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JUNE 2025

# CLOSE NEWS



## SCHOOLS

Updates from the  
Choir and Grammar  
Schools.

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## USA TRIP

The choristers' trip to  
San Francisco.

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## CHARITY

Recipients of the  
Community and  
Charitable Fund.

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## SERVICE TIMES



### Sunday

- 09:15 Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel*)  
11:15 Choral Eucharist *or* Choral Matins  
15:15 Choral Evensong

### Monday–Friday

- 09:00 Sung Matins (*during school term*)  
11:05 Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Festivals*)  
17:30 Choral Evensong *or* Evening Prayer

### Saturday

- 11:05 Eucharist (*said in the Lady Chapel*)

God has been worshipped in this place through the prayers and praises of countless generations. Worship lies at the heart of our life as Christians and we express our theology and belief through our liturgy. It is through these liturgical patterns of words and actions that we are formed and transformed.

We invite you to join us for any of the services here this month. If you are unable to join us in person, you can tune in to the online live stream of all services: [spcd.ie/live](https://spcd.ie/live)

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*Cover image: During their trip to San Francisco, the choristers had a recital at Grace Cathedral. Photo courtesy of Stuart Nicholson.*

## **THE CLOSE NEWS EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

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**T**he publication of *Close News* is made possible only as a result of the dedication of a number of people within the Cathedral Community. The Editorial Committee wishes to thank all those who have submitted content for publication. If you would like an item to be featured in the next edition of *Close News*, please contact Mrs Elizabeth Lowrie.



## THE DEAN WRITES...

THE VERY REVD DR WILLIAM MORTON

**T**he Feast of Pentecost, which falls this year on Sunday 8th June, is considered the birthday of the Church, when God sent his gift of the Holy Spirit. Previously a hidden community, the Church became much more visible and publicly known with its mission to proclaim the Gospel, to baptise all nations, and to build communities of believers. Pentecost is all about new life, new energy, and new opportunities.

We are blessed here with the varied dimensions of the life of the Cathedral, and the willingness to achieve, and to advance the life of the Church. A very good example of

this was the recent choir trip to San Francisco. No doubt you will have read the details of it elsewhere in this issue of Close News but in essence it was to heighten awareness on the west coast of the US of Saint Patrick's in terms of our worship, our history, and our contribution to the city, community, and the world at large, and to encourage visitors to Dublin.

The welcome in San Francisco was warm and cordial. I wish to record my most grateful thanks to Ed Coleman, our marketing officer, to Stuart Nicholson, Master of the Music, and to the choristers who were present, with their supervisors, to Gavan Woods, CEO, and to



Rowena, Dean's Secretary and office manager, for their marvellous work in organising the trip to the ultimate degree. Every attention was paid to every possible detail. The visit was a wonderful time of connection, storytelling, and vision.

May the same Spirit which

stirred hearts on the first Pentecost reinvigorate us, and all who come through our doors. May they find Saint Patrick's a place of welcome, beauty, and peace.

Yours ever,  
*William*

CHURCH OF IRELAND

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## A SHOT FROM THE CANON

THE REVD CANON  
CHARLES MULLEN

A priest used to hold a flower festival every Trinity Sunday so he could preach about flowers, and avoid the Trinity. Like him, we all tend to shy away from the Church's mysteries. How can one God be revealed as three Persons? Metaphors like Saint Patrick's shamrock leaf and Saint Augustine's water, steam and ice, give some clues to this unfathomable mystery. God also gives us human ways to relate to his differentiated unity: think wife and husband, think siblings, think close friends. These help us to engage with the Trinity, and to blossom in the vastness of God's love.

CM

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

I bind unto myself today  
The strong Name of the Trinity,  
By invocation of the same,  
The Three in One, and One in Three.

*From a Breastplate  
attributed to Saint Patrick (d.461)*

Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness  
hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory  
may not see,  
Only thou art holy: there is none beside  
thee  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

*From a hymn by Reginald Heber  
(1783–1826)*

# SUNDAY SERVICES & PREACHERS

## SUNDAY 1ST OF JUNE 2025

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)  
11:15 – Choral Eucharist  
15:15 – Choral Evensong

*Canon in Residence:*

**THE REVD D.W. OXLEY**  
*Prebendary of St Audoen's*

## SUNDAY 8TH OF JUNE 2025

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)  
11:15 – Choral Matins  
15:15 – Choral Evensong

*Canon in Residence:*

**THE VERY REVD W.W. MORTON**  
*Dean and Ordinary*

## SUNDAY 15TH OF JUNE 2025

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)  
11:15 – Choral Eucharist  
15:15 – Choral Evensong

*Canon in Residence:*

**THE REVD K.M. POULTON**  
*Prebendary of Swords*

## SUNDAY 22ND OF JUNE 2025

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)  
11:15 – Choral Matins  
15:15 – Choral Evensong

*Canon in Residence:*

**THE VERY REVD K.R.J. HALL**  
*Prebendary of Tassagard*

## SUNDAY 29TH OF JUNE 2025

09:15 – Eucharist (*said*)  
11:15 – Choral Eucharist  
15:15 – Choral Evensong

*Canon in Residence:*

**THE REVD P.I. ARBUTHNOT**  
*Prebendary of Castleknock*

## DAILY SERVICES

Please see Page 2 for our normal pattern of daily worship.

## FORTHCOMING FEAST DAYS

The feast of Saint Columba is celebrated on Monday 9th June.

The feast of Saint Barnabas is celebrated on Wednesday 11th June.

The feast of the Birth of Saint John the Baptist is celebrated on Tuesday 24th June.

The feast of Saint Peter is celebrated on Sunday 29th June.



## STREAM

If you can't make it in person to our services this month, remember: you can tune in for free online.

## SERVICES & MUSIC LIST

For an up-to-date and comprehensive list of forthcoming services, please visit the monthly Services & Music List on the website.





## THE ADMINISTRATOR WRITES...

MR GAVAN WOODS

Some time ago we made a strategic decision to align ourselves as closely as possible with the state's effort to market Ireland abroad as a tourist destination. As a result we now work very closely with Tourism Ireland, providing material for them to promote the Cathedral and joining their marketing trips overseas whenever possible.

As a premier attraction we endeavour to differentiate ourselves by hosting, in collaboration with Tourism Ireland, our own events to which key tour operators, journalists and influencers are invited within important or developing markets. To date we have done this in Madrid, New York and now, as you will see elsewhere in this issue, San Francisco. We have plans to dovetail similar engagements where possible with choir trips. Having the choir, including the choristers, perform is one of the two elements that allow us to draw tourism professionals of the highest calibre to these events. The other is that we are able

to issue invitations in the Dean's name as he, and occasionally Rosemary, host the gatherings, which is of inestimable value to us in ensuring their success.

With the choir and the Dean present, our role as the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland is front and centre. This contextualises our other activities, namely as a top tier attraction, as enablers of our charitable purpose.

We see opportunities to grow outside of the busy season. Many of the operators we engaged with wished to develop itineraries for individuals and families looking for unique and immersive experiences. To this end we have developed tourism products for this market that are only available to operators and are not sold directly to the public. At this moment we are not necessarily chasing more overall numbers but rather looking at the mix of visitors to ensure we can deliver a positive visitor experience and a sustainable income for



the Cathedral into the future.

Tourism is entering a challenging period. We continually review our performance across the board and note that we have the potential to grow footfall from the United Kingdom and Canada, as we appear to underperform there at present. Before joining the choir and the Dean, I travelled to Toronto and presented, with Sandra Moffatt, the marketing manager for Canada, to the staff of two major tour operators. I also visited a third by myself. We will follow

up on this initial contact in the months and years ahead.

To finish I would like to thank Siobhan Naughton, Percy Stevens and Jenna Chapman of Tourism Ireland, San Francisco, Sandra Moffat of Tourism Ireland, Toronto, our marketing manager, Ed, for the huge work he did in organising the trip, our director of music, Stuart, the choristers and supervisors and of the course the Dean and Rosemary for their support throughout.

GHW



*Percy Stevens, Marketing Manager of Tourism Ireland - Western USA, and Stephanie Gibri, winner of a prize we awarded on the night; accommodation for two to any Irish Landmark Trust property on the island of Ireland. We took business cards from all attendees, and Rosemary pulled one out. The voucher was kindly donated by the Irish Landmark Trust. We also donated a Verger Tour.*

## CONSERVATION WORK



**R**epointing of the Cathedral's West end is currently underway. This will address the problem of water egress into the Dean's robing room. This work is part funded by a grant from the Community Monuments Fund. Photos courtesy of Derek Tobin.

## CZECH DELEGATION VISIT



**T**he Dean was delighted to welcome to Saint Patrick's a delegation from the Czech Republic who were given a tour of the Cathedral by Derek Tobin, one of our Vergers. Pictured, first on left, are Mr Vít Rakušan, First Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of the Interior of the Czech Republic, and, first from right, His Excellency Mr Pavel Vošalík, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Ireland.

*Photo by Jean Traynor.*

# CHOIR SCHOOL NEWS

As we approach the end of another academic year at the Choir School, we think about our sixth class who are beginning to look towards new horizons – Secondary School. It can be an exciting time for students and families but there is also the realisation that their time at the Choir School is coming to an end. On Wednesday June 18th we will mark this occasion with the annual Choir School Service in the Lady Chapel. This will be an opportunity for us to share memories of years gone by that will no doubt last a lifetime. We wish our school leavers all the very best for the future. As many 6th class students move over to the Grammar School next door, we tell them their friends and teachers at the Choir School are never too far away!

We were all very proud of

our school choir who gave excellent performances throughout the year such as a performance with the Irish Baroque Orchestra in Kilkenny. These events were certainly punctuated by trips to Madrid in February and San Francisco in May to showcase some of our school's amazing talent and dedication. On both occasions students served as amazing ambassadors not only for the Choir School and the Cathedral community but Ireland as well!

In the classroom we got to enjoy a variety of trips throughout the year, from our own locality such as Marsh's Library to further afield such as The Book of Kells, The Europa Experience, The Ark Theatre and most anticipated of all – Emerald Park for our school tour in June.



*The choir school on their visit to the Europa Experience. Photo courtesy of Pearce Maloney.*



In May, we held the Choir School Sports Day in the Phoenix Park and were fortunate enough to enjoy a wonderful sunny day and great participation. Events included relay races, obstacles courses, sack races and balloon popping challenges. Well done to all and a big thank you to all the students (and parents!) who took part.

Finally, a huge thank you to our parents who played such a fantastic role in the school this year. From events such

as our pizza oven day and Easter Egg Hunt to workshops covering computer programming, dance and drama, the parents have been such a wonderful presence in our school community this year.

We all look forward to a restful and safe summer holiday – well done to all the students and staff for a fantastic year!

*Pearce Maloney*  
*Principal, SPC Choir School*

## GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWS

As we near the end of the academic year at the Grammar School our thoughts inevitably turn to the State examinations in June.

The run up to these exams can be a stressful time for our students and their families. For our sixth-year students, in particular, there is the added realisation that their time at the Grammar School has come to an end. Last Wednesday we marked this occasion with the annual school leavers' service in the Cathedral. This was followed by the summer Barbeque which took place in the Deanery garden.

The annual PCPA dinner took place in April. A number of current students and recent graduates including current and former head boys and girls made up a table of eight at the dinner. In recent years the PCPA has made a significant contribution to the music scholarship bursary fund and we were delighted that one of the beneficiaries of the bursary, David Lindsay, who is now

in 6th year, was able to attend and to sing for the attendees at the dinner.

At the beginning of May, the school choir attended the Cork International Choral Festival to compete in the National Competition for mixed voice post primary schools as defending champions. The choir was awarded 2nd prize with a score of 92.5% just 1 mark behind the winners. This is a tremendous achievement and special thanks are due the conductor and organiser of the trip Ms Judith Lyons.

The School Orchestra competed in the Dorothy Meyer Cup for Post-Primary Orchestras at Feis Ceoil for the first time in April. They played extremely well, received very positive feedback and a placing of Very Highly Commended. Their performance is available to view on the School's YouTube account.

Earlier this year, at the Wesley Inter-school music festival, the Chamber Choir won 1st Prize and Cup for unaccompanied vocal. Emma



Kerrigan, in 3rd year, won 1st Prize and Cup for solo popular singing. There was a number of other medal winners and more than 20 other students that received 1st class honours in the various competitions.

Last month one of our past pupils, Leena May, received an All Ireland Scholarship award, sponsored by JP McManus, in recognition of her achievement of obtaining maximum points in last year's Leaving Certificate exams. Leena was also awarded an entrance scholarship to Trinity College and her classmate Bianca Akpotor (a former member of the Cathedral Schola choir) won an entrance scholarship to UCD.

So, it has been a very busy year and we are all looking forward to the summer break.

*Tim Gill*  
*Principal, SPC Grammar School*



*Bianca Akpotor, who won an entrance scholarship to UCD. Photo courtesy of Tim Gill.*

# BECOME A FRIEND



*Membership starts at only €25/year.  
Five year and life memberships are also available.*

The Friends come from all walks of life and all faiths and none but are united by their commitment to Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Each Friend is entitled to free entry to the Cathedral (on presentation of their membership card), the twice yearly magazine, Saint Patrick's People, and to apply for tickets to the Christmas Eve Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

*Become a Friend by scanning the QR code or visiting: [spcd.ie/friends](http://spcd.ie/friends)*

# NEWS FROM THE BELFRY

## *Echoes of Tradition and Legacy: A Visit with the Bell Ringers of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin*

On a Tuesday evening, the sounds of Dublin are familiar: the hustle of people coming off work rushing to meet the bus, clangs of laughter pouring out from pubs, tourists examining the cloudy, gray skies guessing whether it will rain, and families gathering for coffee in the lobby of a hotel near St. Patrick's Park. I, too, am in the lobby of the Hyatt Centric in the Liberties neighborhood of Dublin. I didn't know it yet, but the man I interviewed over coffee would change my view of the world forever.

As drops of rain fell from the sky I heard the pop of umbrellas opening around me. I need mine, too. I cross the streets, following my subject Derek McEndoo, and his colleague Muiris O'Reilly, listening to shoes splatting against wet roads and concrete. My hearing is heightened. If you close your eyes, the sounds I hear are what any European city sounds like. Soon, I'd come to know a different soundtrack to the city.

McEndoo and O'Reilly guide me to Saint Patrick's Cathedral. Earlier that day, dozens of tourists filed in and out of the Cathedral, discussing the ornate details of the church, the stained glass windows depicting Saint Patrick's life, and the history of Ireland's national cathedral. But at this hour, only

the sounds of footsteps climbing up a narrow spiral staircase can be heard, each tip tap on a stone greyed by centuries of footsteps.

I climb one, two, three... seventy steps, each time more difficult to lift my knee and catch my breath. But when I reach the top, behind an old wooden door, I hear a sound that revives a world of tradition and artistry: the sound of the city, the sound of the bell ringers at Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Every week, volunteers as young as 10 and as seasoned as 90 years old climb the hidden staircase to the ringing room to practice the centuries-old tradition of bell ringing. The room is decorated with old photographs, awards for record-setting peals, and rickety wooden chairs. On this day, 15 volunteers gather to practise.

There are 15 bells at Saint Patrick's—the heaviest weighing two and a quarter tons, is the heaviest in the country, and reserved for the strongest body and mind.

"It's a very mental thing. You have to remember patterns, you have to learn to listen, you have to learn to work as a team," McEndoo said. "You don't need to be strong, you don't need to be musical, you don't need to be religious. You need a sense of rhythm and a bit of dedication." McEndoo has rung the bells at Saint Patrick's Cathedral for more than 60 years. The walls of the tower hold memories of his life: meeting

his wife, Kathleen, and watching his daughter ring, too.

The bells sit upside down and rotate 360 degrees in both directions, a tradition that is virtually exclusive to the English-speaking world. Robert Macdonald, the ringing master, like a conductor, guides the bell ringers through a peal. They must pull with precision to create a sound of intricate melodies. It is not music. Bells do not produce tunes. It is instead a complex, tightly controlled, mathematical dance of sounds called change ringing in which no sequence is repeated. Other churches around the world have turned to using automated chimes. The volunteers at Saint Patrick's, however, are keeping the art of bell-ringing alive.

"If somebody from the 16th century came into our belfry today, they would be able to just take one of the ropes and ring because it hasn't changed," McEndoo explained. "Been a few modifications, but the basic principles are just exactly the same as they were."

As the practice begins, the tower erupts into a roar of rhythm. The bell ropes rise up and down in careful synchronicity, the ringers timing each breath with every pull, their eyes fixed on each other as the change-ringing takes over.

I glance around the room and find McEndoo whispering to a woman as she pulls the rope of the bell. He's coaching her.



*Photo courtesy of Thomas McTague.*

"Well done," he encouraged her. "That bell's awkward and most people hate that one, so I'm very impressed."

For centuries, the bells have served as a call to worship for the people of Dublin through rebellions and coronations, famine and festivals, a global pandemic and a return to normalcy. For the bell ringers, it's a calling.

"Some people want instant gratification, but you won't get that with bell ringing," McEndoo explained. "It takes time."

These volunteers find community in this bell tower. They are proof - you are never too old or too young to discover a world full of wonder, passion, and learning.

"It's a social thing and I've made some really good friends in the Belfry," McEndoo said smiling.

For years, McEndoo says recruiting efforts to keep the bell ringing alive proved difficult. Less than a handful consistently attended practice. Today, 10 volunteers recruited one year ago still attend practice and perform on Sundays.

"Lots of people just don't understand that there are people up there ringing the bells..." McEndoo explained. "...if we can explain to people, actually, we've got people who dedicate a lot of their time to this activity, all for no financial reward, but just for the pleasure of doing it."

Bell ringing is more than a performance - it's a legacy. McEndoo tells me he is hopeful about the future of the tradition, and that young people will carry on that legacy.

Though McEndoo retired as the ringing master, he now focuses his efforts on teaching, recruiting, and giving outsiders like myself a glimpse into his sound-filled world. Like today, McEndoo rings here and around the world. He and his wife were part of the ringing bands that completed two quarter peals, ringing continuously for 50 minutes, and won the prestigious Lindoff Cup, an award given to the best performance of ringing bands from the Eastern District of the Irish Association of Change Ringers.

By 8:30 p.m., the sun begins to set and a chill settles inside the packed ringing room. The chatter from the volunteers grows, the ruffling of puffer jackets and umbrellas echoes through the room, and the creaking sound from a rusted handle winding the bell ropes to the ceiling fills my ears. The bell ringers begin their descent down the 70 steps of the winding stone staircase to the quiet Cathedral below.

For people just outside the Cathedral, only whims of rushed goodbyes can be heard pouring out from inside. But for me, I still hear the final notes of the bells rumbling through my body. For me, the noise of the city is drowned out by the timeless sounds of the bells of Saint Patrick's and the people who have given them a voice as timeless as the land itself.

*Contributed by Patty Zamarippa  
Professor and Journalist  
Texas Christian University*





## CHORISTERS' TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO

It didn't seem like 5 minutes ago that we returned from our trip to Madrid when we were jetting off again this time to the West coast of America, not that any of us were complaining. On a bright May morning, 8 choristers and 4 members of music staff flew off from Dublin airport bound for sunny San Francisco to sing for a group of VIPs at Tourism Ireland's HQ there. 16,000km is quite a round trip for just one performance, so we managed to squeeze in a few extra gigs whilst there, not to mention a good deal of sightseeing and shopping whilst basking in the glorious Californian sun.

Our first day was largely taken up with travelling, but the 10+ hour flight didn't seem to slow down the choristers in the slightest.

After breakfast in one of the finest dining venues in San Francisco, we took off in one of the 1950 Street Cars to visit the infamous Alcatraz Prison; we all enjoyed exploring the rock with the help of a fabulous audio guide narrated by former employees and residents of the prison. We even got to meet the last surviving inmate who was in signing copies of his book. We asked him if it felt strange being back, to which, unsurprisingly, he said yes – but it helped



that he was being paid a LOT of money. After lunch in a well-known chain of sandwich shops, we jumped aboard the Hop on-Hop off bus for a tour of the city, the highlight of which being the spectacular Golden Gate bridge at which we felt the full force of the winds whipping across the bay.

Following dinner in Bubba Gump Shrimp Company on Pier 39 (sadly the Forrest Gump references were largely lost on the younger members of the group) we watched the sun set on the Skystar Observation wheel at the nearby Fisherman's Wharf before heading home for a much-needed night's rest.

Thursday started with a 6.30am breakfast and a dash across town to Maris

Stella Academy, home to the Choir School of the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption. Our boys and girls in blue joined with St Mary's choristers for their 7.30am rehearsal before performing to the whole school. At least they'll never complain about 8.30am pre-Matins rehearsals again. Following some locally sourced well-earned donuts, we headed to the cathedral to sing Mass, thankfully with sufficient time to explore the stunning 1970's building. An afternoon lazing in Golden Gate Park followed (along with lots of ice-cream) before heading off to Ireland House to perform to our assembled guests.

After such a long day, Friday was a more subdued start, a little shopping



before heading up one of the hills that San Francisco is famous for to our 4th and final venue, the glorious Grace Cathedral. In hindsight, taking one of the cable cars would have been better! Our 30 minute recital was well received by a small but enthusiastic audience and accompanied by the Organist of Grace Cathedral, Jared Johnson.

We finished our last day with a walk through Chinatown, the largest in America, with its many gift shops, the

majority of which we seemed to have to enter. Dinner in North Beach followed before heading back to the hotel to pack ready for the off.

In case that all wasn't enough, we did manage though to squeeze in a quick visit back to Pier 39 on Saturday morning to shoot some killer clowns and zombies before heading off to the airport.

*The journey home was long, needless to say we didn't hear a peep from the choristers during the flight...* SN



*The choristers at Grace Cathedral (opposite page), visiting Maris Stella Academy (top) and having fun at Alcatraz (bottom). Photos courtesy of Stuart Nicholson.*



**B**usy times in the community office, with lots happening in various aspects of the work.

The Charitable & Community Fund Announcement took place in May, and the applicants were all invited to attend a special service in the Cathedral celebrating their works which was followed by a photo opportunity. Beneficiaries gave small insights into the work that they do and how the funds allocated will benefit their specific projects. Over €200,000 was awarded from the 2023/2024 donations.

Public Participation Network and Secretariat work continues with me continuing to represent on the Community Pillar with a seat on the Local Community Development Committee. This is a pivotal role advocating for the wider city community sector, and representative of 1,000 member organisations, intersecting with the local authority, influencing key decisions, impacting policy development and supporting colleagues throughout the country in other PPNs. I have presented to the Environmental Pillar and presented the

*Above: The Charitable and Community Fund announcement. Photo courtesy of Kelley Bermingham.*



Chair address of the Secretariat in the Mansion House in May. I participated in a panel discussion with Jake Riviera (Dept of Rural & Community Development) and Bill O'Dea from the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown PPN reflecting on the past 10 years of PPN and speaking on hopes for the future of the PPN as it enters a phase of review and refresh.

The Cathedral minibus is proving to be ever popular in a number of areas:

- Parish visits: Many Church of Ireland parishes have been engaging with the access support, and feedback has been very positive about the experiences.
- Community youth engagement: Outings to support the YMCA Dublin and Solas Project feature

among these important social benefit outings and ensure that the very high costs of engaging in specific transport can be redirected to benefit the young people needing additional supports.

- Community senior groups access to the Cathedral: Groups such as Men's Sheds, Family Resource Centres and Women's Collective Ireland are accessing the Cathedral in safe and supported ways.

Local area issues continue to present, and liaising with the local authority, state and voluntary agencies, the Cathedral has proven crucial in solution-focused thinking through the community engagement relationships with local residents. The Cabbage Garden Project continues to be a critical point of focus but we need to have buy-in from the parks department of DCC in order for the advancement of essential elements which will bring untold benefit to local residents and visitors alike.

I have been invited to join a Community of Practice with partners in the prevention of domestic abuse and will be presenting to the forum on June 12th about aspects of the community work, approach and experience of extending community support and the safeguarding role in Saint Patrick's Cathedral. I am also part of a wider group: Dublin 8 for All – a collection of people working on the ground to provide support, welcome and connection for individuals who may be subjected to harm from the extreme views and activities that are less than welcoming.



*Kelley at the Mansion House.*



*The Wheel Conference Charity Summit in May. L-R: Det Chief Supt Brian Woods who heads up the Pyla Project; Kelley Bermingham, Saint Patrick's Cathedral Community and Safeguarding Officer; Wesley Smith from the Réidh Project supporting IPAS residents in a work-focused integration programme with the YMCA Dublin.*

Some training that I have participated in recently includes:

- Train the Trainer
- Adult Safeguarding delivery training (Maighread Kelly, Consultant)
- Youth Mental Health First Aid (via CFSN)
- Safe Haven Training for Faith Communities (via Dublin City Interfaith Forum)
- Child and Youth Participation Training Part 1, Lundy Model (via CFSN)
- Women's Aid, Recognising and Responding to Domestic Abuse Part 1 (via CFSN)

In relation to safeguarding, Colette Garry has come on board

as a 2nd Deputy DLP. Laura Lowe continues as a Deputy DLP, and this will ensure a breadth of cover, knowledge and skills on the team. The Cathedral-specific Adult Safeguarding policy is well under development and training sessions are being delivered to get level 1 to all staff and volunteers, level 2 to senior team members and eventually level 3 to the most senior team and safeguarding trust panel.

*Kelley*



# PIPEWORKS AT THE MOVIES

Pipeworks begins the 2025 festival with a concert with a difference!

Well known as an arranger, aided and abetted by Pipeworks Chair Harry Meehan, Stuart Nicholson will perform a block busting concert of your favourite movie themes, heard as never before in his own arrangements for organ solo and duet.

Superman, Star Wars, Interstellar, Independence Day and many more feature in this unique concert!

Pipeworks at the Movies takes place June 18th at 7.30pm.

Tickets available through our website  
[www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/event/pipeworks-at-the-movies](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/event/pipeworks-at-the-movies)





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Pre-booking required, [www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/stars25](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/stars25)

**DRESS | Formal attire encouraged**

**PRIZES FOR THE BEST DRESSED**



# LIBERTIES FESTIVAL

## LIBERTIES FESTIVAL

**S**aint Patrick's Cathedral is delighted to take part once again in the Liberties Festival, running this year from **21st to 27th July 2025**.

As one of Ireland's oldest and most cherished community festivals, the Liberties Festival has been a much-loved tradition since its modest beginnings in 1970. Over the decades, it has blossomed into a vibrant celebration of local culture, heritage, and creativity—bringing together people of all ages through a diverse mix of family-friendly activities, sporting events, community gatherings, and an exciting multicultural arts programme.

We're thrilled to be contributing to this year's festival with two special events, a **Tower Tour** and a **Family Workshop**.

These events are part of our ongoing commitment to community engagement and to celebrating the rich cultural fabric of the Liberties area, which we are proud to call home.

The full festival programme will be announced soon, and we look forward to welcoming both locals and visitors alike to join in the celebrations.

*Vist [thelibertiesfestival.com](http://thelibertiesfestival.com) for more details.*

# CATHEDRAL CONTACTS



**The Very Revd Dr  
William Morton**  
DEAN

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**The Revd Canon  
Charles Mullen**  
DEAN'S VICAR

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**Mr Louis Parminter**  
DEAN'S VERGER &  
CATHEDRAL MANAGER

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## WILL US WELL

**W**hen 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, at *adminstrator@stpatrickscathedral.ie*

## SAFEGUARDING

The Cathedral's Safeguarding Policy can be viewed on our website.

If you have a general enquiry or any concern relating to safeguarding at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, please contact the Safeguarding Officer:

**Ms Kelley Bermingham**  
Community & Safeguarding Officer

*safeguarding@stpatrickscathedral.ie*  
+353 (0) 86 103 0931

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 +353 (0) 1 856 6856.

## SUPPORT US



The ministry of Saint Patrick's Cathedral is made possible entirely through the support of individuals like you. The donations which we receive from people all over the world support our worship and music tradition, education programmes, and community outreach work, as well as contributing towards the vast cost of maintaining this historic building.

If you would like to support the Cathedral's mission and work, please consider donating securely online. You can scan the QR code or visit: [spcd.ie/support](https://spcd.ie/support)



## STAY IN TOUCH

You do not have to wait until the next edition of *Close News* to see the latest updates from the Cathedral! Why not follow us on social media or visit our website for up-to-date news and information? From our website, you can also sign up to our digital newsletter in order to receive news straight to your email.



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