



## Upper Bann People to ‘Speak Up’ on Climate Change

People from all over the Upper Bann area will join with Bishop Harold Miller to ‘speak up’ for the people, places and things they love that will be impacted by climate change. They have planned

a nature walk in association with the Climate Coalition on Saturday 8 October to let David Simpson MP know they care for creation.

The organiser, Stephen Trew from Magheralin Parish said, “In recent years we have seen severe weather impact across the island of Ireland, such as the flooding last winter. Climate change is starting to be felt right here. On the news there are tens of thousands of refugees escaping countries hit by drought, failing harvests, hunger and conflict. We need to take action quickly to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to protect the things we love – from habitats in a local nature reserve, to farms in Africa that are suffering crop stress due to a changing climate. This nature walk is a chance for people to let our MP know we care about climate change.”

Local student Josh Norton added, “Climate change is a major factor in so many of the world’s problems – from the displacement of people due to the poverty and hunger caused by failing harvests, to air pollution related deaths in our major cities. It is time to pressure the government into taking this issue seriously to safeguard the welfare of our planet for future generations.”

The nature walk starts at 10:00 am on 8 October 2016, near the playground in the car park at the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Oxford Island, Craigavon. The free guided walk, on accessible paths, will point out wildlife and habitats in the nature reserve and it will last for about 20 minutes.

Afterwards in the Discovery Centre, there will be a 20 minute question and answer session with David Simpson MP and Carla Lockhart MLA, chaired by Bishop Harold Miller. During this time participants can hear more about how greenhouse gas emissions in Northern Ireland can be reduced and David Simpson MP will be encouraged to press the UK government to quickly ratify the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and act to help people suffering around the world.

The 'Speak up Week of Action' is a nationwide campaign for local people, community groups, biodiversity action groups, churches and schools (church resources and school's packs are available online). It is organised by The Climate Coalition – a network that brings together over 100 organisations including Christian Aid,

Tearfund, RSPB, Friends of the Earth, Oxfam, Greenpeace, WWF-UK, & CAFOD.

Stephen Trew added, “I was approached by Christian Aid to ask my local MP in Upper Bann if I could do something. I did, and he was kind enough to agree. I’m looking forward to lots of people showing their love for nature on Saturday 8 October.”

For more information on the Nature Walk see the Facebook event page – [bit.ly/SpeakUp8Oct](https://bit.ly/SpeakUp8Oct) or search social media for #SpeakUp.

## **Immigration and poverty key issues of our lifetime Down and Connor Faith and Life Convention told**

The Diocese of Down and Connor held its third annual Faith and Life Convention last Saturday, 25th September in Our Lady and Saint Patrick’s College, Knock, Belfast.

With over 500 participants in attendance, the Convention gathered representatives from all parishes across the Diocese of Down and Connor and beyond.

The convention is a forum for people to gather and participate in a range of conversations about the meaning of faith and its relevance to their everyday lives.

Bishop Noel Treanor opened the 2016 Faith and Life Convention reflecting upon the current plight of refugees and asylum seekers. He stated that “In this Year of Mercy, we need to explore the social and societal implications of mercy, particularly for the displaced.”

This year, Sarah Teather, Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service (UK) was the keynote speaker for the Convention and she invited all to reflect on the current refugee crisis and shared with participants her own journey of discernment that led her away from the political benches in parliament to her current role with the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS).

During her keynote address, Sarah Teather reflected upon her own personal journey of faith; a journey that involved falling in love with God and his people and actively living out that love in her life. Inspired by the ministry of the Jesuit Refugee Service and motivated by the personal struggles of families seeking asylum, Sarah

declared that immigration and poverty are the defining issues of our lifetime. She went on to explore the particular role of the Church in responding to the issues of immigration and displacement. Sarah explained that faith communities can provide a counter cultural response to society as they minister to those who are displaced by following the Gospel mandate to reach out to the stranger. She contended that in reaching out to the stranger in need, we are “entertaining angels without knowing it”. Sarah Teather concluded her address by reflecting on her current work with the Jesuit Refugee Service which she argued was distinctive in its relational approach to working with asylum seekers; affirming the dignity of the displaced through solidarity and accompaniment.

The keynote address was followed by a Panel Discussion on the theme “Faith in a world in need of Mercy” and the screening of a short film by Campbell Millar which followed the recent settlement of Syrian migrants in Belfast. Fr Tim Bartlett, Diocesan Director of Public and Social Affairs, sincerely thanked all those in parishes, schools and other charitable organisations for their coordinated response in receiving Syrian refugees into the Diocese.

In the afternoon, participants were able to choose from over twenty workshops which explored topics such as 'Faith in a Broken Culture', the pastoral response to suicide, 'Faith and the Public Square', ecology, 'Faith and the Family', 'Making Good Decisions', 'Faith and Film', youth ministry and 'Encountering God in his Word'.

To find out more information, go to [www.faithandlifeconvention.org](http://www.faithandlifeconvention.org)

## **Anglican–Orthodox commission visits Downpatrick**

Members of the International Commission for Anglican–Orthodox Theological Dialogue, who are meeting together in Armagh this week, visited Downpatrick, Co. Down (27 September 2016).

The members were greeted at Down Cathedral by the Dean of Down, The Very Revd Henry Hull, and the Revd Adrian Dorrian. Dean Hull provided a short history of the Cathedral and described the connections of the ancient site with St Patrick, an early saint common to all Christian



traditions, before the group proceeded to the grave of St Patrick in the cathedral grounds.

At St Patrick's grave stone, the Archbishop of Armagh, The Most Revd Dr Richard Clarke, who is co-chair of the Commission, led prayers and distributed handcrafted Celtic crosses to members. The members of the Commission also visited the St Patrick's Centre in Downpatrick and concluded their visit with a service at Saul Church, nearby.

## **New director of Veritas appointed**

Bishop Brendan Leahy, President of Veritas, has announced the appointment of Mr Aidan Chester as the new director of Veritas.





Interdenominational Divine Healing Ministries

Sr. Martina Purdy

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Journalist to Adoration Sister*

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Personal prayer ministry available at this service

**St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast**  
**Monday, October 17 at 8pm**

Bishop Leahy said, "As President of Veritas, I am delighted to announce the appointment of our

new director, Aidan Chester, who will take up his role on 17 October following the planned retirement of the current director, Maura Hyland. Aidan has been a member of the senior management team of Veritas since joining the company in 2009. In that role he was responsible for the retail, distribution and marketing functions in the company. A computer science graduate from UCD, he is a seasoned business leader with over twenty-five years of experience in sales, marketing, operational and IT management. Prior to joining Veritas in 2009, Aidan was responsible for managing major retail operations, holding leadership roles with several well-known high street commercial and book retailers. I am sure Aidan's appointment will bring many new opportunities for Veritas in the future."

Commenting on his new role as director of Veritas, Aidan Chester, who is married to Orlaigh and they have four sons, said that he was looking forward to the challenges of leading Ireland's foremost religious publisher and retailer.

## **C of I clergy formation focus of archive of the month**

A collection of papers relating to the foundation and development of the Church of Ireland Divinity Hostel – forerunner to the Theological College, which latterly has evolved into the Theological Institute – has just been catalogued and accessioned in the RCB Library as MS 1043/, and is this month's featured topic in the Archive of the Month slot.

The idea of a separate institution for the education of the clergy of the Church of Ireland was first mooted by the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Revd Richard Whately, in the 1830s, who envisaged a Church of Ireland College with a royal charter. While Whately's ambitious plans came to nothing at that stage, he did ensure that the issue would remain on the Church's agenda, and the Church of Ireland Divinity Hostel was eventually founded in 1913 as a hostel for students in the Divinity School of Trinity College in Mountjoy Square.

Between then and 1964, several generations of ordinands lived and were trained there while they pursued their academic studies in Trinity. By the 1960s, the need for more modernised accommodation emerged, and Fetherstonhaugh House in Churchtown (formerly the convalescent

home of the Adelaide Hospital) was acquired for this purpose. The building was adapted and a new residential block added to designs by architect Ian Roberts. The new facility was officially opened by the then Archbishop of Armagh, Dr James McCann, on 17 February 1964. The Archbishop of Dublin, Dr George Simms, dedicated the new chapel.

The evolutionary story between the 1830s and 1980 is covered by this collection, and illustrated in the online exhibition. The materials include the first minute book of the hostel, correspondence, account books, various miscellaneous volumes and loose papers, examination papers for the period 1969-72, the administrative papers and other materials of two successive wardens of the hostel, Michael Lloyd Ferrar (who served as warden of the Divinity Hostel from 1939 his sudden death in December 1960), and John Simpson Brown (who succeeded him in 1961, and who would remain in that position and as Professor of Pastoral Theology at Trinity College, Dublin, until 1980), and finally papers and correspondence of the Trinity College Theological Society in the early 1960s.

The papers reveal that extracurricular activities throughout the history of the theological training

have been just as varied as the training itself. In the 1940s and 1950s, for example, during Ferrar's time as warden, he arranged a Christmas play on several occasions. The students formed the cast, and the subject was often connected to church history. Mr Lennox Robinson of Abbey Theatre fame produced the plays on no less than two occasions. In later years, the College Theological Society (which was founded in 1830 as a student society) became an outlet for the ordinands. Members gathered weekly throughout the term to engage in debate and listen to guest speakers in the Graduates Memorial Building, where they were provided with a forum for the discussion of Philosophical Theology.

Overall, the items in this collection provide an overarching insight into the evolutionary ideas for a self-controlled divinity hostel which developed between the 19th and 20th centuries. The process from a period when a divinity hostel was merely a topic of discussion to the advent of a theological college following the closure of the Divinity School at TCD is well documented in this collection and provides the researcher with a well-rounded view of the foundation, growth and evolution of the body that has become today the

Church of Ireland Theological Institute. A full list of the materials, together with background information and a selection of images from the collection, will be available at this link from 1st October 2016: [www.ireland.anglican.org/library/archive](http://www.ireland.anglican.org/library/archive)

The work on the collection, together with an extensive collection of printed books documenting the Church of Ireland's close association with Trinity College Dublin – most especially through the worship and music of its Chapel – was carried out during a summer placement by an ordinand at the Theological Institute, Sean Hanily. Speaking from the RCB Library where the work was carried out, Dr Susan Hood, Librarian and Archivist, commended Sean “for the enthusiastic and punctilious way in which he catalogued these important records, giving others a colourful insight to the changing nature of theological education in the Church of Ireland.”

Mr Hanily said: “I greatly enjoyed my time working in the RCB Library. The work which I carried out was of the greatest interest to me and meeting the many people from all over the world who visit was a positive experience which shall stand to me in the future.”

## **Mass baptisms mark 70th anniversary of Church of South India**

More than 700 new believers were baptised at a celebratory service held to mark the 70th anniversary of the Church of South India. The Moderators of the Church of South India (CSI) and the Church of North India (CNI) were both present at the service in St George's Cathedral, Chennai, as was the Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church and other senior clerics. There were more than 1,000 people in the congregation.

In an address, the CNI moderator, Pradip Samantaroy, spoke about how the early church related to its community. And he said that today's church needed to repent and return to the experiences of being related and united to their communities, especially in the context of violence, terrorism and the social evils such as atrocities against women.

He asked why clergy are getting alienated from the people, and why the church was "concerned

about creating more space for ourselves as excluding us from the people.”

The Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church, Dr Joseph, delivered a message of greetings, during which he stressed the need for the church to continue “as a witnessing church”. He called on the church to “re-dedicate herself in the mission of God.”

The Province’s general secretary, the Revd Dr Rathnakar Sadananda, said that the CSI was a “people’s movement engaged in uniting people from all corners and boundaries” but, with the mind of Jesus, focused towards the marginalised. The Church, he said, should “be a foretaste for God’s forgiveness and reconciliation.”

## **News links to reports on faith, politics and education**

**UK government forced to make legal papers  
public before Brexit case**  
Irish Times



<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/courts/high-court/uk-government-forced-to-make-legal-papers-public-before-brexit-case-1.2808990>

## **'I know 22 of my former pupils are buried in one graveyard' - priest reveals devastation in one community**

Irish Independent

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/i-know-22-of-my-former-pupils-are-buried-in-one-graveyard-priest-reveals-devastation-in-one-community-35086362.html>

## **Ardoyne Orange Order march given permission by Parades Commission**

Irish News

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/northernirelandnews/2016/09/28/news/ardoyne-orange-order-march-given-permission-by-parades-commission-712980/>

## **Catholic grammars Loreto and Christian Brothers' to phase out academic selection**

Belfast Telegraph

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/catholic-grammars-loreto-and-christian-brothers-to-phase-out-academic-selection-35085252.html>

## **Major shake up of Catholic schools in west Belfast**

Irish News

The proposals, if approved, will see three single-sex post-primary schools in west Belfast merged to form one new 1,500-pupil college

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/2016/09/28/news/shake-up-for-west-belfast-catholic-schools-711586/>

## **Tel**

Reports that the Archbishop of Canterbury has [told an audience of headteachers](#) that religious violence is now at the top of the political agenda, as a "powerful and, indeed, at times uncontrollable and destructive influence here and around the world in a way not seen previously in recent history." Speaking to the Anglican Academies and Secondary Heads Conference in Coventry Cathedral he said that teachers are being forced to confront the issue of religiously motivated violence in a way not seen since the aftermath of the reformation 400 years ago.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/27/welby-we-need-to-understand-what-jihadists-are-talking-about/>

## **BBC/Premier**

Further coverage of an [essay written for the Holocaust Educational Trust](#) by the Archbishop of Canterbury in which he describes antisemitism as an "insidious evil".

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-37485825>

<http://www.premier.org.uk/News/UK/Archbishop-Justin-Welby-Church-has-helped-spread-antisemitism>

## **Times/BBC**

Reports that the most senior lawyer at the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) is considering resigning. The *Times* reports that Ben Emmerson, QC, favours a restructure to reduce the inquiry's workload

while new chairwoman Professor Jay, along with the Home Secretary, is determined that it should stick to the original terms of reference. The Anglican Church in England and Wales is one of the 13 strands of IICSA which is investigating whether public bodies and other non-state institutions have taken seriously their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse. (BBC has reported on *Times* article).

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/abuse-inquiry-in-crisis-after-top-lawyer-threatens-to-quit-fjm2mzskc>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-37491585>

### **BBC/Guard/Tel**

Reports on Martin Bashir becoming the new BBC religious affairs correspondent.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-37474803>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2016/sep/26/martin-bashir-returns-to-bbc-to-cover-religious-affairs>  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/26/princess-diana-interviewer-martin-bashir-lands-job-as-bbc-religi/>

### **Times/BBC/Tel/Guard/Exp/Mirror/Metro/Mail/Even Stand**

Reports the memorial service to Sir Terry Wogan, the man who the Dean of Westminster, John Hall, said became a legend in his own lifetime.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/westminster-abbey-pays-tribute-to-wogan-with-the-floral-dance-ddm578930>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-37477934>  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/27/sir-terry-wogan-stars-expected-to-turn-out-for-westminster-abbey/>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2016/sep/27/stars-pay-tribute-terry-wogan-thanksgiving-service-westminster-abbey>

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/715104/Sir-Terry-Wogan-national-treasure-Westminster-Abbey-thanksgiving-service-Queen-Chris-Evans>  
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/3am/celebrity-news/terry-wogan-tops-cats-miaow-8926949#ICID=nsm>  
<http://metro.co.uk/2016/09/27/celebs-pay-tribute-to-sir-terry-wogan-in-ceremony-listeners-praise-as-poignant-and-moving-6156018/>  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3809281/Stars-pay-tribute-Sir-Terry-Wogan-Westminster-Abbey-service.html>  
<http://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-news/terry-wogan-memorial-joanna-lumley-tess-daly-and-fearne-cotton-lead-stars-at-westminster-abbey-a3355126.html>

### **This is Cornwall**

Reports that residents have raised concerns about proposals for 300 homes at Ponsharden in Falmouth. It comes after plans issued by the Church Commissioners for a residential development on the site were unveiled. The scheme is being drawn up for the nearly 33-acre site and cited as ideal for development by the local council. A statement from the Commissioners is quoted.

<http://www.westbriton.co.uk/plans-by-church-commissioners-for-england-for-300-homes-at-ponsharden-falmouth-raise-concerns/story-29750835-detail/story.html>

### **Exp/Metro**

Reports that police were called to an east London church after a suspicious package with the message to only open "if you're an expert in the Koran" was abandoned on the doorstep. Officers were called to SS Peter and Paul's church in Chingford on Monday night after the package

was found on the church doorstep. A police spokesman confirmed that officers were called to the scene but the package was deemed to be non-suspicious. The vicar the Revd Andy Trennier is quoted.

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/714907/Church-bomb-scare-Chingford-open-expert-Koran-St-Peter-and-St-Paul-s-Church>

<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/package-with-quran-note-on-church-doorstep-sparks-security-scare-a3355271.html>

### **Comment**

Express: Home Secretary must get a grip on asylum system.

<http://www.express.co.uk/comment/expresscomment/715114/Home-Secretary-Rudd-asylum-system-missing-asylum-seekers>

### **Obituary**

**Telegraph:** The Revd Ian Graham-Orlebar former Rector of Barton-le-Clay with Higham Gobion and Hexton, Bedfordshire.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/obituaries/2016/09/27/ian-graham-orlebar-country-parson--obituary/>

### **News from the Archbishop of Canterbury**

Archbishop welcomes the Emir of Kano to Lambeth Palace

<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/5777/archbishop-welcomes-emir-of-kano-to-lambeth-palace>

### **News from the Church of England**

**Lessons in character building show positive results in schools**

A new approach to teaching that encourages the development of positive character attributes has been successfully piloted by the Church of England's Education Office.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media-centre/news/2016/09/lessons-in-character-building-show-positive-results-in-schools.aspx>

### **A Growing Church**

The fourth Renewal & Reform vision and narrative short film has been launched, looking at how in a world crying out for God's love, we can once again become a growing church for all people in all places. Watch the film:

<https://youtu.be/cVt-SfM930k>

### **Blogs**

**Salt, Water and Honey:** a messy invitation

<http://saltwaterandhoney.org/blog/a-messy-invitation>

**God Loves Women:** Spuds Christian Union story

<https://mrsglw.wordpress.com/2016/09/26/spuds-christian-union-story/>

**Law and Religion UK:** Conseil d'Etat strikes down another burkini ban

<http://www.lawandreligionuk.com/2016/09/26/conseil-detat-strikes-down-another-burkini-ban/>

**Threads:** 30 books for Christians under 30

<https://www.threadsuk.com/30-books-every-christian-should-read-before-they-turn-30>

**Psephizo:** Resources for preaching on Matthew

<http://www.psephizo.com/preaching-2/resources-for-preaching-on-matthew/>

**Archbishop Cranmer:** Is worship really diminished by lack of Christian unity?

<http://archbishopcranmer.com/worship-really-diminished-lack-christian-unity/>

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