



***Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin, Most Reverend Michael Jackson***

## **Government support for C of I Easter Day Services in Dublin city centre**

The following statement was issued by the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin and Senior Clergy of the United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough -

“The Church of Ireland is appreciative of the Government’s willingness to consult regarding the facilitation of the Church of Ireland’s provision of worship in the city centre churches on Easter Day during the Commemoration of 1916. The Government has pledged the full support of the state to ensure the facilitation of the fullest possible availability of worship on this most important festival of the Christian calendar. While the archbishop of Dublin is very grateful for this, he recognises that most city centre churches are used by congregations who travel in, for the most part, from areas of the city outside the security cordon. For health and safety reasons and so that those who wish to worship on Easter morning can do so with greater ease, the provision of alternative places of worship remains in place. Senior church clergy will shortly meet with the Government and An Garda Síochána in an attempt to facilitate ease of access to Christ Church Cathedral in order that the cathedral may open for worship on Easter Sunday morning. The church acknowledges the efforts being made by the state in this regard and also the importance being placed by this gesture upon the main emphasis of Easter Day.

“The archbishop of Dublin will preside at the Easter Vigil in Christ Church Cathedral on Easter Eve and will attend the Easter morning Festival Eucharist in Sandford Parish Church, following which he plans to be in attendance at the 1916 commemoration on Easter Day.”

The statement was signed by -  
+Michael Dublin and Glendalough  
The Venerable David Pierpoint, Archdeacon of  
Dublin  
The Venerable Ricky Rountree, Archdeacon of  
Glendalough  
Precentor Neil McEndoo, Acting Dean of Christ  
Church Cathedral

## **No church this year but Happy Easter to all Protestants**

The Sunday Times  
Am I going mad? Yes, I must be. I assumed that the Protestants of Dublin would finally stand their ground against the state’s blasphemous hijacking of the Christian feast of Easter to commemorate the murderous orgy of violence of the April Rising of 1916, but no. Michael Jackson, the Church of Ireland’s archbishop in Dublin, is apparently going to attend an Easter Sunday celebration of the insurrection.

His only real complaint is over the complete exclusion of Protestants from their churches in the centre of Dublin

that day, the most important day in the church calendar. The churches are affected by traffic restrictions in the capital, a decision, the archbishop complains, was taken without consultation.

Of course they weren't consulted. They are only Prods...

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/ireland/article1670119.ece?CMP=OTH-gnws-standard-2016\\_02\\_20](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/ireland/article1670119.ece?CMP=OTH-gnws-standard-2016_02_20)

## **Easter services should not be cancelled due to 1916 events - Shatter**

Irish Times

Former minister for justice [Alan Shatter](#) has said it is entirely wrong that Easter Sunday services at Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin should have to be cancelled because of restrictions surrounding the [1916](#) centenary parade.

Last Monday the [Church of Ireland](#) said Easter Sunday services at Christ Church and six city centre parishes have had to be cancelled due to centenary events.

On Tuesday the Government said it was "its earnest wish . . . that people would be able to attend their usual places of worship on Easter Sunday if at all possible".

It said that it hoped "further consultations can take place that will provide reassurance to the Church of Ireland that it will be possible to facilitate access by parishioners to its Easter ceremonies".

Commenting on Friday, Mr Shatter said that “as a former minister for justice and for defence, I am very aware of the likely detailed security and traffic restrictions required for the 1916 commemoration event in Dublin on Easter Sunday.

“However, I believe that appropriate arrangements can be made to facilitate the Church of Ireland community.”

He also said he believed it “entirely wrong that their annual service in Christ Church Cathedral should have to be cancelled.

“I hope that my colleagues in Government, in consultation with An [Garda Síochána](#). will ensure that it is resolved without undue delay.”

Mr Shatter said members of the Church of Ireland had contacted him asking that this issue be addressed.

More at -

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/religion-and-beliefs/easter-services-should-not-be-cancelled-due-to-1916-events-shatter-1.2541339>

## **Church to meet Irish government over 1916 parade disruption**

Belfast Newsletter

The **Church of Ireland** (Col) in Dublin is to meet with Irish Government and senior Garda to explore if Easter morning services can be facilitated at ...

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/northern-ireland-news/church-to-meet-irish-government-over-1916-parade-disruption-1-7224282>

## **New chief C of I Archivist and Librarian appointed**

Dr Susan Hood has been appointed Librarian and Archivist of The Representative Church Body (RCB) Library, where are conserved and maintained many records associated with the work and history of the Church of Ireland.

Dr Hood has served as Assistant Librarian and Archivist with the RCB since 1998 and will succeed Dr Raymond Refaussé who is due to retire as Librarian and Archivist in the summer.

Welcoming Dr Hood to her new role, the Archbishop of Armagh, The Most Revd Dr Richard Clarke said: "I have known Susan Hood well for many years, and am very aware of her deep commitment to maintaining a record of the work of the Church of Ireland during her years in the RCB Library. I am delighted to welcome her to this new role, as she prepares to take charge



of the future direction and development of the Library.

“The Library has always played an important part in the life of the Church, acting as a vital resource for those in training for future ministry and for many involved in research, in addition to

conserving the record of our witness as a Church in the island of Ireland. Susan is well-known across the Church for her promotion of different facets of the life and ministry of the Church through her writing for the Church's website, including the highly acclaimed "Archive of the Month", and papers in many research journals. I wish her well as she takes up her new responsibilities as Librarian and Archivist."

## **Church of Sweden Visit to Cork, Cloyne and Ross**

The Right Reverend Dr Johan Dalman, Bishop of Strängnäs in the Church of Sweden, together with members of the Bishop's Council and the Dean's Council of the Diocese, made a visit to the Church of Ireland Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross from 12th to 16th February.

On Friday, 12th February the two groups – 14 people in all – travelled, one from Stockholm and the other from Copenhagen to Dublin before driving to Cork. It was a residential weekend of work for the visitors from the Church of Sweden, with plenty of opportunity also to engage with the Church of Ireland locally. On Friday evening, 12th





***At Ashton School, Cork Ali and Stephen present The Right Rev. Dr Johan Dalman, Bishop of Strängnäs, with gifts***

February, the Bishop of Cork, the Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton joined the group at their hotel for dinner and gave them an introductory talk about the Church of Ireland, the Cork region and the United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross.

A tour for the Swedish party was arranged for Saturday, 13th February with Bishop Colton as guide. First stop was St Anne's Church, Shandon for a tour, a climb to the top of the tower to take in the view of Cork, and also an

opportunity to ring the bells. ABBA's 'Fernando' was the choice of Bishop Dalman.

Then it was on to the Collegiate Church of St Mary the Virgin, Youghal, (1220 A.D) with a talk given by David Kelly followed by morning coffee in The Red Store. The Cathedral Church of St Colman, Cloyne (1250 A.D.) was next, where Patricia Lyons showed the visitors around.

A visit to St Luke's Home for lunch in the conservatory overlooking the River Lee, and to Northridge House (St Luke's Home Education Centre) brought everyone back to Cork, and back to the current work of the Diocese. David O'Brien, CEO of St Luke's, briefed everyone on the work of the charity and the engagement of the local churches with it.

The work of the Diocese in education was next on the agenda, and a visit to Ashton School in Cork. There, Head Girl, Ali Lynch, and Head Boy, Stephen Jermyn, together with Adrian Landen (Principal) and Anne-Marie Hewison (Deputy Principal) were on hand to welcome the guests. Ali and Stephen introduced the school to the visitors and showed them around, and gifts – a school pennant and paperweight – were

presented to Bishop Dalman, and pens to everyone in the group.

The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to a visit to Kinsale where Irene Treacy showed the group around the Church of St Multose (1190 A.D.). On Saturday evening, Bishop Colton and Mrs Susan Colton hosted a dinner for the Swedish visitors, as well as the local clergy who had been involved in the Saturday programme and to introduce them to those who were hosting the visitors on Sunday morning. Gifts were again exchanged.

## **Mayo evening of country hymns and songs of faith with James Kilbane**

Foxford Church of Ireland , County Mayo, welcomes well known country and gospel singer, James Kilbane, for an evening of country hymns and songs of faith on Sunday March 6 at 7pm.

The event is being organised to help with restoration and maintenance costs needed for the church, and also to strengthen ecumenical ties. Built in 1801, this historical church has been an important part of the local history of Foxford

for the past 215 years. Time has taken its toll and continued work is necessary to keep the church in a usable state for local parishioners.

On this special solo evening, Kilbane will sing many of his popular country and gospel favourites, as well as explaining some of the stories around many of his popular songs, his life and faith. He has just returned from performing in Florida and is now doing a number of dates across the country. It is more than a decade since his appearance on You're A Star in 2003, when he sang the hymn "How Great Thou Art" at his audition. Since then Kilbane's work has continued to follow in a strong Christian vein that reaches many people in different walks of life at home and abroad. The evening of entertainment at Foxford Church has a €10 admission donation on the door. Doors open at 6.30pm with the event starting at 7pm. Some reflections will also be given by Rev Andrea Wills.

For further information contact Andrea on (086 ) 261 7572.

## **Death of Revd David Somerville**

Revd David Somerville, rector of Richhill Parish in Armagh Diocese has died suddenly. The



funeral will be in Richhill at 1.00 pm, today,  
Monday 22 February.

Bishop Harold Miller of Down and Dromore said:  
"It was a great shock for everyone to hear of  
David's sudden death. David's calling was  
formed in the parish of Knocknamuckley in the  
diocese of Dromore and he served as rector in  
Rathfriland and Ballyward. David was dearly  
loved and his ministry greatly valued. Our

prayers and sympathy are with May and with his wider family as they hold on to the sure and certain hope of eternity in Christ at a very difficult time."

Mr Somerville trained at Stranmillis College and served as a teacher for 17 years. After ordination he served in Christ Church, Lisburn. He was instituted as Rector of Richill in September 2013. Last month he was appointed as a Vicar Choral in Armagh Cathedral. He was a church representative on the local education and library board. He was a father of three - Sarah and Ian who are married, and eight year old David.

## **News links to reports on faith, politics and education**

### **Clogher's oldest priest was 'universally loved'**

Irish News

<http://www.irishnews.com/notices/livesremembered/2016/02/20/news/clogher-s-oldest-priest-was-universally-loved--421099/>

### **Newry rector who burned British Legion flags given new parish in Co. Cork**

Belfast Telegraph

A **Church of Ireland** minister who sparked outrage after burning two Royal British Legion flags has secured a new parish, the Belfast Telegraph can ...

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/newry-rector-sutton-who-burned-british-legion-flags-given-new-parish-in-co-cork-34469625.html>

### **Obs**

Article on the letter written by the Bishop of St Albans, Alan Smith (see below) in which he questions the Prime Minister's stance on welfare reforms affecting those with mental health issues. "The House of Lords called into serious question the notion that those found to be unable to work can be incentivised back to work by a cut to their living standards," he writes. "I welcome the prime minister's initiative on mental healthcare, but I am puzzled why the government at the same time wants to cut out-of-work benefits to those with mental health problems."

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/feb/20/bishop-rejects-mental-health-welfare-reforms>

### **Tel (Sat)**

A letter by the Archbishop of York (scroll down) in which he denies media reports that he and the Archbishop of Canterbury have signalled a change in stance on same-sex marriage. The letter adds, "it is true that discussions are taking place and will continue at next summer's meeting of the General Synod, not to overhaul Church doctrine, but to 'help forge better understanding between different groups over the issue of sexuality'."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/letters/12165362/Letters-David-Cameras-battle-over-EU-reforms-casts-him-in-an-unedifying-light.html>

## **BBC/S Tel**

Report a letter written to the *Sunday Telegraph* by a group of 200 MPs and Council leaders on relaxing Sunday Trading laws. The group says that increasing spending on Sundays would boost job prospects and help shops compete with online firms. They back the government plans to devolve Sunday trading laws to local councils. Campaigners opposed to longer opening hours, including the CofE, say this would damage family and community life.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-35623976>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/12166902/Politicians-push-for-relaxed-Sunday-trading-laws-to-show-Britain-is-open-for-business.html>

## **Mail**

In a new book produced by the Bible Society, HM The Queen writes of her enduring Christian faith. In the forward to the book *The Servant Queen And The King She Serves* published to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday later this year, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, writes "I have been – and remain – very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for His steadfast love. I have indeed seen His faithfulness."

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3456594/Queen-reveals-secret-enduring-Christian-faith-shares-treasured-memory-beloved-father-new-book.html?ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3456594/Queen-reveals-secret-enduring-Christian-faith-shares-treasured-memory-beloved-father-new-book.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

## **Mail**

Further reports that Chichester Cathedral is considering rewording a memorial to Bishop George Bell. In October the Bishop of Chichester issued a formal apology following the settlement of a legal civil



claim regarding Bishop Bell, who was Bishop of Chichester from 1929 until his death on 3rd October 1958.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3456605/Now-war-hero-bishop-branded-abuser-unproven-claims-lose-cathedral-tribute-praising-champion-oppressed.html>

### **Mail online**

Report that five years after the earthquake which devastated the city centre of Christchurch, New Zealand is still largely empty. The agency report says the City's cathedral is "a crumbling ruin with an uncertain future".

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3456652/5-years-quake-New-Zealand-citys-heart-missing.html?ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3456652/5-years-quake-New-Zealand-citys-heart-missing.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

### **Tel**

Reports of speeches given by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London at a Mansion House dinner hosted by the Lord Mayor of London for the Anglican episcopate. Richard Chartres quoted as saying the church has a role to articulate an inclusive version of the English story. Article notes Justin Welby spoke of the City of London being a meeting place for the world.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/12165380/Bishop-English-should-be-more-like-Scots-and-Irish.html>

### **Premier/London 24**

Further reports on case of Timothy Storey, who was convicted at Woolwich Crown Court of three charges of rape and one of sexual assault. Mr Storey was removed

from ordination training at Wycliffe Hall after complaints in 2009 but managed to return to the church within a year. Includes comment from Diocese of London. Storey will be sentenced in April.

<http://www.premier.org.uk/News/UK/Paedophile-youth-worker-faces-jail-after-triple-rape-verdict>

[http://www.london24.com/news/crime/trainee\\_vicar\\_and\\_youth\\_worker\\_from\\_peckham\\_guilty\\_of\\_rape\\_1\\_4425228](http://www.london24.com/news/crime/trainee_vicar_and_youth_worker_from_peckham_guilty_of_rape_1_4425228)

### **Mail/Tel/BBC**

Reports that a sculpture of clasped hands, called the Kiss, is being moved at Salisbury Cathedral. The 15 foot high piece by sculptor Sophie Ryder was installed last week straddling a walkway leading to the Cathedral. The decision to move it has been taken after a small number of people have been seen walking into it while busy on mobile phones.

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3455559/Sculpture-measuring-20ft-high-15ft-wide-moved-mobile-users-don-t-bump-text.html?](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3455559/Sculpture-measuring-20ft-high-15ft-wide-moved-mobile-users-don-t-bump-text.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

[ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3455559/Sculpture-measuring-20ft-high-15ft-wide-moved-mobile-users-don-t-bump-text.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/12164922/Massive-sculpture-relocated-because-people-busy-texting-kept-walking-into-it.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-wiltshire-35610533>

### **Guard**

Reports a row over a proposed development of a warehouse for online retailer Amazon at Sevington, Kent. Archaeological advisors to Ashford council have raised concerns about the impact the infrastructure project would have on the village including its church, St Mary's.

Article notes objections to the development from Canterbury Diocese.

<http://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/feb/19/locals-fear-amazon-project-could-bring-a-giant-warehouse-to-kent-village>

## **Comment**

**Economist:** Why Donald Trump is now heaping praise on Pope Francis.

<http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2016/02/pope-and-donald?fsrc=rss>

**Guardian:** Simon Jenkins writes that the Pope should be careful of criticising Donald Trump.

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/feb/19/pope-francis-beware-criticising-donald-trump-democracy-catholic-church>

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