

Into the Deep

Issue 146

Newsletter of orthodox Catholics of Gippsland

Jan/February 2015

A New Year

Pope Francis, 22-01-2015

We began a new year a short while ago, and we have many hopes and expectations.

We also see on the horizon the shadows and dangers that trouble humanity.

As Christians we are called upon not to lose heart or to be discouraged. Our hope rests upon an immovable rock: God's love, revealed and given in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Perishing in Our Stupidity

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr, in a letter to the Ephesians

Make no mistake, my brothers: those who corrupt families will not inherit the kingdom of God.

If those who do these things in accordance with the flesh have died, how much worse will it be if one corrupts through evil doctrine the faith of God for which Jesus was crucified. Such a person, because he is defiled, will depart into the unquenchable fire, as will any one who listens to him.

For the Lord received anointing on his head in order that he might breathe incorruptibility on the Church.

Do not be anointed with the evil odour of the teachings of the prince of this world, do not let him lead you captive away from the life that is set before you.

But why is it that we are not all wise when we have received the knowledge of God, which is Jesus Christ? Why do we perish in our stupidity, not knowing the gift the Lord has truly sent us?

My spirit is given over to the humble service of the cross which is a stumbling block to unbelievers but to us salvation and eternal life.

Office of Readings, Monday Week 2 Ordinary Time

Flesh and Blood

Pope Francis, Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

01-01-2015

To separate Jesus from the Church would introduce an "absurd dichotomy", as Blessed Paul VI wrote. It is not possible "to love Christ but without the Church, to listen to Christ but not the Church, to belong to Christ but outside the Church". For the Church is herself God's great family, which brings Christ to us.

Our faith is not an abstract doctrine or philosophy, but a vital and full relationship with a person: Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God who became man, was put to death, rose from the dead to save us, and is now living in our midst.

Where can we encounter him? We encounter him in the Church. It is the Church which says today: "Behold the Lamb of God"; it is the Church, which proclaims him; it is in the Church that Jesus continues to accomplish his acts of grace which are the sacraments. ...

No manifestation of Christ, even the most mystical, can ever be detached from the flesh and blood of the Church, from the historical concreteness of the Body of Christ. Without the Church, Jesus Christ ends up as an idea, a moral teaching, a feeling. Without the Church, our relationship with Christ would be at the mercy of our imagination, our interpretations, our moods.

Dear brothers and sisters! Jesus Christ is the blessing for every man and woman, and for all of humanity. The Church, in giving us Jesus, offers us the fullness of the Lord's blessing. This is precisely the mission of the people of God: to spread to all peoples God's blessing made flesh in Jesus Christ.

And Mary, the first and most perfect disciple of Jesus, the model of the pilgrim Church, is the one who opens the way to the Church's motherhood and constantly sustains her maternal mission to all mankind. ... She, the Mother of God, is also the Mother of the Church, and through the Church, the mother of all men and women, and of every people.

Zenit.org 02-02-2015

All issues of *Into the Deep* are at www.stoneswillshout.com

God Is, And That Is Enough

Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher of the Pontifical Household, Advent homily, 19-12-2014

Persecution, dangers, the sword: it is not an abstract or imaginary list; they are, in fact, reasons for anguish, which St Paul experienced in his life. He describes them at length in the Second Letter to the Corinthians (Cf. 2Cor11:23ff).

The Apostle reviews them now in his mind and sees that no one of them is so strong as to hold a confrontation with the thought of the love of God.

The Apostle invites us implicitly to do the same: to look at our life, as it presents itself, and to bring to light the fears and motives for sadness that nest themselves therein and that do not allow us to accept ourselves serenely: that complex, that physical or moral defect, that failure, that painful memory. Expose everything to the light of the thought that God loves us and conclude with the Apostle: "In all these things, I can be more than a conqueror through him who loved me."

From his personal life, the Apostle passes immediately after to consider the world that surrounds him. He writes: "For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom8:37-39).

He observes his world, with the powers that rendered it threatening: death with its mystery, the present life with its allurements, the astral or infernal powers that instilled so much terror in ancient man.

We are invited to do the same also here: to look, in the light of the love of God, at the world that surrounds us and that makes us fear. ... Everything is ready to crush us; man is weak and alone in a universe that is so much greater than himself and that has become, in addition, even more threatening, following its scientific discoveries, not to mention wars, incurable illnesses, terrorism today...

However, nothing of all this can separate us from the love of God. God has created the universe and has it firmly in hand! God is, and that is enough!

Saint Teresa of Avila left us a sort of testament, which it is useful to repeat to ourselves every time we are in need of finding peace of heart again:

"Let nothing disturb you, let nothing affright you; all things are passing, God never changes; patient endurance attains all things; whoever has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices."

Translation by Zenit.org 19-12-2014

Sadly Missed

How sad it is that you have not mentioned in the December issue of Into the Deep that Bishop Jeremiah Coffey, a former Bishop in the Diocese of Sale, died recently. I know that you did not think that he was orthodox enough for you and your readers, but a lot of people in this diocese are saddened by his death as he was a very pastoral Bishop who will long be remembered. I was hoping that you could show some compassion and acknowledge his contribution and work in the Diocese of Sale.

Joan Robertson, St. Joseph's Parish Warragul, VIC

Into the Deep generally publishes "In Memoriam" notices our supporters, subscribers and benefactors who have died. We remember them as members of our family of orthodox Catholics and pray for them.

As you would be aware, ITD is not an official mouthpiece of the Sale diocese which makes public announcements about priests or bishops who have died who have served the diocese. Catholic Life filled numerous pages in tribute to the late Bishop Coffey.

Regardless, we welcome letters such as yours and are happy to publish them, asking for prayers for the souls of the departed. We are all sinners and depend on God's mercy.

- Ed.

IN MEMORIAM

DES HYNES

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mr Des Hynes, late of Orbost. We know little of him other than he was a long-time subscriber to ITD and great financial supporter. The last issue was returned to sender with a note that he had passed away. May God rest his soul.

Thank You!

Thank you for your ongoing donations. I am trying to thank each donor individually, but there are some whose names or addresses I don't know.

Please accept our sincere thanks for your support, for keeping ITD strong, and for the many words of encouragement we receive with each donation.

May God bless each of you!

- Ed.

Visit ITD on Facebook!

Don't forget to "like" Into the Deep on Facebook! It keeps you up to date with what's happening on the blog, and it spreads the word! Share it around.

New Bishop For Sale

Adapted from the ITD blog, stonewillshout.com/wp, 09-12-2014

First, the official announcement from Vatican Information Service (04-12-2014):

The Holy Father has appointed Rev. Patrick Michael O'Regan as bishop of Sale (area 44,441, population 405,000, Catholics 120,340, priests 39, permanent deacons 5, religious 34), Australia. The bishop-elect was born in Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia in 1958 and was ordained a priest in 1983. He holds a licentiate in liturgy and sacramental theology from the Institut Catholique, Paris, and has served in a number of pastoral roles, including deputy parish priest in Lithgow, Cowra and Orange, vice dean of the Cathedral of Bathurst, parish priest in Wellington and Layney, diocesan administrator and chancellor of the diocese of Bathurst. He is currently dean of the Cathedral and vicar general of the same diocese.

Second, the media release from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. In it, Fr O'Regan states:

"I feel a real blend of surprise, excitement, numbness, humility and sadness. Surprise at being chosen, excitement at being able to be a source of unity and hope to the People of God in the Diocese of Sale, still numb from having one's world turned upside down, a very Advent-ish, John the Baptist thing to do."

So he's hoping to be a source of unity and hope. He must be aware of the dis-unity in our diocese, thanks to the antics of the late Bishop Jeremiah Coffey (may God rest his soul). He'd have an enormous job ahead of him trying to unify the diocese. The only way to do that would be to be - and to call everyone else to be - faithful to the Magisterium: to draw everyone back to the Catholic faith, to knowledge of it (for example through the much-forgotten Catechism) and to faithful and sincere practise of it (for example fidelity to the Sunday Mass obligation as a start). That's a big ask, and would take much courage, in the face of much resistance in this diocese. But if he intends to be a "source of unity and hope", he must have his sights set on that big job. God bless him for that, and give him strength!

Third, and finally, the Latrobe Valley Express (08-12-2014). Fr O'Regan's quotes there take things to a whole new level (downstream, unfortunately). He says:

"I'm conscious that I'm a stream here joining a river that's already flowing and has its own way of doing things. It will be my role to pick that up and take it in the direction it's been going. If I was to come and introduce my own program that would be a bit unfair."

Hmm... a leader, a source of unity and hope, just planning to "go with the flow"? Not willing to lead, or change direction? What's the point of having a bishop then? We can all float downstream quite easily without any help - no one has to "pick up and take it" in a direction it's already going - gravity can do that well enough.

Anyhow, these are early days and early words. We know from Bishop Prowse that strong words don't necessarily lead to strong action (or any action), so maybe weak words don't lead to no action either. We continue to wait and hope and pray. For God, everything is possible.

Father O'Regan will be consecrated a bishop, and installed as the Bishop of Sale, on Thursday 26 February. Interestingly though, not in St Mary's Cathedral, Sale - but in the school sports stadium! I wonder what symbolism can be drawn from that?

- Ed.

40 Days For Life – 18 Feb to 29 March

Our next 40 Days For Life campaign starts on Ash Wednesday, February 18th with the 7am Ash Wednesday Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral as a launch. The campaign concludes Palm Sunday, March 29th.

Why do we persist in witnessing for the unborn?

A baby's first breath after it emerges from the birth canal is a joy to behold.

However, moments before it leaves the birth canal it is classified as a non-person and therefore can be legally aborted according to Victoria's barbaric 2008 Abortion Reform Bill which legalises the killing of babies, under excruciating pain, seconds before they leave the birth canal.

Please allow this to sink in!

It is only through prayer and fasting that we can change this evil. Please pray with us at the Fertility Control Clinic at 118 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne, at an hour of your choosing between 10am and 7pm, so that mums and dads may accept the gift of life and our support to help them to keep their precious child.

May God bless each and every one of you. On behalf of all the babies, THANK YOU.

Fons Janssen, Coordinator, 40 Days For Life Melbourne, VIC, www.40daysforlife.com/melbourne, Phone 0406 322 694

Is He The Lord or Am I?

Pope Benedict XVI, 13-02-2013

Reflecting on the temptations undergone by Jesus in the desert is an invitation for each of us to answer a fundamental question: what is truly important in our lives? ...

What is the crux of the three temptations that Jesus undergoes? It is the proposal to manipulate God, to use Him for one's own interests, for one's own glory and success. And, in essence, to put oneself in the place of God, removing Him from one's life and making Him seem superfluous. Everyone should then ask himself: what is God's role in my life? Is He is the Lord or am I?

Overcoming the temptation to place God beneath oneself and one's own interests or to place Him in a corner and to convert to the proper ordering of priorities, to give God the first place, is a journey that every Christian must undertake. "Conversion", an invitation that we will hear many times in Lent, means to follow Jesus in such a way that his Gospel is a real guide for life; it means letting God transform us, to stop thinking that we are the only creators of our lives; it means recognizing that we are creatures who depend on God, on His love, and only by "losing" our life in Him can we gain it.

This requires making our choices in the light of the Word of God. Today one can no longer be Christian as a simple consequence of living in a society with Christian roots: even those who come from Christian families, and are brought up religiously must renew every day the choice to be Christian, that is, to give God the first place, in front of the temptations that a secularized culture presents us with all the time, before the criticism of many of our contemporaries.

The tests to which modern society subjects Christians, indeed, are many, and affect both personal and social life. It is not easy to be faithful to Christian marriage, to practice mercy in everyday life, to leave space for prayer and inner silence, it is not easy to publicly oppose choices that many consider obvious, such as abortion in the event of an unwanted pregnancy, euthanasia in the case of serious illness, or the selection of embryos to prevent hereditary diseases. The temptation to set aside one's faith is always present and conversion becomes a response to God which must be confirmed repeatedly in life. ...

In this time of Lent...we renew our commitment on the way of conversion, to overcome the tendency to close in on ourselves and to make room for God instead, looking at our daily reality through His eyes. ... Conversion means not closing in on oneself in the pursuit of one's own success, one's own prestige, one's own position, but making sure that every day, in the small things, truth, faith in God and love become the most important thing.

Zenit.org 13-02-2013

Mass for Families

Action For Life (AFL) extends a warm invitation to people from all walks of life and faith who have been affected by the loss of a child, pre/post birth, regardless of circumstances of death, to a special Mass for families.

The Mass will be offered for them and their loved ones at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale, on Wednesday 25th March at 7pm. The Rosary will precede at 6.30pm.

This special Mass will afford those who have lost a child the opportunity to remember that their child's soul lives on through eternity – that each child is loved, cherished and never forgotten.

Everyone is welcome. A light supper will be provided.

Contact me for more information – (03) 5147 2487

Bernice Martin, Maffra VIC

No Means No

Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, Major Penitentiary of the Tribunal of the Apostolic Penitentiary, in an interview with Zenit, 15-12-2014

If then you refer to the reiterated topic of the priestly ordination of women, I cannot but quote Pope Francis who affirms textually: "The Church has spoken and has said no. John Paul II pronounced himself with a definitive formulation, that door is closed" (Press conference, 28-07-2013). ...

From the point of view of the "visibility" of women in the Church, and in her "structures," it is not about foreseeing "female quotas"; for the Church, baptism suffices.

However, objectively, nothing would impede, for instance, having a woman at the top of Vatican structures, where sacred ordination is not required. We think of social communications; financial, charitable, cultural, etc. ambits. In all those posts, in which the priestly "munus" is not required, the only criterion should be the real competence and identification with the thought and working of the Church.

"Totus Tuus. This phrase is not only an expression of piety, or simply an expression of devotion. It is more. During the Second World War, while I was employed as a factory worker, I came to be attracted to Marian devotion... Thanks to Saint Louis of Montfort, I came to understand that true devotion to the Mother of God is actually Christocentric, indeed, it is very profoundly rooted in the Mystery of the Blessed Trinity, and the mysteries of the Incarnation and Redemption... This mature form of devotion to the Mother of God has stayed with me over the years, bearing fruit in the encyclicals *Redemptoris mater* and *Mulieris dignitatem*."

Pope John Paul II (Crossing the Threshold of Hope, p.73)

The Year of Consecrated Life

30th November 2014 – 2nd February 2016

It's 50 years since the promulgation of *Perfectae Caritatis*, the Vatican II document on the renewal of the Religious Life, and the dogmatic constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*.

Pope Francis is marking the Golden Jubilee of these documents by declaring 2015 to be especially dedicated to Consecrated Life in the Church.

The Pope said in his Apostolic Letter to All Consecrated People, "I ask the whole Christian people to be increasingly aware of the gift which is the presence of our many consecrated men and women, heirs of the great saints who have written the history of Christianity... so that its beauty and holiness may shine forth in the Church."

Inspired by this, the *Conventual Sisters of St Dominic in Ganmain, NSW* will be providing *Into the Deep* with monthly articles on religious life, specific religious communities, and brief questions-and-answers that can be reproduced in parish or school bulletins as required.

Association for the Promotion of Religious Life (APREL)

Who Are We?

APREL is a private Association in Australia of bishops, priests, religious and lay faithful who co-operate to promote and support Consecrated Religious Life in the Church. We seek to do all in complete fidelity to the Magisterium of the Church and in harmony with Her holy vision for the Religious Life.

Why Was APREL Formed?

APREL came into existence in May 1983 because its founding members saw Religious Life as imperilled and in need of true renewal and reform. The growing trend towards secularisation amongst religious, and the consequent falling off in recruits to religious communities, signalled a need for Catholics from all sectors of Church life to combine their resources in defence of this vocation which is so central to the life of the Church. This need has now become critical. Religious Life is seriously endangered across the length and breadth of Australia.

Where Do You Find Us?

APREL members are spread throughout Australia. Religious communities, individual religious, diocesan priests and various members of the laity – young and old from many different walks of life. Some bishops hold membership, and a number have enrolled their Dioceses in the Association. All APREL Members are committed to daily prayers for Religious Life.

What Do We Do To Promote Religious Life?

Our main activities as members of APREL are prayer, education, and witness all of which are directed to making the vocation to Religious Life known more clearly, appreciated more deeply and embraced more faithfully.

What Can You Do?

Become a lay member of APREL and join us in praying for vocations and religious life (see alongside).

Come to a conference hosted by APREL this year. See aprel-australia.blogspot.com.au for updates.

Membership of APREL is open to those who:

- support the basic objective of the Association, which is to foster authentic Religious Life according to the teachings of the Church, and to encourage true religious vocations.
- further the apostolate of the Association by practical support and by prayer. An important part of the member's contribution is the commitment to weekly prayer, preferably before the Blessed Sacrament, or an extra Mass for the intention of vocations.
- pay an annual membership fee in the form of a subscription to the APREL bulletin (Individual: \$15, Pensioner or Student: \$10).

Members receive an annual APREL bulletin, which is also our acknowledgement of membership offering.

Payments and enquiries to:

The Secretary, APREL, PO Box 12198, A Beckett St. PO, Melbourne, Victoria, 8006.

Or check the website for information on direct payments.

1. Who are Religious?

Religious are the people whom God has called to dedicate their lives completely to Him. They make vows of *Poverty, Chastity and Obedience*, in which they give over to Him:

- All the material things they may possess;
- The freedom to fall in love, marry and have a family or their own;
- All choices they may make in life.

Religious choose this way of life because they have really discovered that Christ is the One they love above all, and that in giving themselves to Him, they will not lose anything, but will be totally fulfilled.

The Conventual Sisters of St Dominic in Ganmain, to mark the Year of Consecrated Life, have put together these paragraphs on the simple truths of Religious Life.

Catholic Voting

Before the Victorian elections on 29 November 2014, I sent a brochure 'Defend Your Freedoms' to His Grace, Archbishop Denis Hart, requesting him to bring it to the attention of all parish priests so as to make their parishioners aware of the impending threats against their religious freedoms. This would assist them to make a fully-informed decision on vital Christian matters before casting their vote.

I also gave His Grace a flyer promoting three Christian parties who had a firm stance in protecting unborn human life (notably to reverse the notorious Victorian abortion law) and religious freedoms: Australian Christians, Democratic Labour Party and Rise Up Australia Party. I made no suggestion whatsoever that people vote for any specific party, but know about Christian options when voting.

In his reply Archbishop Hart wrote (brackets are mine): "As you rightly say (!!!) it is not my role in the Church to be directing people how to vote and for this reason I do not feel that I should issue any directive to parish priests, which would be counterproductive (How?). For this reason Catholic Social Services also issued a brochure on some elections issues."

I read the Catholic Social Services (CSS) brochure and also explored their website. Nowhere could I find any reference to protecting unborn humans or religious freedoms. However, there was a colourful advertisement on the website: "Vote (1) Greens" (who are committed to abortion-on-demand to full-term, euthanasia and same-sex unions).

Putting aside this grave anomaly, I'm somewhat bewildered at the Archbishop's assertion on his role in the Church not to be directing people how to vote. The CSS, an official Catholic Church agency with presumably the full sanction of His Grace, in fact was *directing people how to vote*, and for a party that *stands in direct conflict with explicit Catholic Church teaching* on issues impacting directly on her members, and indeed on all other Christians and society.

It seems Archbishop Hart needs prayer far more than he may realise.

Peter Phillips, Springvale, VIC

Marlo Retreats

The next retreat at The Ark in Marlo will be:

Week 9-13 March – Fr John Speakman

Theme: A Beginner's Guide to the Philokalia.

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.

Richard Earle, Marlo, VIC

Ph 5154 8419

Advice For a Bishop

Pope Francis to newly ordained bishops, 25-10-2013

Proclaim the word at all times, whether opportune or inopportune. Admonish, reprimand, exhort with all magnanimity and doctrine, and through prayer and the offering of sacrifice for your people, attain the fullness of sanctity of Christ, the manifold richness of divine grace, through prayer. ...

A Bishop who does not pray is a halfway bishop, and if he does not pray to the Lord he ends up in worldliness.

In the Church that has been entrusted to you, be faithful custodians and dispensers of the mystery of Christ, placed by the Father at the head of his family. Follow always the example of the Good Shepherd who knows his sheep and is known by them, and who did not hesitate to give his life for them.

Zenit.org 25-10-2013

Legacy of ex-Bishop Morris Lives

Bishop Robert McGuckin, of Toowoomba, has his work cut out for him.

Apparently he asked input from the people regarding pastoral leadership in the light of the reduced number of priests. Bad move.

His Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council got to work, sending out a 2-page letter to parishioners. Peter Westmore, in AD2000 Dec/Jan issue (p.6) explains the letter in detail. But suffice to say, they raise the same silly issues that ex-bishop William Morris thought were worth considering. Now, it's no business of Rome to sack the Parish Pastoral Council. But Bishop McGuckin can – let's hope he does it! Enough of this nonsense.

In the letter, the Toowoomba Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council claims that women's ordination is not a settled issue in the Church, and they think it's an option worth raising still ("respectfully and in good faith" of course).

They think priests who "have chosen to marry" and therefore "had to" leave the priesthood (no mention that they first chose priesthood and chose celibacy), would be "an excellent asset to the Catholic community" if they were allowed minister as priests again.

And they think the parish could nominate suitable married men to train as priests, because it's the 21st century and anyone can do theology.

Bishop McGuckin, make your move, my Lord, or this will never end. And if he agrees with this twaddle, may Rome remove him as they did Bishop Morris for the same obstinate dissent.

- Ed.

Why I Like the Ordinariate

The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross is the diocese in Australia (one of three worldwide at the moment) that was set up under Pope Benedict XVI's Anglicanorum Coetibus, allowing those of the Anglican tradition to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church while still retaining much of their heritage. The liturgy is authorised by the Holy See.

Membership of the Ordinariate is limited to former Anglicans (and those of other denominations, faiths, or no faith) who receive Sacraments of Initiation within the Ordinariate; members of a family belonging to the Ordinariate; or those who were baptised Catholic but did not receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation and who return to the practice of the faith within the Ordinariate. However, any Catholic may worship with them, as in any other Catholic parish. There is also the Ordinariate Supporters Network which is open to all (more on that in the next issue of ITD).

What I like about the Ordinariate Mass:

- There is quiet before and after Mass (even when Mass is said in the hall!).
- Father says Mass facing the altar, so has no temptation to make himself the centre of attention or to put on a 'show'.
- There is no rush – Mass is said unhurriedly and prayerfully.
- There is a longer and more deliberate penitential rite, with a prayer for forgiveness recited while kneeling.
- There is a beautiful prayer recited before Communion (beginning, "We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies...").
- There is a beautiful prayer recited after Communion as part of the Rite of the Mass (beginning, "Almighty and ever-living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son...").
- The prayer to St Michael the Archangel is recited after the final hymn.
- Holy Communion is at the altar rail (even if there's no altar rail).
- There is a real sense of community and sincere friendliness.
- There is no temptation for priest or parishioners to Protestantise the Mass or the parish – they've 'been there done that' and found it wanting; they are faithful, committed, orthodox Catholics who value and love the Catholic faith.
- People sing (even if they don't know the hymns!).
- Parish prayers of the faithful include "for a return to authentic Catholic teaching, reverence for the Sacraments, and a return to traditional Catholic values".
- There is no individual sign of peace among parishioners, so no temptation to greet all and sundry out of a false sense of politeness.
- I can fulfil my financial obligation to the Church *without* supporting a diocese that is not faithful to the Magisterium and does not educate children or adults in the faith (in spite of a vast network of well-funded Catholic schools).

What you don't have to worry about:

- It definitely is Catholic.
- It does fulfil your Sunday obligation.
- You will be welcomed, without fuss or insincerity.
- You don't have to be ex-Anglican to go to the Ordinariate Mass.
- The missal provided will help you follow where you are in the Mass.
- You are not 'ignored' because Father sometimes has his back to you – we are joining him, all facing the same way, as he prays to the Father.
- The 'old English' language used is the same as we've always used in the Our Father; it's not *that* radical.
- If you want to donate to the Ordinariate, you're supporting Catholic orthodoxy and helping to grow the Church, faithful to the Magisterium, in our local area.

So come and see!

For a 'no-obligation, free trial' (!) Sunday Mass is at 10am at St Michael's Catholic Church in Heyfield (although currently in the school hall while cracks in the church are being fixed).

- Ed.

(No, I receive no 'commission' for this! I am simply delighted, and profoundly grateful, to have found a spiritual home, an oasis of unashamed orthodoxy, amidst the liberal mire that exists in this diocese.)

We Will Stand Up

Pope John Paul II, Homily, Washington, 07-10-1979

All human beings ought to value every person for his or her uniqueness as a creature of God, called to be a brother or sister of Christ by reason of the Incarnation and the universal Redemption. For us, the sacredness of human life is based on these premises.

And it is on these same premises that there is based our celebration of life – all human life. This explains our efforts to defend human life against every influence or action that threatens or weakens it, as well as our endeavours to make every life more human in all its aspects.

And so, we will stand up every time that human life is threatened.

When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, we will stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life.

When a child is described as a burden or is looked upon only as a means to satisfy an emotional need, we will stand up and insist that every child is a unique and unrepeatable gift of God, with the right to a loving and united family.

When the institution of marriage is abandoned to human selfishness or reduced to a temporary, conditional arrangement that can easily be terminated, we will stand up and affirm the indissolubility of the marriage bond.

When the value of the family is threatened because of social and economic pressures, we will stand up and reaffirm that the family is necessary not only for the private good of every person, but also for the common good of every society, nation and state.

When freedom is used to dominate the weak, to squander natural resources and energy, and to deny basic necessities to people, we will stand up and reaffirm the demands of justice and social love.

When the sick, the aged or the dying are abandoned in loneliness, we will stand up and proclaim that they are worthy of love, care and respect. ...

I make my own the words which Paul VI spoke last year to the American Bishops: “We are convinced, moreover, that all efforts made to safeguard human rights actually benefit life itself. Everything aimed at banishing discrimination—in law or in fact—which is based on race, origin, colour, culture, sex or religion is a service to life...”

Our celebration of life forms part of the celebration of the Eucharist. Our Lord and Saviour, through his death and Resurrection, has become for us “the bread of life” and the pledge of eternal life. In him we find the courage, perseverance and inventiveness which we need in order to promote and defend life within our families and throughout the world.

A Time For Amusements

Fr Raneiro Cantalamessa, preacher of the Pontifical Household, First Lenten Homily 2014

Today also, the whole effort of the devil is to divert man from the purpose for which he is in the world, which is to know, love and serve God in this life to enjoy him later in the next; to distract him.

But Satan is astute; he does not appear as a person with horns and the smell of sulfur. It would be too easy to recognize him. He makes use of good things leading them to excess, absolutizing them and making them idols. Money is a good thing, as is pleasure, sex, eating, drinking. However, if they become the most important thing in life, they are no longer means but become destructive for the soul and often also for the body.

A particularly related example to the topic is amusement, distraction. Play is a noble dimension of the human being; God himself commanded rest. The evil is to make of amusement the purpose of life, to live the week waiting for Saturday night or the trip to the stadium on Sunday, not to mention other pastimes that are rather less innocent. In this case amusement changes sign and, instead of serving human growth and alleviating stress and exhaustion, it makes them grow.

A liturgical hymn of Lent exhorts to use more sparingly, at this time, “words, food, drink, sleep and amusements.” This is a time to rediscover why we have come to the world, where we come from, where we are going, what route we are following.

Zenit.org 14-03-2014

Journey Into Truth

I thought to let you know about a new catechetical book and DVDs which I have recently produced, and which will be of interest to your readers.

Entitled *Journey into Truth*, it is a set of DVDs with 24 half-hour talks on the Catholic Faith, based on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, enhanced with high-definition film clips, images and quotations to make them very appealing.

There is a book of the same title with the full text of the talks, plus an introduction to each session, questions for discussion and points to remember. Archbishop Anthony Fisher wrote the Preface to the book.

Everyone I have spoken with who is using them likes them very much and we think they can do much good.

Bishop Peter Elliott will launch the book and DVDs, and I will give a talk, at the John Paul II Institute in Melbourne on Friday, February 27, at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

I assure you of my prayers for all your work in spreading the faith.

Fr John Flader, Pennant Hills, NSW

ITD Blog News

What's Been Happening on the ITD Blog

[Go to stoneswillshout.com/wp](http://stoneswillshout.com/wp) to read more!

How to kill vocations in your diocese:

"Be nice," said Jesus, "even as your Uncle Ronnie was nice," your divorced Uncle Ronnie who lived with his girl friend, but was good to dogs and small children that were not his to take care of." An article by Prof Anthony Esolen in Crisis Magazine. ... [Read more](#)

Catholic Man-Crisis: "The radical feminism which has assaulted the Church and society since the 1960s has left men very marginalized." "The crisis between man and woman has been made much worse by a complete collapse of catechesis in the Church." From an interview with Cardinal Raymond Burke. ... [Read more](#)

Honest and Dishonest Protestants: "Honest Protestants know they reject belief in the Church as the ultimate authority on earth in doctrine or morality. Dishonest Protestants identify themselves as catholic yet reject the Church's authority and teaching on doctrine, moral issues and liturgical discipline." An article by Fr Gary Dickson of the blog Catholic Collar and Tie ... [Read more](#)

Priests Who Support Church Teaching: From the Confraternities of Catholic Clergy website. Priests actually supporting Church teaching on marriage. ... [Read more](#)

Happy New Year! Some New Year humour from the Catholic Vote website. "Catholic Church Fails To Behead a Single Person in 2014" ... [Read more](#)

The Consequence of Christmas: On Christmas Day, we focus on the joy of the birth of Christ. It's all happiness and light to be Christian. The next day, the Feast of St Stephen, brings us back down to earth – we're reminded that if we take our Christianity seriously, we must be ready to pay with our life. ... [Read more](#)

Beyond Belief! The recent article in The Australian about the pathetic claim that celibacy is linked to child abuse, has generated talk all over the web. An article by Eirene Angi Bennett of Morayfield, Queensland addresses the issue very well... [Read more](#)

Name It

"The first way to resist evil is to recognize it, to call it by its name, without deception. We can say that the greatest sin is not to recognize sin and to structure ways of self-justification that, in fact, frustrate the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

Cardinal Mauro Piacenza

A Holy Time

Pope Francis, in his Message for the 23rd World Day of the Sick, celebrated this year on 11 February

This year's theme invites us to reflect on a phrase from the Book of Job: "I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame" (Job29:15). ...

Today too, how many Christians show, not by their words but by lives rooted in a genuine faith, that they are "eyes to the blind" and "feet to the lame"! They are close to the sick in need of constant care and help in washing, dressing and eating. This service, especially when it is protracted, can become tiring and burdensome. It is relatively easy to help someone for a few days but it is difficult to look after a person for months or even years, in some cases when he or she is no longer capable of expressing gratitude. And yet, what a great path of sanctification this is! In those difficult moments we can rely in a special way on the closeness of the Lord, and we become a special means of support for the Church's mission. ...

Time spent with the sick is holy time. It is a way of praising God who conforms us to the image of his Son, who "came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many". ...

With lively faith let us ask the Holy Spirit to grant us the grace to appreciate the value of our often unspoken willingness to spend time with these sisters and brothers who, thanks to our closeness and affection, feel more loved and comforted. How great a lie, on the other hand, lurks behind certain phrases which so insist on the importance of "quality of life" that they make people think that lives affected by grave illness are not worth living! ...

Occasionally our world forgets the special value of time spent at the bedside of the sick, since we are in such a rush; caught up as we are in a frenzy of doing, of producing, we forget about giving ourselves freely, taking care of others, being responsible for others. Behind this attitude there is often a lukewarm faith which has forgotten the Lord's words: "You did it unto me". ...

Job's experience of suffering finds its genuine response only in the cross of Jesus, the supreme act of God's solidarity with us, completely free and abounding in mercy. ...

Even when illness, loneliness and inability make it hard for us to reach out to others, the experience of suffering can become a privileged means of transmitting grace and a source for gaining and growing in *sapientia cordis* [the wisdom of the heart]. ...

People immersed in the mystery of suffering and pain, when they accept these in faith, can themselves become living witnesses of a faith capable of embracing suffering, even without being able to understand its full meaning. ...

Zenit.org 30-12-2014

Time to Dissolve Bishops' Conferences

When Francis Sullivan, the CEO of the Truth, Justice and Healing Council – a bureaucracy of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) – publicized the conclusions of its sexual abuse report in *The Australian* under the headline, “Church links celibacy to sexual abuse”, he once again confirmed my long held belief that episcopal conferences cause more harm than good.

They have no theological basis, no teaching mission and do not belong to the hierarchical structure of the Church as it was willed by Christ, and the very reason for their existence is questionable.

Fancy the ACBC, which barely represents half a percent of the total membership of the Church, condoning a call for the Church's 2000 year old traditional discipline of celibacy to be reconsidered. How absurdly arrogant and self-serving.

Episcopal conferences have failed to strengthen the role and responsibility of local bishops and the bonds of hierarchical communion in the universal Church. In fact, evidence in the West, especially Europe shows that they have done exactly the opposite and have become a growing blight on the unity of the Church, her faith and mission. Belgium, Germany and Holland immediately spring to mind.

In Australia, the bishops conference has become nothing more than an ideologically-driven club in which disaffected bishops can put forward their dissenting and protestant views for discussion and vote under a veil of secrecy and free from public scrutiny. It has devolved into yet another organization in which individual bishops can delegate their inalienable powers as pastors and teachers to bureaucracies of the conference such as commissions to ‘save’ just about anything so to speak, except souls.

As a matter of fact, the ACBC has done very little to advance the evangelizing mission of the Church, and

much to adopt the characteristics and values of secular liberal humanism and feminism in order to appear relevant.

Take WATAC (Women and the Australian Church), the “Office for the Participation of Women”, one of the biggest cons set up and subsidized by the ACBC to feminize the Church, not to mention Catholic education which has been a disaster from primary school to university. What have they done to call people to conversion and build up the Body of Christ?

Another basic but powerful example of its uselessness can be seen in its failure to enforce the Church's clerical discipline. How can the faithful expect this dysfunctional collective to evangelize anyone and lead Catholics in holiness, when they cannot even get their own sons to look and dress like Catholic priests and witnesses of Christ's Kingdom? So secularized have these shepherds themselves become, that they have acquired reputations for dressing like business managers and bus drivers.

No, the real problem for the Church in the West lies in the fact that the crisis of leadership has led to a crisis of faith, to the point where many dioceses are in decline and some are facing the real prospect of extinction. And the reason the gravity of this calamitous situation has not impacted many local bishops individually, is that they have been insulated by the toxic culture of denial, dysfunction and failure which pervades many episcopal conferences.

If Rome is serious about saving the shipwreck the Church is fast becoming in the West, then it is high time it dissolve all episcopal conferences and revert to the traditional way of communicating and dealing with local bishops individually before Vatican II. After all, these shepherds were appointed to lead by holiness and not to ape the ideologies of the prevailing culture.

Gregory Kingman, Morwell, VIC

Greetings From Sedgwick

Miss Molly Brennan, a great Sedgwick local, introduced me to your excellent publication several years ago. I look forward to reading every issue. Keep up the good work!

I am a descendant of the Pettit family, brewers and watch-makers of early Gippsland. My mother was born in Warragul in 1893. My grandfather was Walter Pettit, a watchmaker and jeweller in Warragul. He died of Bright's disease, aged 42, leaving four young daughters, of which my mother, Ida May Myrtle, was the eldest, aged 15.

I visit my forebears' graves when in Sale. R.I.P. I was reared in my Anglican mother's religion but when I was seventeen I became a Catholic. My Welsh father eventually returned to the faith of his Irish family, D.G. After my conversion to the true faith I was privileged to matriculate at the Brigidine college, Kildara.

I met my husband through the D.L.P. Membership in the Serra Club and Catholic Women's League keep me involved.

I look forward to receiving the next issue of *Into the Deep*. Best wishes for the continued success of this really Catholic publication (donation enclosed).

Audrey Drechsler, Sedgwick, VIC

Baptism Advice

*Pope Francis, Homily before he baptised 33 newborns,
Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, 2015*

We listened in the first Reading that the Lord cares for his children as a parent: He cares to give his children hearty food. God says through the prophet: “Why spend your money for what is not bread, your wages for what fails to satisfy?” (Is55,2). ...

And what is this hearty food that God gives us? It is His Word...

So you, parents, as well as godfathers and godmothers, grandparents, uncles and aunts, will help these children to grow well if you give them the Word of God, the Gospel of Jesus.

And also give it with your example! Everyday, take the habit of reading a Gospel passage, a small passage, and always carry a small Gospel in your pocket, in your purse, to read. And this will be an example for the children, to see their father, mother, godparents, grandmother, grandfather, uncles and aunts, reading the Word of God. ...

I was saying that it is the faith of the Church. This is very important. Baptism inserts us into the body of the Church, into the holy people of God. And in this body, in this people who are walking, faith is transmitted from generation to generation: it is the faith of the Church. And the faith of Mary, our Mother, the faith of St Joseph, of St Peter, of St Andrew, of St John, the faith of the Apostles and the Martyrs, that has come to us, through Baptism: a chain of transmitting faith.

This is very beautiful! It is a passing from hand to hand the candle of faith: we will express this in a few moments with the gesture of lighting the great paschal candle. This great candle represents the Risen Christ, alive in our midst.

Families, take from Him the light of faith to transmit to your children. You can take this light in the Church, in the body of Christ, in the people of God who walk in every time and in every place.

Teach your children that there can be no Christian outside of the Church, you cannot follow Jesus Christ without the Church, because the Church is a mother, and makes us grow in love with Jesus Christ. ...

It is so important to pray to the Holy Spirit, so that He may teach us to bring our family forward, the children, so that these children can grow in the atmosphere of the Holy Trinity. It is the Spirit who will lead them forward. For this reason do not forget to invoke the Holy Spirit, everyday. You can do it, for example, with this simple prayer: “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.” You can say this prayer with your children, and of course, for yourselves!

[Translation by Junno Arocho Esteves] Zenit.org 11-01-2015

Lenten Opportunities

Lent will soon be upon us. Ash Wednesday is 18th February, and our six week Lenten journey starts, as we walk in the footsteps of Our Lord, to His betrayal, trial, and crucifixion.

We in the Gippsland Ordinariate would like to share our Lenten journey with every Catholic, especially those looking for a spiritual home. Our Mission priorities frame our reference, and we have as our goal, Christ – our focus is on Him, and Him alone.

Ash Wednesday: Imposition of Ashes, and the Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered in Cowwarr, St Brigid’s Church, 10am. All welcome.

Stations of the Cross: We walk with Our Lord on the ‘Way of Sorrows’ every Friday night during Lent: St Michael’s Church, Heyfield, 7.30pm. All welcome.

Lenten Almsgiving boxes: This year for the first time we will have available almsgiving boxes to support the Ordinariate in its mission:

- To enshrine the Eucharistic sacrifice of Christ’s Body and Blood at the heart of the Ordinariate, celebrating the liturgical mysteries with reverence and beauty, facilitating the encounter with Christ during the Mass;
- To be a sacramental community open to God through prayer, constant conversion, and purification in our love for God and our neighbour;
- To enhance fellowship where “True joy comes from a profound harmony between persons and this feeling of deep joy is the presence of God, the presence of God in the family and his love, which is welcoming, merciful, and respectful towards all” (Pope Francis) and flows from the encounter with Christ in the Eucharist;
- To seek to become a living Presence of Christ in the world;
- To faithfully support and obey the Magisterium.

These boxes can be picked up from the church starting February 8th, or we can mail one out to you, just email: ken.clark@gmail.com.

Fr Ken Clark

Ordinariate Parish of the Most Holy Family, Gippsland, VIC

In the Name of God

Atrocities, especially against Christians and other minorities, abound under Islam in a series of countries. Frequently, the evil acts are accompanied by cries of “Allahu Akbar”, meaning is “God is greater”. Have any atrocities, such as beheadings, rapes, murder, extortion, forced conversions et cetera, ever been carried out by anyone with the cry “Christ is greater”?

Henk Verhoeven, Beacon Hill, NSW

Hours of Eucharistic Adoration in Gippsland

Bass	Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30am
Bairnsdale	1 st Friday after 9.10am Mass
Cowwarr-Heyfld	1 st 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 th 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

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- Contact ITD if you would like to be added to the monthly mailing list (email or hard copy).
- There is no subscription fee; we rely on donations only.
- ITD's bank details for direct deposits:
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BSB: 013-745
Account number: 2901-63632
- Cheques to be made out to Janet Kingman
- Donate via Ritchies Supermarkets Community Benefit program by nominating Into the Deep, CB number 81799.

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

Return to God

Pope Francis, Angelus address, 02-03-2014

This week we start Lent, which is the journey of the people of God toward Easter, a journey of conversion, of struggle against evil with the weapons of prayer, of fasting, of mercy. Humanity needs justice, reconciliation, peace and can have these things only if it returns with all of its heart to God, who is their source. We too need God's forgiveness.

Lent 2015 begins on 18 February