



**SAINT
PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL**
DUBLIN

CLOSE NEWS

Summer 2021



The Dean and Ryan Tubridy

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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

09.15	Eucharist (said)
11.15	Choral Eucharist / Choral Matins
15.15	Choral Evensong

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

09:00	Sung Matins (during school term)
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Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

17.30	Choral Evensong / Evening Prayer
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Wednesday

17:30	Evening Prayer
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JUNE PREACHERS

June 6	The Revd A. W. A. Mayes	<i>Prebendary of Newcastle</i>
June 13	The Revd K. M. Poulton	<i>Prebendary of Swords</i>
June 20	The Revd P. R. Campion	<i>Precentor</i>
June 27	The Very Revd N. J. Sloane	<i>Chancellor</i>

JULY PREACHERS

July 4	The Revd A. H. N. McKinley	<i>Treasurer</i>
July 11	The Most Revd M.G. St A. Jackson	<i>Prebendary of Cualaun & Visitor</i>
July 18	The Revd C. W. Mullen	<i>Prebendary of Rathmichael</i>
July 25	The Revd J. D. M. Clarke	<i>Prebendary of Tipper</i>

AUGUST PREACHERS

August 1	The Revd P. K. McDowell	<i>Prebendary of Clonmethan</i>
August 8	The Revd S. E. Doogan	<i>Prebendary of Wicklow</i>
August 15	The Revd I. Gallagher	<i>Prebendary of Tipperkevin</i>
August 22	The Revd M. D. Gardner	<i>Prebendary of Maynooth</i>
August 29	The Revd T. C. Kinahan	<i>Prebendary of Monmohenock</i>

A SHOT FROM THE CANON

‘It’s a holy mystery’ is the best explanation I’ve ever given when asked about God as Trinity. Holier minds have come up with ‘water, steam and ice’; and, of course, the shamrock. The Trinity remains a holy mystery, but no less vital – or attractive – for it. God is Three and One; unfathomable yet knowable; all-powerful but merciful. Though God remains beyond explanation we’re drawn into a relationship with him when we call on him in faith or hope, or even despair. There’s a challenge as well as a comfort in mystery and in being lost in wonder, love and praise.

CM

A PRAYER FROM THE PREBEND

O Trinity! O Unity! be present as we worship thee; and with the songs that angels sing unite the hymns of praise we bring. From John Stainer’s anthem ‘I saw the Lord.’

Almighty and eternal God,
you created us, you redeemed us, and you make us a holy people,
draw us by your love more deeply into your life
so that, rejoicing in your presence,
we may draw others to know and to love you,
and to share in the song of praise to you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

CM

OBITUARY - TERENCE (TERRY) O'CONNOR

It is my great privilege to have known Terry O'Connor, Enniscorthy, County Wexford, and formerly of Blackrock and Deansgrange, County Dublin, who died recently following a long illness. It was shortly after my arrival here that I first met Terry in the Deanery offices when he was delivering some printing which his firm had provided for Saint Patrick's. I was struck immediately by his friendly and genial manner, his willingness to be of help, as well as his craftsmanship and skill – all laced with his distinctive sense of humour.

Terry was always ably supported by his wife, Anne, who were married in Saint Patrick's Cathedral, and for whom the cathedral always had special importance and significance. Anne is a regular worshipper at the cathedral, and it was very fitting that, courtesy of Mr Stuart Nicholson, Master of the Music, the Cathedral Choir sang, via recordings, at Terry's funeral in Saint Mary's Church, Enniscorthy. The funeral address was given by a life-long friend of Terry – another Terry(!) – the Reverend Terry Lilburn, who was actually a former business partner and colleague of Terry.

Many thanks to the Dean's Vicar, Canon Charles Mullen, who represented the Dean, and Terry's many friends from Saint Patrick's, at the funeral service at Mount Jerome.

We extend our deepest condolences to Anne, and to her family, in their time of bereavement.

WWM

DEAN'S GIFT DAY

For well over 30 years the Dean's Annual Gift Day has proved of enormous benefit to Saint Patrick's through its focus in raising much needed funds for initiatives that have greatly improved the fabric of the cathedral. While, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible last year to host Gift Day in the traditional manner in the cathedral, the appeal realised the amazing sum of €43,006.43 which will be utilised to enhance greatly the sound quality of the live stream system. As soon as restrictions ease sufficiently, tenders will be sought for this work which will be carried out as soon as possible.

The Dean wishes to acknowledge the huge generosity of all who contributed to the Gift Day last year; many individuals contributed very generously to the appeal, and sincere thanks are expressed to them each one. The sum raised includes two major donations of €5000 each – one in June, the other in December – from The Friends of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, as well as £6900 which was awarded as a result of a grant application to All Churches Trust, the charitable section of Ecclesiastical Insurance, to whom we are also hugely indebted.

Interestingly, the focus of the Dean's Gift Day Appeal 2021 remains on worship. In 2020 the aim was to provide much better quality of sound for listeners who, either because of restrictions during the pandemic, or the preclusion of attending the cathedral due to physical distance in general, would join with us on live stream. This year, with the return of a congregation (even though there is a restriction at present on the number attending), we are hoping to attend to the conservation of a number of features of the cathedral:

- The re-adaptation of the choir stall candle lights from oil burning to LED lighting. These lights were kindly donated by Dean Griffin, and his family, in memory of his late wife, Daphne.
- The refurbishment of the pew runners. The latter, which were removed and placed in storage during lockdown, thus allowing the sanitisation of pews, will be reintroduced when restrictions permit.
- The repair, or re-upholstery, of the kneelers in the cathedral.
- The repair of the locks in the box pews.



Regarding this year's appeal, Dean Morton said: "I am deeply conscious of your faithful giving to this appeal over the years, and to so many other good causes as well; I assure you, your support will be deeply appreciated in conserving these features of Saint Patrick's Cathedral to the glory of God, and for the benefit of worshippers now and in the future."

This year's Gift Day Appeal will be held on Saturday 26 June. If you would like to contribute in person on that day you will be most welcome to avail of some refreshments in the Deanery garden between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. when strawberries and cream, and a glass of prosecco/soft drinks will be served. This will comply with government restrictions. If the weather is not favourable, plan B will be implemented (adhering to all the precautions) in the Lady Chapel. Contributions can be made also via the website through the following link www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/donate. If you prefer to make a donation by cheque, please forward it to the cathedral office, made payable to 'Saint Patrick's Cathedral'.



FRIENDS' FESTIVAL EVENSONG

The Friends' Festival Evensong will take place at 3.15 pm on Sunday, 27th. June. Regrettably, again this year it will have to be a virtual event, as current Covid-19 restrictions mean that there cannot be choir and congregation at the same time. However, I hope that many of you will connect with what I am sure will be a memorable event, albeit online. The preacher will be the dean of Limerick and chancellor of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Very Revd Niall Sloane, incidentally a long-standing member of the Friends.

Unfortunately, too, there will not be the much-loved garden party following the service. It is always such a pleasure to meet in the dean's beautiful garden, especially on a fine sunny day. Hopefully, next year...!

AF

GIFT SHOP

During months of closure the Gift Shop developed an online shop in order to allow accessibility to the World Wide Web. It is an on-going development that is growing in its variety of products, both bespoke and general.

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/shop

The Gift Shop is now open, following the lifting of restrictions, so please do come in and browse the shelves and support the Cathedral through your purchases. We look forward to seeing you.

THE ADMINISTRATOR WRITES

It is now early June and I am pleased to say the slating of the upper roofs is complete. The delay to the internal works caused by the last lockdown means that the new walkways and fire safety upgrades must still be completed. In addition, the great clerestory windows are being installed, following their conservation, as the scaffolding is dismantled and removed. Their reveals need to be chalk blasted to remove the accumulated layers of carbon and dirt which have built up over the years. This is proving to be a slow and challenging process, carried out as it is by skilled technicians, and so it is likely that the practical completion date for the whole project may now be in late August, if not early September.

This project has been a very significant milestone in the long story of the Cathedral and we hope, restrictions permitting, that we can all meet together within the building to mark this historic event at some stage in the first half of September.

Happily, the Cathedral is now open for visitors and well as worshippers. Great credit is due to Louis and his team for ensuring the Cathedral is presented as beautifully as possible and for creating a safe environment in accordance with Government guidelines for those who wish to spend time here. Of course, we expect very few visitors until the slow resumption of international travel later in the year. Given the seasonal nature of tourism, we operated in a deficit situation through the winter until early March. Though challenges abound we are not without hope as we all look to the return of normality in the coming months. **GHW**



SAVE OUR ROOF

The Cathedral's roof is in urgent need of repair. We need to raise €9 million to facilitate this work. Can you help us? You can become a part of the living history of Saint Patrick's Cathedral by sponsoring a slate for the roof.

BRONZE €50

Sponsor quarter of a slate and receive:

A mention on social media on our weekly sponsors post.

SILVER €250

Sponsor a slate for the roof and receive:

A mention on social media on our weekly sponsors post.

A name in our "book of thanks" (displayed in the Cathedral)

A certificate of thanks.

GOLD €1,000

Become a "keystone" of the roof works!

If you are interested in supporting this historic project then please make contact with the Cathedral's Administrator, Gavan Woods.

To get involved or to donate today, visit: www.stpatrickscathedral.ie



RYAN TUBRIDY VISITS THE CATHEDRAL

We were honoured to welcome RTÉ presenter, Ryan Tubridy, and his daughter, Ella, to Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Wednesday 19 May. Donning protective gear, Ryan and Ella braved the scaffolding on their ascent to the roof along with the Dean and Gavan, together with Lorcan, Ian and colleagues from the main contractors, Clancy.

We thank Ryan and Ella for taking the time to visit the cathedral, and for Ryan's prior, and subsequent, references and publicity for Saint Patrick's on his RTÉ Radio 1 morning show.

Ryan expressed great interest as Gavan explained the nature of the roof project, and the history of the cathedral. We look forward to welcoming back Ryan and Ella at a later date.





THE HISTORY PROJECT-MONUMENTS IN FOCUS

The blue door of the Cathedral Choir School is a familiar sight to anyone who has walked the Cathedral Close. The door has become a symbol of the cathedral's impressive musical tradition, the resilience of which is embodied by the plaque which states 'founded in 1432AD'. Despite the central role the Choir School plays in the daily worship of the cathedral, the school's founder, Archbishop Richard Talbot (1386-1449), is often overlooked.

Appointed Archbishop of Dublin in 1418, Talbot played a considerable role in Irish political and ecclesiastical life. He held significant titles such as Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and Chief Governor of Dublin. His ambition and success caused a feud to develop between Talbot and another leading Irish figure, the Duke of Ormond, a feud which, often violent, continued between the families for generations.

His tenure as Archbishop was not one of great success, with the coffers of the Dublin diocese in serious want of funds upon his death. One lasting achievement of his career however was the establishment of the charter of minor canons and choristers in Saint Patrick's Cathedral in 1431, the official establishment of the Choir School. The school has continued to educate the cathedral choristers for nearly 600 years, only interrupted during the Cromwellian period.

Talbot died in 1449 and was buried, quite appropriately, in the quire area. His resting place was marked by a brass likeness set in stone, which was sadly lost to time after many centuries. In 1902 the stone was discovered, and upon the request of Dean John Henry Bernard a new brass was made, modelled off a surviving sketch of the original. While the image of Talbot accompanied by singers is often out of view for visitors, and occasionally covered, his true memorial can be heard through the music of daily worship.

AH



VERGER NEWS

We extend our congratulations to Esther Lycett on her recent appointment as Head Verger at Salisbury Cathedral. Having moved to Salisbury in 2019 to take up a post as verger, we are delighted to see her progression and wish her every blessing in her new role. While there are references to verging duties being carried out at Salisbury as far back as the 13th Century, Esther becomes the first woman to be appointed to the post, an historic and well deserved appointment.

Esther will be known to many at Saint Patrick's having been a chorister here and a Chapter Verger for 11 years. Her sisters Ellen and Rosanna, and brother Thomas were also choristers here, and her parents Laetitia and Julian are longstanding members of the Society of Bell Ringers at Saint Patrick's.

Speaking about her new role Esther said:

"I am very excited about this new opportunity. It is a great honour to be part of a tradition of verging in this Cathedral dating back centuries. I have settled very nicely into the community and hope to be here for many years to come."





We say farewell at the end of June to Aaron Hoey as he takes up a new post in the Civil Service. Aaron has worked at Saint Patrick's since March 2018. Initially working at the Gift Shop, Aaron was then appointed as a Cathedral Verger in January 2019. A passionate historian, he brought great enthusiasm and initiative to the role during his time with us, and we thank him for his contribution to the life of Saint Patrick's over the last three years while wishing him the very best in his new career.

We are delighted to welcome Colette Garry back to the verging team at Saint Patrick's later this month. Colette is another familiar face at Saint Patrick's having worked on the events team since 2016, and as a verger for a year until last September. We are delighted to welcome her back!

LP

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

With the Grammar School end of term upon us it was time to say a very sad farewell to Angel and Veerasha, both long term members of the Cathedral's Senior Girls Choir. In Veerasha's case a very long term indeed having been a member of the Cathedral Choir since joining the Cathedral Choir School many years ago! We also said farewell to one of our senior boy choristers, Colin, whose family are shortly moving to Valencia after 5 years in the Cathedral Choir. Our very own blue eyes, a 7 year old Colin broke the voice trial tradition with a flawless rendition of 'Fly me to the moon'. A very welcome change of repertoire....We wish them all the very best for the future.

We still have a couple of places for children to join us in 3rd class - so if you'd be interested in your son/daughter following in their footsteps then get in touch! Please email Stuart Nicholson at the address below.

Stuart Nicholson, Master of the Music, Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Saint Patrick's Close, Dublin, D08 H6X3

Email: music@stpatrickscathedral.ie



Angel



Colin



Veerasha

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Friends' Medal:

Our congratulations to Angel Akpotor of Schola Patricii, the senior girls' choir, who has been awarded the Friends' Medal for 2020/21.

It was presented by the Dean, at Evensong on Thursday 27th. May 2021. A copy of the Oxford Companion to Music was also presented on behalf of the Friends.

Pictured are the Dean, Angel and the organist and assistant Master of the Music, Mr David Leigh.

We wish Angel all the very best in her musical future and hope that music will continue to play an important and enjoyable role in her life.



THE CATHEDRAL'S CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The Safeguarding Handbook, as well as Safeguarding Trust, may be viewed on the Cathedral website. If you have a general enquiry or any concern relating to safeguarding at Saint Patrick's Cathedral please telephone the office on 01-453 9472. The temporary Dedicated Liaison Person is Mr Gavan Woods and the temporary Deputy Dedicated Liaison person is Mrs Rowena Janota. If you recognise a safeguarding emergency in which a child or vulnerable adult is in danger, Tusla Child and Family Agency can be contacted on 01 856 6856.

WILL US WELL

When making, or amending, your Will please consider including a legacy bequest to the Cathedral. If you are interested in supporting us in this way, let your solicitor or Will-writer know that you wish to make provision for the Cathedral in your Will. For more information please contact the Cathedral Administrator, Mr Gavan Woods.

DATA PROTECTION POLICY

The Cathedral's Data Privacy policy has been updated to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations. The updated policy is available to view on the Cathedral's website at www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/privacy-policy.

To exercise all relevant rights, queries or complaints please, in the first instance, contact the Cathedral Office Manager by phone at 01 4539472, or by email at officemanager@stpatrickscathedral.ie.

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You can follow us on

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/stpatrickscathedral>

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YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/stpatrickscathedral1>

Instagram: [@stpatrickscathedraldublin](https://www.instagram.com/stpatrickscathedraldublin)



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