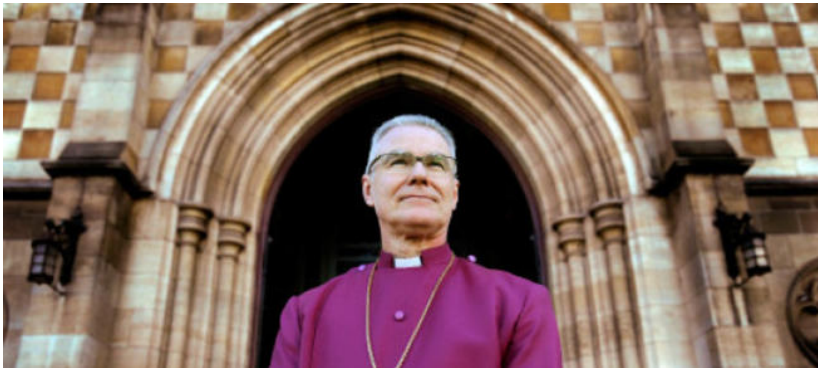


Australian Primate rebukes bishops' attendance at GAFCON consecration



An Australian Primate has rebuked two bishops who attended the GAFCON consecration of a new missionary bishop in Illinois, USA.

The Most Reverend Dr Philip L Freier, Archbishop of Melbourne wrote an open letter condemning Archbishop Glenn Davies and Bishop Richard Condie.

He was unhappy they went against his advice in joining the meeting held by GAFCON, a group of conservative Anglicans.

GAFCON appointed Rev Canon Andy Lines as a new bishop to oversee disaffected Anglicans in the UK without the approval of Church authorities.

The new role emerged after GAFCON was disappointed in the Scottish Episcopal Church's (SEC) decision to allow same-sex marriage last June.

The group accused the SEC of "rejecting the authority of the Bible".

GAFCON hopes Canon Lines will "plant dynamic churches all over Scotland" and recognise "the pastoral need" for "faithful Anglicans".

Archbishop Philip said the new role doesn't align with his National Constitution and the bishops shouldn't support it.

He wrote in his letter: "...I have deep concerns that the participation by our Episcopal colleagues in the consecration of Canon Lines, with or without the support of their respective dioceses, is contrary to the spirit of the canons of the Council of Nicaea and, most importantly, outside of the authority of our National Constitution.

"It may also be outside the authority of the Consecration of Bishops Canon, 1966 of the Anglican Church of Australia.

"As we respond to these developments let us resolve to uphold each other in mutual prayer and to do all we can to strengthen the koinonia we share as bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia."

Bishops' visitations in Meath are focus of the C of I Library's latest book

The 'Book of the Moment' in the RCB Library is the latest volume in the Library's Texts and Calendars series: *Episcopal visitations of the diocese of Meath 1622-1799*. Edited by Dr Michael O'Neill and published by the Four Courts Press (www.fourcourtspress.ie), in association with the RCB Library, it will be launched by the Bishop of Meath and Kildare, the Most Revd Pat Storey, at a reception in St Patrick's Cathedral, Trim, on Thursday 6th July 2017, at 6.30pm.

Episcopal visitations are formal/structured accounts – parish by parish – which build up to give an in-depth state of a diocese at a given

time. Specific questions were asked and the answers – and indeed non-answers or evasions – helped the bishop to build up a picture of the diocese, and the strengths and weaknesses of individual parishes and clergy. The early visitation records of the Church of Ireland were largely destroyed in the fire at the Public Record Office of Ireland in 1922, which greatly enhances the significance of those that have survived in copy form.

The current volume provides editions of the visitations of the diocese of Meath for the years 1622, 1693, 1733 and 1799, covering the episcopates of James Ussher (Bishop of Meath from 1621 to 1625), Anthony Dopping (bishop from 1682-97), Welbore Ellis (1732-34), and finally Thomas Lewis O’Beirne (1798-1823). Two of these sources are located in Marsh’s Library, Dublin, the third in the RCB Library, and the fourth in the Library of Trinity College Dublin.

This is the eighth volume in the RCB Library’s Texts and Calendars series, and the first to focus on sources outside Dublin. It brings all four diocesan visitations together as a single edition, offering unique insights into the life of the Church of Ireland and its interaction with the wider community, from the post-Reformation period to the eve of the Act of Union. As the

enlightening introduction reveals, there is much in the content of these records about the spiritual and temporal life of the Church in a large Irish diocese during the 17th and 18th centuries, providing a framework for more detailed studies of localities, based on the records of individual parishes.

The editor, Dr Michael O'Neill, is well known as an architectural historian, who has written widely on the heritage of the Irish Church, and manages the project to digitize, catalogue and make available online the Church of Ireland's extensive collections of architectural drawings, available at: www.archdrawing.ireland.anglican.org

All are welcome to attend the launch in St Patrick's Cathedral, Trim, on Thursday, at 6.30pm, or for those who cannot make the launch the book may be purchased through the Church of Ireland online bookstore here: <https://store.ireland.anglican.org/store/product/129/episcopal-visitations-of-the-diocese-of>

'Book of the Moment' is also being highlighted via the Library's new twitter feed – @RCBLibrary – as an initiative aimed at promoting books of interest to its multiple audiences via Twitter. See: <https://twitter.com/rcblibrary>

Tipperary Sister's 50 years of service in Derry

Sr Carmel Guinan was born in Co Tipperary in 1929, entered Good Shepherd Sister on February 8, 1955, received the habit on September 8 1955 and was professed in 1957. She was appointed to Derry on September 8, 1961 and has been there since.

At a Mass for her Diamond Jubilee, celebrated at Dromantine Retreat Centre, Newry, Fr Michael Canny said, "Sr Carmel, over 60 years ago, in faith and guided by others of faith, you choose to dedicate your life to listening to the voice of God and living out that call as a member of the Good Shepherd Sisters. That decision to leave family, friends and home on February 8 1955 brought you to Limerick, Cork, a domestic science course in Dublin and back to Limerick where with 6 others sisters you made your final vows.

"On September 8 1961 your "Yes" to God's plan found you being appointed to the Good Shepherd Convent in Derry where you have remained since. Each religious community has its own identity. The stories of sisters who have gone before, its saints and traditions have

helped to make you the special person that we all know you to be.

“Your time spent in prayer and in your work in St Mary's in Derry, and in more recent years as chaplain at Altnagelvin Hospital has been your living out of that initial "yes" you said when you left home in Tipperary all those years ago.

“This afternoon among family and friends we are delighted to celebrate your Diamond Jubilee of religious profession – celebrating a long journey of faithful and dedicated service as a Good Shepherd Sister. We are celebrating your witness to a different way of life from what our modern busy world is familiar with – a life for the most part of hidden service...”

Controversial bishop to speak at Missionary Convention in Belfast Cathedral

Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention, which takes place between Friday 18th and Saturday 26th August, will hold a meeting in St Anne's Cathedral on Saturday 19th August at 7.30pm.

The theme for the summer Convention is 'You will be my witnesses.' The majority of the events will be held at Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church but there are also events in the neighbouring Baptist Church as well as Lurgan and Magherafelt.



Archbishop Henry Orombi and member of parliament David Bahati

Joining Bishop Henry Orombi at St Anne's Cathedral on August 19 will be Very Rev Dr Trevor Morrow and New Irish Arts will lead the praise. This is the Convention's first time at the Cathedral and the organisers look forward to many joining with them in St Anne's.

For more information on all the events taking place during the convention, visit the website www.worldwidemission.org or follow on social media (@BangorWorldwide on Twitter, Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention on Facebook).

The Wikipedia entry for Bishop Orombi states :

“He has become an influential leader of the [Global South](#) during the recent discussions within the [Anglican Communion](#). Together with the House of Bishops of the Church of Uganda, Archbishop Orombi consecrated an American priest as a bishop to provide ecclesiastical oversight to the American congregations under the Church of Uganda.^[4] The Church of Uganda transferred all its American clergy and congregations to the [Anglican Church in North America](#) in June 2009. Orombi, the Church of Uganda, and their American clergy and congregations oppose decisions made by the governing bodies of the [Episcopal Church](#).

“In October 2009, he responded to the Vatican's proposed creation of [personal ordinariates](#) for disaffected traditionalist Anglicans by saying that the current [GAFCON](#) structures already meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of traditionalist Anglicans in Africa.

“The Church of Uganda has opposed the proposed [Anti-Homosexuality Bill](#). Archbishop Orombi and the House of Bishops resolved in August 2008, that "The Church of Uganda is committed at all levels to offer counseling, healing and prayer for people with homosexual disorientation, especially in our schools and other institutions of learning. The Church is a safe place for individuals, who are confused about their sexuality or struggling with sexual brokenness, to seek help and healing.”

In June 2013 a former priest of Connor Diocese, Belfast born Rev Albert Ogle, ministering in the USA, in a hard-hitting open letter to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, challenged Kerry to end U.S. support for “anti-gay former Anglican Archbishop Henry Luke Orombi”, whom Ogle described as one of the most influential instigators of Africa’s ongoing campaign of attacks on LGBT people. Ogle’s letter also raises serious issues surrounding the financing of a major church building and the archbishop’s early retirement.

See -

<https://76crimes.com/2013/06/13/to-john-kerry-stop-helping-african-anti-gay-campaigner/>

GB Chief Inspector warns children at risk in all rogue faith schools



The chief inspector of the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) has warned that thousands of children are at risk in unregistered faith schools - whether, Christian, Jewish or Islamic.

Amanda Spielman, head of the non-ministerial department said new laws and powers to protect children who mostly study religious holy books such as the bible, the Sunday Times reports.

She said: "It is clear that weaknesses in current legislation allow some organisations to teach school-aged children religious texts full-time... and avoid proper scrutiny.



"Since January 2016 my inspectors have visited numerous establishments that they believe should be registered as schools. The fact that such places are able to operate and remain unregistered leaves pupils at risk."

Up to 6,000 youngsters are taught at unregistered religious centres. Inspectors over the past 18 months have identified 286 seemingly unregistered schools

across England. Of the 116 inspected, 36 have been given warning notices. Ofsted officials have been unable to gain access to the remaining. Two years ago an unregistered Islamic school in Birmingham was closed down after inspectors found "squalid conditions, including three single mattresses covered in filthy sheets in one room and no running water in the toilet areas". Ofsted has recommended schools for prosecution but so far, no cases have come to court. However, some have since stopped operating.

The vast majority of registered faith schools in England have a Christian faith designation, but there are also a small number of schools with other faith designations - including Muslim, Jewish and Sikh.

Spielman said she was determined to continue investigating unregistered schools and added: "We will do everything we can to make sure they comply with the law or are closed."

Homeless Jesus sculpture to be installed in Glasgow

A sculpture of a "homeless Jesus" sleeping rough is to be installed in Glasgow city centre.



The statue, by Canadian sculptor Timothy Schmalz, is a life-size bronze of a shrouded person sleeping on a bench, with only the crucifixion wounds on his feet indicating he represents Jesus.

Glasgow will be the first location in Scotland to house the statue, which is found in around 50 locations across the globe including the Vatican, Madrid in Spain, Chennai in India and several cities in the US.

Mr Schmalz approached Father Willy Slavin, former parish priest in St Simon's Church in Partick and former chair of Glasgow Emmaus, to bring the message to Glasgow.

The sculpture will be installed in November on the pavement in Nelson Mandela Square, beside St George's Tron church.

Father Slavin worked on the project with the inter-faith group Glasgow Churches Together.

He said: "The sculpture has a strong message and it is right that more attention is brought to homelessness. With as many groups as possible getting involved, the sculpture will arrive in November."

The £25,000 cost of the Glasgow Homeless Jesus initiative will be met by donations from individuals and pro bono work from architects and other contractors, organisers said.

So far £10,000 has already been raised and organisers stress no funds will be diverted from front-line charitable work to help the homeless.

The sculpture has met with controversy elsewhere, with some people in the US protesting against it as they felt it might encourage the homeless to gather nearby.

Elsbeth Glasgow, of Churches Together Glasgow, said: "It was brilliant when we were given approval for this plan.

"We had to take great care in our proposal, given some of the stories of other cities not giving it permission."



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The sculptor's inspiration for the statue comes from the gospel of Matthew 25: 31-46 - "Truly I

tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

+++ Borderless in Armagh -The Starfire Singers from Los Altos, California, will present *Borderless* – an original musical – in St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh, at 7.30pm on Monday, 31st July. Admission is free and a free-will offering will be received for Southern Area Hospice Services. St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh. Tel: 028 3752 3142. Web: www.stpatricks-cathedral.org

+++ Institution at St Jude's Parish Church, Muckamore - There was a packed church on Wednesday June 28 for the institution of the Rev John McClure as rector of the Grouped Parishes of Muckamore, Killead and Gartree. Parishioners were joined by well-wishers from John's last parish of Ballymena and Ballyclug, where he was curate assistant, and there were also visitors from parishes John has previously ministered in, all within Connor Diocese. The preacher was the Very Rev John Bond, former Dean of Connor. John is married to Margot and they have two grown-up daughters, Stephanie and Rachel. He was ordained in the Non-Stipendary Ministry in 2007, and served curacies in the Parish of

Skerry, Rathcavan and Newtowncrommelin (Broughshane) and the Parish of St Michael, Belfast, before switching to Stipendary Ministry and moving to Ballymena Parish three years ago.

+++ Cork Rural Dean - The Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, has announced the appointment of the Reverend Tony Murphy as new Rural Dean for North-East Cork. North-East Cork Rural Deanery comprises five parishes: Youghal Union, Cloyne Union, Cobh and Glanmire Union, Fermoy Union and Mallow Union. The Reverend Tony Murphy is a licensed auxiliary minister in the Diocese. He was ordained deacon in 2011 and priest in 2012.

He is currently serving in the Fermoy Union of Parishes. He is a graduate of University College Cork, Trinity College Dublin, and the University of Chester

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