

Catholics for Renewal - News Update



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A Church united by Christian faith

Newsletter No.5 August 4 2016

READ FULL EDITORIAL [HERE](#)

Editorial Extract

This Newsletter focuses on some of the attributes and qualities needed by the institutional Church if

it is to respond adequately to the scandal of Clerical Child Sexual Abuse, and looks beyond to our whole catholic faith.

Within our Church all of the 'People Of God' are united in faith, though not always equally. Journeying towards the shared faith that Christ taught and exemplified demands inclusion, openness, listening, collaboration, sound decision making, addressing failures, and renewal. Christ brought renewal and was a living model of the faith and practice we aspire to. As part of the process, renewal is unlikely to succeed without also listening to and engaging youth.

Catholics for Renewal has responded comprehensively to **Issues Paper 11 (Catholic Church Final Hearing) of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**. While it is expected that this response will be published on the Royal Commission's website we are publishing here an abridged form of the submission without the detailed footnotes. The submission has focussed on the grave impact of the Church's dysfunctional institutional governance in its response to the Royal Commission's Issues Paper 11. This is key to the institutional Church's unaccountable response to clerical child sexual abuse resulting in further sexual abuse of children throughout the world. The Church's dysfunctional governance has been tragically exposed in the clerical sexual abuse of children, involving injustice and cover-ups. The submission responds to the following Issuesread full Editorial [HERE](#)

Read the Catholics for Renewal abridged Royal Commission response [HERE](#)

Please note that the next issue of this Newsletter will report on the establishment of our proposed survey on the selection of a new archbishop for Melbourne when the Pope accepts the Canon Law prescribed retirement at 75 years, of Archbishop Denis Hart. In that regard note the following

Forthcoming Event:

On 5th October Dr Peter Wilkinson will speak on the topic Selecting Bishops – Is there a role for lay people? Details below (or [HERE](#))(above image: thesituationist.wordpress.com)

Clericalism and Sociopathy

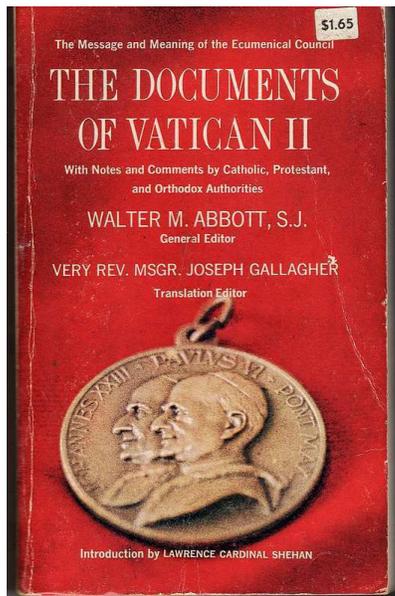
Patrick B. Edgar, DPA. First published in OMG 1 July 2016.
Edgar is President of the Association for the Rights of Catholics in the Church (ARCC).

Read full paper [HERE](#)



Extract:

.....By the 18th century, the priest had become more the enforcer of rules than servant of the people. One of the reforms of the Council of Trent had been to formalize seminary training and to discourage Catholics from reading the scripture themselves. The concern was that too many interpretations differed from the official Roman Church position, which was seen as part of the cause of the Reformation. This established a system in which the priest was deemed the expert on spiritual matters; the people were to rely only on him for answers to their religious questions. This kind of control actually worked to slow the impact of the Reformation on Catholics. On the other hand, it failed in the primary mission of the church: to bring people closer to the call of the Gospel. Instead, people became minimalist or legalistic; their main questions for “Father” were tied to what the threshold was for being in trouble, i.e., sin.....Read full paper [HERE](#)Image: ncronline.com



Time for a new reception of Vatican II, David Timbs

Abstract

One of the most encouraging aspects of Pope Francis’s ministry over the past three years is his clear and unambiguous commitment to recovering the teaching and inspiration of the Second Vatican Council which, shortly after his election, he described as, “the beautiful work of the Holy Spirit.” If ever there was a time when the People of God needs the Holy Spirit to recreate the ‘beautiful work’ of renewal and reform of the Church it is now.¹ Some thoughts are offered here on what may be required of the Church, both the universal and local, in order to respond afresh to the vision and the challenges of Vatican II. Read full paper [HERE](#)

Vatican II, Gaudium et Spes, Francis and Mercy

by David Timbs. This is an updated and on-published version of what first appeared in the April 2016 CatfR Newsletter

Extract

.....Pope Francis has, in his turn, made it clear that he has received Vatican II, its magisterium, its vision and challenge, and he believes that the work of interpreting the Council and applying its teachings must continue. He has committed himself to restore synodality, one of the Council’s principal fruits, and the vision of Vatican II at both the global and local levels of the Church. With the Archbishop of Constantinople, John Chrysostom (c. 349–407), Francis believes that “Church and synod are synonymous.” The opposition he faces in this transformative process, however, is considerable.....Read full paper [HERE](#)



PASTORAL CONSTITUTION
ON THE CHURCH IN THE
MODERN WORLD
GAUDIUM ET SPES
PROMULGATED BY
HIS HOLINESS, POPE PAUL VI
ON DECEMBER 7, 1965

The Jubilee for Women Priests: Report from Rome

Kate McElwee, First published in OMG, July 1 2016,

The Jubilee for Women Priests recently held in Rome and hosted by Women's Ordination Worldwide (WOW) intentionally coincided with the Vatican's Jubilee for Priests, and offered a celebration of a renewed image of the priesthood as inclusive and welcoming all people. This was a Jubilee of Firsts for WOW, which achieved unprecedented milestones for the women's ordination movement.

WOW secured a permit from the Comune di Roma to legally post around the city 100 meter-long photographic images of women priests by Italian artist Nausicaa Giulia Bianchi. This public art exhibit, tagged with the social media hashtag #OrdainWomen, sparked international attention and showcased Bianchi's four years of documenting women priests around the Americas and Europe.....Read full article [HERE](#)



Selecting Bishops – Is there a role for lay people?

Peter Wilkinson

Another Presentation by the Yarra Deanery (Neighbouring Parishes), Wednesday 5 October 2016.

Marian Centre, Mother Of God School, 66 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe East, commencing at 7.45pm sharp. Details [HERE](#)

News and Opinion Pieces

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

Francis institutes commission to study female deacons

I will hold judgment on Cardinal Pell until police give verdict, Pope tells journalists

Francis makes rousing call for millennials to get off couch and fix world

Francis tells Poles: God not in a history book, but peoples' real lives

Polish bishops vow to refuse communion to divorced and remarrieds

Cardinal Pell 'emphatically rejects' allegations of sexual abuse

Pell abuse saga reeks of incompetent policing

Father Sean Fagan RIP — a brief appreciation

Signers of document critiquing 'Amoris Laetitia' revealed

Francis mandates contemplative women religious changes, requests revision of constitutions

US documents implicate Vatican in alleged cover up

The crisis of liberal Catholicism under Francis

Huge gap separates Pope Francis from liturgical traditionalists

Pope Francis pushes for China breakthrough

"Catholic Church Must Change Its Teachings on Homosexuality"

After vote miscount, Canada's Anglicans approve gay marriage

Conscience versus constraint in Amoris Laetitia

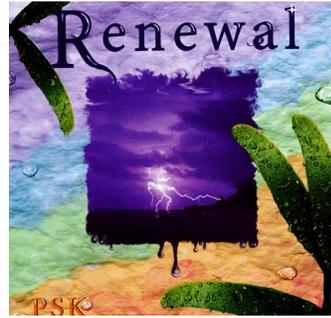
The next schism is already here

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