

CHURCH IN CHAINS CONFERENCE (ATHLONE) Saturday 17 September 2011 11am – 4pm

The annual Church in Chains Conference will again be held in Athlone this year and promises to be a great day when Christians from around Ireland will gather to focus on the Persecuted Church worldwide. We are looking forward greatly to the visit of our special guest, Pastor Bob Fu.

Bob Fu was a house church pastor in China and spent time in prison after police discovered a secret Bible School that he was leading. Now living in the USA, Bob is founder and president of China Aid Association and has become the leading spokesman for persecuted Christians in China. **Bob will speak about his own experience of persecution and about the current situation in China** – many of those being persecuted are friends of Bob's.

The conference will also include:

- The latest news about persecuted Christians around the world
- Opportunities to pray together for our brothers and sisters
- + A project to write a message to Christians being persecuted in China

Venue: The Athlone Springs Hotel, Monksland, Tuam Road, Athlone (west side of Athlone town). The conference will be held in the spacious Clonellan Suite. All facilities are located on the ground floor. Ample car parking in hotel grounds. Complimentary tea and biscuits will be served from 10.30am.

Directions for Drivers: The Athlone venue is a drive of less than two hours from Dublin, Westport, Castlebar, Sligo, Limerick and Kilkenny; three and a half hours from Cork and Wexford; and an hour from Galway. **See reverse for directions and map.**

Bus: Early morning buses run from Dublin, Galway and Sligo.

Rail: Early morning trains run from Westport/Castlebar; Galway/Ballinasloe and from Dublin in time to reach Athlone before start of conference. **Contact Seán Ó Cluaid about local transport to hotel.**

Supervised Children's Programme in hotel grounds with the Big Red Bus for primary school children (MUST be booked in advance)



Lunch: Available in hotel (main course and tea/coffee €12.50; chicken curry and tea/coffee €10.50; sandwiches and tea/coffee €6.50). Hotel staff will ask delegates for lunch preferences before conference begins at 11am. Snacks and light lunches also available in adjacent café.

Overnight Accomodation: The Athlone Springs Hotel special rate for Friday night or Saturday night (price per <u>room</u> inc. breakfast) is €59 single; €79 double/twin. **To arrange this, please contact the hotel directly and mention the Church in Chains Conference** (090 644 4444).

Admission/Registration: There is no admission charge. There will be a freewill offering to pay for expenses. Conference folder to take away. If you plan to come, it would be very helpful if you could contact the organisers. You can pre-register using the form on <u>www.churchinchains.ie</u>

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