

C of E cleric from Bangor calls for overthrow of Theresa May



Rev Christopher Woods - from Archbishop Cranmer's blog

The recent comments of Rev Christopher Woods from Bangor, Northern Ireland have been criticised by the self - styled Archbishop Cranmer, a well known Anglican blogger with an international following. The blogger who claims to “provide an information resource for orthodox Anglicans criticised Woods on his site this week.

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A posting on June 20 states : “Fr Christopher Woods is the parish priest of [St Anne’s Hoxton](#). He is a Labour Party supporter, which is laudable, and also a member of [Momentum](#), which isn’t so, but it’s a free country and clergy have every right to involve themselves in the murky morass of democracy.

“Whether it is sound judgment, of course, is another question. Momentum are the Corbynista revolutionaries who have [seized control of the Labour Party](#), and Fr Christopher is positively evangelical about their virtues. ‘Check out Momentum. I just joined’, [he announced](#) on 16th June (there is no comparable ‘Check out Jesus’ tweet discernible over the past few months).

“Momentum not only support Jeremy Corbyn, they are (despite the outcome of the General Election) coordinating marches and demonstrations with an abundance of placards proclaiming things like ‘May Must Go’, ‘Tories Out’, ‘Tories have got blood on their hands’, and ‘Defy Tory Rule’. So much for democracy. In conjunction with trade union leaders, they are planning a [summer of discontent](#) to pave the way for ‘Red October’, when Jeremy Corbyn will, they hope, enter No.10. The misery of the people caused by waves of strikes is of little consequence: the end justifies the means. This

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is a militant Marxist cult of ‘[Solidarity, Class Struggle, Socialism](#)’: ‘Kick the Tories out’ is the stated objective, no doubt with ensuing riots and civil disorder (which, no doubt, Fr Christopher would eschew).

One of the ring leaders of this militancy is Owen Jones, who naturally believes, as Momentum state, that “the Tories have lost the consent of the people and cannot rule”. Theresa May and the Tories must go because the people have apparently changed their minds since the General Election a fortnight ago. ‘Someone who is now unable to appear in public can no longer remain Prime Minister. This disgraceful farce has to end’, [Jones tweeted](#) (despite May winning 55 more seats than Corbyn, and the greatest popular vote since... O, never mind). Fr Christopher Woods RT’d this tweet on 16th June, the day he gave his heart to Momentum.

“Now then, Fr Chris (as he prefers to be known) might be a perfectly nice guy and a faithful parish priest, and it is a Twitter axiom that RT ≠ endorsement. But in this case it seems reasonable to judge that he RT’d this tweet because he really does support Owen Jones’s political objective. You only have to survey the rest of his Twitter feed to draw this conclusion. He clearly did not RT this tweet in order to

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increase attendance at the Hoxton Parish prayer meeting.

“Is it appropriate for a Church of England priest to be calling for the revolutionary overthrow of an elected prime minister?”

Cranmer later noted - Christopher Woods has complained to his 2,464 Twitter followers about the factual inaccuracies in this blog post, enlisting the support of Russell Brand (12.2million followers) to his righteous quest for justice.

More at:

<http://archbishopcranmer.com/church-england-priest-overthrow-theresa-may/>

Archbishops decide "a still small voice of calm" needed following election

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have used their legal powers to change the published General Synod schedule.

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Entitled "After the General Election: a still small voice of calm" the state of the nation will now be debated by the Church of England during the opening afternoon session of Synod on Friday July 7th.

The Church says it wants to offer stability to the nation in uncertain times.

The debate's title makes reference to the story in 1 Kings 19 in which God spoke to the prophet Elijah not through a hurricane, fire or earth quake but a still voice.

William Nye, Secretary General of the Church of England, explained during a press conference that Premier attended that this doesn't reflect a concern of the outcome of the election.

He said: "This is a period of worry and uncertainty with the people in this country.

"This is an opportunity for Synod members to reflect on that and to reflect on how the Church can support people at this time."

Nye added that the Church's response to recent terror attacks in the country and the Grenfell

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tower fire were "wonderful examples of what the Church has been doing" already.

The Anglican stance on sexuality and teachings on it will still be debated but there is no guarantee that the Church will clearly outline its position on sexuality following the debate.

Following Most Rev Justin Welby's and the Most Rev John Sentamu's letter of on Feb 16th which outlined their proposals for continuing to address as a Church questions concerning human sexuality, they committed to achieving this via two strands of work.

The creation of a pastoral Advisory Group - chaired by the Bishop of Newcastle - to advise on pastoral issues concerning sexuality will "make clear their explicit commitment to show the love

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of Christ to all people, regardless of sexual or gender identity".

The second action committed by the Church which should eventually outline its position on sexuality is the production of a new teaching document on human sexuality. The church aims to finalise the teaching document by 2020 but there will be regular updates on progress to Synod as work develops.

C of E General Synod discussions on sexuality to be largely held in private

Most of the discussions about sexuality at the Church of England's General Synod will be held behind closed doors.

The vast majority of meetings before a potential vote will be in private and not open to the media, journalists were told at a briefing ahead of the Synod meeting in November.

In depth discussions about sexuality will be held during the July 2016 meeting although the issue could be raised next month.

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The General Synod has been promised the chance to discuss how the Church should deal with gay people and other sexuality issues at the end of conversations across all dioceses.

It's thought the decision to have most of the meetings behind closed doors was taken after the often heated arguments about women bishops.

Secretary General of the General Synod William Fittall said members were keen to avoid another "train crash" that was seen during the women bishops debate.

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He made the comment as he briefed reporters on what to expect at the upcoming Synod.

The main item on the agenda will be a debate about the migrant crisis, but the exact wording of any motion won't be known until closer to the time.

It was revealed that bishops had received a response from the prime minister to a letter calling for the UK to take in more asylum seekers.

But it's thought bishops had not been satisfied by David Cameron's position, which hadn't changed.

There will be two main areas in the debate: how many refugees Britain should be taking and whether there should be a preference towards Christians facing persecution.

He said there was tension on the two issues that would need to be resolved at the Synod.

Elsewhere it was announced the gender imbalance on Synod had decreased again. This year 58% elected were men and 42% female.

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For the first time ever there are more elected woman than men in the House of Laity.

The Queen will open the tenth General Synod at Church House in Westminster on Tuesday 24th November.

Dunmurry Parish Church re-opens after devastating fire

In January 2016 the Parish Church of St Colman in Dunmurry was devastated by fire. Since then the church has been refurbished incorporating several new facets.

On Sunday June 18 the church re-opened for worship with a Holy Communion service.

The day also marked the third anniversary of the Institution of the Rector, Reverend Adrian McLaughlin.

Writing on Facebook a parishioner commented, "Thank you Adrian for all your hard work and ministry to our congregation. Even though not completely finished, the wow factor is clear for all to see. To God be the Glory. Amen."

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Church Music Dublin seeks opinions

An invitation from Church Music Dublin states:”
We plan to circulate the next issue
of *Soundboard* during July 2017.

“We welcome articles, news, reports and
photographs - short pieces under 300 words
and digital photos / images, preferably high
resolution.

“We also value your comments and views
by letter or email - we may find it necessary to
shorten longer items.

“Readers seldom send us letters for publication.
These always make for a good read.

“Please send any items for inclusion in the
forthcoming issue not later than **Friday 30th
June** to: soundboard@churchmusicdublin.org

Day of Prayer for a peaceful ‘Twelfth’

A Day of Prayer for a peaceful ‘Twelfth’ and for
Healing in our Land will be held in St George’s

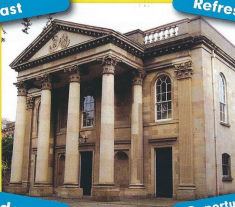
Day of Prayer for a Peaceful 'Twelfth' and for Healing in our Land


**St. George's
Parish Church
High Street
Belfast**

**Come and go as
you please!
Personal prayer.
Refreshments.**

**Tuesday
11th July 2017
10.30am-2.00pm**

**Opportunity to pray
for a peaceful
'Twelfth' period and
for healing in our
land.**



 **Divine Healing Ministries**
T: 028 9031 1532 E: divinehealing@live.co.uk
W: divinehealingministries.org

Day of Prayer for a Peaceful 'Twelfth' and for Healing in Our Land

In recent years Divine Healing Ministries (DHM) has held a day of prayer for a Peaceful 'Twelfth' and for Healing in Our Land. This year's day of prayer will be held at St George's Parish Church, High Street, Belfast, on Tuesday 11th July, between 10.30am – 2.00pm. This day of prayer will also mark the completion of 6 months of weekday prayers for our city and our land, held at St George's since the beginning of the year.

God is faithful and honours his promises. He promises:

"...If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers said in this place"
(2 Chronicles Ch 7 vs 13-15).

DHM believes that God has responded positively to the prayers offered up in previous years. There has been a marked reduction in violence, particularly at flashpoint areas. Persistence in prayer is required.

You are warmly invited to this special day of prayer which is for people of all Christian traditions. Short reflections will be held every 30 minutes with silent prayer to follow. Silent prayer also offers an opportunity to find wholeness through prayer, by laying down burdens carried from the past, by saying sorry and by offering forgiveness to others.

Personal prayer will be available for anyone who wishes to receive it.

There will also be refreshments available throughout the day.

You may come and go as you please.

Parish Church, Belfast, and in Shankill Road Methodist Church on Tuesday July 11.

Hours of prayer in St. George's will be from 10.30am until 2pm., and in Shankill Methodist the hours will be 10am until 4pm. People are welcome to come and go as they like during this time. Refreshments will be available.

This Day of Prayer around the period of the 'Twelfth' has been organised by Divine Healing Ministries for a number of years. It also mark the completion of six months of weekday prayers for the city and the land which have been held at St George's.

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CNI