



SAINT  
PATRICK'S  
CATHEDRAL  
DUBLIN

# CLOSE NEWS

December 2023



The Choristers and Schola  
of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin  
Stuart Nicholson



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## SERVICE TIMES

### *Sunday*

09.15	Eucharist ( <i>said in the Lady Chapel</i> )
11.15	Choral Eucharist / Choral Matins
15.15	Choral Evensong

### *Monday - Friday*

09.00	Sung Matins ( <i>during school term</i> )
11.05	Eucharist ( <i>said in the Lady Chapel on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saints' Days and Festivals</i> )
17.30	Choral Evensong / Evening Prayer

### *Saturday*

11.05	Eucharist ( <i>said in the Lady Chapel</i> )
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The Dean and Rosemary wish everyone associated with Saint Patrick's Cathedral every blessing for Christmas, and all good wishes for 2024.

## DECEMBER PREACHERS

December 3	The Revd A. W. A. Mayes	<i>Prebendary of Newcastle</i>
December 10	The Revd J. K. McWhirter	<i>Prebendary of Taney</i>
December 17	The Revd J. M. Godfrey	<i>Prebendary of Kilmactalway</i>
December 24	The Revd C. W. L. McCauley	<i>Prebendary of Tipperkevin</i>
December 25	The Very Revd W. W. Morton	<i>Dean &amp; Ordinary</i>
December 31	The Revd S. J. Yambasu	<i>Prebendary of Finglas</i>

## JANUARY PREACHERS

January 7	The Revd P. Thompson	<i>Prebendary of Donaghmore</i>
January 14	The Revd S. J. Yambasu	<i>Prebendary of Finglas</i>
January 21	The Revd P. R. Campion	<i>Precentor</i>
January 28	The Very Revd N. J. Sloane	<i>Chancellor</i>

## CHAPTER NEWS FROM THE CHAPTER CLERK

At a meeting by Zoom on Monday 20 November, we the Chapter elected the Very Revd Stephen Farrell, M.A. (Oxon.), LL.M., B.Th., F.C.L.R., Dean of Ossory (S. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny) to the prebendal stall of Monmohenock in succession to the Reverend Timothy Charles Kinahan, M.A. (Cantab.), F.R.G.S. whose retirement took effect on 31 October. We wish Canon Kinahan a happy retirement and we extend good wishes to Canon-elect Farrell whose installation will take place in the new year.

CM

## A SHOT FROM THE CANON

Unexpected pregnancy and shocked fathers make us feel more than a little uncomfortable. Joseph was shocked by the news that Mary would be giving birth; Mary was confused by how she could be the mother of God's Son. Yet they allowed God to take a hand in resolving their confusion and shock. In this, they set an example that's always relevant; one that can be applied by us if we courageously trust in God. We too must invite and welcome Jesus into our lives even when, like Mary and Joseph, our confusion or shock could lead us to give up.

CM



## A CHRISTMAS CAROL

*From a carol by Henry Bramley (1833–1917)*

The great God of heaven is come down to earth,

His mother a Virgin, and sinless his birth;

The Father eternal his Father alone:

He sleeps in the manger; he reigns on the throne.

*From a carol by Caelius Sedulius (c. 450)*

And while the angels in the sky

Sang praise above the silent field,

The shepherds poor, the Lord most high,

The one great Shepherd was revealed.

*From a carol by Phillips Brooks (1835–93)*

We hear the Christmas angels

The great glad tidings tell:

O come to us, abide with us,

Our Lord Emmanuel.

## CONDOLENCES– TERESA NOLAN

The death, on 3 November 2023, of Theresa Nolan left ringers in Dublin shocked and saddened. Theresa had been ringing for the morning service at St Patrick's Cathedral the previous Sunday.

Theresa grew up in rural East Galway in the West of Ireland. After leaving school she started work in hospitality, training first in Ballinasloe and then in Lucerne. Later she ventured overseas to work and live in Sweden and the Netherlands. After many years working in hospitality, Theresa found time to graduate from Trinity College Dublin, having studied Irish, history and law.

Theresa then spent many years working as an Usher in the Houses of the Oireachtas, listening to parliamentary debates and getting to know members of the government and those that sat on the opposition benches. Her work included ensuring when the voting bell stopped the doors were locked and no member arriving late was allowed into the chamber to cast a vote. Theresa often spoke of the human side of politicians and maybe told a story of a small act of kindness performed by a politician who perhaps wasn't well liked by members of the general public. Theresa always saw the humanity in people. Theresa was rightly very proud of her time spent in public service.

At the start of the 21st century Theresa was living in the Iveagh Trust Apartments. The Iveagh Trust, one of Dublin's oldest and best known housing associations, was established in 1890 by Sir Edward Cecil Guinness. The same

Edward Guinness that was responsible for installing 10 bells in St Patrick's Cathedral in 1897. So it was fitting that in 2001 Theresa made her way up the tower at St Patrick's where she was taught to ring by the late Charlie Reede and joined the morning band at both St Patrick's and St Audoen's. Theresa enjoyed many ringing trips, especially one to Italy.

She still regularly went over to the West to check on the family home and once a year attended the Galway races with family members. We all knew if the Galway races were on Theresa would be missing from her normal place on the treble bell at St Audoen's but apart from her annual trip to the races and holidays back to Lucerne or Stockholm, she rarely missed a Sunday morning ring in St Audoen's or St Patrick's.

Theresa touched people in an understated way. Although living in the heart of Dublin City, Theresa found ways to keep a connection with nature. She spoke regularly about her work in the community garden. She gathered blackberries in Autumn and many a ringer enjoyed a pot of Theresa's jam with their morning toast. She was known to gather sloes at home or in Milltown and to celebrate her friends' birthdays with homemade sloe gin.

When COVID hit and put a stop to our ringing, Theresa feared she would never ring again. However with a little encouragement, when socially distanced church services resumed, Theresa returned to ringing at St Audoen's. Social distancing meant we could only ring 3 bells and through 2020 & 2021, as we went in and out of lockdown, whenever permitted Theresa along with Kenneth Morgan and Derek McEndoo donned their face masks and kept the

bells of St Audoen's ringing. She returned to ringing at St Patrick's early in 2022 and continued to ring up to the week of her death.

Theresa's passing leaves a gap in our circle that will be hard to fill. Theresa's passing leaves a gap in our circle that will be hard to fill. Living in the shadow of St Patrick's Cathedral and just down the hill from St Audoen's she was always one of the first to arrive on a Sunday morning and first to volunteer when extra ringing was needed for weddings, funerals and special occasions. Theresa was the kind of ringer that is the backbone of many a belfry. A more loyal and dedicated ringer would be hard to find. She was known as a friendly, chatty woman who welcomed new ringers and was always happy to give up her bell to visitors, saying sure I'm happy to sit and listen.

On the day of her funeral, her family asked her bellringing friends to form a guard of honour as her coffin entered the church. 23 ringers stood in silence either side of the porch as the sound of handbells welcomed Theresa as she started her final journey back home to her native Galway.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis



*16 May 1945 - 3 November 2023*

## CONDOLENCES

Sincere condolences are expressed to Jonathan Lycett and his wife, Esther, and to the members of the West family, on the death of Jonathan's sister, Mary, in England. Jonathan is a former lay vicar choral of Saint Patrick's, and Esther served as one of our team of vergers here.

We offer sincere condolences as well to Stephen Burleigh, and his family, on the death of his brother, Robert; also, to John Reardan, one of our team of vergers, and his family, on the death of his sister-in-law, Yvonne.

All who mourn are assured of our thoughts and prayers in their time of bereavement and loss.

## OFFICE HOURS

The Cathedral Office will be closed on Friday 22 December until Tuesday 2nd January. A telephone answering machine will be available for anyone wishing to leave a message.



## CANON MULLEN'S ADVENT RESCUE KIT

Dear, struggling Advent, the season that offers much inspiration but is so easily overwhelmed by our preparations for Christmas. To try to rescue Advent, here are some old and new prayer suggestions that can be used when Christmas preparations get the better of Advent - and us. We remember those less fortunate than we are, and those who can't enjoy the angels' song of peace to God's people.

### **THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT: CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

Light out of darkness is the Advent theme as we prepare for the coming light of Christ at Christmas. On dark, wintry nights, we cheer ourselves by decorating a tree with lights, so:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that on the last day when he shall come in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT: CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Christmas cards serve many purposes, from giving us an opportunity for an annual exchange, to communicating our heartfelt greetings to our closest family and friends, so:

Almighty God, through our exchange of greetings we thank you for the friendships we share with one another; help us to see in them the love you share with us - the love so deep that you sent us your Son to bring us to eternal life with you; bless us and those to whom we send greetings, that in giving

and receiving them we may eagerly await and desire that message which calls us into friendship with you; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT: CHRISTMAS PRESENTS**

The exchange of gifts at Christmas is a tangible way of communicating the value we put on friendship between ourselves and those who receive our gifts, so:

Almighty God, your servant John the Baptist proclaimed the message of the Advent of your Son; through the delight of the gifts we exchange help us to listen and hear that joyous herald voice which calls over the noise of our busy lives, inviting us to find in your Son a gift that far exceeds all we can desire and which we are not worthy to receive, save through your grace, made known in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT: CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Having sent our Christmas cards and delivered our presents, we greet the personal visit of our nearest and dearest, those who will join and dine with us on Christmas Day, so:

Heavenly Father we praise you for the childbearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which brought us the personal visit of your Son through whom we know you, and in whom we find the way to everlasting life with you; bless us and all with whom we share our joyfulness and celebrations, and grant our souls ever to magnify your holy name in humble obedience, and an expectant faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE DEAN WRITES

Now that December is here I have been reflecting on 2023. It has been a year which has brought many blessings to us in Saint Patrick's Cathedral and for which we are thankful to Almighty God. Numbers of worshippers and visitors have been strong and comparable to the best years of 2018 and 2019. Our rationale of daily worship is our lifeblood, and, coupled with the influx of visitors from across the world to learn of the history of Saint Patrick's, together with those who come along for extra-mural events, there is a vibrancy and enthusiasm within the ancient setting.

We are blessed with an extremely efficient and competent team in Saint Patrick's, and I extend my deepest thanks to every member of staff and volunteer. It is extremely encouraging that the amount owing on the roof appeal is diminishing, and I thank sincerely all who have given donations. There have been many other significant developments which have been extremely welcome – the refurbishment of the Dean's Robing Room, major improvements to the staff canteen, the updating of the PA system, and the live stream – and more besides.

Rosemary and I are most grateful for the major work which is being carried out on the Deanery: the installation of a brand-new central heating system, the refurbishment of the windows (five of which, including the glass, date from

around 1780), and the correction of a tilt in the main staircase. This is very deeply appreciated indeed.

On all fronts, we look forward to the opportunities, and indeed the challenges, of 2024, and particularly in terms of development, to the refurbishment of the Deanery Mews which will provide a much-needed reception area and other facilities for Cathedral events, and also to the completion of the projects under the auspices of the Dean's Gift Day.

Thank you for your tremendous dedication and commitment. Trusting you will have a pleasant and relaxing break over the holiday time. May you have a happy, blessed, and peaceful Christmas. Every good wish for 2024.

William



## THE ADMINISTRATOR WRITES

2023 has been a unique year here in Saint Patrick's Cathedral. We have recorded our highest total of visitors to date, with the total for the full year 2019 passed by the end of October. There have also been several initiatives which have either begun, or gained momentum, over the year. Two new groups, drawn from our staff, the interpretation committee and conservation committee, have undertaken most impressive work over the year. They draw on external expertise, as well as the skills from amongst their members, and feed their suggestions and findings to the Board through the fabric committee. Many significant improvements to the visitor experience have been delivered together with a new regime of conservation and care of our precious artefacts. My thanks to them all for their tremendous work.

Our oral history project, curated by Dr Deirdre Nutall of UCD, continued this year with the memories of over 60 members of the Cathedral community recorded to date. These wonderful recordings will be preserved digitally in UCD for posterity and will no doubt be of immense interest to social historians in the years to come.

Considerable work to the fabric of our historic buildings took place in 2023 with the long promised upgrades to the staff canteen finally taking place. My sincere thanks to my colleagues for their patience with this. The Dean very kindly has permitted the Lay Vicars to robe in his robing room, which was the



kindly has permitted the Lay Vicars to robe in his robing room, which was the key to allowing the project to proceed. The parts to repair the Cathedral sound system finally arrived in the country from Japan this autumn allowing the system to be repaired, delivering a significant improvement in sound quality.

Critical work to the Deanery have also occurred particularly to the windows which were in a very poor state of repair and to the staircase which had begun to sag ominously.

The Mews project, which will deliver state of the art chorister tuition areas and a new multipurpose community space, was granted planning permission in the latter half of the year. We have worked with the architect, archaeologist, quantity surveyors and other professionals to bring this project to the tendering stage. We hope to go the market with this project in the very near future. This project will facilitate the life of the Church in many important ways and we hope now to begin the work on site this spring.

Thanks, as always, are due to the staff and volunteers of Saint Patrick's Cathedral who are the ones responsible for the positive outcomes we have experienced this year. Our shop and welcome desk performed magnificently in 2023. In addition our visitors were met with a warm welcome throughout the year, which is what makes all the difference. A very Happy Christmas to our congregation, staff volunteers and clergy and see you all in the New Year!

GHW

## CONSERVATION AT THE CATHEDRAL



Ongoing works in the lady chapel to restore the roof which involves cleaning and repainting. Conservation & Restoration are charged with this work.



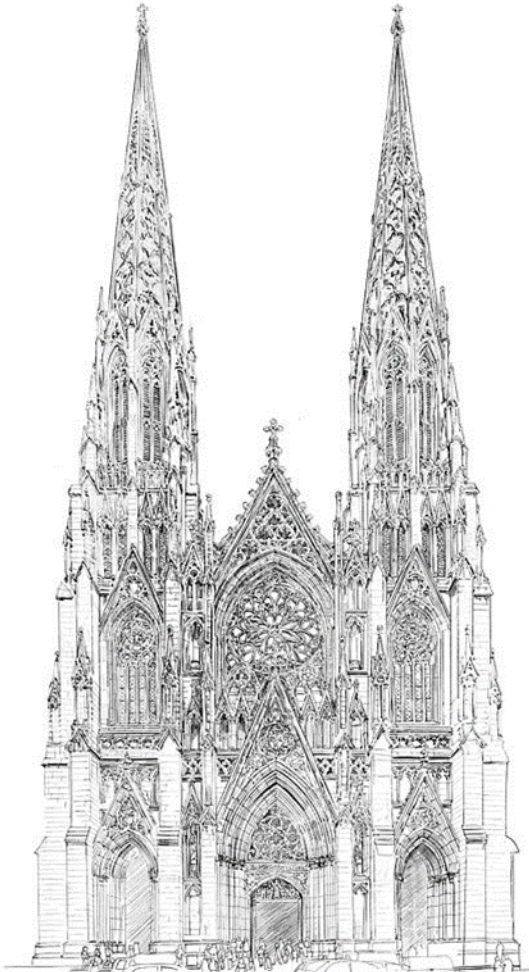
## CONSERVATION AT THE DEANERY



The deanery is currently having the heating system replaced and the windows refurbished. Many thanks to The Dean for allowing the works to be done while he and his family live in the deanery. We look forward to a warm and insulated deanery in the near future.



## SPONSOR A CHORISTER



## SPONSOR A CHORISTER NEW YORK 2024

Next February, the Cathedral Choristers are travelling to New York to perform at our namesake's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue and the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine which has the distinction of being the largest cathedral in the world.

These tours are always a fabulous experience for the Choristers, and this trip, given our destination will certainly be no exception. However, they can only happen with your support, so if you are able to please give generously.

*Thank you for your support.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Pledged: € \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make any cheques payable to "St Patrick's Cathedral" marking the reverse

Sponsor a Chorister and return to

**The Master of the Music, c/o Saint Patrick's Cathedral,  
Saint Patrick's Close, Dublin, D08 H6X3**

[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/NYC24](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/NYC24)

CHY848



The choristers of Saint Patrick's Cathedral invite you to the launch of their new album

# Welcome Yule

*A Chorister's Christmas*



Join us for a short & festive concert including highlights from the new disc performed live by the choristers of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

**18 DECEMBER • 6.15pm • ADMISSION FREE**

seating is limited so don't delay and reserve yours now

**[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/cd](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/cd)**

SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, SAINT PATRICK'S CLOSE, DUBLIN, D8



## THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### CHRISTMAS at SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL



Celebrate the birth of Jesus at Saint Patrick's this Advent and Christmas. Hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, go to Bethlehem and discover the peace of the Christ Child through the pages of scripture and the carols of the choir. Whoever you are, and whatever you believe, you are welcome to come to Saint Patrick's and experience Advent and Christmas through words, silence, and music. All of our Advent and Christmas services, along with our regular pattern of services, are free of charge and you do not need to book tickets to attend these with the exception of the Christmas Eve Service. All are welcome to join us whether in person, online, in worship, in concert or even just tuning in to the TV or radio.

### WORSHIP

Sunday 10 December · 15.15

### CAROLS FOR ALL

The service of *Carols for All* is an opportunity to join in the Church's rich musical tradition of congregational singing, led by the Choir and accompanied by the Cathedral's majestic organ. Early arrival is advised – suitable for all ages, children especially welcome!

Sunday 17 December · 15.15 | Sunday 24 December · 16.00

### A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Service of *Nine Lessons and Carols* provides 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. (NB entry to the Christmas Eve service by ticket only, service is also broadcast live on RTÉ Radio 1)

Christmas Day · 11.15

### CHORAL FESTAL EUCHARIST WITH CAROLS

Join us this Christmas Day for a *Festal Choral Eucharist* with readings from Holy Scripture, congregational carols & anthems led by the Cathedral Choir.

*All of our Choral Services are streamed live via our website, so you can join us online even if you can't in person!*

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

### CONCERTS

Friday 15 December · 19.30

### HANDEL BY CANDLE



You're invited to join us in the Cathedral for a special performance of the Christmas music from Handel's great oratorio MESSIAH with other festive music, performed by the stunning voices of The Cathedral Choir. The Choir has a long association with MESSIAH, having sung for the premiere in 1742, so don't miss this opportunity to hear the choristers and lay vicars sing this wonderful music in the candlelit surroundings of the Cathedral.

Saturday 23rd December · 16.00

## THE SNOWMAN

Take a break from your last-minute Christmas shopping and other such seasonal stresses and come join us with the whole family in Saint Patrick's Cathedral to hear the timeless tale of James and the Snowman as told by narrator Morgan Crowley with a little help from the Choristers of Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Retiring collection in aid of LauraLynn Children's Hospice.

This event is free of charge and registration is required.

[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/snowman23](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/snowman23)



## SAFEGUARDING TRUST PANEL - VACANCY

Under the constitution of the Church of Ireland, each individual church and cathedral is required to have a Safeguarding Trust Panel (STP) chaired by the incumbent. In Saint Patrick's Cathedral, this Panel forms a subcommittee of the Board and is chaired by the Dean. The Panel has a role in the oversight and support of the Safeguarding Officer and in supporting the Safeguarding Officer in ensuring implementation of the Cathedral's bespoke Child Protection Policy.

We are looking for volunteers to join the Safeguarding Trust Panel. The Panel meets approximately every two months in a hybrid (online/in person) manner. People with previous experience working with children or in any other safeguarding-related context are strongly encouraged to put themselves forward.

For more information, please contact Clark Brydon (Education & Safeguarding Officer) at [safeguarding@stpattrickscathedral.ie](mailto:safeguarding@stpattrickscathedral.ie) or call for an informal discussion:

Office: +353 (0) 1 453 9472 (ext. 205)

Mobile: +353 (0) 86 103 0931

## SCHOOL VISITS

**Does your child or grandchild's school class want an unforgettable school tour? Tell the teacher about Saint Patrick's Cathedral!**

The Cathedral Education Department provides students of all ages an interactive encounter with this sacred space. We are, of course, one of Ireland's most popular tourist attractions and one of Dublin's most admired places. But step inside and you will discover that the Cathedral is a centre of imaginative and immersive learning for all people, regardless of their background.

We offer a wide range of thematic guided tours and workshops, which can be tailored to any chosen learning objectives and the school curriculum. All of these activities are free for Irish school and university students who attend as part of an organised education visit.

The Education Department is currently trialling free roof tours for older primary school and secondary school students. Now is the time to get in touch and book a school trip for the new year!

Not in Dublin? Fear not! We are often able to support those schools further away with transport subsidies.

For more information about workshops on offer, visit [stpatrickscathedral.ie/learn/schools-universities/](http://stpatrickscathedral.ie/learn/schools-universities/) or contact Clark Brydon (Education & Safeguarding Officer) at [schools@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:schools@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

Please pass this on to any teachers you may know!



## KNIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

That headline would be funny, had we moved any of the Knights of Saint Patrick items around... But we didn't.

On the night of 16th November 2023, under the cover of darkness, a number of items in the Cathedral were moved around or removed from display.

What is known as the 'Swift Case' has been moved into the South Transept. However, Swift items have remained in the existing Swift area. We have displayed his death masks and the cast of his skull in a glass case by his grave, which is a huge improvement in accessibility for those wanting to see these items. A number of other Swift-related things (including his snuff box, books, chalice, and rush lamp) are in another glass case beneath his bust.



You will also spot that we have moved his pulpit and communion table around a bit: his pulpit is one bay further west, and his communion table is against the south wall underneath Ovenden's memorial. This means that, on guided tours, it no longer goes Swift-Presidents-Swift, but just Presidents-Swift. All of Swift's items are in one area now.

All of the glass cases in the North Aisle and North Choir Aisle have been moved into the South Transept. This is to create a dedicated exhibition space (like we had with the Cathedral's copes and chasubles) in the South Transept and move the random items out of the other areas of the Cathedral. The silverware case is now over by



Marsh's monument; the music case has been moved to the stone statue of Saint Patrick; the display with random Guinness books and BCPs has been removed; and the case with wax matrices and the William and Mary patent has been removed, with some items being moved into the old Swift Case. The silverware and music case - alongside the old Swift Case - will form part of a rotating suite of exhibitions for the South Transept, displaying a good number of different items throughout the year from 2024.

This has greatly reduced the clutter in the Cathedral and assists in providing a fluid narrative for our visitors, rather than simply displaying things for the sake of displaying them. Items removed from public view are being stored safely both on- and off-site.

With the old Swift Case now in the South Transept, this will be used to display Cathedral identity and liturgical items (which should be seen from one angle, rather than 360 degrees like the glass cases). At the moment, there are a number of wax seals and seal presses, and medals on display; there are also two large seals from the railings on display; and there are four commemorative silver plates from a 1970s restoration. I hope that eventually the rear of the old Swift Case will house a television for use by school groups using the South Transept for workshops and also additional interpretation in that area.

The wooden statue of Saint Patrick has been moved to the stone statue and stained glass window depictions of Patrick, so that we have three visual depictions of him in one place. We will be rethinking the location of the old wooden chairs in the South Transept to try and clear that clutter too.

The first phase of all this moving was the planning. The second phase was the moving! The final phase is the production of new plaques for each of the items on display in a good quality Cathedral-branded way. So over the next few weeks, we will have new plaques made and installed for all of these items. I hope you enjoy the new layout to the exhibition items. My thanks go to the Interpretation Committee and the team who helped me move all the things around last night: Aaron, John R, Laura, Kryzel, Louis, Patrick, and Ivan.

CDJB

## LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD

Our volunteers and work experience students are an essential part of our community. They undertake a variety of roles and play a vital part in the successful running of the building.

There is a role for everyone at the Cathedral. Some of our volunteers and work experience students conduct guided tours, while others ring our bells, and we appreciate the input made by all.

Are you interested in any of the following roles?

Tour Guide

Bell Ringer

Educational Workshop Facilitators

Welcomer

Church Steward

If so, you can find out more online at [stpatrickscathedral.ie/volunteering](http://stpatrickscathedral.ie/volunteering) or contact Clark Brydon (Education & Safeguarding Officer) at [education@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:education@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

Volunteers must be fluent English speakers. They must be able to communicate clearly with our visitors. They must have an interest in learning and sharing information about the Cathedral. Training is provided for all roles. Safe Recruitment protocols are required.



## MOVEMBER

Noel Maher, Andrew Stokes, Jack Cassidy, Daire Kiernan, Aaron Hoey, and Clark Brydon have taken it upon themselves to (attempt to) grow a moustache (each) to raise money for charity.

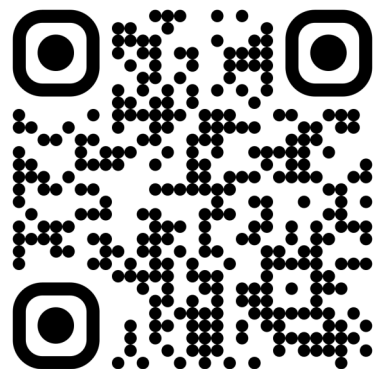
Men's health issues impact not just the men who are afflicted, but their families and friends too. Every year, too many men suffer from prostate and testicular cancer, and too many young men die from suicide.

Although November may be over now, you can still donate!

n.b.: This is not a Cathedral-run initiative and the link below will take you to a non-Cathedral donation page.

Donate: <https://ie.movember.com/mospace/15060357>

Or scan QR code:



# THE SNOWMAN

**Saturday 23 December · 4.00pm ·**

Our last concert of the year, and the most popular, the choristers give their seasonal concert performance of Blake's THE SNOWMAN.

*"It was a cold, cold winter's night. In a cottage in the country,  
hidden away beneath the hills, a little boy lay sleeping.*

*Snow began to fall, lightly at first and then with giant flakes,  
which started to settle on the ground.*

*At first light of morning, the little boy turned over, yawned and sat up.*

*He ran to the window and looked out.*

*Everything was covered in snow...*

Admission free with a retiring collection in aid of LauraLynn Children's Hospice.



This event is free of charge and registration is required.

[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/snowman22](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/snowman22)



**LauraLynn** IRELAND'S  
CHILDREN'S  
HOSPICE

Further details of these, and all events are available  
from our website

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



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



To mark Remembrance Sunday, His Excellency Mr Michael D. Higgins, attended Choral Evensong at 3.15pm. He was joined by representatives of Dáil Éireann and the diplomatic corps, along with the Garda Commissioner, Mr Drew Harris, representatives of the judiciary and the defence forces, all of whom were welcomed by The Dean. The preacher was The Reverend Canon Paul Arbuthnot, Prebendary of Castleknock..

CHURCH OF IRELAND

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t: (048) 9266 7580.



## LIVE STREAM SERVICES

A reminder that if you are unable to attend worship, we invite you to tune in to our live stream online. The system has recently undergone some major upgrades and it is much improved.

All choral services are streamed online and can be accessed from wherever you are in the world.

Link: <http://stpatrickscathedral.ie/livestream>

If you have any questions about, or problems with, the live stream please contact Clark Brydon: [education@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:education@stpatrickscathedral.ie)

CDJB

## MUSIC FROM THE OPERA

The Dean thanks all who were involved in, and supported, the evening of music from opera which was held in the Cathedral on Wednesday 29th November as a fund raiser for Saint Patrick's Cathedral Choir School. Grateful thanks to Sylvia O'Brien, soprano, ( a member of the new Board of Management) who organised, and participated in, the event together with Gemma Ní Bhriain (mezzo soprano), Gavin Ring (tenor), Simon Morgan (baritone), and Dearbhla Collins (pianist).

## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The Safeguarding Trust Panel of Saint Patrick's Cathedral has rewritten our Child Safeguarding Policy documents and, at the meeting of the Cathedral Board in October 2023, these new documents were formally adopted and became active. There are several new documents, which cover a wide variety of themes and eventualities.

In order to view them, please visit: [stpatrickscathedral.ie/safeguarding](http://stpatrickscathedral.ie/safeguarding) or enquire at the Welcome Desk. For more information or if you have any queries or concerns, please contact Clark Brydon (Education & Safeguarding Officer) at [safeguarding@stpatrickscathedral.ie](mailto:safeguarding@stpatrickscathedral.ie) or call:

Office: +353 (0) 1 453 9472 (ext. 205)

Mobile: +353 (0) 86 103 0931

## **HANDEL BY CANDLE**

You're invited to join us in the Cathedral for a special performance of the Christmas music from Handel's great oratorio MESSIAH along with other festive music all performed by the stunning voices of the Cathedral Choir.

Tickets are available from [www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/handel23](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/handel23)

15 December 19.30

## **ADVENT PROCESSION BY CANDLELIGHT**

Sunday 3rd December 18.00

## **CAROLS FOR ALL**

Sunday 10th December 19.30

## **NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**

Sunday 17th December 15.15

Sunday 24th December at 16.00 (*By ticket only*)

## **NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**

Monday 25th December at 11.15

## **FESTIVAL CHORAL EUCHARIST**

Sunday 7th January at 15.15

## **EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday 28th January at 15.15

## **A CEREMONY OF CAROLS**

**[Wwww.stpatrickscathedral.ie/christmas23](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/christmas23)**



## ANNUAL SERVICE OF THE IRISH ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

Members of The Irish Association of Change Ringers travelled from many parts of Ireland for their annual service which took the form of Choral Evensong in Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 22nd October. The preacher was the Dean of Ross, the Very Reverend Cliff Jeffers, who is very involved with bell ringing. In his most interesting sermon, Dean Jeffers referred to the centenary, back in February this year, of the death of the very distinguished Mr Richard Cherry, who gave long and devoted service to the Tower as an instructor in the art of bell ringing, as President of the Society of Change Ringers, and was the most generous donor in 1909 of two treble bells which made 12 bell ringing possible at Saint Patrick's for the first time. Richard Cherry, whose memory, and that of his wife, Mary, is immortalised by a wall tablet in the Baptistry, was a lawyer, and he had the distinction of serving as Lord Chief Justice of Ireland.

Many members of the Cherry family attended the service and later visited the Cherry grave in the old St George's graveyard in Drumcondra.



## **SAFEGUARDING TRUST**

The Safeguarding Handbook, as well as Safeguarding Trust, can 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 Clark Brydon. 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.

## **TEA/COFFEE ON EUCHARIST SUNDAYS**

There has been an overwhelming response to the provision of tea/coffee and biscuits in the south transept following the Eucharist. At present we are appealing for volunteers to administer the refreshments. All that is required is for you to be there to assist with handing out the tea/coffee.

If you are interested in helping, please e-mail Ms Laura Coyle at the Welcome Desk, [Supervisors@stpattrickscathedral.ie](mailto:Supervisors@stpattrickscathedral.ie) so that a rota can be drawn up. With grateful thanks.

## CATHEDRAL CONTACTS

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### 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)





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

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