

# *Into the Deep*

Issue 142

Newsletter of orthodox Catholics of Gippsland

September 2014

## International News for the Wrong Reasons

The furor over the World Congress of Families event in Melbourne has been incredible. Supporting marriage and family, life and freedom, has become such a contentious issue that it's considered hate-speech. Only the idea of same-sex couples forming families is apparently allowed to be discussed and accepted – a family with a mother and father and children is now a vile and disgusting concept and any conference that intends to discuss this needs to be shut down at all costs. Women's health is only about free access to abortion and contraception – any discussion of a link with breast cancer is “disgusting” (Labor Leader Bill Shorten) and “an insult to all women” (Greens MP Adam Bandt). Independent Member for Sydney Alex Greenwich said that the conference was against human rights that the WCF were “anti-gay bigots”; he stated that WCF was linked to “harassment, prosecution and murder of gay people worldwide”. Greens senator Larissa Waters said that “Australians value equality, diversity and autonomy, as shown by the passionate public opposition to political representatives supporting the Congress and spreading its unfounded myths.” A protest organiser referred to WCF as “extremist and hate-filled”.

WCF event organiser Babette Francis faced incredible opposition, but she powered on undaunted and the conference went ahead. She mentioned that she received threatening emails, the funniest being from an atheist who was sure that Babette was going to hell!

- Protestors threatened to destroy the venues that were to host the conference.
- Babette received threatening emails (the funniest one being from an atheist who was sure that Babette was going to hell!)
- 48 hours prior to the conference, she had 400 registrants and no venue.
- Speakers pulled out 12 hours before. Babette managed to find excellent replacements at short notice.

- Dr David van Gend flew down from Queensland to fill in, after being asked the night before.
- Daniel Nalliah of Catch the Fire Ministries offered their venue to save the conference. They were gracious hosts, and the venue was ideal for police to secure.
- 10 minutes into Dr Angela Lanfranchi's talk, the media left. They obviously did not want to learn any facts that would challenge their conviction that there is no link between breast cancer and abortion.
- The Hon. Kevin Andrews, Minister for Social Services, withdrew (he is International Ambassador for World Congress of Families); The Hon. Robert Clark, Attorney-General, withdrew; The Hon. Bernie Finn, MLC, withdrew.
- His Eminence Cardinal Raymond Burke, Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura, withdrew; Monsignor Peter Elliott, Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne, withdrew; Fr Glen Tattersall, Secretary of the Australian Confraternity of Catholic Clergy, withdrew.
- Teresa Martin, President of Cherish Life Queensland, stood in to chair the day and did a brilliant job.
- Thanks to the 400 or so people who attended, in spite of fears for their own safety, and stood up for Family, Life and Freedom in the face of all the threats! If only our political and church leaders had done the same!
- Thanks to the police who did an excellent and professional job in protecting us. They were there in great number, and were polite and helpful. My faith in them has been restored, after their atrocious performance at last year's March for the Babies.
- And thanks above all to Babette Francis, who was unflinching in her resolve to defend free speech and ensure the conference was a success.

*See page 2 and 3 for reports from the conference. - Ed.*

**All issues of *Into the Deep* are at [www.stoneswillshout.com](http://www.stoneswillshout.com)**

# World Congress of Families Melbourne Event

*From my notes taken during the day. - Ed.*

The UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the family is the natural and fundamental unit of society, and is entitled to protection by society and the state – it would be helpful if they enforced that.

## **Dr Larry Jacobs, Managing Director, World Congress of Families:**

- WCF received an international peace prize in 2012. Yet the protestors call us hate-filled and violent.
- Why aren't we permitted to discuss that it's a positive social good for children to have their mother and a father at home?
- He advises his children to remember 3 things to do in order to reduce their chances of living in poverty: 1. Graduate high school. 2. Get married. 3. Have children. If these are done, and in the right order, the statistics tell us that you only have a 10% chance of ending up in poverty.
- Why can't we honestly collect and share data?

## **Dr John Morrissey:**

- March for the Babies was initiated in 2009 by Bernie Finn.
- Don't be afraid to attend this year, after the problems we faced last year. The police have admitted that they let us down, and have committed to doing better.
- The protestors are more determined; so we need to show even more support for the event.

## **Dr David van Gend:**

- Governments are firm on saying "we will not negotiate with terrorists" because it encourages them to do it again. By the politicians not coming to this conference, they have given the ferals permission to do it again.
- We are entitled to free public argument on matters of public importance.
- Statesmen should come and say no to the barbarians, and yes to the democratic people.
- Reject euthanasia on the grounds of injustice to the weak.
- We cannot corrupt the doctor-patient relationship by giving doctors the power to kill.
- Last month there was a paper released about vasectomy being a possible risk factor for prostate cancer – there was no media outcry. Yet there is media outcry when it is suggested that abortion is a risk factor for breast cancer.

## **Paul Hanrahan, Executive Director, Family Life International:**

- The target of abortion providers is the poor.
- How do we stop our government sending our money overseas to fund abortion?
- The greatest injustice is done when the most vulnerable are persecuted.
- Money is being given for condoms and abortions instead of penicillin, clean water, food and clothing, immunisation.
- Marie Stopes is set up as a "not-for-profit" pharmaceutical company, which means that they don't pay tax on their profits. They cash in on tax money to provide (and oversee provision of) the abortion drug RU486. It costs about \$800, but taxpayers subsidise it so that it's only \$36. It is in their interest to promote medical abortion.
- Marie Stopes is listed as a full member of the Australian Council for International Development.
- More research needs to be done on Gardasil. There are too many concerns and it should not be accepted until it's fully researched. There have been concerns about the possibility of early menopause (hence infertility) being associated with it.

## **Warwick and Alison Marsh: Dads4Kids**

- Tips for fathers: Be there. Give unconditional love. Make your children feel special.

## **Dr Angela Lanfranchi, President, Breast Cancer Prevention Institute:**

- She's a breast surgeon, sees about 20 new patients a week, for the last 20 years (= about 20,000 women).
- National Cancer Council has known about abortion being a breast cancer risk.
- Most women who have an abortion won't get breast cancer; most women who smoke won't get lung cancer; but we still need to educate women!
- Full-term pregnancy has a protective effect on breast tissue.

*Continued on page 3*

- Not having children increases risk.
- Each additional pregnancy further lowers the risk by 10%.
- Each year after 20 years old, a woman who delays a full-term pregnancy, increases her risk of pre-menopausal breast cancer by 5% per year, and of post-menopausal breast cancer by 3% per year.
- Induced abortion increases the risk of premature birth, which in turn increases breast cancer risk if it occurs before 32 weeks.
- Women are not being told about avoidable risks.
- A Chinese study has recently shown that after 1 abortion, there is a 44% increase in risk of breast cancer, after 2 abortions 60-something% and after 3 abortions about 80-something% - and this is a study done in a country where abortion is legal and common and there is no reason to be politically-correct about it.
- 15 million women stopped using Hormone Replacement Therapy after it was announced that it is a risk factor for post-menopausal breast cancer. The incidence of post-menopausal breast cancer went down by 11%.
- 15% of breast cancer can be attributable to the contraceptive pill – we could reduce breast cancer by 15% if women stopped using the Pill.
- Pre-mature birth earlier than 32 weeks is a known risk factor for breast cancer. Abortion has the same effect – the pregnancy is ended earlier than 32 weeks, and the woman's breast tissue changes have not finished, leaving breast tissue susceptible to cancer.

**Rev. Mark Durie, Anglican, who agreed to speak at short notice:**

- More than 1 in 3 children in Australia are born to unmarried parents.
- There is an astounding hostility towards traditional family structure.
- The conference has been accused of hate-speech. A fear has gripped people, a fear of clear thinking, a fear of facts – factophobia.
- Media outlets take the part of hatred.
- There has been a soft revolution in Australia – there is intense pressure to validate variations of “family”, to change what we accept as normal, and people are afraid to speak out because they'll be called bigots.
- In the name of tolerance, there is an aggressive campaign to shut down those who speak up for the family. It has become acceptable to abuse and silence others.
- Claim your freedom and speak out! This is not a time to become silent.

**Rev. The Hon. Fred Nile, the only parliamentarian who stuck with the conference:**

- Has served in Parliament for 33 year.
- Christians must be involved in politics and in government.

**Louise Kirk:**

- God has seen to it that we are all marked with sexuality, not only on the outside but on the inside too.
- The sexual revolution has depended not only on ideas, but on a thing – contraception. e.g. “trial marriages” would not be quite so much of an attraction if there was no contraception.
- Contraception promised births when we want them, and no births when we don't want them, and happy marriages. But in reality it has given us the opposite.
- What do people really want? It is a legitimate desire to want to love without worry. God has answered these desires for us before we even asked, by giving us phases of fertility, to allow us to procreate with God in a conscious manner.
- We need to learn from the anti-life brigade – use of language; organisation; train the young.
- Put more glamour into our message, e.g. saying “save sex for marriage” means little to those who don't believe in marriage; rather “save sex for the best sex (which happens to be in marriage)”.
- Very few parents take their children out of sex education in schools – but they should.
- Sex Ed in schools wasn't asked for by parents or teachers, but by those who want to promote contraception.
- If you're going to teach children sexuality, you need to teach them correctly, and you need to teach them with the best teachers – the best teachers are their parents.
- Parents often weren't taught well themselves. We need to move forward and teach them e.g. John Paul II's Theology of the Body.

## Hope of the Family

*Quotes from Cardinal Gerhard Mueller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, in a book-long interview with Spanish journalist Carlos Granados. The book is called "The Hope of the Family"*

"In a world that is angrily individualistic and subjectivist, marriage is not perceived anymore as an opportunity for the human being to achieve his completeness, sharing love."

"The total indissolubility of a valid marriage is not a mere doctrine. It is a divine and definitive dogma of the Church."

"One cannot declare a marriage to be extinct on the pretext that the love between the spouses is 'dead,' because "the indissolubility of marriage does not depend on human sentiments."

A major pastoral and educational priority, Cardinal Mueller said, is having a more in-depth education on marriage. "As a shepherd, I say to myself: 'It can't be! We must tell people the truth! We should open their eyes.'"

"Among the poor of the third and fourth world," and those in the "existential peripheries," there are "the children who must grow up without their parents." These "orphans of divorce," he said are perhaps "the poorest of the poor of the world," and interestingly enough are most often found, not in the poorest nations, but in the world's wealthiest places, such as Europe and North America. "They have many material goods yet are deprived of the fundamental good: the self-giving love of two parents who deny themselves for their children."

*Zenit.org 07-08-2014*

## Healthy Family, Healthy Society

*Pope Benedict XVI, in his message for the Ecuadorian National Family Congress, 10-11-2011*

The family, born of a covenant of love and of complete and sincere commitment between a man and woman in marriage, is not a private entity enclosed in itself. By its vocation it makes a wonderful and decisive contribution to the common good of society and the mission of the Church. Society is not a mere aggregation of individuals, but the outcome of relationships between people – husband and wife, parents and children, siblings – the foundation of which is to be found in family life and in the bonds of affection deriving therefrom. Each family, through its children, gives society its own experience of human richness. We can well say that the health and value of relationships within a society depend upon the health and value of relationships within families.

## Keep the Flavour

*Pope Francis, Angelus Address, 31-08-2014*

It is sad to find watered down Christians, who are like watered wine. You can't tell whether they are Christian or worldly. Like watered wine, where you can't tell whether it is wine or water. This is sad. It is sad to find Christians that are no longer the salt of the Earth. And we know that when salt loses its flavour, it is no longer useful. Their salt has lost its flavour because they are committed to the spirit of this world. That is, they have become worldly.

Therefore, it is necessary to renew oneself continuously, to draw this sap from the Gospel. And how can one do this in practice?

First and foremost, by reading and meditating the Gospel every day, so the word of Jesus may always be present in our life. Remember, it would help you to carry a Gospel with you, a small book of Gospels, in your pocket or in your purse, and read a small passage during the day. But always the Gospel because it is carrying the Word of Jesus and being able to read it.

Also, participating in Sunday Mass, where we find the Lord in the community, listening to His Word and receiving the Eucharist which unites us to Him and one another.

And then, days of retreat and spiritual exercises are very important for spiritual renewal.

Gospel, Eucharist, Prayer. Do not forget: Gospel, Eucharist and Prayer. Thanks to these gifts from the Lord, we can conform not to the world, but to Christ, and to follow Him on His path, the path of "losing one's own life" in order to find it. "Losing it" in the sense of donating it, offering it for love and in love – and this involves the sacrifice, even to the cross – to receive it again purified, freed from selfishness and from the debt of death, full of eternity.

The Virgin Mary always precedes us on this path; let us be guided and accompanied by Her.

*Zenit.org 31-08-2014*

## "We are fully ourselves

when we become fully our Father's children,  
and this is thanks to Jesus."

*Pope Francis, 21-08-2014*

## Our Troubles

Let us not waste time reflecting so much upon our troubles, either past or present. We must think about them as little as possible, for they have less power to harm us when we disregard and ignore them.

*St Margaret Mary Alacoque*

## Imposing Morality

*Archbishop Charles Chaput, at a conference in Canada,  
06-08-2014*

We often hear the claim that we shouldn't press for laws that impose our morality on others. But no one really believes that kind of argument, because it makes no sense. In practice, *all* law involves imposing certain moral claims on other people. Persons who support permissive abortion or same-sex unions, for example, are very comfortable in coercing the public through the courts and lawmaking process. As Christians we should be equally comfortable – and even more zealous – in defending the human person and advancing human dignity through legislative and judicial means.

*Zenit.org 10-08-2014*

## Not Because We Are Good

*Pope Francis, Regina Coeli Address, 01-06-2014*

With his ascension the risen Lord draws the gaze of the Apostles – and our gaze – to the heights of heaven to show us that the Father is the goal of our journey. He himself said that he would be leaving to prepare a place for us in heaven.

Nevertheless, Jesus remains present and active in the vicissitudes of human history with the power and the gifts of his Spirit. He is near to each one of us, even if we do not see him with our eyes. He is there! He accompanies us, he leads us, he takes us by the hand and lifts us up when we have fallen. ...

Jesus, when he returns to heaven, brings the Father a gift. His wounds. His body is very beautiful, without bruises, without the wounds of the flagellation, but the wounds [in his hands, feet, side, and head] remain.

When he returns to the Father he shows him the wounds and says to him: "Look, Father, this is the price of the forgiveness that you give." When the Father looks at Jesus' wounds he always forgives us, not because we are good but because Jesus has paid for us. Looking at Jesus' wounds, the Father becomes more merciful.

This is the great work of Jesus in heaven today: showing the Father the price of forgiveness, his wounds. This is beautiful and it moves us not to have fear of asking forgiveness. The Father always forgives because he looks at the wounds of Jesus, looks at our sin and forgives it.

*Zenit.org 01-06-2014*

## Abortion Breast Cancer Scourge

I read with much interest your article about the abortion breast cancer issue and the deathly silence of the cancer council regarding abortion as a risk factor (Aug ITD p.2).

As you know I have written about, spoken about, and am personally experiencing breast cancer. I have written about this issue in my newsletter (Broken Branches) and other places for years but I, like you, have come to the conclusion that an industry has grown around the breast cancer topic and there is too much money to be made/given for the council to be interested.

The pharmaceutical industry would go bust without us women needing to take very expensive medications. I am on my 3<sup>rd</sup> brand. Tamoxifen didn't work for me, Arimedex didn't work well either and I am now on Femara.

I have spoken to my oncologist, to my breast surgeon, to the breast care nurse; have given them all a copy of my book, Redeeming Grief ... no interest.

Throughout all the treatments I have not received any help from the Cancer Council except a Berlei bra after the surgery.

As my husband I am not covered by private health insurance, everything that Medicare did not cover had to be paid from my husband's pocket (about \$14,000), this for radiotherapy, scans and so on and so on. I haven't seen any help at all. So I don't listen to the hype about research etc. and funds needed. My experience of breast cancer has been really hard. Not one free service, nothing; everything had to be paid up front. Credit card came in handy here, they accept these.

I have worked during (after 5 weeks off) my cancer surgery and treatments including the 32 treatments of radiation, because I didn't want to let my clients (post abortive/sexual abuse) down. And there have been moments when even I wondered if I am a little nutty. Especially as I struggle to keep the office going. The donations for my work have dried up, and yet the "pink ribbons" and morning teas go on ad infinitum.

Abortion grief and pain is not on the important list of ribbon wearers but I want to say that it probably is the most important grief and pain of our day, and respect should be given to it at least as much as respect is given to the breast cancer topic since and especially because abortion contributes to this scourge.

*Anne Lastman, Melbourne, Vic*

*Victims of Abortion, [www.victimsofabortion.com.au](http://www.victimsofabortion.com.au)*

*"Poor human reason, when it trusts in itself, substitutes the strangest absurdities for the highest divine concepts." St John Chrysostom*

## Everything Makes Sense

*Pope Francis, Angelus Address, 27-07-2014*

The parables of the treasure hidden in the field, and the pearl of great price... tell us that the discovery of the Kingdom of God can come suddenly, as when the peasant farmer is ploughing, finding the treasure unexpectedly; or *after a long search*, as the pearl for the merchant, who finally found the pearl of great price he had long dreamed of.

But in that case and in the other, the primary fact remains that the treasure and the pearl are worth more than all other goods. Therefore, the farmer and the merchant, when they find them, *give up everything* else to buy them. They do not need to reason, to think, to reflect: they realize immediately the incomparable value of what they have found, and are willing to lose anything to have it.

So is the Kingdom of God: whoever finds it has no doubts, he feels that it is what he was looking and waiting for, and that it responds to his most authentic aspirations. And it is really so: those who know Jesus, who meet him personally, *remain fascinated, attracted* by so much goodness, so much truth, so much beauty, and all in great humility and simplicity. Look for Jesus, encounter Jesus. This is the great treasure! ...

The Gospel makes one know the real, living Jesus. He addresses your heart and changes your life. So yes, leave everything. You can actually change your way of life, or continue to do what you did before, but *you* are another, you are born again. You find that you are given meaning, flavour, light to everything, even to hardships, even to suffering, even to death. ...

Everything makes sense when you find this treasure, which Jesus called “the Kingdom of God”, that is, God reigning in your life, in our lives. He is love, peace and joy in every man and in all men. This is what God wants, it is that for which Jesus gave himself up to die on a Cross, to free us from the power of darkness and move into the realm of life, beauty, goodness, joy!

*Zenit.org 27-07-2014*

## Marlo Retreat

Fr Brendan Arthur will be leading a 4-day retreat here at The Ark in Marlo, from Monday afternoon 10<sup>th</sup> November to Friday morning 14<sup>th</sup> November. Tridentine Masses will be celebrated.

Payment is by anonymous donation. Everything is provided: home cooking, talks, Holy Mass, rosary, Stations of the Cross walks, beach walks, shrines, adoration, prayer and daily Benediction.

For booking and further information, phone 5154 8419.

*Richard Earle, Marlo, Vic*

## No Laws Required

The opening paragraphs of your letter (July ITD p.3) clearly establish that you were writing about your experience with a particular priest, “a retired visiting priest” to be exact. It matters not that you did not name him because the description of your ‘experience’ in the confessional and subsequently your comments about his actions during his celebration of Mass would clearly indicate to all and sundry of that particular parish, the person to whom you were referring. Even blind Freddie could put two and two together with your opening statements, so please do not confuse the issue by denying it.

You say in your response to my letter (August ITD p.4) that certain remarks of mine about non-Catholics and your sins are not relevant. I most certainly assert that they are. After all, it was you who introduced the subject in the first instance.

Why is it that so many Catholics are so tied up in knots with fear and guilt that their lives are misery? Take yourself, for instance, I would have thought that the ‘intent’ was the main issue here. Surely, your intention to confess your sins and the priest’s intention to absolve you is what really matters. For your own peace of mind, you would do well not to consider form over substance.

As for the document ‘Redemptionis Sacramentum’, do you really think many priests know of or read this and the myriad of other documents you quote *ad infinitum* in ITD? I would not be surprised if even the bishops were aware of them. One hopes they have more to do than spend their days trawling through the internet searching for Papal messages.

*William Power, Knowsley, Vic*

I give up. You’re saying that bishops, priests and lay people can all be Catholic on their own terms – an individual’s feelings and opinions trump Church teaching. If we are all our own authority, what is the point of being Catholic?

- Ed.

## An Orphan

*Pope Francis, 30-06-2014*

When a Christian says to me, not that he does not love the Virgin, but rather that it does not come to mind to look to the Virgin or to pray to the Virgin, I feel sad. A Christian without the Virgin is an orphan.

## “In times of desolation,

God conceals Himself from us so that we can discover for ourselves what we are without Him.”

*Saint Margaret of Cortona*

## ITD Blog: Latest News

Here are some excerpts from what's been happening on the ITD blog during August. Note that the "read more" links are only active in the Word version. Otherwise visit [www.stoneswillshout.com/wp](http://www.stoneswillshout.com/wp) to read more. - Ed.

**Discovering My Gifts...** Morwell/Churchill parish is running a new planned giving campaign (called "stewardship" these days, apparently). The campaign is a generic one produced by the Development Office of the Archdiocese of Melbourne and personalised for whichever parish buys it. They're trying to... **READ MORE**

**Hate Conference:** The World Congress of Families, with its theme of "Life, Family and Freedom" is being dubbed by protestors as a "hate conference". Isn't that tragic, that such wonderful, simple, wholesome things as life, family and freedom, can be considered to... **READ MORE**

**Update on Satanic Mass:** In the "Man of Action" post of 7th August, I published the letter of Archbishop Paul Coakley of Oklahoma City about his plan to counter a Black Mass planned in his diocese in September. In this article from Zenit, we see... **READ MORE**

**The Bland Leading the Bland:** I've just read this great article by Fr Dwight Longenecker. I love his analogy of playing tennis without a net, and his "Christianity with water" reference, and the Rock that we either build on or stumble on; and so much more ... **READ MORE**

**Repulsive, Hurtful and Ignorant:** Federal Minister Eric Abetz dared to mention publicly that abortion is a risk factor for breast cancer. All hell broke loose in the Australian media. How dare he mention such an evil thing?! Not abortion, of course – abortion is... **READ MORE**

**Baby Gammy:** Baby Gammy is front-page news in Australia. Gammy is the little boy with Down Syndrome who was born, along with his twin sister, to a surrogate mother in Thailand. She was carrying the babies for an Australian couple who are... **READ MORE**

## Let's Be Seen to be Catholic

In generations prior to my own, Catholics were known to be Catholics by their behaviour: people could "see" they were Catholic. Now, it's as if we are invisible Catholics. Apart from going to Mass on Sundays, there is little we have retained that allow others to "see" we are Catholic.

They're easy enough to bring back, and I propose that we do. Let's be Catholic and proud of it!

- Catholics call their priests "Father" – this is such a simple, beautiful and easy Catholic thing to do, but somehow the 'mature' liberals have led us to believe that it's beneath us to call our priests "Father". Even many priests think so! Let's not be bullied into it. There's nothing to be gained from calling our priests by their first names; but much to be lost.
- The same applies to nuns and brothers – Catholics call them "Sister" and "Brother".
- Catholic priests wear a Roman collar. It's standard priestly attire, it makes them visible and recognisable, unafraid to be seen to be Catholic, a witness to the priesthood. There is no excuse for hiding who they are.
- The same applies to nuns and brothers – Catholics who have consecrated their lives to Christ, wear habits that identify them as such, and identify which order they belong to as well. People see them and know they're Catholic. It's not a personal preference; it's for the good of the Church they've committed to.
- Fridays are days of penance for Catholics, like Lent. Even non-Catholics used to know this. Now even Catholics don't. Technically, we don't have to abstain from meat on Fridays anymore, but they are still days of penance, and the easiest way to observe this, is to still abstain from meat. It's simple, easy, and visible – "I'll have the salad sandwich without the ham, thanks, it's Friday" or "I'll have the fish, thanks, it's Friday." If you choose some other penance, it's usually known only to you, which means there is no public witness, and it's also much easier to 'give up' or 'change the goalposts' because no one knows what task you've set yourself.
- Catholics are quiet in a Catholic church. That's because we know that the Lord our God is truly present in the tabernacle, and the church is a house of prayer and worship. It's different to any other building in the world – we are in the presence of Christ Himself. Let's remember to be silent and reverent, prayerful and respectful. We can gather and chat and be merry outside; but when we're inside, we're in another time and place and our silence makes us see and feel the reality of that. The 'hush' you notice as soon as you walk into a Catholic church becomes a 'hush' you can feel inside yourself as you settle into prayer.

There is more to this list, of course. But these are simple starting points we can begin to do right now. And if other Catholics sneer at us or mock us, so what!

- Ed.

## Pauline Gallagher

Having received today the August edition of ITD, I saw the “In Memoriam” notice on page 8. Pauline Gallagher died on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and was a dear friend of mine for many years. She really enjoyed your magazine. She accepted her pending death with much courage and faith. Thank you for asking for prayers for her – she would really appreciate that.

Pauline lived at Sandgate, a suburb of Newcastle (Eleebana, my home suburb, is also in the Newcastle area). Pauline was a sacristan for many years in Muswellbrook, in the Upper Hunter area of New South Wales and about two hours’ north of Newcastle and, on her move to Newcastle continued in that capacity at the chapel at St Joseph’s Home, Sandgate.

She was a devout Catholic, a daily Mass attendee and also a reader. I do miss her very much and may God grant her eternal rest.

May God bless you in your continuing work for Him.

*Roslyn Owens, Eleebana, NSW*

## Look Around You

The Church which Christ builds on Peter the rock, is entrusted with the keys of God’s kingdom in this world. As divinely willed by the Father, through the Son, by the Holy Spirit, she is distinguished from the world and called to be a sign of a new humanity, a kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace and of justice, love and peace. This Church is created by God to be a sacrament of redemption and salvation, a living sign of the kingdom of God already present but not yet complete.

Every parish community in the world that is headed by a fatherly priest is supposed to be a living reflection of the universal Church built on Peter the rock. Look with the eyes of faith to see if your parish community is a reflection of the Church built by Christ on Peter the rock.

Or, is your parish community marked by “change and progress”, a community which seeks more to be a sign of the kingdom of this world than the kingdom of God; a “consultative” one in which everyone is a leader called to “ministry”; one that caters for its own interests and needs and determines its own style of prayer, purpose and destiny?

Look around you and compare, and if the latter holds true for you then you will understand why your parish priest performs more funerals than weddings and baptisms. History has shown that Christ alone builds and he only builds on Rock, on Peter’s faith. Faithfulness to Christ alone determines the Church’s and subsequently your parish and priest’s fruitfulness.

*Gregory Kingman, Morwell, Vic*

## Sign of Peace Abuses Corrected

*From a letter by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, approved by Pope Francis, June 2014*

In the Roman liturgical tradition, the exchange of peace is placed before Holy Communion with its own specific theological significance. ...

With this gesture, whose “function is to manifest peace, communion and charity”, the Church “implores peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful express to each other their ecclesial communion and mutual charity before communicating in the Sacrament”, that is, the Body of Christ the Lord.

In the post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Sacramentum Caritatis*, Pope Benedict XVI entrusted to this Congregation the competence of considering questions about the exchange of peace, in order to safeguard the sacred sense of the Eucharistic celebration and the sense of mystery at the moment of receiving Holy Communion ...

Some practical guidelines are offered below to better explain the content of the exchange of peace and to moderate excessive expressions that give rise to disarray in the liturgical assembly before Communion.

...

a) It should be made clear once and for all that the rite of peace already has its own profound meaning of prayer and offering of peace in the context of the Eucharist. An exchange of peace appropriately carried out among the participants at Mass enriches the meaning of the rite itself and gives fuller expression to it. ... If it is foreseen that it will not take place properly... it can be omitted, and sometimes ought to be omitted. ...

c) In any case, it will be necessary, at the time of the exchange of peace, to definitively avoid abuses such as:

-the introduction of a “song for peace”, which is non-existent in the Roman Rite. [Footnote: In the Roman Rite, a song for peace is not foreseen by tradition because only the briefest of time is envisaged for the exchange of peace to those who are nearest. The chant for peace presumes, however, a much longer time for the exchange of peace.]

-the movement of the faithful from their places to exchange the sign of peace amongst themselves.

-the departure of the priest from the altar in order to give the sign of peace to some of the faithful.

-that in certain circumstances... the exchange of peace being the occasion for expressing congratulations, best wishes or condolences among those present.

d) Conferences of Bishops are likewise invited to prepare liturgical catecheses on the meaning of the rite of peace in the Roman liturgy and its proper realization in the celebration of the Holy Mass. ...



## What Does This Mean For Eternity?

Eli Wallach, the Jewish-born character actor of Hollywood, died only a few weeks ago. He was born in Al Capone territory, and on screen played many bad characters with success. Off-screen he was dapper and courteous, and sometimes refused acting parts offered to him because they were too violent. He is recorded as saying: "I enjoy playing evil people; they are so highly motivated. Good people, you've got to admit, are rather dull".

Does this make us think at all? I have been thinking about the change in the character of society over the past lifetime. It strikes me that there is a notable difference. Early last century people had a strong sense of duty. People knew their place. Today there is little sense of duty, and we can hear the expression "socially or upwardly mobile" frequently, because the pursuit of pleasure has swamped our sense of duty and destiny.

Are we living in a technological version of the Garden of Eden, a kind of paradise of choices? The biblical story has mankind, in the persons of Adam and Eve, given limitless choices, like ourselves now, except for one. There is a line we dare not cross, now as then, but the temptations to do so are manifold and strong.

The price for doing so? Genesis chapter 3 tells us that, and it is worth rereading and contemplating at home. Self-indulgence leads to disaster! Is that what we want? Of course not, but we are put to an inescapable choice. A lot of modern life is built around suppressing the force of this reality, which St Augustine expressed so succinctly: What does this mean for eternity?

Our society seems hell-bent (nice pun) on the joys of pleasure, all so ephemeral, because we are fooled by the immediate but short and ultimately ugly choice of Eve, all over again. We ratify that original disaster, but resent the consequences it brings upon us. So there is a mood abroad, in the Church as in the world, that there is no eternal punishment. God wouldn't do that!

Is the whole thing about next world punishment part of genuine Catholic Faith and Truth? Most assuredly it is. Where do we find it spelled out? In the gospels, that is *true revelation*. And who has the most to say about all this? Why, Jesus himself, would you believe. Who do we believe enough to follow now: the Hollywood dream myth, or the down to earth message of Christianity!

*S.C., Melbourne*

Incidentally, Eli Wallach was married for 66 years (yes, to the same woman!) – a feat for anyone these days, let alone an actor. - Ed.

## Join Us in Prayer

As you know, our tenth "40 Days for Life" campaign commences on 24<sup>th</sup> September and the final day is 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Each day is from 7am to 7pm.

We invite you to witness peacefully, prayerfully at this so-called "fertility control clinic" 116-118 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne (Tram 75 from Flinders Street Station, stop 13).

We are absolutely convinced that we can only overcome this evil through prayer. We also witness so those helpless infants do not die alone, and to possibly assist some of those mothers in need.

We are inviting you to join us in prayer with Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, the novena prayer (privately in your own home, prayer below) for the 9 days before – commencing on 15<sup>th</sup> September concluding 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

During this novena we will be asking St Mary of the Cross to intercede for us, to ask our Lord to grant the conversion of personnel working in the abortion industry, especially "our" clinic and the permanent closure of that dreadful place.

The opening of our 40DFL campaign will start with Mass at the end of the first day, 24<sup>th</sup> September, either at St Francis (cnr. Elizabeth and Lonsdale Street) or a Latin Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral side altar by Fr Glen Tattersall (your choice). Both start at 5.30pm.

Afterwards, about 6.45pm, we will be having a very friendly family oriented get-together with finger food and pizzas at the Chisholm Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Mitchell building, opposite St Francis entrance in Lonsdale Street.

May God bless each and every one of us, and thank you for your prayers.

*Fons Janssen, Co-ordinator, 0406 322 694  
www.40daysforlife/melbourne.com.au*

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**Ever generous God, you inspired Saint Mary of the Cross to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy. With confidence in your generous providence and joining with Saint Mary of the Cross, we ask that you grant our request (.....). We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like Mary of the Cross, may live with courage, trust and openness. Ever generous God, hear our prayer. We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen**

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## Rock Instead of Sand

*Pope Francis to young people, 05-07-2014*

On the one hand, you are looking for what really matters, which remains stable over time and is definitive, looking for answers that enlighten your mind and warm your heart, not only in the space of a morning or a short stretch of road, but forever. On the other hand, there's the strong fear of failure, fear to get involved in things too, the temptation to always leave open a small escape route, which can always open new scenarios and possibilities.

Contemporary society and its prevailing cultural models – the “culture of the provisional” – do not provide *a climate conducive to the formation of stable life choices with solid bonds*, built on the rock of love and responsibility rather than on the sand of emotion. ...

However, dear young people, the heart of the human being aspires to great things, to important values, to deep friendships, to bonds that are strengthened in the trials of life rather than broken. The human being aspires to love and to be loved, definitively. ... Do not let yourselves be robbed of the desire to build great and solid things in your life! Do not settle for smaller goals! Aspire to happiness, take courage, the courage to come out of yourself and play out your future in fullness, together with Jesus.

*Alone we cannot do it.* Faced with the pressure of events and fashions, we will not be able to find the right path, and even if we could find it, we would not have enough strength to persevere, to deal with the climbs and unforeseen obstacles. And here comes the invitation of the Lord Jesus: “If you want...follow me.” ... Only *with Jesus*, praying and following him will we find clarity of vision and the strength to carry on. He loves us, definitively, he has chosen us definitively, he has given himself to each of us definitively. He is our defender and brother and will be our only judge.

How nice to be able to face the vicissitudes of life in the company of Jesus, to have with us his person and his message! He does not take away autonomy or freedom; on the contrary, he strengthens us in our fragility, allowing us to be truly free, free to do good, strong to continue doing so, able to forgive and to ask for forgiveness.

*Zenit.org 05-07-2014*

## March for the Babies – Don't be afraid!

Join the March for the Babies on Saturday 11 October at 1pm at the Treasury Gardens, Melbourne.

Don't be afraid to come because of what the protestors did last year – the police have committed to doing better this time.

## Accessible to All

*Blessed Louis Tezza (1841 - 1923)*

God's invitation to become saints is for all, not just a few. Sanctity therefore must be accessible to all. In what does it consist? In a lot of activity? No. In doing extraordinary things? No, this could not be for everybody and at all times. Therefore, sanctity consists in doing good, and in doing this good in whatever condition and place God has placed us. Nothing more, nothing outside of this.

## Nowhere To Go

The captive audience of non-Catholic and non-practising Catholic school children who have little or no understanding of the Mass, of Mass obligation, or of the Assumption, were considered more important than practising Catholics who work during the day, on the Feast of the Assumption in the Latrobe Valley area this year.

There was no Vigil Mass in the Morwell/Churchill parish, and no evening Mass on the Feast day – only a school Mass in the morning. A friend of mine tried in vain to find somewhere she could go to Mass after work on the Feast day. In the morning, she phoned 6 other parishes within an hour's drive from her work, and none of them had evening Mass. Unbelievable. She was unable to fulfil her obligation.

Another friend quipped that it seems working Catholics are expected to do research a few weeks in advance to find out what parish offers what Mass times.

Faithful, working parishioners can no longer assume that there will be Mass available for them to fulfil their obligation. Lucky all the school kids got to fulfil the Mass obligation for that day. No one seems to bother about getting them to the other 53 holy days of obligation throughout the year though.

- Ed.

*“Better to pray one psalm with devotion and compunction than a hundred with distraction.”*

*Saint Romuald*

## Go To the Mountains

*Pope Francis, Morning Mass, 05-05-2014*

And in the Church there are climbers, people driven by ambition! There are many of them! But if you like climbing, go to the mountains and climb them: it is healthier! Do not come to Church to climb!

# Ten Steps to Help Us Draw Closer to God

*The Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. Archbishop of Philadelphia, CatholicPhilly.com, 12-02-2014*

Over the years I've heard from many good people who want a closer relationship with God. But they're stymied by what they perceive as God's silence. What they often mean, without knowing it, is that they'd like God to do something dramatic in their lives; something with a hint of Mt Sinai that proves his credentials.

But God typically doesn't work that way. He's not in the theatre business. God wants to be loved and even in a sense "courted" – which means that we can't be passive partners in the relationship. We need to pursue God as we would the persons we love.

So here are a few steps – in no particular order – that can help us draw closer to God.

First, **start by listening to him**. Faith isn't a 12-step action program. Nor is it an algebra problem that needs to be "solved." It's a love affair. As with a spouse, the most important thing we can do is to be present and listen. This requires the investment of time and focus. If a spirit of impatience or pretending to listen doesn't work with your spouse, why would it work with God?

Second, **cultivate silence**. We can't listen when our world is filled with noise and toys. C.S. Lewis often said that noise is the music of hell. Our toys – those things we choose to distract us – keep us diverted from focusing on the main questions of life: Why are we here? What does my life mean? Is there a God, and if so, who is he, and what does he ask of me?

Third, **seek humility**. Humility is to the spirit what material poverty is to the senses: the great purifier. Humility is the beginning of sanity. We can't really see – much less love – anyone or anything else when the self is in the way. When we finally, really believe in our own sinfulness and unimportance, many other things become possible: repentance; mercy, patience, forgiveness of others. These virtues are the foundation stones of that other great Christian virtue: justice. No justice is ever possible in a spider's web of mutual anger, recrimination and hurt pride.

Fourth, **cultivate honesty**. Complete honesty is only possible for a humble person. The reason is simple. The most painful but important honesty is telling the truth to ourselves about our own motives and our own actions. The reason honesty is such a powerful magnet is because it's so rare. ...

Fifth, **seek to be holy**. ... God's ways are not our ways. Holiness is the habit of seeking to conform all of our thoughts and actions to God's ways. There's no cookie-cutter model of holiness, just as piety can't be reduced to one particular kind of prayer or posture. What's important is to love the world because God loves it and sent his Son to redeem it, but not to be captured by its habits and values, which are not godly.

Sixth, **pray**. Prayer is more than just that portion of the day when we advise God about what we need and what he should do. Real prayer is much closer to listening, and it's intimately tied to obedience. God certainly wants to hear what we need and love and fear, because these things are part of our daily lives, and he loves us. But if we're doing the talking, we can't listen. Note too, that we can't really pray without humility. Why? Because prayer requires us to lift up who we are and everything we experience and possess to God. Pride is too heavy to lift.

Seventh, **read**. Scripture is the living Word of God. When we read God's Word, we encounter God himself. But there's more: J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Georges Bernanos and so many others – these were deeply intelligent and powerful writers whose work nourishes the Christian mind and soul, while also inspiring the imagination. Reading also serves another, simpler purpose: It shuts out the noise that distracts us from fertile reflection. ...

Eighth, **believe and act**. ...a dramatic "road to Damascus" style conversion doesn't happen to most people, and not even St Paul stayed on the road very long. Why? Because in revealing himself to Paul, Jesus immediately gave him something to do. We know and more deeply love Jesus Christ by doing what he tells us to do. In the real world, feelings that endure follow actions that have substance. The more sincere we are in our discipleship, the closer we will come to Jesus Christ. ...

Ninth, nobody makes it to heaven alone. We all need **friendship and community**. ... Even Jesus needed these two things: friendship and community. The Apostles were not simply Christ's followers; they were also his brothers and friends, people who knew and supported him in an intimate way. All of us as Christians need the same two things. It doesn't matter whether we're a religious, layperson, deacon or priest, single or married. Friends are vital. Community is vital. Our friends both express and shape who we are. ...

Tenth and finally, nothing is more powerful than the **sacraments of Penance and Eucharist** in leading us to the God we seek. God makes himself available to us every week in the confessional, and every day in the sacrifice of the Mass. It makes little sense to talk about the "silence of God" when our churches are made silent by our own absence and indifference. We're the ones with the cold hearts – not God.

He's never outdone in his generosity. He waits for us in the quiet of the tabernacle. And he loves us and wants to be loved wholeheartedly in return. If we're willing to give that love, these steps will lead us to him.

## Hours of Eucharistic Adoration

### in Gippsland

Bass	Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30am
Bairnsdale	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday after 9.10am Mass
Cowwarr-Heyfld	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday alternately: Cwr 7.30pm–8.30am Heyfield 10am – 4.30pm
Cowwarr	Wednesday (Low Mass 10am) 10.30 – 11am
Churchill	Saturday (9.30am Mass) 10am – 11am
Cranbourne	Friday and Saturday in the Church: (9.30 Mass) 10am – 11am Adoration Chapel accessible 24 hours by PIN available at parish office.
Drouin	Thursday 10am – 11am First Friday 4pm – 8pm (every second month, December onwards)
Heyfield Ord'te	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 4pm Evensong & Benediction
Lakes Entrance	Friday 9.30am – 11am
Moe	Wednesday (9am Mass) 9.30am – 10.30am
Morwell	Friday 10am – 6pm (Sacred Heart Church)
Orbost	Wednesday (9.30am Mass) 10am – 11am
Rosedale	First Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30am
Sale	Friday 11.30am – 12.30pm First Friday 11.30am – 4pm
Trafalgar	Wednesday and First Saturday: (9.30am Mass) 10am – 10.45am
Traralgon	Wednesday 11am – 12 noon
Warragul	Saturday 10am – 11am First Friday 4pm – 8pm (every second month, January onwards)
Wonthaggi	First Friday 7pm – 8pm

### *Mary*, our mother

And mother of the Redeemer,  
Gate of heaven and Star of the sea,  
Come to the aid of your people,  
Who have sinned,  
Yet also yearn to rise again!  
Come to the Church's aid,  
Enlighten your devoted children,  
Strengthen the faithful throughout the world,  
Let those who have drifted  
Hear your call,  
And may they who live as prisoners of evil  
Be converted!

*Pope John Paul II*

## “Tribulations,

if we bear them patiently for the love of God,  
appear bitter at first,  
but they grow sweet,  
when one gets accustomed to the taste.”

*St Philip Neri*

## Contact *Into the Deep*

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- Please notify by email if you would like to be added to the regular emailing list.
- There is no subscription fee.
- We rely on donations (cheques made out to John Henderson please).
- Donate to ITD via Ritchies Supermarkets Community Benefit program by nominating Into the Deep with CB number 81799, and shopping at your local Ritchies Supermarket with your Community Benefit Card.

ITD is released on or around the first day of each month by email and on the website; printed copies about a week later. Deadline for contributions is one week before the end of the month (but preferably by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month).

Editor - Janet Kingman

The purpose of ITD is to provide a forum for those who:

- no longer have a voice in Catholic Life, and other diocesan newspapers,
- wish to understand and defend the teachings of the Catholic Church,
- wish to support and defend those who are unjustly treated by Church bureaucrats and organisations,
- wish to campaign for the renewal of our Catholic schools,
- wish to promote Eucharistic adoration in all parishes,
- wish to have a means of support and contact for one another in remaining true to our Catholic faith.

### Letters to the Editor

Readers are encouraged to contribute letters or articles. We cannot guarantee that all will be published, and we reserve the right to edit letters. The purpose of sharing letters is to pass on relevant information and suggestions for making positive changes, that is, in line with the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We live in joyful hope that the diocese we love can be faithful to the authentic tradition of the Church. As such, Into the Deep aims to be a messenger of hope and not of doom.

Name and contact details must accompany letters. However, if there is sufficient reason, anonymity will be preserved when publishing. Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of ITD.

## Charity for Everyone

*St John Marie Vianney*

All our religion is but a false religion, and all our virtues are mere illusions and we ourselves are only hypocrites in the sight of God, if we have not that universal charity for everyone – for the good, and for the bad, for the poor and for the rich, and for all those who do us harm as much as those who do us good.