



MEDIA REVIEW - April 20

[Irish Church urged to close parishes to grow the Faith](#)

A leading cardinal has said the Church in Ireland must be prepared to consider closing hundreds of churches to concentrate resources on building strong faith communities.

[Documentary highlights life of religious sister who died in Ecuador earthquake](#)

This documentary film shows more than 15 years of Sister Clare's life – a life which the sisters say “goes straight to our hearts as a call, to ask ourselves what are we ourselves giving or not giving to God.” Originally from **Ireland**, Sister Clare wanted to be an actress. By age 18, she lived a life of partying ...

[Politicians, musicians, religious leaders and sportsmen join in tributes to 'King of Country'](#)

"His name will be recalled with fond memory by those who listened, and danced to, his and his band members' nights of entertainment all over the island of **Ireland**. "A big personality and one of the country's greatest country stars, his love of music and his passion and skill have enriched **Ireland's** music ...

[Where the Eighth Amendment is concerned, we are the legislators](#)

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In what many consider to be the key insight of *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis says the Church is "called to form consciences, not to replace them."

With this in mind, over the coming weeks staff from the Department of Theology at Mary Immaculate College will be considering particular aspects of the 8th Amendment.

Religion and Royalty: A Match Made in Heaven?

With Meghan Markle recently baptised and confirmed into the **Church of England** ahead of her marriage to Prince Harry on 19 May, Insights asked Charles Rae, **News** International's royal correspondent for over two decades, to take a deep dive into the religious conventions that have shaped the royal ...

Archbishop of Canterbury convenes high-level Commonwealth freedom of religion discussion

Parliamentarians and senior religious leaders from 11 Commonwealth countries gathered at Lambeth Palace, the London official residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, for two-days of discussions on freedom of religion or belief. The gathering was chaired by the Bishop of Coventry, Christopher Cocksworth, and was part of the parallel programme of events running alongside the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), one of the world's largest international summits, bringing together the leaders of 53 independent nations. The event was convened by the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby in partnership with the Commonwealth Initiative on Freedom of Religion or Belief project director, Baroness Berridge.

[Click here](#) for more

Pontifical Council, WCC develop joint text on multi-religious world

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/pontifical-council-wcc-develop-joint-text-on-multi-religious-world>

The Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue (PCID) of the Vatican and the Office of Interreligious Dialogue and Cooperation of

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the World Council of Churches (WCC) met in Geneva from 16-18 April. Staff from the two offices united in prayer, fellowship and joint work on a document titled “Education for Peace in a Multi-Religious World”.

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/church-of-the-lord-in-nigeria-called-women-to-pastoral-work-from-its-founding>

Three college friends running a non-government organization

At 20, Ruth Mathen has already come a long way on the path that God has chosen for her. She heeded his call at a YMCA camp six years ago and is now running a non-government organization together with three college friends.

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/wcc-reiterates-calls-for-immediate-ceasefire-in-syria>

