



Prince Charles' visit a challenge to dissident republicans' says Archbishop Eamon Martin

The leader of Ireland's Roman Catholics has spoken out strongly against dissident republicans who continue to target police more than two decades after the Good Friday Agreement

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The primate of all-Ireland Archbishop Eamon Martin who, together with his Church of Ireland counterpart Richard Clarke, hosted Prince Charles when he visited the ecclesiastical capital of Armagh, said the prince's presence sent a message to dissident Republican's that society was changing and that the country wants to move on

The Archbishops hosted Prince Charles as part of a royal tour straddling both sides of the Irish border.

Last month, renegade group the New IRA shot journalist Lyra McKee dead during disturbances in Derry when rioters were attacking police.

On Wednesday, Prince Charles was serenaded with words of welcome and traditional music from schoolchildren as he met groups inside St Patrick's Catholic Cathedral.

Archbishop Martin said: "I think today's visit lets people know that there are many people in the community, there are many people in this society, who want to move on and who want to continue to build bridges for the future."

The leader of Ireland's Catholics has spoken out strongly against dissident republicans who continue to target police more than two decades after the Good Friday Agreement.

The archbishop said: "There are some people here who would drag us back.

"We are trying to model something here, Archbishop Richard and I, and say to people, look, you have permission, we have also just last week been with our political leaders and have given them the same message, that the community wants you to take risks for reconciliation



Prince Charles visited Belfast Synagogue where he unveiled two stained glass windows. L to R - HM Lieutenant for Belfast, Chief Rabbi and HRH The Prince of Wales

and peace and if you do take difficult steps then we will be behind you."

Archbishop Martin said: "Risk is about stepping out and leadership, and every time we have done it people have come with us.

"You may have a few people who disagree but ultimately someone has to lead forward and that is the message that we have been giving to our political leaders, to show leadership, courageous and compassionate leadership for the future."

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The Prince of Wales met pupils at St Patrick's Grammar School beside the cathedral who are taking part in a programme run by his charity The Prince's Trust.

The group of pupils have all taken part in the Achieve programme, which is a personal development course for 11 to 19-year-olds.

The programme provides a practical approach to learning and supports young people to build their confidence and fulfil their potential.

Pupil Josh McCausland said: "I love everything about the Achieve programme, you get to go outside and it's less formal than the other classes.

"I love how welcoming it is and it has helped me interact with other people. It's the best GCSE choice I made."

Mark Dougan, Northern Ireland director at The Prince's Trust, said it was an honour to welcome the organisation's president.

He added: "We're incredibly proud of their achievements and of the thousands of young people that The Prince's Trust has supported throughout Northern Ireland over the past year.

"Through partnering with local schools like St Patrick's Grammar School, we look forward to helping many more young people to unleash their talent and reach their full potential."

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C of I Youth Department launches Young Leaders in Ministry Fund



National Youth Officer Simon Henry, Archbishop Richard Clarke, Bishop Pat Storey and Steve Grasham, Youth Ministry Development Officer (Southern Region) promoting the Young Leaders in Ministry Fund at the 2019 General Synod.

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To celebrate the 150th anniversary of Disestablishment and to support the Church's ministry in the future, the Church of Ireland Youth Department – with support from the Priorities Fund and the Fabric and Development Fund – has created a Young Leaders In Ministry Fund.

This fund will provide individual young people with small, but significant, bursaries to enable them to apply for teams, training and placements that might otherwise have been financially challenging. This is an Ireland-wide project that will hopefully support over 100 people per year over a potential period of three years and beyond. Applicants will need to demonstrate their current involvement in ministry in the Church of Ireland.

Bishop Pat Storey commented: 'As President of CIYD, I am delighted with the new opportunities that this Young Leaders in Ministry Fund will provide. Young people will be enabled to seek new adventures and fresh challenges which they could not otherwise do. All applications will be assessed for their potential contribution to church life and the individual's own faith journey. We are very grateful to the Priorities Fund and the Fabric and Development Fund for their support and vision for this new project.'

Application forms are available online at www.ciyd.org and the first closing date for applications is Saturday, 15th June 2019.

For any further information, please email the National Youth Officer, Simon Henry: simon@ciyd.org

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Anglican Church of Nigeria is purging gay priests

Various news sites are reporting that four more priests in the Anglican Church of Nigeria have been dismissed for “homosexual practices.”

Their dismissal and defrocking follows similar actions against two other priests less than two weeks ago, according to WithinNigeria.com and others.

Their bishops’ letters were published by the paper, and included strong language warning people against associating with them, “as such can drag the image of the Church into the mud.”

The BBC, reporting the story in Pidgin, notes that the Nigerian Anglican Church has asked for “special status” to maintain its hard line against LGBTQ persons. The BBC links on to a story it ran late last year which found that Nigeria is responsible for the third largest group of asylum claims in the UK from people leaving their homeland because of anti-LGBTQ discrimination and danger.

The Primate of the Anglican Church of Nigeria, the Most Revd Nicholas Okoh, has railed against the inclusion of LGBTQ Anglican bishops in gatherings such as the Lambeth Conference, writing in his March letter to GAFCON that ...faithful Anglican bishops from North and South America are excluded, while those who tear the fabric of the Communion by word and deed are welcomed.

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Okoh recently concluded his term at the Chairman of the GAFCON Primates Council, and is succeeded in the position by Archbishop Foley Beach of ACNA, who has been invited to Lambeth as an observer.

On the other side of the story, the Revd Jide Macaulay is a gay activist and Anglican who founded the House of Rainbow church center in Nigeria, but was forced to leave the country after public backlash and death threats. He continues to support the LGBTQ church community in Nigeria, and reestablished the House of Rainbow in London, where, among other services, it offers counsel and support to LGBTIQ asylum seekers.

Macaulay is to be ordained a priest in the Church of England at the end of June.

Bishop Harold Miller joins Tearfund's Rubbish Campaign to challenge plastic pollution

New research published by Tearfund has found that someone dies every 30 seconds due to plastic pollution.

Bishop Harold Miller, a Tearfund UK ambassador and board member, is highlighting the effects of plastic on the world's poor by joining the 'Rubbish Campaign' and going plastic-free.

The bishop was at Tearfund's Theological Committee meeting when he had a *eureka* moment: "Someone said they had been trying to reduce their use of plastic. I



wondered if it was possible to get back to Belfast from London without using any. I found it impossible to find anything not wrapped in plastic! Suddenly I saw it in the same way as I

saw smoking when I was a teenager. People smoked on buses, planes, cafes...I thought it was completely normal, until it was banned and saw it with different eyes. Poor waste management is every bit as dangerous as smoking to the life of the planet, to the lives of people. It's dangerous to us."

Bishop Harold's comments come after a new report by Tearfund has revealed for the first time that one person is dying every 30 seconds in developing countries from diseases and illnesses caused by plastic pollution and uncollected rubbish dumped or burnt near homes. It found that each year between 400,000 and a million people (at the upper end one person every 30 seconds) are dying in developing countries from illnesses and diseases like diarrhoea, malaria and cancers caused by living near uncollected waste and plastic pollution.

The new figures were released earlier this month in a report called *No Time to Waste: Tackling the Plastic Pollution Crisis Before It's Too Late* by international relief and development

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agency Tearfund, in collaboration with conservation charity Fauna & Flora International (FFI), the Institute of Development Studies and waste management charity WasteAid.

The report calls on multinational companies to fundamentally change their business models by committing to reporting the number of single-use plastic items they distribute in developing countries by 2020, and halving this by 2025.

Ruth Koch, NI Director at Tearfund said: “We are calling for urgent action from four multinationals – Coca-Cola, Nestlé, PepsiCo and Unilever. They sell billions of products in single-use plastic packaging in countries where waste isn’t collected, in the full knowledge that people will have no choice but to burn it, discard it in waterways or live among it. The CEOs running these multinationals can no longer ignore the human cost of single-use plastic – fundamental changes to business models are urgently required. There is no time to waste.”

Bishop Harold adds that, “The Christian faith is about looking out for our neighbour. It is about sacrifice and what appears to be a tougher way, but a better way. It is a challenge to individualism, a return to the way of thinking that used to inhabit this society in Ireland. I grew up in a working-class area of Belfast and everybody was there for each other: if someone didn’t have enough money, somebody would help them out. When my mother was old, neighbours would bring round soup for her every lunchtime. It was part of what it was to live in community. When we live as part of a global community, we are able to consider how

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our actions affect others.” He continues, “Companies should promote a circular economy. Things should be reused, and people’s skills should be developed: *that* is good business.”

Aid and development charity Tearfund, is also asking supporters to take on personal challenges by giving up an item of single-use plastic for 40 days: the time it takes to form a habit. “The campaign is an opportunity to make a change. Do something specific”, Bishop Harold advises. He also encourages people to be vocal: “We started saying, ‘I intended to buy more but I couldn’t find anything that wasn’t wrapped in plastic’ while we were shopping. We got some funny looks!”

“All of these steps, individually and collectively, mean that we are following our biblical mandate to care for the world and its inhabitants. As St James writes in his epistle: faith without works is dead. If we are proclaiming words, and they aren’t lived out in the way in which we do community, love the poor and care for the planet, then they are only words. Let’s hold the lot together.”

The ‘Rubbish Campaign’ is now live at www.tearfund.org/rubbish.

Today in Christian history

May 23, 1430: French mystic and military hero Joan of Arc is captured by the Burgundians. They sold her to English, who tried her for sorcery and heresy.

May 23, 1498: Italian reformer Girolamo Savonarola, who preached aggressively against the corruption of northern

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Italy's church and society, is hanged for heresy and his body burned. After gaining fame for successful prophecies, he sought to establish an ascetic Christian community.

Scholars still debate whether he was a saintly prophet or a fanatic.

May 23, 1533: Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury, declares King Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine of Aragon null and void: a key moment in the English Reformation.

May 23, 1618: Bohemian Protestant rebels storm the castle of Catholic Hapsburg king Ferdinand II and throw his governors out the window (and into a pile of manure). This act touched off Europe's Thirty Years War, which ended in 1648 by the Treaty of Westphalia.

May 23, 1633: Though Huguenots (French Protestants) had tried to colonize "New France" (Canada) for three decades, France declares only Roman Catholics are allowed to permanently settle there.

News briefs

+++ 50 years of service to Christian Aid recognised -

Mrs Doreen Girvan, a parishioner of Ramoan & Culfeightrin Parish (Ballycastle), has been thanked for giving more than half a century of service to Christian Aid.

On Sunday May 19, Doreen was presented with a gift by Rosamond Bennett, Chief Executive of Christian Aid.

Doreen is a founding member of the Christian Aid Committee in Ballycastle which was formed in 1968, with representatives from all the churches taking part.

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Rosamond Bennett, Chief Executive of Christian Aid, presents a gift to Mrs Doreen Girvan who has been collecting for the charity during Christian Aid Week for 51 years. Also pictured are the Rev John Stanbridge, Presbyterian Minister, Ballycastle, and the Rev David Ferguson, Rector of Ramoan and Culfeightrin, joint chairs of the Ballycastle Christian Aid Committee, along with secretary Ms Dibbie McCaughan.

Since then Doreen has collected donations every year during Christian Aid week – 51 years in total.

The presentation took place at the annual Christian Aid Service in Ballycastle to mark the end of Christian Aid Week at which Mrs Bennett was the guest speaker.

+++ Environmental examples from the Church of Ireland
- In a two-minute video presented to the Church of Ireland's
churchnewsireland@gmail.org

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General Synod by the Church and Society Commission, three examples of parish environmental projects are highlighted:

- gardening in the grounds of St Mary's Church, Carlow (Diocese of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory);
- solar panels at the Dunluce Parish Centre, in Bushmills (Diocese of Connor); and
- keep-cups to reduce the use of plastic at Holywood Parish Church (Diocese of Down and Dromore).

The Church and Society Commission also organised two seminars over the last year, in Dublin and Belfast, to inspire and encourage parishes to take practical actions to reduce their carbon footprint and encourage biodiversity.

For more on the Commission's work, please click [here](#).

+++ Institution tonight - The Revd Catherine Simpson will be instituted as Incumbent of the Parish of Glencraig (Down diocese) tonight Thursday 23 May 2019 at 8.00 pm. Miss Simpson served as curate-asistant of Seapatrick Parish, Banbridge.

+++ Flower festival in Rosstown - St John's Parish Church, Rosstown, hosts a flower festival from Friday 24th to Sunday 26th May. Teas will be available in the Parish hall. Proceeds in aid of Parish funds and Bundoran R.N.L.I. Closing Service on Sunday 26th May at 7.00pm. Contact Irene on 083 8011388 or Margaret on 086 8376149.

+++ Country gospel concert - Mossley Parish looking forward to hosting Rev David McBeth and the Rev Jason

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Kernohan (rector of Eglantine Parish) for a country gospel concert on Friday May 31, 7/30 - 10.00 pm

This event is open to everyone and tickets are still available from the Parish Office. All proceeds raised will be used to support mission work in Nepal and Chile through the South American Mission Society in Chile and Tansen Hospital in Nepal.

+++Civic visit to Bishop by Mayor of Cork - On Tuesday, 21st May 2019, the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Mick Finn, made a courtesy call to the Bishop of Cork, Dr Paul Colton, and Mrs Susan Colton, at their home in Cork City. The Lord Mayor was accompanied by the CEO of Cork City Council, Ms Ann Doherty.



(l-r) Ms Ann Doherty (CEO of Cork City Council), the Lord Mayor, the Bishop, and Mrs Susan Colton.

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Due to building works on the Bishop's House in 2018 the visit was much later in the Lord Mayor's term of office. As ever, the visit provided an opportunity to discuss the latest news and developments in the life of the City and the Church of Ireland. The United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, particularly through the ministry of the Bishop of the Diocese, work in close partnership with the civic authorities in Cork City and Cork County alike.

+++ Pastoral care of people with cancer - Pastoral visitors from Christ Church Lisburn, St Paul's and Lisburn Cathedral gathered for the first time on May 21 for an evening with Vivienne Manley on the theme of pastoral care with those suffering from cancer.

Vivienne is currently chaplain at the Ulster and Royal Victoria hospitals in palliative care and maternity.

She explored many issues on the journey of cancer, shared her story of faith and gave guidelines on care and support. There was time to share and explore issues relevant to people's experiences.

One aspect Vivienne touched on was on being church to someone in hospital through presence, prayer, singing and generosity.

News Links May 23

[Charles kicks off symbolic 'game of two halves' in Northern Ireland
shropshirestar.com](http://shropshirestar.com)

GAA is predominantly played in schools run by the Catholic Church in Northern Ireland, while rugby had traditionally been associated with state ...

['Snow Patrol' lead recalls how his Derry 'Nana' helped guide his life](#)

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Derry Journal

She would have the local Catholic priest around to the house for a cup of tea as well as the **Church of Ireland** reverend and she would have people ...

[Time catches up on Cork's famous Shandon clock](#)

Irish Examiner

While St Anne's Church and tower are owned and managed by the **Church of Ireland**,. Cork City Council has responsibility for maintaining the clock ...

[Solicitor questions how diocese allowed Ian Bailey to 'be read from the pulpit'](#)

Irish Times

"Why would the **church** authorities here in **Ireland** allow a gentleman enter into one of its churches in west Cork and berate an individual from the pulpit ...

AN INVITATION
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the CNI home page

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