



## **Major response by Irish Catholic church to canonisation of Mother Teresa**

Speaking ahead of tomorrow's canonisation of Blessed Mother Teresa in Rome, Archbishop Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh and

Primate of All Ireland said, “Blessed Teresa is greatly loved and venerated by the faithful throughout Ireland and by millions around the world. By declaring Mother Teresa a saint, the Holy Father Pope Francis is affirming her long life of heroic virtue, and outstanding fidelity to God’s grace.”

Pope Francis will celebrate the Mass of canonisation in Saint Peter’s Square this Sunday, 4 September, on the eve of the 19th anniversary of Mother Teresa’s death.

Archbishop Eamon continued, “Mother Teresa’s canonisation will be a source of great pride and joy to the over 5,000 Missionaries of Charity – sisters, brothers, priests and co-workers – in their 700 convents, who will rejoice wholeheartedly when Pope Francis proclaims that Mother Teresa is a saint. The Loreto Sisters in Ireland whom she joined in Dublin in 1928 and by whom she was sent to India, will also rejoice. In particular, I offer my prayerful good wishes at this time to the Missionary of Charity communities ministering in the Irish dioceses of Armagh, Dublin, Cloyne and Elphin.

“Mother Teresa was a champion of the poor and continues to be a source of inspiration to all of us, especially during this Year of Mercy we are celebrating at the invitation of Pope Francis.

“I look forward to celebrating a Mass of Thanksgiving on Monday 5 September for the Church’s newest saint. All are welcome to join me in Saint Malachy’s Church, Armagh, for this special celebration.

“With her canonisation, the Church is offering Saint Teresa of Calcutta to all of us, as a model of hope, charity and mercy.”

- The Mass of Canonisation for Blessed Mother Teresa will be broadcast on RTÉ One Television this Sunday. Coverage will begin from 9.10am. Father Thomas McCarthy will provide the RTÉ commentary and translation for the Mass.  
RTÉ coverage of the Mass from Saint Peter’s, Rome, will run until 11.30am.
- Cardinal Seán Brady, Archbishop Emeritus of Armagh; Bishop Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry and pilgrims from the Diocese of Derry will also be in Rome for the canonisation. Members of the “I Thirst”

prayer group from Sligo (a lay prayer group connected with the Missionary of Charities worldwide) and friends of the Missionary of Charity Sisters in Sligo will attend the Canonisation in Rome this weekend.

- Archbishop Eamon Martin will celebrate Mass a Mass of Thanksgiving for Saint Teresa of Calcutta in Saint Malachy's Church, Armagh on Monday 5 September at 7.30pm.
- Archbishop Diarmuid Martin will be interviewed by Dame Anne Widdecome in a BBC *Songs of Praise* special due to be broadcast at 5:15pm on BBC One on Sunday evening. The programme is called 'The Making of a Saint' and features interviews with Loreto sisters about Mother Teresa's time in Rathfarnham, Dublin. Please see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07v33tk>.
- Bishop William Crean will be celebrating the Solemnity of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin and Foundress, with the community of the Missionaries of Charity in Blarney

Parish Church at 10.00am on Monday morning.

- In the Diocese of Elphin a special viewing of the Mass of the Canonisation will take place in Gillooly Hall, Sligo this Sunday at 3.00pm with local Sisters from the Missionaries of Charity community in Sligo. On the following day, Monday, Bishop Christopher Jones, Bishop Emeritus of Elphin, will celebrate Mass for Saint Teresa of Calcutta's Feast Day, and this will take place at 7.00pm in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sligo. Bishop Jones met Mother Teresa in Sligo in 1996.
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- Born in 1910 in Skopje, Macedonia, to Albanian parents, Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu joined the Loreto Order and lived in Ireland until she was sent to India in 1929. There, she worked with the poorest of the poor, a vocation that led her to found her own order, the Missionaries of Charity, in 1950, in Calcutta (now Kolkata). By 2012, that congregation numbered 4,500 sisters, working among the destitute and outcast in 133 countries. She was regarded by many as a saint within her

lifetime and Pope (now Saint) John Paul II waived the usual 5-year waiting protocol to begin the process of her canonisation. Mother Teresa was beatified in 2003.

## **90 families becoming homeless in Ireland each month**

Focus Ireland annual report highlights deepening housing crisis. "The risk of children being forced to sleep rough with their families for want of an emergency bed is now an every night reality." The number of people helped by the homeless agency, Focus Ireland, grew by 9% in 2015 according to its latest annual report launched yesterday.

The 2015 Annual Report was launched by Minister for Housing Simon Coveney at the charity's newly redeveloped housing in Stanhope Green in Dublin yesterday which provides 71 housing units for people who were previously homeless.

In 2015, the charity supported over 12,500 people who were homeless or at risk – compared to 11,500 in 2014.



***Sr Stan Kennedy, founder Focus Ireland***

Focus Ireland Chairperson, Gerry Danaher, announced at the launch that 600 more homes would be provided by 2019 to help tackle the growing homeless crisis.

Over the next four years they aim to deliver 150 homes a year doubling its current housing stock.

“We all know that affordable housing supply is at the heart of the homeless crisis that blights the lives of so many,” said Mr Danaher.

“Focus Ireland has repeatedly called on the Minister and his predecessors to take the

necessary action to tackle this crisis. But we also know we have our own important role to play in this and our plan to double our housing stock over the next four years is proof of our commitment.”

Meanwhile, Focus Ireland repeated its broad welcome for the Government’s Action Plan on Housing and Homelessness, *Rebuilding Ireland*.

However, the charity warned that in relation to family homelessness there were a number of areas where more detailed proposals were needed before the plan were fully credible.

“At present, the only firm commitment in the Action Plan to these families is to eliminate the use of hotel rooms and provide better emergency accommodation through ‘rapid build’ housing, and to provide better supports to them while they remain homeless. This is welcome but even the best emergency accommodation is not a home,” said Mr Danaher.

There was little in the plan that would cut the numbers of families losing their homes or helping others secure a home, he added.



“Focus Ireland and the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive are supporting more families out of homelessness than ever before, but we cannot keep pace with the deepening crisis as 90 families have become homeless every month so far this year, compared with 60 a month last year.”

Focus Ireland founder, Sr Stanislaus Kennedy noted how laws responding to homelessness dated back to 1988 when homelessness essentially involved adult single men.

## **North Antrim parish remembers Victoria Cross parishioner**

The courage of Robert Quigg VC at the Battle of the Somme will be recalled in Billy Parish Church on September 10 and 11 as the parish takes part in European Heritage Open Days.

Rifleman Robert Quigg, a lifelong member of Billy Parish, received the Victoria Cross, the highest military honour awarded for valour in the British Commonwealth, for his actions at the Somme.



***Robert Quigg VC***

In June this year, Her Majesty the Queen visited Bushmills to unveil a statue of Robert Quigg, which was dedicated by the rector of Billy and Derrykeighan, the Rev John Anderson. [Full story.](#)

Over the two European Heritage Open Days, when around 300 historical properties open to the public for free across Northern Ireland, Billy

will be hosting a WWI Display celebrating the heroism of Robert Quigg.

The church will be open from 11am-5pm on both Saturday and Sunday, and there will be special commemorative services on Sunday at 10.30am and 6pm.

Refreshments will be available in the church hall, admission is free, and everyone is welcome.

## Back to school with nine cousins



***Elsie Gash (left) with her ten grandchildren, all of whom will be pupils at St Multose National School, Kinsale for the coming year.***

It's back to school season in schools around the country. In the Church of Ireland Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross there are 20 primary schools and 3 second level schools. For one granny – Elsie Gash from Nohoval Parish – it was an exciting and busy day as she was on hand to be with her 10 grandchildren, all of whom were starting the school year at St Multose National School, Kinsale, County Cork. With one starting and one going to sixth class it will be the one year all Elsie's grandchildren will be together in the same primary school.

## **Tweeters invited to #AskJustinWelby on prayer**

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, will take part in an online question and answer session using the social media platform Twitter on Monday (5 September). The event will be the first time Archbishop Welby has hosted a public Q&A session on Twitter – and he has chosen the subject of prayer as the theme.

People are being invited to ask questions using the hashtag [#AskJustinWelby](#); and



***The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby is inviting Twitter users to ask him questions about prayer***

he Archbishop will post answers to selected questions from 12.15 pm GMT on Monday.

Twitter users have already begun posting questions; although some – as could be expected with the nature of social media – aren't treating the exercise seriously.

Twitter user [Andy Millington](#) asked “Does the Lord ever get prayers asking if he was in an accident with in the last 5 years?” in reference to adverts by “ambulance chasing” solicitors and

claims management firms. And user [Ivan Jelical](#) asked: “If I pray more than 3 times in a day will the good Lord think I'm being needy?”

Others, however, were treating the exercise properly. Among the serious questions asked so far, [Christine Grew](#) wants to know: “What counts as prayer? If I think of someone, say, doing an exam, and hope it's going well for them, does that have power?”

[Rachel Eslicker](#) asked: “why do we pray for Saints who have passed?” And [Charlotte Houlder](#) asked for “some simple advice on how to [pray] out loud in a group?”

Some were theologically complex: [Random noise](#) asked: “Prayers of intercession imply expecting transcendent intervention. But God refuses that in the name of free will. Why?” And others asked Archbishop Welby for details of his own prayer life, including [Colin Cameron](#), who asked: “How long do you pray for each day? What is your routine (daily offices v. quiet contemplation, etc)?”

While this is the first time Archbishop Justin has hosted a Q&A session on Twitter – where he has almost [95,000 followers](#) – it isn't the first time he

has used social media to interact with members of the public. In recent months he has used the new live video facility on Facebook – where his [public page](#) has almost 130,000 likes – to host a [live interactive Bible study](#) seen by more than 895,000 people; and a [Q&A with Cardinal Vincent Nichols](#), the leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, that was seen by almost 253,000 people.

Twitter users who want to take part in Monday's Q&A can post their questions using the hashtag [#AskJustinWelby](#).

## **[Head of Ampleforth steps aside as police probe historic abuse](#)**

The Abbot of Ampleforth has “stepped aside” while police investigate abuse claims from four former pupils at the abbey’s school, Ampleforth College.

The college confirmed that Abbot Cuthbert Madden has “temporarily stepped aside” while North Yorkshire Police investigated claims dating from the 1990s.

“Fr Abbot denies any wrongdoing and will be cooperating fully while the allegations are investigated by the appropriate authorities,” Ampleforth College said in a statement.

“In the interests of transparency, we want to ensure the Ampleforth community and friends are aware of the current situation.”

The statement added: “This course of action accords fully with established civil and ecclesiastical protocols, and is a neutral action, which will remain in place for the duration of the investigation.”

A spokeswoman for North Yorkshire Police said the investigation was “ongoing” since the allegations were reported in August, and had “triggered safeguarding measures which have been put in place while it continues”.

In the interim, Fr Terence Richardson, the prior of Ampleforth Abbey, will act as superior.

Fr Madden had been at Ampleforth for 30 years. He was ordained as a priest in 1990 and first elected as abbot in 2005, and re-elected in 2013.

The college is an independent boarding school that has been co-educational since 2010. It was set up by Benedictines in 1802, and has about



600 students. Former pupils include Downton Abbey creator Julian Fellowes and sculptor Antony Gormley.

## **News briefs**

**+++ Derry Annual Flower and Craft Show today** - All Saints' Clooney, Londonderry, is holding its Annual Flower and Craft Show today, September 3, at the All Saints' Centre, on Glendermott Road. The show will be formally opened by the Mayor, Alderman Hilary McClintock, at 1pm. There will be the usual attractions: baking – fruit & vegetables – flowers – handicrafts – jam – knitting – crochet – photography – auction – face-painting and lots more. Music by Big Jim and Children's entertainment by Parky.Â Admission is £2.50 (children FREE).Â Afternoon Tea (optional) £2.50

**+++ Derry ordination** - The Rev Suzanne Cousins will be ordained priest in St Columb's Cathedral on Sunday 4th September at 4.00pm. Rev Cousins - who was formerly a deacon in St Mark's, Newtonards - will be serving her curacy in the Movie Group of Parishes.

**+++ Clogher ordination** - Rev Chris MacBruithin will be ordained priest at a service in St Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen on Wednesday 7th September at 7.30pm. Rev MacBruithin recently completed his Internship as Deacon in St Augustine's Church, Londonderry.

**+++ Hike to Croagh Patrick** - Do you fancy a trip to Westport, Co Mayo combined with a hike of one of Ireland's most famous mountains 'Croagh Patrick'? The trip will be on Friday, 7th October, for those aged 16+. Cost £30 includes dinner and bus. For further details about the trip or if you require a booking form, Derry Catechetical Centre on 02871264087 or email [ddcc@derrydiocese.org](mailto:ddcc@derrydiocese.org)

**+++ The National Grandparents' Pilgrimage** - to The Shrine of our Lady of Knock takes place this year on Sunday 11 September 2016. This annual pilgrimage is a very special day for grandparents and families, and a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the great contribution that grandparents make to church, to family, and to society in teaching and passing on the faith.

**+++ Church of Scotland urges prayer and petition for refugees** - The Kirk has welcomed

the news that 1,000 Syrian refugees have now been given safe haven in Scotland. But it said more should be done by the UK Government to help people fleeing war and persecution. David Bradwell, Refugee Co-ordinator for Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees, has urged people to sign a petition and pray for progress this Sunday ahead of a UN refugee crisis summit in New York. The Scottish Government announced today that the country has taken in 1,000 Syrian refugees since a summit was held in September last year. Equalities Secretary Angela Constance said the milestone was reached in the past week when 120 new refugees arrived. She urged the UK Government to accept more refugees and pledged that Scotland would continue to take its share.

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

### **File sent to DPP over teenage girl's death on weekend scouting trip**

[Independent.ie](http://www.independent.ie)

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/courts/file-sent-to-dpp-over-teenage-girls-death-on-weekend-scouting-trip-35016025.html>

## **Jamie Bryson band will not be prosecuted for flouting Parades Commission music ban**

Irish News

<http://www.irishnews.com/paywall/tsa/irishnews/irishnews/irishnews//news/2016/09/02/news/bryson-band-will-not-be-prosecuted-for-flouting-parades-commission-music-ban-677880/content.html>

## **44 per cent babies born in Northern Ireland last year outside of marriage**

[BelfastTelegraph.co.uk](http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk)

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/revealed-how-many-babies-were-born-in-northern-ireland-last-year-what-was-the-most-popular-day-to-get-married-35010126.html>

## **Minister's son and fascination with Donegal Spitfire**

[BelfastTelegraph.co.uk](http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk)

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/life/features/how-chocolate-buttons-led-to-the-discovery-of-a-spitfire-that-crashed-in-donegal-35013958.html>

### **Ind**

In a comment article, Douglas Robertson questions the stance of the C of E over homosexuality, suggesting that as 26 bishops sit in the House of Lords, it's time to challenge their political commitment to prejudice. The item is headlined "The Archbishop of Canterbury's new 'Hug a Homophobe' stance is the least inspiring thing I've heard all week."

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/the-archbishop-of-canterbury-s-new-hug-a-homophobe-stance-is-the-least-inspiring-thing-i-ve-heard-a7220376.html>

### **Kent online**

Report that the Kendall House inquiry is to be extended to provide an opportunity for those who did not take part to share their experiences.

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/gravesend/news/bishop-extends-inquiry-into-abuse-101757/>

### **Premier/Northern Echo**

Reports of the appointment of Canon Mark Tanner, Warden of Cranmer Hall and Vice-Principal of St John's College in Durham, to become the first Suffragan Bishop of Berwick for 444 years (see above).

<http://www.premier.org.uk/News/UK/First-Bishop-of-Berwick-for-444-years>

[http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/14718556.Historic\\_appointment\\_for\\_Durham\\_clergyman/?ref=rss](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/14718556.Historic_appointment_for_Durham_clergyman/?ref=rss)

### **Guard/BBC/Mail Online**

Reports that the Home Secretary has been urged to take action over the 387 refugee children in Calais who have a right to come to Britain. The *Guardian* quotes Peter Hill, the Bishop of Barking, who visited Calais last week. "I appeal to ministers to look into their hearts and take immediate action to bring these children to safety. It has been established that the UK has a legal obligation to these children, but more to the point, this country has a moral obligation."

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/sep/02/home-secretary-urged-to-act-over-refugee-children-stuck-in-calais>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-37249847>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3769983/Calls-urgent-action-Government-help-refugee-children-Calais.html>

### **Guard/FT**

Further coverage that more than 3,500 churches across Britain have moved their electricity supply to renewables, or are planning to do so. Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury, and the C of E's lead on environmental issues, is quoted.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/01/churches-salvation-army-fossil-fuel-electricity>

[https://www.ft.com/content/3909ae4e-6f96-11e6-a0c9-1365ce54b926?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel\\_Moreover//B2B](https://www.ft.com/content/3909ae4e-6f96-11e6-a0c9-1365ce54b926?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel_Moreover//B2B)

### **Mirror**

Report that comments made by the Rv Peter Sanlon, vicar of St Mark's, Tunbridge Wells on Facebook about the LGBT community have been branded "extremely damaging" by the charity Stonewall.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/vicar-slammed-over-facebook-posts-8751608#ICID=nsm>

### **BBC**

Report that a memorial service has been held to mark the reburial of hundreds of bodies discovered in Blackburn during road works. The Bishop of Blackburn Julian Henderson led a service at the memorial gardens reburial

site. He acknowledged the support given to the project "particularly in the light of the sensitivities involved".

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-37245188>

## **TES**

Columnist the Revd Kate Bottley reflects on her time as a college chaplain as she steps down from the role after 5 years.

<https://www.tes.com/news/tes-magazine/tes-magazine/a-wing-and-a-prayer>

## **Blogs**

**That Happy Certainty:** Go Chatter, Video ministry & that John Lewis ad re-make

<https://thathappycertainty.com/2016/09/01/interview-with-dan-rackham/>

**Think Theology:** Kierkegaard

[http://thinktheology.co.uk/blog/article/kierkegaard\\_a\\_single\\_life\\_by\\_stephen\\_backhouse1](http://thinktheology.co.uk/blog/article/kierkegaard_a_single_life_by_stephen_backhouse1)

**Law and religion UK:** National Churchwatch and security at places of worship

<http://www.lawandreligionuk.com/2016/09/01/national-churchwatch-and-security-at-places-of-worship/>

**Theore0:** Aidan, the patron saint of R&R?

<https://theore0.wordpress.com/2016/08/31/aidan-the-patron-saint-of-rr/>

**Psephizo:** How often did Jesus and his followers fast?

[churchnewsireland@gmail.com](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.com)

<http://www.psephizo.com/biblical-studies/how-often-did-jesus-and-his-followers-fast/>

**The wee flea:** The pastor as chief visitor

<https://theweeflea.com/2016/09/01/the-pastor-as-chief-visitor-an-answer-to-thomas-rainer/>

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