

Head of Irish bishops calls new law on Mass attendance ‘draconian’

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CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE



Father Gerard Quirke raises the chalice at Mass Rock overlooking Keem Bay on Ireland's Achill Island April 4, 2021. Quirke, a priest of the Archdiocese of Tuam, said celebrating Easter Mass there had a "particular resonance" given the current legal ban on Masses in Ireland.

DUBLIN — The head of the Irish bishops’ conference said the government’s move to criminalize attendance at Mass as part of COVID-19 regulations was a “potential infringement of religious freedom and of constitutional rights.”

Churches in the Irish Republic have been closed for public worship since Dec. 26, but the government has claimed that this was just a matter of regulation rather than law.

However, on April 16, Health Minister Stephen Donnelly signed a new law — known as a statutory instrument — making it a criminal offense.

Report: German Catholics Plan Massive Same-Sex Blessing

April 17, 2021 by sd

From Crux:

Continuing to openly challenge the Vatican, several Catholic leaders in Germany are openly supporting the blessing of same-sex couples, with a massive blessing service scheduled for May 10, in direct opposition to Rome's chief doctrinal office.

Bishop Franz-Josef Overbeck of Essen said that the priests in his diocese will face no canonical consequence if they decide to bless gay and lesbian couples next month as part of the event called "Love wins, blessing service for lovers."

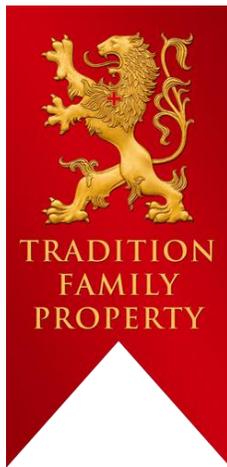
HALLELUJAH A mother and daughter at Easter

[https://webmail.spectrum.net/index.php/mail/viewmessage/getattachment/uniqueId/42127/account/0/fileNameOriginal/VIDEO-2021-03-24-21-03-56 \(1\).mp4/fileNameModified/VIDEO-2021-03-24-21-03-56 \(1\).mp4?folder=SU5CT1g%253D](https://webmail.spectrum.net/index.php/mail/viewmessage/getattachment/uniqueId/42127/account/0/fileNameOriginal/VIDEO-2021-03-24-21-03-56%20(1).mp4/fileNameModified/VIDEO-2021-03-24-21-03-56%20(1).mp4?folder=SU5CT1g%253D)

Anti-Blasphemy



The American TFP has been combating public blasphemy and sacrilege since 1978. In that year, it's first public protest was against a Planned Parenthood pamphlet which contained a horrible caricature of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A crowd of 1,500 Catholics gathered in front of Planned Parenthood's offices in New York and Planned Parenthood issued an official letter of apology. From that time, the TFP has organized dozens of protests against blasphemies involving art exhibits, plays, movies, cartoons and books. In recent years, the TFP has organized rallies in reparation for satanic black masses performed in Oklahoma and blasphemous Broadway shows and art exhibits in New York City.



Federal officials reverse limits on fetal tissue research

Federal officials on Friday reversed Trump administration restrictions on using human fetal tissue for medical research.

Government scientists now will be able to resume research that uses tissue from elective abortions. Scientists at universities also can now apply for federal grants without getting approval from a special ethics panel for any such work.

Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra determined there were “no new ethical issues that require special review,” so the agency will return to using procedures that had been in place for decades before then-President Donald Trump’s administration changed the policy in June 2019, a statement from the agency said.

The National Right to Life Committee condemned what it called a “sickening decision” by President Joe Biden’s administration. Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council,

wrote in a statement that taxpayers now will be forced to pay for “barbaric experiments” using tissue from abortions “instead of using ethical and effective alternatives.”

The American Society of Reproductive Medicine also issued a statement applauding the change. “The United States government has developed a robust system of oversight. Ideologically driven politicians must not be allowed to interfere with this system on a whim,” the group said.