

Archbishop Clarke's support for chaplains in hospices and palliative care



Rev Matthew Hagan, Archbishop of Armagh Dr Richard Clarke and the Rev Caroline McAfee contributed to Chaplaincy in Hospice and Palliative Care. "People matter as much at the end of their earthly lives as at any other time," argues Dr Clarke.

The powerful but often unheralded work of chaplains working in hospice and palliative care settings has been examined in a new book, *The Irish News* reports.

Among those contributing to Chaplaincy in Hospice and Palliative Care is Dr Richard Clarke, the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Armagh. He recalls his own experience of hospice care for his late wife.

"I am personally full of gratitude for the hospice movement," he writes.

"It is so important, in the world in which we live, that there are those who will make the powerful statement - by their amazing actions of care and love for others - that people matter as much at the end of their earthly lives as at any other time.

"People are not commodities on a balance sheet. Every person has infinite value. Let that certainty never be denied."

The Rev Matthew Hagan, rector of Tynan, Aghavilly and Middletown and chaplain to the Southern Area Hospice in Newry, writes about being "sustained by the peace and tranquility" which he experiences within the hospice building in a chapter entitled 'Our Own Nourishment'.

He also describes "a great sense of God's presence" in what is said and done in what can be at times very difficult situations.

Recently retired senior chaplain at the Northern Ireland Hospice in Belfast, the Rev Caroline McAfee, has also lent her 20-year-long perspective to the book in a chapter asking 'Do We Have a Voice?'.

Rev McAfee, a former nurse and a minister in the Church of the Nazarene, considers the importance of "fighting the corner" amid competing voices for spiritual care as "one of the four pillars of palliative care", as well as discussing the frameworks of working with multi-professional teams, education and staff support. Chaplaincy in Hospice and Palliative Care, co-edited by Karen Murphy and Bob Whorton, is published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers, £18.99.

Marriage for many has just become an excuse for a “great party,” Derry bishop

Marriage for many co-habiting couples has just become an excuse for a “great party,” the Bishop of Derry has said.



Dr Donal McKeown said marriage used to mark a “hugely significant” transition from the single to married life, but that transition had been devalued.

Speaking at a Mass to mark the Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock, Bishop McKeown said “our increasingly disorientated modern society” seems unsure about what value it places on marriage.

“On the one hand, what is called ‘marriage equality’ seems to see it as a title that no-one should be stopped from claiming for themselves.

“On the other hand, the term marriage for many no longer has a clear agreed content. It can be

temporary, depending on the emotional wishes of the parties.”

Dr McKeown added: “In the past, the marriage ceremony marked the hugely significant transition of two people from being single to becoming a couple.

“Our modern culture tends to suggest that promiscuity is just part of growing up and that the use of pornography is fine.

“In that situation, for many the marriage ceremony marks not a key transition point in people’s lives but rather the time when they have been living together and gathered enough money for a great party.

“Indeed, much evidence suggests that, for some, the marriage ceremony marks a crisis time for some cohabiting couples.”

The bishop also referred to “our emotionally unhygienic culture” telling a “different and destructive story” about marriage.

During his homily in Knock, Bishop McKeown also predicted that next year’s World Meeting of Families will be an opportunity for Irish society to celebrate “relationships, faithfulness and heroism”.

Irish Catholicism on trial at conference

Gladys Ganiel is one of the keynote speakers at a conference next week on 'Irish Catholicism on Trial,' at IT Tallaght in Dublin. Her address is titled, 'Does Religion Still Matter in a Post-Catholic Ireland?' It is scheduled for 4-5 pm on Friday, October 6

The conference is billed as 'a multidisciplinary conference exploring the ever-changing face of Irish Catholicism, the factors that have contributed to the current crisis and what the future holds.'

The other keynote speakers are Professor Dermot Keogh (University College Cork) on 'The Catholic Church and the Irish State'; and Professor Catherine Maignant (Université de Lille 3) on 'The 'digital continent': an escape route for a Church in crisis?'

Places for the conference, which costs €50, are limited. [You can register here.](#)

As well as the leading academic researchers on Catholicism in Ireland, the event features perspectives from people like Tony Flannery,



IRISH CATHOLICISM ON TRIAL

MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

Exploring the ever-changing face of Irish
Catholicism, the factors that have contributed to
the current crisis and what the future holds

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dr Gladys Ganiel
Professor Dermot Keogh
Professor Catherine Maignant



Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
Ambassade de France en Irlande



ITT
Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Tallaght
Institute of Technology Tallaght

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TALLAGHT
OCTOBER 6th & 7th

COST €50

LIMITED NUMBERS RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW

WWW.IT-TALLAGHT.IE/CONFERENCE-IRISH-CATHOLICISM-ON-TRIAL

Redemptorist priest and author, on ‘Did the early Church Fathers know too much about God?’

and Mark Patrick Hederman of Glenstal Abbey, Limerick, on ‘What happened to the Priesthood of the Laity?’

Gladys Ganeiel in a post on the conference comments, “My lecture will draw on research that has been published in my 2016 book, Transforming Post-Catholic Ireland: Religious Practice in Late Modernity; as well as more recent work on the rise of people of ‘no religion’ in Ireland, especially among those under the age of 35.

“The organiser of the conference is Eamon Maher, director of the National Centre for Franco-Irish Studies at IT Tallaght and co-editor with Eugene O’Brien of a new book of essays entitled *Tracing the Cultural Legacy of Irish Catholicism: From Galway to Cloyne and Beyond*. In an article in Tuesday’s Irish Times, ‘Catholicism’s influence is very much alive in Ireland,’ he argues that:

... In other words, a post-Catholic society is one in which Catholicism still retains an influence in people’s personal lives and in the public sphere.

“This is very much in line with the findings of *Transforming Post-Catholic Ireland*, in which I argue that people in Ireland are creating spaces that nourish their faith *outside or in addition to*

the institutional Catholic Church, while at the same time continuing to be influenced by the Church.

“But at the same time, that does not mean that the future of Irish Catholicism is secure. In my lecture I will raise questions about a ‘lost generation’ of Irish Catholics (those under 35), and the extent that religion may continue to matter for them as they age and pass their (lack of) faith on to their children.”

New Ecumenical Advisor appointed in Dublin & Glendalough

The Revd Norman McCausland has been appointed to the role of Ecumenical Advisor in the Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough. The announcement comes following the appointment of Canon Niall Sloane, the former Ecumenical Advisor, to the Deanery of Limerick. Norman is the Rector of Raheny and Coolock parishes.

Making the announcement, Archbishop Michael Jackson said that Norman would bring an interesting perspective to the role. “Norman has a long standing personal commitment to ecumenism and also sees it as part of the weave of spiritual and parochial life. His involvement

both in The Jerusalem Link and in the development of the Camino in these dioceses shows how important this side of Christianity is to him. Ecumenism and mutual understanding remain vital to our daily discipleship and sense of community in Dublin and Glendalough,” he said.

Norman said that the invitation to be the new Ecumenical Advisor was a pleasure and a privilege. He added that he hoped to make ecumenical engagement part of our year round conversation rather than simply an annual token gesture.

“To be honest, I have sometimes felt ambivalent towards the more formal expressions of Ecumenism and have shared in the collective groan of colleagues at the approach of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. How can we continue to celebrate this important focus of common prayer and avoid it being a token gesture after which we retreat to the safety of our own little kingdoms for the rest of the year? I suppose my nature has always been to engage in more informal, year round conversation with those from other traditions and in the words of the late Revd Prof John Thompson of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, ‘to seek as far as possible to work together for the cause of Christ

and for the common good both here and elsewhere’,” he commented.

He continued: “I take up this new position at a time when the rapid change in Irish Society and the changed attitudes towards the Church present a real challenge to such ‘working together’, especially for those, who like myself, are members of the traditional churches. Our time, energy and ever-depleting resources are often focused on keeping the denominational ship afloat when, more than ever, we need to look outward. As well as the challenges, a changed Irish Society also presents new opportunities for mission and service.

Ecumenism was born out of a shared vision for mission. Mission will be best served when we realise that no one tradition or expression of faith can do everything by itself. I would like to encourage a wider understanding of Ecumenism in our Dioceses that will embrace and work with not just our brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist traditions but also those in the Orthodox, Evangelical and Pentecostal churches as well as the new migrant-led churches.

“At this time of challenge and new opportunity in my role as Ecumenical Advisor, I am encouraged and uplifted by the words of Pastor Tunde

Adedebayo–Oke, Regional Pastor and leader of the Redeemed Christian Church of God in Ireland. In a recent interview in VOX magazine Pastor Tunde expresses his desire for Christian Unity in the following words:

‘At the end of the day, we are one family. We have the same Father but different mothers (denominations), but all those walls don’t count for anything. We preach the same message. We follow the same Lord. In heaven, there will be no segregation, and we need to start practising that here’,” he concluded.sense of community in Dublin and Glendalough,” he said.

Norman said that the invitation to be the new Ecumenical Advisor was a pleasure and a privilege. He added that he hoped to make ecumenical engagement part of our year round conversation rather than simply an annual token gesture.

“To be honest, I have sometimes felt ambivalent towards the more formal expressions of Ecumenism and have shared in the collective groan of colleagues at the approach of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. How can we continue to celebrate this important focus of common prayer and avoid it being a token gesture after which we retreat to the safety of

our own little kingdoms for the rest of the year? I suppose my nature has always been to engage in more informal, year round conversation with those from other traditions and in the words of the late Revd Prof John Thompson of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, ‘to seek as far as possible to work together for the cause of Christ and for the common good both here and elsewhere’,” he commented.

He continued: “I take up this new position at a time when the rapid change in Irish Society and the changed attitudes towards the Church present a real challenge to such ‘working together’, especially for those, who like myself, are members of the traditional churches. Our time, energy and ever-depleting resources are often focused on keeping the denominational ship afloat when, more than ever, we need to look outward. As well as the challenges, a changed Irish Society also presents new opportunities for mission and service. Ecumenism was born out of a shared vision for mission. Mission will be best served when we realise that no one tradition or expression of faith can do everything by itself. I would like to encourage a wider understanding of Ecumenism in our Dioceses that will embrace and work with not just our brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist traditions

but also those in the Orthodox, Evangelical and Pentecostal churches as well as the new migrant-led churches.

“At this time of challenge and new opportunity in my role as Ecumenical Advisor, I am encouraged and uplifted by the words of Pastor Tunde Adedebayo-Oke, Regional Pastor and leader of the Redeemed Christian Church of God in Ireland. In a recent interview in VOX magazine Pastor Tunde expresses his desire for Christian Unity in the following words:

‘At the end of the day, we are one family. We have the same Father but different mothers (denominations), but all those walls don’t count for anything. We preach the same message. We follow the same Lord. In heaven, there will be no segregation, and we need to start practising that here’,” he concluded.



Explainer: What's behind Ireland's abortion referendum

Ireland's new prime minister, Leo Varadkar, announced in his first speech as the country's

leader on Tuesday that a referendum on its constitutional ban on abortion is planned for May or June 2018, just months before Pope Francis is due to visit the Catholic-majority country, Florence Gildea writes in Christianity Today.

As it stands, Ireland is one of the last European countries where abortion remains illegal in all cases, except those where the mother's life is clearly endangered. The eighth amendment of Ireland's constitution holds that mothers and unborn children have an equal right to life. Therefore, for any changes to the laws regarding abortion, the country's constitution itself must be altered which, in Ireland, requires a popular vote.

In an interview with Christian Today, Nick Park, spokesperson for the Evangelical Alliance of Ireland said: 'We have known this was coming for some time. But what will be crucial is the wording of the actual referendum because surveys have shown that the majority of Irish people oppose abortion on demand, but want to see it legalised for limited circumstances.'

According to a survey of Irish voters conducted by [Ipsos MRBI in May](#), 82 per cent agreed that abortion should be allowed in cases where there was a serious risk to a woman's health; 76 per cent agreed for cases where the pregnancy was

the result of rape, 72 per cent agreed for cases where a woman's mental health is at serious risk and 67 per cent believed abortion should be allowed when there is a foetal abnormality likely to lead to death.

However, 67 per cent were opposed to abortion on request and 68 per cent believed abortion should not be legal for cases where a woman lacks financial or family support. Another poll, by [Behavior and Attitudes for the Sunday Times](#) in late April found 61 per cent of Irish voters opposed to a situation in which abortion was legally available, regardless of the reasons for which the procedure was sought out. Further, 58 per cent also opposed abortion being permitted because the parents would struggle to financially support the child.

This means that the phrasing of the referendum may well determine how far any change to the law properly represents the nuance of popular feeling towards the issue. If abortion were allowed in Ireland only in specific situations, it would be distinct from most European countries where the legality of an abortion does not depend on the specifics of the situation.

Park, however, fears that 'the pro-abortion lobby will try to exploit this situation [where most Irish

people believe that abortion should be permitted in certain situations but not available on request] by exploiting very emotive cases, and in doing so, remove the constitutional protection from all unborn children'.

Unrestricted abortion up to the 12th week of pregnancy, with certain restrictions after that was proposed by the Irish Citizens' Assembly – a special committee composed of 99 members of the public selected at random.

When asked about whether it was appropriate for Christian moral values to be imposed on society at large, Park said that the Evangelical Alliance of Ireland is not approaching it as a purely religious or 'cultural war issue', but a human rights one. He noted that the organisation's campaigns in anticipation of the referendum would centre on 'a positive affirmation of all life, including that of the unborn'.

He drew a comparison with other Christian efforts to defend the rights of vulnerable and oppressed groups – William Wilberforce's campaign for the abolition of slavery and Martin Luther King's fight for civil rights in the U.S being the most notable examples. 'Throughout history, human rights have been violated when people

try to say only certain groups deserve them.' Women, children, and people of colour have all at various times been viewed as of inferior value to white adult males, traditionally those who held the legislative power, and therefore requiring less legal protection.

'It is part of the general progression of history for these rights to be extended to previously excluded groups and it is in our humanitarian tradition as evangelical Christians to extend human rights to all groups, including the unborn,' Park continued. To that end, the Evangelical Alliance of Ireland has published two books on abortion from a human rights, rather than an explicitly Christian, perspective – *Birth Equality* and *The Gospel & Human Rights*.

The same perspective is being taken by other pro-life groups. This month, Ireland's Pro-Life Campaign tweeted: 'Usually referendums add protection to human rights.

[#RepealThe8th](#) would strip the unborn child of all meaningful protections.'

Atheists For 8th also tweeted that the amendment as it stands 'recognises that during pregnancy, there are two lives that must be protected. Instead of [#repealthe8th](#), let's [#Loveboth](#)'.

The 8th amendment was decided by a referendum in 1983, when 67 per cent of voters approved it, but it was broadened in a 1992 referendum, which made it legal for women to travel to another jurisdiction to have an abortion and for information about abortion services abroad to be provided to Irish citizens.

According to [UK government statistics](#), nearly 4,000 women from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland traveled to England and Wales to receive abortions in 2016.

See also The Guardian -

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/26/ireland-abortion-referendum-pope-visit>

Little books featured in C of I Library's online archive of the month

The Representative Church Body (RCB) Library, Dublin, looks at the smaller side of books in October's Archive of the Month (available online from Tuesday, 3rd October) with a corresponding exhibition showcasing some of its collection of miniature and small books available on display in the Library.

The online Archive of the Month will focus on two items: one is a miniature Bible presented to the Library by CJ Lundy, son of the Revd St George Lundy (1914-1976 a former rector of Glenavy and Crumlin in the diocese of Connor), and the other a beautiful edition of the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP), which was purchased from a local charity shop after the Library was notified of its existence by a member of the public.

The RCB Library holds well in excess of 80,000 books, many of which have been donated to the Library by those associated with the Church of Ireland and other religious institutions, as well as by members of the public. These items in particular attest to their innately personal nature, while those that are small emphasise this even further.

The first item, donated by CJ Lundy, is an intricate, miniature version of the Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments. Measuring only 4.3 cm in height and 3 cm in width, the Bible is bound in a dark blue cover. A particularly delightful aspect of the volume is that it includes drawings of notable biblical events.

This miniature book was a product of David Bryce & Sons, a publishing house noted as

masters of miniaturisation, using the latest technological advances in photolithography and electroplating to produce ever-smaller versions of popular texts. It comes complete with a magnifying glass to help the reader with deciphering the text, such aids being a particular feature of these kinds of books produced by Bryce.

On the front endpapers of the book, the inscription that states: 'From the Library of John Knott, M.D. given to St George Lundy by Eleanor Knott with best wishes 23 IV 1938'.

St George Charles Hubert Lundy was baptised in St Mary's Church in Donnybrook parish on 20th May 1914, with the family residing in 4 Churchill Terrace. After moving to 11 Strand Road in Sandymount, the family became members of St Michael's parish in Irishtown.

St George trained in Trinity College with the aim of becoming ordained in the Church of Ireland, eventually becoming curate in Christ Church in Lisburn and St Mary's in Belfast. In 1938, he received his Divinity Testimonium from Trinity College Dublin (TCD) and so began his deaconship, but given that it was St George's birthday on 24 April, we might assume that this book was a gift to mark this anniversary.

It was given to Lundy by the remarkable linguist Eleanor Knott (born 18th November 1886). The Knott family resided in Dublin in 34 York Street, near St Stephen's Green and the miniature Bible came from the library of John Freeman Knott, a medical doctor and Eleanor's father.

Eleanor was encouraged by her Cornish mother, Philippa Annie Knott (née Balcombe), to study Irish, and came to focus on Old Irish at the School of Irish Learning in 1907. Eleanor began working for the Royal Irish Academy in 1911 and eventually became a lecturer in Celtic Languages in TCD in 1928. A year after presenting St George with the miniature Bible, a Chair of Early Irish was created for her in TCD.

Eleanor Knott's gift to Lundy was both a deeply personal and an innately respectful gesture. We can only speculate as to whether the two initiated their friendship on the campus of the university, but it is without doubt that their friendship had already begun during this important time for both.

The RCB Library was alerted to the existence of the second featured volume by a member of the public who saw it for sale in a local charity shop. The Library has a small budget for purchasing materials of direct relevance to the Church, and on inspection of the item in question, purchased

it for longevity. This edition of the BCP, published in 1861 by G. E. Eyre and W. Spottiswoode, is in remarkable condition, being a near-perfect copy, with a simple 'Church Service' in gold on the segmented spine.

The book is bound in brown leather and the pages are gold-edged. What really takes the eye is the metal clasp that protects it, as well as the gold brass symbol on the front which states 'peace'.

In contrast to Knott's miniature Bible, biographical information on the provenance of the BCP indicates it may have been a treasured keepsake. On the front endpaper are two inscriptions, in different hand and ink. The first reads simply 'M Draper. 1863' while underneath is the inscription 'Given to Eleanor Draper by Aunt Helen Montague March 20 1908'.

These tantalising bits of information led us on a quest to find more information about the elusive Eleanor Draper, using online genealogical sources such as the 1901 and 1911 census forms. From this research we can say with a reasonable amount of confidence that Eleanor Draper was born in Dublin on 3rd January 1867. Her parents, Carter and Sophy, were married in Rathmines Chapel of Ease in 1866 and had

moved to Blackrock by the time of Eleanor's birth. Eleanor's father was an architect from Wicklow, whose notable work was the Halpin Memorial, in Fitzwilliam Square in Wicklow town. The civil record of Eleanor's death on 6th December 1962 states that she was a teacher.

Items such as this often contain dedications, notes, or personal items to underline their importance. In addition to the dedication that we have mentioned, we also found an original photograph of the British Legation at Kabul inserted into the middle section.

There is no indication of the reason that Eleanor placed this image in the book. On the back, in pencil, it simply states: 'British Legation Kabul'. It would be fascinating to know if, for example, her father had worked on the construction of this building.

These rare items are just two examples of the many unique items that the RCB Library holds and the stories they help to uncover. Visitors are invited to view both volumes in the context of a selection of other miniature and small books in the RCB Library hall.

For more information about Eleanor Knott, click here: www.ria.ie/library/eleanor-knott-collection

The online exhibition, available through this link (www.ireland.anglican.org/about/rcb-library/archive-of-the-month) has been researched and put together by Jennifer Murphy, Library Assistant, and Bryan Whelan, Assistant Librarian.

CNI

Help CNI grow

Please commend

**CNI daily news to your
friends**

www.churchnewsireland.org

CNI