

For Immediate Release

When she was named the 2021 Recipient of the Moveen Prize in Humanities, Suzanne Rumsey was working to complete her Masters Degree in Theology at Trinity College of The University of Toronto, while at the same time parenting her teenage son, and holding down her position as Public Engagement Program Coordinator with the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, (Anglican Church of Canada) and all of this in the midst of a global pandemic. Thus, that portion of the prize that allowed for travel and a residency in the townland of Moveen near Kilkee, Co. Clare in Ireland had to be postponed. Two years later, the world has learned to live with COVID-19, Ms. Rumsey has graduated with her Masters Degree from Trinity, (where she won the Kent award for finest thesis), her son is off to college and travel seemed more possible, so she booked her passage, beginning in Venice where she spent a week indulging a lifelong appreciation for religious art at world famous museums at Basilica Frairi, Scuola Grande di San Rocco, and Gallerie dell Accademia. Then she flew to Ireland and took up her residency in the rurual townland of Moveen West between the North Atlantic and the Shannon Estuary. In all, Ms. Rumsey spent from mid-May to mid-July in Europe.

While in Ireland, she visited the seven hundred year old, Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas in Galway's Latin Quarter where she heard the Chorale Evensong performed. She attended Sunday worship at the ancient church of St. Columba in Ennis, Co. Clare. To both churches she brought the greetings of the Canadian church to the priest in charge.

In Moveen, in addition to her daily regimen of long walks, runs and bicycle rides, and feeding the trinity of resident piebald donkeys, she began her work on the book she is writing on the life and work of her late father, who spent fifty years as an Anglican Priest and the changes in life and liturgy he saw in his long ministry.

"Few awardees have put our little prize to such good and productive use," said Paddy Lynch, who serves on the board of the Lynch & Sons Fund for the Arts which funds the prizes.

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