



## News summary 30th - 11th September

**30 SEPTEMBER**

### **Anglican leaders to cancel Lambeth Conference?**

[Catholic World News](#) - The Lambeth Conference-- the gathering that brings together all the bishops of the Anglican communion-- will not be held in 2018, according to the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in the US. Episcopal Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori said that the Archbishop of Canterbury "is not going to call a Lambeth until he is reasonably certain that the vast majority of bishops would attend." Scores of Anglican bishops, including a heavy proportion of those from Africa, boycotted the most recent Lambeth Conference, in 2008, because of their opposition to recent decisions by the worldwide Anglican leadership to allow for female bishops, homosexual priests, and same-sex unions.

A spokesman for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Justin Welby, declined to comment on the report that the Lambeth Conference would be cancelled. Such a cancellation would be an unprecedented step, underlining the crisis within the Anglican communion.

<http://www.catholicculture.org/news/headlines/index.cfm?storyid=22766>

### **Crisis hits Irish Catholic Church with not enough priests to cover funerals**

**Irish Central** - An influential group representing Ireland's [Catholic](#) priests has warned that ordained [clerics](#) are facing the grim prospect of celebrating collective funeral Masses in the near future.

The Association of [Catholic](#) Priests said the vocations crisis has become so critical that the day is looming when there won't be enough priests available in some parishes to conduct single funeral and wedding Masses.

The body, which represents over 1,000 Irish priests, issued the warnings on the eve of its annual general meeting on Wednesday.

[Fr. Brendan Hoban](#), a founder of the ACP, said he believed the [Catholic](#) hierarchy now had little choice but to implement radical new changes to save hundreds of parishes from closing across the country.

The Co. Mayo-based [priest](#) said: "Unless the Bishops make changes, we're facing a catastrophic situation in the next 10 to 20 years because there simply won't be enough priests to supply Mass to our people. And if you haven't got Mass, then you no longer have a Church.

"The average age of a priest is 65 and their numbers are dwindling all the time. If you look at the Dublin diocese where there are 199 parishes, there is just one priest under the age of 40.

[http://www.irishcentral.com/news/Crisis-hits-Irish-Catholic-Church-without-enough-priests-to-cover-funerals.html?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+IrishCentral+%28IrishCentral%29](http://www.irishcentral.com/news/Crisis-hits-Irish-Catholic-Church-without-enough-priests-to-cover-funerals.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+IrishCentral+%28IrishCentral%29)

## 23 SEPTEMBER

### **Cork Diocesan Service for Primary Schools**

Nearly 400 children and teachers attended the annual Diocesan Service for Primary Schools in Cork, Cloyne and Ross which was held in Saint Peter's Church, Bandon on Tuesday, 30th September. Strong singing, readings, the ringing of each schools' bell, and the parading of custom made school banners were the order of the day. 'Looking for God's Beauty in All Things' was the theme chosen by this year's preacher, the Reverend Steve McCann, rector of Ballydehob, Co Cork. Bishop Paul Colton, patron of all but one of the schools in the Diocese, presided and led the children in the shout of praise! The children also collected €1,500 for the Diocesan Project - houses for Haiti - in partnership with Bishops' Appeal and Christian Aid.

### **Episcopal Church's Katharine Jefferts Schori will not seek re-election**

Washington Post - Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, the first woman elected to head a national branch of the worldwide Anglican Communion, announced Tuesday that she will not seek a second nine-year term in office. "I believe I can best serve this church by opening

the door for other bishops to more freely discern their own vocation to this ministry," Jefferts Schori, 60, said in a statement.

Her departure will likely set off debates over her legacy and the future of the 2 million-member denomination.

"I believe I can best serve this church by opening the door for other bishops to more freely discern their own vocation to this ministry," Jefferts Schori, 60, said in a statement. "I will continue to engage us in becoming a more fully diverse church, spreading the gospel among all sorts and conditions of people, and wholeheartedly devoted to God's vision of a healed and restored creation."

Her 2006 election was celebrated as a breakthrough for women leadership in the church; delegates sported pink "It's a Girl!" buttons after the vote. She remains the only female primate in the Anglican Communion, but last year the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America followed suit and elected its first female presiding bishop.

More at-

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/episcopal-churches-katharine-jefferts-schori-will-not-seek-re-election/2014/09/23/6a3002c0-436a-11e4-8042-aaff1640082e\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/episcopal-churches-katharine-jefferts-schori-will-not-seek-re-election/2014/09/23/6a3002c0-436a-11e4-8042-aaff1640082e_story.html)

## 22 SEPTEMBER

### C of I Board of Education on the Inclusion of Farm Safety on the Primary Level Curriculum

The Board of Education of the Church of Ireland (RoI) wishes to support the suggestion made recently by the President of ICOSA (the Irish Cattle and Sheep Farmers' Association), Mr Patrick Kent, for health and safety education to be included in the primary school curriculum, with a particular emphasis on farm safety for children in rural areas.

This matter is of concern to all of those involved in farming and is of particular concern to the Church of Ireland community given that a significant number of its members are engaged in farming. The number of deaths on farms due accidental health and safety related incidents in recent months and years displays the absolute need for greater awareness among children and young people of the dangers on farms and from farming equipment.

While it is realised that the primary level curriculum contains a great many elements, the Board is nonetheless of the view that it would be beneficial for

the NCCA to give close consideration to the highlighting of farm safety given the frequent references to farm animals, farmyards and farm life in the primary level curriculum and popular school textbooks.

## 21 SEPTEMBER

### Church of Ireland Bishop-Elect to be based in Adare

**Limerick Leader - Though small in numbers, the Church of Ireland has long had an influential voice and Canon Kenneth Kearon looks forward to “trying to articulate that voice on behalf of the Diocese of Limerick and Killaloe”.**



The Dubliner was elected to succeed Trevor Williams as Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe earlier this month.

And while he can't claim to know the diocese very well, he has taught a number of its clergy. He hopes they can now return the compliment as he learns the ropes in his new diocese, the largest in the country geographically - stretching from Offaly to the Dingle Peninsula.

“For many years, I taught in the theological college (in Dublin), so many of the clergy of the diocese I would know through that role and know them quite well. I have occasionally preached in and visited Limerick but I can't claim to know the diocese well. My first task will be to get to know the people and the clergy.

“I understand there are about 25 clergy ministering in the various parishes and they have about an equal number of lay readers, which are an important part of ministry in our church, and obviously I will be looking to meet the lay leadership in the diocese as well,” he said.

More at -<http://www.limerickleader.ie/news/local-news/church-of-ireland-bishop-elect-to-be-based-in-adare-1-6309616>

## **British hostage David Haines beheaded by Islamic State terrorists**

**Daily Telegraph - Prime Minister David Cameron describes murder of British aid worker David Haines by Isis as 'an act of pure evil', as Foreign Office works urgently to verify video released by extremists**

Islamic State has released a video showing the beheading of British hostage David Haines.

It comes just hours after his family issued a public plea for his captors to contact them.

The Foreign Office said it was "working urgently to verify" the video and offering Mr Haines's family support.

David Cameron, the Prime Minister, said: "The murder of David Haines is an act of pure evil. My heart goes out to his family who have shown extraordinary courage and fortitude."

More at -

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/syria/11094852/British-hostage-David-Haines-beheaded-by-Islamic-State-terrorists.html>

### **11 SEPTEMBER**

## **Dublin - Meeting of Catholic and Church of Ireland bishops**

The third meeting of Catholic and Church of Ireland bishops took place in Dublin on 11 September, in the spirit of the recommendation of the International Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission. Ten bishops were present representing the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, and the House of Bishops.

The Catholic Primate of All Ireland, Archbishop Eamon Martin, was among the participants in his first week as Archbishop of Armagh. Archbishop Richard Clarke was also present and the two primates introduced a discussion of how the Irish Churches might best contribute with intelligence and vision to the debates of the public square in the rapidly changing Ireland both north and south. Time was also taken for shared prayer, biblical reflection and informal encounter.

*The bishops present included:*

Church of Ireland: Archbishop Richard Clarke (Armagh), Bishop Harold Miller (Down and Dromore), Bishop Michael Burrows (Cashel Ferns and Ossory) and Bishop John McDowell (Clogher).

Roman Catholic: Archbishop Eamon Martin (Armagh), Bishop Raymond Browne (Kerry), Bishop Kieran O'Reilly (Killaloe), Bishop Tony Farquhar (Auxiliary Bishop of Down and Connor), Bishop Brendan Leahy (Limerick) and Bishop John Fleming (Killala).

## **Row erupts over wearing of hijabs in Irish schools**

Irish Independent - A leading academic has called on all Catholic schools to allow their Muslim pupils to wear the hijab and tailor their uniforms to respect their religious identity. ....

However, Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin Michael Jackson agreed with Dr Selim that all schools in the Republic need to be more tolerant of students from other religions.

He told the Sunday Independent: "Those who are not of a tradition can actually learn and share their childhood together and will be able to stand for respect, integrity and tolerance if situations become aggressive . . . if you learn about that at an early stage it will continue to inform your reactions as an adult."

Archbishop Jackson also said there should be "scope for negotiation" around the wearing of uniforms that display religious crests

- See more at: <http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/news/row-erupts-over-wearing-of-hijabs-in-our-schools-30585072.html#sthash.mqlMWcjD.dpuf>

## **Former Archbishop calls for prophetic leadership on climate change**

Christian Today - Christian Aid Chair and former Archbishop Rowan Williams has urged world leaders to take action ahead of the Climate Summit in New York later this month.

Former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams has urged world leaders to "step up to the mark" on climate change, and "secure the future for our children and grandchildren."

[Writing for the Guardian](#), Williams – who has been notably outspoken on the issue in the past – insisted that arguments against human involvement in climate change now look "pretty unpersuasive".



A seven-year study from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reveals that experts are "95% certain that human activity is a significant and avoidable element in driving climate change around the world," the Christian Aid chair explained.



Speaking ahead of the Climate Summit 2014 to be held in New York later this month, Williams urged governments – particularly wealthy industrialised nations – to "act and secure a safe world for today's poorest and tomorrow's children".

"It is those suffering the most who carry the least historic responsibility for our situation," he added.

"With actors who have traditionally dragged their feet taking the lead, and with the urgency for action in developing nations beyond any serious doubt, it is now those who have traditionally been more proactive – European nations in particular – who need to step up to the mark."

Williams praised "encouraging signs" of efforts made by the Chinese government to reduce air pollution, as well as solid action taken by President Obama.

More at -

<http://www.christiantoday.com/article/former.archbishop.calls.for.prophetic.leadership.on.climate.change/40476.htm>