

cc Home Office
Northern Ireland Office

British Council of Protestant Christian Churches

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Dear Prime Minister,

The above Council wishes to protest the visit of the Pope to this United Kingdom.

The Pope claims to be the Father of Kings and Princes and Ruler of the World, and to enjoy the highest dignity of all on earth. In view of such arrogant and unscriptural claims Her Majesty The Queen ought not to be asked to welcome the Pope to this land or in any way to countenance his visit.

The Roman Catholic sacrifices of masses are called by the Queen's religion blasphemous fables and dangerous deceits, and it would be intolerable if the Pope or any of his priests were to be permitted to celebrate the mass in any building belonging to the established Protestant Church of England.

We need not remind you of the growing unrest in the country and the concern of many Members of Parliament and their constituents for a return to law and order. The flouting of the law by bringing an unrepentant Pope to Britain can do nothing toward easing the situation, and the cost to the country both in terms of cash and of the strain on an already over-stretched police force is too high a price to pay to satisfy the conceit of the Vatican authorities that this is a "Catholic" country.

May God direct you as you direct this nation and may His blessing rest upon us all.

Sincerely
Ian R. K. Paisley