



SAINT  
PATRICK'S  
CATHEDRAL  
DUBLIN

# CLOSE NEWS

May 2021



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## SERVICE TIMES

### *Sunday*

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

### *Tuesday, Thursday*

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

17.30	Choral Evensong / Evening Prayer
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### *Wednesday*

17:30	Evening Prayer
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## MAY PREACHERS

May 2	The Revd B. M. McKay	<i>Prebendary of Clondalkin</i>
May 9	The Very Revd C. McMullen	<i>Prebendary of Finglas</i>
May 16	The Revd J. K. McWhirter	<i>Prebendary of Kilmactalway</i>
May 23	The Revd D. W. Oxley	<i>Prebendary of St. Audoen's</i>
May 30	The Revd R. L. Smyth	<i>Prebendary-designate of Taney</i>

## A SHOT FROM THE CANON

The simple act of looking out of the window has become a popular pastime during lock-down. Most of us, to our surprise, have spotted details we've never seen before. I can see the Cathedral from my kitchen window, and I've been noticing hitherto unobserved details to my delight and wonder. The restrictions are wearily tedious by times, but we're now observing small details through a sharper focus. Saint Paul urges us to examine ourselves in the knowledge that Christ is with us and in us. This type of examination is rewarding with the reassurance that the indwelling Christ gives us.

CM

## THE MAY PRAYER

*Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ is in you? (2 Corinthians 13: 5)*

Lord, you search us out and know us;  
teach us the truth that you live in us,  
and bring us joy by your indwelling Spirit,  
help us to praise you in the simple task,  
and to know your peace in our times of stress;  
these things we ask you, day by day. Amen.

CM

## CONDOLENCES

### THE REV CANON WILLIAM SYDNEY LAING

The Reverend Canon Sydney Laing and his dear wife, Lily, were inseparable in life, as they are now in death in God's Nearer Presence. Only seven months after Lily's death, Sydney's life came to a close in the tender care of the staff of the Maguire Ward, Tallaght University Hospital, on 7th April. It was of great comfort to Sydney, as it was to Lily over her many years of illness too that, thanks to the unfailing care and support of Comfort Keepers and Greenpark Pharmacy, he was able to be cared for at home for as long as ever possible.

It was always a joy and a privilege to visit Canon Sydney Laing, and his dear wife, Lily, and to celebrate the Holy Communion with them in the home they loved at Clondalkin. They were such a kind, generous and welcoming couple, and appreciated receiving what in the ordained life Sydney always gave to others – sound, honest-to-goodness pastoral ministry, ably supported by his soulmate Lily. How rightly he used to say that nothing could ever replace the priest seeking out the people, visiting them, and identifying with them and caring for them. His great interest in people was always evident, as all who remember Sydney's much appreciated role as a volunteer in Saint Patrick's Cathedral in his years after retirement will bear out. It is little wonder that Sydney's daughters, Zandra and Hilary, regarded him as much more than their father: they said he was also their "best friend", and they cherished his sense of humour, wise counsel, generosity and his unfailing love.



We extend our deepest condolences to Zandra and Hilary, their respective husbands Andrew and Denis, and to the grandchildren, Ingrid and Robert, and to the wider family circle

Sydney's funeral service, which was held in Saint Patrick's Cathedral, was conducted by the Dean, assisted by the Chancellor, the Very Reverend Niall Sloane, Dean of Limerick, a close friend of the Laing family. The Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Killiney, the Reverend Canon Gary Hastings, was also in attendance.

**WM**

## CONDOLENCES

Sincere condolences are expressed to Mrs Chika Ulogwara and her family on the death of her mother and her father within a few weeks of each other in their native Nigeria in Africa; to Gary and Fernanda Lydon and their family who were bereaved by the death of Fernanda's grandmother in an accident in her native Brazil, and in which Fernanda's aunt was seriously injured; and also to Mr Lyndon MacCann SC, his partner Claire, and family on the death of Lyndon's mother, Mrs Doris (Dorrie) MacCann, Sutton, County Dublin. All who mourn are assured of our thoughts and prayers.

**WM**

## RE-OPENING FOR WORSHIP

With Level 5 restrictions lifted we are delighted to announce that we will, once again, be able to welcome you to worship with us in person from Sunday 16th May. This will be both the 09:15 and 11:15 services initially, as Evensong will be recorded for broadcasting on the website at 15:15. Matins and Evensong will continue to be live streamed on the website, pro tem.

Entrance to the Cathedral on a Sunday morning for the congregation will be via the North Porch with the exit via the West Door. Hand sanitisers will be located at certain points throughout the Cathedral, with the wearing of facemasks compulsory.

The re-opening of the Cathedral is welcomed by both clergy and staff and all members of the congregation will be greeted by a warm welcome from both.

The live streaming is accessed through the website:

**[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship/video-stream](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship/video-stream).**



*The Choristers rehearsing for Matins*





*Saint Patrick*



*The Nave*



## THE ROOF PROJECT

There has been plenty of progress this month. With the slating projected to finish by 10th May, the scaffolding has already started to be dismantled and, should you walk past, you will see the building towering majestically over the landscape. It looks magnificent and despite current Covid restrictions, progress is ahead of schedule, and we look forward to a construction-free zone in early August. The cathedral gardens will be returned to their formal state of glory and, we hope, by the end of August, for the site to be restored fully.

Once again thanks go to those who continue to support this project. Your contributions have helped make this most important of projects a reality. When the work is finally completed in just a matter of months, you will have left our Cathedral secure and safe for many years to come.





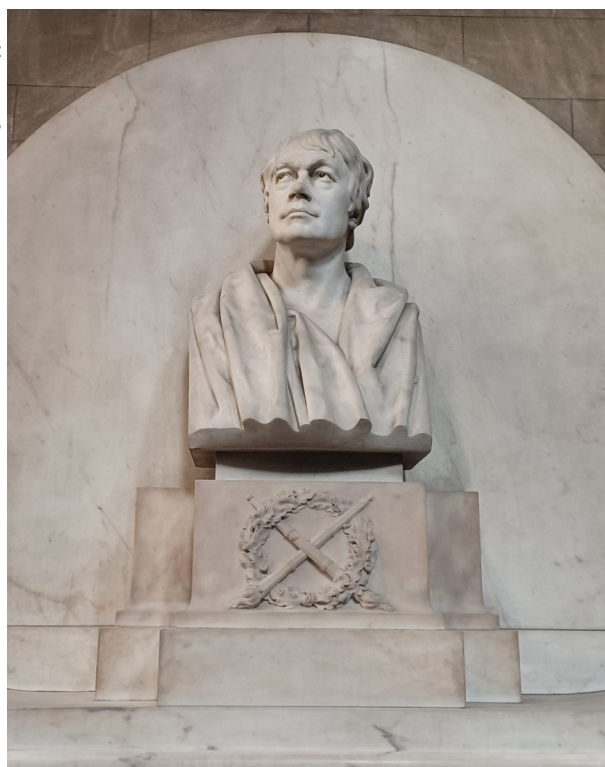


## THE HISTORY PROJECT-MONUMENTS IN FOCUS

Nestled behind the cathedral gift shop, just at the entrance of the tower, sits an often-overlooked monument of a historic giant of eighteenth-century Ireland. The monument in question remembers John Philpot Curran (1750-1817) lawyer, orator and wit. Curran was called to the Irish Bar in 1775 and, with his sharp wit and advocacy for catholic emancipation, quickly rose to become one of the most widely-regarded lawyers of the time.

Following the Rebellion of 1798, Curran acted as the defense for much of the rebel leadership, including Wolfe Tone and Napper Tandy. Despite his defense of the United Irishmen, Curran disagreed with their actions and later attempted to break up a relationship between his daughter Sarah and rebellion leader Robert Emmett.

Curran's influence reached far beyond Ireland, with his oration skills noted by Romantic poet Lord Byron, and his legal career hailed by Karl Marx. He died in October 1817. The impressive white marble bust by Christopher Moore was installed in the cathedral in 1841.



AH



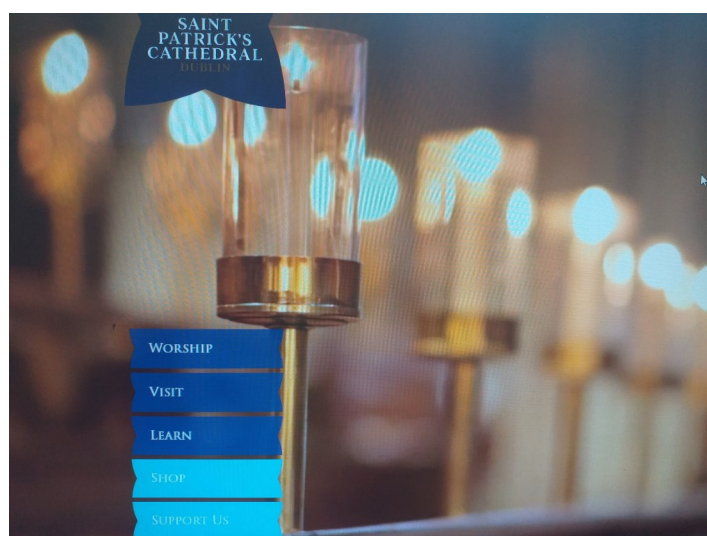
## ON-LINE GIFT SHOP

Following months of closure the Gift Shop has gone 'on-line'. A combination of intellectual prowess from both the marketing department and the accounts department has produced a Gift shop accessible via the World Wide Web. We hope that this development, urged on by the current pandemic and the closure of the Cathedral, will create a stream of much needed revenue.

It is an on-going development that we hope will grow in both product selection and sales, generating much needed revenue. The online shop was launched tentatively in 2020 with a small selection of products for purchase. Created through the Shopify platform, an online shop computer system, sales have been growing since its launch.

Why not visit the Online Gift Shop via the Cathedral website and browse the many products on sale? All sales are a help towards boosting the Cathedral's finances in these particularly trying times.

We hope to be able to welcome you to the shop as soon as restrictions are lifted but, until then, please do visit the shop [at www.stpatrickscathedral.ie](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie)





## 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](http://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](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship/video-stream)

Stars & Stripes Forever (July 4 at 6.15pm)

[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/july4](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/july4)

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

[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/after-dark](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@saintpatrickschoirschool.com)

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

Email: [music@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:officemanager@stpatrickscathedral.ie).

## CATHEDRAL CONTACTS

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### CLERGY

#### Dean

The Very Revd Dr William W. Morton

[dean@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:dean@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

#### Dean's Vicar

The Revd Canon Charles W. Mullen

[deans.vicar@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto: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](mailto:administrator@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

### **Dean's Secretary and Office Manager**

Mrs Rowena Janota

[officemanager@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:officemanager@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

### **Master of the Music**

Mr Stuart Nicholson

[music@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto: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](mailto:manager@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

### **Cathedral Assistant Manager and Safety Officer**

Mr Kenneth Hartnett

[safety@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:safety@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

### **Vergers**

Mr John Kinirons;

Mr Derek Tobin; Mr Aaron Hoey;

Mr John Reardan.

[vergers@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:vergers@stpatrickscathedral.ie)





*A view from the Minot Tower*

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