



03 December 2017

POPE SPEAKS OUT IN BANGLADESH



Pope Francis spoke directly about the plight of some 600,000 Rohingya Muslims who have fled to Bangladesh after facing persecution in Myanmar for the first time on his six-day tour of both countries Nov. 30, praising "the spirit of generosity and solidarity" with which Bangladesh has taken in the refugees. In an address to President Abdul Hamid and dozens of other political leaders at Bangladesh's

presidential palace, Francis said his nation's care for the Rohingya had been a "at no little sacrifice" and was a "distinguishing mark" on Bangladeshi society. Francis also called on the international community to "take decisive measures" to care for the refugees by offering "immediate material assistance to Bangladesh in its effort to respond effectively to urgent human needs." Francis spoke in Bangladesh Nov. 30 shortly after arriving from Myanmar, where he had been visiting since Nov. 27. The pope had come under some international criticism while in Myanmar for not speaking directly about the Rohingya, although he did tell de facto Prime Minister Aung San Suu Kyi Nov. 28 that her country's future must include "respect for each ethnic group and its identity." While Francis has referred to Myanmar's treatment of the Rohingya as a "persecution" in the past, local church leaders had advised him to refrain while in the country from explicitly naming them for fear of reprisals from the military, which wields significant power in the nation. Both the U.S. and the U.N. have termed Buddhist-majority Myanmar's treatment of the Rohingya minority an "ethnic cleansing." Vatican spokesman Greg Burke said during a press conference Nov. 29 the fact that Francis did not specifically mention the Rohingya while in Myanmar "doesn't take away from anything the pope has said in the past, or from anything he says in private." The spokesman declined to comment on any conversations Francis may have had with Suu Kyi about the Rohingya during a private meeting together Nov. 28. But he added: "Having said that, if you've watched and followed the pope, he's a very free man." Although Francis did not use the word "Rohingya" in Bangladesh, he appeared much more at ease to talk publicly about the dire humanitarian situation, speaking to Hamid specifically about a "massive influx of refugees from Rakhine State," the area in Myanmar from which the Rohingya arrived in Bangladesh. In his address welcoming the pope to the country, Hamid said the Rohingya had been "forcefully displaced from their ancestral home" and some had been "brutally killed" while "others saw their homes burnt into ashes." "Our people welcomed them with open arms, sharing food, shelter and other basic needs," said the Bangladeshi president. "They accepted the inconvenience of accommodating them in such a densely populated land." Hamid also said it was the world's "shared responsibility" to grant the Rohingya "a safe, sustainable and dignified return to their own home and integration with the social, economic and political life of Myanmar." The U.S. ambassador to Bangladesh, Marcia Bernicat, was one of the members of the diplomatic corps present for Francis' address. She praised how the pope put in "explicit terms" the situation of the Rohingya. "For everyone who bears witness to the suffering that they have been experiencing ... we help amplify their voice," said Bernicat. While Bangladesh has attracted international praise for accepting some 600,000 Rohingya, it was also the subject of some criticism Nov. 28, after the government announced a plan to relocate some 100,000 of the refugees to a flood-prone island in the Bay of Bengal. Critics say the plan to develop Bhashan Char Island, two hours by boat from the nearest Bangladeshi settlement, is unrealistic and likely to leave the refugees on the island subject to drastic flooding during the monsoon season. Francis arrived in Dhaka Nov. 30 to a formal welcome ceremony that featured a loud canon salute and a large delegation of soldiers at attention, but also a group of dancers wearing white and yellow, the colours of the Vatican's flag. As the papal convoy made its way through the city, people were gathered at intersections, watching the pope pass by in front of corrugated iron-sheeted buildings with little expression on their faces. With the normally heavy traffic stopped for miles, many drivers were standing outside their cars, watching. Francis is visiting Bangladesh through Dec. 2. The Vatican says he will greet "a small group" of Rohingya during an inter-religious peace meeting Dec. 1.....

Courtesy Joshua J. McElwee NCR

NOTICES

Money Matters

Sunday 19 November 2017

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: p200
2nd Collection: p250
Roomkeepers: p45
Family Offering: p366



Remembered at Mass

Recently Deceased: Two homeless men who died on our streets this week

Sat 6pm: The Arnold Family, Rita Oglesby, John & Mary Oglesby.

Sun 11.30am: Michael & Margaret Kinsella, Pat Poole 3rd Ann, Bernard Darcy 8th Ann, Thomas Denby 5th Ann, Patrick Brown, Tommy O'Neill Ann, Patty O'Neill, Josie & Lizzie Ryder



Crosscare Food Appeal

- ◆ Shampoo & Hygiene Products
- ◆ Soups
- ◆ Tinned meats
- ◆ Seasonal Biscuits
- ◆ Cleaning Products

If you didn't bring something in this weekend, you have until Thursday of next week to drop something into the sacristy.



Advent Prayer Evenings

Prepare for Christmas through our sessions of guided prayer on each Tuesday of Advent. These evenings create 'sacred spaces' for you to open your heart to the Word of God, helping you to prepare to celebrate God's great love for us. You can come for any one evening, or all four as you wish.

7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Tuesday 5, 12, 19 December 2017

Manresa Jesuit Centre of Spirituality
426 Clontarf Rd, Clontarf, Dublin

Romania's National day

03 December at 2pm in the F" Centre. Entrance free. Everyone welcome for traditional music, traditional products fair, raffle, traditional crafts display.



And Next Door



Planning permission has been granted for a significant mixed-use scheme on a former 'Watkins Brewery' site in Dublin 8, which has frontage onto Newmarket Square, St Luke's Avenue, Ardee Street and Brabazon Row. The scheme for Summix Developments, comprises 349 student accommodation bedspaces and a large co-working space with café/bar. The scheme as designed by Boyes Rees Architect in conjunction with Cantrell & Crowley Architects ranges in height from 3-7 storeys and retains a number of historic features including the stone warehouse (a Protected Structure), the historic walls along Newmarket and Ardee Street and part of the ruins of the Brewery, which have become a central feature of the landscaping strategy to ensure that the historic function of the site continues to be appreciated.

FIRST SUNDAY ADVENT

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh that you would tear the heavens open and come down - at your Presence, such as no one has ever heard of before. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like people unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused themselves to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Psalm 79 God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. R/

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. R/

May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. R/

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

This is how the Master once explained the fact that Enlightenment came not through effort but through understanding: "Imagine all of you are hypnotized to believe there is a tiger in the room. In your fear you will try to escape it, to fight it, to protect yourselves from it, to placate it. But once the spell is broken there is nothing to be done. And you are radically changed: So understanding breaks the spell, the broken spell brings change, change leads to inaction, inaction is power: You can do anything on earth, for it is no longer you who do it.

From One Minute Wisdom by Anthony de Mello