



4,000 Ministers of Holy Communion needed for WMOF Papal Mass in Phoenix Park

The World Meeting of Families has called for Ministers of Holy Communion to volunteer for the Papal Mass in Phoenix Park on Sunday 26 August. Upwards of 4,000

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ministers will be needed to serve the 500,000 expected at the concluding Mass of the World Meeting of Families.

The ninth World Meeting of Families will take place in Dublin from 21–26 August on the theme, ‘The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World’.

Pope Francis will join the events of the festival, including the celebration of the Closing Mass at Phoenix Park on 26 August. 500,000 tickets for the Mass went live for booking on Monday 25 June. Within the first 24 hours 285,000 tickets were booked. It was announced on 9 July, just 2 weeks after their launch, that all 500,000 tickets had been booked.

4,000 volunteer ministers will be needed for the concluding Mass. The invitation is open to any of those who are already trained and assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion in their own parishes including lay people, priests, deacons and religious Ministers of Holy Communion.

WMOF added that volunteers need to be already trained and functioning ministers of Holy Communion in their own parish communities. Volunteers will also need to be steady on their feet as much of the distribution will be done in the grassy corrals of the Phoenix Park Papal Mass site. Garda vetting for the event is also necessary, even if volunteers have been vetted for ministry in their own parishes.

4,500 ciboria have been newly made for use at the Papal Mass, with more than half a million hosts available, donated by the Redemptoristine Sisters of St Alphonsus’ Monastery, churchnewsireland@gmail.org

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Dublin, and the Cistercian Sisters from Glencairn, Co Waterford.

At the Mass, the first main block of the faithful (around 78,000 people) will receive the blessed Eucharist directly from the sanctuary area. For the remainder of the people, who will be in corrals of around 1,400 people, there will be 16 'sub-chapels' positioned beside large video screens from which distribution will be coordinated to every other sector with a team of 9 people to each corral. 8 people will distribute Holy Communion, in twos, in each of the four corners of the corral. For those who are unable to receive an ordinary Communion, one minister will be assigned to the centre of each corral to distribute only Low Gluten hosts.

For more information, and to apply as a volunteer, click [here](#).

The full schedule for the World Meeting of Families and the itinerary for Pope Francis' visit, as well as information regarding transport and for those with accessibility requirements, can be found on www.worldmeeting2018.ie.

The Big Listen fundraiser for Samaritans at Belfast Cathedral

Volunteers from Samaritans' local branch in Belfast will be supporting an event on Tuesday, 24 July, in St Anne's Cathedral, as part of a nationwide push called The Big Listen to raise funds for Samaritans and show how really listening to another person can be the first step to saving a life.

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The Cathedral wants to raise awareness of the plight of the homeless people who sleep on the streets close to the building and to signpost Samaritans as a support charity which can provide much needed emotional support to those in need. The Big Listen will culminate in a marathon event kicking off at midday on 24th July – chosen to reflect the availability of Samaritans' 24-hour emotional support services.

St Anne's Cathedral's Events and Marketing Officer, Holly Wilson, said: "Recently there has been a lot of troubled people sleeping rough around the Cathedral and it is very apparent some are in need of mental health support. The Cathedral would like to step up and help in any way that we can. On the day of the Samaritans' UK-wide Big Listen event, any money the Cathedral makes will be donated to the Samaritans. The admission fee will be donated if anyone wants to come into the Cathedral for a tour, but also if anyone just wants to pop in and donate any amount big or small, all money received will be donated to the Samaritans at the end of the day."

The Cathedral has started to attach 'Messages of Hope' along its railings similarly to those that run along the Foyle Bridge; it is asking people to drop in their messages or attach them to the railings to show support to anyone who might be suffering. Some of the Samaritans' volunteer Belfast team will be in the Cathedral on the day if anyone needs to talk to someone.

Alan Heron, from the Samaritans in Belfast, says: "It's thought that as many as one in five people have thought about taking their own life at some point. When people feel

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like that, they need to be able to talk about it, which means they need people to listen. As Samaritans volunteers, we know how much listening to someone at a really low point can help them feel less alone, more able to deal with difficult thoughts and feelings, and give them the time and space to reflect and move on.”

Funds raised by The Big Listen will help Samaritans keep their services free for anyone who needs them, as well as helping to recruit, train and support volunteers across the Irish region. You can follow #TheBigListen @samaritans on Twitter, @samaritanscharity on Instagram, or Samaritans’ Facebook page [here](#).

Anyone can contact Samaritans any time for free from any phone on 116 123, by emailing jo@samaritans.org, or by visiting www.samaritans.org to find details of your local branch where you can talk to a trained volunteer face-to-face.

Archbishop of Dublin and CITI lecturer teach in Bujumbura

Archbishop Michael Jackson and the Revd Dr Paddy McGlinchey have just completed two days of teaching at Bujumbura Christian University (BCU) in Burundi.

Their time at BCU was the latest part of their programme in a partner visit facilitated by the Church Mission Society Ireland (CMSI).



As Archbishop Jackson explains in his latest blog update on the CMSI website, the university is a relatively new venture: ‘Three years ago, Bishop Eraste, bishop of Bujumbura, decided to use the old cathedral as a university. This is a refreshingly ancient and modern vision. There is a beautiful new cathedral dedicated to The Holy Trinity in the same grounds, open for public use all day long. The old cathedral lent itself, with some adaptation, to becoming Bujumbura Christian University.’

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There are currently 42 students studying across three year groups at BCU and all of them participated in the teaching sessions led by Archbishop Jackson and Dr McGlinchey. The topics included Missiology, the Five Marks of Mission, and Interfaith Encounter. There was also an opportunity for the students to develop liturgical resources, based on the Five Marks, which are suited to the Burundi context.

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In his blog, Archbishop Jackson also highlights some fruitful discussions that emerged from the students' concerns about society and church in Burundi: 'At the end of our six sessions of teaching and learning, we returned to the anxieties the students had expressed right at the beginning and reviewed them in the light of our honest and open interchanges over the two days.'

Archbishop Jackson and Dr McGlinchey are the latest of a number of Church of Ireland clergy who have engaged in theological education and clergy training with CMSI's partners in recent years. Such visits reflect CMSI's commitment to helping its partner dioceses to build firm foundations: raising Church leaders who are devoted to Jesus and rooted in God's Word.

C of E Clerics under investigation for abuse may be barred from ministering under new safeguarding rules

"Permission to officiate" (PTO) will be refused or withdrawn from clerics who are under police investigation over allegations of past child or vulnerable adult abuse, new guidance from the National Safeguarding Team of the Church of England states.

It also states that PTO may be withdrawn or refused by the bishop, even if the investigation of the cleric has concluded, and no conviction made, the Church Times reports.

"Where a cleric has been the subject of a criminal investigation for offences relating to children and vulnerable adults that did not result in a conviction, again the bishop

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must consult the diocesan safeguarding advisor and the diocesan registrar before deciding whether to grant PTO.”

Appropriate reasons for withdrawing PTO listed in the document include “following an allegation of abuse in a cleric’s past ministry pending the police investigation”.

In addition, PTO must be refused when a cleric has accepted a police caution; an allegation of abuse has been proved in court; or the cleric has been barred from working with children or vulnerable adults.

A spokeswoman for the National Safeguarding Team told journalists at a press briefing on Friday morning that the new policy, which has been agreed by the House of Bishops, had been “significantly strengthened” compared to that issued in 2014.

Clerics who are “too frail” to administer the eucharist, or considered by the bishop or designated officer to be incapable of continuing their ministry, must also be refused PTO. “It is unlawful for a member of the clergy to officiate (which includes preaching) without the requisite authority,” it states.

The [47-page document](#) has been produced in response to recommendations listed in an independent review by Dame Moira Gibb into the case of Peter Ball, who received a three-year sentence in 2015, having admitted to a series of indecent assaults and the abuse of 18 young men aged 17-25 ([News, 7 October 2015](#)).

Ball, who is 86, was released after serving 16 months of his sentence. He was initially investigated by the police in 1993, and accepted a caution, by which he admitted his

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guilt. He was, however, later granted PTO by Lord Carey, who was the Archbishop of Canterbury at that time.

The Gibb report stated that Lord Carey had failed to respond to repeated expressions of concern and allegations against Ball — most notably those of the late Neil Todd, who was repeatedly abused by the Bishop during the 1980s and '90s, and who later took his own life ([News, 30 June 2017](#)).

A week-long hearing conducted by the [Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse \(IICSA\)](#) on the Ball case is due to start in London on Monday.

Lord Carey, who is due to give evidence on Wednesday, resigned from his position as an honorary assistant bishop in the diocese of Oxford last June, after the Gibb report. His PTO was also withdrawn.

The diocese of Oxford confirmed last week, however, that his PTO had been restored by the Bishop, the Rt Revd Stephen Croft, in February, even though Lord Carey is part of the ongoing IICSA investigation.

The statement from the diocese says: “Lord Carey accepted the criticisms made of him at the time and has apologised to the victims of Peter Ball. In February 2018 Lord Carey contacted the diocese of Oxford to request PTO. This was granted by the Bishop of Oxford later the same month.

“The granting of PTO enabled Lord Carey to preach and preside in the church where he worships, a church where his ministry is much valued. The granting of a PTO does not indicate a planned return to the role of assistant bishop.”

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The policy announced on Friday states that PTO must be withdrawn if the cleric fails to comply with the [House of Bishops' latest policy](#) on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

A spokesman for the National Safeguarding Team confirmed that it had not been contacted by the diocese of Oxford to discuss the renewal of Lord Carey's PTO. "I would have welcomed a consultation," he said.

A previous IICSA hearing, in March, which used the diocese of Chichester as a case-study to investigate the Anglican Church, heard evidence of failures to suspend or revoke the PTO of known or suspected perpetrators of abuse in the Church, including Roy Cotton, who died in 2006 without any conviction. ([News, 12 March 2018](#)).

News briefs

+++Shrouds of the Somme - The next Shrouds of Somme event is going to be in Belfast 23 Aug – 16 Sept 2018 10am–8pm, where 3,775 of shrouds will be laid out in the Garden of Remembrance at Belfast City Hall, representing those from the Ulster and Irish regiments, or from Belfast, with no known grave: <https://t.co/DUzCG2PNFU>
[#sotsbelfast](#)

+++Exploring music at St Patrick's Dublin - On Monday (23) at 10.30 or 12.30 St Patrick's Cathedral is organising a family workshop exploring Music at the Cathedral. Children are taught to sing like one of our choristers and also get to try their hands at our (homemade) organ the WOOFYT. Sessions are free of charge, booking essential and places

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are limited so book fast! Video is of some adults having a go for themselves! <https://bit.ly/2JBdWLv>

+++Conference at Union College, Belfast - You are invited to a one day conference - 28th Aug - 'Grace in Christian Experience from John Owen to Jonathan Edwards'. Admission free and lunch available for £5. Prof Gribben, Dr Cowan, Prof McClenahan & Prof K.P.Minkema (Yale). Registration for lunch reception@union.ac.uk

+++Derry ordination - Rev Sean Hanily will be ordained priest at a Service of Ordination in St Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry on Sunday 2nd September at 4.00pm. Sean, who is from Roscommon, has been serving as Deacon in Rathfarnham and after his ordination will serve as full-time stipendiary curate in Drumragh (Omagh).

+++Summer team available - Due to a change of circumstances a team of 13 young Presbyterians are available 22-28 July to help with summer activities such as Holiday Bible Clubs etc. If any church feels that they could use the team's assistance call Ashley Parks 0748 2236 738

+++Thinking about Christmas - Mothers Union is already thinking about [#Christmas](#) at Families First HQ! If you have any "tried and tested" Christmas [#baking](#) recipes please share them with the MU at familiesfirst@mothersunion.org and they could be featured in the MU November/December issue of Families First!

+++Prayer for peaceful reunification of Korea - The Korean Christian Federation Central Committee (North

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Korea) and the National Council of Churches in Korea (South Korea) have composed their [annual joint prayer for peaceful reunification](#) of the Korean peninsula for 2018. The World Council of Churches is inviting its fellowship and all people of goodwill to use the prayer during worship, especially on 12 August, the weekend before 15 August, the anniversary of Korea's liberation and division. The prayer is just one part of many ongoing efforts to build peace on the Korean Peninsula. The Ecumenical Forum for Korea (EFK), with the theme "From the Tozanso Process to the Panmunjom Process" was held in Geneva, Switzerland on 22-23 June. Forty-four people attended, including members, observers, and staff.



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