

## Bishops' threat over non-signing of civil wedding forms



***Archbishop of Dublin Diarmuid Martin of Armagh last month said that people should reflect on the implications for marriage if the referendum is passed.***

*If same-sex vote carried, the church's view on marriage and that of State radically different*

Irish Times - Ireland's Catholic bishops spokesman has said the church may no longer

perform the civil aspects of weddings if marriage is extended to same-sex couples.

The move would mean the tens of thousands of couples who get married in Catholic churches each year would have to go elsewhere to have their marriage legally recognised by the State.

At present, the signing of the Marriage Registration Form – a civil document required by the State in order to recognise a marriage – takes place after the wedding Mass.

If the church carries through on its threat to bring the practice to an end, it will mean that couples will not officially be married by the church ceremony.

This weekend a spokesman for the Irish Catholic Bishops said he believed that priests would be unlikely to have any issue with the bishops' possible move to force all couples marrying in the church to carry out the civil aspect of their marriage elsewhere.

Currently in a church wedding, after the Mass has ended the couple, the solemniser – in this case a priest – and the witnesses must all sign a civil document called the Marriage Registration Form. This form is issued by a local registrar and the completed one must be returned to a

registrar before a marriage certificate can be obtained.

The stance articulated by the spokesman for the Irish Catholic Bishops is a reaffirmation of a warning contained in the bishops' submission to the Constitutional Convention in 2013. In this they said that any change to the definition of marriage would mean the Church could no longer co-operate with the civil aspect of marriage.

Martin Long, director of the Catholic Communications Office said then: "At the moment on behalf of the State, the priest acts as the solemniser of the marriage between a woman and a man. Obviously if the definition of marriage changes then this role will change."

More at -

[http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/bishops-threat-over-non-signing-of-civil-wedding-forms-1.2173350?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter](http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/bishops-threat-over-non-signing-of-civil-wedding-forms-1.2173350?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)

## **To thee I do wed: A century of marriage in Ireland**

[http://www.thejournal.ie/history-and-evolution-of-marriage-in-ireland-2039697-Apr2015/?utm\\_source=twitter\\_self](http://www.thejournal.ie/history-and-evolution-of-marriage-in-ireland-2039697-Apr2015/?utm_source=twitter_self) Marriage rites and civil law

## **Marriage rites and civil law - A C of I Bishop's perspective**

Rt Rev Dr Michael Burrows, Bishop of Cashel, Ferns & Ossory, at a conference on marriage equality in TCD last weekend gave an address which reviewed the church's position and the forthcoming vote in the Republic. See CNI yesterday for account of the conference.

Bishop Burrows said, "I respect the positions of those who differ often radically from me, I believe that a conscientious Christian citizen is not only entitled to support this proposal, but has every right to act as an advocate for it. We are privileged that we are allowed through the ballot box to have our individual say in such a matter, and that duty is to be taken very seriously – we are in the position to be (or not) the first European democracy to introduce same sex marriage by way of referendum. If we do so, it will not simply be because of some whim or fashion or improper pressure – it will be in the context of a long saga of law reform in pursuit of equality, as well as of our search for the wind of the Spirit in the affairs of society, and (for voters such as myself) our reflection on a long and distinctive trajectory in terms of the Anglican theology of marriage. "

The text of Bishop Burrow's address is available here -

<http://fimeirl.tumblr.com/post/116228230094/a-consideration-of-the-case-for-marriage-equality>

## **New bishop reaches out to non-practising Catholics**

The new bishop of [Waterford](#) and Lismore wants to reach out to Catholics who have “turned away” from the practice of the faith and said there were many people who could commit to the church, with encouragement.

Irish Times - During his ordination as bishop on Sunday in Waterford, [Canon Alphonsus Cullinan](#), or “Fr Phonsie” as he was referred to during the ceremony, called for prayers to promote vocations to the church.

“I am convinced that there are many more who, with the right encouragement, can be helped to make life commitments in the church, whether that be to marriage, religious life, the permanent diaconate, or the priesthood.”

Later, speaking to the media, Bishop Cullinan said he would like to personally drive new vocations. “I’ve got to go out and ask, ‘would

you consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life', and we'll see who will respond, and I'm sure that the Lord is still asking."

In his address he spoke of Catholics who were no longer active. "We reach out to those who have turned away from the practice of the faith, many of whom are in our own families and parish communities. How can we walk with them in a way that will help them to see once more the beauty of following Jesus?"

Bishop Cullinan's ordination means just one of Ireland's 26 Catholic dioceses is now without a bishop – Killaloe, from where Dr Kieran O'Reilly was "translated" to Cashel and Emly as archbishop earlier this year.

More at -

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/new-bishop-reaches-out-to-non-practising-catholics-1.2173375>

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## The Tuam Babies - 800+ in a mass grave 'the clergy didn't want to know the truth about'



***Site where bodies of 800 children from Bons Secours home were found in unmarked grave in Tuam Co Galway***

RTE One's "Would you believe?" on Sunday last examined the issues surrounding the discovery in Tuam of a mass grave of babies.

Local historian, Catherine Corless found herself catapulted into the public eye, when news that there were possibly as many as 800 babies

buried in an unmarked mass grave in Tuam, Co Galway, hit the headlines last summer. That discovery turned her into a media celebrity overnight but also led to her meeting and helping many men and women born in the Tuam Home anxious to trace their roots and finally be free of the shame Irish society had made them feel about their birth.

PJ Haverty and Anne Kelly Silke were both born in the Tuam Mother and Baby home. Both were "boarded out " as young children. PJ was fortunate to find a loving home, but Anne, more typically, was moved from one home to another, more often treated as an unpaid servant than as a family member. Her childhood was one of beatings, deprivation and loneliness. As they grew up, both experienced prejudice for being a "Home Baby" and even found it hard to find a partner locally.

UCD historian, Lyndsey Earner Byrne, author of *Mother and Child: Maternity and Child Welfare in Ireland, 1920s-1960s* insists that these facts were known to official Ireland since the 1920s, when the Registrar general annually reported that the infant mortality rate in Mother and Baby homes was 3 to 5 times higher than in the Irish family.



Catherine's research proved what locals had long believed, children who died in the Home had been unofficially buried in its grounds. In the 1970s local residents tended a small grotto in the middle of a housing estate where babies were believed to be buried. Through tenacious research, Catherine has given each of these 796 children a name and told their story to the world.

Throughout her childhood, Catherine Corless had noticed sadness in her own mother who was also secretive about her childhood. After her death, Catherine discovered that her mother had been born in a mother and baby home in Northern Ireland and fostered out to various families throughout her childhood. She is saddened that her kind loving mother was made to feel ashamed and driven to secrecy throughout her life.

She hopes that the public enquiry will restore their dignity and self respect and give them the sense of validation they so richly deserve.

**The Irish Mirror reported - “Catherine Corless, whose research revealed 794 children were buried in a mass grave in Co Galway, said the clergy had no interest in hearing the truth when the story emerged.”**

The woman who revealed the horror of the Tuam babies scandal has slammed the Catholic Church for its response to the atrocity.

Catherine Corless, whose research revealed 794 children were buried in a mass grave in [Co Galway](#), said the clergy had no interest in hearing the truth when the story emerged.

Appearing in an episode of RTE's Would You Believe? tonight, Ms Corless said she had expected a much bigger response from the Church which ran the mother and baby home where the children perished.

She revealed: "I really expected the clergy to come forward and to help us out and to do something about this atrocity.

"Nobody wanted to listen, nobody wanted to hear this story, nobody wanted to face the truth. That to me, wasn't what Jesus preached when he was on earth."

Ms Corless, whose own mother was raised in one of the appalling facilities, said she was overwhelmed by the intense response as the world's media flocked to Tuam in the wake of the horrific revelations.

But she admitted being relieved the scandal had come to light and claimed nobody would have exposed the secret deaths without her research.

Ms Corless added: "When I look at my own children and especially my grandchildren and see then how lovely they are, I just can't understand hundreds of the likes of those are buried in unmarked graves in that area. Not many people seem to care, really and truly. I think that's an absolute disgrace."

Hundreds of former residents of the Tuam home and others around the country contacted Catherine for advice after the story broke.

And she revealed her own mother's connection to the homes gave her great empathy for the survivors.

<http://www.rte.ie/tv/wouldyoubelieve/>

Irish Mirror - Woman who exposed Tuam babies horror says Church didn't want to know truth

<http://www.irishmirror.ie/news/irish-news/woman-who-exposed-tuam-babies-5503610>

## **Moderator condemns attacks on North Belfast Polish community**

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Right Reverend Dr. Michael Barry, has condemned the recent attacks on the Polish community in North Belfast.

Dr. Barry said, “The recent attacks on the homes of Polish people in North Belfast are utterly reprehensible. The attacks on these homes are attacks not only on individuals and their families, but an assault on the local community itself, creating fear and striking at the very heart of a healthy society. It is important that PSNI is fully supported in bringing those responsible before the courts, and I would urge anyone with information to come forward.

“I have spoken to the Honorary Polish Consul to let him know that as a Church we will continue to play our part in welcoming and supporting his compatriots who come here to make new lives for themselves. I would also encourage people to pray for those communities under threat, for those who have been attacked and for their attackers in the hope that their hearts will be changed and they will cease.”

## **Church Army Chief Executive visits north Belfast**

Church Army Chief Executive Mark Russell paid a visit to north Belfast last week to meet up with Connor diocesan Pioneer Evangelist Stephen Whitten.



***Church Army Chief Executive Mark Russell, left, with Connor Pioneer Evangelist Stephen Whitten.***

Stephen, who was appointed earlier this year by the Diocese of Connor and the Church Army, chatted with the Church Army head in St Columba's, Whiterock.

His role is the first step towards the Bishop of Connor's aspiration to create a Centre of Mission for the diocese which will have a particular focus in north Belfast.

Stephen said: "Mark came to visit as Chief Executive of the Church Army and to encourage me and to say that the Church Army was there to support me. It was very good to see him."

Mark Russell who is a native of Craigavon afterwards tweeted a photograph and said it had been 'great' to visit Stephen in the new Centre for Mission in north Belfast.

## **Possible 'parallel Anglican church' set to highlight divisions**

Conservative evangelical archbishops, bishops and other church leaders from around the world are meeting in the UK this week to discuss whether to back a parallel Anglican church in the UK.

Ruth Gledhill in Christian Today - The meeting is expected to highlight continuing divisions in the worldwide communion over women's ordination and homosexuality. It comes as a Nigerian bishop who believes homosexuality should remain illegal in his country has been appointed to the key post of secretary general of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Bishop of

Kaduna Josiah Idowu-Fearon is known for his skilled dialogue with Muslims in Nigeria.

Any parallel structure would exist to support Anglican clergy and congregations that are opposed to women's ordination on the basis of St Paul's assertion that the man is the head of the woman. The alternative Anglican church would also take a conservative stance on the gay issue and oppose gay marriage.

The plan will be debated by the leadership of the Global Anglican Futures Conference, or Gafcon, when they meet in London this week. Gafcon was launched at a meeting in Jerusalem in 2008 as part of the long-running struggle by conservatives to cater to those opposed to the more liberal direction the western Anglican church was headed in.

In an Easter pastoral letter to supporters, Archbishop Eliud Wabukala, primate of Kenya and chairman of the Gafcon primates' council, said: "We shall take counsel together so that our movement can grow strongly and be equipped to fulfil the vision of restoring the Anglican Communion's commitment to biblical truth."

He called for Christians to remain strong.

"If we look just on the surface of things, it is easy to be discouraged. While in Africa and the Middle East Christian communities are being destroyed and intimidated by Islamic radicalism, in the West we are seeing the faith for which these believers are dying being betrayed by compromise with an increasingly intolerant secular culture."

Two of the greatest challenges to world Christianity and Gafcon itself are Islamic radicalism and the re-evangelisation of the West, he added.

"At the heart of our response to both must be faithful and costly witness to the gospel by people who are deeply convinced that, in season or out of season, their work will not be useless or wasted because it is done for Christ and in the hope of the resurrection."

He singled out for particular criticism the process set up by the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, at the 2008 Lambeth Conference as part of his attempt to maintain Anglican unity. "We need an outward looking unity in diversity that serves the truth of the gospel, not the inward looking unity in diversity of projects like 'Continuing Indaba' that open the doors of the Church to a false gospel."



A parallel structure, the Anglican Church in North America, already exists in the US. [Influential US commentator George Conger has reported](#) that this church's Archbishop Foley Beach will be among those conservative Anglicans in London at the meeting this week.

Archbishop Wabukala has previously written: "It is becoming clear that we must see the once missionary nations of the West as now themselves mission fields."

The Gafcon primates have already told the the Anglican Mission in England to operate outside the structures of the Church of England as a missionary society, where necessary.

[In his Kiwianglo blog](#), Father Ron Smith of Christchurch New Zealand, an Anglo-Catholic priest, warns: "If the Church of England stands by and allows this 'parallel jurisdiction' to happen, this will surely be the next step in the dissolution of the world-wide family of churches of the Anglican Communion! This can only serve to cause confusion among Britain's Anglicans – never mind the rest of the provinces that are not aligned with the institutional homophobia of the GAFCON Provinces. The Anglican World watches – and waits – for the Archbishop of

Canterbury's response to this act of piracy in his own jurisdiction."

## References -

<http://www.christiantoday.com/article/possible.parallel.anglican.church.set.to.highlight.divisions/51916.htm>

Episcopal Cafe

GAFCON primates to meet in London, is it the end at last?

<http://www.episcopalcafe.com/gafcon-primates-to-meet-in-london-is-this-the-beginning-of-the-end-of-the-anglican-communion/>

## Internships at Holywood Parish Church

The Internship Programme at Holywood Parish Church is particularly developed to allow school-leavers, graduates or those already in third-level education to gain experience in a dynamic and creative work environment. It not only serves the church and the community in Holywood but grows the leadership skills, maturity and faith of the interns.

To encourage an environment of respect and to recognise the value of their contribution, we offer the interns a salary for the year.

“We are looking for six interns this year, who will begin at the start of September, 20 hours per week. They must have a Christian faith and be able to commit to the full year (September 2015 – August 2016).”

For more information and an application form please contact Josh Galbraith by email:  
[josh@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:josh@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk)

## **‘May the balm of mercy reach everyone’, says Francis as he proclaims Holy Year**

Mercy is what makes God perfect and all-powerful, Pope Francis has said in his document officially proclaiming the Holy Year of Mercy.

“If God limited himself to only justice, he would cease to be God, and would instead be like human beings who ask merely that the law be respected,” the Pope wrote in *Misericordiae Vultus* (“The Face of Mercy”), which is the bull of

indiction calling a Holy Year to begin on December 8.



***Francis hands a copy of the bull of indiction of the Holy Year of Mercy to a Vatican official***

Standing in front of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica, Pope Francis handed copies of the document to the archpriests of the major basilicas of Rome and to Vatican officials representing Catholics around the world.

Portions of the 9,300-word proclamation were read aloud before Pope Francis and his aides processed into St Peter's Basilica to celebrate the first vespers of Divine Mercy Sunday.

In his homily at Vespers, the Pope said he proclaimed the Year of Mercy because “it is the favourable time to heal wounds, a time not to be weary of meeting all those who are waiting to see and touch with their hands the signs of the closeness of God, a time to offer everyone the way of forgiveness and reconciliation”.

The boundless nature of God’s mercy — his willingness always to forgive anything — has been a constant subject of Francis’s preaching and is explained in detail in the document, which outlines some of the specific projects the Pope has in mind for the year.

The Old Testament stories of how God repeatedly offered mercy to his unfaithful people and the New Testament stories of Jesus’ compassion, healing and mercy demonstrate, the Pope said, that “the mercy of God is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality through which he reveals his love”, just like mothers and fathers love their children.

“How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God,” he wrote.

“May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the kingdom of God is already present in our midst.”

Nothing in the Church’s preaching or witness, he said, can be lacking in mercy.

Pope Francis asked that all dioceses around the world designate a “Door of Mercy” at their cathedral or another special church or shrine, and that every diocese implement the “24 Hours for the Lord” initiative on the Friday and Saturday before the fourth week of Lent. In Rome the last two years, the Pope has opened the celebration with a penance service in St Peter’s Basilica and churches around the city were open for the next 24 hours for Confessions and Eucharistic Adoration.

The Pope said he will designate and send out “Missionaries of Mercy” to preach about mercy. They will be given special authority, he said, “to pardon even those sins reserved to the Holy See”. Under Church law, those sins involve: a man who directly participated in an abortion and later wants to enter the priesthood; priests who have broken the seal of Confession; priests who have offered sacramental absolution to their own sexual partners; desecrating the Eucharist; and making an attempt on the life of the Pope. Usually, the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court, handles those cases.

Francis urged all Catholics to spend more time practicing what traditionally have been called the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The corporal works are: feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked,

visiting the sick, visiting the imprisoned, giving drink to the thirsty and burying the dead. The spiritual works are: converting sinners, instructing the ignorant, advising the doubtful, comforting the sorrowful, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving injuries and praying for the living and dead.

The date the Pope chose to open the year — December 8 — is the feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. Both dates, he wrote, are related to the Year of Mercy.

## **Episcopal Church General Convention in Salt Lake City will elect new Presiding Bishop**

The 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church will take place June 22-July 3 in Salt Lake City. The election of a presiding bishop to succeed The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, the 26th presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, will highlight the convention.

The General Convention is the governing body of the Episcopal Church. The Convention is a bicameral legislature that includes the House of Deputies, which has more than 800 members, and the House of Bishops, which comprises nearly 300 active and retired bishops.

The Convention meets every three years and has the authority to amend the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, adopt the budget for the church for the next three years, authorize liturgical texts and amend the Book of Common Prayer, adopt communions and covenants with other churches, set qualifications for orders of ministry and office-holders, elect officers of the General Convention, the Executive Council and members of boards, and delegate responsibilities to the committees, commissions, agencies and boards of the Episcopal Church.

## **Pope boosts Armenia's efforts to have Ottoman killings recognised as genocide**

Armenia's efforts to promote greater awareness of the massacre of 1.5 million of its people by [Turkey](#) during the fall of the Ottoman empire were given a dramatic boost on Sunday by the pope's description of the atrocities as "the first genocide of the 20<sup>th</sup> century" – days ahead of the centenary of the event.

Guardian - Pope Francis used a special mass in St Peter's Basilica to [mark the anniversary](#), and referred to "three massive and unprecedented tragedies" of the last century.



“The first, which is widely considered the first genocide of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, struck your own Armenian people,” the pontiff said. “Bishops and priests, religious women and men, the elderly and even defenceless children and the infirm were murdered.”

Historians estimate that as many as 1.5 million Armenians were killed in state-organised violence between 1915 and 1922. Russia, France and about 20 other countries recognise it as genocide.

More at -

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/apr/12/pope-boosts-armenias-efforts-to-have-ottoman-killings-recognised-as-genocide>

## Media digest

### **Irish Examiner**

**This is what a night in Ireland's only homeless cafe is like**

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/viewpoints/analysis/this-is-what-a-night-in-irelands-only-homeless-cafe-is-like-323541.html>

### **Irish Times**

## **Catholic Church 'will pay price' for stance on gay marriage**

A conference discussing the **religious** case for marriage equality has heard there will be “a price to be ... Marriage Equality: The **Religious** Case for a Yes Vote took place on Saturday and was ... Church of **Ireland** bishop of Cashel, Ferns & Ossory Michael Burrows said he was supporting <http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/catholic-church-will-pay-price-for-stance-on-gay-marriage-1.2172982>

## **Belfast Telegraph**

### **We should commemorate our history as fact, not propaganda**

Liam Clarke writes

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/debateni/blogs/liam-clarke/we-should-commemorate-our-history-as-fact-not-propaganda-31128047.html>

## **Sinn Fein have consistently added insult to the McConvilles' injury**

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/opinion/news-analysis/sinn-fein-have-consistently-added-insult-to-the-mcconvilles-injury-31136748.html>

## **Ballycastle united in prayer for crash teen Clodagh Arbuckle**

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/ballycastle-united-in-prayer-for-crash-teen-clodagh-arbuckle-31137016.html>

## **BBC News**

### **Titanic priest Father Thomas Byles 'should be sainted'**

A campaign is under way to have the Catholic priest who stayed on RMS Titanic instead of fleeing on a lifeboat made a saint.

Father Thomas Byles, of St Helen's Church, Chipping Ongar, Essex, boarded the ship at Southampton to attend his younger brother's wedding in New York.

But when it sank in 1912 he twice refused to join a lifeboat and instead remained with passengers to pray.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-32274691>

## **Telegraph**

### **Missing Nigerian schoolgirls: could growing pressure on Boko Haram lead to their release?**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/nigeria/11531328/Missing-Nigerian-schoolgirls-could-growing-pressure-on-Boko-Haram-lead-to-their-release.html>

## **Tel**

Report on comments by the head of safeguarding at the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS), who has warned churches are still viewed as a "soft

touch" by paedophiles hunting for victims, despite tighter child-protection measures. Includes quotes from both Church of England and Roman Catholic church.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11531756/Naive-churches-are-a-soft-touch-for-paedophiles-experts-claim.html>

## **Times/Mail/Guard/Tel/Ind/BBC**

Article on how the Pope yesterday described the murder of Armenians by Ottoman Turks 100 years ago as genocide, sparking a diplomatic crisis with Turkey, which denies that it took place. In response, Turkey summoned the Vatican's ambassador to complain about the remarks, citing "great disappointment and sadness".

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article4409045.ece>

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3035531/Pope-calls-Armenian-slaughter-1st-genocide-20th-century.html?ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3035531/Pope-calls-Armenian-slaughter-1st-genocide-20th-century.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/apr/12/pope-boosts-armenias-efforts-to-have-ottoman-killings-recognised-as-genocide>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/armenia/11530977/Turkey-protests-to->

[Pope-Francis-after-he-brands-Armenian-killings-genocide.html](#)

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/pope-francis-uses-the-word-genocide-on-100th-anniversary-of-armenian-killings-but-turkey-tried-to-stop-him-10170490.html>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-32272604>

## **BBC**

Report that a £1m project to restore and preserve a unique set of medieval wall paintings in the 12th Century St Mary's Church in Chalgrove, Oxfordshire, is expected to begin this summer after receiving £500,000 in lottery funding. The art, which covers three walls of the church is believed to have been created in about 1320. Vicar, the Revd Ian Cohen is quoted.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-oxfordshire-32275362>

## **Tel**

Article on a new survey that has found Britain is one of the least religious countries in the world, with two thirds of the population describing themselves as atheist or "not religious". It states only 30 per cent of Britons interviewed said they would describe

themselves as religious, regardless of whether they attended a place of worship. Outside Europe only China (7 per cent), Japan (13 per cent) and Hong Kong (26 per cent) had lower proportions of self-declared religious followers than Britain. It states the poll asked nearly 64,000 people from 65 countries about their beliefs.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11531005/Britain-one-of-the-worlds-least-religious-countries-says-poll.html>

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