand up in front of around 730 people on Wednesday. Terrorist Salman Abedi detonated a bomb at Manchester Arena after an Ariana Grande concert on Monday, killing 22 people and injuring 120 people. Laura MacIntyre, 15, from Barra, suffered serious injuries in the blast which killed her friend Eilidh MacLeod, 14.

### **Obama and Merkel at the Brandenburg Gate** for the Kirchentag

Former U.S. President Barack Obama joined German Chancellor Angela Merkel at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin in front of tens of thousands of people on May 25, the first full day of Germany's biggest Protestant gathering, the Kirchentag, or "church festival."

Obama and Merkel participated in a 90-minute podium discussion on democracy and global responsibility.Organised every two years in a different German city, the Kirchentag this year has gathered more than 100,000 participants of all ages in Berlin.

"We hope the Kirchentag will promote a holistic vision of justice and peace that addresses the dynamics of conflict in different regions, the impact of foreign powers and changing global realities such as economic globalization, migration and climate change," said Dr Agnes Abuom, moderator of the World Council of Churches' (WCC) Central Committee.

# Egypt launches strikes in retaliation for attacks on Christians

Egyptian government fighter jets have struck militant training bases in neighbouring Libya in retaliation for an attack on Coptic Christians which killed 29 people. Islamic State said on Saturday it was responsible for the gun attack. President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi said planes have targeted sites responsible for the training of those behind the shooting which targeted a bus south of Cairo on Friday. During a televised address, he also urged the US President to lead to the fight against global terror, saying: "I direct my appeal to President Trump: I trust you, your word and your ability to make fighting global terror your primary task."

### First new Catholic church in Cuba in 50 years

Funded by a parish in Florida, a new Catholic church is being built in Cuba and is the first the island nation has seen in 60 years.

Father Ramon Hernandez, pastor of St. Lawrence church in Tampa, said he and his parishioners are happy to see how their funds have financed the project, and said he looks forward to the inauguration Mass taking place early next year.

Saint Lawrence provided \$95,000 in donations for the church's construction in Sandino, Cuba, located in the western corner of the country.

The new church, alongside a refurbished synagogue in Havana, shows Cuba's progress in religious freedom since Fidel Castro ushered in communism during his revolution in the 1960s. Atheism was established as the belief system for the entire state, and many religious leaders were faced with persecution. In 1992, however, Cuba was made a secular state.

