



Bishop Noel Treanor of Down & Connor (right)

British and Irish Bishops on Brexit

Roman Catholic Bishops in their plenary session at COMECE (The Catholic Church in the European Union) have had an exchange on the outcome and consequences of the referendum in the United Kingdom.

Bishop [William Kenney](#), delegate of the England and Wales Bishops' Conference, explained that since the outcome of the [Brexit referendum](#) 'there is very little clarity as to what is going to happen or what consequences will ensue.' He said he believes the Church has a very important role in the discussions which would follow. 'As the UK negotiates the various trade treaties which it will need, the Church needs to give a voice to the marginalised and underprivileged.'

Bishop Nicholas Hudson, auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, said he was particularly concerned by the increased levels of hate crimes against foreigners in the United Kingdom after the Brexit referendum. 'We as Church need to firmly condemn these crimes' he said.

Bishop [Hugh Gilbert](#), from the Bishop's Conference of Scotland, offered a brief analysis of the motivations for the Brexit vote and the reasons for Scotland's strong option to 'remain'. The renewed debate regarding Scottish independence is not the most relevant consequence of the vote. 'There is rather a pervasive uncertainty' according to him.

'Young people in particular feel disenfranchised' said [Mgr Noel Treanor](#), the Bishop of Down &

Connor (Belfast) and delegate of the Irish Bishops' Conference. He outlined a range of possible impacts of Brexit both for Northern Ireland and for the Republic of Ireland. Among the issues of concern, he drew particular attention to: the Brexit-impact on the peace process and the post good Friday political institutions; the question of a hard or soft border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, and in particular the All-Ireland impact. 'Uncertainty reigns in Ireland' he concluded.

Dublin archbishop sees challenges of Lebanon

Archbishop Michael Jackson is currently in Lebanon taking part in the fifth meeting of the Anglican–Oriental Orthodox International Commission. Lebanon is part of Dublin & Gendalough's link Diocese of Jerusalem and on Friday last the Archbishop met two clergy of the diocese.

The Revd Imad Zoorob is the Rector of All Saints Church in Beirut in the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem. Imad is also the director of St Luke's Centre, a diocesan project that cares for children with special needs. The Revd David Roche is a



mission partner with CMS serving in Beirut. Working under Imad, David leads the international congregation at All Saints.

They shared some of the exciting and challenging issues they face while serving in their part of the diocese.

The Archbishop wrote the following message after their meeting:

churchnewsireland@gmail.com

On Friday October 28th I had the pleasure of meeting over lunch with two Anglican clergy who work in All Saints' Church and Parish in Beirut, Lebanon, Imad Zoorob and David Roche. Lebanon is in the Diocese of Jerusalem and Archbishop Suheil is the bishop.

They came to meet me in The Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia, Antilias where I was participating in the Anglican Oriental Orthodox International Commission Meeting. The Catholicosate stands as an oasis in a whirl of traffic which makes the M50 at its worst seem eminently negotiable. One of the clergy is Lebanese and a priest; the other is English, with Irish antecedents, a CMS Mission Partner and a deacon who is to be ordained priest in a month's time by Archbishop Suheil in Lebanon.

My first impression was of their freshness and vitality as human beings with a very strong sense of willingness to serve all the people of Beirut. All Saints' is the only Anglican parish in Lebanon. My second impression was of their faithfulness to God and sense of pastoral responsibility for their people and for all of the people who come their way in ministerial life. Their church congregation comprises Lebanese, Palestinians, international

community members and refugees who have been driven from their homeland of people from a range of historical contexts and complexities, most notably Palestine, Syria and Iraq. In this context, the two clergy whom I met showed a tremendous grasp of the wear and tear on one's identity that is brought to bear by warfare and displacement, degradation and cruelty; total compassion for those whose life experience had brought them to this; and significant longing to build people up in confidence through the Anglican tradition while being people of their place and time.

We spoke of The Epiphany Agreement and the link of friendship between the Diocese of Jerusalem and Dublin and Glendalough. I was able to set this link in the context of the Dublin and Glendalough 800 and the Come&C programme of discipleship on which we have embarked in our own dioceses and which I am due to work through as a guest at the Synod of Amman, Jordan, in mid–November. My new friends saw significant possibilities for the implementation of Come&C in their own parish and look forward to working with us in the future.

I would ask you to pray for David in particular as he and two other deacons, Faris Naum and Jamil Khader, will be ordained priests in November. Please pray also for the people of Lebanon and the whole of The Middle East.

The accompanying photographs are taken outside the cathedral and at the Memorial to the Armenian Genocide in Antilias. This followed on from a very poignant and moving visit to the Armenian Genocide Orphans' Aram Bezikian Museum in Byblos, the first to be created in the diaspora. There is a series of three exhibits there, the third of which focuses on the rehabilitation and settlement of the Armenian orphans into their new home in Lebanon. Maria Jacobsen, known as "Mama" to the orphans devoted her whole life to the well-being of orphans in the "Birds' Nest." Please pray also for the Armenian people with whom we have strong links in Ireland and who are partners with us in the forthcoming visit of Archbishop Suheil to Dublin and Glendalough.

Bishops' Appeal response to Haiti Hurricane



Rescue efforts after Hurricane Matthew

Bishops' Appeal is partnering with Christian Aid to respond to Hurricane Matthew, following the destruction which it has caused in Haiti.

Hurricane Matthew swept through the south-west of the country on Tuesday 4th October but the effects of the storm are only now becoming clear.

The Rt Revd Patrick Rooke, Chairman of Bishops' Appeal, stated: 'We are encouraging parishes to consider having a special collection to support the people of Haiti. They are unfortunately no strangers to disaster, with many

still living in makeshift shelters following the 2010 earthquake. More than 1,000 people are known to have lost their lives and it is expected that this figure may increase as more areas become accessible. Sixty thousand people are living in temporary shelters, crops have been destroyed and livestock swept away, and there are growing fears of a cholera outbreak.'

Having worked in Haiti for over 20 years, Christian Aid has been on the ground since the hurricane's landfall, assessing the damage and working out how to best help the people of Haiti to get back on their feet as soon as possible. Christian Aid's initial response has involved providing the basics: food, clothing and shelter. For example:

- €19.29 could help to provide bedding required to accommodate people sleeping in emergency shelters;
- €31.77 could provide the hygiene essentials that a family needs in an emergency;
- €68.08 could supply the materials needed to rebuild someone's home.

In the coming weeks and months, the response will involve helping people to rebuild sustainable

livelihoods. Parish and individual donations can be sent to Bishops' Appeal, Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6

Lecture on Irish Methodist identity

The lecture room in Edgehill Theological College was well filled for the annual lecture of the Methodist Historical Society of Ireland on the evening of 21 October. The speaker was the Lay Leader Dr Fergus O'Ferrall and his subject was 'Methodists in Ireland: Political Identities and Changing Contexts'.

The room temperature was rather warm and Dr O' Ferrall warned us against the dangers of falling asleep! Nevertheless, he managed to keep our interest over an extensive lecture covering the way that Methodists were viewed and viewed themselves during their long history. He divided that history into three sections – the time of Wesley, denominational Methodism and ecumenical Methodism.

He examined the political attitudes of the Church as a whole and the frequently contrasting views of well-known individual Methodists, such as Alice Milligan, Jeremiah Gifford, Tom Locke and founder, John Wesley, whose political views, for

example on Roman Catholics, were quite ambiguous. The full text of the lecture will be published in the bulletin of the Methodist Historical Society of Ireland.

Pope Francis to celebrate Mass in Sweden during Reformation commemorations

Pope Francis will extend his trip to Sweden for Reformation commemorations by one day to accommodate a papal Mass for the nations' Catholics.

Initially, Pope Francis had planned to make a day trip to Sweden on October 31 to take part in two ecumenical events launching a year of commemorations of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

But at the urging of local Catholics, the Pope decided to spend the night and celebrate Mass November 1 before returning to Rome.

The Reverend Martin Junge, general secretary of the LWF, told reporters at the Vatican yesterday that the Lutherans fully understand the desire of

Catholics in Sweden to have Mass with the Pope and the pastoral responsibility of the Pope to fulfil that request.

“Of course,” he said, “it is also going to reveal that we are not yet united; it is going to reveal a wound that remains there” since the divisions between Catholics and Lutherans mean that in general Eucharist sharing still is not possible.

While Reverend Junge and other Lutheran leaders have accepted an invitation to attend the Mass, the fact that they will not receive Communion “is going to be a strong encouragement to continue working toward unity,” he said.

Both Reverend Junge and Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, said the biggest breakthrough in Lutheran-Catholic relations was the signing in 1999 of a joint declaration on justification, or how people are made righteous in the eyes of God and saved.

But before eucharistic sharing and full unity are possible, they said, further agreement must be

found on Catholic and Lutheran understandings about the church, the Eucharist and ministry.

First African-American woman elected diocesan bishop

The Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows was elected 11th bishop of the [Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis](#) on the second ballot Oct. 28 at Christ Church Cathedral Indianapolis.

Baskerville-Burrows, 50, is the first African-American woman elected to be a diocesan bishop in the Episcopal Church.

She was elected with 67 votes in the clergy order and 82 in the lay order.

Her election culminated a nearly two-year discernment and search process by the diocese at the 179th diocesan convention. The Rt. Rev. Catherine M. Waynick plans to retire in the spring of 2017.

Baskerville-Burrows currently serves as director of networking for the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, nourishing partnerships and connections for church revitalization.

“In 19 years of ordained ministry, and especially in the past five helping to oversee and restructure the Diocese of Chicago, I’ve supported communities of transformation, communicated a vision of hope and gathered and networked God’s people across distance and difference,” Baskerville-Burrows said. “I believe these experiences have prepared me to lead and serve in the particular place that is the Diocese of Indianapolis.”

She is from New York, ordained by the Diocese of Central New York, and a graduate of Smith College, Cornell University and the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. She has expertise in historic preservation and a passion for issues including gun violence, social justice, and racial and class reconciliation. She also maintains a strong focus in guiding others through the practice of spiritual direction.

One of the defining experiences of her ministry came when she found herself near the World Trade Center the morning of September 11, 2001. In the midst of a fearful situation, her own faith and the faith of others who sought shelter alongside her gave her a renewed perspective of faith vanquishing fear.

News briefs

+++ Cakes, bakes and faith - You are invited to join Martha Collison, baker and youngest ever contestant on the Great British Bake Off for a time of Cakes, Bakes, and Faith. A great chance to meet Martha, watch her bake, and hear stories of how Tearfund's partners are helping individuals and communities in some of the poorest places on our planet. When: Friday 11 November 2016 from 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm. Where: Holywood Parish Church – Parish Centre, 71 Church Road, Holywood, BT18 9BX Admission is FREE but you can register with Eventbrite [here](#).

+++ 150yrs life and witness in Enniscorthy - The Moderator of the Irish Presbyterian Church visited Enniscorthy last week meeting the local community with Rev David Conkey. He conveyed congratulations on 150yrs life and witness in Enniscorthy.

+++ Reclaim Halloween - Monday 31 October - 'Reclaim Halloween for the saints by taking part in a public Rosary procession with placards and liturgical banners of the saints and candles this bank holiday Monday gathering at 6pm outside

the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and walking along the footpath up and down O'Connell Street'

+++ Presentation editions of the C of I Church Hymnal - are an ideal gift for confirmations or for special seasons in the Church calendar, including Christmas. Bound in soft burgundy leather cover and with gilded pages, it contains over 700 hymns – but the light pages ensure that the book itself is not overly bulky. The edition is now on sale for the reduced price of €11/£10 until next Easter. It is an offer not to be missed and orders can be placed with Heather Jestin, Church House, Rathmines (email: heather.jestin@rcbdub.org; telephone: +353 (0)1 412 5621).

+++ Youth Link NI - Interested in a professional career in youth work? why not join YL NI for its upcoming open day to find out more? <http://www.youthlink.org.uk/unca.../degree-programme-open-day/>

+++ Moderator visits Adelaide Road church - The [Moderator](#), Rt Rev. Dr [Frank Sellar](#) is currently visiting congregations in the Dublin and [Munster](#) Presbytery. On Sunday, October 16th, Dr Sellar was the guest preacher at a Presbytery

service in [Adelaide Road Presbyterian](#) Church. Dr Sellar is no stranger to this church family, having served there for 15 years. During his ministry, a substantial building project was undertaken and completed; transforming the interior of the current church building, adding extra meeting rooms, apartments, and room for a Montessori school.

+++ Cathedral stewards visit - A group of Belfast Cathedral stewards took an educational day trip to visit the Church of Ireland Cathedrals of St Patrick's and Christ Church in Dublin. They were accompanied by the Rev Janice Elsdon and Business Development and Marketing Manager Simon Cordner. They travelled from Central Station to Dublin on the Enterprise, and their first stop was Christ Church where they met education manager Ruth and tourist manager Susan. The group was given a brief history of the Cathedral and were able to pose questions about the building, before being given a tour of the crypt by tour guide Daire. At St Patrick's Cathedral they had a guided tour and were shown around the baptistery and choir areas.

+++ Archdeacon's half century of service - Archdeacon Jack Patterson celebrated a mid-

week Holy Communion Service in Agherton Parish Church, Portstewart, to mark the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. He was assisted by the rector of Agherton, the Rev Stephen Fielding. Jack was made deacon on June 27 1965 by the Rt Rev RCH Elliot DD, Bishop of Connor in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, and on St Peter's Day 1966 he was ordained priest in Christ Church, Lisburn. From 1965-68, Jack served as curate-assistant in the in the parish of St Paul Belfast, and then as senior curate in the parish of Larne and Inver with special responsibility for All Saints', Craigyhill, from 1968-72. In 1972 he was appointed rector of Ballintoy with Rathlin Island, to which Dunseverick Parish was added in 1978, and remained rector of these parishes until his retirement in 2005. In 1997 Jack was made a canon of St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, and became Archdeacon of Dalriada in 2001. All of his ordained ministry in the Church of Ireland was served in the Diocese of Connor, with the last 33 years served on the beautiful north coast of Co Antrim where he was, and still is, a popular and highly respected figure. On retirement in 2005 Jack and his wife Frances moved a few miles west from Ballintoy Rectory to a new bungalow on an elevated site overlooking Whitepark Bay.

They became parishioners of Agherton and remain regular attenders there.

News links to reports on faith, politics and education

DUP's Foster vows to continue blocking gay marriage reform in NI

Belfast Telegraph

Attempts to introduce same-sex marriage in Northern Ireland are set to be thwarted for at least another five years after the Democratic Unionists insisted they would continue to block a law change.

First Minister and DUP leader Arlene Foster said she would deploy the contentious vetoing mechanism – the petition of concern – in response to future legislative bids in the Stormont Assembly.

Mrs Foster insisted her party was not anti-gay, but said the torrent of online abuse she received from LGBT activists demanding a law change had made it even less likely for the DUP to support their calls.

“Some of the abuse that is directed at me and colleagues online is very, very vicious and I think if activists want to have a conversation about where they are coming from do they seriously

think they are going to influence me by sending me abuse?” she asked.

“No, they are not going to influence me by sending me abuse – in fact they are going to send me in the opposite direction and people need to reflect on that.”

Mrs Foster said her willingness to use the petition of concern voting tool reflected her party’s strong determination to protect the traditional definition of marriage.

“Why would we, when we feel so strongly about the definition of marriage and the redefining of it, why would we give away that tool,” she said.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/poll-dups-foster-vows-to-continue-blocking-gay-marriage-reform-in-northern-ireland-do-you-agree-with-her-35167799.html>

An unlikely alliance: The Rabbi and the Belfast politicians

BBC News

Rabbi and Belfast politicians meet over grave desecrations.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-37721881>

Ind/Tel/Mail

Reports that refugees, including children, are still sleeping on the site of the Calais Jungle camp, despite authorities reporting it had been

completely cleared three days ago. Articles note the use of a burnt out and half-demolished church as shelter. *TeI* also focuses on political relations between the UK and France on the refugee issue.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/calais-jungle-latest-refugee-children-unaccompanied-minors-camp-migrants-destroyed-relocated-moved-a7386551.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/10/29/france-demands-that-britain-accept-nearly-1500-migrant-children/>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3884964/Dozens-children-wandering-Calais-Jungle.html>

Mail on Sun

Report that hundreds of churches have taken up Government funding 'to protect themselves against pagans' in the run up to Halloween (Oct 31). The Home Office set up a £2.4 million fund to help places of worship boost their security after Father Jacques Hamel was murdered inside his church in Rouen in July. Includes comment from Nick Tolson of Churchwatch, who sits on the Home Office panel that awards the grants.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3886006/Church-cash-fend-jihadis-witches-Hundreds->

[government-funding-protect-against-pagans-Halloween.html#ixzz4OYS4Z6zb](http://www.government-funding-protect-against-pagans-Halloween.html#ixzz4OYS4Z6zb)

S Mirror

Report that Swansea East's Labour MP Carolyn Harris, MP is backing the party's campaign, supported by the *Sunday Mirror*, to end council charges for children's funerals. She has told of her anguish at not being able to afford to bury her eight-year-old son in 1989 and was only able to do so with a whip round, bank loans and the vicar waived the fee.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/mp-forced-borrow-money-take-9155808#ICID=nsn>

BBC

Report on the fire which has destroyed Exeter's Royal Clarence Hotel, situated on the Cathedral Green. Article includes comment and video interview with Bishop of Exeter, Robert Atwell.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-37809584>

Cumbria News and Star

Feature on Rose Castle, former home of the Bishop of Carlisle, which opened its doors to the public this week, for the first time in seven years.

Article notes the property was sold by the Church Commissioners to the Rose Castle Foundation. The Bishop of Carlisle, James Newcome, is quoted saying the doors of the Castle would now remain open.

<http://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/latest/Could-Cumbria-provide-the-solution-to-a-world-at-war-9774899b-98a3-4345-b5d8-354468cf6288-ds>

Comment

S Times (scroll down)

Rod Liddle notes that worshippers on a Sunday now represent less than one-tenth of the number of British people who watch BBC1's *Countryfile* (following release of CofE attendance stats this week).

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/peace-be-upon-israel-the-lib-dems-have-cut-off-their-tonge-8hx0wl0sj>