

€2.00*

MAY 2024

CLOSE NEWS



▶ AWAY DAYS

Reports from our trips to Kilkenny, Armagh, and Belfast in the new minibus. *Pg16*

▶ MUSIC

Could your child be a Cathedral Chorister? Join our Be a Chorister for a Day! *Pg25*

▶ SERVICES

Information about our daily services, forthcoming feasts, and preachers. *Pg7*



SERVICE TIMES



Sunday

- 09:15 Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel*)
- 11:15 Choral Eucharist *or* Choral Matins
- 15:15 Choral Evensong

Monday–Friday

- 09:00 Sung Matins (*during school term*)
- 11:05 Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Festivals*)
- 17:30 Choral Evensong *or* Evening Prayer

Saturday

- 11:05 Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel*)

God has been worshipped in this place through the prayers and praises of countless generations. Worship lies at the heart of our life as Christians and we express our theology and belief through our liturgy. It is through these liturgical patterns of words and actions that we are formed and transformed.

We invite you to join us for any of the services here this month. If you are unable to join us in person, you can tune in to the online live stream of all services: spcd.ie/live

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*Cover image: Staff and volunteers outside Parliament Buildings at Stormont, Belfast.
Read more on Page 16.*

THE CLOSE NEWS EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

The Very Revd Dr William Morton (DEAN)

The Revd Canon Charles Mullen (DEAN'S VICAR)

Mr Gavan Woods (ADMINISTRATOR)

Mrs Elizabeth Lowrie (RETAIL MANAGER)

Mr Albert Fenton (BOARD MEMBER & CHAIRMAN OF THE FRIENDS)

Mr Ed Coleman (MARKETING MANAGER)

Mr Clark Brydon (EDUCATION & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER)

The publication of *Close News* is made possible only as a result of the dedication of a number of people within the Cathedral Community. The Editorial Committee wishes to thank all those who have submitted content for publication. If you would like an item to be featured in the next edition of *Close News*, please contact Mrs Elizabeth Lowrie before the middle of this month.



THE DEAN WRITES...

THE VERY REVD DR WILLIAM MORTON



As you will be aware, Bryan Dobson, one of the best-known faces and voices on RTÉ, is retiring on 3rd May after a 40-year career in public broadcasting. Not only is Bryan a member of the Cathedral Board, the Governance Committee, and takes his turn very graciously on the stewarding roster in Saint Patrick's Cathedral, but he is also – I am delighted to say – a regular and frequent worshipper here. At this significant milestone for Bryan, I wish him, on behalf of all at the Cathedral, a long, restful, and fulfilling retirement, and very best wishes to Bryan's wife, Crea, as well.

You may have read in the RTÉ Guide for 04–10th May the interesting feature written by Donal O'Donoghue

marking Bryan's retirement, in which Bryan remarked that, when he was very young, his mother used to think that he might become a clergyman. Whilst he states in the article that his vocation lay elsewhere, Bryan has been a tremendous ambassador for the Church through his most faithful membership of Saint Patrick's Cathedral and by the magnificent service he has given, as I have mentioned above. In addition, Bryan has been most supportive in highlighting special initiatives, and events – for example, chorister recruitment – by identifying a 'journalistic peg' on which to hang a good story which (as in the case of the Cathedral Choir) will merit publicity on the Six One News, and which in this case proved to be very fruitful. We have also benefitted greatly from Bryan's experience and expertise in

facilitating some of our joint meetings of the Cathedral Chapter, and Board. As well as this, Bryan has very kindly been the reader of the Scripture lessons at the annual Advent Carol Service, and on many other occasions as well. He has been a regular speaker at the annual Christmas Party of The Friends of Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

In wishing Bryan well for retirement, I also thank him for his tremendous support of the Cathedral, and to me personally, for his kindness, graciousness, and encouragement. Bryan is a person who always makes time for others, and who always has a cheery word for members of the congregation, as he has for those worshipping with us as visitors.

Yours, in Christ,
William

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A SHOT FROM THE CANON

THE REVD CANON
CHARLES MULLEN

From the fort hill at home four wind farms are visible; windmills rotating impressively, producing electricity. Wind power can be felt, but not seen: the rotation of windmills is a sure sign of its presence. At Pentecost the Holy Spirit was made known in a sound like the rush of wind: power could be felt and heard but not seen until the followers of Jesus, through the Spirit's power, shared the fruits of the Spirit with others. As God's people we're called to be signs of the effects of God's invisible power in our lives through acts of loving service. *CM*

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

And so the yearning strong
With which the soul will long
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit
Makes his dwelling.

*From a hymn
by Bianco da Siena (d.1434)*

Fill the faithful, who confide
In thy power to guard and guide
With thy sevenfold mystery:
Here thy grace and virtue send,
Grant salvation in the end,
And in heaven felicity.

*From a Latin hymn
by Stephen Langton (d.1228)*

SERVICES & PREACHERS

SUNDAY 5TH MAY 2024

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)

11:15 – Choral Eucharist

15:15 – Choral Evensong

Canon in Residence:

THE VEN. D. A. PIERPOINT

Treasurer

SUNDAY 12TH MAY 2024

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)

11:15 – Choral Matins

15:15 – Choral Evensong

Canon in Residence:

THE REVD M. T. KINGSTON

Prebendary of Yagoe

Preacher at Evensong:

THE REVD FR S. NOLAN

SUNDAY 19TH MAY 2024

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)

11:15 – Choral Eucharist

15:15 – Choral Evensong

Canon in Residence:

THE REVD B. M. MCKAY

Prebendary of Clondalkin

SUNDAY 26TH MAY 2024

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)

11:15 – Choral Eucharist

15:15 – Choral Evensong

Canon in Residence:

THE REVD K. M. POULTON

Prebendary of Swords

 **LIVE**

STREAM

Can't make it in person to our services this month? Remember: you can tune in for free online.

DAILY SERVICES

Please see Page 2 for our normal pattern of daily worship.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel will take the place of Choral Evensong on Monday 6th May 2024.

FORTHCOMING FEAST DAYS

The Ascension Day is celebrated on Thursday 9th May 2024, and a Sung Eucharist will take the place of Matins that morning at 09:00.

The Feast of Saint Mathias is celebrated on Tuesday 14th May 2024.

Pentecost (also called Whitsun) is celebrated on Sunday 19th May 2024.

Trinity Sunday is 26th May 2024.

SERVICES & MUSIC LIST

For an up-to-date and comprehensive list of forthcoming services, please visit the monthly Services & Music List on the website.



A SHOT FROM THE CANON'S HOUSE

Renovation works have recently been completed at the 'Dutch Billy' house where I've lived since 2010. The partitioned sitting room has been converted to a single space, a reconditioned period fireplace installed, and bookshelves fitted. The distinctive façade has been painted: a welcome improvement to the street view. I'm grateful to James Howley, Cathedral Architect, for overseeing the works. *CM*



FR SIMON NOLAN, O.CARM.

Born and raised in Monkstown, Fr Nolan entered the Carmelite Order in 1992. He's currently prior of the Carmelite Church and Priory in neighbouring Whitefriar Street. Having recently been elected prior provincial of the Carmelite Order he will in June take responsibility for the order in Ireland and its commissariat province in Zimbabwe. Fr Nolan's election will be marked at Choral Evensong on Sunday 12th May, when he will preach. We enjoy a close and convivial friendship with our neighbours: Canon Brian McKay, one of our two ecumenical canons, is a Carmelite, and our canons-in-residence are currently accommodated at the Carmelite Priory. Please do come to Evensong on 12th May to help us show our neighbours how we value a friendship that enriches our witness to the new commandment of Jesus to his disciples.

CM

THE COST OF PRINTING

The more observant regular reader will notice the €2.00 *suggested donation amount on the front cover. As with most things in today's world, the cost of printing *Close News* has increased significantly. We are committed to enabling all members of our Cathedral Community to receive these monthly editions without charge; however, we are now asking for a small donation from those who are able to cover the photocopier costs. Please visit the Front Desk or Shop to donate. CDJB

CONDOLENCES

Sincere condolences are expressed to Frankie Supple, one of our security personnel, on the death of his sister, Rita; also to Kelley Bermingham, former Community Officer, on the death of her mother, Marie; also to Violeta Dalmau, Senior Retail Assistant, on the death of her aunt. All who mourn are assured of our thoughts and prayers. An obituary to Henry Cox can be found on Page 13.



THE ADMINISTRATOR WRITES...

MR GAVAN WOODS

There are over seventy employees here at Saint Patrick's Cathedral at present. Our roles and tasks are varied as you would expect in an organisation involved in such a diverse range of activities. It may be obvious, but our staff are core to our ability to function as a place of worship, deliver community and education programmes, care for our buildings, and much more besides. It is easy to take this for granted.

In our strategic plan for 2020-2025, the Board set out the ambition that we would become certified by the organisation *Great Place to Work*. As luck would have it, two years ago, Fáilte Ireland developed their *Employers Excellence Programme* for the tourist industry, which included just such certification.

Ms Barbara Whelan, our Human Resource Manager, was tasked with leading our engagement with this programme in 2023. There was considerable work involved for many

in the team here, particularly for the supervisors and managers. Significant training and upskilling was required of them as part of the certification process.

Included, too, was the rollout of a detailed questionnaire amongst the wider staff exploring satisfaction levels across a broad range of metrics involving their work here. We needed to ensure that at least 65% of employees engaged fully with this questionnaire and I am pleased to say we surpassed this target.

The results of the survey were collated and used to create a detailed report by the people at *Great Place to Work*, which benchmarked our performance against the wider sector. An occupational psychologist then met with me and some of the staff team to explain and contextualise the results earlier this year. I am delighted to say that the Cathedral achieved gold level accreditation, which is the highest possible. Nonetheless there is work to do. Not all cohorts

across the team experienced similar levels of satisfaction in key areas such as management communication and career progression. One or two departments recorded particularly low levels of engagement with the survey, perhaps showing the results to be more positive than they actually are.

As part of the programme, which runs for three years, we have been supplied with external HR support to help us to improve in the areas we score lowest. Over the next month, I will meet with all staff in small groups to consider what we need to stop, start, or continue doing to make meaningful changes to their roles here. Over the next quarter, we will commence a new appraisal process which will help to ensure that there is strong communication across the organisation in the years ahead.

It is, as they say, a hard life. As we achieved such strong results, we were shortlisted for recognition at the annual black tie award ceremony held at the Lyrath Estate in Kilkenny earlier this month. Barbara and I attended on behalf of the team.

We were unlucky on the night and did not find ourselves amongst the winners but it was a pleasure to be there nonetheless, representing the Cathedral at the very top tier of the tourism sector.

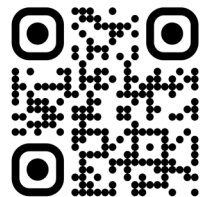
GHW



Gavan and Barbara at the award ceremony.

SUPPORT US

If you would like to support the Cathedral's mission and work, please consider donating securely online. You can scan the QR code or visit: spcd.ie/support



GRAMMAR SCHOOL CHOIR

Congratulations to Saint Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School Choir who came first in the Cork International Choral Festival in the City Hall in Cork on Thursday 2nd May. Very well done to all concerned.



AMBASSADOR

His Excellency Mr Ruggero Carrias, the Ambassador from Italy to Ireland, paid a courtesy visit to Saint Patrick's Cathedral recently, where he met Dean Morton.

SAINT NICHOLAS ICON

The Earl of Iveagh, Edward Guinness, called in to the Cathedral recently to present Dean Morton with a most beautiful icon of Saint Nicholas by the Finnish iconographer, Hanna Ward, who has been living and working in England for forty years, and who accepts commissions for churches and other sacred spaces. The icon was painted at Southwark Cathedral, beside a display of Hanna's work, and where she also conducts art classes on her genre.



LLEWELYN HENRY COX III

OBITUARY

Among the worshippers at the Easter Sunday Eucharist in 2019 were two gentlemen from Saint Thomas's Church, Fifth Avenue, New York. At the close of the service, we had a brief conversation about Church life on our respective sides of the Atlantic. As we parted, we exchanged e-mail addresses with a view to keeping in touch, and what – at that time – was a faint glimmer of hope that we might be able to organise a choir trip to New York. Within less than a year, the Covid-19 virus had struck. One wet and dismal Saturday in July 2020, when the roof project was seven months underway and no income to finance the initiative, I e-mailed our friends to trawl ideas about the possibility of international funding. Several e-mails and telephone calls later, I was delighted to hear from Henry Cox and Michael Kunkel that they had decided to come and live in Dun Laoghaire, and, even better, that they were going to join our congregation. They did, and we thank them for their tremendous support of Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Tragically, Henry was diagnosed with a terminal illness, and on Wednesday 17th April, we received from Michael the news we never wanted to hear – that Henry had died. We are hoping to offer thanksgiving for his life in the Office of Matins in Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 26th May at 11:15.

Henry was a most faithful and dedicated member of the congregation.

He had many fine Christian attributes – kindness, generosity, thoughtfulness, friendship, humility – the list goes on. He was a gifted musician and loved the musical and choral traditions of Saint Patrick's Cathedral. Hospitality always featured prominently and Henry's and Michael's home was always open to family, friends, musicians, composers, artists, and writers. They commissioned music for cello and flute, and for chamber choirs; they sponsored concerts, events, and concert series, along with commissioning art pieces for their collection. Henry thrived on helping artists in all fields; he delighted in connecting people to opportunities and each other.

We will miss Henry's graciousness, friendship, empathy, and encouragement. May he rest in peace and be raised in glory. We extend our sincere condolences to Michael; to Henry's sister, Charlotte; to his uncle, Roy; to the wider family circle; and to Henry's and Michael's many dear friends on both sides of the Atlantic. *WWM*





EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

MR CLARK BRYDON

Following months of painfully slow brainstorming, designing, editing, and printing, we are finally seeing the fruits of the Interpretation Committee's labours in our new visitor welcome leaflets. To use a disgustingly corporate term, these will come 'on stream' in various languages as we use up the old stock. This marks a fundamental change in the Cathedral's visitor engagement policy, in that we have removed most of the information from the leaflet.

'How ever will the visitor learn about Jonathan Swift?!' I hear you cry. Well, most of the information is duplicated on the very stylish panels around the Cathedral. The essays in the old leaflet were lengthy, difficult to read due to their small text, and only available in a small number of languages. Furthermore, people found it difficult to explore the

Cathedral because the map was not particularly conducive to navigation. We have made the new map easier to read, so that people can find the various sections of the building (most notably the toilets), and the audio guide and panel numbers (most notably number two) more easily.

'But what about the lost information? Is it now only available in English on the panels?' No. Given how global our visitor demographic is, we now have all the information (and more!) available in practically every language in the world. Over the course of the last two years, I have been slowly, bit-by-bit, developing a new interactive platform: the *Pilgrim Portal*. This is an easy-to-use visitor experience website, with all the things one could possibly need for a visit to Saint Patrick's Cathedral. Whether it is the audio guides, panels, maps, prayers,

or orders of services, it is all there in one place, easily accessible from any mobile device, without the need to download any apps. From the photo here, you can see just how simple the layout is. Despite being a PhD student, I have an aversion to words! The fewer words, the better.

Simply scan the QR code at the entrance or input the web address, and it all appears. And – through the magic of *Google Translate* – all the text is automatically available in any language. Google’s translation service has improved significantly in recent years, offering an almost-perfect translation in the majority of widely spoken languages. With the free wi-fi available in the Cathedral, it does not cost any more in data fees for a visitor from outside the European Union.

Despite having a good number of audio guide units, we have not been able to offer them to organised group tours, as we would simply run out for our individual and family visitors. Now, anyone can listen to the audio guide on their own device, using their own earphones. Although we take all precautions and clean each physical unit after use, some people would still rather avoid touching something that dozens of others have also touched that day.

For visitors who have a strong grasp of the English language, but come across a word or phrase on a panel that they do not know, they can simply scan the QR code on the panel to be taken straight to a translation.

It is not just for non-English speakers though. The *Pilgrim Portal* seamlessly incorporates our digital orders of service. For each Choral Matins, Evensong, and Eucharist services, all the

text is there in a bespoke service sheet. If you have ever come to a midweek Evensong and wondered what the text of the anthem being sung by the Cathedral Choir was, you would now be able to find out. Thousands of people tune into our live stream and follow the order of service on the *Pilgrim Portal* every year. All of the readings, collects, and congregational words are there – and, of course, it is all translatable into any language. Our worship does most of the speaking and explaining for us – as it has done for centuries – but, for some, being able to discover more in their own language at their fingertips will bring them, in that moment, closer to God.

This might all sound like a sales pitch, but I am very keen that the Cathedral utilises technology to its fullest. In a post-Covid world, most of the people visiting the Cathedral today are more technologically literate than ever before. We are a living, breathing church, not just a monument to the past. So if we can enable more people to learn more about our faith and story using this very simple and cheap method, then that is not an opportunity to be missed.

I strongly encourage you to explore the *Pilgrim Portal*. If you would like to discuss how you could bring this to your church, don’t hesitate to get in touch. CDJB



CLARK BRYDON

Education &
Safeguarding Officer

@ClarkBrydon
clark@spcd.ie



CATHEDRAL ON TOUR



April 2024 saw the first official outing of the Cathedral minibus. The first trip was to Kilkenny on 4th and 5th April, where our staff and volunteers were treated to a tour of Saint Canice's Cathedral and had the opportunity to climb the round tower. Despite the weather being rather cold and grey, the views over the city and the Cathedral were stunning. Back inside the Cathedral, tea and coffee was served, before an engaging group discussion, sharing ideas about volunteer engagement and growth within the community. In the afternoon, we visited the Medieval Mile Museum and had a private tour of Kilkenny Castle.

The next trip was to Armagh on 12th April, where we had an

interesting tour of our namesake Church of Ireland Cathedral in the morning and the Roman Catholic one in the afternoon. Not on the itinerary – though thoroughly worthwhile – was a trip to the Armagh Robinson Library, where we were warmly welcomed by the Assistant Keeper, who gave a talk about Dublin connections. The Dean of Armagh is the Keeper of the Library and lives on site.

The third and final trip of the month was to Belfast on 23rd April. Belfast Cathedral put on a suite of tours and talks for us, followed by an informative and idea-filled lunch, before we headed to Stormont to look around Parliament Buildings and observe the MLAs in their debating chamber! *CDJB*

FORTHCOMING AWAY DAYS

Members of the Cathedral Community are warmly invited to join a group visit to any of the following places over the coming weeks. Though they are fact-finding in that they are very useful for staff and volunteers to learn how other institutions work, they are also great for getting to know other people and enjoying a nice day out. Transport and entry is free for all Cathedral people. *CDJB*



DOWNPATRICK

22nd May 2024

Departing the Dublin at 08:30; visiting the Saint Patrick Centre in the morning, and Down Cathedral in the afternoon; arriving back on the Close at 19:30. Bring or buy lunch.



BELFAST

28th May 2024

Departing Dublin at 08:30; visiting Belfast Cathedral in the morning, and Stormont in the afternoon; arriving back on the Close at 19:30. Light lunch included; provide any dietary requirements.



ARMAGH

6th June 2024

Departing Dublin at 08:30; visiting the Church of Ireland Cathedral in the morning, and the R.C. Cathedral in the afternoon; arriving back on the Close at 18:00. Bring or buy lunch.

BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE NOW

If you would like to join us for any of these away days, please contact Clark Brydon at clark@spcd.ie and include any relevant information.



The conservation works over the last year have seen the Cathedral's collection come under the spotlight, with several items receiving the VIP treatment of specialist care, which has – in turn – revealed hidden stories about the artefacts. As part of these ongoing works, the renowned Dr Claudia Kinmonth, an expert in historic furnishings, is undertaking a review of the Deanery inventory, and has already uncovered some interesting hidden histories. One such example was an unsuspecting bowl of pinecones, which – upon further inspection – was revealed to be a historic butter bowl, possibly sourced from a local historic dairy farm. Dr Kinmonth also spotted an eighteenth-century chair hidden away under modern upholstery, and a number of unassuming items which likely date back to the time of Dean Jonathan Swift. We look forward to the completed report, and the interesting and hidden treasures Dr Kinmonth is bound to uncover.

AH



Aaron Hoey is a Chapter Verger and also a leading figure on the Cathedral's Conservation Committee. This committee is responsible for the day-to-day management of the countless historic items within the Cathedral and Deanery, regularly tending to textile, paper, and furniture care and maintenance. The necessary work to the buildings themselves are also discussed due to the impact on the artefacts and how best to manage any larger-scale conservation projects. In order for our visitors to engage with and fully understand these items, the Interpretation Committee was formed, which primarily deals with the display of items, signage around them, the stories about them, and the wayfinding around the building. The Interpretation Committee reports to the Conservation Committee. The Conservation Committee reports to the Fabric Committee of the Board.

CDJB

THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Mr Louis Parminter
Mr Gavan Woods
Mr Aaron Hoey
Mr Clark Brydon
Ms Kryzel Bonifacio
Ms Jean Traynor

THE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

Mr Clark Brydon
Mr Aaron Hoey
Ms Rowena Janota
Ms Laura Coyle
Ms Kryzel Bonifacio

GIFT SHOP



and advice on products. The continual development of bespoke products is having a positive effect on our revenue, as it appears that all who visit like to ‘take a piece’ of Saint Patrick’s Cathedral home with them.

Our aim is not only to develop our bespoke product range, but also to give the visitor a place in which to buy a gift while not taking from the ambience of the place in which it is situated. A challenge, which will not be denied, but the staff are very much customer orientated with each customer treated with the care and sensitivity that is required so that they enjoy their visit to the gift shop, whilst having the marvel of being in such a magnificent building.

We look forward to a very busy and successful year here at Saint Patrick’s with the emphasise on continuing to develop the workplace as a happy one for both employee, visitor and pilgrim alike. Please do come and visit the Gift Shop should you visit the cathedral or you can visit our online shop which should be ‘live’ shortly. *EL*

The year began with an exceptional number of visitors to the Cathedral and, thus far, this pattern has continued. We are bucking the trend of most tourist attractions, and our visitor numbers have increased on 2023, month-on-month which is excellent and, at the gift shop, we are now catering for visitors from all parts of the world. This represents quite a challenge as visitors from different parts of the world purchase different products.

Our gift shop has had a face-lift, and we now have bespoke products on new stands allowing a higher footfall into the retail space and an easier purchasing experience. Our clothing offer and our choice of products for both pilgrims and tourists has, so far, been a great success.

Our retail space now looks as if it has been replaced, having the effect of appearing more spacious, neater, and with the offer of more bespoke products. Retail staff, like all staff, are focussed on customer relations and engage all the time with customers to offer help



EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP FACILITATOR RECRUITMENT

We are seeking to develop a panel of freelance Workshop Facilitators to deliver workshops to schools and family audiences. They may also work with the Education Department to develop other activities for young visitors.

Facilitators will be paid a fee on a per-session basis. The frequency of sessions will depend on demand.

Though music, art, and drama have been highlighted, if prospective candidates have ideas about other subjects which might work well in the Cathedral's Education Programme, please do get in touch.

Find out more on the Cathedral website: spcd.ie/facilitators or scan the QR code below.

FIND OUT MORE

Visit the Cathedral website to learn more about the Workshop Facilitator panel positions within the Education Department.



FRIENDS OF THE CATHEDRAL

The Friends come from all walks of life and all faiths and none but are united by their commitment to Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Each Friend is entitled to free entry to the cathedral (on presentation of their membership card), the twice-yearly magazine, Saint Patrick's People, and to apply for tickets to the Christmas Eve Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

The activities of the Friends include the annual Friends Festival Evensong and Garden Party in June, a

Christmas Evening in December, and visits to places of interest.

Become a Friend by scanning the QR code or visiting: spcd.ie/friends



FAMILY WORKSHOPS



STAINED GLASS BOOKMARKS

Monday 6th May 2024

10:00, 12:00, & 14:00

First, take a tour of our Cathedral's beautiful stained glass windows and explore how they made these amazing works of art! Learn all about how medieval craftspeople used sand, fire, and chemistry to carefully arrange a jigsaw of glass and create these beautiful images. Then, make your own piece of art to take home! Design a faux 'stained glass' bookmark with markers, paper, and coloured plastic film.

WOOL2EWE

Saturday 11th May 2024

11:00, 12:00, & 14:00

Join us on a wool-tastic workshop with a mission to sprinkle some woolly wisdom among kids, highlighting the wonders of wool and culture and heritage. Through hands-on experiences and the Wool2Ewe box, our workshop facilitator Lorna McCormack will introduce children and parents to Irish wool and textiles, as well as traditional crafts like knitting with Galway wool. Come and join us in a woolly adventure exploring textiles and raw wool and much more.



BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Visit the Cathedral website for more information.

SEASONAL STAFF

Through the busier summer season, the Cathedral recruits a number of people to run the tourism operation. Some are familiar faces, some are brand new; don't hesitate to introduce yourself to them all!

CDJB



Culture Date with Dublin 8 will be taking place from Wednesday 8th – Sunday 12th May 2024.

This annual neighbourhood festival celebrates the culture, history, and heritage of Dublin 8 and encourages people who live in and visit the area to explore everything that it has to offer.

There will be over 100 exciting events on this year's programme, from walks, talks, tours, performances, exhibitions, and more there will be something for everyone to explore!



Photo by Tristan Hutchinson

FIND OUT MORE

Visit their website culturedatewithdublin8.ie for more information.



CATHEDRAL VISITORS



Last week, we were thrilled to welcome Vanessa Bennallick from Cornwall, England, to our beloved Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Vanessa resides on the very land once inhabited by a remarkable figure in our history—Michael Tregury, a scholar and spiritual leader whose life story weaves through the fabric of both Cornwall and Dublin.

Michael Tregury, born in St Wenn, Cornwall, was not only the chaplain to Henry VI but also an esteemed scholar who became the first rector of the University of Caen. His journey brought him to Dublin,

where he served as Archbishop from 1450 until his death in 1471. Vanessa and her friend Lyn Northcott had a poignant moment at the resting place of Archbishop Tregury, reflecting on the historic ties that bind us across seas and centuries. Their visit reminds us of the deep, personal connections that history harbours, waiting to be rediscovered by those who seek them.



LIKE & FOLLOW

Keep up to date with other Cathedral news by following our social media accounts. The details for each of them can be found on the back page of *Close News*.

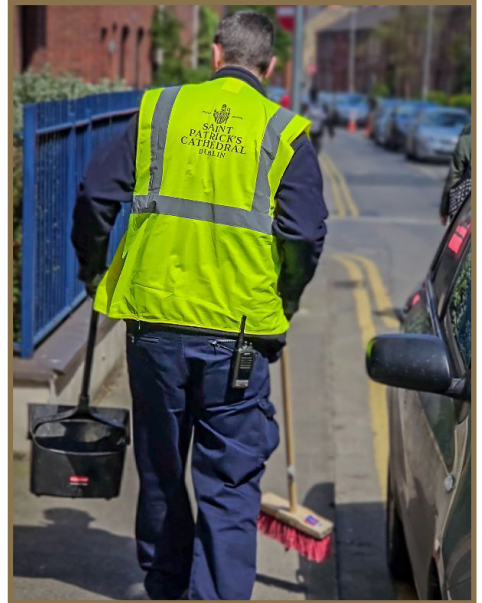


SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE

There has been an overwhelming response to the provision of tea, coffee, and biscuits following the Sunday 11:15 Eucharist. At the moment, we are appealing for volunteers to administer the refreshments. All that is required is for you to be there to assist with handing out the tea and coffee. If you are interested in helping, please contact Ms Laura Coyle at supervisors@stpatrikscathedral.ie

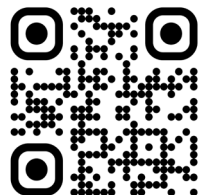
COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Gavan Woods and John Reardon from the Cathedral joined the weekly community clean up, organised by *Aloft Dublin City*, alongside staff from *Teeling Whiskey*, *Donore Credit Union*, and other institutions in The Liberties. The team showed up with enthusiasm and dedication to make Dublin cleaner and greener.



SUPPORT US

If you would like to support the Cathedral's mission and work, please consider donating securely online. You can scan the QR code or visit: spcd.ie/support





CHORISTERS IN CONCERT

The Choristers of Saint Patrick's Cathedral have been singing here for nearly 600 years. On Friday 17th May at 19:30, they will be giving a special concert performance in aid of the Cathedral Choir School, which itself is Ireland's oldest National School, founded in 1432, and its sole remaining Choir School. The programme includes the irresistibly toe-tapping *Jazz Songs of Innocence* by Bob Chilcott, alongside a feast of other beautiful songs from Ireland, England, and the USA. Suitable for all ages.

FRIDAY 17TH MAY 2024 | 19:30 | TICKETS FROM €10 | BOOK ONLINE

BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY

Join us for a day of singing, activities, fun, and games! Open to children in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class. In recent years, our choristers have performed regularly on live television and radio, in front of VIPs (including the President of Ireland and the Pope), and on the stage of the Gaiety Theatre and the National Concert Hall, with both the National Symphony and RTÉ Concert Orchestras. They have also toured extensively, including most recently the USA, and recorded six critically-acclaimed CDs, the most recent of which was released in 2023.

SATURDAY 18TH MAY 2024 | 10:30-15:30 | LIMITED PLACES

Sign your child up for free: www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/sing

CATHEDRAL CONTACTS



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William Morton**
DEAN
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**The Revd Canon
Charles Mullen**
DEAN'S VICAR
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Master of the Music**
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Administrative Assistants
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Mr James Phelps
info@stpatrikscathedral.ie

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, at *adminstrator@stpatrikscathedral.ie*

SAFEGUARDING

The Cathedral's Safeguarding Policy can be viewed on our website.

If you have a general enquiry or any concern relating to safeguarding at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, please contact the DLP:

Mr Clark Brydon
Education & Safeguarding Officer

safeguarding@stpatrikscathedral.ie
+353 (0) 86 103 0931

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 +353 (0) 1 856 6856.

SUPPORT US



The ministry of Saint Patrick's Cathedral is made possible entirely through the support of individuals like you. The donations which we receive from people all over the world support our worship and music tradition, education programmes, and community outreach work, as well as contributing towards the vast cost of maintaining this historic building.

If you would like to support the Cathedral's mission and work, please consider donating securely online. You can scan the QR code or visit: spcd.ie/support



STAY IN TOUCH

You do not have to wait until the next edition of *Close News* to see the latest updates from the Cathedral! Why not follow us on social media or visit our website for up-to-date news and information? From our website, you can also sign up to our digital newsletter in order to receive news straight to your email.



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