

CLOSE NEWS

December 2021 / January 2022



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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 - Friday

17.30	Choral Evensong
Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday	
11.05	Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)

DECEMBER PREACHERS

December 5	The Revd R. L. Smyth	<i>Prebendary of Taney</i>
December 12	The Revd A. W. A. Mayes	<i>Prebendary of Newcastle</i>
December 19	The Revd K. M. Poulton	<i>Prebendary of Swords</i>
December 25	The Very Revd W. W. Morton	<i>Dean & Ordinary</i>
December 26	The Revd P. R. Campion	<i>Precentor</i>

A SHOT FROM THE CANON

Mary laid her baby in a manger, a crude device made of wood and nails. The angel had told her that her new-born infant was the Son of the Most High, a ruler for ever, but still she saw and felt the wood and the nails as she tended her first-born son. Mary looked on as Joseph, her carpenter husband, worked daily with wood and nails. Mary, ever faithful, looked on through sorrowful tears while her beloved son worked the world's salvation on the cross, a crude device made of wood and nails. I wish you a peaceful, thoughtful Christmas.

CM

JANUARY PREACHERS

January 2	The Revd J. D. M. Clarke	<i>Prebendary of Tipper</i>
January 9	The Revd C. W. Mullen	<i>Resident Preacher</i>
January 16	The Most Revd M. G. St. A. Jackson	<i>Prebendary of Cualaun & Visitor</i>
January 23	The Revd C. W. Mullen	<i>Prebendary of Rathmichael</i>
January 30	The Very Revd N. J. Sloane	<i>Chancellor</i>

PRAYING WITH THE PREBEND

Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger. (Luke 2: 7)

When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her near the cross, he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' (John 19: 26)

Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown
When thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For thy holy nativity:
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
There is room in my heart for thee.

Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
That should set thy people free;
But with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn
They bore thee to Calvary:
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
There is room in my heart for thee.

Emily Elliott (1836–97)

The Cathedral Office will be closed on Friday 24 December until Monday 3rd January. A telephone answering machine will be available for anyone wishing to leave a message.

THE CATHEDRAL DIARY - DECEMBER 2021

Friday 10th December
Culwick Choral Society
20:00

Friday 17th December
Grammar School Carol
Service
11:00

Friday 17th December
Handel by Candle
19:30

Sunday 19th December
Nine Lessons & Carols
15:15
(No ticket required)

Friday 24th December
Nine Lessons & Carols
16:00
(Ticket required)

Saturday 25th
December
Festival Eucharist
11:15

CHAPTER NOTES FROM THE CHAPTER CLERK

The Chapter met on-line on Monday 15 November to elect a Prebendary of Castleknock to succeed the Revd Paul Houston, recently retired. The Revd Paul Ian Arbuthnot was elected. As he's a former choral scholar and lay vicar here it's a question of welcoming him back to the Cathedral: we shall do this at Matins on Sunday 9 January. Canon-elect Arbuthnot is rector of Cobh and Glanmire in the united dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross.

We extend our good wishes to the Revd Nigel Pierpoint, one of our minor canons, who was recently instituted to the parish of Taney as rector in succession to Canon Robert Warren, formerly Prebendary of Tipperkevin.

CM

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD

Sunday 19th December - 15:15 - Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

(No ticket required)

Friday 24th December - 16:00 - Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

(Ticket holders only)

Saturday 25th December - 11:15 Christmas Day Festival Eucharist

Sunday 26th December - 11:15 Eucharist of St Stephen's Day

Sunday 2nd January - 15:15 Epiphany Carol Service

THE CATHEDRAL GIFT SHOP

Christmas is coming! Please visit the Gift Shop when you're next in the Cathedral where we have Christmas items for sale, including a new venture: Christmas hampers filled with bespoke products. The Gift Shop is currently being re-merchandised so do please come and browse. The shop is a major revenue source for the Cathedral. Your custom is very much appreciated. Staff will be delighted to help you with your purchases.



CONSTRUCTION



Chris Clancy, The Dean, and Lorcan Hickey

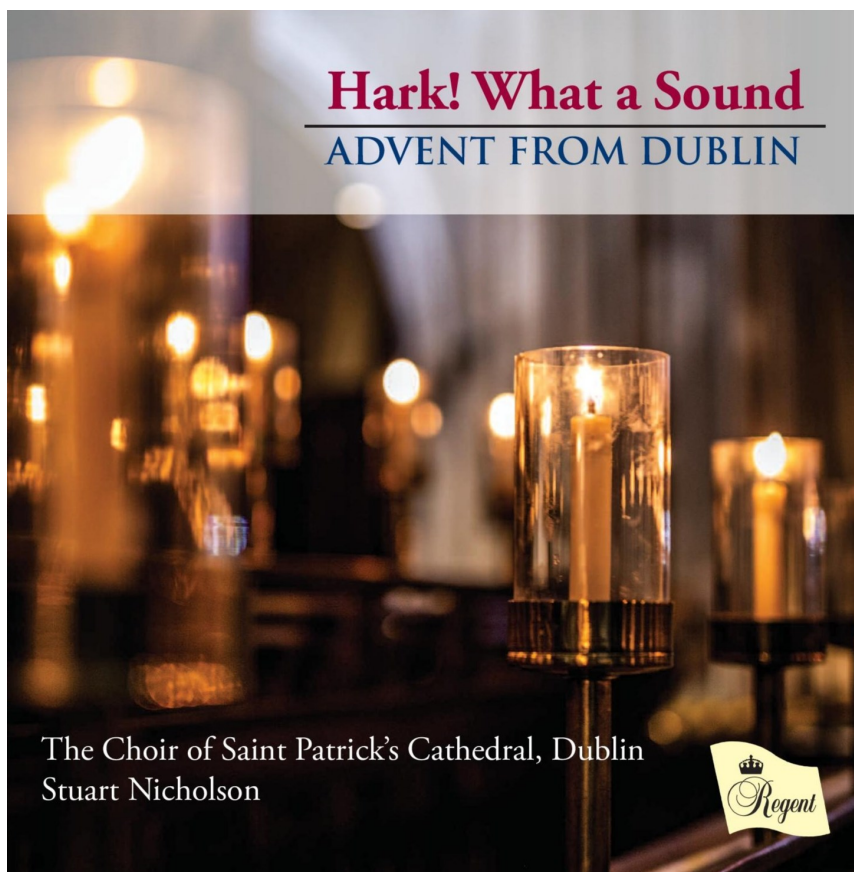
The superb work carried out by the main contractor, Clancy Construction, and the team of sub-contractors on our roof project is to feature in a prestigious magazine, *Construction*, the official publication of the Construction Industry Federation which covers news, topical issues, member activities, economic trends, new products and developments covering all sectors of the industry. As the most widely circulated building magazine in Ireland, *Construction* informs key decision-makers on the issues affecting the industry.

Freelance photographer, Maura Hickey, who visited the cathedral recently to take some pictures for *Construction*, was interested to learn about the project from Mr Chris Chambers, Dublin Regional Director, Clancy Construction, and Mr Lorcan Hickey, Site Manager, accompanied by the Dean.

VISIT OF THE LORD MAJOR



The Dean was delighted to welcome The Lord Mayor, Councillor Alison Gilliland to the Cathedral to learn about the roof project.



Hark! What a Sound ADVENT FROM DUBLIN

The Choir of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin
Stuart Nicholson



For sale at the
Cathedral shop.

ACTORS' MEMORIAL EVENSONG



The President and Mrs Higgins pictured with Dean Morton and Canon Jennifer McWhirter.

H.E. The President of Ireland, Mr Michael D. Higgins, and his wife, Sabina, were present in the Cathedral for Choral Evensong on two consecutive Sunday afternoons – for Remembrance Sunday, on 14 November, and for the Evensong in memory of actors, artists, musicians and entertainment professionals on 21 November. The address at the latter was given by the Director of the Arts Council of Ireland, Ms Maureen Kennelly. The First Lesson was read by Ms Rose Henderson, while the Prayers were led by Stephen Murphy, Lisa O'Neill, Sean Hillen, Linzi Cowap, P. J. Brady and Bryan Dobson. The names of the faithful departed were read by Joe Conlon to the playing of the uilleann pipes by David Power. Grateful thanks are expressed to the Dean's Vicar, Canon Charles Mullen, for his tremendous help composing the prayers, and, with Mr Ken Hartnett, for organising the service.

FROM THE ARCHIVES - HOW WE HAVE PROGRESSED



St. Patrick's Cathedral Dublin



CLOSE NEWS FEBRUARY 1993

DIARY

Saturday 20th

3.00 p.m. Eucharist. Friends of Christ Church Cathedral join with the Friends of St. Patrick's for service. This will be followed by a conducted tour of the Cathedral and light refreshments in the Assembly Hall.

Monday 22nd

4.30 p.m. Meeting of Cathedral Board

Ash Wednesday 24th

9.40 a.m. Sung Eucharist (Boys' Voices)

Friday 26th

8.00 p.m. National Concert Hall. Peter Mack, piano with the RTE Concert Orchestra - Strauss "Burlesque" and Caesar Franck "Symphonic Variations". Booking NCH £10, £8. and £7.

Saturday 27th

8.00 p.m. Wine and Savoury Evening sponsored by the Choirboys Parents Association.

MARCH

Wednesday 10th

8.00 p.m. 'The Alternative St. Patrick's'. Talk by the cathedral archivist, Roy Byrne. Sponsored by the Friends.

Saturday 13th

Past Choristers & Past Pupils Association Reunion Dinner.

Sunday 14th

7.30 p.m. Sportspeoples' Service. Address by Donacha O'Dea, Former Olympian and International Swimmer. The lessons will be read by the Presidents of the Irish Swimming Association and the Irish Ladies' Golfing Union. Both Associations are celebrating their centenaries this year. The collection will be in aid of the Salvation Army.

Wednesday 17th
St. Patrick's Day.

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in Irish.
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist. Attended by the members of the Friendly Brothers of St. Patrick.
Preacher: The Right Rev. J. Mehaffey, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe.

Thursday 18th

Dean preaches at the Institution of the Rev. George Butler in Drung Parish.

Thursday 25th

7.45 p.m. Evening for Tourist Guides in the Cathedral.

Sunday 28th
Passion Sunday

11.15 a.m. and 3.15 Preacher: The Rt. Rev. Mervyn Stockwood, former Bishop of Southwark.

CHOIR NOTES During January Mr. Dexter visited a number of primary schools and auditioned boys who might be suitable as choristers. We are very grateful to the principals of the schools concerned for their co-operation and to the parents who came for interview with Mr. Dexter. It is hoped that we should have a number of new probationers in the Choir School in September. We

would remind parents that we also admit girls to the Choir School, who have their own choir and enjoy the same musical education, vocal and instrumental, as the boys. The reputation of the Choir School stands as one of the highest among primary schools in Dublin. The reports of the Inspectors of the Department of Education continue to bestow great credit on the teachers and the work and atmosphere of the school.

VALETE On Sunday January 24th after Evensong the Dean presented certificates to David Bonney and Stuart Donohoe, both of whom had served as choristers for almost five years. David and Stuart will be joining the Guild of Service, so happily this is not a case of good-bye, and we look forward to seeing them as servers in the sanctuary. The Dean expressed gratitude for their years in the choir, and also to their parents for their commitment and loyalty.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PAST CHORISTERS' AND PUPILS' ASSOCIATION The Annual Reunion Dinner will be held in the School Assembly Hall on Saturday 13th March, 1993.

Reception 6.15.p.m. - Dinner 7.00.p.m. (sharp) Subscription £19.00.

The Principal Guest will be Dr. John de Courcy Ireland, a man of many interests and a former teacher of the school. The event is open to all past pupils (boys and girls) including spouses and friends. Please let Stephen Burleigh, 22 Woodbrook Park, Templeogue, Dublin 16, know if you wish to attend and if you will have any guests.

Please note coming Events:

Thursday 12th May - 7.30.p.m. The Annual General Meeting in the Hewson Room.

Saturday 22nd May - 10.30.a.m. - 1.30.p.m. Bring and Buy Cake Sale in Chinnamog,
26 Idrone Drive, Knocklyon, Dublin 16 by kind permission of Basil Grace.

MRS. NORAH WALKER There was a large congregation representing a wide circle of friends at Mrs. Walker's funeral which took place in the cathedral on Wednesday, 13th January. The service was conducted by Canon Bradley, with the choristers under the direction of Mr. Dexter. The Dean gave the address. The burial took place in Coolock Churchyard.

By the wish of her family, her funeral took the form of a Service of Thanksgiving. In his address the Dean spoke of her long life which had been full of achievement and fulfilment. She had been a keen sportswoman and good tennis-player and swimmer and had been Ladies Captain of the Island Golf Club. She had been a member of the cathedral and a regular worshipper since 1925. For many years she came on her bicycle every Saturday morning to clean and polish the communion rails and brasses. She represented St. Patrick's on the Diocesan Synod from 1956 to 1991. She had been in the cathedral at Easter and again, for the last time, in June. The Dean also spoke of the rich family life which she had made for her three sons after the early death of her husband. We offer our sympathy to Garry, Raymond and Colin, their wives and families. In spite of the sadness which bereavement must bring, they can commend their mother into God's keeping with truly thankful hearts.

FRIENDS - This is the month for apologies. First a sincere apology to Mr. Andrew Johnstone. Unfortunately his name was omitted from the list of performers at our December Concert. This was an oversight on my part, and quite unintentional. Those of you who attended the concert will know that he was very much in evidence, and without his help, the musical items would have been quite impossible. Next with regard to the programme, I was a little premature on my announcements for March and April. While we do hope to have David Norris to speak to us at some time in the future, we have not as yet confirmed any date. On Wednesday 10th March the cathedral archivist, Roy Byrne, will give a talk on "The Alternative St. Patrick's".

On Saturday, 20th February, we have arranged a re-union with the Friends of Christ Church Cathedral. This will take the form of a special Service in the Lady Chapel at 3.00 p.m. followed by a conducted tour of the cathedral, after which they will be entertained to light refreshments in the Assembly Hall. We hope many of our Friends, especially those were on the trip to Chester, will come along and renew some acquaintances. N.T.B.

THE ADMINISTRATOR WRITES

As we draw to the close of the year, I want to update you all on a new initiative we are undertaking here in the Cathedral. The question of climate change and sustainability is in everyone's mind now, but the Church has long identified this as the defining challenge of our time. Here at Saint Patrick's, we understand that this is a difficult moral and ethical issue for the west, particularly in terms of the developing world and their legitimate desire to attain a standard of living equivalent to our own, a standard of living we enjoy largely through the exploitation of fossil fuels.

Nonetheless, as part of our strategic planning process, the decision has been made to develop a sustainability plan for the Cathedral and to lead by example, not only regarding the Church but also the tourism sector too.

To this end we are looking to gain gold accreditation through the sustainable tourism programme which we feel will help get the message out that we take this issue seriously. Within the EU the tourism sector is committed to reducing our combined carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 and becoming carbon neutral by 2050 at the latest. As the sense of urgency gathers pace, we can expect these targets to be revised and to become more even ambitious.

We will begin by measuring our impact in terms of habitat degradation, waste, water use and carbon emissions. The next step is to look at ways to reduce our consumption generally and to look at offsetting the carbon that we cannot eliminate. We are working with Bord na Móna to develop an accredited carbon offsetting scheme here for the Irish tourist industry to this end.

To this end we are looking to gain gold accreditation through the sustainable
None of this will be easy. We will need to consider the impact of everything
we do through the lens of sustainability, whether that be conservation works to
the Cathedral, heating, lighting, packaging, or travel. We must also acknowledge
the fact that our principal funding model is based on international air travel.
We need to develop ways to engage our visitors to become part of the sustain-
ability solution rather than let them become part of the problem.

None of this will be easy and it will take time, however the organisation is
committed to lessening our negative impact on the wider world. I look forward
to keeping you all informed on our journey towards sustainability in the
months to come.

GHW

THE DEAN'S MESSAGE

The Dean and Rosemary wish everyone associated with Saint Patrick's
Cathedral every blessing for Christmas, and all good wishes for 2022.

Members of the editorial committee of Close News
wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas
and best wishes for the New Year.



HANDEL BY CANDLE



There will be a special performance of the Christmas music from Handel's oratorio *Messiah*, along with other festive music, all performed by the voices of the Cathedral Choir on Friday 17 December at 7:30pm. Whilst the Cathedral Choir has a long association with *Messiah*, having sung for the première in 1742, it is a work that is rarely performed by them these days. So don't miss this opportunity to hear the voices of the choristers and lay vicars sing this wonderful music in the candlelit surroundings of the Church of Ireland's National Cathedral. Limited Premium Tickets are available (offering Prime Seating in the Box Pews, Interval Hospitality and a Commemorative Concert Programme). Tickets for Seats in the Nave start from €30.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

At Advent and Christmas the Church uses music to help worship soar: to express what we want to say to God for the birth of his Son, Jesus, in the stable at Bethlehem. The **Advent Carols** and the Service of **Nine Lessons and Carols** provide us with rich and elaborate music performed by the Cathedral Choir who use their skills to catch us up in a resounding chorus of praise to God. We invite you to attend these services to offer your thanks to God with heart and mind and voice.

Sunday 19th December at 15.15

Friday 24th December at 16.00* (Admission by ticket only)

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Saturday 25th December at 11.15

FESTIVAL EUCHARIST

Sunday 9th January at 15.15

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

The Society of Friends of Saint Patrick's Cathedral was founded in 1945

To assist the Dean and Chapter in furthering and maintaining the spirit of devotion in divine worship.

To bind together in loyal co-operation all who love Saint Patrick's Cathedral as a centre for divine worship.

To support the general maintenance of the cathedral and its services and, in particular to maintain the high tradition of sacred music in divine worship for which Saint Patrick's is far famed.

Membership of the Society is open to all.

Membership application forms are available in the cathedral. Membership can also be made through the cathedral website or by emailing the membership

FriendsStPDublin@gmail.com



THE NAVE CEILING ON ADVENT SUNDAY



See the effect of the newly-restored clerestory windows displayed on the ceiling of the nave.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

The Collaboration Award from Charities Institute landed in the post only today! It was awarded back in 2020 but no harm to share it and mention that the work continues. Most recent developments include:

- a successful Halloween open air event with no bonfire, no anti-social behaviour and no intimidation of any kind;
- completion of the upgrade to the surface of the football pitch.
- resurfacing of Cathedral Lane including the installation of sloping dishes to make pavements accessible for all including those with mobility issues and prams / buggies.
- completion of the design phase of the mural proposed for the wall on Cathedral Lane.
- design proposal of the new fitness and calisthenic equipment.
- trees on New Street Gardens side fitted with a new resin base.
- Waste management vigilance with DCC Litter Warden monitoring.



Community Officer, Kelley Bermingham continues to support local residents, especially the most vulnerable by linking them with the Dublin Care & Repair Team. This team is a SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme) funded initiative through the Ballyfermot and Chapelizod Partnership. A number of supervised and Garda vetted Tús workers support residents by clearing gardens, repairing railings, painting and general maintenance. One resident has been living in the area 30 years and is a wheelchair user. Her home has been painted inside and out (with donated paint sourced through the Cathedral), garden cleared at rear with overgrown ivy removed, and collected by DCC waste management team. This has made a remarkable difference for the lady in question, supporting her to enjoy her home space especially when things are so challenging and restricted socially.

The statue of Jesus in Cathedral View Walk has had the railings and wall painted, and we are seeking to replace the perspex cover that sits over the statue which was established as a tribute more than 30 years ago when a young man living locally died tragically. His mother still lives in an adjacent property and sadly her husband died during the early part of this year. He would usually maintain the area, but had been unwell and unable to do the work himself.

Rebuilding the trust and relationships with local residents is essential to the success, and were most unfortunate that Covid interrupted the significant progress that had been made. We look forward to working on more events in 2022 subject to the lifting of restrictions, and to continue the work that has taken place over the last 4+ years.

Other community news:

Membership and active participation in the PPN (public participation network) as LCDC (Local Community Development Committee) community representative. Part of the Community Enhancement Programme funding subcommittee and commencing work on the LECP (Local Economic and Community Plan). The LCDC is chaired by Cllr Carolyn Moore with participation from representatives across the city. There are 850 member organisations across the city in a variety of sectors. Gavan Woods, Administrator has recently been elected to the Strategic Planning Committee of the PPN and has been described as ‘a breath of fresh air’ by another committee member! The 5 year strategy is in development and we look forward to seeing how this shapes up.

Membership of the CORN (Community Organisations and Residents Network) in Dublin 8 and on the steering committee. Meetings are held monthly with 49 member organisations and a guest speaker. Meetings are structured, with sub-groups and working on the elements that make sense to community.

Membership of the Child and family Support Network for Dublin South Central (a Tusla led network) focused on the lives of families in the city area. Part of a sub-group focused on strategies for supporting the mental health of young people. We formed specifically to address the alarmingly high rate of suicidal ideation and self-harm in young men and women in Dublin 8. The highest rate in the country has been reported in this area! A video will be released shortly featuring organisations who work with young people in the area including Saint Patrick’s Cathedral.

The CRiTiCall project (Community Response Team Call) initiated by the

Cathedral and run in partnership with Dublin City Volunteer Centre to benefit women and children who experience domestic abuse has been an enormous success in an especially challenging year. The continuation of the work was made possible by the Iveagh Trust as one of the major partners and contributors to the efficacy of the response. The estimated value of the phase one response is around half a million euro, and as we move into the new year, phase two is in the planning for a symposium. As a result of links with the Mother's Union throughout the pandemic, Kelley has been invited to give the address at a service on December 2nd in Christ Church Cathedral at 11.15 as part of the 16 days of action. If you would like to know more about the project, email community@stpatrikscathedral.ie

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 Dedicated Liaison Person is Kelley Bermingham. 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.

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