

JUNE 2011





❖ THE JUNE DIARY

| | | |
|----|---------------|--|
| 11 | 18:30 | RSCM 'Come and Sing' concert |
| 19 | 11:15 | Eucharist Preacher: The Very Revd C.A. Lewis Dean of Christ Church, Oxford |
| 19 | 15:15 | Friends' Festival Service Preacher: The Very Revd V. Stock Dean of Guildford |
| 19 | 16:15 | Friends' Garden Party |
| 23 | 20:00 | David Leigh plays Pott's <i>Christus</i> as part of the Pipeworks festival |
| 25 | 09:00 – 17:00 | Dean's Gift Day |
| 26 | 15:15 | Preacher: The Revd D. Reeves Director the Soul of Europe |

❖ THE JUNE PRAYER

On 14 June 1541 Henry VIII was proclaimed King of Ireland in the Cathedral.

'Thou art the King of glory, O Christ: thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.'
(from the hymn Te Deum Laudamus.)

Lord Jesus Christ,
after death on the cross
you ascended into heaven to rule over us as Lord and King;
Help us to know that in bearing the cross gladly for your sake
we become partakers of your victory,
and citizens of your eternal Kingdom;
where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
now and for evermore. Amen.

CM



❖INSTALLATIONS

At Evensong on 1 May the newly-elected Prebendary of Tassagard, the Revd Ian Poulton, was installed along with the newly-appointed Prebendary of Donaghmore, the Revd Glenn West. The latter will represent the Diocese of Clogher on the Cathedral Chapter. Many parishioners of the two new canons were welcomed to the service, at which the preacher was Canon Catterall.



The Revd Ian Poulton and the Revd Glenn West

❖ADMISSION OF A MINOR CANON

The Dean and Chapter recently appointed the Revd Obinna Ulogwara as a minor canon. Mr Ulogwara was admitted to the college of minor canons by the Dean's Vicar at Evensong on Easter Day.



The Revd Obinna Ulogwara and The Dean



❖FAREWELL TO CHORISTERS



Mr David Leigh pictured with choristers and Canon Reed.

On Sunday 29 May the Cathedral choir said farewell to six choristers. Three girl choristers were each presented with a copy of Handel's *Messiah*, and three boy choristers were each presented with a copy of Handel's *Messiah* and their leaving certificate. Canon Reed presented each chorister with their gifts and thanked them for their commitment to the choir. It was good that Mr Barley and Mrs Hick were in the congregation for the ceremony.

❖ADMISSION OF CHORISTERS

Four new choristers were admitted to the choir at Evensong on Easter Day. Luke Stanley, Brad Hennessey, Alexander Smith and Christopher May were presented for admission by the Dean's Vicar and were admitted to the choir by the Precentor. All four boys were presented with their surplices as is customary on this occasion. The boys were welcomed into the Cathedral choir and wished many happy years of singing.



❖NOTES FROM SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

I don't think I remember a shorter summer term than this one. The school diary is packed full of activities and outings. In the last week, both senior and junior students have been on Biology Field trips; the juniors to Marlay Park, and the seniors to Knocksink Wood in Enniskerry. TY (Transition Year) students are going to Glendalough for two days of hiking – part of their *Gaisce* bronze medal challenge. Sports day was planned for Tuesday 17th May, but has been rearranged for Friday 20th May because of the visit to Ireland of Queen Elizabeth II.

Our May concert took place in the Cathedral on Tuesday 24th May at 3pm. This year the programme included an excerpt from a jazz mass, two choral pieces performed at the Wesley College Inter-Schools' Music Festival and a selection of solo performances from students throughout the school.

The school leavers' service in the Lady Chapel was held on Friday 27th May. Summer examinations also began on that day and the school year finishes off with the TY awards ceremony on Thursday 2nd June and a staff outing after school on Friday 3rd June.

Students and Staff were delighted to hear that Mrs Cullen and Mrs Ní Cheallaigh had given birth to beautiful baby boys recently, named Darragh and Malachi respectively. I congratulate both teachers.

More news in the autumn.

SH

❖DEAN'S GIFT DAY SATURDAY 25 JUNE 2011

'I hope that the new arrangements at the West end of the Cathedral will be generally welcome and especially the new glass doors. The next major project will be the Lady Chapel. The Friends have already agreed to pay for new lighting to be installed there, but I am appealing for help with the cleaning and redecoration of the chapel which we reckon will cost €500,000. I will be present in the Cathedral from 10.30 – 11.30 and 14.00 – 15.00 on the day to receive donations in person. If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a donation, please send a cheque made payable to Saint Patrick's Cathedral to the cathedral office. Many thanks for your continued support'.

Robert MacCarthy *Dean*



❖ **VOUNTEERING AT SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL**

You don't have to be retired, or otherwise free during the day-time, to lend a hand – but it helps! All the voluntary groups at the Cathedral are very interested in you. We especially need new members in the **Flower Guild** and **Volunteers** at Saint Patrick's. Here is a brief outline of what they do and whom you should contact:

Flower Guild: Members of the Guild assemble three times a year at the main festivals to make a special effort on those occasions. During the year each member comes in twice to do some flower arranging. Anyone that is an experienced flower arranger and is interested in joining the Flower Guild, please contact Pat Kane at the Cathedral at (01) 475 4817.

Volunteers at Saint Patricks: You can help greet our visitors and, if you wish, show people around to see the features of the Cathedral. You will find it very interesting to meet people who come from many lands. Training will be given. Please contact David Millar at (01) 475 4817 for more information.

Saint Patrick's Amateur Society of Change Ringers: Have you ever heard the glorious sound of the change ringing at Saint Patrick's? It is a very satisfying skill to develop and when you get there it gives you a great feeling of achievement. Please contact Charles Reede at (01) 475 4817 for further information.

❖ **CATHEDRAL TOURS**

From May 17 through to 30 September guided tours will be conducted in the Cathedral. These will be at 11:30 and 14:30. The tours will be conducted by volunteers and staff and we look forward to welcoming everyone to the Cathedral over the busy summer months. Normal visitor rates apply.



❖ EDUCATION OFFICER



Andrew Staunton Smith, Education Officer

Saint Patrick's Cathedral is delighted to announce the introduction of its new Education Programme. Spearheading this initiative is new member of staff Andrew Staunton Smith, who joins the Cathedral from the National Army Museum in London, having worked in the National Museum of Ireland prior to this. Andrew has been appointed as the Cathedral's Education Officer and we hope that his appointment will lead to many new and exciting developments.

The Education Programme will be rolled out over the coming months and it's hoped that it will entice a greater number of schools, colleges and educational groups to visit and explore the Cathedral. A variety of lectures and talks will also be taking place in the Cathedral so look out for news of these on our website.



❖ CATHEDRAL WEB-SITE



Archbishop Alan Harper & Gavan Woods, Administrator

The Cathedral web-site was entered into The Church of Ireland Magazine and Website competition 2011. The web-site won a highly commended prize and Gavan Woods received the prize from Archbishop Harper on behalf of the Cathedral staff. This year at General Synod, which was held at Armagh, the Cathedral took a stand to advertise both the Choir school and Grammar school and various Cathedral CDs and books were on display. The stand was manned by Mr Louis Parminter, Cathedral Manager, and Canon Mullen.

❖ PIPEWORKS FESTIVAL

David Leigh will perform Francis Pott's *Christus* on Thursday 23rd June at 8.00pm as part of the 2011 Pipeworks Festival. Tickets cost €15/€10 and are available from the Central Ticket Bureau www.ctb.ie or at the door. This monumental work occupied its composer from 1986 until 1990 and it lasts for over two hours. It was first performed on 11 April 1991 by Iain Simcock in Westminster Cathedral, London, before an audience of over 500. *Christus* has been justly recognized as an 'Everest' of the organ repertoire and has been performed by only six organists from among the world's virtuoso elite: (in chronological order of their respective first performances) Iain Simcock, Jeremy Filsell, David Goode, Robert Quinney, David Leigh and Kevin Bowyer.



❖ NEWS FROM THE CHOIR SCHOOL

Every Wednesday for 8 weeks the school is going swimming in DIT, Kevin Street. The teacher's name is Rosemary. She shows us how to swim properly. Swimming is an enjoyable activity and we are lucky to have this opportunity.

J & M, 4th class.

One Tuesday, the school went to Newgrange and Knowth. They are passage graves. We went to the Visitors' Centre and toured the exhibition. It was interesting. We had a worksheet and found the answers around the exhibition displays. Newgrange was strange and beautiful. Inside we saw lots of symbols. The tour guide turned off the lights and we saw a small amount of light coming up the passage – like it would be on the morning of the winter solstice. Knowth has lots of small tombs. We climbed to the top of one of them. We had a good time in Newgrange. I hope we go again.

R, 6th class.

The school garden is where we grow our carrots, beans, potatoes, turnips and onions. Our carrots and onions are doing very well because instead of us watering them, the rain does it for us! We also have beans growing in pots. The strawberry plants have berries but they are green. The potatoes have lots of leaves but we don't know yet if there are many potatoes under the soil. We are looking forward to eating them.

L, 5th class.

❖ PETER McVERRY TRUST

In reply to the Dean's question, *What do we do with homeless drug users?* The following is the reply from Father Peter McVerry:

I suppose the answer is that in the short term, very little. There are two aspects to responding to the problem: the first is challenging the attitudes of people, which tend – for very obvious and understandable reasons – to be negative and judgemental. People fear drug users, sometimes rightly so, and want to have as



little as possible to do with them. Most drug users are trying to deal with issues from childhood such as abuse or violence and find drugs their only way of coping. The sense of rejection by society only intensifies their problem. Even encouraging people to say 'hello' to people begging on the street (many of whom are drug users) can help to change attitudes and lift the spirits of those begging, whose experience is one of being ignored by those who pass by, as if they did not exist.

Education of the public around the issues of drugs, and how society should respond, is also necessary at this time. Our current response to the drug problem in Ireland clearly isn't working, as more and more drugs are available in more and more towns in Ireland. However, the public will not tolerate any other response than a criminal justice response, primarily out of ignorance of drugs. I think we could usefully organise more discussion for around the issue of drugs, to allow consideration of other responses such as decriminalisation of (some) drugs, or even legalisation of (some) drugs.

The second response is trying to help drug users, which is not a task for the general public but for organisations with trained staff. While the detox and treatment centres that exist generally do a good job, they are hopelessly inadequate for the numbers who need them. There are 28 detox beds in the whole country for over 15,000 heroin users! Waiting lists for treatment programmes can be anything from six months to three years, depending on where you live! In many parts of the country, there are no treatment services available at all! People can be encouraged to support organisations such as ourselves, Coolmine and the Simon Community all of whom depend heavily on voluntary funding.

But there is also a need for political response, to implement the Government's own commitment to offer treatment to drug users within four weeks of being assessed. It is hard to ask for more resources for drug treatment at this economic time, but treatment services pay for themselves in a reduction in crime and improvement in health, both of which take up considerable resources of the state. So whatever influence you, or people you are in contact with, have with Ministers, or with the media, can play a part in pushing the Government to give a higher priority to the drug problem, which is running out of control.

Peter McVerry SJ



❖ ASSISTANT CATHEDRAL SUPERVISOR

We regret to announce the resignation of Mr Christopher Nicholson from the post of Assistant Cathedral supervisor to which he was appointed last year.

In the short time that he has been with us Mr Nicholson has made a great contribution and we wish him well in his new post as Manager of Lough Cutra Castle estate in Co. Galway.

❖ CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, NEW ZEALAND

At its recent meeting, the Board decided to add €1,000 to the collection already made at a special service marking the extreme damage done to Christ Church, Cathedral, Christchurch, New Zealand, in the recent earthquake.

❖ CLOSE NEWS *via* E-MAIL

In order to reduce the cost of publishing and distributing *Close News*, we are endeavouring to distribute the magazine by e-mail to as many readers as possible. We request that, should you wish to receive your copy in electronic format, you send an e-mail message to elizabeth.lowrie@stpatrickscathedral.ie and a copy of each month's edition will be sent to you at your e-mail address.

❖ DEANERY ENTERTAINING

The Following were entertained to lunch on May 14:-

Dr Tim Jackson, Mr Justice Keane & Mrs Keane,

Professor T.B.H. & Dr McMurry.

RM



SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, DUBLIN

SPONSOR A CHORISTER



A donation of €50 will contribute towards the cost of sending the Cathedral Choristers on tour.



UK 4 – 8 August 2011

Birmingham & Gloucester Cathedrals



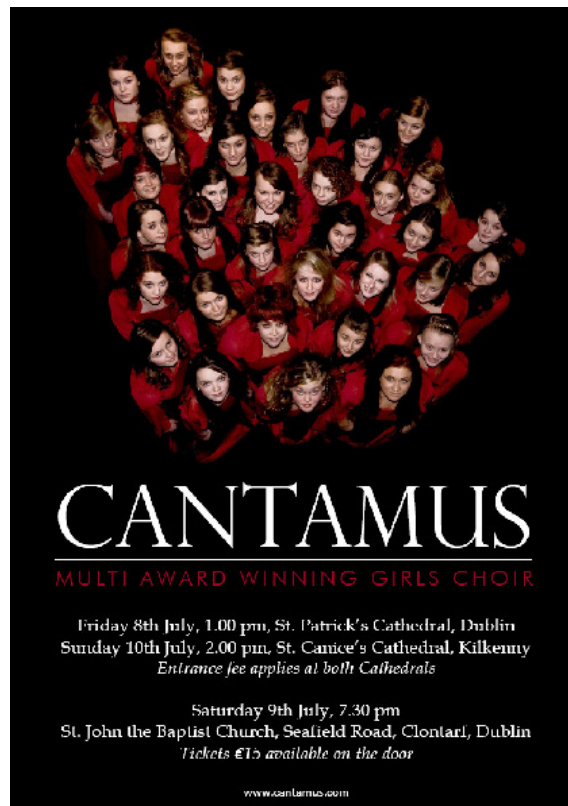
These tours truly are the experience of a lifetime for the choristers – however they can only happen with the cathedral community's support.



Please make your cheque payable to *Saint Patrick's Cathedral* and send it to Mr Stuart Nicholson at the Cathedral office.



❖ CANTAMUS



Cantamus will be performing at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 8 July at 1pm. Normal Cathedral admission rates apply.

❖ SERMON PREACHED BY CANON K.V. KENNERLEY ON SUNDAY 15 MAY 2011

You may well wonder why I should have been asked to speak here on IDAHO Day. I wondered the same myself. This time last year I had barely worked out that the day's title had nothing to do with the American state of that name, but stood for International Day Against Homophobia. Oh dear! I thought. I don't much like days that are AGAINST anything or any one – particularly in church. That's because as today's NT reading reminds us, “Christ has abolished the law - (that's the law regarding the division of Jews and Gentiles) - so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, to reconcile both groups to God in one body, putting their hostility to death through the cross”. Divisions between human groups and communities and factions are not of God; divisiveness



is against the teaching and practice of Christ; so let us strive not to define ourselves as AGAINST but FOR other human beings, however badly they may have behaved, however different their culture and traditional values are from our own.

But perhaps it is permissible to be against abstract concepts: “What do you think about sin?” an apocryphal clergyman was once asked. “I’m against it!” he replied. Yes, of course we are “against” sin, and I imagine every one here is “against” homophobia, in the sense that we deplore anti-gay rabble-rousing and incitement to hatred and violence, and we vigorously condemn the murder of any one on account of their sexual orientation or life style, as happened in Uganda early this year to David Kato – just as we condemn the recent gang-rapes of Lesbian women in South Africa, and the murders of gay men in our own city for that matter. Or any murder. Indeed we may conscientiously feel moved to sign petitions or write letters to the newspapers to express our outrage and our solidarity with the victims. So we ARE, I think I can safely say, “*AGAINST*” homophobia – against irrational fear and revulsion and aggression with regard to gay, Lesbian and transgendered people, aggression driven by whatever threat it might be imagined they represent. We are civilised, reasonable Christians, and I do not need to preach “against” this violent sort of homophobia to any one here.

But homophobia as an emotional state is only one of many phobias or irrational antagonisms that threaten the full flourishing of humanity made in the image of God. Perhaps because the primitive extended family or tribe had to compete for food and territory with neighbouring groups, it's all too natural for us to set ourselves in opposition to The Other, the Stranger, The Out-Group. The scape-goating ritual found in the Old Testament is repeated over and over again in human history, as we blame The Other for whatever is wrong in our situation, and do our best to expel them and to deny them the justice and the respect that is their due. Looking only at the history of the past hundred years, it could be Jews, women, the mentally or physically handicapped, Blacks, Asians, Muslims, the American right, the Communist Left, even Christians of different traditions to our own, or “secular humanism”, which I have heard ferociously denounced from an Irish pulpit. We need to be aware of our tendency to exclude whatever or whoever is alien, strange and unfamiliar to us. We need to take steps to correct any such alienophobia in ourselves, including, if the caps fits, any residual unease about accepting the committed gay partnerships in our community. Christ came to rescue us from such primitive antagonisms, to put an end to divisiveness and mutual exclusion – teaching us to accept and respect one another by his constant acceptance of the marginalised, the sinners, the unclean and the outcasts,



overcoming our alienations by his self-offering on the cross. But too often we refuse to be rescued; we even see Christians delighting in their dissensions; and the tragedy of the David Katos of our generation is compounded by the vehemence with which Anglican Christians around the world have recently been rejecting one another over sexuality issues and continue doggedly to do so. And to be frank, I see the Anglican Covenant, which our General Synod just “subscribed”, as inviting the quarrels to continue, laying down the ground rules for future challenges from one province to another in relation to a variety of areas which may legitimately vary between cultures. I appear to be in the minority, I know, but it seems to me that the Covenant's attempt to promote and enforce concord risks making fragmentation all the more likely. It might have been more effective to have simply called Christians of different cultures and traditions to respect one another's integrity and good faith, and to show Christ's love, not condemnation, to those from whom they differ, allowing that a variety of interpretation is inevitable in any church community.

So much for the questions relating to group identities and competing cultures.

There remains the question of our own personal world and the way we conduct our relationships, even the way we approach scripture in relation to ethical questions on which we differ from one another. And in this area let's concentrate on the matter of same-sex relationships once more.

It wouldn't surprise me to be told that many of us here, while declaring ourselves “gay friendly” and intolerant of homophobia, still find ourselves confused by what seems to be the condemnation of same-sex relations in the Bible. And while I am personally convinced after much study and meditation, that there is nothing in scripture which condemns faithful and committed sexual relationships between partners of the same gender, I have to recognise that there are many Christians who have not yet come to the same conclusion. I may hope that the Holy Spirit will so lead them, but I must also be aware that we can *all* fall into the trap of interpreting scripture to fit our own world view, rather than allowing it to challenge our preconceptions. So I think some all-inclusive Bible study sessions are called for.

We ourselves may also harbour, even subconsciously, elements of the traditional fear of homosexuality because we have not got around to carefully reconsidering all the traditional views we grew up with. We need to do that work, not only for our own peace of mind, but so that we can help others to leave behind the once common view that all homosexuals are promiscuous, predatory and possibly paedophile, and to recognise the moral uprightness of the committed gay partnerships around us. Such couples demand our respect, our acceptance and full



and unquestioned inclusion in the community of the church. They have been deeply hurt by the refusal of fellow Christians to offer them that acceptance and respect, and it is time we took steps to heal that hurt, by opening our hearts and holding out our hands to invite them in, asking forgiveness for our hard-heartedness.

That our church authorities have still not seen fit to offer such inclusion seems to me a scandal and a failure of Christian vision and leadership. It might even be seen as political cowardice. but, it is not quite so easy. Even our own House of Bishops is divided on the matter, and as I already pointed out, we do need to respect the conscientious views of others, even when they are hurtful to us or to our friends. And the prophet needs to keep in touch with all the people. So the only way forward I see is that of dialogue, mutual listening, in a setting in which we all pledge ourselves to be deeply open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. This is how we proceeded thirty years ago in the Women's Ministry Group in the Church of Ireland – no bra-burning or banner waving, but instead persistent invitations to discussion and a search for mutual understanding in which, while we expressed hurt at being rejected, we still invited our opponents to express *their* anxieties and misgivings.

Changing Attitude Ireland has, I know, already made a start on this, approaching individual bishops to request conversation on the central issues; but far better than this one-at-a-time approach would be a meeting with a goodly number of bishops and opinion-leaders in the church simultaneously. Ideally we might hope for a widely attended Conference led by individuals who have studied the issues in depth, from biblical, theological and psychological perspectives. It will not be an easy road so long as the Anglican Communion remains conflicted and indeed confused on the issues; but it is a road we are called to take. Inclusion, not exclusivity, is the Christian way – Jew and Gentile, slave and free, male and female, and, by extension, gay and straight. I cannot believe that our saviour (who is not recorded as ever having addressed the issue of same-sex relationships) could lead us in any other way. But let us proceed gently and with understanding of the fears of those who differ from us. A little rhyme by Edward Markham shows us the way:

“He drew a circle that shut me out, Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But Love and I had the wit to win, We drew a circle that took him in.”

May the Lord of life, who loves all that he has made, forgive us our hard hearts, our blindness, Our cowardice, and our divisions, and by the power of the Holy Spirit bring us together into the peace and light of his eternal love. Amen.



❖ LETTER BY THE DEAN

The following letter by the Dean appeared in *The Times* (of London) on May 28: following a letter from a Dr Bennett writing from Ripon who suggested that Saint Patrick's should be handed over to the Roman Catholic church as a gesture of reconciliation.

Dear Sir,

Dr Christopher Bennett (May 23) seems to have an essentially 19th century view of Irish church history.

Before the Reformation there was only one Christian Church in England and Ireland. At the Reformation the majority in England followed the crown's religious practices. In Ireland for entirely non-theological reasons the majority did not conform to the Established Church. In both countries, the mediaeval churches belong to the established and non-established churches by exactly the same title – by possession.

What happened at Kilkenny Cathedral, where I once served, will illustrate the point: John B. Thonery who was appointed bishop with the Pope's approval during Mary's reign continued to rule the see and into that of Elizabeth until he died in 1565 "it is said of grief at the loss of some money".

Incidentally Saint Patrick's has never claimed to be other than the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland which covers all 32 counties of Ireland, not just the Republic.

Some years ago the General Synod approved the admission of two non-Church of Ireland canons as full voting members of the chapter. SO we are making a slow start on making Saint Patrick's into an ecumenical Cathedral something that was suggested by Father Michael Hurley SJ in a book on Irish Anglicanism published as long ago as 1970.

Yours sincerely,
Robert MacCarthy
Dean of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.



❖ CATHEDRAL SERVICES

Sunday

08.30 The Holy Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel*)
11.15 Sung Eucharist / Choral Matins
15.15 Choral Evensong

Monday to Friday

09.00 Sung Matins (*during school term*)
11.05 The Holy Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel on
Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saints' Days and Festivals*)
17.30 Choral Evensong

Saturday

11.05 The Holy Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel*)

❖ CATHEDRAL CANONS-IN-RESIDENCE

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| June 5 | The Revd C.W. Mullen | <i>Prebendary of Rathmichael</i> |
| June 12 | The Very Revd K. Newell | <i>Prebendary of Finglas</i> |
| June 19 | The Very Revd P.J. Knowles | <i>Prebendary of Stagonil</i> |
| June 26 | The Ven. R.E.B. White | <i>Prebendary of Castleknock</i> |

❖ CATHEDRAL CONTACTS

Dean: The Very Revd Robert MacCarthy (475 5449 / 453 9472)

Dean's Vicar: The Revd Canon Charles Mullen (453 9472)

Administrator: Mr Gavan Woods (453 9472)

Cathedral Manager/Vergger: Mr Louis Parminter (475 4817)

Cathedral Assistant Manager: Mr Chris Nicholson (475 4817)

Cathedral Office:

Dean's Secretary and Office Manager: Mrs Jennifer Hickey

Tour Accounts: Mrs Joy Stewart

Organist and Master of the Choristers: Mr Stuart Nicholson (453 9472)

Assistant Organist and Director of the Girls' Choir:

Mr David Leigh (475 3298)

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