



Friends' News

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FRONT COVER:

*Dr Mary McAleese, Professor Jim Lucey (Lay Canons), Revd Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie and
Dr David Tuohy (Ecumenical Canons) in the Chapter Room*

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From your Editor

LESLEY RUE

Welcome to the Autumn 'Friends News'. I trust you all had a nice summer.

I am writing this as Hurricane Ophelia whirls around our bungalow, and the rain pours down. The electricity has been gone for the past six hours and we have no heat. Not even the dog will go out in it – and yet for the homeless it will just be another night sleeping rough. We moan about a lot - yet we have little to moan about. We should be thankful for all we do have.....

In June the Friends held their AGM. On the inside cover of this edition you can read who is on the committee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ken Milne on behalf of all the Friends who for 20 years held the post as Hon. Secretary to the Friends. I am delighted to say Ken is still on the committee.

In early October some of our Friends welcomed over 40 Friends from Hereford Cathedral. Ken Milne and Daira Daly gave them a tour of the cathedral and bell tower followed by tea in the Chapter Room.

Inside this edition there is a small booklet telling you all about the services and concerts which are happening in the Cathedral during December, also we have reports from the Friends' day trips, Dublin University Mission to Chota Nagpur, the Installation of Lay and Ecumenical Canons and a lot more.

I would like to thank all who provide articles and photos for this edition. Hope you enjoy reading the 'Friends News'.

Wishing you all a happy and blessed Christmas.

Lesley

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Dean's Welcome

The Very Revd Dermot Dunne



Dear Friends

Hello and welcome to this edition of the *Friends' News*. It is no harm from time to time to re-visit the mission statement of the cathedral as developed by the dean and chapter. The purpose of any mission statement is to give a focus and direction to the life and ministry of the cathedral and to provide a

framework within which the cathedral operates. The cathedral's mission statement is based on the ancient principles of its monastic heritage mainly, Welcome, Worship and Witness.

The Statement begins by affirming the provision of that ministry of Welcome, Worship and Witness and then explains how it achieves this ministry as follows:

The WELCOME is characterised by the Cathedral's place both as the mother church of the United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough and the Metropolitan Church of the southern province of the Church of Ireland; an historic part of the Anglican Communion. Its open doors signify the ready welcome given to all visitors and those seeking a place set apart for God.

WORSHIP is the core activity of the Cathedral and it strives to be a place of excellence in liturgy enriched by its music. Worship of Almighty God seeks to include everyone from whatever background they come.

The WITNESS of the cathedral concentrates on being a centre of spirituality, prayer & learning in the heart of the city, a practice already maintained for nearly a thousand years.

The mission statement goes further and embraces the five marks of mission of the Anglican Communion which are: Tell (how do we witness to the good news), Teach (baptise and nurture new believers), Tend (respond to human need), Transform (challenge unjust structures and violence and pursue peace and reconciliation) Treasure (safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain life on earth).

Irrespective of denomination, faith or non-faith we welcome everyone as a pilgrim and it is our hope that as the pilgrim leaves, he or she will have been touched in some way by the love of God which shines in the beauty of this place. The Cathedral community seeks to celebrate God's life, love and

beauty at the heart of the city and dioceses, in the life of the Cathedral and parishes and across the world. Our hope is in God, the source of all community, and our purpose is the service of His Kingdom in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Believe it or not this mission statement is included at the beginning of the cathedral's employee handbook which is signed by every employee of the cathedral.

It is a useful exercise to do an audit of our activity based on the mission statement. In the past year we have welcomed two hundred and twenty nine thousand visitors through our doors as well as quite a sizeable number of people who attend concerts, dinners, exhibitions, retreats, workshops, quiet days and so on. What we offer to the pilgrim visitor is a place of rest and quiet where he or she can 'be still and know God' in this place. Every day for three hundred and sixty four days of the year we offer a constant cycle of prayer. During the week each day is punctuated with the offices of morning and evening prayer with the central part of daily life being the celebration of the Eucharist. Through the choral services the pilgrim is drawn into the richness of a tradition that has traversed centuries of Christian worship and which has remained faithful to the monastic traditions of our heritage.

The highpoint and central function of the cathedral is the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist. Before every celebration I welcome everyone. Our regular congregation numbers around thirty while the total number reaches upwards of one hundred and fifty which are mostly visitors from around the world. I refer to our community as a floating community and the community in the moment. My hope is that by the time I am finished the welcome everyone feels bonded as part of the community which leads to a sparkling celebration of the Eucharist. It reminds me of the parable in Matthew 22. 8-10 which reads: *Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.*

Through the activities of the dean and the dean's vicar the cathedral maintains a considerable outreach to the community and beyond. Our Lenten programmes continue to address the issues of our day such as human sexuality, the homeless crisis and the plight of refugees.

Abigail Sines, the dean's vicar has developed a solid contact and outreach with those who live in direct provision. Through a series of talks and through inviting people from direct provision to the cathedral, Abigail continues to raise awareness of the plight of refugees and even challenges the authorities of our day to address the serious problems associated with direct provision centres.

Coupled with her involvement with direct provision, Abigail has also established a partnership with the City of Sanctuary organisation. This organisation seeks to create spaces of sanctuary for refugees and immigrants. It is our desire that Christ Church should become a cathedral of sanctuary.

I am delighted that the cathedral has an active education department which engages in workshops, lectures and exhibitions throughout the year. The purpose of the education department is to bring people to a deeper knowledge of the history and heritage of the cathedral and to encourage young people to interact with the cathedral in many different ways. Through an active outreach to junior schools in the cathedral environs a successful music programme called *The Magic of Music* continues to evolve and engage with the schools.

Many people respond in different ways to the ministry of the cathedral. In the past year two adults came to baptism as a result of the integrity of the worship life of the cathedral. More people have volunteered to read and be an acolyte while others help in the background as greeters at Sunday services and helpers at Sunday after service coffee.

I have given what is but a snapshot of the vibrant foundation that is Christ Church cathedral. I find that it is more than bricks and mortar, more than heritage and the preservation of a tradition and essentially a living, vibrant, pulsating spiritual heart in the centre of Dublin. This is all made possible by the amount of loyal volunteers and staff who give of their all to the cathedral. This is an opportunity for me to pay tribute to all who contribute to the life of the cathedral. We are one big family and you know who you are.

My prayer at this time is that we as a cathedral community will continue to endeavour to be a prophet of our time. Through our existence and our pursuit of Unity, Truth, Beauty Goodness and Love, the hallmarks of Christian Spirituality we may be an instrument of God in bringing all whom we meet to a deeper understanding of his love.

Good wishes to everyone
Dermot

Weekly Services

Monday – Friday:	Morning Prayer 10.00 am
Monday – Saturday:	Peace Prayers 12.00 pm
Monday – Friday:	Eucharist 12.45 pm
Monday and Friday:	Said Evening Prayer 5.00 pm
Tuesday:	Compline, sung by a consort of Cathedral Lay Vicars Choral (during term-time)
Wednesday:	Choral Evensong, sung by the Girl Choristers (during term-time)
Thursday:	Choral Evensong, sung by the Cathedral Choir (during term-time)
Saturday:	Compline, sung by a consort of Cathedral Lay Vicars Choral (during term-time)

Sung service times may vary, especially out of cathedral choir terms. Please check the current music list for further details:

Knitters wanted!

Would you like to be part of a special project taking place to help remind people of the reason we celebrate Christmas? Christ Church Cathedral will again host a Sheep Trail pilgrimage during the season of Advent, an invitation to all ages to make space for prayer. The Sheep Trail project is a creative way to invite our cathedral visitors, congregation and visiting school, parish or community groups to slow down and enter into the Advent season of spiritual preparation. Would you like to knit a sheep? You can download the pattern from <http://christchurchcathedral.ie/sheep-trail-instructions/> or contact Abigail (abigail@christchurch.ie or 01 677 8099) if you'd like to receive an email or hard copy. We need plenty of sheep for display in the cathedral and to give away to school classes and other groups that visit us for the trail.

Sheep must be received in the cathedral by Thursday, 30 November.



From the Cathedral Archives

KENNETH MILNE



Photograph by Norman Ashe, Aerial view of Christ Church Cathedral



The advertisements make fascinating reading. Not only were there such promotions as one would expect to find: schools and nursing homes, for example, but there were many others that give insight into domestic and social life in Dublin at the time, and which would evoke a nostalgic response from readers of *Friends' News*.

Members of the Friends will welcome the introduction recently of a monthly cathedral newsletter which is available online to those who sign up with the cathedral office. It is the latest in a series of publications by which over the years Christ Church has communicated with the congregation. The archives hold some examples of how this was done in the past. For instance, in the 1920s and 30s an annual *Blotter, Calendar and Year Book* was issued, running to twenty pages and distributed free of charge thanks to the many pages of advertisements. The history of the cathedral featured prominently, richly illustrated, as were other features, the edition of 1949-50, for instance, carrying Norman Ashe's remarkable aerial view of Christ Church and its environs. From time to time other images of the cathedral appeared, many of them undiscovered until they were unearthed at the time of the publication of the *History of the cathedral* in the year 2000.

That same issue of 1949-50 had a report from the Board on 'Happenings at the Cathedral' which included news of the Grammar School and the Friends. The AGM was then held, not on Trinity Sunday, but on Ascension Thursday, and had decided to defray the cost of repairing the louvres in the tower and renovating the north side of the Chapter House. There was discussion about the possibility of forming a junior branch of the Friends.

Not only were readers of the *Year book* supplied with a calendar of the Church Year but also with the names of the Sunday preachers and in some cases the 'good causes' to which the offertory alms would be donated.

The Tel-El-Kebir Dairy in Monkstown took a quarter page, as did the Pasteur Dairy in Pembroke Lane. So did Bryson, Ltd., 'clerical tailors'. We also find Maison Maud (hair stylist) of Glasnevin and a school of shorthand, typing and book-keeping. Maguire and Paterson's 'Friendly Matches' ('made in Dublin'), and Cutler's Garage of Fitzwilliam Lane, which promised 'prompt service', while Horton's of Grafton Street claimed to be patronised by 'young men and men who stay young'. What may be surprising, in more ways than one, is an advertisement for 'The Dog and Waffle' (40 South Richmond Street), open from noon to 2.30 and 6.p.m. to midnight ('Sundays 7 p.m. to midnight') offering grills, coffee, cakes, hot dogs and American Waffle.

It would be of interest to know how many (if any) of these varied enterprises had decided to advertise in the *Christ Church Year Book* because of some personal connection with the cathedral or with the Church of Ireland.



Cathedral welcomes Lay and Ecumenical Canons to its Chapter

On Sunday 1st October, for the first time, Christ Church Cathedral admitted two honorary Lay and two Ecumenical Canons to its Chapter. Former President of Ireland, Dr Mary McAleese and Professor Jim Lucey, Medical Director of St Patrick's Mental Health Services and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Trinity College Dublin were installed as Lay Canons. The Revd Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie, of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and Dr David Tuohy SJ were installed as Ecumenical Canons. On the same day Susie Keegan was commissioned as Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator

Biographies of Lay and Ecumenical Canons

Dr Mary McAleese

Dr Mary McAleese was President of Ireland from 1997 until 2011. She was the first President to come from Northern Ireland. Born in Belfast in 1951, the eldest of nine children she grew up in Ardoyne, a sectarian flashpoint area of the city and experienced first-hand the violence of The Troubles. The theme of her presidency was Building Bridges and her work for peace and reconciliation culminated in the historic state visit to Ireland by H.M. Queen Elizabeth II in May 2011. A barrister and journalist by training she was Reid Professor of Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology at Trinity College Dublin, Director of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies and first female pro-Vice Chancellor at the Queen's University of Belfast. She also worked as a journalist in Irish radio and television. She was a non-executive director of Channel 4 television, the Royal Group of Hospitals Trust, Northern Ireland Electricity and BBC Northern Ireland. For many years prior to her election as President of Ireland she was involved in social justice campaigning. She was a co-founder of Belfast Women's Aid, the Campaign for Homosexual Law Reform, the Irish Commission for Prisoners Overseas and Co Chair of the Working Party on Sectarianism set up by the Irish Council of Churches and the Catholic Church. She is the author of "Reconciled being: Love in chaos" (1997), Building Bridges (2011), Collegiality in the Code of Canon Law (2014). She has a Masters degree and Licentiate in Canon Law and is currently pursuing a doctorate in Canon Law at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Her area of research is children's rights in Canon Law. Mary is married to Martin since 1976. They have three adult children and one grandson. Martin gave up his career as a dentist during Mary's presidency so that he could work full-time on the bridge building work with the Northern Irish Unionist and loyalist community.



Professor Jim Lucey

Professor Jim Lucey is Medical Director of St. Patrick's Mental Health Services and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Trinity College Dublin. He graduated MB, BAO, BCh (LRCPSI) in 1983, MD (Dublin) in 1993, and PhD (London) in 1999. His primary clinical and research interest is in the psychological and biological treatment of Anxiety Disorders. His MD at Trinity College examined Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) using neuroendocrinological techniques, and this was followed by a Wellcome Trust Junior Fellowship to study SPECT functional neuroimaging in Panic Disorder, PTSD and OCD at the Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College, London. For more than 30 years he has been working with adults with a range of mental health problems, specialising in the assessment, diagnosis and management of OCD and other anxiety disorders. For the past 10 years he has been medical director of Ireland's oldest and largest independent mental-health provider. During this time Professor Lucey has been clinical lead of an executive team that has radically modernised all of St. Patrick's services as well as successfully introducing new children's services and community clinics. He is a public speaker, writer and broadcaster whose interests include health service management, advocacy, teaching and broadcasting about mental health. He is a member of the current board of the Mental Health Commission, a member of the Health Committee of the Medical Council of Ireland and a Governor of St Vincent's Hospital, Fairview. His book 'In My Room' was an Irish Times bestseller and his recent publication 'The Life Well Lived' is published by Penguin Transworld Books. He features regularly on Today with Sean O'Rourke on RTE Radio 1.



The Revd Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie

The Revd Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie was born and raised in Johannesburg South Africa. After graduation from High School she spent four years touring the length and breadth of RSA, living in wealthy estates and impoverished townships alike, experiencing for the first time the reality of her country and its deep struggle. It was during this time of being part of church communities in all their richness and brokenness that she felt strongly drawn to serving within church community. She studied at a theological college in Johannesburg and got the opportunity to do a Masters degree in what is now the University of Johannesburg. At the change of the century her husband was recruited to work in Dublin,



and they moved to Ireland with little to no knowledge of the place that would become home. They lived in Lucan, Maynooth and now Clontarf. During the first year they found a church community that gave them kindness and care when they were strangers and Lorraine, in particular, felt deep loneliness. What she was drawn to in her travels around churches in RSA became a practical reality for her. Seventeen years later she has the great privilege of being a part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland ministry in Dublin. She serves Clontarf & Scots Presbyterian.

Dr David Tuohy

Dr David Tuohy was raised in Galway. He joined the Jesuits in 1967 and most of his ministry has been in education. He spent 10 years as a secondary school teacher before moving to the university where he was in charge of Leadership and Management courses in education in both UCD and in NUI, Galway. He left the university in 2003 and



set up a consultancy in leadership and organisation development, with projects in the UK, the US, Australia, Zambia and working with refugee education in Uganda, Sudan, Kenya and Ethiopia. In 2011 he was involved with the Church of Ireland primary schools, producing a report, "Who is Coming to our Schools?" with Dr Anne Lodge and Dr Ken Fennelly for the Forum on Patronage. In 2015, he was again involved in a report with Dr Anne Lodge, "Small Schools, Value for Learning". He was also on the Review Committee for the Church of Ireland Theological Commission in 2016. In 2014, David was invited to facilitate the diocesan response to its Vision and Mission survey. Working with the Archbishop and a number of committees of lay and clergy, this gave rise to the Come&C meeting in High School in 2015 from which emerged a number of key initiatives – the Five Marks of Mission Challenge, the Camino of Glendalough, links between parishes for Songs of Praise events and renewed links with the Anglican dioceses of Spain, Portugal and Jerusalem.

Biography of Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator Susie Keegan

Susie Keegan took up the role as Dublin & Glendalough Youth Ministry Development Officer in August. She had volunteered as a parish youth worker and assisted with 3 Rock Youth (which preceded Dublin & Glendalough Youth Council in overseeing youth ministry) before being a lay member of the Church of Ireland Chaplaincy Team, based at DIT Aungier Street. Her role is focused on enabling young people to grow in their Christian faith within their local parish context by supporting those working with youth as well as seeking new developments.



Sermon preached by the Archbishop at this service

Commissioning of the Diocesan Youth Officer and Installation of Lay and Ecumenical Canons

Ezekiel 37.17: Now bring the two together to form one tablet; then they will be a folding tablet in your hand.

CATHEDRALS: STABLE AND FLUID SPACES OF FAITH

This service draws together a number of strands in the life of Christ Church Cathedral. A cathedral is both a stable and a fluid entity, community and activity in the life of any diocese. Christ Church is no different. Its stability comes from the fact that it 'carries the can' for the rest of us. When, for example, we do not quite make it to worship, when we can't quite face it, we ought to know and to derive energy and strength from the fact that worship carries on here on our behalf and for our sakes. Numbers do not matter, nor have they ever mattered, in a cathedral. What matters is what The Prayer Book calls: *patient continuance in well-doing*. We know that the continuum holds in the cathedral; and the rhythm of worship is a key witness to this continuum.

Cathedrals also are a continuum of a different sort – a continuum from the secular basilica of the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire. They are, therefore, the original public space and for this reason they are built for activity and for adventure. A public space needs to be open. But, in order to be open, it needs to have the desire to expand further because openness is rarely open enough even for its own needs in a modern age. New opportunities, new people, new possibilities always seek new articulations and new expressions. Centrality of location in our case also underwrites this sense of continuum. Set within the old heart of the city of Dublin, this cathedral has fulfilled a range of roles and personae: Viking, Norman, Medieval, Modern, Catholic, Reformed, monastic, secular, Established, Disestablished. In 2017 this gives us quite a wide scope for fluidity and for inclusion of what may seem to others to be incompatible but what are to us staging-posts along the way of diversity.

DEDICATION TO SERVICE IN CHURCH AND WORLD

We were, therefore, delighted when in 2017 The General Synod of the Church of Ireland unanimously afforded us the opportunity to take such stability and fluidity a stage further. Following a Bill proposed by the dean and Canon Adrienne Galligan, we were given permission to proceed with what is, as far as I can see, an unique combination of honorary canons in Christ Church Cathedral: two Lay Canons and two Ecumenical Canons. In full compliance with this Synodical decision, we find ourselves here today to do just that. This is the first Sunday in October, a Sunday that is conventionally referred to as Dedication Sunday. It is a day when churches note and celebrate their dedication and reflect on their role of obedience to God and witness to the world. Our dedication is The Holy Trinity, commonly called Christ Church. Churches do this conscious of the need to learn about humanity and about nature from the Spirit of God already out in the world in corners where the church rarely if ever seems to penetrate. This is a day of dedication. This is a day of enhancement and enlargement of our identity as we make new partnerships and find new friends. It is the Second Collect for a Dedication

Festival that gives us the clue to what we are doing today in widening this continuum and in enlarging this fluidity in the public space dedicated to God and to the discernment of God's presence in the world that is God's gift to us:

Father in heaven, your church on earth is a sign of heavenly peace, an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem. Grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage that... we may become the temple of your presence, the place of your glory on earth, and a sign of your peace in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

It is in this spirit that we welcome two sets of people in the life of the cathedral and of the diocese. We are very pleased that both of these events come alongside as they tell different aspects of our wider and emerging story of hope and of witness and of community.

DIOCESAN YOUTH OFFICER

One such person is our new Diocesan Youth Officer Susie Keegan who has considerable experience in working with young people in individual parishes and in Three Rock in these dioceses already and also more recently in Dublin Institute of Technology. Every generation needs encouragement. Every generation needs a listening ear and a guiding voice. Susie has developed her experience with young people at all three levels of educational life. This is an invaluable skill for her and for us as she settles into the role of facilitating young people of today's generation and today's generation of clergy in two things in particular: friendship and understanding. Both of these lie at the heart of what the church, with less imagination than it ought to be able to muster, calls: youth work. Cross-generational conversation is complex yet vital. While the cynic may say that listening is the new talking, listening is essential in the cross-cultural lives we live – inside and outside families, in schools and out of schools, at home and away from home. Susie's exuberant interest in people and their own interests along with her most recent experience of collaborative team-based university chaplaincy will prove of great value to her in a time when experience and maturity along with personal need and participation on the part of young people become harder for the inexperienced person to read and to understand; and where the onslaught of experiences itself becomes harder for individuals on their own to understand either, as life unfolds at a fast and ever-fastening pace. The collaboration will involve the Diocesan Youth Officer, Parochial Youth Officers and clergy who are the gatekeepers of change. We wish Susie everything that is best in the work which we all together commission this afternoon.

LAY AND ECUMENICAL CANONS

The second group of people is our Lay and Ecumenical Canons whom we are also delighted to welcome and who have so much to offer and to give in terms of the life of this cathedral church. The subsidiary question as always is: What will we give to them? All four of them, first and foremost, represent themselves. They represent the contribution in life they have made to life for others and with others in a wide range of fields and over sustained periods of time. This has been both professional and personal. This has been by public duty and by personal conviction. Each and all of them can and do instruct us and inform us and inspire us in regard to what it

is to live a life of service and leadership in contemporary Ireland. The gift that today's Canons give to us is that of care and justice as those virtues and values work alongside each other; and together provide scope for engagement and mission. All too often when people of proper prominence hear potted biographies of themselves read out by others in their presence – even if they have potted them themselves – they cringe. And they cringe for a number of reasons: Did I really say that about myself? That is of no interest to anyone! Gosh – I sound as if I think a lot of myself, and honestly it is not quite like that! I am not going to do that. I am simply going to direct you to the Dublin and Glendalough Diocesan Website instead.

But I am going to do something different besides. These canonries are in and of themselves different. The guiding principles of canonries is that they give a seat and a voice. It is with good reason that the dean invites the Lord to *preserve your going out and your coming in*. A public space once filled needs to be accounted for; a public voice once uttered carries responsibilities for those who hear every bit as much as for those who speak. This type of *preservation* to which the Prayer of Installation refers affects all of us who listen to the voices in today's society and listen to the voices of those who make and sustain public policy. One major dividing line that has opened up between church and society is that of the division between opinion and fact. Too often opinion seems to be enough, sufficient, adequate inside the church; opinion will not take you very far in the much more factual, operational world outside the church. For this reason among others, we need Lay Canons from the coal-face secular disciplines of politics and medicine; and Ecumenical Canons from the broad range of Christian and religious traditions, in this case the Roman Catholic and the Presbyterian traditions in a year when we commemorate Reformation 500. In this year we remember that the fulcrum of Reformed thinking and the responses to it in sixteenth century Europe were what some interestingly refer to as the Copernican Revolution of Martin Luther. Both the Jesuit and the Calvinist traditions are part of this fascinating and fast-moving story of political and ecclesiastical history. Their contemporary presence with us as Ecumenical Canons is an enrichment of our total understanding of ourselves and of our place in today's Ireland.

Our hope in Christ Church Cathedral, unique at present among Irish cathedrals, is that both our Lay and our Ecumenical Canons will have a voice that comes with their seat. We hope that they will take their place in the rota of addressing the people gathered for worship on Sundays throughout the year like other Canons. We hope also that they will use the cathedral appropriately and as they themselves wish for acts of worship which may come to the surface through the rest of their lives and their contexts. We hope also that together they will take a topic of contemporary interest and vibrancy and hold a public forum in the cathedral to which all will be invited and where all may contribute.

RECONCILIATION AND RESTORATION

For our new Diocesan Youth Officer and for our new Canons the largest agenda item and it is a one shared by all of them is: reconciliation and restoration through justice and care. It pervades all of what you do and it pervades all of what you lead and will lead others to so in the service-based work you undertake and carry out with altruism and fearlessness. It pervades your witness to us and we will need to learn to listen to you. For Susie: the reconciliation of misunderstanding with true affection and the restoration of happiness to the hearts of young people. For the Four Canons: the reconciliation of the mind to itself and the restoration to dignity on the part of the individual; the reconciliation of people and the restoration of nations to true friendships; the reconciliation of policy and philosophy in matters of education and the restoration of the imagination of the child to the centre of citizenship; the reconciliation of belief and practice towards the restoration of respect for the fact that the earth is the Lord's and all that therein is.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

Ezekiel communicates in bold symbolic gestures. We have the imperative to do the same. Judah and Israel were to be enfolded in one leaf of a wooden tablet. They were to meet behind closed doors, so to speak, and also in the open light of day; and there was to be no discernible distinction between these meetings. We need to do the same. ¹ John is a letter of encouragement to the impossibly difficult. The point at issue is the quest on the part of some, indeed too many, in the Christian community, for an alternative and unauthorized knowledge in the face of the revelation of God. This revelation has been given in Jesus Christ in the incarnation, in the public ministry and in the death and the resurrection. It continues in the life of the Spirit in the world. Today we might think more instinctively about use and abuse of the internet rather than in the theological terms I have outlined. But my hope for all of you commissioned and installed today is that you, through your humanity, your intellect and your authority, will help us to keep bridging the gap across these disparate worlds of Ezekiel, the Johannine Epistles and contemporary Dublin with mercy, justice and hope. May God uphold and inspire you as you set about doing just that. And thank you for accepting.

¹ John 2.27: But as for you, the anointing which you have received from Jesus Christ remains with you.



The Archbishop, the Dean, the Cathedral Choir with the Lay and Ecumenical Canons

Education continues in the Cathedral

HANNAH MULLAN

Education has spent some time writing new learning work sheets which are now available for children and young people visiting the cathedral. We had a group of in-service teachers who came to the Cathedral for a tour on 23rd August who were very enthusiastic about these and were keen to return with their respective school groups to use the worksheets.

Heritage week 19th-27th August was a great success with all events well attended, particularly the crypt open afternoon. Our archaeology and history crypt trail was hugely popular and Roy Byrne gave two tours which he very skilfully tailored to the many children in the audience at short notice. Stuart Kinsella gave an extensive and very well attended Monuments tour and the 1017-2017 Walking Tour with Mike O'Neill was also very well attended. Our nature journal workshop with illustrator Melissa Doran was completely sold out and the children had a wonderful time cataloguing and documenting nature in the grounds of the cathedral. This workshop taught them to observe how nature surrounds us always, even in the simplest way. Our special children's Monks' Tour was also completely sold out during heritage week and it was a wonderful sight to see all the children lined up in their habits, ready to learn about the monastic history of the cathedral.

Education are finalising a design for a children's handling table which will be situated in the crypt and will allow children to handle non-valuable objects in situ, as well as having a Perspex topped drawer to display more valuable items. We will also have an information panel that can be changed which allows for flexibility of exhibits as well as extending the life of the handling area. A dedicated area for children to view artefacts in a tangible way will enhance their learning experience during their visits to Christ Church.

We are in the process of organising our mid-term workshop and hope to work with children who are living in direct provision facilities in Dublin city centre on a 'build your own cathedral workshop', which is a fascinating combination of understanding architectural elements and creativity. The aim of this work shop is to encourage children to understand the principles underpinning cathedral architecture in a fun and interactive environment. We are keen to extend our outreach to these children in particular and will work with Abigail Sines on this to try and build on the themes that surfaced in the 'Telling stories' series that she organised earlier this month.

Our ever popular film series will begin again in November, centred on the theme of Utopias/Dystopias. This is the fourth candle-lit series and we expect once again to attract a diverse audience. The four films will be:

Monday 6 November: LOST HORIZON (1937)

Monday 13 November: FORBIDDEN PLANET (1956)

Monday 20 November: THE HANDMAID'S TALE (1990)

Monday 4 December: GATTACA (1997)

These will all take place in the Music Room at 6.30 pm.

We are putting together our calendar of Christmas events and we are delighted to announce that the cathedral will once again host St. Catherine's National School nativity play and will work with local primary school children to decorate the tree. We have two workshops scheduled to take place during December, a 'chorister for a day' workshop with Director of Music, Ian Keatley and a 'craft your own Christmas decoration' with textile artist Katie Hanlan.

Bulletin Reminder

Between Newsletters we have been issuing a small bulletin containing information regarding forthcoming Friends Outings in and around the Dublin area. Due to the ever rising cost of postage we have been encouraging Friends to let us have their email addresses.

We find we are still posting a considerable amount of bulletins –some to people who may not be interested in receiving it! Recently we asked if those who wish to continue receiving bulletins by post would let us know. If you have not already done so please contact Eileen Kennedy: home 'phone 01 2691992 mobile 0861995410.

Next bulletin will be issued early 2018

Patricia Sweetman and Eileen Kennedy

Joint Membership Secretaries

Rathfarnham Castle

Some two dozen Friends met for our summer outing at Rathfarnham Castle in July on a glorious summer day. We had a lovely lunch in the Castle Restaurant, with lively conversation. Following lunch some Friends went on a tour of the Castle and others sat chatting in the grounds. It was a pleasure to meet Friends who were able to join us for lunch, they had travelled a distance to do so and were very welcome.

All appeared to have enjoyed the visit to this lovely part of Dublin

Belfast Outing

VI CATHCART

On Tuesday April 25th, ten Friends of the Cathedral took the Enterprise train to Belfast for what was a very pleasant and comfortable journey. Following lunch in the Linen Hall Library Cafe, and a short stroll around Donegall Square, we went to the Cathedral Church of St. Anne for our tour.

We were very fortunate to have Mr. Norman Weatherall as our guide. He was a fountain of information about the history of St. Anne's since 1776. Built around the old Parish Church of St. Anne's, the Nave of the present Cathedral was opened for public worship in June 1904. The old church of St. Anne's was then demolished.

St. Anne's is a beautiful Cathedral, in the Romanesque style, with semicircular arches to its windows and doorways, and the elaborately carved capitals of the massive pillars of the Nave depict industries, organisations and individuals connected to Belfast, such as ship-building, science, etc.

The mosaics in the Cathedral are impressive. The dome of the Baptistry took 7 years to complete and was completed in 1924, and shows an image of the Creation, and the mosaic at the entrance to the Chapel of the Holy Spirit depicts St. Patrick's arrival in Ireland. There are many fine stained glass windows throughout the Cathedral, depicting figures from the Old Testament and the building of the Temple in Jerusalem. Marble tiles on floors and walls, and in the Baptismal Font, are used

symbolically, with black marble representing sin, red marble repentance, and white marble grace and the road to salvation.

Noteworthy also is the delicate needlework in cushions and kneelers and the delicate wood carving.

The Cathedral Church of St. Anne's has stood for over 100 years. It serves the Diocese of Connor and the United Dioceses of Down and Dromore. The Cathedral was built in many stages as funds allowed, the last being in April 2007 when the 40 metre stainless steel spire "The Spire of Hope" was installed on top of the Cathedral. In 1976, the then Dean of Belfast Reverend Samuel B. Crooks, started his annual Christmas "sit out" on the steps of the Cathedral. He was known as "Black Santa" because of the outfit he wore to keep warm. The tradition continues each year and has raised several million pounds for charity.

Thank you to our guide Norman Weatherall for organising refreshments after the tour.

It was a very worthwhile trip to Belfast to visit the Cathedral. Following a light meal, it was time to take the train back to Dublin. Thank you to Eileen Kennedy and Patricia Sweetman for organising the trip.

Bishop returns to Music Room

DAVID WYNNE

On Monday 2 September Bishop Walton Empey gave a talk to members of the Friends.

He spoke about his childhood in the Glen of Immal in Co. Wicklow, where his father was Rector. He told how his father and mother had travelled down to Donard on his father's motorbike with him sandwiched between them.

He went on to talk about his school-days and his time in Trinity, where he was more interested in rugby, than in following his father into the Church. However, he helped out in the Mission to Seamen in return for accommodation, and his experiences one Christmas Day led him to reconsider his options.

Following his ordination he, and his wife, Louie, spent 5 years working in Eastern Canada, in fishing and forestry communities. During this time he had to come to terms with loneliness, sudden death and alcoholism, not his, I should add. He made us very aware of the effect these experiences had on his life and his development as a pastor.

He and Louie then returned to Ireland and life in a country parish and his experience of his first synod and the roll-call of the Laity - which sounded more like a military regiment than anything else. He later became Dean of Limerick, and experienced that demon of many a priest - burnout. However a period of rest restored his equanimity.

He then spoke about his time as Bishop of Meath and the hostility he experienced implementing the decisions of Synod in closing churches. He finished by talking about his time as Archbishop of Dublin.

All throughout his talk, he told many personal stories which emphasised his pastoral attitude to people. These cannot be repeated here, but I can assure you that there were many laughs. It was a very good evening much enjoyed by those who attended.

Friends visit to Knockanree Garden, Avoca, Co Wicklow

OLWYN LANIGAN



On 22 May a group of 23 Friends of Christ Church Cathedral set off on a day trip to visit this fascinating garden created by Harold Clarke. We travelled by private car or public transport to meet at Ashford, with time there to chat with friends old and new. The rain cleared, the sun came out as we left by private local bus over small twisting country roads to Knockanree.

The bus left us and headed off. We entered a flat rectangular area and passed the Pavilion for private concerts (up to 65 people, with superbly comfortable bentwood carver chairs). Then past the box Parterre, Rose garden, amazing Sarcococca hedge, and on to the house where Harold explained his vision for Knockanree. As part of this vision, garden visitors bring funds to support the Society for Poor People's Development (SPPD) in Tamil Nadu, India.... a charity visited by the Dean last year.

Harold began to lay out the garden 22 years ago, with early input from Robert Myerscough. Its three and a half acres extend across, down, and back up across a curving slope. It is peaceful, varied, and thought through. Carefully placed paths, trees, carvings and planting prompt "a Japanese stroll". We visited on the opening day of the Chelsea Flower Show which features hard landscaping and "garden rooms". By contrast Knockanree is peaceful – each area flows into the next – "... a safe and bountiful environment for whatever wildlife choose it for their home".

The recommended route begins at the Rampart, where two cannons point across a stream to wild mountain beyond. A large Laburnum Tunnel leads to tall conifers and the start of a sculpture collection. The ground falls steeply in places but paths are kept safe by unobtrusive contouring, metal edging and good grit. The woodland floor is planted with wild bluebells, yellow Welsh poppies, eruborbias, oxalis and celandines. Primroses and daffodils had finished flowering; ferns, foxgloves and Solomon's seal would follow on.

The Deer- Eloise - Moonstone – Bears - three Indian Elephants - Zen circle – a replica of David – Standing Epistle – The Dancer – Phoebe – the Dolmen.

The Sulphur Brook forms the boundary along the bottom (longest side) of the garden. It tumbles over rocky steps and is remarkably free from moss or algae. It drains the old Avoca mines; carries copper, lead and sulphur which would poison any worms or fish; and goes on to join the Avoca River.

The Zen Circle is focussed on an erratic (a large stone left behind by a melting glacier) with a carved Japanese inscription "Snow Moon Flowers". The stone rises above black ophiopogon, is surrounded by small yellow azeleas, then raked gravel with carefully placed stone lanterns. The circle is backed by copper beech. This sunny area of the garden holds a kaleidoscope of changing colours; an Ebothrium (Chilean flame tree), a Tibetan tree paeony (single yellow flowers shaped like giant buttercups), a mini Arucaria (monkey puzzle), bamboo, camellias, large hostas, yellow azeleas and pink rhododendrons, hydrangeas, acers, ferns, and a Japanese umbrella pine. Moving on the path leads to a damp area planted with foxgloves, crocosmia, thalictrum, skunk cabbage, Gunnera manicata, Rodgersia, and water irises. The path leads over a red Chinese bridge to an islet with my favourite discovery – a hidden Chinese birdcage gazebo with just enough room for a metal table and two chairs.

A different bridge leads back up the slope, between hedges, to sculptures and a view down to manicured lawns planted with specimen trees and shrubs. Where possible trees and plants were sourced from local nurseries, and known to be suited to local conditions. They include a Wollemi pine, a Ginkgo, alders, whitebeam, cherries, purple barked sycamore, Nissa sylvatica, Purple beech also called Tricolour as it has three colours over the seasons,

For me, four things stand out from this remarkable garden. Above all, its Peace. Then the beautiful sound of wind chimes made of wood, which Harold collected from Laos. His Parterre of crisply trimmed box hedges hiding fluorescent lights- at night they throw its patterns into sharp relief. The sculpted Sarcococca hedge at 6 feet wide and 100 feet long... paced out by one of our group! It is almost certainly the largest in these islands.

The bus came back for us,,, brought us down to earth, and to Ashford for our cars or public transport. Some of us went back to Cafe Latte for a quick bite. One (myself) made the mistake of attempting an ultra quick visit to Mount Usher Gardens nearby. We all thank those who made the experience possible; Harold Clarke and his niece Rosanne Broderick who guided us, and the Friends' organisers Eileen Kennedy, Patricia Sweetman, and Lesley Rue.



Laurence MagnificAT



Laurence at Music Practice

Christ Church Cathedral was delighted to welcome a new member of staff over the summer: Laurence MagnificAT. Laurence comes to us from Dun Laoghaire in South County Dublin and has joined the team at the Cathedral as Chief Mouser and general fur-ball of fun. When he is not combing the grounds of the cathedral and chapterhouse, Laurence is looked after by the Organ Scholar, Caroline Richards, and Administrative Officer Jonathan Bull, who looks after him during the day. At the moment, he is kept safe at night in the Scholar's Flat. Laurence can even be caught tweeting these days! You can follow him on @ChristChurchCat to get a truly unique cat's eye view of life in the cathedral!

There is a great Cathedral Cat tradition in the these islands and when our Organist and Director of Music, Ian Keatley, paid a visit to Southwark Cathedral over the summer and met their ever famous cathedral cat Doorkins, the idea was hatched. Laurence (named after Dublin's patron saint Laurence O'Toole) was incredibly shy when he was first brought to Christ Church but has certainly come out of his shadow and now loves all the attention he can get. He is particularly fond of the Girl Choristers and Lay Vicars Choral! Although only 6 months old, he has already started to take an active part in our worshipping life, regularly keeping the Cathedra warm for the Archbishop during services! We are looking forward to seeing what else cathedral life has in store for him and whether or not he plans on making an appearance at the PEATA Dog's Carol Service on Tuesday 12 December....



Caroline & Laurence



Laurence meets the Archbishop (his dogs would not be impressed!)

Reformation 500

KENNETH MILNE

Recent years have seen an unusual number of historical commemorations, particularly here in Ireland, and this year sees the 500th anniversary of one of the most important events in European and, indeed, world history: Martin Luther's challenge to the papacy in 1517. Luther's action in that year is generally regarded as the spark that ignited the Reformation and so enormous has been the impact of the events of that year on the lives of countless millions of people all over the globe, whether Christian or not, that there have been commemorative events worldwide.

In anticipation of this year's events, Pope Francis travelled to the Swedish city of Lund in 2016 to participate with the leaders of the Lutheran Church of Sweden in commemorating Luther's historic action, and a joint declaration was issued in which Roman Catholics and Lutherans sought forgiveness for past wrongs and committed themselves to common Christian witness in the future.

There have also been ecumenical events in Ireland, one of which took place on 20-21 October and was organised jointly by the Church of Ireland Historical Society and the Catholic Historical Society of Ireland. This was 'Reformation 500', a conference that studied the events of 1517 and subsequent years from the perspective of professional historians from different part of the continent and beyond. While this was an academic rather than a liturgical occasion, its purpose was similar to that of the religious ceremonies that have taken place in seeking to increase understanding of what actually happened (and is still happening) in the worlds of Church and State as a result of the Reformation of the sixteenth century.

Day I of the conference took place at Christ Church. The Honorary Secretary of the Church of Ireland Historical



Archbishop Michael Jackson with Bishop John Fleming, Bishop of Killala and President of the Catholic Historical Society of Ireland at the opening of the Reformation 500 conference.

Society, Canon Adrian Empey, welcomed about 200 participants and the conference was formally opened by Archbishop Michael Jackson and by Bishop John Fleming, President of the Catholic Historical Society, who was representing Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, who was present at a later stage.

Welcoming the conference to Christ Church, Archbishop Jackson said that it would probably surprise Martin Luther by its instinctive scholarly ecumenism: he said 'The ease with which scholars today can and do engage critically with one another across the fault-lines and the trenches of earlier eras is a contemporary delight and blessing.'

Day 2 of the conference took place on the St Patrick's campus of Dublin City University at Drumcondra, where the participants were welcomed by the Vice-President of DCU, Professor Dáire Keogh, who remarked on the appropriateness of such an ecumenical event taking place at DCU where St Patrick's College of Education, the Mater Dei Institute and the Church of Ireland College of Education now formed an Institute of Education under the auspices of the university.

When the conference proceedings of Day I had concluded the assembly moved to the Christ Church Cathedral Treasury for the launching of *The Church of Ireland and its past: history, interpretation and identity*, an important Four Courts Press publication, edited by Mark Empey, Alan Ford and Miriam Moffitt in which leading historians examine how the history of the Church of Ireland has been written in the 500 years since the Reformation. This is an important volume, and



Rev Dr Adrian Empey and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin at the launch of 'The Church of Ireland and its past: history, interpretation and identity.'

reveals at an academic level how the Church of Ireland has been perceived by others and how it has perceived itself, over the centuries. Not only is it important intellectually for the Church (and others) to have as accurate an understanding of its history and place in Irish society as possible, but such understanding is valuable for the psychological health of the members of the Church given the part that it played in Irish society, past and present.

Readers of *Friends' News* who wish to find out more about the proceedings of the conference (which will be available on podcast in due course) should consult the website of the Church of Ireland Historical Society: <churchofirelandhist.com>



L-R: Prof Alan Ford, Prof John Morrill, Dr Mark Empey and Dr Miriam Moffitt in the crypt at the launch of 'The Church of Ireland and its past: history, interpretation and identity.'

The Cathedral

SHAWN TALBOT-EVENT COORDINATOR

In June, we welcomed 10 different groups in for 7 concerts. On the 9th we hosted the Humanitarian Orchestra for a fundraising concert for the wonderful Make-a-Wish Foundation. On the 10th we had the Henry M Gunn High School Choir from California with the Fingal Youth Choir for a wonderful free concert. On the 12th, we welcomed the Sonoran Desert Choral from Arizona in for a fundraising concert for a new Ronald McDonald House for the new Children's Hospital in Dublin. On the 18th we hosted the amazing Toledo Orchestra for a free concert. On the 21st we welcomed back our regulars, Chamber Choir Ireland, for a phenomenal summer concert. On the 24th we had both Pipeworks and the Mornington Singers in for a beautiful evening. On the 29th we hosted Charlottesville High School Orchestra from Virginia with the Rathfarnham Concert Band.

In July we held 3 beautiful concerts. St Agnes Summer Strings played on 6th July after their summer of learning. On the 6th we had the 2nd Dublin Choral Festival which included over 180 singers and Celtic musicians from a number of American choirs. The Bay Area Chorus delighted audiences with their free concert on the 15th.

September kicked off the busy season for us here in Christ Church with the first event being held on the 1st of September-Chant 21, a Polish chamber ensemble, performed the works of Poland's golden age of music, accompanied by the cathedral's Director of Music and Organist, Ian Keatley. On the 11th, New Dublin Voices performed as part of a site visit by the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat - as Ireland has been shortlisted as a European city that may host the Europa Cantat Festival 2021. The Past Choristers Association of St Patrick's Cathedral also hosted their annual table quiz in the Crypt on the 20th. On the 22nd, we opened our doors for Culture Night and received around 7000 visitors. We had tours and musical performances for our visitors. On the 25th, Bishop Walton Empey held a talk in the Music Room about life as a Bishop and Archbishop (see page 11).

In October, we hosted a reception to mark the end of the beautiful Icon exhibition by Adrienne Lord on the 5th following Evensong. On Friday 13th we welcomed back Focus Ireland for their annual sleep-out on the grounds to highlight awareness of the homeless crisis in Ireland. On the 14th, the City of Dublin Chamber Orchestra began their Autumn season with a concert conducted by Gavin Maloney. On the 20th, we played host to the joint conference held by the Church of Ireland Historical Society and Catholic Historical Society which marked the occasion of the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's initiation of the Reformation in 1517.

In November, we will host 5 wonderful concerts; the Irish Memory Orchestra on the 4th, the Hibernian Orchestra on the 11th, the Dublin Symphony Orchestra on the 25th and the Discovery Gospel Choir on the 26th. We are also delighted to be included in the Swift Festival organised by St Patrick's Cathedral and will host singer and traditional musician Pádraig Ó Nualláin as he sings music from the streets of Dublin during Swift's time.

December will include some wonderful Christmas concerts such as the Adolf Fredrik's Chamber Choir performing Sankta Lucia on the 2nd, New Dublin Voices' remembrance concert for Hungarian composer Zoltán Kodály on the 4th, the Dublin Gay Men's Chorus will perform on the 8th, Chamber Choir Ireland on the 9th, Park Singers on the 10th, the Mornington Singers on the 16th and the Dublin Ukulele Collective & The High Hopes Choir on the 21st. The cathedral choir will perform their annual 'Carols by Candlelight' on the 12th, 13th and 14th. During December we will also be selling our angels again on which you can have the name of a loved one inscribed on, after which it will be hung on our tree in the cathedral.



Dublin University Mission to Chota Nagpur Visit Renews Old Links



St. Stephens Church in Hazaribagh

The University of Dublin is unique today in having two university-based Missions. Both were founded on the basis of practical Christian service during the last quarter of the nineteenth century by students and staff in Trinity College. They are Dublin University Far Eastern Mission and Dublin University Mission to Chota Nagpur (DUMCN). The first of these related to Fukien Province in China, more recently to Taiwan and today relates to both Taiwan and Hong Kong and Macau; the second relates to the diocese of Chota Nagpur in North Eastern India.

In August the chairperson and the secretary of DUMCN, Archbishop Michael Jackson and the Revd Steve Brunn, spent time in Ranchi and Hazaribagh where the focus of the Mission has been and where the footfall of the Mission historically has been. They visited schools and colleges, hospitals and nursing institutions along with the diocesan theological college. Their hope is that as Dublin University and the Church of Ireland engage afresh with DUMCN there



St Michaels School for blind children in Ranchi

will be a vibrant two-way exchange of experience between India and Ireland as the years progress and the link strengthens.

Notable names of members of the Church of Ireland who have been associated with the Mission in Chota Nagpur are, among others Bishop Packenham-Walsh (obit), Miss Elizabeth Ferrar (obit) and the Reverend Canon William Marshall.

“The experience of visiting some of the 150 institutions run by the diocese has opened up ways in which DUMCN can engage staff and students in Trinity College, ordinands in the Church of Ireland Institute College along with members of the Church of Ireland country-wide in practical projects of reciprocal mission in Chota Nagpur Diocese. It would be possible for individuals, parishes and dioceses of the Church of Ireland who want to be associated with such exciting possibilities to do so for the future,” the Archbishop said.

Immediately prior to his visit to the Diocese of Chota Nagpur, the Archbishop together with the Reverend Dr Joshua Raja, Rector of Cudworth, Diocese of Birmingham, England, joined representatives of eight distinct world Faiths who came together to share insights and practices on disability issues in Nagpur, India, recently. People with disabilities were active participants and contributors at the Conference on Inter Faith Approaches to Disability Issues which was organised by the National Council of Churches of India (NCCI) in the Palatine Conference Centre, Nagpur.

Nagpur is right in the middle of pre-Independence India. This was the first such conference and was a new development and fresh direction for NIFCON (the Anglican Communion’s Network for Inter Faith Concerns) members. Set in the context of a very diverse India, it drew together people both living a life of disability and committed to the dignity of the human person in a context of societal exclusion. Inevitably this raised the question of religious exclusion also for Persons with Disability.



Archbishop Michael Jackson
Chairperson of DUMCN



Revd Steve Brunn Dean of Residence
TCD and Secretary of DUMCN



St. Kieran's School in Hazaribagh

Perspectives were shared with honesty and compassion around experiences and policies. The conference made a commitment to challenge the injustices that lie at the heart of exclusion in regard to disability issues. From the perspective of Christianity in particular, the conference brought to the surface issues associated with the relationship between missio Dei (the mission of God) and missio humanitatis (the mission to and from one's fellow human

being) in the context of the theology of image and likeness of God to be found in the Book Genesis.

There also was broad-ranging discussion of Biblical articulations in regard to illness and disability which are not necessarily the same thing or the same experience. This discussion allowed people of other world Faiths to ask questions about theodicy (the human perception and understanding of the ways of God) which is a common thread in every World Faith which not having a common articulation or explanation. It remains a question in common for people of faith.

The Archbishop delivered the Keynote Address and Dr Raja led discussion. Both participated regularly in panel discussion. During their time there, both Dr Raja and

he were received graciously by the bishop of Nagpur (CNI) and the diocese in the cathedral; this is where the Agreement establishing The Church of North India (CNI) was signed and there is a monument to the signing outside the West Door. They also were invited to meet and discuss matters of ecclesiastical and theological interest with all the clergy of the diocese.

Subscription Renewal Reminder

*Have you omitted to renew
your Friends' Subscription or is
it due for renewal?*

*Many thanks for your
continued support!*

🌸 Flowers 🌸

*We are very grateful to those
people who generously gave
donations towards flowers and
arranged them over the past
few months:*

George Clarke, Marion Coombs,
Audrey Cole and Joan Lambert.



🌸 🌸 DO YOU ENJOY FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS? 🌸 🌸

The Friends of the Cathedral are interested in speaking to people who would like to help re-introduce weekly flower arrangements in the Cathedral and to maintain them during the week. The flowers are donated by members of the Friends. Please contact 'The Friends Office' The Chapter House, Christ Church Cathedral. Dublin 8.

Email: ccdubfriends@gmail.com

Music Department

IAN KEATLEY - MUSIC DIRECTOR



The Cathedral Choir gave a first performance of a new commission marking the 40th Birthday of, and dedicated to, Dr David Bremner (Assistant Organist) last term. Commissioned by the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, the new work is a very light-hearted setting of Happy Birthday composed in the style of French organist-composer, Olivier Messiaen. Marked 'Tres lent', the ubiquitous tune of Happy Birthday is transformed by very slowly ascending sequences of chords moving inexorably towards climaxes of ever-increasing intensity. The arrangement, by Lay Vicar Choral, Eoin Conway, is highly reminiscent of the last movement of Messiaen's great organ work, L'Ascension. Dr Bremner was delighted by the presentation.

Our Cathedral Choir ascended to the roof of the cathedral last term to sing a short service for the Feast of the Ascension. Members of our congregation, together with bemused and inspired tourists, gathered in the cloister garth to take part in the spectacular and imaginative act of worship. The spectacle seemed to catch the imagination of passing Dubliners who were quick to share their own pictures of the sight on social media.

Our cathedral Music Summer School took place again last summer. We welcomed children from local schools into the cathedral community. Participants took part in musical



Christ Church Cathedral Choir presenting a light-hearted new commission marking the 40th Birthday of Assistant Organist, Dr David Bremner (note the seagull top left!)



Christ Church Cathedral Choir singing from the cathedral roof on the Feast of the Ascension 2017



Members of Christ Church Cathedral Girls' Choir & the New Charles Wood Girls' Choir with founding director, Ian Keatley



Members of Christ Church Cathedral Girls' Choir & the New Charles Wood Girls' Choir with Ian Keatley, Stephen Disley (Southwark Cathedral), and celebrity composer John Rutter CBE.



Members of Christ Church Cathedral Girls' Choir & the New Charles Wood Girls' Choir with Ian Keatley, founding director, and Stephen Disley, Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge

workshops including choral rehearsals, music theory classes, historical study and basic spiritual formation. The course culminated in a joint service with the cathedral choir which proved very engaging for some of the children who had not previously experienced cathedral worship and liturgy.

A large number of Christ Church Cathedral Girl Choristers attended the new Charles Wood Girls' Choir Course which took place in Armagh from Monday 21st – Sunday 27th August 2017.

The week-long residential summer course welcomed girl choristers aged 12-18. Participants experienced intensive, fun training in singing and choral music conducted by founding course director, Ian Keatley. The choristers also enjoyed workshops with renowned conductor, Dr David Hill and celebrity composer, John Rutter CBE. Choristers were accommodated in the safe and secure surroundings of The Royal School Armagh with performances in the Anglican and Catholic Cathedrals and a BBC Radio Broadcast.

What's the Story? Lives in Direct Provision

REVD ABIGAIL SINES



L to R: Taqwa Alhariry, Marie Claire Mundinjong, the Revd Abigail Sines, Christiana Obaro and Zuhur Muse.

In recent years the ongoing civil conflict in Syria has brought images of refugees attempting, through desperate circumstances, to find safe haven in Europe. This crisis moment brought a steep learning curve of awareness as these images were available to us via television, newspapers and online. Perhaps the most current and visible group, these heartbreaking images prompted me to inquire more about

situation of refugees in Ireland, to find out how Ireland was receiving refugees and if there were ways to be involved in this. It was in the midst of all this, about a year ago that I began to learn about the Direct Provision System, and the situation for those who are already seeking asylum here. With just over 5,000 accommodation spaces available in facilities around the country, those awaiting a decision on their legal status are housed in hostel-type living quarters. This 'temporary' living situation can extend for years waiting for one's case to be processed, during which time asylum seekers are prohibited from work and have no access to third-level education beyond a few exceptional schemes. During this extended and indefinite waiting period people face the practical challenge of becoming de-skilled, as well as dealing with the mental health impacts of isolation and marginalisation on top of whatever past trauma was involved in their having to leave their home countries.

Seeking to engage around these issues, the cathedral invited individuals from City of Sanctuary Dublin to conduct two awareness-raising sessions and also to help us think of how the cathedral might take practical steps to welcome newcomers in our city, especially those who are seeking

sanctuary. We had a good turn out for these and developed a core of willing volunteers who could be called upon to receive groups and provide a welcome. From this starting point the cathedral was able to host several different small group visits from various direct provision centres in and around Dublin, to offer them a guided tour of the cathedral and a chance to chat over a cup of tea in the crypt. We wanted to explore other ways to be involved in the conversation and so took the decision—or rather step of faith!—to host a speaker series. We envisaged this as an opportunity for those in the system to share their experiences in their own words. Given that social isolation is a major factor of life in direct provision, we wanted to offer a space for meaningful conversations and connection with people in the wider community. It seemed natural to title this series “What’s the Story?”, the common greeting often overheard on Dublin streets. At a deeper level we hoped that the opportunity to have their personal stories heard would be an empowering and confidence-building experience for the speakers.

The reflections, which took place over the first three Mondays in September, focused around three themes: home, family and time. We wanted to make the ‘launch’ of the series special, and we were delighted to welcome the amazing Ellie Kisyombe, herself an asylum seeker, and others from Our Table to cater for the event.

The ‘What’s the Story?’ series featured nine speakers from around the world: Bangladesh, Botswana, Iran, Cameroon, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Somalia, Syria. Through prose and poetry they shared their struggles but also their strengths. It was a privilege to hear their stories. One of the poems contained this gripping line: ‘I promise I will not be a foreigner in my next life. I promise to be born Irish’. In these stories we heard repeatedly the voice of people with something to give, people who want very much to be accepted and to make a contribution to the place they now call home.

Below are two reflections by those who attended and who were willing to share how they had been impacted by the stories they heard. The first reflection comes from Celia Dunne, the Dean’s wife:

Telling the Story

Celia Dunne

This series of presentations by residents in direct provision was for me humbling, inspiring and at times deeply moving. The speakers, four women and two men, whom I heard on the first two evenings, were heart-wrenchingly honest, courageous, eloquent and talented. They are people we need to embrace and encourage, and appreciate that they chose to live in Ireland.

“What does ‘home’ mean for you?” This was the question posed to four women living in direct provision in Ireland. A private space, somewhere to relax, be yourself, a place to sleep comfortably, cook the food of your choice, watch television, enjoy access to the internet. For most of us present, as well as the general population, these are givens. But for these four women and all those living in direct provision in Ireland and elsewhere their story is very different. They can take none of these ‘givens’ for granted. A Nigerian mother of four young children had lived for three years without a private space for her husband, herself and the children, and no kitchen of her own. Only in the last 6 months had the family been moved to accommodation where, at least, the family has a private unit where they can close the door. She told me that although she was very grateful for this move they were finding it very difficult to integrate into Irish life given the distance from the local town, lack of money and regular transport. I asked her was she still pleased to be in Ireland. “Oh yes, definitely. Here, I am not afraid of being shot at when I go outside.” I wonder if I am not alone in feeling that we can be smug in our comfortable surroundings. I think we can delude ourselves by believing that because these fellow humans have

chosen to flee war torn countries to live in the relative safety of Ireland, it is enough that they are here, albeit in unsatisfactory surroundings. “We all share the one bread.” We are all one. I am acutely aware of my own shortcomings in being more pro-active in welcoming “the stranger” into our midst. How is it for you?

A young woman from Somalia spoke eloquently and movingly of how aware she was of “time.” Of time passing so quickly and how she could so easily feel stuck. However, she was fortunate to recognise how easy it would be for her to sink into negativity and



Ellie Kisyombe and friends from Our Table prepared a fabulous feast for the launch of the series on 4 September. Our Table is a community-driven, non-profit project aiming to highlight the need to end Direct Provision in Ireland. The group’s goal is to facilitate change through conversation over food.

depression over her situation and how important it is for her to keep positive and be as pro-active as she can. She has had the strength of character to turn her thinking around, to view this time of unemployment as a blessing. She has time to read, to learn better English, to acquaint herself with her new culture through books. In this time of so-called 'poverty' she is finding great wealth. A middle-aged businessman from Iran has taken a similar positive attitude to his "free" time by motivating others in his community to organise activities in different Irish locations, working in a voluntary capacity, offering skills helping with improvements. In this way the sense of "oneness" is encouraged with people of many nationalities coming together, creating a community of their own as well as helping to integrate into their chosen land.



Thank you to Abigail and the team for raising awareness of those in direct provision. May we be moved to continue the process.

The second reflection comes from Mary Oyediran. Ms. Oyediran had never been to the cathedral before, but attended at the invitation of a friend who had heard about the series:

Hearing the Voices of Asylum Seekers

Mary Oyediran

My friend's invitation provoked me: come and listen to voices of asylum seekers! I was intrigued. It was important to listen with my inner ear to their stories. I wanted to be involved and help. This was a way in to learn and gain practical wisdom about the people who were seeking asylum in Ireland.

The first Monday filled my heart with despair initially, a little disturbed about the situation of real life. Hope and opportunity followed as the strength and character of each voice was brought to light. They were resilient! My heart was cheered. Each speaker poured out their hearts and gave a charge to their audience. Each voice was determined to survive despite the difficult regulations and restrictions in direct provision centres. They found hope in their new adopted country.

I was touched that first night by reference to the children and the impact on their childhood. That gripped me! Going to school from these centres created more challenges for parents and their children: obstacles of low self-esteem and difficulty forming long lasting friendship with peers due to frequent movement from one place to another added to the strain. Some found that their children hated to disclose their address to other children. There was a stigma attached to receiving "free food."

One of the voices was so poetic as she used vivid imagery to capture our attention, with descriptive colourful verses on the truth about living in a direct provision centre so far from home. She was ready to her take her place if given the

chance! She wanted to fit in and play her part. Immediately after these speeches, we were escorted to the crypt. Instead of a cold, dark and dingy place as I expected we were greeted with the delicate aroma of ethnic savouries. A banquet table fit for a king was presented to us. I sampled as much as possible the mouth-watering dishes on offer. We were not disappointed. The cooks were themselves asylum seekers. Networking was easy and straightforward. As we all agreed the food was so delicious it made it easy to make new friends and strengthened relationship with the old. It was an amazing end to a thought-provoking night.

The second week was interesting because we had only male voices. Both men had to face battles and shared thoughts that left me speechless. The dignity of a man to provide for his family was taken away. That was a denial of a human right! One of the speakers spoke on "time." As a society time is taken for granted. I am guilty of this! But this young man had come to value time. He saw opportunities in every hour, every minute, every second. He was determined not to waste any of it regardless of his situation. He concluded in a nutshell, saying, "time is gold", a precious commodity that must be valued. It was a major lesson to learn from that voice. We were humbled by his perspective! He never complained. The final Monday we were privileged to listen to the voices of three beautiful women, all mothers seeking asylum: running, leaving behind a painful past and reaching for a new future. Not being able to cook for their children and juggling life the best they can, their situations are not easy. Each female voice called me to get up and make a difference.

We all have a part to play is assisting asylum seekers to make Ireland a sanctuary. We could do it as an organisation with resources, or individually as volunteers. We must take action and not be hearers or spectators but take a definite, decisive decision in our hearts to get involved and become part of the solution. I have established contact with some of speakers since the series. We have joined together to meet a local TD to discuss practical issues asylum seekers face, such as opening bank accounts, getting identification cards, registering to vote and finding accommodation. This process is just the beginning for me. I am ready and willing to learn!

Bushmills trip

ADRIAN DOAK

A party of 14 souls set out on a trip to the Giants Causeway and Bushmills Distillery on 2nd October by train and coach. Having gathered at Connolly Station before 9 am to board the 'Enterprise', we were met with the news that the train was delayed for some hours owing to an accident on the line at Skerries. The Rail Co., then provided a coach for all to Drogheda where we arrived at around 11 am where we then boarded the Enterprise, which had come down from Belfast and stopped there for the same reason! We got to Belfast Central just before 1pm, so not too far behind schedule. We had a quick snack lunch before our coach arrived to pick us up for the onward journey.



The Friends enjoying a well earned cuppa

A long interesting and scenic drive then ensued up the east coast of County Antrim, passing many small towns and villages some in sunshine, some in heavy rain. Lovely coastal views and sandy beaches and ably reached by our excellent and safe driver, Colin. We arrived at the Causeway Hotel at 4.30pm where we were welcomed and quickly allocated our rooms. Some time was then spent round the hotel and across the road in the Causeway Visitors Centre which had free entry for residents of the hotel. Some of us ventured down to the actual Causeway 'Stones', as they are called, by the feeder bus



but the weather was wet and stormy. We had our dinner in the hotel, at a table for all, and which was excellent.

Next morning more journeyed down to the 'stones' and the visitor centre where many souvenirs were available. The wind was still very strong, but mild in temperature, and rain held off. The high seas breaking over the dark stones with white foam and the fresh air roused the spirits. We then boarded our coach at 11.30 for the next leg to the town of Bushmills, just as the rain started again.

We arrived at the distillery visitor centre around noon and were introduced to our guide who gave us all 'bar tickets' for later! The tour of the various rooms and floors of the distillery was fascinating: from the collection of the barley (all from Kildare), its treatment, washing, drying process, addition of water from a local river tributary, which flows under the site, and into the large stills for distillation in to the several Bushmills brands. The large bottling plant showed the finished product en route to markets, having been withdrawn from the bonded store area and drained from the storage casks. The heat and fumes of alcohol everywhere were quite overpowering! Photography was not allowed for safety reasons.

We were then ushered to the 'Bar and Restaurant' to be given our 2 sample drinks of whiskey, including the unique 12 year malt only available there on site! We then had lunch in the restaurant and some bought souvenirs and bottles of 'products', and then boarded our coach at 2.30pm to return to Belfast, well satisfied and merry!

Our party arrived back at Connolly Station about 7pm, slightly late owing to a speed restriction of 60 mph for technical reasons. It was a very good and enjoyable trip, very well organised by Eileen to whom we owe a huge 'thank you' and appreciation. Also to our excellent driver who knew all the routes well and safely negotiated the many twists and turns. Well done Colin.

Guided Tour of Christ Church Cathedral

NORMAN DUNGAN



On Tuesday morning, 19th September 16 Friends gathered for a guided tour of some of the cathedral's features and artefacts. We were welcomed by Suzanne Reid and Deirdre Cantwell and by Hannah Mullan, Acting Education Officer who was to be our guide.

The tour began with a visit to the Baptistry where Hannah told us about the medieval monks who lived on the same site in and around the 10th century. There are even monk's habits available to be worn by visiting children to help "get in the zone" of the times. The Victorian font which is decorated with an assortment of marble from different parts of Ireland was of particular interest. Also, of special note are the eight narrow stained glass windows, each depicting a particular saint. Maybe on another occasion, we will have time to enquire as to why Saint Cuthbert has a severed, crowned head resting on his arm!

Then on to Trinity Chapel, which will soon house the exhibition of the 800 year old Magna Carta Hibernie. This is presently located in the crypt, but on expert advice, it has been decided to move it to Trinity Chapel where the humidity, lighting and security may be more effectively controlled.

Over the centuries, due to the roof collapse in 1562 and by the ravages of time, not surprisingly most of the original medieval floor tiles have had to be repaired or replaced. We were shown examples of the more recent replacements in the nave, which have been beautifully handcrafted from the original design. Hannah also showed us some of the original medieval tiles which are still to be seen in the Chapel of St Laud.

At this point David Wynn drew our attention to some of the recent projects which the Friends have assisted with. He then pointed out a large, dark plaque in the South Transept, which requires complete restoration.....€50,000 anyone?

Then came a musical surprise when Director of Music, Ian Keatley demonstrated some of the organ's many features by playing Marian Sawa's Fantasia on Polish themes. This was an impressive piece and also quite loud in parts. To my ear, the



Ian Keatley, Music Director

acoustic of the cathedral lends itself really well to organ music. Whilst it truly sustains and augments the music it does so without being too lively and intrusive. Just four of us then braved the spiral steps where Ian showed us the console with its three manuals and demonstrated the effect of many of the stops. I also enjoyed the opportunity to take in the bird's eye view from 'on high' in the organ loft.

We all then descended the stone steps to the huge eleventh-century crypt. Between the massive columns supporting the weight of the cathedral are many historical exhibits and memorials and also the cathedral shop. Hannah explained about the proposed updating to the signage and lighting which will be undertaken in the near future to reinvigorate this important space.

Whilst in the crypt we concluded the tour with a very welcome cup of tea or coffee and a scone for which our group was joined by the Dean. He expressed his appreciation for the work done in the past by the Friends. I should like to thank Hannah Mullan in particular for this most interesting tour and look forward to further tours of this ancient cathedral.



View from the Organ

IONA 2018 ~ 31 May to 4 June

At the end of May 2018 we plan a visit to the Isle of Iona in Scotland. It will be different from previous pilgrimages in that we will join a larger group starting from Glasgow. It will be organised by McCabe Pilgrimages of London, who arrange pilgrimages to the Holy Land and many places of spiritual significance. I know Alistair McCabe and am aware of the excellent comprehensive organisation of the tours. In addition, the outreach of the company through the McCabe Educational Trust supports several worthy causes such as a Blind School in Bethlehem, a Boys' Home in Bethany and schools in Nepal and India.

For a nice summary of the history of Iona, I quote from an article by E. Mairi MacArthur on the Isle of Iona web-site: "For the Gaels, Iona is I Chaluim Chille – the isle of Colm Cille, an Irish priest and prince who was to become revered as Saint Columba. A tiny island, of typical Hebridean beauty, it holds a unique place in the story of Scotland and kindles the imagination of thousands who journey there each year. Yet it is also where people have lived, worked and worshipped over many centuries. To and from its shore have come monks and pilgrims, clan chiefs and kings, artists and craftsmen, farmers and fishermen.

"Of the earliest, we catch only fleeting glimpses now: a few Stone Age flints and tools, unearthed by the plough; a grassy cairn where some Bronze Age mourners laid their dead; fragments of pots, beads and bones which speak of a thriving Iron Age community early in the first millennium.

"Later, members of the Columban settlement became skilled in the working of metal, glass, wood and leather. Succeeding generations bequeathed a rich artistic legacy in their intricately carved stones and crosses, fine prayers and poems, and exquisite illuminated manuscripts. The life of the crafting population down the ages is etched into rigs on the landscape, immortalised in Gaelic place names and remembered in local lore.

"Today's island community follows in the tradition of all those who have gone before them – helping shape Iona's story in new ways, fostering a variety of creative talents and continuing to welcome visitors from across the globe."

In revitalising Columba's legacy, the Iona Community was founded in 1938 by George MacLeod, minister, visionary and prophetic witness for peace, in the context of the poverty and despair of the Depression. From a dockland parish in Glasgow, he took unemployed skilled craftsmen and young trainee clergy to Iona to rebuild both the monastic quarters of the medieval abbey and the common life by working and living together, sharing skills and effort as well as joys and achievement.

That original task became a sign of hopeful rebuilding of community in Scotland and beyond. The experience shaped – and continues to shape – the practice and principles of the Iona Community. This is very much Alistair McCabe's part of the world. In fact, Ursula MacLeod, George MacLeod's cousin, was a founding member of McCabe Pilgrimages.

We have been allotted twenty places in the McCabe group. We have to arrange our own transport to and from Glasgow, meeting up with the group on Thursday 31 May, and parting company with them on return to Glasgow on the afternoon of Monday 4 June.

The five day tour will include an introductory tour of Glasgow on Thursday, reception, dinner and overnight there. On Friday we will travel along Loch Lomond to Oban and across to Mull, where we stay for the next three nights. Saturday includes lots of nature spotting and an optional visit to Staffa and Fingal's Cave. On Sunday we sail across to Iona, where we will have a pilgrimage walk around the significant places in the life of Saint Columba, and a service of worship in the reconstructed Abbey. On Monday we sail back to Oban, and take a scenic route to Glasgow, where we part with the main group in mid afternoon, and follow our own route back to Ireland.

Travel to Glasgow from Ireland may be by air or by boat and train. I will coordinate with those who wish to arrange air travel, and David Wynne will coordinate with those preferring the boat and train route.

The cost of the tour will be approx. €825 pp, plus the individual's cost of getting to Glasgow and back. Pretty well everything including meals etc is in the McCabe cost. A separate optional boat trip to Staffa will cost an extra €40. Single room supplement is €115, with very limited availability. A brochure is included in this edition of *Friends' News*, and bookings will be on a first-come basis. A waiting list will be kept when our 20 allotted places are filled. The usual terms and conditions for Friends Tours, regarding insurance, passport ID, deposit and final payment etc, apply and are detailed in the brochure. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any clarification.

Terence Read, Tour Organiser

E-mail: terence.read@googlemail.com; Mobile: 086-813-8530



Iona Abbey, now an ecumenical church, is of particular historical and religious interest to pilgrims and visitors alike. It is the most elaborate and best-preserved ecclesiastical building surviving from the Middle Ages in the Western Isles of Scotland.

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<i>December</i>	<i>Concert</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>2nd</i>	Adolf Fredrik Chamber Choir, "Darkness to Light"	<i>7pm</i>
<i>4th</i>	New Dublin Voices, "Kodály Remembrance Concert"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>8th</i>	Dublin Gay Men's Chorus, "Christmas Concert"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>9th</i>	Chamber Choir Ireland, "An Irish Christmas"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>10th</i>	Park Singers, "Candlelight Carols"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>12th</i>	Christ Church Cathedral Choir, "Carols by Candlelight"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>13th</i>	Christ Church Cathedral Choir, "Carols by Candlelight"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>14th</i>	Christ Church Cathedral Choir, "Carols by Candlelight"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>16th</i>	Mornington Singer, "Noel!"	<i>8pm</i>
<i>21st & 22nd</i>	Dublin Ukelele Collective & High Hopes Choir "Christmas Concerts"	<i>8pm</i>

