



Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act 1860

1860 CHAPTER 32 23 and 24 Vict

2 Penalty on persons found guilty of making a disturbance in churches, chapels, churchyards, or burial grounds. **E+W+N.I.**

Any person who shall be guilty of riotous, violent, or indecent behaviour in England or Ireland in any cathedral church, parish or district church or chapel of the Church of England . . . ^{F1}, or in any chapel of any religious denomination, or in England in any places of religious worship duly certified under the provisions of the ^{M1}Places of Worship Registration Act 1855, whether during the celebration of divine service or at any other time, or in any churchyard or burial ground, or who shall molest, let, disturb, vex, or trouble, or by any other unlawful means disquiet or misuse any preacher duly authorized to preach therein, or any clergyman in holy orders ministering or celebrating any sacrament, or any divine service, rite, or office, in any cathedral, church, or chapel, or in any churchyard or burial ground, shall, on conviction thereof [^{F2}by a magistrates' court], be liable to [^{F3}a fine not exceeding][^{F4}level 1 on the standard scale][^{F5}or to imprisonment for a term] not exceeding two months.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words omitted by virtue of [Irish Church Act 1869 \(c. 42\), s. 69](#)
- F2** Words in s. 2 substituted (1.4.2005) by [Courts Act 2003 \(c. 39\), s. 110\(1\), Sch. 8 para. 37\(a\)](#); S.I. 2005/910, art. 3(y)
- F3** Words in s. 2 substituted (1.4.2005) by [Courts Act 2003 \(c. 39\), s. 110\(1\), Sch. 8 para. 37\(b\)](#); S.I. 2005/910, art. 3(y)
- F4** Words substituted by virtue of [Criminal Justice Act 1982 \(c. 48\), ss. 38, 46](#) and (N.I.) by S.I. 1984/703 (N.I. 3), [arts. 5, 6](#)
- F5** Words in s. 2 substituted (1.4.2005) by [Courts Act 2003 \(c. 39\), s. 110\(1\), Sch. 8 para. 37\(c\)](#); S.I. 2005/910, art. 3(y)

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1855 c. 81.

Changes to legislation:

Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act 1860, Section 2 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 August 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 2 words repealed by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 37 Pt. 9](#)