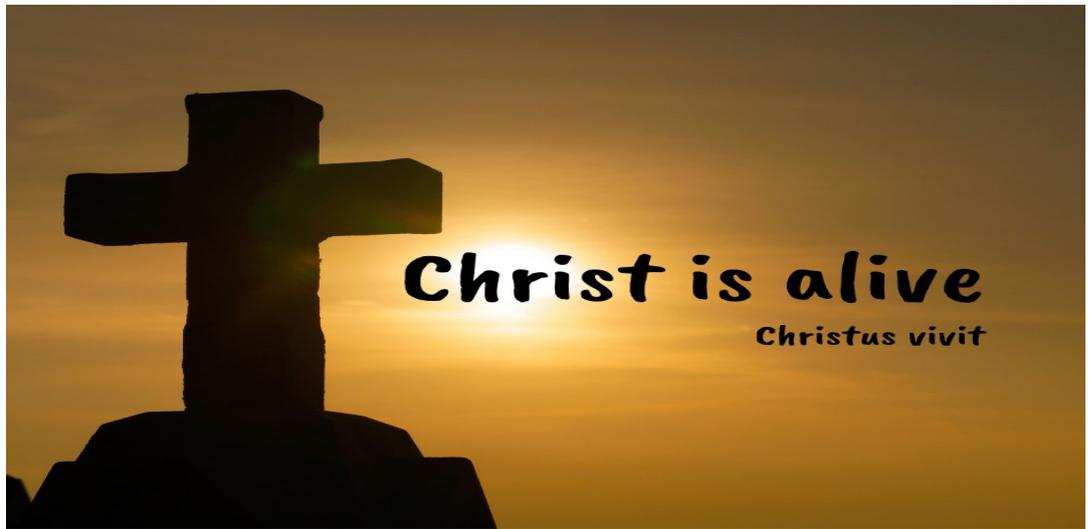




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Sharing the Good News



Bishop Donal McKeown welcomes Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation *Christ is alive*

Bishop Donal McKeown of Derry has welcomed Pope Francis' Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation to young people and to the entire People of God, entitled *Christus vivit* (*Christ is Alive*). The publication represents planning, consultation and over three weeks of deliberation involving senior representatives of Bishops' Conferences from around the world who attended the Synod in the Vatican to discuss the theme 'youth, faith and vocational discernment' from 3 – 28 October last year. In *Christus vivit*, composed of nine chapters and divided into 299 paragraphs, Pope Francis says that he has been "inspired by the wealth of reflections and conversations of the Synod" on young people.

In response, Bishop McKeown said, "*Christ is Alive* is an accessible and inspiring document! The early publication of the document is a welcome sign that Pope Francis recognises the urgency of a renewed emphasis on creating new young disciples of Jesus." You can read the document in full on www.catholicbishops.ie.

Dublin priest Father Fintan Gavin is new Bishop of Cork & Ross

Pope Francis has appointed Dublin priest, Father Fintan Gavin, as Bishop John Buckley's successor in the Diocese of Cork & Ross. Announcing the news in the Cathedral of Saint Mary & Saint Anne in Cork City, the Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo, described it as a special day in the life of the diocese.

Bishop-elect Gavin said that leaving his life and ministry in Dublin will not be easy. He said, "I was very happily serving the Church as an ordinary priest in the Archdiocese of Dublin during the last 27 years since I was ordained in various different ministries. And as a north-side Dubliner I would never have expected such trust to be placed in me by Pope Francis by asking me to serve as a humble servant leader, the People of God, the Body of Christ of the Diocese of Cork & Ross."

See catholicnews.ie for more including pictures from the announcement .



Pope Francis has appointed Archbishop Eamon Martin as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Dromore from Monday 15 April 2019.

Commenting on his appointment, Archbishop Eamon said, "I am humbled by Pope Francis' request and grateful for his confidence in me. It will be an honour for me to serve the people, priests and religious of Dromore during this transitional time for the diocese. Please pray for me as I take up this new responsibility." For more see catholicbishops.ie.



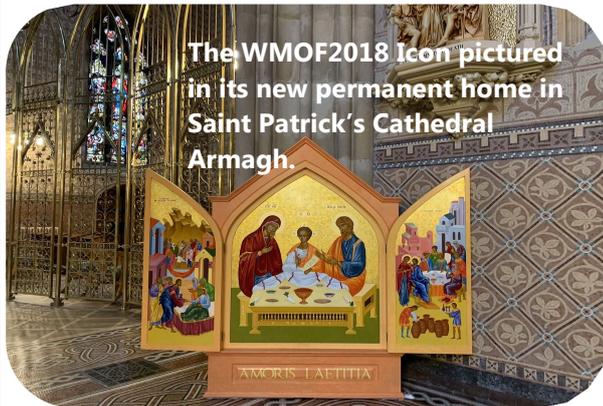
Pope Francis with Archbishop Eamon Martin

Bishop William Crean, chair of Trócaire, has expressed his deep sorrow and condolences to the family of Sally O'Neill who died in Guatemala following a road accident. Sally worked for Trócaire for 37 years until her retirement in 2015. Bishop Crean said, "Through Sally's work with marginalised and vulnerable communities around the world, and particularly in her beloved Latin America, Sally has left an enormous legacy. Ár dheis Dé go raibh a h-Anam uasal." For more see catholicnews.ie.

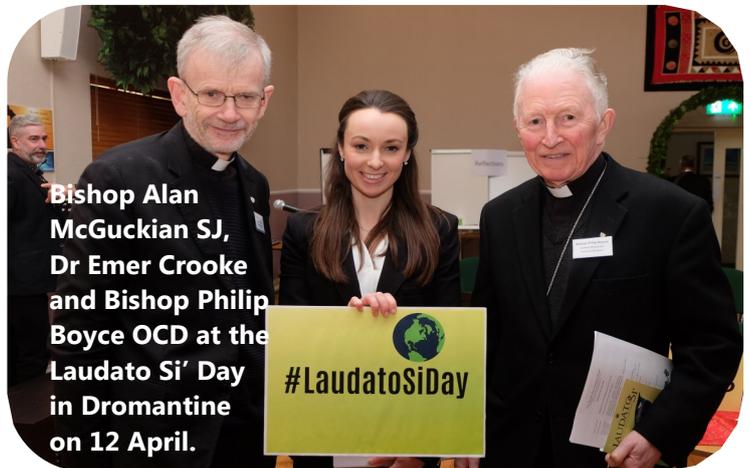


Sally O'Neill

NEWS IN PICTURES



The WMOF2018 Icon pictured in its new permanent home in Saint Patrick's Cathedral Armagh.

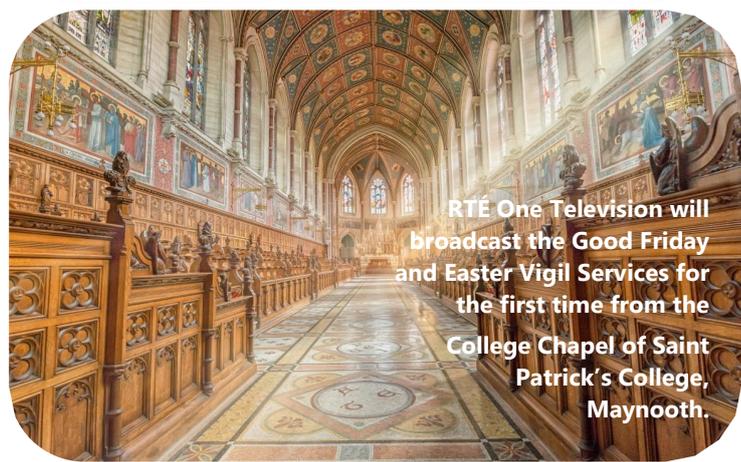


Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ, Dr Emer Crooke and Bishop Philip Boyce OCD at the Laudato Si' Day in Dromantine on 12 April.



Easter Sunday Dawn Masses

See www.catholicbishops.ie for details of Holy Week and Easter Services, including Dawn Masses for Easter Sunday.



RTE One Television will broadcast the Good Friday and Easter Vigil Services for the first time from the College Chapel of Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth.

Bells of Saint Patrick's Cathedral Armagh ring out in solidarity with Paris

Archbishop Eamon Martin has responded to the fire which has caused serious damage to Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. He said, "Heartbreaking to see the sacred and historic #NotreDame cathedral engulfed with flame. Sending prayers from Ireland to Archbishop Michel Aupetit of the Diocese of Paris and the people of Paris." The bells of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, will ring out on Spy Wednesday evening ahead of the celebration of the annual Chrism Mass in the diocese, in solidarity with the French Bishops' Conference who announced that all cathedral bells in France would toll at 6:50pm, the time at which the Notre Dame cathedral fire began.