



**Catholics for Renewal - News Update**

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## Listening to and engaging with the People of God

Newsletter No.4 June 8 2016

Read **EDITORIAL** [HERE](#)



### **Extract only:**

*"... If we believe in listening to the people of God, then you must be aware of selectivity. We have to listen to all of them, not just the ones we think will give us the answers we want."*

- Alexander Lucie-Smith, "Synods are no longer just for a privileged few," *The Catholic Herald*, June 29, 2015.

At the beginning of 2016 Catholics for Renewal decided to focus its energies on the pastoral governance of the Church particularly a serious renewal of the ancient practice of listening to the faithful, respecting the *sensus fidelium* (the faithful's graced sense of the faith, which Vatican II decreed cannot err). Whilst continuing other important work such as our submissions to the Royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, we will give particular attention to:

- \* The indispensable involvement of all the local faithful in the selection of their bishops, and
- \* a similar process of collaboration in both the preparation and deliberations of the Plenary Council of the Australian Church in 2020.

This editorial outlines and directly links to compelling and timely Catholics For Renewal and other resources that offer powerful reasons why Catholic dioceses need to guarantee transparency and accountability in their governance through permanent structures which involve ongoing consultation with and engagement of all the faithful, not just the inner circle of a clerical. The resources include recent presentations on separate occasions by Peter Johnstone (member) and Peter Wilkinson, respectively on Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, and on the election of Bishops.

The National Catholic Reporter and other links below refer to the Pope's just-issued *motu proprio* giving certain Vatican dicasteries authority to initiate removal of bishops negligent on sexual abuse. Catholics for Renewal fears that the *motu proprio* is effectively more smoke and mirrors from the Vatican on clerical child sexual abuse.

Catholics for Renewal will continue to work for the reestablishment of those policies and procedures which were in place for the Church's first twelve hundred years whereby all the faithful of a diocese were integrally involved in the selection of their local bishops. The renewal of the Church requires that the hierarchy commit to listening to the *sensus fidelium*.

(read full Editorial [HERE](#) Image:ldswomenofgod.com)



## Why the delays in appointing Australia's Bishops?

Peter Wilkinson

First published in SWAG Winter 2016 Issue. Reprinted [HERE](#)

(also see "Significant recent SIP papers for download" below)

## Loris Capovilla, Pope John XXIII and Vatican II

David Timbs

(read full paper [HERE](#))

### Abstract:

Cardinal Loris Francesco Capovilla died on May 26, 2016 at the age of 100. He was probably one of the very few surviving people who knew personally and worked very closely with Cardinal Angelo Roncalli in his years as Patriarch of Venice and later when he became Pope John XXIII. Loris Capovilla was private secretary to the Cardinal/Pope from 1953 to 1962.



Capovilla learned deeply from Angelo Roncalli and his deep love for the Church, from his acute insights into the movements of history and from his keen sense of what Pope John called 'the signs of the time.' What Capovilla came to understand best and appreciate the most was what, within days of his election, inspired the new Pope John XXIII to decide to throw open the windows of the Church and to let in the fresh breeze of the Holy Spirit. Pope John's vision was decisively and dramatically 'writ large.' He decided to summon the Church's 2000+ bishops to Rome to hold a general Council. It has become known as the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council.

During the last decades of his life as priest, Archbishop and Cardinal, Capovilla has worked devotedly to keep the memories of his friend, 'Good Pope John' alive and the challenging vision of the Second Vatican Council Council before his fellow Catholics. (read full paper [HERE](#))



## Significant recent SIP papers for download

1. **Choosing the next Archbishop of Melbourne: how it should occur, and why this is important** (Peter Wilkinson 1 June 2016) [HERE](#)
2. **The Synod on the Family - the start of major reform?** (Peter Johnstone OAM 4 May 2016) [HERE](#)

(above Catalyst For Renewal events were at The Pumphouse Hotel)

## Forthcoming Event in July, Massimo Faggioli

An Evening with Massimo Faggioli

**“The Catholic Church and Francis in the International Situation Today”**

**Thursday 21st July 2016 at 7:30 pm. Admission: \$20.00**

**St Carthage’s Church, 123 Royal Parade Parkville, Vic 3052**

Massimo is being brought to Australia by the NCP for their conference next month and it's believed that this will be his only public appearance in Melbourne. Professor Faggioli is now regarded as one of the most significant commentators on the Catholic Church in the Post Vatican II era. Further Details and Flyer [HERE](#)

## News and Opinion Pieces

The following Catholics For Renewal website News & Opinion items may be read [HERE](#)

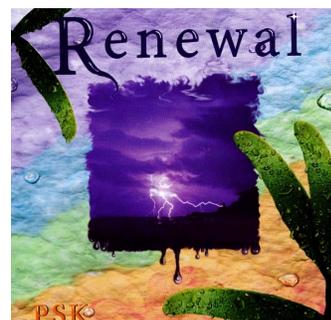
- Faith and reason not at odds, says engineer who became priest
- Women deacons and the shortcomings of history
- Pope's move to oust bishops negligent on sexual abuse gets mixed reviews
- Failures at the college of cardinals
- More Catholic priests opt for traditional uniform as public statement of faith
- The new tribunal : More smoke and mirrors
- Francis gives Vatican authority to initiate removal of bishops negligent on sexual abuse
- Pope Defines Process for Removing Bishops for Negligence in Abuse Cases
- Massimo Faggioli on "The Catholic Church and Francis in the International Situation Today"
- Francis to priests: Get your hands dirty; people aren't just 'cases'
- Detroit 'Synod 16'
- Prelate against Communion for remarried to lead US committee
- Spanish cardinal attacked over speech on family
- Church official says Vatican took years to act on abuse charges
- Chaput to chair U.S. bishops' working group on Amoris Laetitia implementation
- Campaigners for women's ordination have unprecedented meeting with Vatican representative
- Who would want to be a bishop?
- Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Plenary Meeting 5-12 May 2016, Summary
- How a paedophile priest hid in plain sight

## Comments? Inquiries?

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