



Sr Martina Purdy & Rev Harold Good at the launch of the 4 Corners Festival.

Belfast's 4 Corners Festival launched

The fifth annual 4 Corners Festival was launched yesterday morning at a prayer breakfast at St John's Presbyterian Church, Newtownbreda. This year's theme is "Our Wounded and Wonderful City."

The Festival runs from Friday 3 February until Sunday 12 February with events designed to celebrate Belfast and ask how we might find healing for our wounds. All events are free and accessible to all.

The programme includes a concert with Grammy nominated singer songwriter Iain Archer. It also features artist Colin Davidson, who recently painted a portrait of the Queen, in conversation with journalist Brian Rowan.

Survivors of the Troubles will share their own stories of pain and healing. The annual festival banquet at City Hall will be for full time carers and there will be an Interfaith event with members of Belfast's Islamic, Jewish, Baha'i, Hindu and Buddhist communities. There will be a screening of the acclaimed film I am Belfast, including a Q&A with producer Lisa Barros D'Sa. Theologians Rev Dr Trevor Morrow and Fr Brendan McConvery will discuss the theology of healing and reconciliation. Other events will showcase stories of healing and songs that find wonder in the wounds.

The full programme can be accessed at www.4cornersfestival.com.

Festival Co-Chairs Father Martin Magill and Rev Steve Stockman were awarded the 2016 Community Relations Council Civic Leadership Award for their work with the festival. Magill and Stockman developed the idea for the first festival over a cup of coffee, as they discussed together the changes in perspective they had experienced when they travelled to parts of the city with which they were unfamiliar.

They wanted to encourage others to venture out of their comfort zones – geographically, mentally, and spiritually – and so a Festival was devised with events in all four corners of the city. This was designed to prompt people to cross boundaries and experience new people and new places.

This year's Festival will be taking place during a time of especially acute political crisis, given the upcoming Assembly elections. Community Relations Council chair Peter Osborne, who spoke at the launch, urged civic society to communicate to politicians that they want reconciliation and to portray visions for a better future.

Prayers at the launch called for reconciliation to be at the centre of the elections. Stockman said: “Reconciliation is our priority – it will not drip down from the hill of Stormont, but has to creep up from the grass roots. This festival imagines a different Belfast – a transformed city with reconciliation and grace at its heart.”

Magill agreed and added that simple acts make a difference for reconciliation:

“Over the last 4 years we have brought people out of their own area to let them see life in other parts of the city. Friendships have been formed and lives have been transformed. As Mother Theresa said, ‘Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.’”

All Events at 4 Corners Festival are free and accessible to all. The festival has been funded entirely by the generosity of hundreds of small donors. This year the festival also received support from the central Good Relations Fund administered by The Executive Office.

Report by Gladys Ganiel on Slugger O’Toole.

Luther 500 : major conference interpreting the man & his legacy

As part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland's commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, Union Theological College (UTC) with Queen's University's Institute of Theology are holding a joint two-day conference next month to look at the life of Dr. Martin Luther, his teaching and legacy.

Entitled 'Luther 500' the Conference is free for all attending and takes place at the Elmwood Hall in Belfast on 2nd and 3rd February. As Laurence Kirkpatrick, UTC's Professor of Church History explained, the conference is for anyone who would like a deeper understanding of the principal driver behind the Reformation, key aspects of it and its legacy.

"On 31st October 1517 Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, Saxony in order to begin a debate that ultimately triggered what we know today as the Protestant Reformation," Professor Kirkpatrick said.



This seminal act has traditionally been interpreted as marking the commencement of the European Reformation; a period of unprecedented upheaval in church and society, that initiated the most dramatic reform movement in the history of Christianity.

“While many people have a general idea of who Martin Luther was, Luther 500 will provide an overall perspective of the man and his teaching and unpack key elements of his thought which aim to deepen our understanding of the

relevance of the Reformation for people in the 21st century,” he said.

Lectures will be delivered by Union College staff and guest lecturers including Dr. Scott Dixon of Queen’s University’s School of History and Professor Mark Elliott from St. Andrews University. The conference keynote speaker will be Professor Mark Noll, latterly of Notre Dame University in the United States. In 2006, he was awarded the National Humanities Medal, by President George W. Bush.

“Professor Noll is a prolific author and many of his books have earned considerable acclaim within the academic community. Together with our other eminent speakers, we will examine Luther’s thought and teaching, the rapid spread of his ideas, his break with Rome and the development of the new Protestant theology.

“We will also explore one of Luther’s most controversial writings, his advice regarding treatment of the Jews. The link with the atrocities of Nazi Germany will also be scrutinised,” Professor Kirkpatrick said.

Topics covered in the conference include:

- Luther's Ninety-Five Theses and the Origins of Reformation History
- Luther the Exegete
- The Break with Rome: but what exactly was Luther thinking about?
- Luther and the Jews
- Contemporary Praise: Learning from Luther

No prior registration is necessary for 'Luther 500', which is free to attend. For more details and full conference programme [visit the events page](https://www.presbyterianireland.org/Events/Luther-500.aspx).

<https://www.presbyterianireland.org/Events/Luther-500.aspx>

The Priests US concert to benefit Kylemore Abbey community

The Kylemore Abbey Campaign in the U.S. will host a benefit concert featuring The Priests from Northern Ireland on Saturday, January 28 at St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church, 411 East 66th Street, New York, at 8 p.m.

The Priests are a classical musical trio of three Roman Catholic priests from Northern Ireland. Father Eugene O'Hagan and his younger brother,



Father Martin O'Hagan, are originally from the village of Claudy, Co. Derry and Father David Delargy is from Ballymena, Co. Antrim. They have sold over 3.5 million CDs. Copies of their debut album sold at such a frantic pace it quickly secured them a place in the Guinness Book of World Records as the fastest-selling classical debut of all-time. The record holds to this day. In October of 2016 The Priests released their fourth studio album, Alleluia.

For over 90 years the Benedictine community of nuns at Kylemore Abbey in Co. Galway have been a presence in Connemara. Kylemore Abbey is blessed with a beautiful natural landscape, and

a strong tradition of education and hospitality. These unique strengths encourage the nuns to continue the mission of Kylemore and to make it a haven for all those who love the natural environment, who respect the heritage of yesteryear and who seek new skills and insight for tomorrow's challenges.

The nuns first opened a highly acclaimed girls school in 1922; the school closed in 2010. Five years ago the Kylemore Abbey Board of Trustees launched a long-term development plan to insure that Kylemore Abbey will always be a presence and a place whose serenity and beauty draws thousands of international visitors.

An important part of the development plan is to build the nuns a purpose built monastery, something they have never had. The eleven nuns currently live in two locations, a farm house and guest house on the property. The new monastery will be located on the lake close to the other main buildings. The building will have guest rooms and an area to host retreats. All money raised through ticket sales and special gifts will go directly towards finishing the interior of the monastery. The campaign goal is \$500,000; the

campaign was launched by Cardinal Dolan on May 26, 2016 at his residence.

Levels of special gifts are available: \$10,000, \$5,000, \$1,000, these gifts will be listed in the program. Memorial rights to rooms are available on request.

Ticket prices are \$75 (concert only) and \$150 for preferred seating and a meet and greet cocktail hour following the concert. To buy tickets visit www.irishap.org/the-priests-concert or call Mary Reed at 914-420-3517.

The New York campaign co-chairs are Mary Pat Kelly and Robert Mulderig. Committee members are Dean John Feerick and Dean Robert Reilly of Fordham Law School, Jim Tolan, Father John McGuire, Adrian Flannelly, Rosalind Secker-Walker, Juliet Wallace, Domhnall O'Cathain, John McEnroe, Dennis Kenny, Timothy Feighery. Director of the U.S. campaign is Reed.

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It's time to reflect on what we understand by church says Irish Methodist President

In his latest President's Letter in the February issue of the Methodist Newsletter, the Rev Bill Mullally asks readers to think very hard about the following church as they imagine how they can reinvigorate their church life. The President writes:

Are we a creaking structure that would collapse if not given support or are we a church that is flexible, welcoming and inspiring?

Perhaps it's time to reflect on what we understand by church. Who is the church and what are we called to do and to be?

Are we faithful in attending church frequently, developing close friendships and making a financial contribution? Is this church or is it more?

Are we involved in some service to church life, taking responsibility for some area of activity or

giving leadership in some area of need? Is this church or is it more?

Are we attending a group of some kind, like Bible study, fellowship, prayer or interest group? Do we think of church outside the walls of our building? Do we talk to others about issues of faith? Is this church or is it more?

Are our lives guided by the Bible and does it speak to us and inform us on matters of life and living. Is this church or is it more?

Are we interested in the purpose of the church, why Christ formed it and what he says to his followers about what he wants from us? Is this church or is it more?

Are we open to being filled with the Holy Spirit, empowered by God, and willing to go out and proclaim Christ? Is this church or is it more?

Whose church is it and why are you part of it?

The full text will appear in the February Methodist Newsletter

Survivors showed courage and dignity, Archbishop Martin's

response to historical institutional abuse in Northern Ireland

Archbishop Eamonn Martin issued the following statement yesterday following the publication of the report into historical abuse in various institutions.

Archbishop Martin states :

The publication today by Sir Anthony Hart of the Report into historical institutional abuse in Northern Ireland is a significant moment for survivors and their families. They are uppermost in my thoughts today. Notwithstanding the distressing experience of telling their harrowing stories to the Inquiry, they have shown courage, dignity and perseverance in bringing to light a dark and disturbing chapter in the life of Church and society.

This comprehensive report allows their voices to be heard and vindicated more widely so that all of us can learn the truth, however unpalatable, about what happened in the past and redouble our efforts to ensure such awful things are prevented from occurring again. Sir Anthony

Hart approached his task in a balanced and objective manner. He dealt sensitively with those who were called to appear before the Inquiry. He has fulfilled a valuable service to society as a whole. It is now important for all of us to accept his findings as a fair reflection and analysis of how both Church and State failed the most vulnerable members of our society.

I welcome the publication of this Report and I accept its findings. I apologise unreservedly to all those who suffered from their experience in Church-run institutions, and to their loved ones.

They have given details for all to see of emotional, physical and sexual abuse. Their story is one of anxiety, isolation and pain. I know well that my words are inadequate in attempting to address the enormity of the harshness and brutality which many innocent children experienced.

There is never an excuse for the abuse and ill treatment of children or any vulnerable person, in any setting. When the perpetrator is a priest or religious, it is also an appalling betrayal of a sacred trust. I am ashamed and I am truly sorry that such abuse occurred, and that in many cases children and young people felt deprived of

love and were left with a deep and lasting suffering.

It is totally understandable that those abused may find it hard to forgive or find reconciliation with the Church. But we in the Church must do everything we can to submit to the demands of justice and demonstrate that we are serious about making reparation for the sins and crimes of the past. I call on all those in positions of leadership within the Catholic dioceses and religious congregations concerned to engage in a constructive and urgent manner with the agencies to be established by the new Executive to take forward this Report's recommendations. I commit to doing all that I can – and also to encouraging others throughout the Church – to support survivors of abuse today and into the future.

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In a similarly sized statement the Diocese of Down & Connor includes this comment - “The Diocese of Down and Connor will examine carefully and reflect upon the full report, on its findings and conclusions, and will continue to work closely alongside religious congregations

and other state, voluntary and church providers of institutional care to assist the Executive Office of the Northern Ireland Assembly in addressing the recommendations of this report.

“The Diocese of Down and Connor hopes that this report and the implementation of its recommendations can aid the onward recovery of victims, survivors and their families as they seek truth and justice.”

Irish Church Missions’ apology for child abuse at Manor House Home, Lisburn

Irish Church Missions (ICM) has today issued a statement regarding the findings of the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry published yesterday (20/1/17) in relation to Manor House Home, Lisburn, which closed in 1984.

In the statement, ICM says, ‘Our deepest sympathies are with all victims and especially with those who have come forward in connection with alleged abuse in Manor House Home. We deeply regret, despite the care given, that some

children may have experienced abuse in the home and for that we unreservedly apologise.’

The statement can be found at:

www.irishchurchmissions.ie/historical-institutional-abuse-inquiry-press-release

Wales consecrates first woman bishop today

Wales is consecrating its first woman bishop today. The Revd Canon Joanna Penberthy is being consecrated as Bishop of St Davids at Llandaff Cathedral, by the Archbishop of Wales, Dr Barry Morgan, with the five other Welsh bishops. The Church took the decision to ordain women bishops in 2013.

Dr Morgan said: “This is an historic occasion for the Church in Wales as well as being a hugely significant moment for Canon Joanna. It is marvellous that it is possible for us to appoint women as well as men to all three orders of ministry and to regard that as now being the norm. What matters is not gender but suitability, character, gifts and that was why Joanna was elected as bishop.”



Consecration of first female Bishop in Wales

Canon Jo, who was previously Rector of Glan Ithon, in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon, said: “While being made Bishop is awe inspiring, I am very much looking forward to joining the people of St Davids diocese as we seek to live out and share our faith in the Risen Christ.”

Following her consecration, Bishop Joanna will be enthroned at St Davids Cathedral on 11 February. Wales joins a growing list of Anglican provinces to have appointed female clergy to the episcopate.

Speaking after the announcement was made last year, Archbishop Morgan said: “This is an

historic moment for the church in Wales as it hasn't been possible to elect a woman bishop until now. But what is really important to stress is that Joanna wasn't elected because she was a woman but because she was deemed to be the best person to be a bishop. She has considerable gifts – she is an excellent preacher and communicator, can relate to all sections of the community, is a warm, charismatic, caring priest and someone who is full of joy.”

The Revd Canon Joanna Penberthy was born in Swansea and grew up in Cardiff. She was educated at Cardiff High School and graduated from Newnham College, Cambridge. She trained for the ministry St John's College, Nottingham and Cranmer Hall, Durham. She was made a deaconess in 1984, ordained as a Deacon in 1987 and was among the first women ordained as priests in Wales in 1997. She is married to the Revd Adrian Penberthy and they have four grown-up children and one grandchild. Her interests include quantum physics – she is currently studying for a doctorate – reading, and bird-watching.

C of E needs to undergo a major cultural shift states synod report

The Church of England needs to undergo a major "culture shift" to mobilise lay members to spread the gospel in their everyday lives, a new report being presented to members of the General Synod argues.

The report, entitled "Setting God's People Free", calls for Christians to be equipped to live out their faith in every sphere - from the factory or office, to the gym or shop - to help increase numbers of Christians and their influence in all areas of life.

Laity and clergy should view themselves as equal partners in the task of evangelising the nation, it insists. The paper is a key element of the lay leadership strand of Renewal and Reform, an initiative from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, to help grow the Church.

The report is among papers being circulated to members of the Church of England's General Synod which meets in Westminster next month. The first circulation of papers also includes further updates on the process of simplification of

Church regulations. There is also material on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and a background paper on clergy risk assessment regulations which will be debated on Thursday February 16.

Fr Paul Cartwright, Parish Priest of St Peter the Apostle and St John the Baptist, Barnsley, Chaplain to Further and Higher Education and member of General Synod writes a clergy response to the paper.

Mark Russell, Chief Executive of Church Army and a member of the Archbishops' Council, speaks about why a change in culture is essential for church renewal.

The first circulation of papers is available here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/general-synod/agendas-and-papers/february-2017-group-of-sessions.aspx>

A second circulation of papers will be published on Friday, January 27.

The synod timetable is available here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media/3791672/february-2017-synod-timetable-with-timings-amended.pdf>

The General Synod will meet at the Assembly Hall, Church House, 27 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London from 3pm on Monday, February 13 to 5.15pm on Thursday, 16 February.

Papal nuncio to Britain is transferred to Rome

Archbishop Antonio Mennini, the papal nuncio to Great Britain, is to be transferred to Rome to serve in the Secretariat of State, the department responsible for foreign relations.

Archbishop Mennini, who has been nuncio to Britain for six years, will “serve the Holy Father with particular reference to the State of Italy”, Cardinal Vincent Nichols said in a statement. “In these matters Archbishop Mennini has unique experience and knowledge which is much appreciated by the Holy See,” he added.

The 69-year-old Italian previously served as nuncio to Russia from 2002 to 2010. During this period the Holy See and Russia established full diplomatic relations.

Archbishop Mennini is known in Italy for serving as a go-between with the Red Brigades, a left-wing paramilitary group, during their kidnapping of prime minister Aldo Moro. After his secret mission the prime minister was murdered. His father, Luigi, served as managing director of the Vatican Bank. One of his 13 siblings, Pietro, is a former chief prosecutor of the city of Chieti.

Cardinal Nichols said: “On behalf of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, and in the name of the entire Catholic community, I express our warmest thanks to His Excellency for the service he has given to the Church in our countries. He has been most attentive and sensitive to our needs and situation, while always representing the Holy Father with precision and clarity and sharing insights into the needs of the Universal Church.

“His presence amongst us bishops has always been that of a brother and we have never failed to appreciate his kindness and hospitality.

“We now wish him well in his new appointment to which he will bring insight and wisdom. We assure him of our prayers for this mission and for his own health and well-being.”

Archbishop Philip Tartaglia of Glasgow said: “On behalf of the Bishops’ Conference of Scotland, I congratulate him on his appointment and thank him for the attentive concern he has shown for the Catholic Church in Scotland on his many visits to our country. He has always been a welcome guest in Scotland and his wise counsel has been valued by the Scottish bishops.

“I thank His Excellency for the sensitive and helpful way he has fulfilled his role as the representative of the Holy Father to our Bishops’ Conference and to the Catholic Church in Scotland, and for his readiness to convey the specific reality of the Catholic Church in Scotland to the Holy See. On behalf of the Bishops’ Conference of Scotland and of the entire Catholic community, I assure him of our prayers as he embarks on his new mission.”

News briefs

+++ Church of Ireland Chaplain to the Curragh - A large gathering of friends, family, parishioners and guests joined Rev Fran Grasham in St Brigid’s Cathedral, Kildare on the

evening of 19 January. The occasion was a Service of Introduction for her as an assistant Priest to the Newbridge and Kildare Unions. The Service was led by Bishop Pat Storey, who also preached. As well as serving as a Non-Stipendiary-Minister (1½ days a week across the Kildare and Newbridge Group of Parishes) Rev Fran will also serve as a Church of Ireland Chaplain to the Curragh for ½ a day a week. She will be based in the Curragh in the DFTC. Originally a primary school teacher she was previously a priest in the Church of England. Fran is married to Steve (CIYD Youth Ministry Development Officer for the South of Ireland). They have two children - Katherine (23) and Joseph (20). Clergy from the dioceses of Meath and Kildare and beyond were present to welcome and support Rev Fran, as were senior members of the Defence Forces. She was joined at the Service by her husband Steve, as well as family and friends from England. Steve works with the Church of Ireland Youth Department as Youth Ministry Development Officer (Southern Region).

+++ Rector of Ballynure instituted - The institution of the Rev Jonny Campbell-Smyth as rector of the United Parish of Ballynure and

Ballyeaston, Ballyclare, took place on Tuesday January 17 in St John's Parish Church. Jonny comes to Ballyclare from the Parish of Jordanstown where he was curate assistant. Brought up in Lisburn, he attended St Paul's Parish and later Lisburn Cathedral. He worked as Head of IT with a Northern Ireland-wide clothing firm, and his work took him to Coleraine where he worshipped in St Patrick's Parish. He was among the first intake on the new MTh course at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute. Jonny was ordained a Deacon in September 2011 and did his internship in Holy Trinity Parish, Portrush. He served his first curacy in his home church of St Patrick's, Coleraine, and his second curacy in St Patrick's, Jordanstown. Jonny is married to Alison and they have two sons, Josh and Nathan. He said the family had been looking forward to the move to Ballyclare.

+++ Thinking Big - issue 7 of [#theconnexion](#) magazine is out now - inspiring stories from The Methodist Church. Read it online here: <http://ow.ly/69pj307Opx2> Sign up to receive it for free* here: <http://bit.ly/the-connexion> (*UK only)

+++ The Church of Ireland General Synod 2017 - will take place in the South Court Hotel,

Limerick, between Thursday 4th to Saturday 6th May 2017. There will be a twitter feed using the hashtag #coigs. This hashtag will also be used for Facebook and Instagram as well as other social media outlets.

+++ Global Outreach Day - 27th May 2017 is Global Outreach Day. Imagine thousands of Christians across the island of Ireland on one day, sharing the story of Jesus Christ with those closest to them. The vision of Global Outreach Day is to see the diverse body of Christ from across denominations, across traditions and across backgrounds, scattering throughout their local communities on one day to share how Christ has changed our lives. Website: ireland.globaloutreachday.com

+++ Short & Easy choral course at Balliol College Oxford - Choral Holidays are running a course at Balliol College Oxford called Short & Easy aimed at getting choral singers to understand what it feels like to sing church music with freedom, real personal expression and love rather than just the dynamics written on the page. All levels are welcome. The music will be deliberately simple to enable everyone to be free of worries about getting the notes right. See -

www.choralholidays.com/balliol

+++ New moderator of the Church of South India_- The bishop of Madhya Kerala, Thomas Oommen, has been chosen to be the new moderator of the [Church of South India](#). He was elected by an overwhelming majority at the CSI Synod meeting at Kottayam in the state of Kerala. Thomas had been the deputy moderator. He succeeds Bishop Govada Dyvasiriyvadam who is stepping down after three years in office.

News links to reports on faith, politics and education

Jeyes Fluid in children's baths' - Inquiry report highlights abuse at children's homes in Northern Ireland

The Journal

The greatest number of complaints relate to four Catholic-run homes.

<http://www.thejournal.ie/northern-ireland-childrens-homes-abuse-3196344-Jan2017/>

Ireland Sinn Fein may be preparing to let the assembly go

Irish News

Alex Kane writes

<http://www.irishnews.com/opinion/columnists/2017/01/20/news/alex-kane-sinn-fein-may-be-preparing-to-let-the-assembly-go-892290/?utm>

Govt should see the real value of faith schools

The Irish Catholic

These would potentially be hit hardest by a change in admissions policy because even now, a minority of children in many **Church of Ireland** schools ...

<http://www.irishcatholic.ie/article/govt-should-see-real-value-faith-schools>

Fine Gael accused of attack on Catholic parish schools

The Irish Catholic

Fine Gael have been accused of attacking **parish**-owned schools in a bid to distract from Government failures to tackle overcrowding in **Ireland's** ...

<http://irishcatholic.ie/article/fine-gael-accused-attack-catholic-parish-schools>

Bishops' absence adds to low-key unity celebrations in Ireland

The Irish Catholic

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity began yesterday (Wednesday) with an official inauguration service at the **Church of Ireland** parish in Taney in ...

<http://www.irishcatholic.ie/article/bishops%E2%80%99-absence-adds-low-key-unity-celebrations-ireland>

Guard/Exp/Mail/

Reports that Gloucester Cathedral has removed a clip from its Facebook page of the Muslim call to prayer being recited within its precincts after criticism for allowing the event to take place. The call to prayer took place in the cathedral's chapter house as part of the launch of a multi faith art exhibition and was well received by those who attended, the Guardian reports. A spokeswoman said the vast majority of the comments received about the event were positive but they took the decision to remove the Facebook post because a small number of comments were inappropriate. Stephen Lake, the Dean of Gloucester, is quoted.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jan/19/gloucester-cathedral-removes-muslim-prayer-clip-from-facebook-page>

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/756360/islamic-call-to-prayer-historic-british-gloucester-cathedral-outrage>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4136250/Gloucester-Cathedral-remove-video-Imam-complaints.html>

Exp

Reports that an MP has alleged in the House of Commons that prisoners are pretending to 'find God' in jail so they stand a better chance of being

released on parole. David Nuttall (Bury North) asked Dame Caroline Spelman, the Second Estates Commissioner, what measures are in place to monitor prisoners' commitment to the Christian faith after their release from prison. Dame Caroline told him that the 'the primary aim is not to check ex-offenders, there is a statutory process for that not a church process, but to encourage whatever degree of personal faith, however small or doubtful, (which) may possibly provide a resource to help that offender go straight."

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/756357/Prisoners-find-GOD-to-get-freed-parole-warns-MP>

Sun/Mail Online//Premier/Blackpool Gazette

Further coverage of the publication of a [briefing paper](#) on shale gas and fracking from the Mission and Public Affairs Council and the Environment Working Group of the Church of England. The paper assesses shale gas and fracking as they relate to local communities, the environment, UK energy policy and the UK's commitment to carbon reduction targets under the COP21 agreement.

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2654615/church-of-england-declares-fracking-could-be-morally-acceptable-paving-the-way-for-more-test-sites/>

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-4136874/Fracking-gets-conditional-endorsement-Church-England-advisers-Kemp.html?](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-4136874/Fracking-gets-conditional-endorsement-Church-England-advisers-Kemp.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

[ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-4136874/Fracking-gets-conditional-endorsement-Church-England-advisers-Kemp.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

<http://www.premier.org.uk/News/UK/Church-of-England-gives-cautious-support-to-fracking>

<http://www.blackpoolgazette.co.uk/news/business/church-fracking-claim-sparks-online-war-1-8343159>

Comment

Mail: Ephraim Hardcastle asks, Will the Accession Declaration be changed for Prince Charles after comments by the Archbishop of Canterbury?

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-4138762/Will-Accession-Declaration-changed-Prince-Charles.html>

Christian Today: It's been 500 Years since the Reformation. Now is the time we admit we need each other.