

The Future of Media Commission invites you to tell us what you think the future of the media should be. We want to hear your views on public service media in Ireland, wherever you live in Ireland or around the world.

As an initial step, the Commission is conducting a public consultation by inviting your views on the on the key questions to be addressed in its work. The Commission will follow up this initial consultation with further consultation initiatives including webinars and small group engagements.

Catholic Association of Ireland Submission

1. RTÉ should be defunded. It receives €180 million from the taxpayer each year and utterly fails to give a fair hearing or representation to many people including those with pro-life views or people of faith, who are then forced to fund the station. Factual inaccuracies, usually being used to benefit the liberalising side of a public debate, have remained uncorrected. Most recently, in their [New Year's Eve](#) Countdown show, they accused God of raping Mary, mother of Christ in a deeply unfunny and hugely offensive sketch. An apology was only finally given after some 5,000 people complained and thousands more signed petitions.

2. The state should not be in the business of deciding what news is fit for consumption. It is noteworthy that The Journal.ie which has status as a Facebook fact-checker has run some very dubious fact-checks of its own. The same could be said of other publications, who are now likely looking for taxpayer funding. Media platforms should exist on their own merit, not at the favour of the government.

3. If this Commission is determined to persist in providing or expanding public funding for media platforms, then the funding model needs to change. The public, whose taxes are being spent, need to be involved. There are a great many people, for example, who would rather their taxes went to support Gript.ie rather than RTÉ. This could be achieved by asking the public to cast a vote for their favoured recipient from a list of news and analysis providers. The list would need to be genuinely open to all comers, and include all platforms who had an established presence. Cultural and sporting platforms or initiatives could have spending ring-fenced.

The present situation, where all taxpayers are forced to fund media platforms who have the favour of the government is undemocratic, unfair and cannot continue.

RTE National Broadcaster

RTE has been licensed as our national broadcaster. It has reneged in at several ways upon what that licence implies

- a. It is shamelessly tendentious, i.e., it pushes its own viewpoint forcefully, viz. the notorious hatchet-job programme on Mr Declan Ganley and how actually paid the compensation was it the taxpayer or from the RTE own budget .
- b. The question needs to be addressed is it a corporate marxist organisation.
- c. For reasons of its shortcomings in tone and style, quite independently of its above shortcomings in content, fewer and fewer people can even endure to watch or listen to RTE. It has developed an intolerable all-pervasive tone of 'hyped-up excitement'. Radio naGaelteachta or BBC radio 4, independent of their content, are much more congenial in tone.
- d. The recent New Year's eve or the Angelus of the 6th of August 2020 scandals indicates that the members of the RTE executive seem to be poorly educated in the classics or even of the essentials of what constitutes acceptable humour anywhere. Anyone with a modicum of training or education in philosophy would know - or at least 'sense' - that no religion's deity is an appropriate object for pejorative humour. The deity (i.e God) is by definition one for whom there can be no 'surprises'. It, she or they, know everything. Now surprise is integral to humour. The skit in question shows therefore crass ignorance, evidencing in fact little more than their own brand of bigotry. Appendix 1 & appendix 2
- e. As so many have shared with us: the cowards would not have dared portray Mohammed being arrested by the Gardai.
- f. The skit played fast and loose even with the details of the Gospel event in question and got them quite wrong. Did any of them bother to look at the short 12 relevant verses in St Luke chapter 1.
- g. The mistake was of such a magnitude that it is evidence that RTE staff inhabit a closed loop or bubble. This is not tolerable for the national broadcaster.
- h. RTE's contempt for Catholicism is not shared by most Irish folk who might be described in general as being indifferent to religious matters.
- i. RTE displays symptoms of being in a closed loop when it comes to reflecting either the actual or the appropriate concerns of the Irish people. The incident suggests that they inhabit a subculture that is extreme detestation of Christianity, a detestation not shared by the bulk of Irish society. The RTE parody on New Year's eve or the Angelus on the 6th of August 2020 in fact indicates a surprising level of ignorance even of the basic essential details of the Incarnation, similar to an ignorance an Irish person might display in matters of the Muslim faith. **Appendix 2**
- j. Almost 400,000 have failed or refused to pay their tv licence and there have been calls from respected social leaders to increase the number.
- k. This event indicates that RTE, as a closed loop culture, should be disbanded. It is not fit for purpose, and could be construed even as subversive and dangerous to the maintenance of peace and order in our state.
- l. Why or how can we be expected to pay for something few actually want, use or need?
- m. RTE is leading a media charge to destroy not just the Irish Church but what remains of Irish national pride and loyalty. I can think of only two areas of achievement in which Ireland has undoubtedly distinguished herself; Irish Missionaries (Think of 'The White Man's Graveyard' for mostly Irish missionaries who succumbed in droves

to malaria in Sierra Leone) and Irish Peace Keepers. Ever since the 60's the Catholic Church has clearly been under sustained, unrelenting and carefully planned attack. And the self- sacrifice and heroism of our world respected Peacekeepers has gone completely without celebration or even mention. If national pride withers completely what is likely to take its place is not something that I suspect even RTE would care to depict.

- n. If the national broadcaster is no longer listened to then how can the government promulgate law? If it is not promulgated a law does not exist as a law. Our conclusion is that it is imperative from many points of view that RTE is replaced by something completely fresh and fit for purpose.
- o. On the matter of fake news – a lively open forum with 'buyer-beware' (or reader or listener) caveats – rather like Hyde Park Corner - is surely to be encouraged rather than controlled or suppressed. Unlike a national broadcaster with declared duty towards truth, impartiality and the Irish Constitution. About fake news we have no concerns whatsoever, as long as we are free to ignore it.
- p. In summary: we can handle fake news, folks! But we need to have a reliable and respected national source of news.

Appendix 1

People of all faiths and none have been urged to tell RTE that a sincere apology is needed for the "horrendous and disgusting" sketch broadcast as part of the [New Year's Eve](#) Countdown program.

The sketch accused God of raping Mary, the Mother of Christ, and was widely criticised for being grossly offensive, as well as blasphemous and deeply upsetting to Christians.

Despite a half-hearted apology (<https://thelifeinstitute.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=bcad6b694a9f8e1784c874d01&id=905ec770dc&e=998fa1d772>), RTE has refused to remove the sketch, which was also described as being "completely unfunny" and hugely distressing for rape victims. It can still be viewed on the RTE Player, paid for by your taxes.

1. That the horrendously offensive sketch accusing God of rape be removed immediately from the RTE Player
2. That the Director-General of RTE, Dee Forbes, formally apologise on behalf of the RTE for the grievous offense caused. This would send a valuable message to RTE's editorial staff that such insult to Christians would not be tolerated again.

Letter to Ms Dee Forbes 8/1/2021

Dear Ms Forbes,

As a Catholic and a regular viewer of RTE television, I wish to formally lodge a complaint and add my voice to those who have already expressed their abhorrence at the blasphemous sketch that was broadcast within the NYE Countdown program on [New Year's Eve](#).

I consider it objectionable that Ireland's principal public broadcasting station should stoop to insulting the religious beliefs of very many Irish citizens. To Catholics, the blasphemous sketch was gravely sinful in its offence to God and the Virgin Mary, broadcast within days of the worldwide celebration of Christ's birth as Our Saviour and on the eve of [New Year's Day](#), the Feast of Mary, Mother of God.

Some observers might consider the commercial imperatives at stake for RTE and wonder how it would allow the production of any program that would overtly insult the deeply-held beliefs of its own customers (i.e. its licence-paying viewers), thereby 'biting the hand that feeds it' and creating resentment towards the annual fee. However, that is not my consideration in writing this note. Rather, it is the fact that the heinous crime of rape and the insulting of both the virginity of Mary the Mother of Christ and the divinity of God who gave life to the world should be portrayed as a 'joke'.

Nor can one help but wonder whether RTE policy allows discrimination solely against Catholic beliefs. I have no recollection of any RTE program making so-called 'jokes', for example, against Islamic beliefs or the prophet Mohammed. One can only imagine the likely reaction.

And if no reference at all were made to God or Mary, would the program have made a joke about a rape incident?

Having regard to RTE's standing in the pantheon of public service broadcasters both within and outside Ireland - of which in the past it has loudly proclaimed its pride - it is remarkable that checks and balances would not be in place to ensure that such abuses are not filtered out before they reach the studio floor. The lack of such basic checks reflects not so much upon program editors and/or producers as it does upon the makers of RTE policy. Such a lack represents an inherent institutional failing. As such, it is therefore a serious shortcoming by the most senior management of RTE.

For an equivalent-sized public company within the private sector, such a failure undoubtedly would raise calls for the most senior executive to consider their position. However, at the time of writing, it appears RTE's response appears to be confined to (i) a breezy, standardised apology issued by an anonymous spokesperson and (ii) a warning notice on RTE's Player. Regrettably, this response adds only further insult. It lacks any integrity whatsoever: (a) the apology is an entirely impersonal one and (b) the warning notice could be applied to any program recommending parental guidance of a show and (c) the offensive sketch remains on the Player.

Recently, RTE staff were excoriated for their misstep in attending a colleague's retirement party. Notwithstanding the private nature of the event, each person felt obliged - or perhaps were ordered? - to apologise very publicly, some of them repeatedly and at length. Why should their management not do the same now?

Our Catholic faith teaches us that true contrition must be followed by atonement. This means that the sincerity of one's contrition should be demonstrated by action to repair the damage to the relationship and restore one's 'at-one-ment' with God.

If RTE were genuinely contrite for its broadcast of the blasphemous sketch, I suggest that you as Director-General should use RTE News to make a fulsome, public apology on behalf of the station. Such a statement would at once demonstrate an act of corporate humility and of strong leadership. Importantly, it would also send a valuable message to RTE's editorial staff that such insult would not be tolerated again. To demonstrate its bona fide intention to atone for the offence, RTE should then excise the sketch from the show. Such action would best be taken quickly and visibly.

Appendix 2

Irish Catholic Association

Leitrim Branch

Email [REDACTED]

Mobile [REDACTED]

Secretary Sean Wynne,

[REDACTED]

Complaint Category: The objection/complaint is submitted under the Broadcasting Act 2009, Section 48(1)(a)(fairness, objectivity & impartiality in current affairs) and under Section 48(1)(b)(harm & offence); the BAI Code of Fairness, Objectivity & Impartiality in News and Current Affairs (Section 4: Rules 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.17, 4.19, 4.20 and 4.22) and the BAI Code of Programme Standards – Principles 5 (Respect for Persons and Groups in Society) and 6 (Protection of the Public Interest).

Objection/ Complaint to RTE

The inappropriate content of “The Peoples Angelus” programme” on Thursday the 6th of August 2020 set in a commercial shopping centre.

The content in its self is not offensive in its own context but to Catholic Association it is highly offensive presented as the Angelus as “a call to pray” in its religious context.

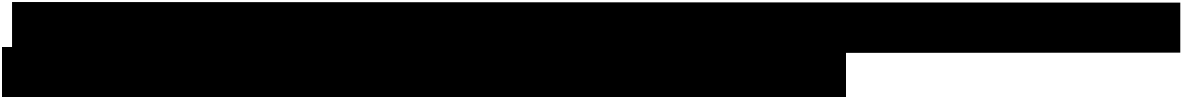
RTE should consider removing the word “Angelus” and replace it with “The Peoples Reflections” in line with a pluralist society. If the doctrine of the RTE is a corporate marxist ideology based on secular humanism there is nothing wrong with puppets being used in a call to pray but RTE’s own research does not support this position. If another religion who uses a call to pray was depicted in this way the consequence for RTE might be different.

What is The Angelus? RTE Interpretation

The Angelus, itself, is a Christian Prayer, based on St Luke’s account of the Annunciation in the Bible. RTE has never actually broadcast the Angelus prayer in this slot and has taken conscious steps over the last 53 years to make the televised slots more inclusive of, and accessible to, people of many faiths and none. The short films that have been on air since 2009 feature a broad range of people in contemporary Irish settings finding a moment for reflective thought or prayer. Their personal beliefs, or lack thereof, are not specified. This is also true in the newly commissioned versions.

Monday 19 October, 2015

-ENDS-



Supporting Evidence of the position of RTE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlmen2ucFUU>

The Theme of the programme on Thursday the 6th of August 2020

'Life Outside the Box' on Irish TV

What is the message in the clip is there a religious message or any connection to a religious call to pray. This is another version of Bosco from the 1980's.

The Peoples Angelus of the 6th of August 2020 was completely inappropriate with a call to pray that RTE in its own documentation acknowledge and yet Ray D'arcy an employee of the station is free to deliver his views without being censored.

The question needs to be asked is RTE a corporate marxist secular humanist organization .

Irish Times Article

“For whom the bell tolls: Ray D'Arcy tires of the Angelus”

Radio Review: Presenter's irritation at religious slot brings him to life, while Sean O'Rourke needs time to reflect on his show's adversarial approach

Sat, Nov 24, 2018, 05:00 **Mick Heaney**

The broadcast of the Angelus on RTÉ has been long been a target for those who view it as an anachronistic manifestation of Catholic triumphalism. But even the most militant atheist might blanch at the revelation on the *Ray D'Arcy Show* (RTÉ Radio 1, weekdays) that the twice-daily transmission of pealing bells was once sabotaged in an incident involving piles of excrement. Happily, this was not some kind of secularist dirty protest, but rather an unfortunate consequence of Archbishop John Charles McQuaid's insistence in 1950 that the Angelus be broadcast live from the Pro-Cathedral in Dublin.

“The microphones got so covered in pigeon poo that they said, enough, we’re going to put it on tape,” explains Roger Childs, RTÉ’s head of religious programming. This icky piece of trivia comes during D’Arcy’s interview with Childs about religious broadcasting in general and the Angelus in particular. It’s a surprisingly absorbing conversation, which takes unexpected theological diversions – whether Mass can only be broadcast live, for instance – while allowing Childs to articulate his role, “to reflect, interrogate, celebrate and explain the religious, moral and ethical life of this country”. Since being appointed to the post 11 years ago, Childs has tried to serve “all faiths and none” by, among other things, presenting the Angelus as a time for reflection by dropping religious imagery from its TV version.

It seems to have worked: Childs cites a recent poll finding that two-thirds of the population want to keep the slot. This cuts no ice with his host, however. “It offends me, I have to say,” D’Arcy interjects. “Every time I hear it, I am brought back to child sexual abuse. It doesn’t matter how many pictures you put on it, it can’t mask where it takes me.” It’s a shock to hear an RTÉ presenter expressing such unalloyed antipathy, though it’s a sign of the times that this has less to do with D’Arcy’s anti-clerical sentiments than his criticism of the network. Either way, the presenter’s bracing candour – largely missing since he moved to RTÉ – combines with his guest’s insights into the still vibrant religious life of contemporary Ireland to inject some much-needed oomph into proceedings. Normal service resumes when D’Arcy talks to actor James Nesbitt and barber Conor McAllister about hair transplants. Suffice to say, the topic is as thin as Nesbitt’s pre-op hairline. Never mind the Angelus, D’Arcy’s programme needs to ring in the changes.

Source The Journal.ie

BAI rejects complaint made over presenter Ray D'Arcy linking Angelus to child sex abuse

The complainant argued that D’Arcy’s view “was a generalised statement against a particular group in society”

Jul 4th 2019, 6:10 AM 61,454 Views [82 Comments](#)

A RADIO LISTENER who complained about presenter Ray D’Arcy saying the Angelus bells reminded him of child sexual abuse has had their complaint rejected by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI).

During a 21-minute segment on his show on RTÉ Radio One in November 2018, D’Arcy interviewed RTÉ’s Head of Religious Programming Roger Childs.

During the interview, D’Arcy and Childs discussed the history of the Angelus, which is broadcast at 6pm every evening on RTÉ and has been since 1950.

“It offends me I have to say,” D’Arcy told Childs. “It offends me.”

This is honest and this is from the heart, that every time I hear it...that I am brought back to child sexual abuse.

During the interview – in which D’Arcy read out texts people sent in about the Angelus – the presenter said “it’s terrible that I make that connection but I do make that connection and it’s a very strong connection and I can’t help myself.”

‘A generalised statement’

The woman who complained to the BAI argued that D’Arcy’s view “was a generalised statement against a particular group in society” and that it infringed the BAI Code of Programme Standards.

Following the complaint, RTÉ responded to the BAI saying that Childs outlined the requirement of the station to ensure they catered for people of all faiths and people of no faith.

Childs also discussed how the national broadcaster had changed the pictures that accompany the ringing of the bells to meet that need.

In its decision, the BAI said that, although D’Arcy expressed his personal view, the Code “is not intended to prevent the critical scrutiny of religion by means of information, drama or other programming.”

Nor did the presenter’s comments “stigmatise, support or condone discrimination against society’s religious beliefs,” it said.

The BAI “did not agree that the programme infringed the requirements of the legislation and Code in the manner specified by the complainant.”

The woman’s complaint was rejected.

The Angelus a call to pray.

The **Angelus** ([/ˈændʒələs/](#); [Latin](#) for "angel") is a [Catholic](#) devotion commemorating the [Incarnation](#). As with many Catholic prayers, the name *Angelus* is derived from its [incipit](#)—the first few words of the text: *Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariæ* ("The [Angel of the Lord](#) declared unto [Mary](#)"). The devotion is practised by reciting as [versicle](#) and response three [Biblical](#) verses narrating the [mystery](#), alternating with the prayer "[Hail](#)

Mary". The Angelus exemplifies a species of prayers called the "prayer of the devotee".^[1]

The devotion was traditionally recited in Roman Catholic churches, convents, and monasteries three times daily: 06:00, 12:00 and 18:00 (many churches still follow the devotion, and some practice it at home).^[2] The devotion is also observed by some Anglican, Western Rite Orthodox, and Lutheran churches.

The Angelus is usually accompanied by the ringing of the Angelus bell, which is a call to prayer and to spread goodwill to everyone. The angel referred to in the prayer is Gabriel, a messenger of God who revealed to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive a child to be born the Son of God (Luke 1:26–38).

The Angelus is usually accompanied by the ringing of the Angelus bell, which is a call to prayer and to spread goodwill to everyone. The angel referred to in the prayer is Gabriel , a messenger of God who revealed to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive a child to be born the Son of God (Luke 1:26–38).

What is the meaning of the Angelus prayer?

- The Angelus prayer is a famous Catholic devotion, said 3 times each day: at dawn, noon, and dusk. It recounts the message from the angel Gabriel to Mary announcing God's plan for her life. Praying the Angelus prayer is unique because we say it at specific times of the day. God brings our minds and hearts to Christ throughout the day.

When to pray Angelus prayer?

- January 30, 2019. The Angelus prayer is a famous Catholic devotion, said 3 times each day: at dawn, noon, and dusk. It recounts the message from the angel Gabriel to Mary announcing God's plan for her life. Praying the Angelus prayer is unique because we say it at specific times of the day.
- We rightly admire Muslim neighbors and co-workers who put everything on hold five times a day in answer to the "call to prayer." But Catholics and other Christian communities have a "call to prayer," too! It is the Angelus.

Thursday 6th August Feast of the Transfiguration 2020 (A coincidence)

Why is the Feast of Transfiguration important?

The festival celebrates the revelation of the eternal glory of the Second Person of the Trinity, which was normally veiled during Christ's life on earth.

According to tradition, the event took place on Mount Tabor. This feast became widespread in the West in the 11th century and was introduced into the Roman calendar in 1457 to commemorate the victory over Islam in Belgrade. Before that, the Transfiguration of the Lord was celebrated in the Syrian, Byzantine, and Coptic rites. The Transfiguration foretells the glory of the Lord as God, and His Ascension into heaven. It anticipates the glory of heaven, where we shall see God face to face. Through grace, we already share in the divine promise of eternal life.

According to the 1962 Missal of St. John XXIII the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite, in addition to the Feast of the Transfiguration; today is also the feast Sts. Sixtus II and Felicissimus & Agapitus who were martyred during the persecution of Valerian.

The Transfiguration

Our divine Redeemer, being in Galilee about a year before His sacred Passion, took with him St. Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, Sts. James and John, and led them to a retired mountain. Tradition assures us that this was Mount Thabor, which is exceedingly high and beautiful, and was anciently covered with green trees and shrubs, and was very fruitful. It rises something like a sugar-loaf, in a vast plain in the middle of Galilee. This was the place in which the Man-God appeared in His glory.

Whilst Jesus prayed, he suffered that glory which was always due to his sacred humility, and of which, for our sake, He deprived it, to diffuse a ray over His whole body. His face was altered and shone as the sun, and his garments became white as snow. Moses and Elias were seen by the three apostles in his company on this occasion, and were heard discoursing with him of the death which he was to suffer in Jerusalem.

The three apostles were wonderfully delighted with this glorious vision, and St. Peter cried out to Christ, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for thee, one for Moses, and one for Elias" Whilst St. Peter was speaking, there came, on a sudden, a bright shining cloud from heaven, an emblem of the presence of God's majesty, and from out of this cloud was heard a voice which said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" The apostles that were present, upon hearing this voice, were seized with a sudden fear, and fell upon the ground; but Jesus, going to them, touched them, and bade them to rise. They immediately did so, and saw no one but Jesus standing in his ordinary state.

This vision happened in the night. As they went down the mountain early the next morning, Jesus bade them not to tell any one what they had seen till he should be risen from the dead.

Excerpted from *Butler's Lives of the Saints*, Benziger Bros. ed. [1894]

In the Transfiguration Christ enjoyed for a short while that glorified state which was to be permanently His after His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The splendor of His inward Divinity and of the Beatific Vision of His soul overflowed on His body, and permeated His garments so that Christ stood before Peter, James, and John in a snow-white brightness. The purpose of the Transfiguration was to encourage and strengthen the Apostles who were depressed by their Master's prediction of His own Passion and Death. The Apostles were made to understand that His redeeming work has two phases: The Cross, and glory—that we shall be glorified with Him only if we first suffer with Him.

History of the Angelus broadcasts on RTÉ

The Angelus chimes have been broadcast almost every day on RTÉ's primary radio service since 1950. When RTÉ's television services began, in 1962, the broadcasts were replicated once a day at 6pm on television, accompanied by Old Master paintings relating to the Annunciation or the Virgin Mary. Over time, however, as culture and religious belief in Ireland became more diverse, new, more inclusive and widely accessible content was commissioned, depicting a broad range of individuals taking time to "Go placidly amidst the noise..."

Leading figures from all the major faith traditions have expressed support for the idea of continuing to create space in the RTÉ schedules for contemplation, meditation, mindfulness or prayer.

What is The Angelus?

The Angelus, itself, is a Christian Prayer, based on St Luke's account of the Annunciation in the Bible. RTÉ has never actually broadcast the Angelus prayer in this slot and has taken conscious steps over the last 53 years to make the televised slots more inclusive of, and accessible to, people of many faiths and none. The short films that have been on air since 2009 feature a broad range of people in contemporary Irish settings finding a moment for reflective thought or

prayer. Their personal beliefs, or lack thereof, are not specified. This is also true in the newly commissioned versions.

Monday 19 October, 2015

-ENDS-



Here is what the new 'People's Angelus' will look like ...

www.thejournal.ie › peoples-angelus-new-films-change...

Oct 19, 2015 - Alongside the professionally produced films, RTÉ will use the 6pm slot on Friday to broadcast **'The People's Angelus'**.

RTÉ HAS RELEASED the new films that will be broadcast as part of a revamp of the Angelus.

These one-minute films are being broadcast at 6pm every evening, with the first broadcast having gone out earlier today.

Alongside these the broadcaster has produced 'The People's Angelus', which is made up of submissions from the public.

A request for submissions went out back in May when the State broadcaster said that [it was aiming to revamp](#) its "most controversial" religious broadcast.

The new films

A set of films was commissioned from Kairos Communications after a tendering process.

The films have a variety of subjects as their themes, including a sand sculptor and a carer.

Locations across Ireland were used, including the Islandbridge Memorial in Dublin, the Holy Well in Tobernalt, Co Sligo and a traditional bookbinder's workshop in Athlone.

These professionally made films will be broadcast in the 6pm slot from Monday to Thursday.

The People's Angelus

Alongside the professionally produced films, RTÉ will use the 6pm slot on Friday to broadcast 'The People's Angelus'.

The films submitted for inclusion used a wide range of mediums, from animation to stills photography.

In the first of the new films, an animation (not dissimilar to the video for A-Ha's 1985 hit 'Take On Me') shows a man waking up and going about his day before a circular shape appears on the wall beside him and changes into a mountain.

The films can be viewed on [RTÉ's website here.](#)

The Journal

Poll: Should the Angelus be scrapped?

Some people think it's not appropriate in modern Ireland.

Jun 2nd 2017, 9:29 AM 45,547 Views [247 Comments](#)
[Share](#) [Tweet](#) [Email](#)

IT'S A DEBATE that comes up every now and again: Should the Angelus be scrapped?

The one-minute reflection on RTÉ One has been aired daily at 6pm since the inception of RTÉ television in 1962. The famous bells are also broadcast on RTÉ radio at noon and 6pm.

Some people view the Angelus as a welcome opportunity to pray or reflect, while others think it's inappropriate in a modern Ireland and not inclusive of people outside the Catholic or Christian faith.

In recent times, the Angelus has been accompanied by more secular imagery. Senator David Norris criticised this as "hogwash" in the Seanad last week, stating: "It is and should remain Christian."

Link <https://presspack.rte.ie/2015/10/19/rte-one-announces-new-angelus-broadcasts-to-include-a-showcase-for-aspiring-irish-filmmakers-and-artists/>

RTÉ One announces new Angelus broadcasts, to include a showcase for aspiring Irish filmmakers and artists

Monday 19th October, 4.59pm

The one minute daily reflective Angelus broadcast on RTÉ One is one of Ireland's longest-running programmes, having been aired daily at 6.00pm since the inception of RTÉ television in 1962. Ireland has changed enormously over that time and the nature of the broadcasts has changed with it. They are now changing again.

New commissioned films create a reflective space for all in the peak-time schedule...

On Monday 19th October, a new set of short films will air. Commissioned from Kairos Communications following a competitive tendering process, the pieces aim to be “conducive to prayer or reflection for people of all faiths and none.”

Contributors, who range from a sand sculptor to a carer, were filmed in locations all over Ireland, from the Islandbridge Memorial, Dublin, to the Holy Well at Tobernalt, Co. Sligo, from a traditional bookbinder's workshop in Athlone to a topiarist's garden in Malahide. The six new films will be shown in daily rotation. (See Editors' Notes for full details.)

<http://www.rte.ie/player/ie/show/the-peoples-angelus-30003637/>

The People's Angelus...

In addition to these commissioned professional films, RTÉ One has designated one slot per week, on Fridays at 6pm, as *The People's Angelus* slot, showcasing the work of aspiring filmmakers and artists in the wider community.

Submissions have already come from a number of second and third level colleges, with more expected on an on-going basis. The Genre Head of Religious Programmes, Roger Childs, selected the work to be featured on-air according to whether it met the same editorial brief as the commissioned films: to be “conducive to prayer or reflection for people of all faiths and none.” In addition, however, *The People's Angelus* brief also specified that work would be welcome that reflected minority faith festivals, beliefs and practices.

Submissions ranged from animation to stills photography, from abstract work to contemplative shots of landscape and the natural environment. As well as being given the opportunity to feature their work on-air and on RTÉ Player, all the featured filmmakers and artists will receive a modest payment. In due course, the public will be invited to vote for a favourite, which will receive a further award and be shown again on RTÉ One. Details on how to make a submission are below.

RTÉ Genre Head of Religious Programmes, Roger Childs, said:

“The Angelus broadcasts on RTÉ One and RTÉ Radio 1 have been a feature of Irish life and Irish broadcasting for decades and continue to offer a space for prayer and reflection in an ever changing, modern Ireland. We are delighted to announce the six newly-commissioned films and The People’s Angelus slot on Fridays and hope that the Angelus will continue to afford people of all faiths and none some quiet space in a hectic day-to-day world.”

<http://corinaduyn.blogspot.com/2017/05/our-puppet-film-on-rte-peoples-angelus.html>

Monday, May 29, 2017

Our Puppet film on the RTE People's Angelus

A bit of exciting news.

Nothing to do with hospitals!

Remember the Puppet project I facilitated?

Well, a few months ago, before the screening of the *Life Outside the Box* Film in [Canada and Dungarvan Cinema](#) our IWA group were reflecting on where to show the short film next.

One of the suggestions from Margaret Ann Foley was to ask RTE (our national broadcaster) if they would like to show it on the People's Angelus ...

The one minute daily reflective Angelus broadcast on RTÉ One is one of Ireland's longest-running programmes, having been aired daily at 6.00pm since the inception of RTÉ television in 1962.

*Ireland has changed enormously over that time and the nature of the broadcasts has changed with it. They are now changing again. Since October 2015 New commissioned films create a reflective space for all in the peak-time schedule... In addition to these commissioned professional films, RTÉ One has designated one slot per week, on Fridays at 6pm, as **The People’s Angelus** slot*

[More about the People's Angelus](#)

And you know what.

I contacted RTE's Roger Childs, Senior Production Executive, Genre Head of Religious Programmes RTE. I emailed a little bit of information, and the film. I received a Very Enthusiastic response that same day.

A few months have passed, with several edits to the film made, to fit it in a one minute slot, and add the Angelus (Bells) , but still try to tell our story of stepping out of the Disability Box.

Contracts and permission signed. And now...

**THIS FRIDAY 2ND JUNE, 6 PM
OUR LIFE OUTSIDE THE BOX**

One minute version

WILL MAKE IT ONTO

NATIONAL TELEVISION!

So please tune in.

*It will be included in a regular rota of People's Angelus submissions
every Friday, over the coming months.*

This Friday is probably the *only* Friday I am *not in Ireland*,
But please watch for me!

...to dancing outside the Disability Box! and onto national television

Thank you all who were involved in this project.
Members and Staff at the IWA.
Alan O'Callaghan of The Bootleg studios.

Roger Childs at RTE.

And all who supported us along the way.

* I have also been asked to talk about the project at the upcoming [The Broken Puppet: A Symposium on Puppetry, Disability, and Health. At UCC in August](#)