

**CWO 1993 – 2013 Twenty years of prayer and action
Challenging Institutional Sexism in the Roman Catholic Church
E-news October 2013 issue 64**

Welcome to issue 64 of the e-news. Editor Pat Brown. Please visit CWO's website www.catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk News and previous issues can be seen there. Please send items for November/December e-news by 20 November. Also contact me for further information about anything in this e-news where contact details are not given info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk

Our Annual Gathering was a great success. We are all grateful to Cathy W and her team for all their hard work.

The theme of knockers and other door furniture got the event into the Tablet and there was even a cartoon!

Our speakers for this Anniversary were all CWO members: Camilla, Katharine, Pippa and Myra. They were truly inspirational and exemplified that CWO is a movement which has great integrity, passion, humour and wisdom.



Our Anniversary Cake!

Pat Regini – sad news

Pat Regini has died after a long illness. Pat had been an active member for many years until she became ill. She was a wonderful inspiration to those lucky enough to have known her. May she rest in peace. We hope to have a full obituary in the next e-news

Beatitudes

Happy the Poor,
not those who have been pulverised
but those whose hearts are free.

Happy those who weep,
not those who whimper
but those who cry out.

Happy are the meek,
not the spineless
but the patient and tolerant.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for justice,
not those who brawl
but those who take a stand.

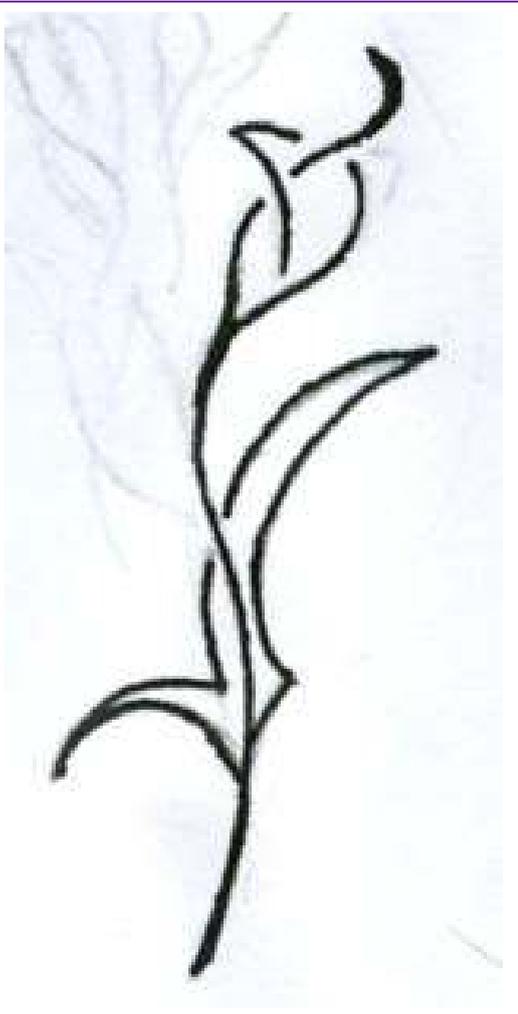
Happy the merciful,
not those who forget
but those who forgive.

Happy the pure of heart,
not those who make pretence of being angels
but those whose lives are transparent.

Happy the peaceful,
not those who avoid conflicts
but those who face up to them.

Happy those persecuted for the sake of justice,
not because they suffer
but because they love.

Pierre Jacob
English translation by Joe Mulrooney



Links

Interview with Pope Francis as it appeared in 'La Repubblica' on 1 October

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/speeches/2013/october/documents/pa-pa-francesco_20131002_intervista-scalfari_en.html

Pope Francis criticises focus on gays and abortions

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-24166434>

What kind of priests do we want

<http://www.adventgroup.org.uk/news-archive-mainmenu-66/417-what-kind-of-priests>

Latest newsletter from hermit Rachel Denton

http://www.stcuthbertshouse.co.uk/news/index_files/Page623.htm

Pope Francis – gender equality and idea of machismo

<http://ncronline.org/news/vatican/pope-francis-gender-equality-and-idea-machismo>

Women Deacons

I just want to take up one point from the report about the Woking consultation. I think it is not accurate to suggest, as Ann Stevens seems to have done, that there is now general regret that the C of E accepted the diaconate for women before priesthood - i.e. the gradualist approach. I think the general view of those who, like me, worked so long for ordination and rejoiced when it came at least to the diaconate in 1987, knew that it was a step along the way and a way of carrying many with us. This meant that when the debate about priesthood happened there was a long experience of women in sacramental ministry - and indeed leading parishes in some cases - to draw on. I found my 7 years as a deacon both joyful and frustrating but I learnt my craft then and we hit the ground running in 1994!

Anyway...we got there (almost) and I am personally eternally grateful for my Catholic friends who supported us so faithfully and lovingly.

Patience P

Catholic Truth Indeed!

In a leaflet published by the Catholic Truth Society and National Office for Vocation - "A Vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood," the first item under "How do you know if God is calling you to be a diocesan priest?" reads:

"First, the basics: only baptised men can become Catholic priests. This is not a form of prejudice or sexism, it is the Church being faithful to Christ and the Christian Tradition, where only men are appointed to stand 'in the person of Christ the Head' as Catholic priests. Women with a genuine call to ministry and service in the Church will find that fulfilled in other ways instead."

Thanks to Olive PI for sending this

On a lighter note.....

The West Somerset badger cull has been extended, until November 1, after government minister Owen Paterson said that "the badgers moved the goal posts. This inspired our poet laureate, the wonderful Carol Ann Duffy, to write the following

Because the Badgers are moving the goalposts.
The Ferrets are bending the rules.
The Weasels are taking the hindmost.
The Otters are downing tools.
The Hedgehogs are changing the game-plan
The Grass-snakes are spitting tacks.
The Squirrels are playing the blame-game.
The Skunks are twisting the facts.
The Pole-cats are upping the ante.
The Foxes are jumping the gun.
The Voles are crashing the party.
The Stoats are dismantling the Sun.
The Rabbits are taking the biscuit.
The Hares are losing the plot.
The Eagles are kicking the bucket.
The Rats are joining the dots.
The Herons are throwing a curveball.
The Shrews are fanning the flames.
The Field mice are sinking the 8-ball.
The Swans are passing the blame.
And the Pheasants are draining the oil from the tank-
but only the Bustards have broken the bank.

Hollie McNish, poet shamed by breastfeeding in public, has the last word
(video contains forthright language)

http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2013/07/05/hollie-mcnish-breastfeeding_n_3552062.html?utm_hp_ref=fb&src=sp&comm_ref=false

CWO Weekend Retreat at Noddfa, Penmaenmawr 27-29 June 2014

- All CWO members welcome – female and male.
- Come and recharge your spiritual batteries...
- As Participants we arrange the informal programme ourselves and choose to take part in all or some of the sessions.
- All sessions aim to help us in CWO to enrich our lives through reflection, prayer, liturgy, song, creative activity and fun!
- Enjoy the companionship, delicious food, beautiful gardens, sea and mountains of Noddfa on the North Wales Coast.
- Share the group retreat and enjoy the space too...
- Noddfa can be reached by road or rail. We arrive during Friday afternoon or early evening (27th) for supper at 6.30pm. We finish Sunday (29th) after lunch.

If space permits, it may be possible to book extra days on an individual basis before or after our weekend.

Please secure your place by sending cheque for £50 deposit (non-returnable) made out to Noddfa

(address omitted – CWO members only)

The full cost is £100. The remaining £50 (cheque or cash) is required by Noddfa during our weekend. Please contact me as soon as possible to book a place. You must book by 31st March at the latest. If we don't have enough people, the event will be cancelled and we need to give Noddfa this much notice.

Noddfa means refuge, a place of welcome and peace. www.noddfa.org.uk

CWO Saints

Mary MacKillop
Ruth Norton
John Hatfield
Celia Greenwood
Michael O'Gara
Sheila Houlihan
Mary Daly
Estelle White
Pat McGarron
Marcella Althaus-Reid
Astrid Klemz
Jean Palmer
Elizabeth Rendall
Maureen Brown
Tissa Balasuriya
Jack Sutcliffe
Pat Regini

Pray for us



Let nothing disturb
you, nothing
frighten you. All
things pass. God
does not change.
Patience achieves
everything.

Teresa of Avila

Websites

<http://www.acalltoaction.org.uk/>

Catholics inspired by Vatican II.

<http://www.gras.org.uk/>

Group for rescinding the Act of Synod

www.we-are-church.org.uk

We Are Church in the UK is a call to recognise that all the Baptised, are part of the Church.

<http://womenandthechurch.org/>

Campaign for women's equality in Church of England

<http://www.womensordination.org/>

News of Fr Bourgeois and many other issues

www.churchauthority.org

Sign the Jubilee Declaration

<http://www.ccc4vat2.org.uk>

Catholics for a Changing Church

<http://lgcm.org.uk/>

Lesbian and Gay Christians

<http://82.70.116.125/index.html>

Women Word Spirit

<http://www.womenpriests.org/index.asp>

Sign up for their regular newsletter

<http://ncronline3.org/>

National Catholic Reporter

<http://christianfeministnetwork.com/>

Christian Feminist Network - exploring faith and feminism

<http://www.spirituschristi.org>

A truly inclusive Catholic Church

<http://www.stcuthbertshouse.co.uk/>

Rachel is a professed hermit of the R C Diocese of Nottingham.

Prayer Link

Wednesday between 6.00 and 7.00pm, please pray for CWO, its members and its mission.

Saturdays at noon, join with women and men all over the world to pray for the work of Women's Ordination Worldwide (WOW!)

Please take part in one or both of these prayer networks if and when you can

The CWO Prayer

Moved by a compulsion of the Holy Spirit, we cannot remain ignorant of this injustice in our midst.

We long for all humanity to be acknowledged as equal, particularly among your community of the church, so we pray grieving for the lost gifts of so many women.

We ask you, God of all peoples, to bring insight and humility to all those in positions of dominance, and an understanding that the ascended Lord called us all to act doing Christ's work here and now.

We ask this of you, God our Creator, Jesus our Redeemer, Spirit our Sustainer