



Preaching in Belfast, 1747-72
A selection of the sermons of James Saurin

Raymond Gillespie & Roibeard Ó Gallachóir
EDITORS

Preaching in Belfast, 1747-72

A selection of the sermons of James Saurin

Raymond Gillespie & Roibeard Ó Gallachóir

In 1747 James Saurin, a descendant of a prominent Huguenot family, was appointed as vicar of Belfast. One of his first acts was to write a series of sermons that he preached to his congregation over his long tenure as vicar. Many he recycled a number of times since they were, for him, fundamental statements of belief and its meaning in the contemporary world. Some fifty-five of these sermons have recently been discovered in St Anne's cathedral in Belfast, having been preserved and used by Saurin's son and his grandson for their preaching. This edition collects some twenty of the sermons. They reflect on a wide range of questions. How did one maintain social order in a rapidly changing town? What did it mean to be part of the religious establishment in a town where the Church of Ireland was a minority? What political positions might the inhabitants of radical Belfast assume and how did a preacher deal with the needs of his flock through Christmas, Easter, Confirmations and other key moments in their lives? This unique collection of sermons provides a vivid insight into the mind of a Church of Ireland clergyman in a rapidly changing provincial town at the middle of the eighteenth century and illuminates many of the key issues of the world of provincial Ireland.

Raymond Gillespie teaches in the Department of History, Maynooth University. Roibeard Ó Gallachóir is a recent graduate of the MA in Historical Archives, Maynooth University.

NOW AVAILABLE

294pp. Hardback.

ISBN 978-1-84682-535-4 (Retail: €55)

Special discount offer: €45

please include postage

ORDER FORM

Please return this completed form to:

Four Courts Press, 7 Malpas Street
Dublin 8, Ireland | Ph: +353 1 453 4668
E-mail: info@fourcourtspress.ie

Please send me _____ copy(ies)
of *Preaching in Belfast, 1747-72*

PLEASE INCLUDE POSTAGE:

€4.95 for the first book and
€1.50 for each copy thereafter.

TOTAL DUE: € _____

I wish to pay by: Cheque (payable to Four Courts Press)
 MasterCard Visa VisaDebit

Card no: _____

Sec. # (last 3 digits on back): _____ Exp. date _____ / _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

Ph. (required) _____

Email _____

Offer expires 31 December 2015