

HARBOUR LIGHTS CORK TIDES

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AUTUMN/WINTER 2025



John and I on a ship in Cork



Colin Jenkins
Port Chaplain, Cork

Rich Harvest

behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

John 4:35b

Dear Friends,

50 years ago in June 1975 a cargo ship laden with bananas sailed into Cork. Our beloved predecessor Walter Burrell was actively searching for souls. A young 16 year-old seaman from St. Lucia in the Caribbean was convinced by him to attend church. After studying John 3:16 at Walter's home John Honore was wonderfully Saved by the Lord, and God became the centre of his life. At the end of September we were blessed to have John visit us again, and help with the ship ministry. He has been serving with SCFS for 30 years in St. Lucia, and recently helped plant our work in Alaska. The Cruise Season over there is also seasonal.

In Cork we have around 100 cruise ship visits between April and October. It's been wonderful having our Crew Lounge up and running thanks to the Port of Cork and our team of volunteers. One week I was particularly busy as we had 6 cruise ships, as well as a number of cargo ships. Sometimes, there are just too many ships to visit them all. I was very sad to miss visiting a Korean tanker in the oil refinery with a wonderful name - **Rich Harvest**. It made me think of the sad reality that many of us may be missing rich harvests all around us each day. The giant cruise ship was the star attraction in the Port and few, if any, even noticed the oil tanker across the other side of the harbour.

There is of course the harvest field of the World, but how about your personal harvest field? Each of us has a work to do for Jesus. Let's be busy about our Master's business, and not our own projects. We must build His Kingdom, and not our own. People in the West are so focused on retirement, pensions, safety, insurance, enjoyment, but what about eternity, and the thousands and millions of souls passing into the night? "Lord give us eyes to see, and ears to hear. May we not miss the harvest right in front of us. Amen."



5 Filipino crew came to church and got born-again



In October and February I'm looking forward to visiting N.Ireland to bring an update to our supporting churches. I value your prayers for us during this time when I'm away from my family. Charles will be looking after the ships and crew while I'm gone, so please continue to remember him and his wife Mary in your prayers.



We have an online weekly updates group. If anyone wants to join they can sign up here: <https://bit.ly/scfsteam>
And a group for knitters on FB: <https://bit.ly/scfscare>



Charles Hancock has been such a blessing since he joined the SCFS team some years ago. He has a real pastoral heart to care for the seafarers. He introduced the idea of bringing snacks on board, and the crew love it! On Merchant and Cargo ships meeting female crew is quite rare. However on Cruise ships we meet many.

Serving Seafarers with Compassion, since 1846

I'm so pleased that we have lady volunteers waiting to meet crew in our Crew Lounge. This Season I have again been able to bring crew to the nearby Fota wildlife safari park to unwind and have some 'zoo therapy'. A Chief Engineer sent me this message: "Now I know Seafarers' Christian Friend Society. Thank you very much for coming here in our ship. Especially for your prayers. It's a big help for me."



I was able to help co-ordinate a few basketball matches for cruise ships.

An unusual ship (a barge) arrived in Port! It is designed to run aground! It brought generators for the Celtic Interconnector Project (€1.6 billion project). Many ships are involved in this massive project laying electricity cables from Ireland to France.

On the Right you can see Chief Officer Marlon who survived an explosion on his ship in Foynes. He was airlifted to hospital in Cork. In church he said "I now have a second life". Incredibly he took a video while in the helicopter. You can see it on YouTube here: <https://bit.ly/seafarersday25>



Contact Colin

Scan the code with your phone, or enter <https://bit.ly/scfscoco> into your browser.

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Under the Data Protection Act we must update our mailing and email list. If for any reason you no longer wish to receive our news updates, please contact us in writing requesting that your details are updated.



Sister Rossy (on the right) helps lead the active Christian fellowship for the crew on board one of the Princess Cruise ships. It was so encouraging meeting her and other brothers and sisters.



"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. John 15: 5



Charity Number ROI: 20200276, Charity Number UK: 209133

Ireland has been blessed by many believers who have come from other countries. Surely they are 'generators' to help revive us during these days of secular and materialistic oppression. Our ship ministry is one of INTERCONNECTING and BRIDGE-BUILDING. Jesus is the ultimate interconnector who connects us to God and each other. We need each other. And as missionaries we depend upon the prayers and support of friends and churches. Thanks for being a vital part of our team! A jigsaw piece by itself is pointless. Satan likes division and subtraction. But God loves addition and multiplication.





Prayer Points

- Give thanks for the Crew Lounge in Cobh.
- Pray for increased favour with the Port of Cork, and increased partnership with local churches.
- Pray for us to be able to get facilities in Ringaskiddy to provide another 'Centre' for the crew of cargo ships.
- Pray for the seeds we have sown to be watered by other port missionaries in different ports, and for a great spiritual harvest from the Seas.
- Pray for Christian seafarers, and the 'Church on the Oceans'. Also for SCFS Philippines as they continue training Christian seafarers to plant churches on board. Last Feb we visited them.
- Pray for Colin's upcoming travels to N.Ireland, and for John Honore.
- Pray for a storage room in Midleton.

Family

We would like to thank everyone who prays for our family.

Thanks for all your love,
prayers and support,
Colin, Sunhwa, Aidan & Jenai



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