



# CNI

## **May 22 - Evening News briefs**

### **Three thousand volunteers are needed for Dublin meeting\***

At least three thousand volunteers are needed to assist with the planning and organising of the ninth World Meeting of Families which Pope Francis asked Archbishop Diarmuid Martin to host in Dublin in 2018. This six-day festival of faith will take place from 21 to 26 August next year with the theme: "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World".

### **Incoming Moderator awarded honorary DD\***

The Presbyterian Theological Faculty, Ireland has awarded this year's incoming Moderator, Rev. Noble McNeely, with the degree of Doctor of Divinity (D. D.) at it's public graduation service ahead of this year's General Assembly, which opens in two-weeks time. Dr. McNeely was one of the 24 individuals to receive various awards at the annual ceremony, which took place in Belfast. Having graduated with a Bachelor of

Education from Stranmillis College of Education in 1976, he received his Bachelor of Divinity from Queen's University five years later, prior to being ordained in Belfast's Fisherwick Presbyterian Church in 1982.

### **Fermanagh parish presents over £10,000 to charities\***

Rossorry Parish Church (near Enniskillen in Clogher diocese), has presented over £10,000 to charities as part of their commitment of outreach during their 175th anniversary year. The parish decided to nominate 17 local and national charities as beneficiaries as they set out on a year of fundraising to mark their anniversary year. At the end of the 175th anniversary year in April, it was decided to present £600 to each of the charities, many of whom had participated in the Festival of 175 Christmas Trees organised by the parish in November 2016 which was an overwhelming success, attracting thousands of people over the four days.

### **Former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams has said the UK is facing an existential crisis after last year's Brexit referendum.**

During an interview with the Guardian, he said the country was "not a country at ease with itself", adding Britons are "peering into lots of abysses at the moment" ahead of next month's general election. As well as warning of uncertainty, Rowan Williams also highlighted the dangers of "messianic leadership" arising as a result of disillusionment or disengagement with politics. He pointed to a new edition of the 1943 book, 'Darkness Over Germany: a Warning from History' which journals the development of fascism during the 1930s.

### **Princess Royal launch's Scots church mental health awareness campaign**

HRH The Princess Royal has joined the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in launching a major mental health awareness campaign aimed at communities across Scotland. Her Royal Highness cut a slab of specially created Grey Cake which she handed to the Moderator, Rt Rev Dr Derek Browning, revealing brightly coloured layers of sponge beneath the grey icing. Thanking her, Dr Browning said: "We are grateful for the support you give mental health charities and for your help in launching our Grey Cake baking campaign. These Grey Cakes reflect what

it must be like to live under the fog of depression or anxiety. Underneath the grey exterior, there is a person struggling to be seen and heard.”

### **Dozens of Egypt church attack suspects face military trial**

Dozens of suspected Islamic militants allegedly responsible for attacks on Christian churches in Egypt which left 75 people dead have been referred for a military trial.

The 48 suspects are accused of being involved in a suicide bombing at a chapel next to St Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Cairo on 11th December 2016 which left 29 people dead. It is also claimed they are linked to two church bombings in the Nile Delta area on Easter Sunday which claimed 45 lives.

**\* full reports in tomorrow's news bulletin**