



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

An 'evangellyfish' indeed

Dr Hamilton is fondly and mistakenly considered by many 'evangelicals' to be an 'evangelical'!

In truth, he is what used to be referred to amongst us as an 'evangellyfish'!

The 'evangelicalness' of him and his ilk can be gauged by the fact that he is happy to stay in an apostate church which embraces, to a very large degree, every spiritual and moral perversion abroad today! Here we see him rejoicing over a letter from one whose predecessors were known as 'antichrists' for hundreds of years by his church, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland! That ended in 1988 when the PCI removed from the 'Westminster Confession of Faith' the Biblical definition of the true character of pope and popery!

Keeping this truth before the minds of Christians is becoming ever more difficult in the face of the unceasing flood of pro-ecumenical rubbish the media produces and the shameful decline in the grace of Christian discernment!

"He (the Lord Jesus) answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" Matthew 16:2-3.

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil," Hebrews 5:12-14.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,
Ivan Foster.

THE IRISH NEWS



Pope thanks former Presbyterian leader for Irish News article

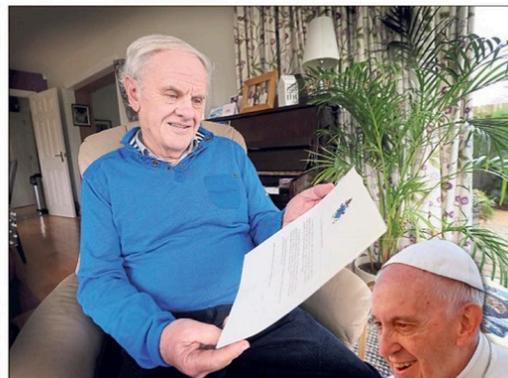
Francis writes to Dr Hamilton after reading faith pages

WILLIAM SCHOLES
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT
wscholes@irishnews.com

POPE Francis has written personally to former Presbyterian moderator Norman Hamilton to thank him for an article in *The Irish News*.

In a unique development, the Pope told Dr Hamilton he wanted to express his appreciation for the thoughtful observations you made in your article on my Encyclical Letter *Fratelli Tutti* in *The Irish News*.

Dr Hamilton said he was "chuffed" that the pontiff had taken the time to write to him after reading his assessment of the encyclical, which was published in the Faith matters



DELIGHTED: The Rev Norman Hamilton at home in Ballymena, Co Antrim, with his letter from Pope Francis. PICTURE: Hugh Russell

section. Archbishop of Armagh Eamon Martin, who drew the article to the Pope's attention, described it as "perhaps unprecedented in the context of Northern Ireland and its history".

"I also think the Holy Father would be extremely pleased to know that a minister of the Presbyterian Church is open to giving his views on the Holy Father's encyclical

RESPONSE: Dr Hamilton said he was "chuffed" that the pontiff had taken the time to write to him.

STORY IN FULL
P4,5
FAITH MATTERS
P16,17
EDITORIAL **P18**

in a newspaper that is widely read by those of the Catholic faith, he said. The encyclical's themes include reconciliation and friendship. These have been concerns of Dr Hamilton's ministry; he mediated in the Holy Cross dispute and has been committed in his ministry to reach beyond his own tradition, for example to the GAA.

Dr Hamilton said his observations on *Fratelli Tutti* had been offered in a spirit of reaching out.

"It is important for us to engage in discussion that actually helps understanding and tries to get somewhere," he said.

Dr Martin said that "anything that brings the communities together here is commendable". He said: "Pope Francis saw in Norman Hamilton's intervention precisely the kind of spirit he was trying to promote in *Fratelli Tutti*."