

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT THE NORTH OF IRELAND?

The Irish National Caucus Asks You To Think Again

Although great progress has been made in Northern Ireland, there is still a long way to go. Irish-Americans must not fall into complacency but must stay the course. Only Irish-Americans can keep America involved in working for equality, justice and peace in Ireland — and that is as it should be.

It was Irish-Americans who, after a long hard struggle, got the US Congress, State Legislatures and the White House involved in standing up for Ireland.

The MacBride Principles campaign — launched by the Irish National Caucus in November 1984 — provided the model for America ending its “hands-off-Northern Ireland”-policy.

And now as Northern Ireland moves into its post-conflict stage, the Irish National Caucus is as determined as ever to keep up its non-violent pressure — against discrimination, anti-Catholic sectarianism and the still deep reluctance to accept Catholics as equals by some in the Unionist/Protestant/Orange community in Northern Ireland.

“Remember, no unionist, let alone a member of the DUP, has ever publicly endorsed partnership or equality.”
(Brian Feeney. *Irish News*. September 24, 2008.)

But it's even more important to remember that the blame does not rest in the first place with the Unionists. They did not construct the British Constitution, which enshrines, ensures and justifies anti-Catholicism.

The Act of Settlement, 1701 — and integral part of the unwritten and uncodified British Constitution — contains provisions that decree only a Protestant can succeed to the British Throne and that if the Monarch becomes a Catholic, or marries a Catholic, he/she forfeits the Throne and “the people are absolved from their allegiance”.

Imagine if there were a provision in the US Constitution barring an African-American from being President, or barring the President from marrying a Black person!

That is why the Irish National Caucus has campaigned since 1980 for the repeal of the anti-Catholic sections of The Act of Settlement.

Because of the sectarian viciousness of the British constitution, to which Unionists give their allegiance, anti-Catholicism became, in effect, the State Religion of Northern Ireland — with pernicious consequences that still persist despite the Good Friday Agreement of 1998.

Still think you can forget about Northern Ireland?

If you are opposed to anti-Catholic bigotry in the North, help the Irish National Caucus defeat it. If you believe America should keep standing up for Ireland, support the Irish National Caucus.

THE IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS BELIEVES THAT IRELAND, TOO, SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL ... If you also believe this, please give us your generous support today.

God bless America and God save Ireland.



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FATHER SEAN McMANUS
Fermanagh-born Founder and President

“No one has done more than Father McManus to keep the U.S. Congress on track regarding justice and peace in Ireland... During the past 30 years, the fingerprints of Father McManus are over every piece of Congressional action on Ireland...”
-- *Former Congressman Ben Gilman(R-NY), former Chairman of the House International Relations Committee.*

The Irish National Caucus' sister organization, the Irish Peace Foundation, is recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c)(3). Contributions to the Irish Peace Foundation are, therefore, tax-deductible.

Dear Father McManus,

I could not agree more. I am one Irish-American who realizes we have to keep up the pressure. We have still a long way to go. Here is my contribution of:

\$100 \$50 \$25 \$10 Other \$ _____

Name _____ (New member)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel. (_____) _____

Email _____

Please mail your non-deductible check to:
Irish National Caucus, PO BOX 15128, Washington DC, 20003-0849