

Catholics For Renewal Inc.

www.catholicsforrenewal.org.au



Priorities for the Plenary Council Agenda

Newsletter, 30 April 2020

A larger text .PDF version of this Newsletter is available [HERE](#)

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- Priorities for the Plenary Council Agenda.
- Women and Ministry in the Church.

2. Summary Document "Women and Ministry"

3. News Updates

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Stay safe and well, blessings to all, Catholics For Renewal.



"The primary aim of the Listening and Dialogue' phase is to listen to the voice of God speaking through the voices of the people, in order to gain a "sense of the faith" (sensus fidei, EG119). For this reason, the diverse perspectives of many people were sought to contribute to the conversation during this phase"

-Final Report (NCPR)

EDITORIAL

- **Priorities for the Plenary Council Agenda**
- **Women and Ministry in the Church**

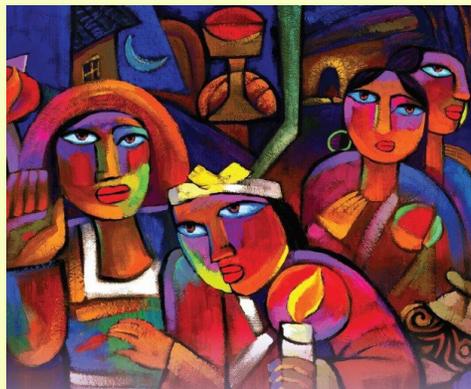
READ EDITORIAL [HERE](#)

a very limited extract follows:

The Catholic Church in Australia is currently in a huge existential crisis. It is drifting, 'off mission', and no longer a credible sign of the Kingdom of God. The evidence, beyond the shame of sexual abuse, is powerful: Mass attendance below 12 per cent across the nation, an ever diminishing use of the sacraments, an unhealthy reliance on priests from churches outside Australia, a continuing lack of transparency and accountability in governance, and discrimination against women.

As preparations for the Plenary Council proceed and the bishops prepare to set the Council agenda, Catholics for Renewal believes it is appropriate to ask the question: What should the agenda priorities be?

.....*Read the full editorial* [HERE](#)



Summary Document - Women and Ministry

The 5th incremental Summary Document "Women and Ministry" is now published and available [HERE](#) It is also available with the four prior Summary Documents in this set, within 'Document 93' on our website [Documents](#) page. These documents are designed as brief, accessible overviews, with links to source material.

(Image: From the cover of *Getting Back on Mission*, He Qi's painting 'After Resurrection' depicts women who were first to see and be empowered by Jesus at Easter dawn.)

Incremental set of 2020/2021 Plenary issue summary documents

- 1) **Sensus fidelium** (sense of faith of Christ's faithful) [Dec. 2019]
- 2) **Synodal governance** for a pastoral church [Jan. 2020]
- 3) **Co-responsibility**: sharing in church governance [Feb. 2020]
- 4) **Clericalism** [March 2020]
- 5) **Women and Ministry** [April 2020]
- 6) Priests and celibacy [May 2020]
- 7) Subsidiarity [June 2020]
- 8) Signs of the times [July 2020]

(other women and ministry resources are published at Document. No.96 on the website [Documents](#) page.



The following recent Catholics For Renewal website News & Opinion items provide a snapshot of current Church issues and may be accessed [HERE](#)

** Note that publication of links to these items does not necessarily indicate editorial support.*

Bishop Long calls for 'solidarity in time of distancing'

China resumes cross removals as virus subsides

Cardinal Pell: A decision with little certainty

Porter seeks 'final advice' on release of commission's Pell findings

St George feeds the dragon

What will happen when the shutdown ends?

Seminaries must hire, involve more women, Cardinal Ouellet says,

How social distancing may change the way we do church

Clericalism and the Pandemic

Inaccurate And Unfair Media Commentary On The High Court Decision On The Pell Case

What will we do when we finally get back to our parishes?

With US collection plates drying up, parishes race to SBA loans to avert layoffs

Extract from Pope Francis Urbi et Orbi ('to the city [of Rome] and to the world')

The limits of a pontificate (Part I)

A tale of two Pope Francises

It is not possible to divorce George Pell's acquittal from the Catholic church's history of child abuse

Cardinal Pell's Acquittal Was as Opaque as His Sexual Abuse Trial

Letter to the Laity, Religious and Clergy of the Archdiocese of Melbourne from Most Rev Peter A Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne.

Pell has found justice but his remaining days won't be peaceful

First assembly of Plenary Council postponed

Getting Back On Mission

Getting Back on Mission: Reforming Our Church Together - "... a realistic, hopeful and authentically Catholic roadmap for the forthcoming Australian Plenary Council....." (Frank Brennan SJ, AO)

Getting Back on Mission is forward-looking and founded on trust in the Spirit – it is about hope. The book focuses on Jesus' mission for the Church;

The book is available for \$29.95 from Garratt Publishing - Free Call: 1300 650 878 or online [HERE](#)



Donations, Comments, Inquiries;

DONATIONS [HERE](#).

(thanks to those who have responded)

Our work is a labour of love - much labour and much love for our Christ-given Church. Please help support our intensive voluntary and mostly self-funded ongoing work. Purchasing a copy of Get Back on Mission ([here](#)) will also help.

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