



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Church of Ireland Cathedral to allow Masses



The new Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin is considering offering the Roman Catholic Church the facility to celebrate Mass there on weekdays.

Dean Robert MacCarthy says he sees it as a way of broadening the cathedral's ministry to the 275,000 tourists who visit each year, many of whom are not Anglican. "My Northern colleagues may be a little sensitive about it," he says.

Irrespective of what his northern colleagues would say, just what does the Bible say? The official teaching of the Church of Ireland states on Biblical authority that the "mass is a blasphemous fable and a dangerous deceit." That he is flying in the face of God's Word ought to concern Dean McCarthy.

The Mass has been celebrated in Church of Ireland churches before. Last year in St Mary's, Bunclody, Co. Wexford, masses were said while the local Roman Catholic chapel was being refurbished. But this would be the first time it was done on an ongoing basis.