



INSIDE

- 1 in 6 babies killed by abortion
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- CI's Civil Service 'Pride' legal case

Faith, freedom and family

Free speech and strong families are pillars of any democracy, but continue to be under threat in Ireland.

The European Union's hate speech laws could have a profound impact on Christians, such as their ability to quote the Bible on contentious issues. And the freedom to speak out against radical gender ideology is exactly what trans activists want

to stamp out, as they push the Coalition Government to provide 'affirming treatments' for gender-confused people.

Shockingly, a UN Committee has told the public it was wrong to vote to keep the word 'mothers' in the Constitution and recommended a new referendum to change the outcome. But stay-at-home mums deserve to have their valuable role and contribution honoured.

New EU hate speech law could 'punish the quoting of Scripture'

The Government has been urged to resist pressure to implement the European Union's extensive hate speech laws.

In Leaders' Questions, Deputy Ken O'Flynn highlighted the case of Finnish MP Päivi Räsänen, who was dragged through the courts for quoting the Bible on sexual ethics, and queried whether quoting Scripture will "become a punishable act" if the Government introduces the laws.

"We are not talking about the incitement of violence, we are not talking about threats or harassment, we are talking about words, ideas and opinions; often and sometimes unpopular



and uncomfortable, but still lawful expressions, which are supposedly free".

Räsänen, a former Interior Minister, had tweeted a picture of text from Romans chapter 1. In October, she will face her third

criminal trial since first being charged in 2021.

A senior Government source has been quoted as saying the Coalition does not intend to impose any new hate speech laws and that it has a "solid" defence against the EU's claims.

Another added: "We don't believe the [European] Commission has given sufficient weight to Ireland's existing common law on this or to our own existing legal framework".

The concerns come as two campaigners were recently arrested in Brussels for holding signs saying "Children are never born in the wrong body" and "Children cannot consent to puberty blockers". They were strip searched and placed in jail cells, before eventually being released without charge.

WATCH ➤ Päivi Räsänen: 'Christians cannot be silent'
the.ci/PaiviRasanen



Taoiseach reacts to drug epidemic

Micheál Martin believes Ireland faces a cocaine epidemic characterised by a “very worrying” trend in the rise of younger drug users.

Making the stark warning during an official visit to Japan in July, the Taoiseach remarked that Ireland had witnessed “terrible tragedies” as a result of illegal drugs, adding: “Drugs kill people and kill people pretty quickly.”

Prior to Martin’s comments, Senators clashed in the Seanad over the Government’s ‘health-led’ approach to the problem. Rónán Mullen said the Coalition’s programme amounted to decriminalisation, but the Government claimed it was adopting a ‘compassionate response’.

A recent study by Blanchardstown Local Drugs & Alcohol Task Force, a

community group that has been monitoring drug trends in Dublin 15 since 2014, reported drug dealing taking place in some local primary schools and in all eleven mainstream secondary schools in 2023.



LGBT activists demand Govt endorse radical trans agenda

Activists have urged the Health Minister to disregard the Cass Review and provide ‘affirming healthcare’ for trans people.

Ten years after the introduction of the Gender Recognition Act (GRA), the Gender Rebels group has started a petition and written to Minister Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, calling the promises made at the time “unfulfilled”.

Since 2015, over-18s have been allowed to change their legal sex merely by self-declaration. The law even extends ‘sex swaps’ to 16-year-olds, subject to parental consent and medical approval.

Committee undermines vote valuing stay-at-home mums



A UN committee has called for a rerun of the vote honouring the contribution of stay-at-home mothers.

Last year, the people voted to retain wording in the Constitution that recognises “the mother’s particular role and gift to Irish society”. Almost 75 per cent voted against a proposal to delete it.

But in a move branded ‘arrogant’ the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination

Against Women (CEDAW) disagreed with the result, and recommended the Irish public reconsider.

The Committee’s members are not democratically elected, and its reports are not binding on UN member states. However, in 2019, a CEDAW report was used by Westminster to justify imposing abortion across Northern Ireland.

It now has the most liberal

abortion law in the UK, with abortion allowed up to 12 weeks without having to give a reason – including sex-selective abortion.

Senator Rónán Mullen said people refused to remove the word ‘mother’ “because they value the work done by mothers and fathers in the home”.

The Independent Senator urged his colleagues: “Let us be done with the arrogance of that UN committee”.



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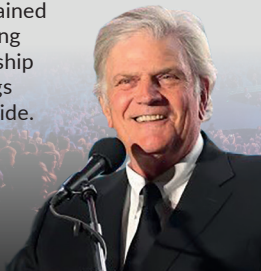
livingchristianity.org.uk

17,000 flock to 'God loves you' Gospel event

Franklin Graham has shared the Bible's precious message of forgiveness with over 15,000 people in London, as part of his 'God Loves You' tour.

Over 550 churches participated, and attendance greatly exceeded the ExCel Centre's 15,000 capacity.

Around 2,000 who were unable to enter the packed venue remained to sing worship songs outside.



CI threatens UK Civil Service over support for LGBT Pride

The Christian Institute has threatened the UK Civil Service with legal action over its participation in LGBT Pride events.

In August, the Institute notified head civil servant Sir Chris Wormald of its intention to seek judicial review over the breaches of impartiality. It also called for an end to 'rainbow' lanyards and the use of 'preferred pronouns' in email signatures.

Deputy Director Simon Calvert explained: "The law is clear that civil servants must



maintain impartiality on controversial political issues."

The legal threat follows a recent High Court ruling against Northumbria Police that said its participation in Pride marches breached its impartiality duties.

The court said such participation was likely to impact

the public's trust in the force's ability to "fairly and impartially" handle disputes about gender.

To challenge Civil Service practice, the CI has instructed the same legal team that successfully brought the case against Northumbria Police.

Institute: New lottery laws 'last thing Northern Ireland wants'

Plans to weaken restrictions on lotteries in Northern Ireland risk escalating gambling-related harm, the Institute has warned.

Only the National Lottery and small lotteries are exempt from current restrictions. But under new proposals, other large-scale lotteries, such as the Postcode Lottery, would proliferate.

We warned that Alliance MLA Sian Mulholland's

'Lotteries for Communities Bill' would "fuel addiction while diverting money away from the charitable sector".

The Bill comes as industry-funded charity GambleAware urged the UK's National Lottery operator to put health warnings on its advertising and products, after a survey revealed widespread concern among British people that its games are not "risk free".

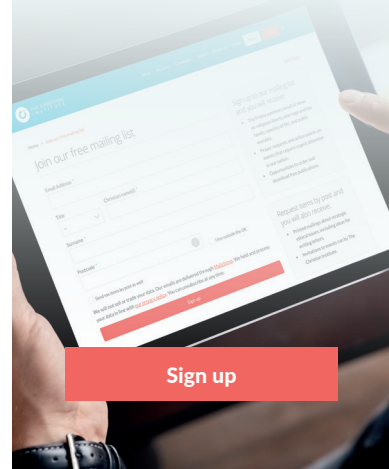


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Pray continually

1 Thessalonians 5:17

SUNDAY

PRAY For God's blessing upon his Church in Ireland.

MONDAY

PRAY That society's eyes would be opened to the harms caused by gambling.

TUESDAY

PRAY Giving thanks that the Gospel can be freely proclaimed.

WEDNESDAY

PRAY For a change in heart in those working to undermine the sanctity of life.

THURSDAY

PRAY Giving thanks for the benefits that marriage brings to families and society.

FRIDAY

PRAY For our leaders, that they would restrain evil and promote what is good.

SATURDAY

PRAY That the Lord will bless the staff and work of The Christian Institute.

'Truly horrifying' figures as 1 in 6 babies killed by abortion in 2024

One in six babies in Ireland were killed by abortion in 2024, according to the Department of Health.

A total of 10,852 abortions took place last year, bringing the number of abortions recorded by the Government since the 2019 law change to around 55,000.

Abortion is available on demand up to twelve weeks, with a three-day reflection period. Since the coronavirus pandemic, women have been allowed to take abortion pills to abort their babies at home.

Eilis Mulroy of Pro Life Campaign called the figures "truly

horrifying", saying: "There is no sign of any willingness on the part of the Government to sincerely address what's taking place or to even engage with people who are calling for reasonable measures to be brought forward to try and reduce the spiralling numbers of abortions taking place. This needs to urgently change."

In June, Westminster politicians voted overwhelmingly to approve measures that would allow a woman in England and



Wales to kill her unborn baby at any stage of pregnancy without sanction.

WATCH 'Shocking' abortion figures in Ireland as 1 in 6 babies aborted the.ci/1in6babies



'No-fault divorce proposals in NI risk silencing victims of violence', CI warns

Female victims of marital abuse are at risk of being silenced by proposals to liberalise divorce laws in Northern Ireland.

The Department of Finance's consultation on making divorce quicker and easier closed in September. It claimed that a range of options could make the experience of divorce 'less stressful



and challenging'.

The CI's James Kennedy questioned whether removing 'fault' grounds for divorce was compatible with the

Executive's commitment to end violence against women.

Mr Kennedy said: "Under the current divorce law, those

who have suffered ill treatment can make their case and have their suffering recognised in court. The proposal to remove 'fault' grounds would make this impossible."

He also emphasised: "Making divorce quicker will mean we see more of it, more family breakdown and more children left disadvantaged."

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An application for registration as a charity in Ireland has been submitted to the Charities Regulator.