Saturday, November 18

ON THIS DAY



▲ 1626: St Peter's Basilica in Rome was consecrated by Pope Urban VIII

1883: The United States adopted standard time and divided the country into four time-zones

1916: The First World War battle of the Somme finally ended after five months of futile warfare which claimed over one million lives

1991: Terry Waite, the last British hostage in Lebanon, was freed after 1,763 days in captivity

2004: A law permitting divorce came into effect in Chile, leaving Malta and the Philippines as the only nations where divorce is still illegal