

Newry bonfire poster mocking victim's father was personalised, shocking and inhumane - Bishop Miller



A republican internment bonfire in Newry features materials mocking the IRA murder of the father of victims' campaigner William Frazer.

Bishop Harold Miller commenting on the republican internment bonfire in Newry featuring materials mocking the

IRA murder of the father of victims' campaigner William Frazer, said that "Dehumanising and demeaning messages conveying hate and causing hurt are not acceptable from any part of our society".

Mr Frazer's father Bertie was part-time UDR man and council worker who was murdered by the IRA on August 30 1975.

The Frazer family lost a number of members to IRA violence during the Troubles.

Mr Frazer has spent much of his career campaigning for the rights of the victims of Troubles violence.

He said that he was dedicated to confronting bigotry and the glorification of murder and would not allow history to be rewritten.

"This shows the mentality of these mindless uneducated entrenched individuals. These people are unwilling to move forward their only aim is to provoke and spread their hate filled agenda," Mr Frazer said.

"I am well used to this type of mindless bigotry as are the families of the victims we represent, daily we take abuse be it over the phone or in the street. These people have no history, no culture nothing to be proud of so they cling on to the glorification of murder. It's more to be pitied."

"Those who wish to blacken my fathers name are doing so to justify their own sectarian agenda, my father like many others served the community with pride, enforcing law and order, republicans seek to rewrite the past to facilitate acceptance of their campaign."

August 10 2018

The Rt Revd Harold Miller, Bishop of Down and Dromore *said*, 'I was deeply saddened by the message posted recently on a bonfire in Newry with regard to Willie Frazer. It was personalised, shocking and inhumane. I know it does not represent the ordinary people of Newry, whom I have experienced as warm, kind, and keen to move in a direction of reconciliation and peace.

'It is important to say that such dehumanising and demeaning messages conveying hate and causing hurt are not acceptable from any part of our society, and I want to add my voice to those who utterly condemn them.'

Newry and Mourne Ulster Unionist councillor David Taylor said "A multitude of hate crimes have been committed at this bonfire which include references made to Willie Frazer and his late father who was murdered by the IRA.

"This is the sinister face of republicans".

Sinn Féin Newry and Armagh MP Mickey Brady also condemned the signage which he described as a hate crime.

"Such actions are hate crimes and have absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with republicanism or the legacy of internment.

"It is anti-republican, and does not celebrate any aspect of Irish national identity or cultural traditions."

Arlene Foster has met with William Frazer and condemned the "hate-filled actions" of those who put a sign glorifying the murder of his father. On Thursday morning the DUP leader said: "I have spoken to William Frazer this morning

about the vile sign placed on a bonfire in Newry. Such hate-filled actions compound the pain caused by the terrorists who inflicted such heartache on the Frazer family."

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby set to address UN Security Council

Archbishop Justin Welby will become the first Archbishop of Canterbury to address the UN Security Council when he takes part in an open debate later this month. The Archbishop has been invited to brief an open debate on "mediation and its role in conflict prevention" by the UK's Ambassador to the UN, Karen Pierce. The event, on 29 August, is one two big "discretionary events" being organised by the UK during their rolling presidency of the UN in August.

"Over the years, the UN has been increasing the amount of effort it puts into mediation," Ambassador Pierce told journalists at a UN press conference. "I think everybody agrees there is still more that could be done there: there is more that we can do to share best practice; there is more we can do to talk about what works.

"A lot of countries – both off and on the [Security] Council – have very personal experiences of how mediation has helped resolve conflict or see off the threat of conflict and we want to tap into that knowledge."

Archbishop Justin has extensive experience of international mediation and the ambassador reminded journalists that he is a [member of the UN Secretary General António Guterres' High Level Advisory Board on Mediation](#). "He has a



Archbishop Justin Welby will become the first Archbishop of Canterbury to address the UK Security Council when he briefs members at the start of an open debate on mediation later this month.

particular offering to make”, she said. “We wanted to have a briefer who we hope Council members will enjoy hearing from. I have heard the Archbishop speak; I think he will be a very good contributor.

“I do know that he comes often to the United Nations and takes his contribution to it seriously.”

She added: “He makes frequent visits to New York [and] is very interested in the work of the United Nations. I had a very good chat with him before I took up my job as ambassador.”

The Anglican Communion has official observer status with the United Nations. The Communion’s Representative to the UN, Jack Palmer-White, described the Archbishop’s invitation to address the Security Council as “a really exciting and significant moment.”

He said: “Not only does his participation as an expert briefer for the debate acknowledge his own expertise on

matters of peace and reconciliation, but it is also an opportunity to draw attention to the vital work of mediation, conflict resolution and peace building going on around the Anglican Communion.

“I hope that those participating in the discussions can take away a really clear sense of the important role that churches and other faith actors can and do play in the peaceful resolution of conflicts.”

Pope Francis a ‘dismal failure’ on abuse – safeguarding expert

Pope Francis’ attempts to address abuse in the Church have been disappointing, the former head of the Irish Church’s child protection board has said, Greg Daly reports in The Irish Catholic.

Commenting on claims that the Pope has utterly failed to tackle the issue, Ian Elliott, who headed the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church, agreed, saying: “He has been a dismal failure so far.”

Mr Elliot, who headed the NBSCCC from 2007 to 2013, told The Irish Catholic, “Pope Francis I think promised a great deal and a sense of expectancy that he would deliver, but he hasn’t. The situations that have arisen haven’t been dealt with very well.”

Citing recent crises in the Australian, US and Chilean hierarchies, Mr Elliott said, “it’s not an isolated issue, it is a problem which is right across the Catholic world and it needs a much more robust and comprehensive response”.

August 10 2018

This month's
papal trip to
Ireland for the
World

Meeting of
Families
would provide
a suitable
chance for
Pope Francis
to map out
what such a

response could entail, but there is no sign this is on the
cards, he added.



Opportunity

“This is an opportunity to make a statement, not just apologising for what had happened in the past but about what’s going to happen in the future, maybe announce initiatives that are really going to make a difference,” he said, adding, “there’s no indication that that’s going to happen.”

Commenting how Dublin’s Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has warned that Pope Francis may not have time on his brief visit to meet abuse survivors, Mr Elliott said such an omission would be regrettable.

“I think that it would obviously be a great disappointment if he didn’t take that opportunity while he was here to listen to them and listen to what those people had to say,” he said.

“Really, the opportunity needs to be seized, with him coming to Ireland – not to talk about the past, but to speak about the future and to give some indication of how matters are going to be dealt with to ensure the kinds of things that happened in the past will not be repeated again in Ireland,” he added.

Bishop slams availability of contraception in Ireland ahead of Pope’s visit

A Catholic bishop who caused fury when he said those who voted to remove the ban on abortion should attend Confession has again



caused controversy by questioning access to artificial contraception, Paddy Clancy reports in Irish Central.

This time Bishop of Elphin Kevin Doran received a prompt rebuke from Health Minister Simon Harris, who [said increasing access to contraception](#) is and will remain public health policy.

The dispute flared when the bishop addressed an event in Dublin on Saturday marking the 50th anniversary of Pope Paul VI’s 1968 *Humanae Vitae* encyclical.

The bishop said the principles of the papal encyclical, which banned artificial means of contraception, “have been ignored for too long” and need to be presented in a “fresh way.”

He said it was “lopsided” to regard marriage as “simply a loving relationship” in which procreation was regarded as “an optional extra”.

Doran said, “Humanae Vitae teaches that every act of intercourse should be open in principle to the gift of life, but also that it’s perfectly legitimate for married people to make use of the married cycle both to achieve pregnancy and to avoid it.”

About 150 people attended the conference, arranged by the Nazareth Family Institute which organizes Catholic pre-marriage and “marriage enrichment” courses.

Harris immediately tweeted a plea to separate [religious beliefs from public health considerations](#).

He wrote, “Please just make it stop! ... Religion plays an important role for many on an individual basis – but it will not determine health and social policy in our country anymore. Please get that.”

Church Army and Scottish Episcopal Church create a Centre of Mission for Aberdeen

The United Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney and the Church Army, an Anglican society of evangelists, are working together to create a Centre of Mission in Aberdeen – the north-east Scotland coastal city.



Gerry and Jo Bowyer, Kerry Dixon and the Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney outside the Cafe at Credo in Aberdeen city centre.

The Centre of Mission will be used to resource evangelism in the city in partnership with other churches and ecumenical partners. The centre will operate from three locations: St Devenick's Church in Bielside, and two missional cafés: Caf4e in the Bridge of Don, and Caf4e at Credo in the city centre.

In a statement, the Scottish Episcopal Church explained that the new scheme will build on and extend the work done over a number of years by Church Army Evangelists Gerry and Jo Bowyer. Next month, Gerry Bowyer will become Rector of St Devenick's and leader of the Centre of Mission; while Jo Bowyer will continue to be based at Credo, the café in the city centre that is the location of a

fresh expression of church with Caf4e. A third church army evangelist will be appointed to lead the Caf4e community at the Bridge of Don.

“I am delighted that the Church Army is investing further resources into the City of Aberdeen,” The Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, Anne Dyer, said. “The churches in the city are concerned with sharing the love of God through mission and evangelism in many and varied ways. The development of the Centre of Mission will support and encourage wider engagement, especially among those who are not presently part of church communities.”

The Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, Bishop Mark Strange, is Vice President of the Church Army. He, too, welcomed this step forward in mission, saying: “I am delighted that the Church Army has again chosen to support the mission outreach of the Scottish Episcopal Church. The decision to share the provision of further ministry and evangelism in the City of Aberdeen can only increase the love and care that is central to Jesus’ message.”

Church Army’s National Development Officer for Scotland, Canon Kerry Dixon, commented: “Church Army are delighted at the partnership with Bishop Anne and The United Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney in establishing a new centre of mission in Aberdeen. This follows in a great Church Army tradition of working together to share the gospel so that lives are transformed and those who would never darken the door of a Church Building have the opportunity to become a follower of Jesus!”

August 10 2018

Gerry Bower, currently searching for a pioneer evangelist to join the team, said: “This person will help bring into reality a vision Jo and I had for many years, to create a Centre of Mission in Aberdeen, which will model a varied way of making new disciples. In the long term we want to see churches in our diocese grow and if the Church Army team can to be an advocate, to resource and enable others in mission then we will have achieved our goal.”

News briefs



+++ Wilson's Hospital students art to be exhibited in Tokyo - Many congratulations to Nicole whose award winning entry to the Texaco Children's Art Competition last

year entitled "Portrait of My Dad" has been chosen to feature in an exhibition in one of Japan's most highly regarded galleries, The National Arts Center in Tokyo from 8th - 19th August. The exhibition is designed for senior school students to showcase their outstanding creative talent on a global platform. 400 artworks have been selected from about 11,000 pieces representing nations across the world. Five artworks have been chosen from the Irish Texaco Children's Art Collection including Nicole's work. Well done Nicole

+++St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, Heritage Week

Highlight - 4 nights of the Vierne Symphonies. "Join us during Heritage Week to hear the Vierne Symphonies performed over 4 nights by our amazing organist David Leigh". Details at <https://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/heritage-week-2018-at-saint-patricks-cathedral/>

+++Bangor in Belfast - The Choir of Bangor Abbey will sing in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, at the 11am Eucharist and 3.30pm Evensong on Sunday August 12. In recent years the choir has sung in Down Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, and St Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny. In March they co-hosted a concert with Coro Di Andora, a choir based in Italy. At the morning Eucharist service their repertoire will include Eric Thiman's 'Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord' which was written for the Choir of Bangor Abbey. The Choir is directed by Donald Hamilton. Everyone is very welcome at these services in Belfast Cathedral.

+++Shankill scouts in Czech Republic - Well done to Camp Leader, [Scott Hamilton](#) and his Team, for delivering 8

August 10 2018

fantastic action packed days for 60 young people, from across North West Belfast, in the Czech Republic. The videos/photos on the NICzech 2018 FB page are testimony to the great time the young people enjoyed and of course the many fond memories and new friends made.



August 10 2018