

"A Politics of Hope and Catholic Social Teaching as a Guiding Light".

Dr. Anna Rowlands of Durham University, delivered the annual Trócaire address last week in Maynooth, with the above title. It has been acknowledged as a superb paper for our times and references among other topics, the Jubilee year of hope and the tenth anniversary of the publication of Laudato Sí. "Hope is the appropriate response to ... living a life that we understand to be 'on the way,' on pilgrimage. Hope is the virtue that places us back in time, not evading but engaging the sheer difficulty of the world and the sheer gift of the world." (Dr. Anna Rowlands) Former minister Eamon Ryan wrote an opinion piece in the Irish Times which features reflections from Dr Rowlands' lecture.

Links:

- Lecture: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kO7KxHxSiwI>
- Eamon Ryan:
: <https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/2025/03/18/every-major-religion-agrees-on-this-we-must-live-in-harmony-with-the-natural-world/>
- Dr Rowlands' address summarised in Irish Catholic:
<https://www.irishcatholic.com/religion-far-from-a-museum-piece-says-top-female-theologian-and-vatican-advisor/>
- Sarah MacDonald in The Tablet:
<https://www.thetablet.co.uk/news/we-must-not-be-naive-about-how-faith-can-be-deployed-in-politics/>

(Adapted from Laudato Sí Facebook page)