



Reverend John Dunlop

Reverend John Dunlop is the recipient of multiple national and international recognitions for his service to community relations. John was born near Newry, County Down in 1939. He attended Newry Grammar School and Royal Belfast Academical Institution. He is a graduate of Queen's University, Belfast and the University of Edinburgh. From 1978 -2004 he was the minister of Rosemary Presbyterian Church in North Belfast—the largest protestant denomination in the North. With the support and encouragement of the congregational leadership, he has exercised a wider ministry in efforts to further better relations between Protestant and Roman Catholics encouraging each community to better understand the other's culture and history. Prior to that he worked with the United Church in Jamaica for ten years. He was Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in 1992-93.

He was awarded the CBE in the New Year's Honours list in January 2004 "for services to the community" and Honorary DD degrees from the Presbyterian Theological Faculty of Ireland and Trinity College Dublin and Honorary LLD degrees from the University of Ulster and Queen's University Belfast.

In June 1993 he received the "Cultural Traditions Award", in recognition of his "established and continuing contribution to debate on cultural diversity within Northern Ireland" and in 2002 he received the E.H. Johnston Memorial Trust award from the Presbyterian Church in Canada. In 2009 he was named as a "Paul Harris Fellow" by the Rotary Foundation.

His book *A Precarious Belonging: Presbyterians and the Conflict in Ireland* was published by Blackstaff Press in May 1995. He has written and presented a number of programs for the BBC, RTE and Ulster Television, where he was the Presbyterian Religious Advisor from 1993-2002. He is a regular contributor to BBC Radio's "Thought for the Day", Sunday Worship and to their current affairs' programs and In 2005 he presented a 6 part TV program for BBC NI on the church in China.

In 1996-97, he was a member of the "Independent Review of Parades and Marches".

From December 2001 – May 2002 he chaired the "North Belfast Community Action Project", and in 2007, he chaired the Omagh Independent Facilitators, bringing a recommendation regarding the wording to be used on the Memorial to the victims of the Omagh Bomb.

He has visited the United States on several occasions at the invitation of the Presbyterian Church USA and the US Catholic Conference. In May 1995 he attended and spoke at President Clinton's "White House Conference on Investment" with Cardinal Daly.

He was co-convenor of the Presbyterian Church's "Church and Government Committee"; a member of the Irish Inter Church Meeting and of the Irish/USA Inter Church Committee on Northern Ireland and a member of the Board of (British-Irish) Encounter.