

# ***Into the Deep***

Issue 216

Newsletter of orthodox Catholics of Gippsland

June 2021

## **An Important Detail**

**Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa, Preacher of the Papal Household, 4<sup>th</sup> Lenten sermon 2021**

The Acts of the Apostles recounts the following episode. On Agrippa's arrival in Caesarea, the governor Festus submits him the case of Paul, held in custody, waiting for trial. He summarizes his case to the king with these words: 'Those who blamed him [...] had some issues with him about their own religion and about a certain Jesus who had died but who Paul claimed was alive' (Act 25:18-19). This detail, apparently so secondary, sums up the history of the twenty centuries following that moment. Everything still revolves around 'a certain Jesus' the world claimed was dead and the Church proclaims to be alive. ...

We need to ask ourselves a serious question: what is Jesus for me? Is he a person or a character? There is a big difference between the two. The character – such as Julius Caesar, Leonardo da Vinci, Napoleon – is someone you can write and talk about as much as you like, but it is impossible to talk to. Unfortunately, for the great majority of Christians, Jesus is a character, not a person. He is the subject of a set of dogmatic statements, doctrines and heresies; one whose memory we celebrate in the liturgy, we believe is truly present in the Eucharist, and so on. Yet, if we remain at the level of objective faith, without developing an existential relationship with him, he remains outside us, he touches our minds without warming our hearts. Despite anything else, he remains in the past; even unconsciously two thousand years set us apart. On the background of all this, we understand the importance of that invitation that Pope Francis has placed at the beginning of this apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*.

"I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him" (EG, 3).

## **A Prayer for June**

**Pope Francis, after the Angelus Address, 07-06-2020**

The month of June is dedicated particularly to the Heart of Christ, a devotion that brings together the great spiritual masters and the simple people of the People of God.

In fact, Jesus' human and divine Heart is the fount from which we can always draw God's mercy, forgiveness, and tenderness.

We can do so by pausing on a passage of the Gospel, feeling that at the centre of every gesture, of every word of Jesus is love, love is at the centre, the love of the Father who sent His Son, love of the Holy Spirit who is within us.

And we can do so by adoring the Eucharist, where this love is present in the Sacrament. Then our heart will also become, little by little, more patient, more generous and more merciful, in imitation of Jesus' Heart.

There is an ancient prayer – I learned it from my grandmother – that said thus: "Jesus, make my heart like unto Thine." It's a ... beautiful little prayer to pray in this month.

Zenit.org 07-06-2020

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

# Assisted Suicide Vigil, Melbourne

Please join a *Candle Light Vigil* marking the second anniversary of Victoria's assisted suicide:

**Saturday 19 June 2021 at 6pm, on the steps of the Victorian Parliament, Spring Street, Melbourne.**

Please bring a candle and light it in memory of the 224 victims of this dark legislation. And as a reminder to the Victorian Parliament, of how it failed in its first responsibility ...*to protect human life*. The dying need to be treated as special, not put down like animals.

The Vigil is being conducted by *Right to Life Australia (Inc)* and *Pro-Life Victoria (Inc)*.

Since our 2020 *Candle Light Vigil*, Tasmania has legalised assisted suicide and now South Australians and Queenslanders are threatened with the same. Our opponents are relentless and so must we be in our opposition to this expansion of the killing of our fellow humans.

We appeal to you to join with us in this solemn memorial to the victims of physician, state-sanctioned killing. May we be inspired and emboldened by such past champions of life as Clemens August von Galen, the Catholic Bishop of Munster, and Theophil Wurm, Protestant Bishop Wurttemberg, who risked their lives raising widespread public opposition to Germany's euthanasia programs of the 1940's. Their belief: "*A curse on men and on the German people if we break the Commandment 'You shall not kill'.*"

**Pro-Life Victoria (Inc)**

## New Bishops for Melbourne

**VaticanNews.va 14-05-2021**

Pope Francis on Friday appointed two new auxiliary bishops in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. They are Father Martin Ashe and Monsignor Anthony John Ireland, both belonging to the clergy of Melbourne Archdiocese. ...

Melbourne Archdiocese is headed by Archbishop Peter Andrew Comensoli, the former Bishop of Broken Bay, whom Pope Francis transferred to Melbourne in November 2014. The archdiocese now has 3 auxiliary bishops. The other is Bishop Terence Robert Curtin.

## Thanks

Many thanks for the work you do producing ITD. I appreciated a number of items in the recent May edition. Please find enclosed a small donation towards costs.

**Kevin Kiem, Carrington, New South Wales**

I have been receiving Into the Deep for many years, and would be happy to see it for many more years. I am enclosing some copies of articles and holy cards which you may be able to use in a future issue. Also a cheque to help keep it alive.

**Terry Brusamarello, Wonthaggi, Victoria**

## Don't Forget to Check

It is easy to write "God is with us" on a banner; many are eager to ensure that God is with them, but few bother to check whether they are actually with God.

**Pope Francis, General Audience, 26-05-2021**

## A Forgiven Sinner

**Pope Francis to Confessors, 12-03-2021**

Dear brothers, let us remember always that every one of us is a forgiven sinner ... a forgiven sinner, placed at the service of others, so that they too, through the sacramental encounter, may encounter that Love that has charmed and changed our life. With this knowledge, I encourage you to persevere faithfully in the valuable ministry you perform... it is an important service for the sanctification of the holy people of God. Entrust this, your ministry of reconciliation, to the powerful protection of Saint Joseph, a just and faithful man.

Vatican.va

## Apologies for Error

I realised too late that I have "March 2021" on the bottom of each page of the April 2021 issue of ITD. My apologies for the error. Please don't let it confuse you like it confused me!

**Ed.**

# John Henderson – *Sensus Fidelium* in Action

The world and the Church need (a lot) more men like John Henderson; men who have the perspicacity to see where it is all going and the gumption, wisdom and staying power to do something about it, whatever the personal cost. He exemplified that commodity so rare amongst Catholics today, especially those of John's vintage – the *sensus fidelium*. And he persevered in his exercise of it right to the end.

Many a time he made the rather long trip to visit our little community and between us we deplored and (theoretically) "fixed" the Church's very many and manifest problems. John was always vocal and exercised about the abuses of Church authority, morality and liturgy but always loyal and never angry; he was too big a man for that! He always left us with more heart than when he came.

We loved his straight-shooting and down-to-earth analysis of life in society and in the Church; he was very rarely short of the mark and he diluted nothing. He was the kind of man who would have made a great addition to any bishop's advisory body, but for his 'political incorrectness' which ensured that this would never, ever happen. Many a bishop would have been a more effective shepherd for heeding the representations of John Henderson.

We were very moved by his son Peter's words of remembrance at his funeral Mass (March ITD, p.4-5). They captured so well this big-hearted and impressive Catholic man; all the more impressive for his fidelity and endurance in living out his 'ordinary' life-duties as father, friend and true Catholic layman.

We found it most moving – and significant – to hear of the incredibly sacrificial gifts to him of so much time, love and service by members of his family and close friends during his long leave-taking of this world. This all said a great deal about the large hearts of these people, but also about the kind of man John himself was. We all know that his desire for the good of others was more or less bottomless; and although we never met his beautiful wife, Terry, we felt we knew her well through the praise and devotion by which John so frequently canonised her memory.

Our school boasts two lovely statues of the Sacred Heart and Our Lady which John and his faithful friend Des Doyle 'organised' to be transported to us from a church that was closing. They stand in the chapel and we will arrange for plaques to be erected on them, acknowledging their goodness and asking prayers for John's soul.

We would all like to face the kind of judgement that John Henderson has undoubtedly met. God alone knows the graces that have come to the Church through his virtuous life and works, and how much purification took place in him during that long stretch of disablement and suffering. God alone knows how many lives he touched and inspired with Christian hope, in his own rough and ready, yet so authentic, style of witness. Truth was his hallmark. And the sincerity of truth is such a sure way to the heart of the Father. This is surely where John Henderson is headed, if he is not there already.

**The Conventual Sisters of St Dominic, Ganmain, New South Wales**

## Quietly Demonstrating Love for the Church

**Pope John Paul II, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, no.52**

I consider it my duty, therefore to appeal urgently that the liturgical norms for the celebration of the Eucharist be observed with great fidelity. These norms are a concrete expression of the authentically ecclesial nature of the Eucharist; this is their deepest meaning. Liturgy is never anyone's private property, be it of the celebrant or of the community in which the mysteries are celebrated. ... Our time, too, calls for a renewed awareness and appreciation of liturgical norms as a reflection of, and a witness to, the one universal Church made present in every celebration of the Eucharist. Priests who faithfully celebrate Mass according to the liturgical norms, and communities which conform to those norms, quietly but eloquently demonstrate their love for the Church. ... No one is permitted to undervalue the mystery entrusted to our hands: it is too great for anyone to feel free to treat it lightly and with disregard for its sacredness and its universality.

# I Want No Respite

**Saint Faustina, Diary 450**

Oh, how sweet it is to toil for God and souls! I want no respite in this battle, but I shall fight to the last breath for the glory of my King and Lord. I shall not lay the sword aside until He calls me before His throne; I fear no blows, because God is my shield. It is the enemy who should fear us, and not we him. Satan defeats only the proud and the cowardly, because the humble are strong. Nothing will confuse or frighten a humble soul. I have directed my flight at the very centre of the sun's heat, and nothing can lower its course. Love will not allow itself to be taken prisoner, it is free like a queen. Love attains God.

# River Crossing

**St John of the Cross**

And I saw the river over which every soul must pass to reach the Kingdom of Heaven, and the name of that river was suffering.

And I saw the boat which carries souls across the river. And the name of that boat was Love.

# Know Yourself

The Greek philosopher Socrates claimed that a benefit to be achieved from studying philosophy was that it enabled you to 'know yourself'. He stressed the point by declaring that 'an unexamined life was not worth living'.

At a time when there is wide spread doubt about such basic things as to whether one is male or female, the pressing need for self-knowledge is clearly a very live issue. Yet philosophy is clearly a very specialist area involving dedicated years of study. Moreover, while philosophy is a quest for truth, we have Pontius Pilate's crucial question, 'Truth... what is that?'

During the course of an interview in August 2013 with Fr Antonio Spodaro, a journalist with the magazine America, Pope Francis declared 'I am a sinner the Lord has looked upon'.

In this context, my quest for self-knowledge begins by looking into my own heart. At the personal level the solution is not to be found in chasing after some ideological fad. Rather, the quest for self-knowledge leads inexorably to recognition of the pressing need for a Redeemer.

**John Cooney, Cowwarr, Victoria**

# The Courage to Choose Life

**Pope Francis, 14-05-2021**

For the future to be good, we must therefore take care of families, especially young families, who are beset by worries that risk paralysing their life plans. ... I also think, with sadness, of women at work who are discouraged from having children or have to hide their pregnancies. How is it possible that a woman should feel ashamed of the most beautiful gift that life can offer? Not the woman, but society should be ashamed, because a society that does not welcome life stops living. Children are the hope that gives birth to a people! ... If families are not at the centre of the present, there will be no future; but if families start again, everything will start again. ...

Every gift is received, and life is the first gift that each one of us received. No one can give it to himself. First of all there was a gift. ...

Let us help each other not to lose ourselves in the things of life, to rediscover life as the meaning of all things. Let us help each other, dear friends, to rediscover the courage to give, the courage to choose life. There is a phrase from the Gospel that can help anyone, even those who do not believe, to direct their choices. Jesus says: "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Mt 6:21). Where is our treasure, the treasure of our society? In the children or in finances? What attracts us, family or income? There must be the courage to choose what comes first, because that is where the heart is bound. The courage to choose life is creative, because it does not accumulate or multiply what already exists, but opens up to novelty, to surprises: every human life is a true novelty, which knows no before and after in history. We have all received this unrepeatable gift and the talents we have serve to pass on, from generation to generation, the first gift of God, the gift of life. ...

Vatican.va

# Save Our Graves Petition

**Archbishop Anthony Fisher, Archbishop of Sydney, email appeal, 28-05-2021**

I ask for your assistance in petitioning the New South Wales Government to reverse a decision to exclude faith and charitable groups from cemetery management.

The Catholic Church has been operating cemeteries in this state for more than 150 years and is trusted by Catholics, as well as Muslims, Jews and others of faith to bury the dead, keep their graves and comfort grieving families.

We have offered solutions that would come at no cost to Government or taxpayer and would address the most significant issues facing Sydney cemeteries, including:

- a lack of burial space, with many expected to close to new internments in the next decade;
- the need for sufficient funds to be set aside for the ongoing maintenance of cemeteries; and
- the need to provide affordable funerals and burials for all people.

Rather than accepting these proposals, Property Minister Melinda Pavey has decided to dismiss all existing operators, and create a new Government bureaucracy to handle cemeteries instead. This so-called solution will take the longest to implement and come at the highest cost.

I don't think we can trust a secular bureaucracy that has no experience in providing comfort to grieving families or the management of burial grounds to continue this vital ministry. Caring for the dead and those who love them is not a Government service to be arranged through the Services NSW app; it is a spiritual mission that is at the heart of what we do.

I need your help in asking the Government to reverse this nonsensical decision. Please sign the petition at [saveourgraves.com.au](http://saveourgraves.com.au) and share it with friends. Please also consider phoning or writing to your local NSW MP and ask them to petition the Premier and Property Minister to see reason, and to allow our beloved dead to rest in peace.

## His Teaching Brings Human Flourishing

**Excerpt from Cardinal George Pell's Prison Journal, Volume 1; 16 March 2019 entry**

On a broader level, I feel that the love of prosperity, sometimes a genuine materialism, and the sexual revolution have dimmed the capacity to see God. And many people are uneasy and restless, as we see through marriage breakdowns, alcohol, drugs, addiction to pornography.

The teachers in our schools are now in the front line trying to help and heal the children suffering from the mistakes, the defeats of their parents or stepparents or "uncles". I remember the piece of Brazilian graffiti: Divorce contracts are written in the tears of their children.

Whatever these mighty sociological tides might be, part of the Church's problem is self-inflicted. If Christ is the Son of God, his teaching has a unique authority, and his teaching when lived brings human flourishing. Despite G. K. Chesterton's pessimism, many good people over the centuries have tried and succeeded in living the Christian life. When we believe we can improve on Jesus by eliminating the hard teachings or downplaying prayer, faith, the cross, etc., then we should not be surprised that people leave or do not join. A religion that is too easy is a false religion.

What do some of the reform forces in the Church want to change? They never put all their cards on the table. It was a moment of awakening for me when I claimed to a high European prelate that the first criterion for a good bishop is that he would witness to the Catholic and apostolic faith. My interlocutor frothed with indignation and disapproval.

*God our Father, keep us always faithful to your Son, our Redeemer, and help Church leaders see that the only Catholic unity is around the apostolic tradition.*

*The alternative is certain decline.*

# More on Spiritual Childhood

I recently wrote about spiritual childhood and the importance of this vocation in God's great family, the Catholic Church (April ITD, p.7). I mentioned that many Catholics do not understand this adopted identity and vocation or where it stems from, and therefore it is not something which they have experienced as a reality in the Church.

The reasons for this lack of awareness and experience as God's sons and daughters in the Church are numerous and varied, but over the years and to this current day, I believe three stand out as common in the Church in this country.

The first one, which I have already touched on briefly, is that bishops and priests very rarely preach, teach or write about spiritual childhood, kinship and the fundamental importance of the Church as mother and teacher.

The second major failure, and may I add, one which has been the most difficult and problematic catechetically, pastorally and theologically for the hierarchy, has been the inability to teach the doctrine on Original Sin effectively, and to make it comprehensible to the spiritual children entrusted to them by their Bride. The result of this perennial failure has been that many people, in and out of the Church no longer believe and understand that mankind is in a state of alienation, deformity and sin. And therefore they no longer see the need for, or understand the absolute necessity of, Christ the Redeemer, his Church and the grace of her Sacraments.

The third reason has been the total lack of preparation, and the grossly inadequate catechesis before the conferral of the sacrament of Baptism, the gateway to all the other sacraments, and the very basis of our Catholic living. This has been a long-held gripe of mine, and I believe this failure is what has brought about a monumental sacramental crisis in the Church and rendered her sterile in this country. Let's face it, one can hardly expect a generation of Catholics who know very little, if anything about sacraments, let alone Baptism, to understand the meaning and significance of spiritual childhood. Many aren't even aware that Baptism is necessary for salvation, and a condition for membership in the Church, and their nominal spiritual lives have long ceased to be Baptismal.

As a result, the spiritual adoption and renewal brought about through water and the Holy Spirit has ceased to be a permanent and fruitful reality in their lives. It has ceased to be an experience that gives light, direction and meaning to their lives, and has lost its power to shape their Catholic world view. It has failed to shape and inform their basic attitudes, motivations and decisions as newly created sons and daughters of God.

This is why today more than ever, the hierarchy in this country need to urgently address the above failures and restore Baptism and its catechesis as the basis for Catholic living, and re-establish the connection between spiritual childhood, fatherhood and family. I believe this would go a longer way in building up the Body of Christ, and evangelizing and transforming people into God's sons and daughters in this country than any Plenary Council or Synod.

**Gregory Kingman, Morwell, Victoria**

## Holy Joseph

**St John Henry Newman**

He is Holy Joseph, because according to the opinion of a great number of doctors, he, as well as John the Baptist, was sanctified even before he was born.

He is Holy Joseph, because his office, of being spouse and protector of Mary, specially demanded sanctity.

He is Holy Joseph, because no other Saint but he lived in such and so long intimacy and familiarity with the source of all holiness, Jesus, God incarnate, and Mary, the holiest of creatures.

## Supernatural Gifts

**Pope Benedict XVI, 01-09-2010**

The sign of an authentic experience of the Holy Spirit, the source of all charisms, is that the individual possessing supernatural gifts never boasts of them, never shows them off and, above all, demonstrates complete obedience to ecclesiastical authority. All gifts distributed by the Holy Spirit are, in fact, intended for the edification of the Church and it is the Church, through her pastors, who recognises their authenticity.

Vatican Information Service 01-09-2010

# Just Getting Older (14) – The Price of Experience

When one grows old one becomes aware of: I am too old for this, I'm too weak for that, etc. And it takes some doing to find out: what can I do without breaking my neck, or without placing someone else in danger. It often happens then that one looks back on life and starts realising that life experience is precious. I have often paid a heavy price for it, with time, effort and money. How tiring it was becoming reasonable and somewhat wiser, learning how to dodge mistakes and how to do, and be, good.

After all those positive and negative experiences, I come to the conclusion that decisive in becoming fully grown will always be the Lord, the centre point of my life, if I am receptive to what he tells me, learning only to listen to him. Let it not happen to me that I am interested only in what direction the media want me to go in, or only interested in the latest gossip. I pray to be spiritually receptive to all that is happening around me; and to see the Lord behind all this. To serve him only, is really worth the effort.

All this brought me to the conclusion to be constantly thinking about the spiritual side of old age; and to be able to understand the value of it all, like understanding and wisdom, suffering and humility, prayer and love for others.

But fulfillment in my own self, I find only in my Lord. He doesn't ask me what I have achieved during my life: money, power, property, but what I have become myself.

I pray the Lord to grant me insight and honesty, patience and humility; then I can, full of desire and trust, come to him, and be fulfilled.

**Bert Van Galen, Mowbray, Tasmania**

## Christian Meditation

**Pope Francis, General Audience, 28-04-2021**

Throughout history, the term "meditation" has had various meanings. Even within Christianity it refers to different spiritual experiences. Nevertheless, some common lines can be traced, and in this we are helped again by the *Catechism*, which says the following: "There are as many and varied methods of meditation as there are spiritual masters... But a method is only a guide; the important thing is to advance, with the Holy Spirit, along the one way of prayer: Christ Jesus" (n. 2707). And here, a travelling companion is indicated, one who guides us: the Holy Spirit. Christian meditation is not possible without the Holy Spirit. It is he who guides us to the encounter with Jesus. Jesus said to us, "I will send you the Holy Spirit. He will teach you and explain to you." And in meditation too, the Holy Spirit is the guide to going forward in our encounter with Jesus Christ.

Thus, there are many methods of Christian meditation: some are very simple, others more detailed; some highlight the intellectual dimension of the person, others the affective and emotional one instead. They are methods. ...

We must thus always remember that the method is a path, not a goal: ... The methods of meditation are paths to travel in order to arrive at the encounter with Jesus, but if you stop on the road, and just look at the path, you will never find Jesus. You will make a "god" out of the path. However, the path is a means to bring you to Jesus. The *Catechism* specifies: "Meditation engages thought, imagination, emotion and desire. This mobilisation of the faculties is necessary in order to deepen our convictions of faith, prompt the conversion of our heart, and strengthen our will to follow Christ. Christian prayer tries above all to meditate on the mysteries of Christ" (n. 2708).

Here, then, is the grace of Christian prayer: Christ is not far away, but is always in a relationship with us. ... For us Christians, meditating is a way to encounter Jesus. And in this way, only in this way, we rediscover ourselves. And this is not a withdrawal into ourselves, no: going to Jesus, and from Jesus, discovering ourselves, healed, risen, strong by the grace of Jesus. And encountering Jesus, the Saviour of all, myself included. And this, thanks to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Vatican.va

# New Lay Ministry of Catechist

**Pope Francis, 'Motu Proprio' Letter *Antiquum Ministerium*, Instituting the Ministry of Catechist, 10-05-2021**

5. Without prejudice to the Bishop's mission as the primary catechist in his Diocese, one which he shares with his presbyterate, or to the particular responsibility of parents for the Christian formation of their children (cf. CIC can. 774 §2; CCEO can. 618), recognition should be given to those lay men and women who feel called by virtue of their baptism to cooperate in the work of catechesis (cf. CIC can. 225; CCEO cans. 401 and 406). This presence is all the more urgently needed today as a result of our increasing awareness of the need for evangelization in the contemporary world (cf. Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, 163-168), and the rise of a globalized culture (cf. Encyclical Letter *Fratelli Tutti*, 100, 138). ...

6. ... The role played by catechists is one specific form of service among others within the Christian community. Catechists are called first to be expert in the pastoral service of transmitting the faith as it develops through its different stages from the initial proclamation of the *kerygma* to the instruction that presents our new life in Christ and prepares for the sacraments of Christian initiation, and then to the ongoing formation that can allow each person to give an accounting of the hope within them (cf. *1 Pet* 3:15). At the same time, every catechist must be a witness to the faith, a teacher and mystagogue, a companion and pedagogue, who teaches for the Church. Only through prayer, study, and direct participation in the life of the community can they grow in this identity and the integrity and responsibility that it entails (cf. Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, *Directory for Catechesis*, 113). ...

8. This ministry has a definite vocational aspect, as evidenced by the Rite of Institution, and consequently calls for due discernment on the part of the Bishop. It is in fact a stable form of service rendered to the local Church in accordance with pastoral needs identified by the local Ordinary, yet one carried out as a work of the laity, as demanded by the very nature of the ministry. It is fitting that those called to the instituted ministry of Catechist be men and women of deep faith and human maturity, active participants in the life of the Christian community, capable of welcoming others, being generous and living a life of fraternal communion. They should also receive suitable biblical, theological, pastoral and pedagogical formation to be competent communicators of the truth of the faith and they should have some prior experience of catechesis (cf. SECOND VATICAN ECUMENICAL COUNCIL, Decree on the Pastoral Office of Bishops in the Church *Christus Dominus*, 14; CIC can. 231 §1; CCEO can. 409 §1). It is essential that they be faithful co-workers with priests and deacons, prepared to exercise their ministry wherever it may prove necessary, and motivated by true apostolic enthusiasm.

Therefore, after having taken all things into consideration, and by apostolic authority

## **I establish the lay ministry of Catechist**

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments will soon publish the Rite of Institution of the lay ministry of Catechist.

9. I invite the Episcopal Conferences to render effective the ministry of Catechist, determining the necessary process of formation and the normative criteria for admission to this ministry and devising the most appropriate forms for the service which these men and women will be called to exercise in conformity with the content of this Apostolic Letter.

## **New Prefect**

Pope Francis has appointed Archbishop Arthur Roche as the new Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. He was previously the Secretary of the same Congregation. Archbishop Roche succeeds Cardinal Robert Sarah whose resignation was accepted in February this year, following his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday in June last year.

## **Renew Faith**

**Pope Benedict XVI, Feast of Corpus Christi, 2009**

This is what the faithful expect of the priest: that is, the example of an authentic devotion to the Eucharist; they like to see him spend long periods of silence and adoration before Jesus ...

...Let us renew...our faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We must not take this faith for granted!



# Year of St Joseph

**Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* of Pope Francis on the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Proclamation of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church**

“Get up, take the child and his mother” (Mt 2:13), God told Saint Joseph.

The aim of this Apostolic Letter is to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal. ...

We need only ask Saint Joseph for the grace of graces: our conversion.

Let us now make our prayer to him:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

“Our participation in the Body and Blood of Christ aspires to nothing other than to become what we receive.”

**St Leo the Great**

# Keep Little

**St Therese of Lisieux**

When we keep little, we recognise our own nothingness and expect everything from the goodness of God, exactly as a little child expects everything from its father. Nothing worries us, not even the amassing of spiritual riches.

Again, being as a little child with God means that we do not attribute to ourselves the virtues we may possess, in the belief we are capable of something. It implies, on the contrary, our recognition of the fact that God places the treasure of virtue in the hand of his little child for him to use as he needs it, though all the while it is God’s treasure.

Finally, to *keep little* means not to lose courage at the sight of our faults. Little children often tumble, but they are too small to suffer grievous injury.

The Little Way of St Therese of Lisieux, Catholic Truth Society, 1932

# Special Plans

**Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, to the Swiss Guard, 06-05-2021**

The Lord has special plans for each person, and there is only one way to allow Him to accomplish great things in us: to welcome Him more and more, to live His command – ‘Remain in me!’ – each day.

# Random Thoughts

- A quotable quote I heard recently (thanks, Laurie): “People don’t believe in God. But they blame him.” So true. There are people who have a terrible bitterness and resentment towards God; while at the same time claiming they cannot possibly believe in him.
- Another quotable quote (thanks, Fr Ken): “No one wants to feel bad about what they feel is good.” This was in relation to how people often allow feelings to trump Church teaching. If it feels good to them, then they think it must be good, and then they decide that the Church must be wrong if it doesn’t agree.
- Which brings me to the point of good parenting. My favourite little friend, Max, who is now two-and-a-half (last mentioned August 2021 ITD), is developing speech and language beautifully. Pair this with growing independence, and you end up with many sentences that start with, “I tink” or “I got a idea!” But what he ‘thinks’ or what ‘ideas’ he has are not always things that will be acted upon (like when he ‘thinks’ he shouldn’t have to go to bed, or when his ‘idea’ is that he plays with his cars on his baby brother’s mat) and his loving parents are unafraid to say, “No, we’re not doing that” or “No, that’s not happening”. They know what is best for him and they know their responsibility for raising him well. And that involves acting with authority and making decisions he won’t always like. It’s a pity there are so many Parish Priests and Bishops who are afraid to act with the same firmness and guidance when called for, instead of caving in to any and every little foot-stomping demand of the grey-haired toddlers that control many parishes.

**Ed.**

# When That Goes, Everything Goes

The Catholic Church built Western civilisation. The following supporting quote is from a most fascinating source. A 20-year study by the Chinese government stated, "The reason for Europe's global dominance is Christianity... There is no doubt about it." (See Niall Ferguson's "Civilisation - The West and the Rest", Chapter 5)

Today that dominance does not exist.

The reason is a large heretical cancer in the heart of the Catholic Church, and the other Christian bodies are shrinking too. Quote Harvey Cox, US Baptist minister and theologian, "If the Catholic Church goes under, we'll all have to order our shrouds." St John Henry Newman wrote of the 4<sup>th</sup> century, "80% of the bishops succumbed to the Arian heresy. Humanly speaking, it was the loyalty of the ordinary clergy and the laity which saved the Church."

Well today: 1) Many priests have followed our heretic bishops. 2) For at least the last 40 years, in most parts of Australia, of the graduates of our Catholic school system, just 2% regularly attend Sunday Mass.

"None of the great civilisations perished due to outside force. They all committed suicide." Arnold Toynbee.

To verify the fact that Australian society has collapsed dramatically over the last 50 years, just sit down and watch almost all news broadcasts. Reason – the family, not the individual, is the unit of society, and it has literally been smashed by two concurrent disasters: 1) How many bishops ever preach that contraception is intrinsically wrong? 2) Judging by its long history, and the number of its adherents, "women's liberation" must be judged as one of the world's most successful confidence tricks. Ann Roche-Muggeridge nailed it in 1974: "Feminism is the most vicious form of liberation theology."

Just as Communism built its fraudulent and inherently inhuman empire on a supposedly inescapable hostility between "the working class" and the rest of humanity, so there is supposed to be a basic conflict between men and women. The promoters of this ideology are exactly a group pretending to put out a house on fire, while actually throwing fuel on the flames (and our bishops don't seem eager to go near it). Perhaps they could start with a simple grammatical correction. Love is not, repeat not, a set of feelings. Love is a *decision* taken because of feelings. That decision is to enter marriage for life.

That brings us to the Ten Commandments. From the time of Moses, and even more demonstrably over the last 2,000 years, Christianity's pro-woman stance has been the underpinning of the successful growth of our civilisation. When that goes, everything goes.

**Don Gaffney, Moorooka, Queensland**

## New Invocations in Litany of St Joseph

**Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 01-05-2021**

On the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, published the Apostolic Letter *Patris corde*, with the aim "to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal".

In this light it appeared opportune to update the Litany in honour of Saint Joseph, approved by the Apostolic See in 1909, by integrating seven new invocations drawn from the interventions of the Popes who have reflected on aspects of the figure of the Patron of the Universal Church.

They are as follows: *Custos Redemptoris* (cf. Saint John Paul II, Ap. Exhort. *Redemptoris custos*); *Serve Christi* (cf. Saint Paul VI, Homily of 19.3.1966, quoted in *Redemptoris custos* n. 8 and *Patris corde* n. 1); *Minister salutis* (Saint John Chrysostom, quoted in *Redemptoris custos*, n. 8); *Fulcimen in difficultatibus* (cf. Francis, Ap. Let. *Patris corde*, prologue); *Patrone exsulum, afflictorum, pauperum* (*Patris corde*, n. 5).

It will be the responsibility of the Episcopal Conferences to see to the translation and publication of the Litany in the languages which are within their competency...

Vatican.va

[According to Vatican News (01-05-2021) they could be translated as: Guardian of the Redeemer, Servant of Christ, Minister of salvation, Support in difficulties, Patron of exiles, Patron of the afflicted and Patron of the poor. – Ed.]

# Freedom to Seek Help

Answered by Fr John Flader

**Q:** Dear Father, With legislation in several Australian states prohibiting therapy to help people who wish to change their sexual orientation, is this not a violation of a fundamental human right? I am disturbed by this development.

**A:** The development is indeed disturbing. It reeks of the Marxist program where the state decides what is best for the individual and the family. It is totalitarianism at its best. But let me explain.

Queensland, the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria have all passed legislation banning so-called "conversion therapy", defined in the Queensland legislation as "a treatment or other practice that attempts to change or suppress a person's sexual orientation or gender identity." Proponents of the legislation argued, rightly, that extreme practices to get someone to change their gender identity like torture, electroshock or forced medication should be prohibited.

We would all agree with that. But the new legislation goes well beyond that. Under it, if a person wishes to get help to change their gender or express their same-sex attraction, this is acceptable, but if they wish to be counselled to overcome unwanted same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria, it would be an offence in law.

Thus, if a child in primary school had gender dysphoria and wanted to live and dress as someone of the opposite sex to that of their birth, and their parents wanted to get counselling for the child, they could not do so. Nor could an adult with unwanted same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria get help. We should remember that gender dysphoria is recognised as a mental disorder in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-5) of the American Psychiatric Association. When someone suffers from a mental disorder they should be free to seek help to overcome it. Their basic human right to get this help is denied by the new legislation.

In effect, the state is telling us that it is perfectly acceptable to be gay, lesbian or transgender, etc., but it is a crime to want to change these unwanted orientations or tendencies. The legislation is a blatant attack on patient autonomy, the professional independence and judgment of general practitioners, psychiatrists, psychologists, counsellors and pastors, and on the rights of parents to decide what is best for their children.

The most extreme legislation is that of Victoria, which prohibits not only health practitioners but also family members and religious counsellors from attempting to help someone overcome gender dysphoria.

Former Deputy Prime Minister John Anderson AO said of this legislation, which was then under discussion: "A law before the Victorian parliament seeking to outlaw parental, therapeutic or religious discussions on issues of sexuality and gender is the biggest threat to our democratic freedoms in Australia's entire legislative history" (Twitter, 14 December 2020).

In Victoria it would even be an offence to pray for someone to overcome their gender dysphoria. In an article titled 'Prohibiting prayer in Australia', Carl R. Trueman wrote: "It is an ominous sign when such a basic religious practice as prayer is now the target of hostile legislation in a democratic country. We may not yet be at the point where thought is a crime, but we seem to be at the point where the expression of certain thoughts, even in prayer, could be considered criminal behaviour" (First Things, 8 February 2021).

A few days before Victoria's legislation was passed, Leah Gray, a former lesbian who is now married with a young son, testified: "Ten years ago I voluntarily sought counsel from Christian psychologists, ministries, support networks and people who had walked before me. It was difficult, but I found relief and happiness. Every step of my journey will become illegal under the Victorian government's Change or Suppression (Conversion) Practices Prohibition Bill. For the record, none of these avenues of support were ever harmful or coercive. In fact, the counselling I received saved my life. Ex-LGBT people like me are living proof that real and lasting change is possible, that suicides have been prevented, and that it is good for people to have the freedom to choose the type of help and support they want – including (shock horror) the religious kind" (MercatorNet, 2 February 2021).

Q&A with Fr Flader, Catholicweekly.com.au, 28-05-2021

## Hours of Eucharistic Adoration

### in Gippsland

Bass	Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30am
Bairnsdale	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday after 9.10am Mass
Heyfield	1 <sup>st</sup> Fridays 10am – 4.30pm
Cowwarr Ord.	Wednesday (Mass 10am) – 11am 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday (Mass 10am) – 11am
Churchill	Saturday (9.30am Mass) – 11am
Cranbourne	Fri & Sat in church: (9.30 Mass) – 11am Adoration Chapel accessible 24 hours by PIN available at parish office.
Drouin	Thursday 10am – 11am 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) – 10.30am
Morwell	Friday 2pm - 6pm (Sacred Heart Church)
Orbost	Wednesday (9.30am Mass) – 11am
Rosedale	First Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30am
Sale	Friday 11.30am–12pm; 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday till 4pm
Trafalgar	Wed & 1st Sat: (9.30am Mass) – 10.45am
Traralgon	Wednesday 11am – 12 noon
Warragul	Saturday 10am – 11am 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 4pm–8pm (every 2 <sup>nd</sup> month, Jan. on)
Wonthaggi	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday 7pm – 8pm

“How beautiful it is. After the consecration, the good God is there, like he is in heaven. If man knew this mystery, he would die of love.”

**St John Vianney**

## I, Too

**Jesus Waits for us Here With Divine Longing,  
by St Peter Julian Eymard**

2. Sympathize with Jesus Who is betrayed, insulted, mocked, and crucified far more ignominiously in His Sacrament of love than He was in the Garden of Olives, in Jerusalem, and on Calvary.

Those whom He has the most honoured, loved, and enriched with His gifts and graces are the very ones who offend Him the most and disgrace Him in His temple by their lack of respect, who crucify Him anew in their body and soul by sacrilegious Communion, thereby betraying Him to the devil, the master of their hearts and lives.

Alas! Have I nothing to reproach myself with? Couldst Thou have imagined, O my Jesus, that Thy too great love of man would be the object of his malice, and that he would turn even Thy most precious gifts and graces against Thee?

And I, have I not been unfaithful to Thee?

## 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**

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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month).

**Editor:** Janet Kingman

**Subscription is free. We rely on donations.**

**Cheques** to be made out to Janet Kingman.

ITD's bank details for **Direct Deposits:**

Account name: Janet Kingman

BSB: 013-745 (ANZ)

Account number: 2901-63632

Donate via Ritchies Supermarkets Community Benefit program by nominating Into the Deep, CB number 81799.

**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**