



***The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew at an ecumenical prayer vigil for refugees at Lambeth Palace Chapel - Report this issue.***

## **Church leaders present at Corrymeela's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary service**

Celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the Corrymeela Community culminated at a service

in St Anne's Cathedral in Belfast on Sunday (1 November).

Most Rev Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and head of the Worldwide Anglican Communion was joined by other Church leaders, including the Roman Catholic Primate, Archbishop Eamon Martin, the former Presbyterian Moderator, Very Rev Dr Ken Newell, the Methodist President, Rev Brian Anderson and the President of the Irish Council of Churches, Rev Dr Donald Watts.

In his sermon, Archbishop Welby, referring to recent challenges in Northern Ireland said, "The moment there is new pressure or new suspicions, the gaps re-emerge. Let us hold onto this: Jesus does not permit these gaps."

"The welcome of reconciliation is a welcome that draws together antitheses, opposites, even materials that when combined are in danger of being explosive. They are deliberately, consciously and expressly brought together by Jesus."

However, he added that the welcome of reconciliation is not a "soft" or an easy option, but

a necessary part of moving beyond the politics of a peace process.

He concluded his sermon saying, “All of us, including Corrymeela, must hold on to that sense that the welcome of reconciliation is not surrendering what we are but rather encountering definitive truth together in the person of Jesus so that we are transformed and enabled to love and to see the deep differences which mean that past tensions, conflicts and even murderous outrages can find true reconciliation in the arms and presence of God.”

Archbishop Eamon Martin led the congregation through the opening liturgy using the three symbols that have guided the Corrymeela community in their first fifty years: an open Bible, a lit candle, and a turf cross.

Methodist President Rev Brian Anderson referred to the differences in the Lord’s Prayer or Our Father between denominations saying that the heart of the prayer is the same, “– to bring God’s people to the place of peace and supplication. Today with all our differences, both serious and slight let us join our hearts in this prayer.”

Former Presbyterian Moderator Very Rev Dr Ken Newell said, “The founder of the Corrymeela Community Ray Davey described the Christian message of peace as much more than a permanent ceasefire”.

What was necessary was an understanding of “the total health and well-being of our society, especially the recognition of the dignity and worth of every person”.

Before the service Corrymeela Community Leader Pádraig Ó Tuama said, “Corrymeela believes in the power of people telling their stories, of shared hospitality, of telling the truth about the present, of turning towards each other and finding strength, life and hope in each other. Ultimately, the work of Corrymeela helps groups learn how to be well together.”

Corrymeela was founded in 1965 by Ray Davey, a former in World War II chaplain, and a group of students from Queen’s University.

He had been a prisoner of war in Dresden and the bombing of the city changed him.

Corrymeela grew out of his concern about the tensions brewing between people of different

political, religious and ideological differences in Northern Ireland.

“The collaboration over the years with Corrymeela and other ecumenical movements has been so enriching and enlightening. Representatives have been meeting regularly over the past ten years to pray and support one another. The event was a moment to realise and encourage those friendships in Christ as part of an ongoing journey,” said Irene Jovaras of the Focolare community in Belfast.

She added that it was a joy and privilege to be part of the Corrymeela celebrations and that the service at Anne’s Cathedral was a highlight.

the liturgy prepared by John Bell of the Iona community called everyone to renew the calling from Jesus to offer hospitality and welcome to everyone whatever their background.

“To see Archbishop Justin Welby and Archbishop Eamonn Martin and other church leaders participating together witnessed the importance of taking steps together,” she said.

Corrymeela works with more than 10,000 people a year at its residential centre in Ballycastle and

in schools and communities throughout Northern Ireland.

It also has a dispersed community of more than 150 members who commit to living out Corrymeela's principles of reconciliation in their own communities.

A gala reception was held on Friday evening at Belfast City Hall to mark Corrymeela's anniversary.

Around 300 guests were joined by Kathleen Kuehnast (a director at the US Institute of Peace), Ireland's greatest living poet Michael Longley and guest of honour, the former president of Ireland, Mary Robinson.

## **Daily love of spouses is foundation of holiness - Archbishop Martin**

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin has described the family as a special place of communion, sanctity and evangelisation as he criticised the lack of sermons stressing how the daily love of spouses is the foundation of their holiness.

Celebrating All Saints at the Pro Cathedral, the Archbishop said the Communion of Saints is a link with those who have gone before us, but also those who are beside us.

“It demands that we become saints to those around us – our children, our spouses, our community, our society – showing what it means to be the Church, what it means to witness to the love and the mercy of God revealed in Jesus Christ,” he said.

The Archbishop said families evangelise through being active in the wider Church community.

They also evangelise within their own four walls, through the mutual love of the spouses, through their love of their children, through enabling their children to learn affectivity and generosity and faithfulness and prayerfulness, which will be the foundation later for their own personal and family life.

He criticised the lack of sermons on how the responsible sexual love of husband and wife can be an expression of communication and tenderness and intimacy and often of reconciliation and forgiveness, thus sharing in and reflecting the tender love of God.

“Very rarely are parents reminded of how their constant and patient love of their children and their self-giving for them are building blocks of holiness,” he said.

“Very rarely are we reminded that even in our failures to love we can come to a better understanding of what being poor in spirit and pure in heart really mean.”

The Archbishop, who attended the Synod on the Family in Rome with the Archbishop of Armagh, said that rather than a language of condemnation, Pope Francis had called for a new language which stresses the freedom of the children of God.

The Pontiff was calling on families to learn to witness to “the beauty of Christian Newness” even in the face of a message which has become at times “encrusted in a language which is archaic or simply incomprehensible”.

Pope Francis was stressing the language of mercy, Dr Martin said, and he strongly criticised those in the Church who have “closed hearts which frequently hide even behind the Church’s teachings or good intentions, in order to sit in the chair of Moses and judge, sometimes with



superiority and superficiality, difficult cases and wounded families”.

## **Cork's visual memorial remembering 1914 - 18**

This time last year (November 2014), in the first of the four centenary years of the First World War, the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, Dr Paul Colton, and the Dean of Cork, the Very Reverend Nigel Dunne appealed for people to come forward with photographs of loved ones with a Cork connection (either 100 years ago or today) on any side on the conflict for inclusion in a visual centenary memorial to commemorate casualties and also veterans of the war who lived with the memories and scars throughout their lives.

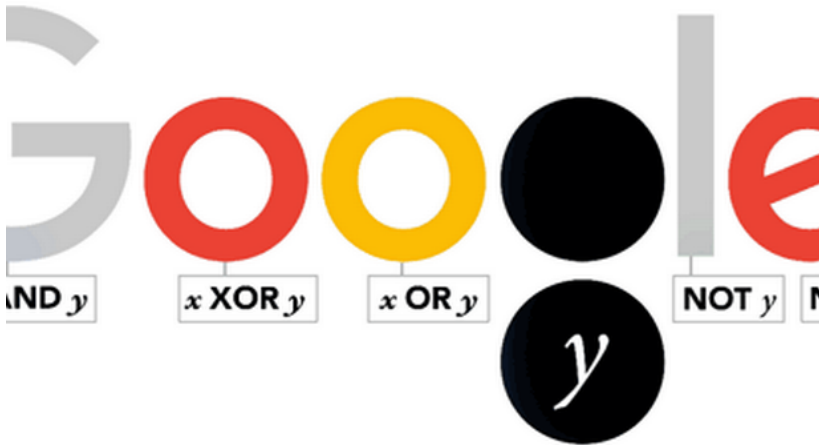
Hundreds of people have done so and the memorial which has been set up in the south aisle of the Cathedral will be dedicated and opened during Choral Evensong with the Annual Act of Remembrance on Sunday next, 8th November at 4 p.m. in St Fin Barre's Cathedral.

An invitation is issued to members of the public – anyone who is interested, and particularly those who have sent in photographs already – to attend next Sunday's Service of Remembrance and Dedication in the Cathedral at 4 p.m.

## **Service marked bicentenary of birth of Irish mathematician genius**

On Sunday, 1st November – All Saints' Sunday – the bicentenary of the birth (on 2nd November, 1815) of George Boole, first Professor of Mathematics at University College, Cork, was commemorated at the Sunday morning Eucharist at St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork.

Boole, who was originally from Lincoln, was a mathematical genius who was largely self taught. As the University College Cork website attests, Boole 'is a pivotal figure who can be described as the "father of the information age". His invention of Boolean algebra and symbolic logic pioneered a new mathematics. His legacy surrounds us everywhere, in the computers, information storage and retrieval, electronic circuits and controls that support life, learning and communications in the 21st century.'



### ***Google's tribute to Boole***

Boole was a member of the Church of Ireland who attended Evensong in his local Parish Church of Saint Michael, Blackrock. He is buried in the churchyard there.

The rector of that parish today is the Venerable Adrian Wilkinson, Archdeacon of Cork. At Sunday's Service attended by the President of University College, Cork, Dr Michael Murphy, the Archdeacon preached a sermon in St Fin Barre's Cathedral to mark the bicentenary:

“I wonder what George Boole would make of this service today? I suspect if he could join us he would slip in just after the service had started, having removed his top hat. He might choose to occupy a seat at the back so that he could participate from the periphery. After all, though he was a deeply religious man, George Boole had a somewhat ambiguous relationship with formal liturgy in general and with the Eucharist in particular. He would no doubt look around and admire a cathedral building very different from the one he knew. Would he appreciate the architectural sleight of hand making this building appear much larger than it is? Would he have approved of the way William Burges, the inspiration behind this cathedral, emphasises the role of symbols and the place of the mysterious and numinous in the Christian Faith? Would the juxtaposition of a service recalling his life and contribution to mathematics and a service as we celebrate All Saints have made him a little uncomfortable? ...”

More at - <http://churchofirelandcork.com/>

<http://www.irishmirror.ie/news/irish-news/google-dedicate-latest-doodle-mathematician-6751213>

## **Refugee crisis and the environment central to Anglican and Orthodox church leaders' meeting**

The refugee crisis and the environment were amongst issues discussed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and the Ecumenical Patriarch, Bartholomew, yesterday during the extended visit by the leader of the Orthodox family of churches to Lambeth Palace.

During a private meeting yesterday morning, the Archbishop and His All-Holiness discussed issues facing the Anglican and Orthodox churches and the wider world. This included discussing joint Christian efforts for the protection of the environment, and the urgent social and pastoral problems created by the massive migration from the Middle East.

Later, the two church leaders led an ecumenical prayer vigil in the Lambeth Palace Chapel for those fleeing violence, persecution and poverty.

The two leaders led prayers for all people risking their lives fleeing from conflict, violence and persecution, and those whose existence is threatened by climate change.

Both leaders gave a blessing during the service, which featured the Coventry Litany and intercessions led by members of the Community of St Anselm.

Prayers were also said for those under immense pressure to develop an effective and equitable response to the refugee crisis, and for those negotiating at the climate change talks in Paris later this month.

Before the vigil the Patriarch gave a lecture on environmental issues to an audience of faith leaders, scientists and lay church members working on climate change. He spoke of a “crisis of solidarity” being witnessed in our struggle to respond collectively to climate change – as well as the refugee and migrant crisis – and called on Christians to act.

The event also featured contributions from Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Richard Chartres, Bishop of Salisbury, the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, and the Revd Archdeacon Dr John Chryssavgis.

Yesterday evening, the Archbishop and the Patriarch attended a special choral evensong at Westminster Abbey where the two leaders were

presented with copies of an agreed statement by the International Commission for Anglican-Orthodox Theological Dialogue, “In the Image and Likeness of God: A Hope-Filled Anthropology”.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Ecumenical Patriarch both addressed the congregation; and there was also a memorial tribute at the Shrine of St Edward the Confessor before both leaders closed the service with the blessing.

## **Methodists help Leprosy Mission hospital in Nepal**



Mr Peter Hilton (centre) of the Leprosy Mission NI is pictured receiving a cheque for £1,600 from the minister and the society steward of

Togherdoo Methodist Church. The money will go towards rebuilding the Leprosy Mission Hospital in Nepal, which was severely damaged by a devastating earthquake earlier in the year. Several hundred people attended the barbecue and treasure hunt that raised the funds – an event described by the church minister, the Rev William Newell, as ‘one of the highlights of the Togherdoo calendar’.

## Media digest

### **Pope Francis invite to Belfast causes uproar - was the council right to issue invitation? Belfast Telegraph**

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/poll-pope-francis-invite-to-belfast-causes-uproar-was-the-council-right-to-issue-invitation-34164010.html>

### **Archbishop Welby welcome but he got it wrong on welfare - News Letter**

It was good as ever to see the Archbishop of Canterbury in Northern Ireland over recent days.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/welby-is-warmly-welcome-in-ni-but-wrong-about-welfare-1-7044710>

### **Churches stand firm on same sex marriage vote - News Letter**

Despite a slim majority of MLAs backing same-sex marriage on Monday, the four largest churches remained [churchnewsireland@gmail.com](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.com)



firm in their view that the institution remains between one man and one woman.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/same-sex-marriage-vote-churches-stand-firm-on-traditional-views-1-7044661>

## **Priests criticise Church for its oppression of women - Irish Independent**

Priests criticise **Church** for its 'oppression' of women ... In their radical call for the full equality of women in **Church** life, the group said the strict ... "extended talks" with Lucinda Creighton's Renua **Ireland** party about defecting to them, ...

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/priests-criticise-church-for-its-oppression-of-women-34160739.html>

## **Kyle Paisley not in favour of 'recriminalisation' of homosexuality - Irish Times**

"I don't think it was good for the **church** and I don't think it was good for the atmosphere in Northern **Ireland** either," he said. On "sectarianism" being at ...

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/kyle-paisley-not-in-favour-of-recriminalisation-of-homosexuality-1.2413276>

## **BBC/Times/Guard**

The *Times* and *Guardian* both lead with stories that the Prime Minister has abandoned plans to seek a second vote in the Commons on air strikes against Islamic Militants in Syria, because he lacks back bench support from both main parties. Overnight, the *BBC* say that the story

has been dismissed. This follows a report from the influential Foreign Affairs Committee which said it was "not yet persuaded" ministers could address its concerns over the issue.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/defence/article4603227.ece>

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/02/cameron-drops-plans-commons-vote-airstrikes-isis-syria>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-34706279>

## **Mail**

Reports the funeral of fundraiser Kirsty Howard takes place today at St Michael & All Angels Church in Northern Moor, Manchester. Miss Howard, who was only 20 and was born with her heart back to front, raised more than £7.5 million for Francis House Children's Hospice in Manchester.

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3301302/Funeral-held-prolific-fundraiser-Kirsty-Howard.html?](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3301302/Funeral-held-prolific-fundraiser-Kirsty-Howard.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

[ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3301302/Funeral-held-prolific-fundraiser-Kirsty-Howard.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

## **Mirror/Exp/Sky News/Guard/Mail/Tel/BBC**

Reports on the funeral of PC Dave Phillips attended by 2,000 police colleagues at

Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral yesterday. The 34-year-old father of two died four weeks ago when he was hit by a pick-up truck while trying to make an arrest in Wallasey, Merseyside.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/pc-dave-phillips-funeral-thousands-6753990>

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/616353/PC-Dave-Phillips-funeral-Merseyside-police-officer>

<http://news.sky.com/story/1580293/funeral-for-fallen-officer-pc-dave-phillips>

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/nov/02/pc-dave-phillips-funeral-hundreds-mourn-officer-killed-in-hit-and-run>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3300121/Thousands-mourners-turn-funeral-hero-PC-Dave-Phillips-killed-tried-stop-stolen-pick-truck.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/11970073/Hundreds-attend-Pc-David-Phillips-funeral-in-Liverpool.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-34681868>

## **Times**

More than 200 members of the House of Lords should lose their seats with internal elections to determine who stays, under a plan for reform of the Upper chamber. The Campaign for an

Effective Second Chamber, a cross-party group of peers and MPs is pulling together ideas for reform. Peers who fail to turn up on at least 25 per cent of sitting days should be removed, they suggest.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4603103.ece>

## **Times**

Report on a pilot investment idea, a pop-up death café. For an investment of £50, shares can be bought in an enterprise which encourages customers to share their anxiety over subjects such as recent bereavement, assisted suicide, burial or cremation with the café's staff and customers and, in the process, peel away the taboos that surround the subject. Lord Williams of Oystermouth, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, is quoted.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/business/workinglife/article4602743.ece>