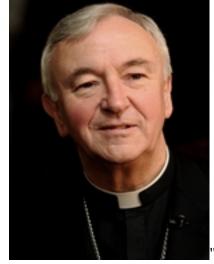
Archbishop of Westminster's statement on the Royal Succession



"You may not be aware that until a few years ago Catholics could not become Prime Minister or Lord Chancellor (Head of the Judiciary)", writes Ann Mullaney from the Justice and Peace Commission in Botwell Parish in Hayes. It is very significant last week announcement o the Royal Succession.

Following the announcement on the Royal Succession by the Prime Minister, David Cameron, at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Summit in Perth, Australia, The Most Reverend Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales said:

"I welcome the decision of Her Majesty's Government to give heirs to the throne the freedom to marry a Catholic without being removed from the line of succession. This will eliminate a point of unjust discrimination against Catholics and will be welcomed not only by Catholics but far more widely."

"At the same time I fully recognise the importance of the position of the Established Church in protecting and fostering the role of faith in our society today."

Ann Mullaney