

**Bishop prays from  
top of  
Cathedral tower**



**Church leaders comment on the death of Dr Ian Paisley,  
Lord Bannside**

**The following Expression of Sympathy from The Most Revd Dr Richard Clarke, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland was issued -**

On behalf of the Church of Ireland, I wish to convey my sympathy to Baroness Paisley and the Paisley family on the death of the Revd Ian Paisley, and assure them of our prayers at this time.

Whereas Lord Bannside's political career was certainly controversial he will nevertheless be remembered as a fair-minded constituency MP who worked hard for all his constituents. The legacy for which he will be most generously remembered will be his work in more recent years in progressing partnership government in the Executive of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Right Rev. Dr. Michael Barry, has issued the following statement following the death of the Rev. Dr. Ian Paisley, Lord Bannside:

"Lord Bannside served the people of Northern Ireland in many capacities over the course of his long political career and will be warmly remembered particularly for the historic leadership he gave on assuming the office of First Minister.

"On behalf of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, I extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Baroness Paisley, his children and grandchildren and the wider family circle, and assure them of our prayers at this difficult time."

## **Lord Bannside - Press review**

Lord Bannside - obituary - Daily Telegraph

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/11092046/Lord-Bannside-obituary.html>

'Bigoted Hangover From 17th Century' - The Irish News - including comment by Austin Currie

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/-bigoted-hangover-from-17th-century-1379820>

From fire and brimstone to a peace once thought impossible - David McKittrick in Belfast Telegraph

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/politics/ian-paisley-from-fire-and-brimstone-to-a-peace-once-thought-impossible-30584048.html>

Ian Paisley: Prime Minister praises 'courage and leadership' - News Letter

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/ian-paisley-prime-minister-praises-courage-and-leadership-1-6296929>

## The Rev Ian Paisley dies aged 88 - Catholic Herald

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2014/09/12/the-rev-ian-paisley-dies-aged-88/>

## Ian Paisley interview: Old-style preacher, bigot, but a joke? I think not - The Independent

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/ian-paisley-interview-oldstyle-preacher-bigot-but-a-joke-i-think-not-9729514.html>

## Ian Paisley is dead – the old hypocrite – Telegraph Blogs - Ruth Dudley Edwards

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/ruthdudleyedwards/100286257/ian-paisley-is-dead-the-old-hypocrite/?fb>

## **Pope Francis to address European Parliament in November**

**Pope Francis will address the European Parliament in Strasbourg on November 25.**

Catholic Herald - The news was announced by the Parliament's president Martin Schulz and immediately confirmed by the Vatican.

According to Fr Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, Pope Francis will travel to Strasbourg and back to Rome the same day, and his brief trip should not be considered a pastoral visit to France.

In visiting the Parliament, the Pope will be accepting an invitation made by Mr Schulz during a visit to the Vatican in October 2013.

“The decision to come to Strasbourg before visiting any individual EU member state as such gives a strong signal that the Pope supports and encourages the pursuit of European integration and unity,” said a statement by German Cardinal Reinhard Marx of Munich and Freising, president of the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community. “We hope that the Holy Father will encourage European parliamentarians in their work and that he will indicate how the foundational values of the Union – inspired to a large degree by the Christian faith – may shape the Europe of tomorrow.”

Pope Francis will be the second pope to speak before the European Parliament.

When St John Paul II addressed the body in October 1988, the event was disrupted by the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party, who unfurled a large orange banner branding the Pope "Antichrist" and shouted: "I renounce you. I renounce you and all your cults and creeds."

Fellow parliamentarians threw papers at Rev Paisley and, after a brief scuffle, he was forcibly ejected from the hall.

## **Archbishop of Dublin to address Porvoo Church Leaders Consultation on unity**

**The Archbishop of York Dr John Sentamu is to welcome more than 40 Porvoo Church Leaders for their meeting at Bishopthorpe Palace on 18-19 September 2014.**

Bishop Helga Haugland Byfuglien, Presiding Bishop of the Church of Norway, and Archbishop John Sentamu will be delivering Bible Studies on the theme Towards Greater Unity and Closer Fellowship. Archbishop Michael Jackson of the Church of Ireland and Bishop Peter Skov-Jakobsen, Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark - the Anglican and Lutheran Co-Chairs of the Porvoo Communion of Churches - will also be speaking on the theme.

At the closing Eucharist service to be held at Bishopthorpe Chapel on Friday 19 September, the signing of the Porvoo Declaration will be completed by Archbishop Elmars Ernsts Rozitis of the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad, and Bishop Martin Lind of the Lutheran Church in Great Britain. Archbishop Sentamu will preside and Archbishop Antje Jackelén of the Church of Sweden will preach.

The Porvoo Communion is a Communion of Anglican and Lutheran churches, mostly in Northern and Western Europe that have signed an agreement to "share a common life in mission and service". The Porvoo churches are committed to growing together as churches in mission and service, praying for and with one another. The name Porvoo comes from Porvoo Cathedral in Finland where the agreement was signed in 1998.

For more information about the Porvoo Communion, please visit <http://www.porvoocommunion.org/>

## **Cork quiet day for pastoral carers - Compassion: Seeing with the Heart**

**Compassion: Seeing with the Heart is the theme of a Quiet Day, on 20th September 2014, at St. Luke's Home Education Centre.**

All who are in caring professions and those who minister within the Church of Ireland are invited to a Quiet Day in Cork - Clergy, Readers, Lay Pastoral Assistants, nurses, chaplains, hospital staff, hospice workers and others with specific roles of pastoral care or ministry. The day will be led by Dr Iva Beranek, Ministry Facilitator for the Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland. It will be especially geared for those in caring professions and living a life of ministry.



Books and CMHI materials (prayer cards etc), will be available on the day thanks to Jessica Stone, Ministry Coordinator from the office for Ministry of Healing, Ireland.

Their role within the Church is to promote and practice Christ's example of well-being, compassion, forgiveness, and reconciliation in order to nurture inward peace within ourselves and others.

There are limited places, so if you are interested, booking and further details: Rev. Stephen McCann at [Ballydehobrector@gmail.com](mailto:Ballydehobrector@gmail.com) ; Mobile: 087 147 8300; Home: 028 37117.

Refreshments and simple lunch provided – No charge, but a small donation toward the costs would be appreciated.

## **Saint Fin Barre's Cathedral - Look, Learn and Create - school art programme**



**Look Learn and Create - An innovative creative art tour aimed at the secondary school art syllabus with the opportunity to exhibit and win the Dean's Award for Artistic Merit**

The Cathedral is a place of worship and pilgrimage that never ceases to inspire the visitor. Its French gothic revivalist style displays a vast array of examples of magnificent design and craftsmanship which is the result of one man's brilliance, the "Art Architect", William Burges.

During the tour the students will study the construction and architectural features of this historic building and have the opportunity to examine closely the sculpture/stained glass, mosaics and many more features of its features.

The Education Coordinator offers guided tours and workshops to students at secondary level to provide a deeper understanding of this wonderful building.

Available for : Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle (Secondary)

Each guided tour will include one of the following workshops:

- Drawing Techniques
- Mosaic to collage
- Stained Glass inspiration
- Brass/Stone Rubbing
- Let's sculpt
- Calligraphy

Each group may enter the art exhibition to compete for the Dean's Awards for Artistic Merit. Closing date for entries Friday 20th March 2015

As a result of the school tour/workshop, the students are encouraged to create their own interpretations of what they have seen during their “ St. Fin Barre’s Experience”

The work can be carried out in any medium of their choice and can be either individual or group work. The work is then exhibited in the Cathedral.

The Dean’s Awards for artistic merit are presented at the opening ceremony in March.

## **Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas launches social media awareness campaign: ‘Good to Know Before You Go’**

Yesterday the Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas launches a social media awareness campaign entitled: ‘Good to Know Before You Go’. The campaign, which involves a brief video and humorous messages and images on social media, seeks to encourage young Irish emigrants to take care of themselves and each other, while respecting laws and customs when travelling, living and working abroad.

This ICPO campaign is in response to the current wave of emigration and an increase in the number of Irish people breaking the law and becoming prisoners in certain jurisdictions. It will emphasise the importance of being aware of cultural differences and of adhering to local laws and customs, while also raising awareness of emigrant services so that those who get into difficulty can access available pastoral and other supports.

Launching the campaign in the departures area of Terminal 2 in Dublin Airport, Bishop John Kirby, Bishop of Clonfert and chair of the Irish Bishop’s Council for Emigrants, said, “The Catholic Church is committed to supporting the pastoral needs of our people abroad. Since the 1950’s Irish chaplaincies, and since 1985 the ICPO, have reached out to our emigrants in need of help, and who find themselves voiceless: often vulnerable, isolated and alone.

“Today, along with the ICPO, I wish to recognise and salute the Trojan work the Irish Chaplaincy in Britain, the Irish Apostolate USA, and the Irish Chaplaincy in Sydney. Our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to meet the needs of Irish emigrants of all generations, and in doing so fulfil an essential mission of the gospels: to love God and to love your neighbour,” Bishop Kirby said.

Bishop Kirby thanked Mr Alan Brogan (32) for attending the launch in order to give a personal account of his own recent emigrant experience. Bishop Kirby also thanked the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade for funding this campaign under its Emigrant Support Programme. He acknowledged with gratitude the work of the Consular Assistance Unit of the Department, and its Irish embassies and consulates, for the excellent support provided to Irish prisoners overseas and to the ICPO.

Speaking at the launch Joanna Joyce, Coordinator of the ICPO Maynooth office, said, “Traditionally the majority of Irish prisoners overseas have been detained in the UK, but it is likely that the recent wave of emigration will result in an increase in the number of Irish prisoners in other parts of the world. In the last two years, for example, the ICPO has seen an increase in the number of young emigrants committing an offence and spending a period of time in prison in Australia.”

“In our experience alcohol is a feature in many offences committed by younger emigrants in Irish communities overseas. As well as the serious sanctions applied by authorities abroad to those who transgress the law in the area of drugs and alcohol, their use often causes serious mental health problems amongst our emigrants. We encourage emigrants to reach out to their local chaplaincy for pastoral support, or if in difficulty to connect with their Irish immigration centre for advice and support.

“Finally, I urge everyone to view the brief ‘Good to know before you go’ video on our new website [icpo.ie](http://icpo.ie), our Facebook message campaign on Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas, and on Twitter @ICPOprisoners,” Joanna Joyce said.

## **Bishop of Meath leads his 31<sup>st</sup> annual pilgrimage to Lourdes**

**The words of Pope Francis last Monday for the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary will provide food for prayerful thought as the Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes begins this weekend, according to Bishop Michael Smith.**

Speaking in advance of the pilgrimage, Bishop Michael Smith referred to the Holy Father’s homily on Monday morning, which described three kinds of Christian action inspired by Mary – to be joyful, to help without hesitation and to persevere.



“The participation of the youth team in the pilgrimage certainly brings joy to the gathering”, according to Bishop Smith. “The volunteers (doctors, nurses, chaplains and lay helpers) who number more than 200 follow the example of Our Lady’s willingness to help without hesitation. Above all, the witness of the pilgrims who are sick, some who are elderly and others who are very young, will remind us that perseverance in faith is at the heart of our Christian response to suffering. Very many pilgrims carry life’s burdens and illnesses, especially cancer, will have a special place on our pilgrimage in the days ahead.”

On Friday 12 September 2014, over 800 pilgrims from the Diocese of Meath will travel to Lourdes, returning on Wednesday 17 September 2014. This will be the 67<sup>th</sup> Meath diocesan pilgrimage. It will be led by Bishop Michael Smith who has led the pilgrimage for the 31 years consecutively.

### **Bishop prays from top of Cathedral tower**

**The Bishop of Durham prayed from the top of Durham Cathedral’s tower at an event organised to celebrate the power of prayer.**

Spiritus 2014, which was held at Durham Cathedral and in surrounding streets, allowed people to examine the role of prayer in the everyday life of the region in a series of workshops and events.

One of the workshops was held at the top of the tower at Durham Cathedral and was lead by Right Revd Paul Butler. Prayers were held at each of the four cardinal points of the compass and taking the vista from the tower summit.



***The Right Revd Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham leads prayer workshop from the top of Durham Cathedral tower and proclaims the power of prayer to make a difference and change things in the world today.***

Bishop Paul said: "Prayer inspires us, in prayer we give to God all the situations and the people of the area and so on. So we are saying to God, actually we need you to work here and we're offering ourselves. Prayer is largely about lining ourselves up with God and what God is doing."

Fiona Fidgin, Outreach Coordinator at St Antony's Priory, Durham, who organised the event, said: "Prayer and pilgrimage have been part of the story of the North East for centuries. Last year, we saw a major pilgrimage to Holy Island and the visit of the Lindisfarne Gospels to Durham and we wanted to continue the momentum with Spiritus 14.

"Today we focused on ways to make prayer more meaningful, rather than a box you tick and say 'there, I've done that'.

"Sometimes people struggle to pray or they want to find the right way of connecting with God. So today we have been inviting people to explore different ways of praying, for example singing your prayers, dancing your prayers, and even exploring what praying is like in the digital age."

Bishop Paul said: "It is fantastic that St Anthony's Priory and Fiona Fidgin have arranged this whole day and the variety of prayer opportunities is brilliant.

"That is one of the other things that is really good about doing a day like this, it helps people to learn to pray in different ways and that sometimes re-nurtures people's prayer life."

"I am convinced that prayer helps - prayer does change things and prayer changes people and so prayer is a vital part of what we are about and is vital in the world today."

Among those who also took part in the day were the Anglican Bishop of Jarrow the Right Revd Mark Bryant and the Right Revd Seamus Cunningham, the Catholic bishop of Hexham and Newcastle.

## **Call for prayer as severe flooding hits Northern Bangladesh, India and Pakistan**

**Nine northern districts in Bangladesh have been affected by severe flooding that has seen 17 rivers rise above the danger level. Around one million people there have lost their homes, land and livelihoods.**

The situation has started to improve in some places with water levels receding in the major rivers in Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Bogra and Sirajganj districts in the Brahmaputra basin since 31 August.

However, severe river erosion in the flood-hit districts has destroyed yet more properties, land and local assets. Erosion and flooding has so far partially or totally damaged 17,074 houses, 308 kilometres of kutchha roads, 45 kilometres of embankments and 11 bridges. Standing crops on 3,429 hectares of land have been submerged under floodwater in four upazilas.

The Church of Bangladesh is monitoring the situation and is in contact with the ACT Alliance and Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB) who are working in the region.

In India and Pakistan thousands of people are stranded across the Indian part of Kashmir and parts of northern and eastern Pakistan. Flash floods and landslides have caused more than 300 deaths after six days of heavy rain. So far nearly 9,000 people have been evacuated and communities are preparing for worsening conditions.

Please keep affected communities and those responding to the disaster in your prayers.