

CHRIST UNITES IRELAND

31 Oaklands Avenue  
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 Rep of Ireland

To the Politicians concerned

It is with a sense of great urgency I write (on behalf of Christians within Ireland and the world who pray regularly for peace in Ireland) concerning the "Brookes talks".

For many people in the Republic the talks have been viewed, as the first indication for many years of a political settlement between the Northern parties. This transcends any aspiration of an united Ireland; for peace is their primary desire.

That desire for peace is based on a genuine concern as a neighbour. For what goes on in the North affects everyone on this island, not always physically but emotionally and spiritually.

I realized that history has given reason to fear and suspicion, but it's the present goodwill and friendship in the Republic that could reconcile the two parts of Ireland, not speaking in an united Ireland context, but as neighbours. Presently, I am a Northerner from Portadown studying in the Republic. I come from a Unionist tradition and at one time was quite actively involved in politics in the North. Now I am involved in reconciliation work, seeking to promote Jesus Christ principles of peace and unity within Ireland.

Through my experience of life on both sides, I understand both parties concerned, but I must plead to you to over-ride your fears and begin to trust each other in negotiations. I intend to return to the North this year and I am excited at the possibility of a new era in Ulster's politics. For this reason in Christ name, I implore you, the politicians, to continue in the process of talks.

The hopes of many people have been raised and so it is the prayers of many, that you in commitment of God and his people, will seek strength and wisdom from the Holy Spirit, to have the courage and humility to pursue peace. This will give us all the possibility of seeing Christ reconciliation work, fully realised in Ireland.

As ones who hold power, please don't forfeit this chance.

Yours sincerely

*Gordon Jackson*

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