



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Dr Paisley's claims of Sinn Fein/IRA repentance "a delusion"!

"I have been saddened to read of Dr Paisley's interview with John Humphrys in which he is quoted on the BBC NI site as saying: 'there is such a thing as forgiveness and forgiveness rests upon a rejection of your old ways. There's no doubt about it that Sinn Fein have done that.'

While I have refrained of late from commenting on the many statements issued by Dr Paisley in connection with his time as First Minister and his decision to lead the DUP into power-sharing with the murderous Sinn Fein/IRA, his latest statement must be refuted.

I agree entirely with his view of forgiveness on the basis of repentance. However, I utterly fail to see how it can be claimed that Sinn Fein/IRA have rejected their 'old ways.'

While Sinn Fein leaders continue to extol their involvement in terrorism and celebrate the 'glorious deeds' of those who were killed while engaged in terrorism by the security forces, I fail to understand how anyone can claim that they have repented of their terrorism.

Any appearances of 'change' on the part of Sinn Fein/IRA are as genuine as the lamentations of the present Pope, the author of the document, '**Crimen Sollicitationis**', which sets forth the path of action to be taken in the wake of any allegations of sexual misbehaviour of priests. It specifically tells bishops how to handle allegations that a priest made sexual advances towards a parishioner, particularly in the confessional, by transferring such priests – something which was frequently done in the Republic of Ireland and elsewhere. The document goes on to declare that these matters are to be pursued 'in a most secretive way' and investigators "are to be restrained by a perpetual silence" and are required 'to observe the strictest secret, which is commonly regarded as a secret of the Holy Office in all matters and with all persons, under the penalty of excommunication...' (para 11).

It is little wonder that Sinn Fein/IRA may feign repentance when the head of the 'church' to which its leadership and membership belong give such 'moral' guidance!

Were representatives of the German government to gather at the graves of Nazi leaders and speak in honour of their deeds, the world would condemn Germany for such actions, and rightly so. If I am not mistaken Germany has made it illegal to honour the Nazi era and its leaders. That is far removed from Sinn Fein/IRA's attitude to the 30 years of terror it inflicted upon Ulster.

Dr Paisley's interview, coming as it does at the very time the story of Gerry Adams' alleged part in the murder of Jean McConville has hit the headlines, is more than ironic. I feel that the breaking of the Adams' murder story is Providence's own comment on Dr Paisley's claims. The reaction of Gerry Adams' to these longstanding allegations, will give a clear indication of the nature of "the repentance" in the Sinn Fein/IRA camp.

I have commented on this statement by Dr Paisley only because I believe that the so-



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called repentance of Sinn Fein/IRA is a dangerous delusion and I would not wish the people of God in Ulster to embrace it.”

Ivan Foster. 29th March 2010.