

# ***Into the Deep***

Issue 193

Newsletter of orthodox Catholics of Gippsland

May 2019

## **For Each and Every Soul to be Saved**

**Cardinal Robert Sarah, Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, in an interview with La Nef magazine 05-04-2019, on his latest book, 'The Day is Far Spent'**

Christians must be missionaries. They cannot keep the treasure of the Faith for themselves. Mission and evangelization remain an urgent spiritual task. And as St Paul says, every Christian should be able to say "If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!" (1Cor 9:16). Further, "God desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1Tim 2:4). How can we do nothing when so many souls do not know the only truth that sets us free: Jesus Christ? The prevailing relativism considers religious pluralism to be a good in itself. No! The plenitude of revealed truth that the Catholic Church has received must be transmitted, proclaimed, and preached.

The goal of evangelization is not world domination, but the service of God. Don't forget that Christ's victory over the world is...the Cross! It is not our intention to take over the power of the world. Evangelization is done through the Cross.

The martyrs are the first missionaries. Before the eyes of men, their life is a failure. The goal of evangelization is not to "keep count" like social media networks that want to "make a buzz." Our goal is not to be popular in the media. We want that each and every soul be saved by Christ. Evangelization is not a question of success. It is a profoundly interior and supernatural reality.

[Translated from the French by Zachary Thomas] catholicerald.co.uk, 05-04-2019

"May is the month of Mary, Month we all love so well;  
Mary is God's own Mother, Gladly her praises we tell."

From a children's hymn (Do you remember it?)

## **stoneswillshout.com**

The Into the Deep website has reverted to stoneswillshout.com (without the /wp). Please update any favourites or bookmarks you may have for the website, and please be patient with any odd things happening. I decided to change the hosting service to save some money and in the process 'lost' the entire website (the backup failed to import) and I had to work out a way to start a new one. It still needs a lot of work! All the ITD archives are yet to be uploaded, so currently the only issues available on the website are from 2019. Please email me if you need any of the earlier issues before I eventually get to adding them all. The website is now also 'secure' and has an https:// prefix instead of http:// but when you search for stoneswillshout.com it should be found regardless of whether you add a prefix or not. I know and understand very little about technical aspects of hosting and building websites and suchlike, so it's a learn-as-you-go process with lots of mistakes along the way needing to be found and fixed. Bear with me. I'll get there in the end! - Ed.

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

# Risen and Alive!

**Pope Francis, Regina Caeli Address, Easter Monday 2019**

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, He is risen". The Resurrection of Christ is the most shocking event in human history, attesting to the victory of God's Love over sin and death and giving our hope of life a rock-solid foundation. What was humanly unthinkable happened...

On this Easter Monday (in Italian "Monday of the Angel"), the liturgy, with the Gospel of Matthew, takes us back to the empty tomb of Jesus. The women, full of awe and joy, are leaving in a hurry to go and bring the news to the disciples; and at that moment Jesus presents Himself before them. They "came up to Him and, falling down before Him, clasped His feet". Jesus drives fear out of their hearts and encourages them, even more, to announce to their brothers and sisters what has happened. ...

Today, dear brothers and sisters, the words of Jesus addressed to the women resound for us too: "Do not be afraid; go and proclaim...". After the liturgies of the Easter Triduum, which allowed us to relive the mystery of our Lord's death and resurrection, now with the eyes of faith, we contemplate Him risen and alive. We too are called to meet Him personally and to become His heralds and witnesses.

With the ancient Easter Sequence, we repeat during these days: "Christ, my hope, is risen!" In Him we too have risen, passing from death to life, from the slavery of sin to the freedom of love. Let us, therefore, allow ourselves to be touched by the consoling message of Easter and be enveloped by its glorious light, which dispels the darkness of fear and sadness. The risen Jesus walks beside us.

Zenit.org 22-04-2019

## Marian Day in Cowwarr

The Ordinariate Parish of The Most Holy Family invites you to come spend a day with us to celebrate Our Lady of Fatima:

**St Brigid's Church, Church Street, Cowwarr**  
**Saturday 11 May 2018**

**Our Lady of Fatima: Jacinta: Reparation and Sacrifice**

9am Adoration and Confession

10am Benediction

10.15am Morning tea

11am Speaker: Fr Ken Clark OLSC

12 noon Holy Mass

1pm Lunch BYO

2pm Speaker Fr Ken Clark OLSC

3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet and close

**Enquiries, please contact Pat Crozier, 0400 218 417**

## Join the National Rosary

Oz Rosary is happening again! **24-26 May 2019**, the weekend of the feast of the patroness of Australia Our Lady Help of Christians.

"When people say the Rosary together it is far more formidable to the devil than one said privately, because in this public prayer it is an army that is attacking him. He can often overcome the prayer of an individual, but if this prayer is joined to that of other Christians, the devil has much more trouble in getting the best of it." - **St Louis de Montfort**

Pray for Australia, its protection, future, youth, and families. This year we are praying in particular also for our political leaders and the spiritual leaders of our church, our Cardinals, Bishops and Priests.

**To register your group, go to Oz Rosary #53 on Facebook, or contact Jane Chifley at ozrosary53@gmail.com or on 0476 535 595.**

## Oz Rosary in Gippsland

The Ordinariate Parish of the Most Holy Family will be joining Oz Rosary with rosary being said:

Friday 24 May, 5.30pm, Cowwarr (before 6pm Mass),

Sunday 26 May, after 11am Mass, Heyfield, and

Sunday 26 May, 4.30pm Mirboo North (before 5pm Mass). All welcome.

**Fr Ken Clark, OLSC, Cowwarr, Victoria**

# Fr Rynne Removed for "Issues"

In last month's issue of ITD (p.3), I wrote of the shocking letter by Maureen Bennett, a parishioner in Elizabeth Town, Tasmania to the administrator of her parish, Fr Nicholas Rynne (my apology to Fr Rynne for misspelling his name in that article), in which she expressed her hostility towards him, supported those who spat on him for wearing clerical dress, compared him to ISIS or the Taliban, accused him of depriving women of positions on the altar, and described him as a member of a sect.

Now Fr Rynne is gone. On 3 April, the Archdiocese of Hobart released the following statement:

Fr Nicholas Rynne has ceased work in the Meander Valley Parish.

The Archdiocese of Hobart became aware of issues within the parish last month, following the appointment of Fr Rynne to administer the Meander Valley Parish earlier this year.

Archbishop of Hobart the Most Reverend Julian Porteous asked retired Melbourne bishop Peter Elliot to conduct a visitation of the Meander Valley Parish to clarify the situation. Bishop Elliot carried out the visitation from March 25 to March 29. He interviewed 86 people.

Archbishop Porteous received Bishop Elliot's report and recommendations earlier this week.

"In the light of his [Bishop Elliot's] recommendations and following discussion with diocesan consultants and the council of priests, Fr Nicholas Rynne has ceased his role as administrator of the Meander Valley Parish, and other associated roles in the Archdiocese," said Archbishop Porteous.

Fr Rynne is currently taking leave.

"The Dean of the North, Fr Mark Freeman, has agreed to act as moderator of the Meander Valley Parish for the immediate future. Provision of Masses for the community in the coming weeks has been arranged."

Archbishop Porteous said his primary responsibility is to ensure the pastoral care of all concerned in the Meander Valley Parish. "We pray that a process of healing and restoration of unity may be achieved in the parish and among all affected."

I was shocked to read this. While I would've trusted Archbishop Porteous and Bishop Elliott, and I don't know Fr Rynne, I can't help feeling that here is another priest being thrown under the bus by his bishop. Maureen Bennett's letter expresses much of what the 'mad liberals' around the country believe, and removing Fr Rynne plays into their hands. Nowhere is there evidence of what he has done wrong. When Fr John Speekman was removed from Morwell Catholic Parish in 2003, Bishop Coffey claimed it was his "manner of acting and speaking" that resulted in him being banished. Nowhere was any evidence given of what he'd done or said, or where or how, or how he was corrected or helped by his bishop, if this was the case, to overcome whatever terrible "manner" he supposedly had. Everyone who heard of the case, stood back and said, "There must be more to this than the Bishop isn't saying, to protect his priest, so I won't get involved; he must be guilty of something more to deserve this treatment." And the priest is hung out to dry, with rumours circulating and growing.

Why is it that when you write to bishops (reasonably and calmly and with evidence) about priests who teach contrary to Church teachings or who act contrary to Church law, nothing comes of it; but when you write (emotively and with no evidence) about a priest whose 'manner' you're not 'comfortable' with, he suddenly has to go? Do liberals really hold such power over our bishops that they will sacrifice their priests to them?

Ed.

## Grateful for ITD

Into the Deep helps me to appreciate the Catholic faith which I embraced as a teenager reared as an Anglican. Now 85, my driving licence has been revoked. So I have more time to prepare for death. I thank you for proclaiming the way to a holy death. Enclosed is a cheque to help you publish your wonderful publication. I read it as soon as it arrives and in the following days. May the Risen Lord reward you!

**Audrey Drechsler, Sedgwick, Victoria**

# The Dilemma of Who to Put Last

In the past, putting the Greens last when voting has always been a safe bet. Their radical ideas on family and life issues have always been clearly opposed to Catholic belief. Now the Labor party is just as bad. Or worse. Consider this when you cast your vote on 18 May:

## The Australian Greens

"Building a future for all of us", they say. Doesn't sound like Catholics will be included though. According to policies on their website,

The Greens will:

- make abortion safe, accessible, legal and free,
- advocate for the introduction of safe-zones, so that women who have an abortion are not subjected to harassment for undergoing medical procedures,
- protect LGBTIQ+ rights in law, through a Charter of Rights and by legislating to remove religious exemptions in federal anti-discrimination laws,
- create a national LGBTIQ+ health strategy,
- establish a whole of government ministerial advisory group on LGBTIQ+ issues,
- stamp out sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts,
- appoint an LGBTIQ+ Human Rights Commissioner,
- appoint a Minister for Equality,
- work for a nationally consistent sexual education curriculum, which closes significant gaps in the education of young people in issues such as consent, respect and safe sex.

## The Australian Labor Party

Tanya Plibersek is the Deputy Leader of the Labor Party and Shadow Minister for Women (wonder who the Shadow Minister for Men is?). She and Catherine King, Shadow Minister for Health and Medicare, have released "Labor's Plan to Support Women's Reproductive Rights". This Plan includes the following promises:

- A Shorten Labor Government will deliver Australia's first ever National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy to make sure all Australian women can access legal, safe, affordable reproductive health services,
- improve access to contraception,
- improve access to safe, legal ways to end a pregnancy,
- support all women to access termination services in public hospitals.

According to a summary put together by Family Voice Australia, Labor will also:

- support removal of gender from birth certificates,
- require taxpayers to fund sex-change operations,
- support funding for Safe Schools,
- introduce a Commissioner for Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status issues,
- restrict freedom of speech around LGBTIQ issues.

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## Our Gethsemanes

**Pope Francis, General Audience, 17-04-2019**

After the Last Supper, Jesus enters the Garden of Gethsemane and here too, he prays to the Father. While the disciples are unable to stay awake and Judas is approaching with the soldiers, Jesus begins to feel "distressed and troubled". He feels all the anguish at what awaits him: betrayal, contempt, suffering, failure. He is "sorrowful" and there in the abyss, in that desolation, he addresses the Father with the most tender and gentle word: "Abba", that is, Father. Jesus teaches us to embrace the Father in our trials, because in praying to him, there is the strength to go forward in suffering. In times of struggle, prayer is relief, entrustment, comfort. Abandoned by all, in inner desolation, Jesus is not alone. He is with the Father. On the other hand, we in our own Gethsemanes, often choose to remain alone rather than say "Father" and entrust ourselves to him, as Jesus did, entrusting ourselves to his will which is our true good. But when we remain closed within ourselves during trials, we dig a tunnel inside ourselves, a painful, introverted path that has only one direction: ever deeper into ourselves. Solitude does not offer a way out, prayer does, because it is relationship, it is entrustment. ... When we enter our own Gethsemanes – we each have our own Gethsemanes or have had them or will have them – let us remember to pray in this way: "Father".

w2.vatican.va

# Pleading With Our Bishops

I am pleading with our bishops to inform every parish in Australia with boldness on the need to choose first candidates who promote life issues. Our country cannot survive while a nation continually offends God. The murder of one hundred thousand children per year in the womb cannot go on.

Our bishops could also call on all Catholics to say the rosary every day leading up to the election which is in Mary's month of May, for her protection. It's now so easy, click of a button and emails to every parish, then to every newsletter.

Here are some letters from American bishops to their people before the 2012 election:

Bishop David Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin:

"I would like to review some of the principles to keep in mind as you approach the voting booth to complete your ballot. The first is the set of non-negotiables. These are areas that are "intrinsically evil" and cannot be supported by anyone who is a believer in God, the common good and the dignity of the human person. They are: (1) abortion, (2) euthanasia, (3) embryonic stem cell research, (4) human cloning, (5) homosexual 'marriage'. These are intrinsically evil. A well-formed Christian conscience does not permit one to vote for a political program that contradicts fundamental contents of faith and morals."

Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield, Illinois:

"You need to think and pray very carefully about your vote, because a vote for a candidate who promotes actions or behaviours that are intrinsically evil and gravely sinful makes you morally complicit and places the eternal salvation of your own soul in serious jeopardy."

Bishop Felipe Estevez of St Augustine, Florida:

"It is my responsibility to remind you that, for us Catholics, some issues are simply never morally acceptable. The taking of innocent human life, whether in the womb or even until natural death, is always and everywhere intrinsically evil. Such issues as embryonic stem cell research and attempts at human cloning are also direct attacks on the dignity and uniqueness of human life made in the image of God. Preserving the dignity of traditional marriage is a cornerstone of any stable society. Any attempts to re-define marriage...should be vigorously opposed by a Catholic as contrary to reason, the natural law and the divinely revealed truths of the Bible. ... As Catholics we must first consider the various candidates and party platforms in the light of these immutable issues I have mentioned above. Then, in good conscience, we must give preference to the candidate who does not oppose our God-given moral principles."

**Don Kempster, Monbulk, Victoria**

## Vocations Then and Now

In my class going through school last century, I think we had maybe four vocations, out of a class of about 30. Archbishop Denis Hart was one. There were I think two other priests and a Marist brother. On more than one occasion the brothers would tell us that the big crisis facing us was a shortage of vocations.

In all the years I have been in this part of Queensland, I don't think we have had a single vocation. My parish has a Catholic population of about 11,500. The parish next door also.

**Richard Stokes, Burpengary, Queensland**

## Death Survey

Thanks for the Death Survey (October 2018 ITD, p.10&11). It is good to photocopy to give to a few people I know who have weird ideas about Church teachings. Some people have weird ideas about Confession too, and have not been to Confession since the Third Rite was no longer allowed (should never have been).

**Cynthia Lourey, Warrnambool, Victoria**

I'm glad to hear it's still being found useful. Once I get the new website sorted out, I'll add the survey separately for those who still want access to it. And the Easter Quiz. And maybe I'll work on a few more to cover other topics in future. Suggestions?

**Ed.**

# Hatred For the Church

In the 30 or so years that I have lived in Australia, I have never seen a more vindictive, abusive, biased and hostile campaign against the Catholic Church as I have in the last 5 years. I could understand it if I was living in China, North Korea, Iran, Pakistan or Turkey, but not a Western civilised Judaeo-Christian democratic country such as Australia, where there is supposed to be mutual respect and freedom of expression for all religions. I know only too well that Jesus warned his Church that “if the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you”. But for all intents and purposes the left-wing media and federal and state governments seem to blame and hate the Catholic Church, and Cardinal Pell in particular, for the paedophilia disease that has infected us as a nation. They blame priestly celibacy for the problem, which, if you ask me, is as reckless as blaming adultery on the institution of marriage.

While much of the recent media’s attention and hype has focussed on the Catholic Church’s paedophilia scandal, relatively little if any attention has been given to the high rate of sexual abuse, cruelty, misconduct and perversion in Aboriginal and Muslim communities, state and Protestant schools, and last but most importantly, in families in general. Don’t get me wrong! I’m not saying that the hierarchy and religious in the Catholic Church are innocent – they have to shoulder their share of the blame. But this truly is a crisis that crosses the borders of all civic institutions and religions. So why single out the Catholic Church when obviously this is not just a Catholic problem but a societal one?

Sad to say, but long before Cardinal Pell had been pilloried and demonised by the media, and put on trial by the Andrews government’s kangaroo court, he was maligned, despised and reviled by the majority of his own brother bishops for his faithfulness, fatherly leadership and orthodoxy, for being the strongest official Catholic voice in the country to stand up for traditional Christian values, and never hesitating to criticize the fad causes of the moment, from gender-fluidity to abortion, and the paganistic global warming rubbish. Many of the left, within and outside of the Church, have long considered the Church, represented for them by Cardinal Pell, as a dangerous threat to their ideological lies.

**Gregory Kingman, Morwell, Victoria**

## Mary, Help of Christians

**Fr John Flader, in an answer to Q.129 in Question Time: 150 Questions and Answers on the Catholic Faith**

The title “Help of Christians” is an old one that forms part of the Litany of Loreto, which is often said after the Rosary. The Litany has its origin in Marian litanies in the early Middle Ages. ...

In 1571, Pope St Pius V asked the Church to pray the Rosary to Our Lady, under the title Help of Christians, for success in the battle that the Christian navy, under the command of Don Juan of Austria, was waging in the Mediterranean against the Turkish navy. ... Although heavily outnumbered, the Christian navy defeated the Turks in a hard-fought battle in the Gulf of Lepanto, off Greece, on October 7, 1571. ...

In 1683, when Vienna was besieged by the Ottoman Turks, Pope Innocent XI asked the Church to pray the Rosary to Our Lady, again under the title of Help of Christians. The battle against overwhelming odds began on September 8, when the Church celebrates Our Lady’s birthday, and it ended successfully four days later, on the feast of the Holy Name of Mary. ...

In 1809 Napoleon entered the Vatican, arrested the Pope and carried him off in chains to Fontainebleau where he was held prisoner for five years. The Pope managed to communicate to the Church his request for everyone to pray to Our Lady, Help of Christians for his release ... On the 24<sup>th</sup> May 1814, Napoleon abdicated and on that very day the Pope returned to Rome. As his first official act he proclaimed the feast of Mary, Help of Christians, to be celebrated on the 24<sup>th</sup> May.

In 1844 the first Provincial Synod of the bishops of Australia, held in Sydney, proclaimed Mary, Help of Christians, the principal patroness of Australia. For that reason the feast has great prominence in this country, and is celebrated as a Solemnity, the highest category of feast. Australia’s mother church, St Mary’s Cathedral in Sydney, is dedicated to Mary the Immaculate, Help of Christians.

# Did You Know?

Did you know that the famous Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne will soon be involved in assisted suicide?

Pro-Life Victoria (Inc) has been supporting a Silent Witness campaign outside the hospital, alerting staff and patients to the reality of how that hospital is implementing the Andrews' government's doctor-prescribed suicide legislation after June 19, by offering them an information sheet. The sheet includes the following:

1. From 19<sup>th</sup> June doctors in Victoria may legally assist patients to commit suicide.
2. Peter Mac has advertised for "Voluntary Assisted Dying Care Navigators" to fill a new role to facilitate the assisted suicides or euthanasia, for people across Victoria by matching those wanting doctor assisted suicide with doctors willing to help in their assisted suicides.
3. Sir Peter MacCallum is on record as believing, "...nothing but the best is good enough in the treatment of cancer." Assisting patients to commit suicide is not the best "treatment of cancer".
4. In a letter to Victorian MP's, 101 oncologists, including 28 of our Peter Mac oncologists, wrote: "We do not believe that it is possible to draft assisted dying laws that have adequate safeguards to protect vulnerable populations. Those with serious illness may perceive that they are a burden on society or their carers and come to feel that assisted dying is appropriate for them. Physician assisted death is not, by definition, medical treatment. It is not palliative care."

The Silent Witness aims to let staff, patients and the public know the horrible truth that Peter Mac is now promoting killing! Staff have not been consulted about nor told of the huge change from saving lives and to start killing patients. Nurses at Peter Mac are horrified when they read the facts, saying they had no idea their hospital was to assist their patients to suicide. One patient, a psychologist, noted the vulnerability of patients after getting a diagnosis of cancer, saying patients need support, not suicide.

For more information please phone 0402 296 290 any time.

**Denise Cameron, for Pro-Life Victoria (Inc)**

## Buddhist Blessings at Cairns Cathedral

The Buddhist centre in Cairns hosted an "Interfaith, Multicultural Celebration for Peace and Harmony" on 29 April. Fair enough. But where? Their advert reads:

"Khacho Yulo Ling Buddhist Centre will be hosting this event in the beautiful and spiritual space of St Monica's Cathedral. The evening will allow all the different faiths and traditions to offer a prayer, chant or recitation for peace and harmony in our community. His Holiness the 42nd Kyabgon Gongma Trizin, Ratna Vajra Rinpoche, will also give a short blessing to everyone as part of the evening."

Yes, Bishop James Foley approved this use of the cathedral for this gathering, with non-Christian 'prayers', 'chants' and 'blessings'.

St Monica, pray for us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Ed.

## Sacred Places

### Code of Canon Law

**Can. 1210:** In a sacred place only those things are to be permitted which serve to exercise or promote worship, piety and religion. Anything out of harmony with the holiness of the place is forbidden. The Ordinary may however, for individual cases, permit other uses, provided they are not contrary to the sacred character of the place.

**Can. 1214:** The term church means a sacred building intended for divine worship, to which the faithful have right of access for the exercise, especially the public exercise, of divine worship.

## Thanks for Donations

Another thank you to all who have donated to ITD recently, including some online donations that were anonymous. All donations are gratefully received and used for printing and posting ITD. Keep them coming, and you keep ITD going!

Ed.

# Run!

**Pope Francis, to Catholic Biblical Federation, 26-04-2019**

"The word of God is living" (Heb 4:12): it doesn't die or grow old; it remains forever (cf. 1Pet 1:25). ... It's important to remember that the Holy Spirit, the Vivifier, loves to work through Scripture. In fact, the Word brings God's breath to the world; it infuses the Lord's warmth in the heart. All the academic contributions, the volumes that are published are and cannot but be at the service of this. They are like wood that, gathered and assembled with effort, serves to warm. However, as the wood doesn't produce heat on its own, so do not even the best studies; fire is needed, the Spirit is needed so that the Bible burns in the heart and becomes life. Then the good wood can be useful to fuel this fire. But the Bible is not a nice collection of sacred books to study. It is *Word of life* to be sown, gift that the Risen One asks to be gathered and distributed so that there is life in His name (cf. Jn 20:31).

In the Church, the Word is an irreplaceable *injection of life*. Therefore, the homilies are essential. Preaching isn't an exercise of rhetoric or even an ensemble of wise human notions: it would only be wood. Instead, it is sharing of the Spirit (cf. 1Cor 2:4), of the divine Word that has touched the preacher's heart, who communicates that warmth, that unction. So many words flow daily in our ears, transmitting information and giving much *input*; so many, perhaps too many, often to the point of exceeding our capacity to receive them. However, we cannot give up the Word of Jesus, the only Word of eternal life (cf. Jn 6:68), of which we are in need every day. ...

I would like to end...with an expression of the Apostle Paul, who towards the end of the letter, writes: "for the rest brothers, pray." Like him, I also ask you to pray. However, Saint Paul specifies the reason for prayer: "That the word of the Lord may speed on" (2Thes 3:1). Let us pray and work so that the Bible doesn't stay in the library among many books that talk about it, but that it may run through the streets of the world, awaited where the people live. I hope you will be good *bearers of the Word*, with the same enthusiasm that we read about in the Easter accounts these days, where all run: the women, Peter, John, the two of Emmaus. They run to encounter and proclaim the living Word.

[Translation by Zenit] Zenit.org 26-04-2019

## Praying the Rosary in a Group

**From The Secret of the Rosary, by Saint Louis de Montfort**

There are several ways of saying the Holy Rosary, but that which gives Almighty God the greatest glory, does the most for our souls and which the devil fears more than any other, is that of saying or chanting the Rosary publicly in two groups.

Almighty God is very pleased to have people gathered together in prayer; the angels and the blessed unite to praise Him unceasingly. ... Our Blessed Lord expressly recommended common prayer to His Apostles and disciples and promised that whenever two or three were gathered together in His name He would be there in the midst of them.

What a wonderful thing to have Jesus Christ in our midst! ... This is why the early Christians often gathered together to pray in spite of all the Roman Emperor's persecutions and the fact that assemblies were forbidden. They preferred to risk the danger of death rather than to miss their gatherings, at which Our Lord was present.

[Praying the Rosary in a group] is of the greatest benefit to our souls because:

1. Normally our minds are far more alert during public prayer than they are when we pray alone.
2. When we pray in common, the prayer of each one belongs to us all and these make but one great prayer together, so that if one person is not praying well, someone else in the same gathering who prays better may make up for his deficiency. ...
3. Somebody who says his Rosary alone only gains the merit of one Rosary, but if he says it together with thirty other people he gains the merit of thirty Rosaries. This is the law of public prayer. How profitable, how advantageous this is!
5. Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down His Mercy and Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Ghost, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering.



# Invited to be Part of a Great Undertaking

**Pope Francis, in his message for 2019 World Day for Vocations,  
observed 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, 12-05-2019**

The Lord's call is not an intrusion of God in our freedom; it is not a "cage" or a burden to be borne. On the contrary, it is the loving initiative whereby God encounters us and invites us to be part of a great undertaking. He opens before our eyes the horizon of a greater sea and an abundant catch. ...

Every vocation is a summons not to stand on the shore, nets in hand, but to follow Jesus on the path he has marked out for us, for our own happiness and for the good of those around us.

Embracing this promise naturally demands the courage to risk making a decision. The first disciples, called by Jesus to be part of something greater, "immediately left their nets and followed him". Responding to the Lord's call involves putting ourselves on the line and facing a great challenge. It means being ready to leave behind whatever would keep us tied to our little boat and prevent us from making a definitive choice. We are called to be bold and decisive in seeking God's plan for our lives. Gazing out at the vast "ocean" of vocation, we cannot remain content to repair our nets on the boat that gives us security but must trust instead in the Lord's promise. ...

[T]here can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him. Do not yield to fear, which paralyzes us before the great heights to which the Lord points us. Always remember that to those who leave their nets and boat behind, and follow him, the Lord promises the joy of a new life that can fill our hearts and enliven our journey.

Dear friends, it is not always easy to discern our vocation and to steer our life in the right direction. For this reason, there needs to be a renewed commitment on the part of the whole Church – priests, religious, pastoral workers and educators – to provide young people in particular with opportunities for listening and discernment. There is a need for a youth ministry and a vocational promotion that can open the way to discovering God's plan, above all through prayer, meditation on God's word, eucharistic adoration and spiritual accompaniment.

## Not All About Others

**Saint Gregory of Nyssa, Homily on the Beatitudes**

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Compassion is loving identification with those in misery. Just as hardheartedness and malice originate in hate, so compassion flows from love, for without love compassion cannot exist. In fact, if one wanted to dig into the distinctiveness of compassion, one would find two qualities: a growing attitude of love combined with an understanding of the emotional ache of another. It is not unusual for our friends and our enemies to be willing to share in our prosperity, but the willingness to share in our misfortune is unique to those who are governed by loving kindness. I think most people would agree that practicing a life of love is the best way to live. Compassion is the deepening of love. As such, compassionate persons are truly blessed since they have reached the high point of goodness

Is it advisable, having a realistic view of our situation, to be only concerned with the misfortunes of others? Shouldn't we also feel compassion for our own heart, as we consider our current situation, and what we have lost? ... We don't have compassion on ourselves because we are oblivious to our real situation. We are like the mentally ill, whose disorder renders them unconscious to their disease. If we did wake up to both our past and present situation – as Solomon says, the wise know themselves – we would continually have compassion on our souls, and this disposition of spirit would attract the compassion of God. That is why it says, 'Blessed are the compassionate, for they will receive compassion.

# What's New About Love?

**Pope Benedict XVI, Homily in Turin, 02-05-2010**

Then, when he announces his departure from this world, the Lord gives his disciples a new commandment, as it were a testament, so that they might continue his presence among them in a new way: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another". If we love each other, Jesus will continue to be present in our midst, to be glorified in this world.

Jesus speaks of a "new commandment". But what is new about it? In the Old Testament, God had already given the commandment of love; but this commandment has become new now because Jesus makes a very important addition to it: "*As I have loved you*, that you also love one another". What is new is precisely this "loving as Jesus loved". All our loving is preceded by his love and refers to this love, it fits into this love and is achieved precisely through this love. The Old Testament did not present any model of love; it only formulated the precept of love. Instead, Jesus gave himself to us as a model and source of love – a boundless, universal love that could transform all negative circumstances and all obstacles into opportunities to progress in love. ...

Clearly, with our own strength alone we are weak and limited. In us there is always a resistance to love and in our existence there are very many difficulties that cause division, resentment and ill will. However, the Lord promised us that he would be present in our lives, making us capable of this generous, total love that can overcome all obstacles, even those in our own hearts. If we are united to Christ, we can truly love in this way. Loving others as Jesus loved us is only possible with that power which is communicated to us in the relationship with him, especially in the Eucharist...

Yes, life leads to confrontation with many difficulties, many problems, but it is precisely the certainty that comes from faith, the certainty that we are not alone, that God loves each one without distinction and is close to everyone with his love, that makes it possible to face, live through and surmount the effort of dealing with daily problems. It was the universal love of the Risen Christ that motivated the Apostles to come out of themselves, to disseminate the word of God, to spend themselves without reserve for others, with courage, joy and serenity. The Risen One has a power of love that overcomes every limit, that does not stop in front of any obstacle. And the Christian community, especially in the most pastorally demanding situations, must be a concrete instrument of this love of God.

w2.vatican.va 02-05-2010

## Knowing How to Forgive

**Pope Francis, General Audience 24-04-2019**

Jesus includes the power of forgiveness in human relationships. In life not everything is resolved with justice. No. Especially where one must put a stop to evil, someone must love beyond what is due, in order to recommence a relationship of grace. Evil knows revenge, and if it is not stopped, it risks spreading, suffocating the entire world. Jesus replaced the law of retaliation – what you have done to me, I will do to you in return – with the law of love: what God has done for me, I shall do for you in return! Let us consider today, whether I am able to forgive. And if I do not feel I can, I must ask the Lord to give me the grace to forgive, because knowing how to forgive is a grace.

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## Love Your Mother

**Pope Francis, 2019 World Day for Vocations message**

I think primarily of the call to the Christian life which all of us received at Baptism. It teaches us that our life is not a fluke but rather a gift: that of being God's beloved children, gathered in the great family of the Church. It is precisely in the ecclesial community that the Christian life is born and develops, especially through the liturgy. The liturgy introduces us to God's word and the grace of the sacraments; from an early age, we are taught the art of prayer and fraternal sharing. In the end, the Church is our mother because she brings us to new life and leads us to Christ. So we must love her, even when we see her face marred by human frailty and sin, and we must help to make her ever more beautiful and radiant so that she can bear witness to God's love in the world.

# The First Reform We Need

**Cardinal Robert Sarah, Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, in an interview with La Nef magazine 05-04-2019, on his latest book, 'The Day is Far Spent'**

The crisis of the Church is above all a crisis of the faith. Some want the Church to be a human and horizontal society; they want it to speak the language of the media. They want to make it popular. They urge it not to speak about God, but to throw itself body and soul into social problems: migration, ecology, dialogue, the culture of encounter, the struggle against poverty, for justice and peace. These are of course important and vital questions before which the Church cannot shut her eyes. But a Church such as this is of interest to no one. The Church is only of interest because she allows us to encounter Jesus. She is only legitimate because she passes on Revelation to us. When the Church becomes overburdened with human structures, it obstructs the light of God shining out in her and through her. We are tempted to think that our action and our ideas will save the Church. It would be better to begin by letting her save herself.

I think we are at a turning point in the history of the Church. The Church needs a profound, radical reform that must begin by a reform of the life of her priests. Priests must be possessed by the desire for holiness, for perfection in God and fidelity to the doctrine of Him who has chosen and sent them. Their whole being and all their activities must be put to the service of sanctity. The Church is holy in herself. Our sins and our worldly concerns prevent her holiness from diffusing itself. It is time to put aside all these burdens and allow the Church to finally appear as God made Her. Some believe that the history of the Church is marked by structural reforms. I am sure that it is the saints who change history. The structures follow afterwards, and do nothing other than perpetuate the what the saints brought about.

We need saints who dare to see all things through the eyes of faith, who dare to be enlightened by the light of God. The crisis of moral theology is the consequence of a voluntary blindness. We have refused to look at life through the light of the Faith.

In the conclusion of my book, I speak about a poison from which are all suffering: a virulent atheism. It permeates everything, even our ecclesiastical discourse. It consists in allowing radically pagan and worldly modes of thinking or living to coexist side by side with faith. And we are quite content with this unnatural cohabitation! This shows that our faith has become diluted and inconsistent! The first reform we need is in our hearts. We must no longer compromise with lies. The Faith is both the treasure we have to defend and the power that will permit us to defend it.

[Translated from the French by Zachary Thomas] [catholicerald.co.uk](http://catholicerald.co.uk), 05-04-2019

## Martyrs

**Pope Benedict XVI, General Audience 11-08-2010**

A martyr follows the Lord to the end, freely accepting to die for the salvation of the world, in a supreme test of faith and love (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, 42). ... If we read the lives of the martyrs, we are amazed by their serenity and courage when facing suffering and death: The power of God is manifested fully in weakness, in the poverty of the one who entrusts himself to him and places his hope in him alone (cf. 2Cor 12:9).

... The martyr is an extremely free person, free in the face of power, of the world; a free person, who in one definitive act gives his whole life to God, and in a supreme act of faith, of hope and of charity, abandons himself into the hands of his Creator and Redeemer; sacrifices his own life to be totally associated to Christ's sacrifice on the cross. In a word, martyrdom is a great act of love in response to the immense love of God.

Dear brothers and sisters...we are probably not called to martyrdom, but none of us is excluded from the divine call to holiness, to live in a lofty way our Christian existence, and this implies taking up our daily cross. All of us, especially in our time in which egoism and individualism seem to prevail, must assume as a first and fundamental commitment that of growing every day in greater love of God and of neighbour to transform our lives and thus also to transform the world. Through the intercession of the saints and the martyrs, let us ask the Lord to inflame our hearts to be able to love as he has loved each one of us.

[Translation by ZENIT] [www.zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org) 17-08-2010

## Hours of Eucharistic Adoration

### in Gippsland

Bass	Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30am
Bairnsdale	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday after 9.10am Mass
Cowwarr-Heyfield	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday alternately: Cwr 7.30pm–8.30pm Heyfield 10.00am – 4.30pm
Cowwarr Ord.	Wednesday (Low Mass 10am) 10.30 – 11.00am
Churchill	Saturday (9.30am Mass) 10.00am – 11.00am
Cranbourne	Fri & Sat in church: (9.30 Mass) 10am – 11am Adoration Chapel accessible 24 hours by PIN available at parish office.
Drouin	Thursday 10am – 11.00am 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday 4pm–8pm (every 2 <sup>nd</sup> month, Dec on)
Lakes Entrance	Friday 9.30am – 11am
Maffra	Wednesday (5pm Mass) – 6pm
Moe	Wednesday (9am Mass) 9.30am – 10.30am
Morwell	Friday 2pm - 6pm (Sacred Heart Church)
Orbost	Wednesday (9.30am Mass) 10am – 11am
Rosedale	First Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30am
Sale	Friday 11.30am–12pm; 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday till 4pm
Trafalgar	Wed & First Sat: (9.30am Mass) –10.45am
Traralgon	Wednesday 11am – 12 noon
Warragul	Saturday 10.00am – 11.00am 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 4pm–8pm (every 2 <sup>nd</sup> month, Jan on)
Wonthaggi	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday 7.00pm – 8.00pm

## Green Leaves in Spring

### Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher of the Pontifical Household, 4<sup>th</sup> Lenten Homily, 2019

The Catholic Church has a special kind of worship called Eucharistic adoration. ...

Remaining calm and silent before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, for a long time if possible, we can perceive his desires for us. We lay down our projects to make room for those of Christ; the light of God penetrates the heart little by little and heals it. ...

Something happens that reminds us of what happens to trees in the spring. Green leaves sprout from the branches; they absorb certain elements from the atmosphere that, due to the action of sunlight, become “attached” and transformed into nutrients for the plant. Without such green leaves, the plant could not grow and bear fruit and would not contribute to generating the oxygen that we ourselves breathe.

We need to be like those green leaves! They are a symbol of the Eucharistic souls who, in contemplating the “Sun of justice,” who is Christ, “attach” to themselves the nutrient who is the Holy Spirit himself to the benefit of the whole great tree, which is the Church.

Zenit.org 05-04-2019

## Contact *Into the Deep*

[www.stoneswillshout.com](http://www.stoneswillshout.com)

[stoneswillshout@bigpond.com](mailto:stoneswillshout@bigpond.com)

12 Vincent Road, Morwell, Vic, 3840, Australia

 find us on  facebook

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BSB: 013-745 (ANZ)

Account number: 2901-63632

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**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. There is no guarantee that every letter will be published, and we reserve the right to edit letters. 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.

## 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**