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Creationist church remains resolute in pursuit of free school

An evangelical church with creationist beliefs in Newark (Notts) which had its free school application turned down has pledged to continue making every effort possible to see a new school set up. [Read More »](#)

NSS queries MoD spending on religious chaplaincy

A Freedom of Information request to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) by the National Secular Society has revealed the Armed Forces spend £22 million annually on Christian chaplains. 280 chaplains are employed by the MoD across all three services. [Read More »](#)

Catholic organisations want to discriminate against women (again)

Catholic organisations in America are protesting against their female employees being allowed free sterilization procedures and prescription contraceptives including emergency contraception (morning after pill) as part of the new Affordable Care Act. [Read More »](#)

NSS publish European Court of Human Rights intervention

As previously reported, the European Court of Human Rights gave leave to the NSS to intervene in four cases as an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court). In all four cases, applicants to the Court cited the dismissal of four UK employment cases as evidence that the UK had failed to enforce the European Convention on Human Rights. [Read More »](#)

Secularism makes progress in Polish elections

A new liberal pro-secular political party has surged from nowhere to finish third in Poland's parliamentary elections held last Sunday, 9 October. [Read More »](#)

Catholic Church divides religion and politics over gay marriage

The Catholic Church and its allies have launched a full-scale war against proposals to allow gay marriage in Scotland, trying to manipulate and intimidate the Government and creating both a religious and political divide. [Read More »](#)

NSS and BBC blamed for anti-Christian political correctness

The latest threat to British society is the BBC ordering its staff to stop using BC and AD and use CE and BCE instead. The BBC has been accused of "political correctness" and not surprisingly, the *Daily Mail* is lamenting the end of everything middle England allegedly values. [Read More »](#)

Scottish Minister to meet bishop as bigotry row escalates

Pressure is mounting on the Scottish Government over its plans for anti-sectarian laws after an unprecedented attack on Alex Salmond by the Catholic Church as he prepares to meet with Bishop Philip Tartaglia. [Read More »](#)

Councils told to stop praying before meetings

Ahead of our challenge to Council Prayers, two local Councils have been censured for saying prayers before meetings. [Read More »](#)

Church expansionism into education must be challenged

The Archbishop of Canterbury chose the *Times Educational Supplement*, required reading for opinion formers in education, to announce that he "wants the church to dominate secondary provision". Editorial by Keith Porteous Wood, NSS Executive Director. [Read More »](#)

Community school enters into partnership with Church

A community school in Blackpool has entered into a partnership with the Church in a move likely to lead to further encroachment of religion into the school. The seemingly unprecedented partnership has been signed by Bispham High School and Arts College and the Blackburn Diocese. [Read More »](#)

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Iranian Christian faces death penalty for apostasy

Iranian pastor Yousef Nadarkhani is facing the death penalty for apostasy – abandoning Islam. Even though the court found that he was not a practising Muslim adult before becoming a Christian 13 years ago, he remains guilty of apostasy because he has Muslim ancestry. [Read More »](#)

Christians in Chichester want free parking, while everyone else pays

Christians in Chichester are up in arms that they are expected to pay the same parking charges as everyone else. [Read More »](#)

Judge rules that post-mortem on suspicious death cannot be stopped for religious reasons

An Egyptian woman has raised religious objections in the High Court to an invasive post-mortem being carried out on her brother's body after it was suggested he was murdered. [Read More »](#)

Jehovah's Witnesses under investigation for "religious hatred" – against their own members

Police in Hampshire are considering whether to bring charges under religious hatred legislation against the Jehovah's Witnesses. [Read More »](#)

Rochdale Council consulting on scrapping “faith school” transport subsidies

Labour-controlled Rochdale Borough Council in Lancashire is under pressure from religious groups and Conservative councillors as it prepares to launch a consultation on whether to scrap subsidies for transport to religious schools. [Read More »](#)

Catholic Education Boss interferes in local decision on Richmond School

Supporters of inclusive education in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames have been “incensed” to discover that Dr Oona Stannard, Chief Executive of the Catholic Education Service, has sent a questionable letter to all members of Richmond Borough Council. [Read More »](#)

Pope in Germany – more bad news for his holiness

There's little good news for the pope's visit to Germany, according to an in the newspaper *Spiegel* which reveals that most of the leading politicians who are Catholic do not live by Catholic standards. [Read More »](#)

David Cameron promises “ever closer co-operation between the UK and the Holy See”

Prime Minister David Cameron has issued a statement on the first anniversary of the Pope's visit to the UK promising “ever closer co-operation” between the UK and the Holy See. [Read More »](#)

The questions that the Catholic Church wishes it had never asked

On the anniversary of the Pope's visit to Britain, which the Catholic Church has been trying to spin as a great success, an opinion poll commissioned by the Catholic Church itself, reveals hardly anyone remembers that it actually happened. [Read More »](#)

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German Catholic Church can fire employees for not living by Catholic rules

A German court has reaffirmed the principle that Catholic institutions can fire employees for breaking church laws, such as marriage vows. These laws, however, must be applied fairly through a transparent process. [Read More »](#)

Praying doctor up before GMC next week

The General Medical Council (GMC) is to launch an investigation next week into allegations, previously reported in *Newsline*, that a GP in Margate, Kent, upset a patient by offering to pray for them. [Read More »](#)

Praying in order to obtain social services is an indication of things to come

Advice UK, a charitable umbrella group supporting community organisations that give free advice to members of the public, has parted company with one of its members after it discovered it offered prayers along with debt advice. [Read More »](#)

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