

Church News Ireland

Media review



Calls for Archbishop of York to resign over Church failings in sex abuse case - BBC

Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell is facing calls to resign over his handling of a sexual abuse case, days before he takes temporary charge of the Church of England.

As Bishop of Chelmsford, Mr Cottrell let priest David Tudor remain in post in the diocese despite knowing he had been barred by the Church from being

January 16, 2024

alone with children and had paid compensation to a sexual abuse victim, a BBC investigation reveals.

A spokesperson for Mr Cottrell said he had been in an "invidious situation" and did not have the legal power to sack the priest. Tudor was only banned from ministry two months ago - after he admitted historical sex abuse allegations relating to two girls.

However, the Bishop of Newcastle the Rt Rev Helen-Ann Hartley says Mr Cottrell could have done more and should resign as archbishop.

A BBC investigation reveals that the Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell allowed a priest to remain in post despite knowing he had been barred by the Church from being alone with children. The priest in question, David Tudor, had also paid £10,000 compensation to a sexual abuse victim. The woman who received that says Mr Cottrell's failure to act means he should quit. A spokesperson for Mr Cottrell says he did not have the legal power to sack the priest.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwydgjev700>



Israel embassy closure will not deter Ireland from pursuing ICJ case over Gaza

January 16, 2024

Irish Times - Ireland will not be deterred from pursuing its case against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) over the Gaza conflict after the Israeli government announced on Sunday it was closing its embassy in Dublin, the Government has said.

Confirming the decision on Sunday, the Israeli ministry of foreign affairs said: “The decision to close the Israeli embassy in Dublin was made in light of the extreme anti-Israel policy of the Irish Government.” Members of the Jewish and Israeli communities in Ireland describe closure as ‘tragic’ and ‘distressing’

[<https://www.irishtimes.com/ireland/2024/12/16/israel-embassy-closure-will-not-change-irish-policy-on-gaza-government-states/>]

Israel accuses Ireland of ‘crossing every red line’ as it moves to close embassy

Belfast Telegraph - Israel has said it will close its Dublin embassy, accusing Ireland of “crossing every red line”.

Foreign minister Gideon Saar announced the closure in a statement due to the “extreme anti-Israel policies of the Irish Government”.

Irish premier Simon Harris said he was “deeply disappointed” by the move, with deputy premier Micheal Martin stating there are no plans to close the Irish embassy in Israel.

[<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/republic-of-ireland/israel-accuses-ireland-of-crossing-every-red-line-as-it-moves-to-close-embassy/a789214657.html>]

Black Santa charity sit-out begins

Belfast Telegraph - With nine days to go until Christmas, it’s that time in the year when I, as Dean of Belfast, search out the thermal layers and thick warm socks to take up my role of Belfast’s ‘Black Santa’.

Starting tomorrow, this will be my seventh year to stand on the steps of St Anne’s Cathedral as Black Santa, carrying on a 48-year tradition which was begun in 1976 by Dean Sammy Crooks.

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As always, every pound received, whether donated in coins, cash or by card, will be given away again at the start of February to each of those charities which have applied to the 2024 appeal.

Last year's appeal raised a spectacular £171,000. Can we raise £180,000 this year?

[\[https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/black-santa-charity-sit-out-begins-with-focus-also-on-two-areas-of-sometimes-forgotten-need/a569351671.html\]](https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/black-santa-charity-sit-out-begins-with-focus-also-on-two-areas-of-sometimes-forgotten-need/a569351671.html)

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Image of the day

Church News Ireland

The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com

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Black Santa charity sit-out begins, with focus also on two areas of sometimes forgotten need

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