



Secretary General of ACC: Gafcon intentionally “ignorant” of polity



The Secretary General of the Anglican Communion issued a rebuke to Gafcon in his address to the Anglican Consultative Council, John Chilton writes in Episcopal Cafe

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The Rt. Rev. Dr. Josiah Idowu-Fearon delivered his report Monday at ACC17HongKong. He spoke especially of deliberate ignorance of the polity of the Anglican Communion, pointing out the Communion's polity is, in particular, different from the polity of the Roman Catholic Church.

Paul Handley of The Church Times reported that Dr Idowu-Fearon asked directly: "How should we respond to GAFCON?" — the Global Anglican Fellowship of conservative Provinces that has been acting increasingly independently in recent years, after a split over sexuality. "How do we handle this to prevent a schism in our Communion?"

He spoke of "deliberate ignorance": "When you see a Primate, when you see a bishop, who knows that this is what it means to be an Anglican Church . . . and he pretends that he doesn't, that's very frustrating."

There was a more general lack of understanding, too, since Anglicanism was not even taught in many theological colleges and seminaries around the world, he said. "Where it is taught, it is not Anglicanism: it is self-made Anglicanism.

"When you get to some of them you think — and pardon me if some people are offended by this — you would think we are a Roman Church, where decisions are taken and passed down.

"There are no debates, and, where you have debates, they are not well informed. This is a major problem."

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The Church of Ireland representatives at ACC17 in Hong Kong with the Archbishop of Canterbury

He later clarified that he had not intended to denigrate the Roman Catholic Church, and had apologised to the Vatican representative at the ACC.

Dr Idowu-Fearon also spoke of the way in which some had snubbed [the Archbishop of Canterbury](#), who invites all new Primates to stay at Lambeth Palace. “It is disheartening to hear a Primate give one excuse or other to avoid this hospitality.”

For a solution, he cited the example of the Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion (EFAC), which, in the 1960s, had deliberated breaking away to form an independent Evangelical Church, but had been dissuaded by the late Revd Dr John Stott.

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"If GAFCON would be just that kind of movement, it should be embraced."

He was happy to echo Archbishop Welby's response to the last GAFCON meeting in June 2018: "In as much as GAFCON is committed to renewal and growth, what is there



The Faithcast podcast is back this week after a short Easter break. This week's episode will feature Mary Johnston, Specialist in Counselling (Marriage and Relationships) with ACCOR Ireland about the common problem areas in relationships for which couples attend counselling.

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that could be criticised? If that is what GAFCON is about, then it is right for the Communion to welcome it as an influence for good and for the Kingdom.

“The difficulty arises when GAFCON involves itself in the structures of the Communion in a way that caused confusion and potential division.”

The Anglican polity, he said, involved consultation between bishops, clergy, and laity. “But I’m sharing with you that, in a good number of our provinces and dioceses, particularly in the Global South, there are no debates.

As well as duplicate structures, Dr Idowu-Fearon “had difficulty” with calls to invite, as full participants to the Lambeth Conference, people “who are clearly not members of the Communion”, and for calls to boycott the conference because of the disagreements with other Provinces.



The Moderator was in Craigavon earlier this week. He reported that he saw, “ A growing Church considering building plans! Lachlan Webster is having an outstanding ministry in the place.”

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In another part of his address, Dr Idowu-Fearon also castigated Provinces that were able to contribute to the Communion's finances, but were being "financially irresponsible". Nearly two-thirds of the Communion's budget comes from just two Provinces: England (41 per cent), and the United States (22 per cent).

Dr Idowu-Fearon did not name any Provinces, and the published ACC budget does not distinguish between Provinces that are unable to pay, and those that are unwilling. No contribution, however, has been received, since 2014, from Congo, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uganda, and West Africa.

The secretary-general ended by affirming that exciting things were happening in the Communion, and spoke of seeing many converts in his travels. "The Spirit of the Lord is moving more because of our crisis — but I believe he will move the more if we can focus on discipleship."

ACNA, whose Archbishop is the current chair of Gafcon, has been invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury to attend Lambeth 2020.

\$500,000 allocation from Pope's charity for mexican migrants

Peter's Pence, a global charitable fund overseen by Pope Francis, will support migrants in limbo in Mexico, the charity has announced.

"Men and women, often with young children, flee poverty and violence, hoping for a better future in the United States," said the Peter's Pence website. "However, the U.S. border remains closed to them."

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“All these people were stranded, unable to enter the United States, without a home or livelihood,” the announcement continued. “The Catholic Church hosts thousands of them in the hotels within dioceses or religious congregations, providing basic necessities, from housing to clothing.”

A \$500,000 allocation will go to 27 projects in 16 dioceses and religious congregations who are seeking to provide housing, food and basic necessities to the migrants.

The Peter’s Pence website said there were six migrant caravans, totaling 75,000 people, that entered Mexico, as did other groups. Most of these people came from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

Fleeing violence or poverty or seeking a better life, migrants are sometimes encouraged by human traffickers’ false promises of jobs in the U.S. Some take out loans to pay for the trip, which then may lead to retaliation against families if unpaid. The trips can be dangerous, with sexual assault of women a common danger.

“Thanks to these projects, and thanks to Christian charity and solidarity, the Mexican Bishops hope to be able to continue helping our migrant brothers and sisters,” the Peter’s Pence website said.

According to Peter’s Pence media coverage of the migrant emergency has been decreasing, leading to a decrease in aid to migrants by the government and private individuals.

The collection for the papal charity generally takes place June 29 or the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul.

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Belfast parish to celebrate 100 years of worship and witness

St Bartholomew's Parish, Stranmillis, will be celebrating 100 years of worship and witness with a series of events over the weekend of May 10-12.

It was on April 27 1919, that St Bartholomew's District Church received full parochial status, becoming the Parish of St Bartholomew, Stranmillis.

The centenary celebrations begin with a *Parish Supper* on Friday May 10 in the Canon Lindsay Hall, named after the first rector of the Parish, the Rev Herbert O Lindsay, who served as rector until 1958. The supper takes place at 7.30pm, and booking is required.

The first rector of St Bartholomew's, Stranmills, was The Rev Herbert Lindsay. The late Bishop William McCappin also served as rector, as did the former Dean of Connor, Very Rev B Moller and Canon Hubert Gough. They also provided a chaplaincy service to Stranmillis Teacher Training College which was within the parish area.

The parish has a tradition of good Anglican Choral music.

On Saturday May 11 there will be a *Photographic and Artefact Exhibition* in Canon Lindsay Hall open from 11am until 5pm. Refreshments will be available.

On Sunday May 12 the rector, the Rev Canon Kevin Graham will preside over a Thanksgiving Eucharist at 10.30am, and at Choral Evensong at 3.30, the parish welcomes The Most Rev Dr Richard Clarke, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, as guest preacher.

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Until late in the 19th century, the Stranmillis Road was a country road stretching to the River Lagan and the first lock on its canal.

By the turn of the century there were many new streets. The area was within the parish of St. Thomas and in 1906 a lease was taken on a hall in which local church activities could then be held.

Later, a District Church was built and was dedicated by the Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore, on Easter Day 1913.

In 1919 the new parish of St Bartholomew was created, incorporating areas from the parishes of St Thomas and Malone. The Rev Lindsay had been in charge of the new parish since its inception, having been curate since 1913.

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In 1925 the lease of a two-acre site at Mount Pleasant was purchased. The foundation stone was laid on February 9 1929, and the Church was consecrated on September 13 1930.

The centenary celebrations will give thanks for all those who have given witness to Christ in this place for these many years and pray for God's blessings for the future.

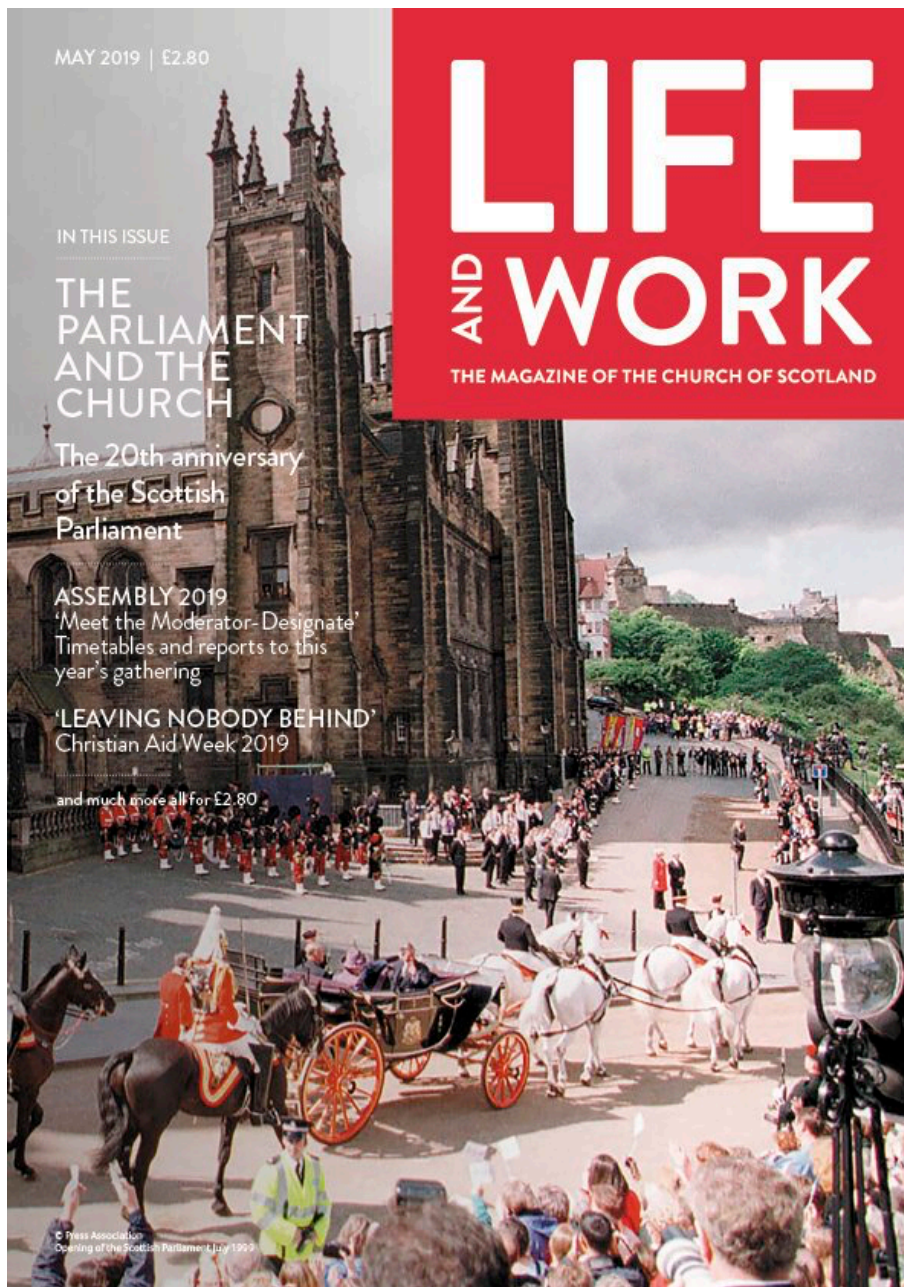
For further details and booking enquiries please contact stbartholomew@connor.anglican.org

News briefs

+++Dublin institution - this evening (Wednesday) in St Columba's church, Swords. the Archbishop of Dublin will institute the Revd Neal Phair as the new Rector of Swords, Donabate and Kilsallaghan. Mr Phair has been Rector of Ballybay, Mucknoe and Clontibret in the Diocese of Clogher since 2014 and brings a wealth of experience to his new post. Prior to his current incumbency, he ministered in Oxford Diocese, was chaplain to the Dublin Institute of Technology, Rector of Ballintoy, Dunseverick & St Thomas', Rathlin Island, in the Diocese of Connor where he was ordained in 2002 for the curacy of Kilconriola & Ballyclug. (Ballymena). Before training for ordination, in the Church of Ireland Theological College, he was a teacher and taught in Dublin in St Columba's College, Rathdown School and the King's Hospital among others.

+++Recent C of I appointments - The Revd Capt Colin Taylor has been instituted as Incumbent of the Dromara & Garvaghy group of parishes in the Diocese of Dromore. He has been serving in the parish since 2014, initially as Evangelist in Charge and then as Diocesan Curate following churchnewsireland@gmail.org

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Out now - the May 2019 of Life and Work including: Reflections on the 20th anniversary of the Scottish Parliament; General Assembly 2019; Heart and Soul preview; Christian Aid Week; 50 years of the Housing and Loan Fund, and much more.

his ordination to the priesthood in 2016. The Revd Jeremy Mould, curate of Belvoir Parish, Belfast, in the Diocese of Down and Dromore, has been appointed as Incumbent of the parish of Templepatrick & Donegore, in the Diocese of Connor. The Right Reverend Darren McCartney has been appointed Incumbent of the parish of Clonallon & Warrenpoint with Kilbroney in the Diocese of Dromore. Since 2012 he has been Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of the Arctic. He was ordained in the Diocese of the Arctic in 2003, ministering in Pangnirtung before returning to Ireland

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in 2006 on his appointment as curate in Carrickfergus, in the Diocese of Connor. He was appointed Rector of Knocknamuckley in 2009 and served there until 2012. Most recently the Bishop of Clogher has announced the appointments of Canon Ian Berry, Rector of Monaghan, as Chancellor and Canon Kyle Hanlon, Rector of Fivemiletown, as the Precentor of the cathedral chapters of St Macartan, Clogher, and St Macartin, Enniskillen.

+++Archbishop of Dublin's engagements - This afternoon (Tuesday) the Archbishop of Dublin, Most Rev Dr M Jackson, will participate in an Interfaith Blessing of Peace Park Garden. In the evening, at 6pm, he will join the Bishop of Meath & Kildare in Dunboyne parish to officiate at the presentation of certificates following the conclusion of the Training for Lay People as Diocesan Pastoral Assistants in Dublin & Glendalough and Meath & Kildare.

+++Music in Calry - The first concert of the 2019 Music in Calary series will take place at 8 pm on Friday in Calary parish church, Co. Wicklow, in association with Bray Jazz Festival. Dowry, the stage name of Ena Brennan, is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, arranger and songwriter whose music combines elements of experimental folk, ambient instrumental, contemporary classical, Irish traditional and country music to name a few. She has worked in Dublin with Bell X1 and Lisa Hannigan, the Téada Orchestra and New Dublin Voices. Tickets for this concert, which are €15 and €12 for concessions, can be purchased through the Bray Jazz Festival site: www.brayjazz.com/dowry

+++Food for thought - "As a woman in Ireland, you are likely to be paid less than your male counterpart, more likely

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to face sexual violence and harassment and continue to have the responsibility of being the primary care-giver.”

Anne O’Leary, CEO, Vodafone Ireland

+++Your prayers have been requested for - Margaret Robertson – deaconess in Elmwood Presbyterian Church, Lisburn (Minster - Rev Andrew Thompson) • Give thanks for all who have worked so hard in the various organisations over the winter months. Pray that the seeds sown will bear fruit. • Pray for the 'On the Move' programme a Scripture Union worker is carrying out in local schools with the help of Elmwood and other local churches. Pray that the children will come to understand how much God loves them and that he will be with them as they prepare to move to secondary schools in September. • Pray for all the preparations for the summer holiday Bible club and Switch for teens.

Rev Dr. Maurice Elliott (CITI Director) [Church of Ireland Theological Institute](#), has arrived safely in Kitwe, Zambia for a 7-day visit to St John's Theological Seminary and with the Scotts. Pray that he will be a source of wisdom and encouragement to the seminary staff and students and that as he builds relationships there will be the opportunity to advise on course content, and developing an accredited course for future Church leaders. CMSI expresses grateful thanks to the St Augustine's Foundation for supporting this placement.

Today in Christian history

April 1, 1548: Parliament orders the publication of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Though Thomas Cranmer is rightly credited with the final form of the BCP, he worked

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with a committee of scholars, including Reformer Martin Bucer, to shape his famous liturgy.

April 1, 1745: David Brainerd begins his missionary work among the Native Americans of New Jersey, having previously worked in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. The New Jersey natives showed more interest than most, but Brainerd died of tuberculosis only two years into his work there. Still, his diary, published by Jonathan Edwards, became a major force in promoting missions work, inspiring missionaries like William Carey, Henry Martyn, and Thomas Coke.

News Links

The Free Presbyterian Church - which Ian Paisley founded two decades before the DUP - fears that the party is moving beyond its religious roots. Some in the church want to discipline church members involved in choosing the DUP's first openly gay candidate.

<https://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/politics/dup-free-presbyterian-tension-as-party-s-gay-candidate-choice-moves-it-further-from-church-roots-1-8908790>

[Mike Nesbitt: If Lyra's murder isn't to be another death in vain, we need a return to political stability](#)

Belfast Telegraph

I was reminded of what the former **Church of Ireland** Primate had said when I heard that the illegal Easter Monday parade planned for ...

[Lives of two men were 'torn apart' after they were raped as teens by alleged IRA man](#)

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Irish Mirror

Our Irish Mirror Sports Page - which brings you all your Irish and UK sports **news** - can be found here. You can also check out our Irish Mirror GAA ...

[Calls for same-sex marriage in NI as part of Lyra's legacy RTE.ie](#)

Friends of Lyra McKee are calling for her legacy to be the introduction of same-sex marriage in Northern **Ireland**. Talking to Marian Finucane, journalist ...

[Same-sex marriage in Northern Ireland 'best memorial' to Lyra McKee](#)

PinkNews

Same-sex marriage should be introduced in Northern **Ireland** in tribute to ... for change within the **churches**—and in particular, the Catholic **Church**.” ...

[Concert Planner: 29 April–5 May 2019](#)

The Journal of Music

3.5.19 – Chamber Choir Ireland @ Cork International Choral Festival, St Fin ... 4.5.19 – Nicole Lizee's Spielberg Études, St Peter's **Church of Ireland** ...

[Tributes paid to Steven Greer](#)

Newtown Abbey Times

Mourners gathered at St Brigid's **Church of Ireland** in Glengormley to pay their respects to Newtownabbey man, Steven Greer. Steven, who celebrated ...

[Ardagh gets boost with two new information plaques](#)

Longford Leader

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The plaques are located at St Patrick's **Church of Ireland** and at the nearby ancient ruin of St Mel's **Church**. A joint blessing of the plaques will be ...

[Dromod furniture company secures three international commissions](#)

Leitrim Observer

Dromod-based **church** furniture manufacturing company ICS Furniture, over ... This includes a basilica and 17 cathedrals across **Ireland** and the UK, ...

[Two former Bishops of Lincoln failed to act on abuse allegations](#)

BBC News

The **Church of England's** Past Cases Review was announced in 2007 but Lincolnshire Police was not told about the 53 names - some, but not all of ...

[Church of England officials 'turned blind eye' to child abuse claims](#)

Premier

Clergy and staff from a **Church of England** Diocese were referred to police in 2015 after church leaders had allegedly "turned a blind eye" to claims of ...

[Prepare for "difficult and shocking things" warns Bishop of Grantham over Panorama historic abuse ...](#) - Stamford

Mercury

[Bishop calls for better rural strategy to protect rural schools from closing](#)

Premier

The **Church of England's** lead bishop for education, Stephen Conway, said there needs to be a cross-Government rural strategy, following a summit ...

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[ACC-17: Welby bangs the gong for discipleship](#)

Church Times

At a **press** conference the previous day, he spoke of the way in which the initiative ... The **Church of England** was “catching up at last”, he said, with the ...

[Communion must deal with 'ignorance' and possible schism, Secretary General tells ACC](#) - Episcopal News Service

[Rev provides £1000 'perfect' wedding for couple struggling to meet costs](#)

Premier

The vicar who offered a complete church wedding for a total cost of just ... Rev Mike Smith previously told Premier's **News** Hour where the inspiration to ... It was about that time the **Church of England** decided to put a massive hike on ...

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