

## Press Release



Meeting in London, today, 4th March 2022, the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales, Ireland, and Scotland said:

In the face of the shocking loss of life, bloodshed, displacement of people and destruction of property in Ukraine, we make these heartfelt appeals.

We ask our Catholic communities to sustain the prayer and self-denial of Lent as a constant offering to God, begging for an end to this pointless violence.

We ask our fellow Christians everywhere, including Patriarch Kirill and all in the Russian Orthodox Church, to join in solidarity with us in daily spiritual and practical efforts for a ceasefire, for humanitarian outreach and the silencing and laying down of weapons.

We ask all who have an instinct for God to raise their hearts and minds in prayer for peace.

We urge everyone to open their hearts and respond generously to the many appeals for help and support for all who are fleeing their homeland. We call on the UK and Irish governments to offer an open and generous welcome to those who seek refuge in the face of this warfare.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols  
Archbishop Malcolm McMahon

Archbishop Eamon Martin  
Archbishop Dermot Farrell

Bishop Hugh Gilbert  
Bishop John Keenan

*Catholic Bishops' Conference of  
England and Wales*

*Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference*

*Bishops' Conference of  
Scotland*