



SAINT
PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL
DUBLIN

CLOSE NEWS

APRIL 2021



Liturgy
Page 2

News
Page 8

Music
Page 17

Contact Us
Page 22

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

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

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

09:00	Sung Matins (during school term)
-------	----------------------------------

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

17.30	Choral Evensong / Evening Prayer
-------	----------------------------------

Wednesday

17:30	Evening Prayer
-------	----------------

APRIL PREACHERS

April 4	The Very Revd W. W. Morton	<i>Dean & Ordinary</i>
April 11	The Revd D. W. T. Crooks	<i>Prebendary of Howth</i>
April 18	The Revd G. V. Wharton	<i>Prebendary of Dunlavin</i>
April 25	Vacant	<i>Prebendary of Tassagard</i>

A SHOT FROM THE CANON

On a tour of the roof works I was pleased to encounter a carving, on the organ chamber frieze, of the head of a man who appears to have enjoyed a prolonged ‘liquid lunch’. Such rumbustiousness, grotesqueness even, would shock the sensitive – he’s well-concealed – but his presence teaches us a lesson. Saint Paul wrote that Christ died for us while we were still sinners: he meets us where we are and saves us because we go astray. The Easter victory of life over death is the power of love that reaches down to us if only we would grasp it.



CM

THE APRIL PRAYER

God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Romans 5: 8

O Lord our God,

we adore you for the rising of your Son

and for his victory over death;

as you share your bread with sinners

give us the will to hunger for your mercy

and thirst for your righteousness;

that we may come to you the source of all life and hope;

through the same your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CM

EASTER SERMON

One of the most moving ceremonies in Holy Week is the stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday. As the evening Eucharist of the Last Supper finishes, the linen cloths, sacred vessels, burse and veil, candles, books, and all other movable signs and reminders of our faith are taken out of the sanctuary, which is left an empty space, a place of waiting, with the starkness of the bare altar in preparation for Good Friday. Our souls are bare as well, as we begin to walk through the rest of the weekend.

That is not the end of the matter, however. Over the past year, other practices, and traditions, which we held, and hold, dear, have also been stripped away. The cathedral has had to close its doors to our congregation, and others who would wish to attend. The worship has had to be offered in a different way. The choir stalls, and pews, are empty, and stark. You hear my voice emanating from your desktop or laptop. A stark reality. An emptiness.

It made me think. I thought of another person who experienced emptiness, shockingly, and terrifyingly. Mary Magdalene, who had stood at the Cross as Jesus died, comes to the tomb early on the Sunday morning, while it was still dark, to anoint Jesus' body. She had not been able to do it the day before, which was the Sabbath, and although they did not use this language then, she was self-isolating.

What she finds initially is an empty space. The tomb is bare, stark. There is a confusing vision of angels, but their message seems to be just one of absence: he is not here, he is risen. Mary is bewildered; she has not a clue what this

means. She stands outside, weeping. Then, suddenly, she sees someone she thinks is the gardener, who asks her why she's weeping, and for whom she's looking. Through her tears she asks him if he knows where the body of Jesus has been taken. He looks at her for a moment, and I suppose in that empty space, she looked at him, though still not knowing. Then he speaks her name, and she recognises him.

Mary then does what we all long to do with those we love, that which pains us most when we are isolated and separated from those we love: she holds him. Jesus responds, however, with challenging words: 'Do not hold on to me,' he says. While she was the first witness to the resurrection, Mary is told she must not hold on to Jesus. And here we are, on this Easter Day, separated from one another, yet still united around Christ.

There is a very real sense, is there not, this Holy Week and Easter, that, while things may have been stripped away from us, so we are brought to the very heart of our faith, standing alone before the Cross of Christ and seeing God's loving purposes for the world? We find ourselves standing alone on Easter morning in a place of emptiness, unable to receive Holy Communion, allowing Jesus to ask us why we are weeping and what we are looking for, and maybe even hearing him call our name.

These stark experiences – and that is what they are – of not being able to experience worship as we did for so long, of having to worship in our homes, on our own or in isolation, or with a few close family members, might strengthen, and sharpen, our faith actually. It is exactly from those experiences of what we might call emptiness that hope is born. The emptiness of the tomb was the catalyst of Mary's proclamation that she has seen the Lord.

Mary, like the other women, went to the tomb in the dark, and found the light and hope of Christ risen from the dead. Mary Magdalene turned the disciples' world back to light; that woman who, as a previous Archbishop of Canterbury, Lancelot Andrewes, said was "last at the cross, and first at the tomb."

It is out of this emptiness that we find hope as never before. God turned the values of the world totally upside down. The emptiness of the tomb, the space where Jesus' body had been lying, which gave rise to the worst imaginable fears, is miraculously transformed. Jesus is alive for evermore, and to this day the resurrection of Jesus is the solid foundation of all hopes for a better world.

Even in the dark days of this Easter, a second Easter under lockdown, we can nurture ourselves on hope. We can dream of life in all its fullness after the pandemic. We can long to open the doors of the cathedral, and of our homes, to sharing together, to appreciating life in all its richness, always savouring every moment.

God forbid that, after the agonising wait for many individuals, families (among them children), friends and loved ones, for what passes as normality to return, that anyone would dash their hopes, or erode their dreams. That is why it is so vitally important that the Covid-19 vaccine is administered as quickly as ever possible. It is totally reprehensible that the EU, as happened over a week ago, should contemplate 'forbidding' exports of batches of vaccines while people are losing their life to the virus. Understandably, there must be rules which should be implemented, but the vaccine should never become a bargaining tool, or pawn, when human lives are at stake

In the weeks and months that followed the Resurrection, emptiness was transformed into hope. The followers of Jesus had a new vision of justice, they shared their goods, they cared for each other so powerfully that over time the world changed, and changes to this day. This was a vision of the Kingdom of God come on earth, where death would not be the end.

Yet in the resurrection of Jesus, God lights a fire which calls us to justice, to live in humble generosity, to transform our societies. We must do just that, so that emptiness is transformed by the Presence of the risen Lord into hope and love in abundance. Among the strongest strands of that hope is our anticipation of being able to meet soon again in our beloved cathedral for the worship of Almighty God.

WM

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are expressed to The Reverend Canon Gary Hastings, Rector of Holy Trinity, Killiney, on the recent death of his wife, Caitríona, after a long illness. As Rector of Galway, Canon Hastings was Prebendary of Kilmactalway on the Chapter of Saint Patrick's Cathedral until his move to Dublin in April 2018. We assure Canon Hastings and his family of our thoughts and prayers.

CHAPTER NEWS FROM THE CHAPTER CLERK

At a meeting by Zoom on Monday 15 March the Chapter elected The Very Revd Kenneth Hall, Dean of Clogher, as Prebendary of Tassagard to succeed The Revd Samuel McVeigh. We elected too The Revd Ian Gallagher, rector of Stillorgan and Blackrock and sometime Prebendary of Mulhuddart, as Prebendary of Tipperkevin to succeed The Revd Robert Warren. The Dean paid tribute at the meeting to the former prebendaries.

I wish these two canons-elect well as they prepare for new responsibilities. There are now six new canons in the arrivals lounge awaiting ceremonies of installation, so a lengthy festival of mandate-reading at Evensong is in prospect...

CM

SERVICES ON-LINE

Owing to the continuation of Level 5 restrictions, all services are currently being live streamed from the Cathedral website:

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship/video-stream.

We hope to welcome back the Lay vicars to sing Evensong later in the month, and the choristers to sing Matins as soon as possible.

We are sorry that we are unable to welcome you to the Cathedral in person but do hope you will join with us on-line.

EASTER LILIES

There is a tradition in Saint Patrick's Cathedral of donating an Easter lily in memory of loved ones. We remember with thanksgiving to Almighty God, those in whose memory a lily has been given:



Edith Wilkinson; Judith Wilkinson; Arthur Moyse; Len and Melbie Mills;
Mary and Harry Bruce; Gillian and David Yeo; Clive Penman;
Freddy Condell; Kieran O'Kelly; Doreen and Reg Kerr; Baby Lily James;
Canon Bob Reed; Ann Budd; George & Mary Stephenson;
June McDonald; Betty Dalton; Maura O'Connor; Robert Kirkpatrick;
John & Anne O'Connor; Cecil Sparks; Gladys Sparks; Philip Jackson;

Richard Todd; Frederick Mullen; Christine Mullen;

Maurice and Norah Walker; Aileen Dunbar; Raymond Walker;

Irene F. Wilson; Tommie Wilson; Josie Power; Leo Power;

Amandor Hernandez; Mrs Joyce Wynne; Willie Bermingham;

Mary & Bill Bermingham; Brodie & Cecelia Kelly;

Adrienne Kelly; Leona Kelly; Thomas, Bernie & Stephen Bermingham;

Anne Carter (nee Kelly); Joe Cooney; Liam O'Cuanagh; Karl Bermingham;

Norman Bannister; Marjorie Darling; Joe Darling; Wilfred H.B. Holmes;

James Hollowed; Josie Hollowed; Jimmy Hollowed;

Hugh Thompson (infant); Florence Halliday; Ellen Christina Morton;

William Morton; Maura Morton; Joseph (Joe) Morton; Richard Mullen;

Robert (Roy) Simpson McWhirter; Florence Eileen Bell;

Dorothy Frances Redding; Donald Deane;

Maura Hand; Archdeacon Wayne Carney;

Lee Robertson; Robby Robertson; Brian Thompson;

Joyce 'Joy' Laycock; Dean Victor Stacey;

Canon Aiden Jones; Brian Cooke; Teresa Molloy;

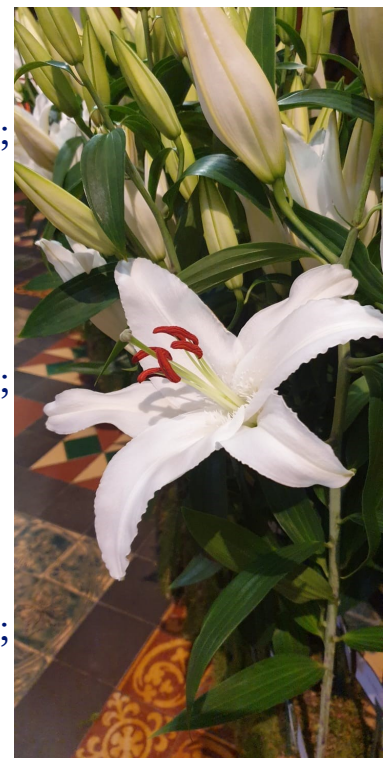
Damien Molloy; John Buckley; Leslie & Ina God;

Arthur & Olive Good;

Annie Good; Aiden Good; Patrick Richardson;

Anne Richardson; Lily Beatty; Marjorie Hampton;

Norman Pope; Marjorie Gibson;



Eileen Lowe; Yvonne Marshall; Frank Lowe; Bill Magowan;
Lily Laing; Rose Maher; Noel Miller; Meaghan Miller;
Annie Miller; Ron Milne; Anna Duggan; P.J. Byrne; Christina Dury;
John & Mary Osbourne; Cara; Charlie Reed.



THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

The intercessions at the Eucharist direct us to pray for the Church and for the world. As we focus our thoughts in these directions, there is much scope for us to intercede within The Church of Ireland, in both jurisdictions. Given that our Church forms an integral part of the world-wide Anglican Communion, however, it is good to focus beyond our own shores and remember the plight of so many who both desire, and need, our prayers across the world.

It is precisely for this reason that from time to time Close News includes some information from the Anglican Communion website, and encourages readers to intercede for those who suffer in certain war-torn and poverty-stricken areas.

To begin with our own land, and the Church's witness, please pray for a healing of community tensions in Northern Ireland, where over the last week or more, violence has erupted on the streets again. There have been scenes recently which have reminded us of days which we hope had been left behind for ever. Sadly, this is not the case. This is an alarming situation; we need to pray for a sense of calm, reason and good neighbourliness to prevail; and that community tensions and grievances are resolved only by dialogue and the creation of greater mutual understanding.

The Anglican Communion website has given focus, much further from home, to the situation in Myanmar, formerly Burma. The Secretary General, Archbishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon, urges all Christians to pray for the people of Myanmar whose country is being rent asunder by violence, that wisdom may prevail and that enduring peace will come.

The conflict has been continuing in the northern part of Myanmar's Rakhine State, characterised by sectarian violence between the Rohingya Muslim and Rakhine Buddhist communities, a military crackdown on Rohingya civilians by Myanmar's security forces, and militant attacks by Rohingya insurgents. The conflict arises chiefly from the religious and social differentiation between the Rakhine Buddhists and Rohingya Muslims.

Meanwhile, the recent bloodthirsty raid by jihadist militants from the Islamic State group (IS) in northern Mozambique has shocked the world. Hundreds of well-armed fighters were able to overrun a town close to Africa's largest gas project. They massacred dozens of people, locals and expatriates, leaving decapitated bodies strewn around the streets.

In a pattern that has repeated itself elsewhere in the world, such as in Mali, Iraq and Nigeria, this insurgency grew out of local people's grievances at feeling marginalised and discriminated against by their own government.

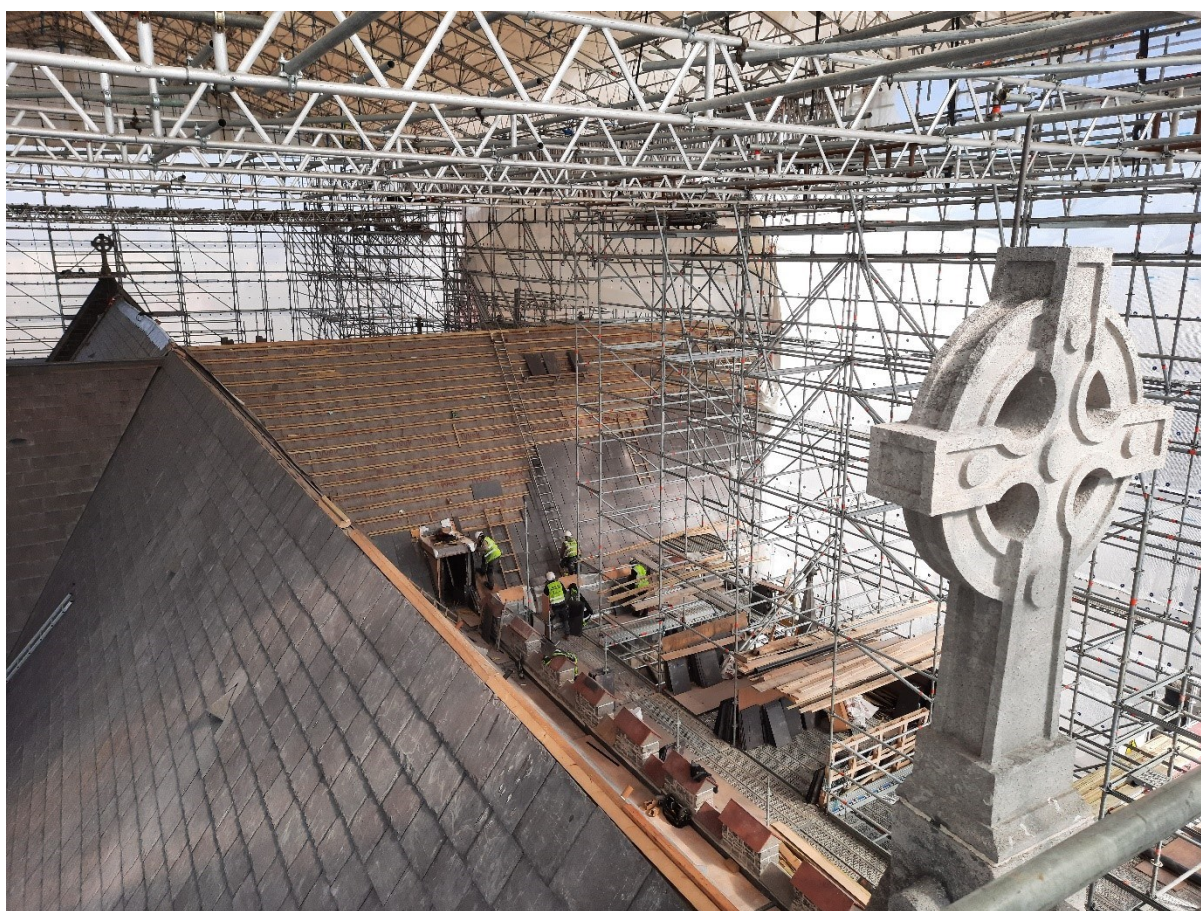
Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province, where they operate, is more than 1,600 km (990 miles) away from the capital Maputo but it contains the largest and richest Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) project in Africa. Operated by the French company Total, it is estimated to be worth US\$60bn (£44bn) with investment from countries including the UK.

Local residents complain they have seen little of this wealth or investment passing down into their community which prompted the beginnings of the insurgency in 2017, later becoming "internationalised" as they gained support from IS.

As we intercede for the Church and for the world, here are three areas deserving of our prayers. **WM**

THE ROOF PROJECT

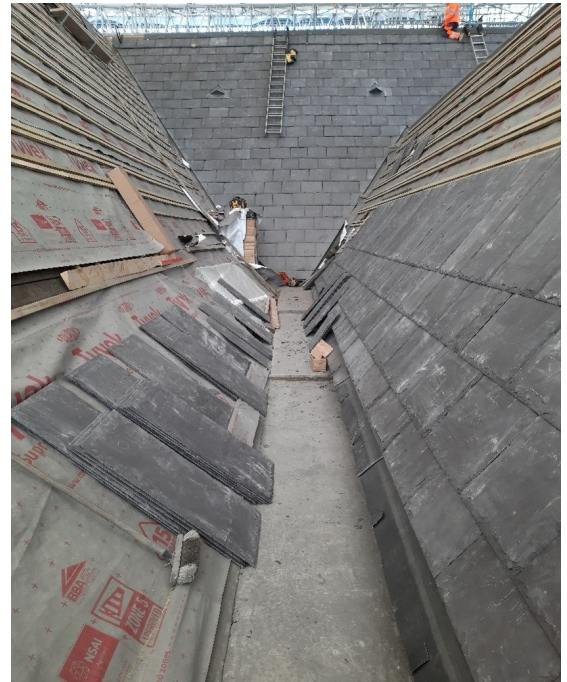
As the Roof Project nears completion, the onerous work of dismantling the scaffolding has begun this week. We look forward to seeing the Cathedral in all its glory, naked of scaffolding and tarpaulin, in the coming weeks. Below are some up-to-date photographs of the work.



South Transept and Choir



*Valley between choir and organ
loft 2016 (above): 2016 (right).*



Organ loft - East gable



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



NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Daily Worship Webcasts:

Weekdays at 5.30pm Evening Prayer/Choral Evensong

Sundays at 3.15pm Choral Evensong

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship/video-stream

Stars & Stripes Forever (July 4 at 6.15pm)

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/july4

Saint Patrick's Cathedral: After Dark (October 31 at 6.15pm)

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/after-dark

SPONSOR A CHORISTER 2021

In previous years we have run these schemes to help fund the choristers' tours, and thanks to your generosity we've enjoyed some fabulous trips to sing in Edinburgh, Gloucester, Chester, Chichester, St Alban's & Durham Cathedrals as well as our most "recent" tour to Sweden back in 2019. This year, we are asking for donations to help continue funding the choristers' instrumental and vocal tuition. In any normal year, the Choristers enjoy access to free tuition with our visiting music staff as well as generous bursaries for those studying privately. Sadly, we've had to limit this due to financial restraints. Your donation will help us keep this vital training going until such time as a little normality returns.

Please make your cheques payable to Saint Patrick's Cathedral, marking the reverse "Sponsor a Chorister". *Thank you for all your generosity over the years, it is always very much appreciated!*

SN

CAN YOUR CHILD SING?

Is your child starting 3rd or 4th class this September? Do they enjoy singing?

Would you like to open up a world of amazing opportunities and experiences for them?

A Choristership could be just the thing...

My experience at Saint Patrick's gave my life as a musician a positive sense of direction and purpose it could not otherwise have had. I'd do it all again in a flash!"

Peter McMahon, chorister (1979-82),

Theatre director, Hamburg, Germany.

Becoming a Cathedral Chorister opens a world of exciting performing opportunities including regular broadcasts, concerts, recordings & tours.

The choristers are educated at the Cathedral Choir School (a Co-educational National School) which is renowned for the excellence of its teaching staff, and for its friendliness: small classes mean a real focus and care for each child. It is also unique in being the only choir school in the country, as well as being the oldest school in Ireland.

Saint Patrick's Cathedral Choir School was founded in 1432 by Archbishop Richard Talbot to provide for the education of the choristers and was originally housed in what is now the robing room of the Cathedral.

The Cathedral Choir School has had an almost continuous history since its foundation, the two interruptions being the Reformation and Cromwell's Commonwealth.

Nearly 600 years on, the choir school continues to educate the choristers and is now a two-teacher, co-educational school under the patronage of the Church of Ireland providing education to pupils from third to sixth class.

Admission into the school is via a voice trial – for details, please email

music@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Becoming a Cathedral Chorister opens a world of exciting performing opportunities including regular broadcasts, concerts, recordings & tours. Want to learn more? Visit the cathedral website: www.stpatrickscathedral.ie



SN

Admission into the Choir School is via a voice trial/audition (a very simple one to determine vocal potential, we normally get them to sing something very simple like ‘Twinkle little star’) and an informal chat with the parents and Principal if they show the potential to be a Cathedral Chorister and these are open to boys & girls currently in the 2nd year. Whilst they would usually start in the Choir in the September of 3rd class, it is possible to start at other times depending on places available. Auditions are available throughout the year, and the staff are always happy to meet prospective parents informally, especially if they would like guidance about their child’s potential for a Choristership.

During the last few years, the choristers have performed regularly live on TV and Radio, in front of VIPs including the President and His Holiness The Pope, on the stage of Gaiety Theatre and the National Concert Hall with both the RTÉ Symphony and Concert Orchestras, have toured extensively and recorded 5 critically acclaimed commercial CDs the most recent of which was released in 2020. Would you like to organise a voice trial? – Fill out a [REGISTER OF INTEREST FORM](#) and email it back to us at music@stpatrickscathedral.ie and we’ll contact you to arrange an audition.

Useful contacts:

Jennifer McCormack, Principal, Saint Patrick’s Cathedral Choir School, Saint Patrick’s Close, Dublin 8.

Email: admin@saintpatrickschoirschool.com

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

Email: music@stpatrickscathedral.ie

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.

CATHEDRAL CONTACTS

Saint Patrick's Cathedral

Saint Patrick's Close

Dublin

D08 H6X3

Tel: 00353 1 453 9472.

Office: Telephone: 453 9472

E-mail: info@stpatrickscathedral.ie

CLERGY

Dean

The Very Revd Dr William W. Morton

dean@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Dean's Vicar

The Revd Canon Charles W. Mullen

deans.vicar@stpatrickscathedral.ie

You can follow us on

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

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/stpatsdub>

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

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



Administrator

Mr Gavan Woods.

administrator@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Dean's Secretary and Office Manager

Mrs Rowena Janota

officemanager@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Master of the Music

Mr Stuart Nicholson

music@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Organist and Assistant Master of the Music

Mr David Leigh

Cathedral Manager and Dean's Verger

Mr Louis Parminter

manager@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Cathedral Assistant Manager and Safety Officer

Mr Kenneth Hartnett

safety@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Vergers

Mr John Kinirons;

Mr Derek Tobin; Mr Aaron Hoey;

Mr John Reardan.

vergers@stpatrickscathedral.ie





Editorial & Circulation
The Deanery Office, Kevin Street Upper
Dublin, D08 AW65
Telephone: 453 9472

Editors:
The Revd Canon Charles Mullen
Mr Gavan Woods
Features Editor:
Mrs Elizabeth Lowrie