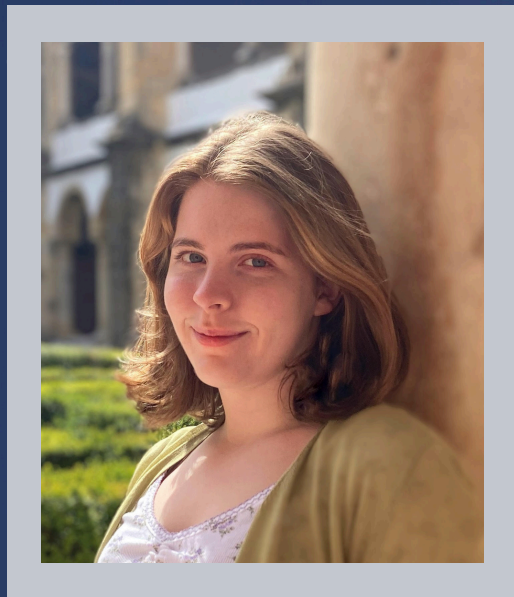




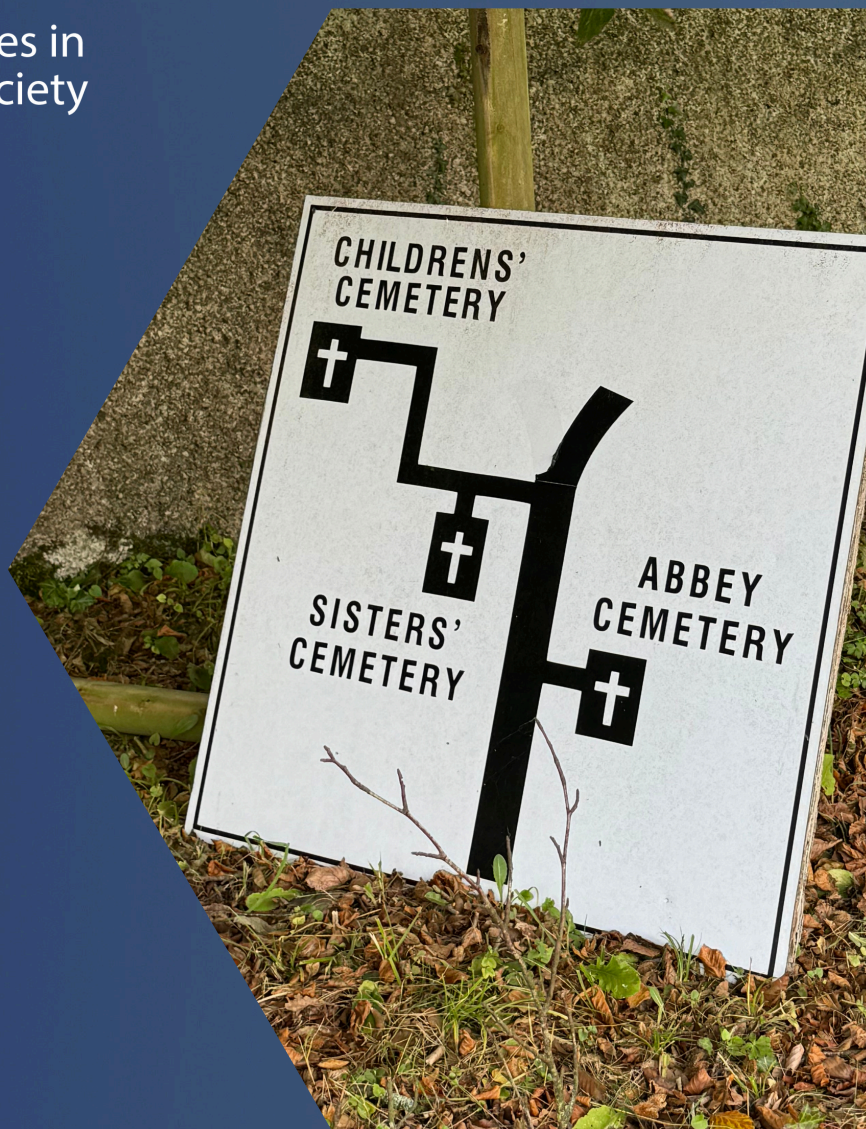
University
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Centre for Studies in
Religion and Society

SCHOLARS IN THE SQUARE



Holly Loveday



Sean Ross Abbey, Roscrea,
Republic of Ireland.

Family Breaking or Building: The Catholic Church in Ireland

Mother and Baby Homes were social institutions across 19th and 20th Century Ireland that housed unwed and pregnant women and girls. Run by the Catholic Church, and now looked back upon as hubs for human rights abuses, these homes ostensibly offered a way out of social ostracism. Mothers would be reintegrated into Irish society for a 'fresh start', after their perceived 'moral failing'. Through poetry, I will explore what it means to be removed and then reintegrated. I offer up a creative, person-centred response to a national scandal.

Holly Loveday is an MFA candidate in the UVic Writing department. She specializes in poetry that draws on issues of class, social mobility, and cultural alienation.

February 6, 2025
5:00–6:00pm PT

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