



NOVEMBER 7 & 8 – THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B

Issue Number 334

ANGLICANS BECOMING CATHOLICS

The Note from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith dated October 20 about Anglicans being invited to become Catholics has caused some discussion in the parish and much confusion. The move has caused quite a stir in ecumenical circles and equal amounts of anger from both Catholics and Anglicans.

All governments throughout the world rely on 'leaks' to test public opinion. The Holy See is no different. This news, however, is a very public 'leak', coming before Pope Benedict has said anything official about Anglicans entering the Catholic Church. The Note comes from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. So what's all the fuss about?

Cradle Anglicans have always been 'converting' to Catholicism. In more recent times, Tony Blair, the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, is the most high profile person to 'swim the Tiber'. It is not a one-way swim, however, as our own Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, from a devout Catholic family, shows. He has gone the other way and now worships every Sunday with the Anglicans. Not a few Catholic priests have also become Anglicans and then Anglican priests, in order to marry and have a family.

When, in 1992, the Church of England voted for the ordination of women, Cardinal Basil Hume ordained many married Anglican priests who converted to Catholicism. After all, he reasoned, it was only in the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church that the discipline of celibacy was imposed. Catholics from Lebanon, Iraq, Greece and other parts of the East know that their priests in those countries marry and have families. He put the case to Cardinal Ratzinger, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, arguing that Anglicans were special, and he won the day. After all, the Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism, stated, "Among those in which Catholic traditions and institutions in part continue to exist, the Anglican Communion occupies a special place." Many of the dioceses in England now have a high proportion of ex-Anglicans staffing parishes and the problems seem to be few.

In conversation, some parishioners bristle at the thought of having to pay for wives and families. (As

an aside, let me tell you, Father Eugene and I are not leading celibate lives so that you can put less money on the plate.) Such conversations only serve to point out the lousy job the Church has done over the years in explaining why the Latin Church imposes celibacy. This lack of education about the reasons for celibacy is one reason why we do not have young men seeking ordination to the priesthood, and until we address this single issue, things in this area will not improve.

What is different about the October 20 Note from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is that Rome envisages whole sections of the Anglican Church, perhaps entire Anglican parishes, would secede from Canterbury, become Catholics in the sense that they would be in union with the Bishop of Rome, but keep parts of their Anglican spiritually and liturgical ritual, be independent of the local Catholic bishop and be governed by their former Anglican bishop (if he is celibate) or former Anglican celibate priest who would be ordained a Catholic bishop. That

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group of people would become a diocese in their own right, independent from the local bishop of the diocese in which they live. The model Cardinal William Levada used at the press

conference was that of the military ordinariate.

All Catholics in the defence forces in Australia, as an example, belong to the Military Ordinariate. A military diocese has its own bishop. In Australia, it is Bishop Max Davis, a former navy chaplain. He resides in Canberra. It is Bishop Max who celebrates the Confirmations at the Richmond Air Force Base for instance. There are some problems associated with dual jurisdiction, but on the whole it works well.

While Cardinal Levada did not use the example of the Opus Dei Personal Prelature, he could have, because many of our parishioners understand this juridical model and would then comprehend the Personal Ordinariate for the Anglicans envisaged in the October 20 Note.

Cardinal Levada went on to say, "In the years since the Council, some Anglicans have abandoned the tradition of conferring Holy Orders only on men by calling women to the priesthood and the episcopacy. More recently, some segments of the Anglican Communion have departed from the common biblical

teaching on human sexuality - already clearly stated in the ARCIC document "Life in Christ" - by the ordination of openly homosexual clergy and the blessing of homosexual partnerships." This statement has caused some angst in Catholic circles because our tradition has been to accept converts only on the grounds that they want to become Catholics because they recognise the historical claims and truths of our Faith, not because they are opposed to the ordination of women or the ordination of openly gay men. The Anglican community is in some disarray at the moment and this move will weaken the Church of England even further.

Some difficult questions remain. What kind of seminary formation will candidates for the ex-Anglican, now Catholic priesthood have? Will ex-Catholic married priests, getting re-ordained as Anglicans, be eligible for re-admittance to the Catholic priesthood? What about closet-gay ex-Anglican clergy? How will disputes about discernibly Anglican property be resolved? Why has Rome got involved in the internal politics of the Church of England? Who is advising the Holy Father?

One answer to the last question revolves around the much more vexed question of the Lefebvrist. I think this Note has as much to do with the issue of the followers of the late Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre as it does with the Anglicans. I think this is all about giving the Lefebvrests their own Personal Prelature. To set up a whole canonical structure for the disaffected seems to be going overboard.

One can only guess what this will do to the Archbishop of Canterbury, already embattled and presiding over an increasing fractious church, and his relations with Rome. The last paragraph of the Note says, "In the light of these developments, the Personal Ordinariates established by the Apostolic Constitution can be seen as another step toward the realisation [of] the aspiration for full, visible union in the Church of Christ, one of the principal goals of the ecumenical movement". *The Guardian* newspaper claims that Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, has been brutally humiliated, being told only hours before about the Note. This in itself is a gross discourtesy. *The Times* said, "Poor Rowan. He's been well and truly done over. By all sides".

Pope Benedict might be ahead of us all, however. If he can solve the priest shortage by ordaining married men from the Anglican community, he is removing mandatory celibacy in the Western Church. As Pope he has this power. It might take a generation or two, but Latin Rite Catholics, watching this unfold might be more sympathetic to this development and, consequently, would be more comfortable with a married clergy. They may prefer to give up mandatory celibacy than Mass and the sacraments. Who knows what is in the mind of Pope Benedict?

Father John.

THE PARISH AGM will be held on Thursday 19 November at 7.30pm in the parish hall. All parishioners are invited to attend.

LITURGY CORNER

Even though the faithful no longer bring from their own possessions the bread and wine ... as in the past, nevertheless the rite of carrying up the offerings still retains its force and its spiritual significance (GIRM 73). As the bread and wine are brought to the altar by the faithful, the assembly is invited to place their sacrifices upon the altar. Occasionally this is interpreted in small groups with each of the assembly placing things upon the altar. This would be a misunderstanding of the moment - it is not things, other than bread and wine, that we are to bring, but our very selves. In the celebration of the Mass these spiritual offerings are made one with the eternal sacrifice of Christ as we are nourished by His Body and Blood as to become *one Body, one Spirit in Christ.*

The Summit

Today's Readings



First Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16. In a time of famine a widow shows great faith in God's word.

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28. Christ offered himself completely to God to win our salvation.

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44. In the pennies of those who are poor Jesus sees the integrity of faith.

Next week: 33rd Week in Ordinary Time - Year B
Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:11-14,18; Mark 13:24-32.

HOLY HOUR every Thursday from 8.00 to 9.00pm including Rosary, prayers, hymns & scripture reading. All welcome!

THANKS FROM GERALDINE to all those who attended her talk on Wednesday 28 or helped in any way. Since then people have expressed gratitude and some were touched by her talk. If anyone else believes they have received a healing or were helped in some special way, kindly contact the website www.divine-inspirations.org or talk to Fr Eugene.

REPARATION PRAYER GROUPS: One of the desired outcomes of Geraldine's talk on October 28 was the formation of Reparation Prayer Groups, to make reparation to God for the many ways He is offended in our world today. If you would like to be part of such a prayer group, kindly contact Fr Eugene.

DESPERATELY NEEDED: Volunteer drivers to take people to appointments through the week. Phone Marion Heron on 9659 9385 if you can assist.

CONGRATULATIONS: At the recent Diocesan SRE Mass special certificates were presented to some of our catechists honouring their commitment to this ministry. As these people represent our parish, may we, the parishioners, offer our congratulations and thanks to Sandra Merhi (10 yrs), Maria Barros (20 yrs) and Pauline Camilleri (30 yrs).

SALE

10% OFF EVERYTHING IN THE BOOKSHOP
(except Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars).

Next weekend **ONLY** 14/15 November

NOVEMBER MASSES

November is a traditional time to remember those who have died. In this Parish there is a Book of Remembrance on the sanctuary near the paschal candle. Those who wish to have their loved ones remembered are asked to include the names on the special November Mass offerings envelopes, and the Parish will add their names to the book. Only the names of recently deceased and anniversaries will be noted in the bulletin. Regarding the offerings amount, a decision by the Australian Bishops' Conference has noted that November Mass offerings are \$20 per Mass. However, St Bernadette's Parish will always continue to offer masses for the intentions of its parishioners, irrespective of the amount offered.

Parishioners are also invited to place a photo of any recently deceased parishioner or relative on a board which will be available in the Church foyer. Please place the name of the deceased person on the back of the photo together with details of the sender's name, address and phone number in case the photo is left behind or lost.

DIOCESAN WORKS FUND APPEAL

The DWF Appeal will be held in our parish next weekend. Our quota for this appeal is \$26,909. We ask you to be generous in your giving to prevent a large shortfall having to be met from parish funds..

ST BERNADETTE'S CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP invites you to *An Introduction to Christian Meditation* and afternoon tea next Saturday 14 November from 1.30 to 4.00pm in the Marian Centre. RSVP Marilou 9680 4531 or Lesley 9873 1321.

BOOKSHOP NEWS The 2009 Columban Calendar is available at the Bookshop for only \$7.00. Help our missionaries by buying one of the best religious calendars in the world.

Vinnies Christmas Cards are now available from the bookshop. A pack contains 10 cards and costs \$6.50. As well as being great value this is a major fund raiser for the Castle Hill SVdeP conference.

IT'S A BOY: Congratulations to Alice and David and son Mark, on the arrival last Monday of the latest addition to the Bradshaw household - baby Jacob (3.1kg). We look forward to hearing, once again, the pitter-patter of little Bradshaw feet in the choir loft.



HELPERS NEEDED in the parish hall on Wednesday, November 11 at 7.30pm to prepare planned giving envelopes for distribution.

LIFE BEGINS AT 50: Cards/Mahjong on Friday 13 November at 7.30pm in the Marian Centre.

Christmas Dinner on Sat 5 Dec, Parish Hall, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Three courses - \$50.00pp. Contact Howard for further information 9899 8983.

COME - SEE ... 21 November 2009

Topic: The Gift of Advent
Time: 12 noon. BYO lunch, then 1 to 4.45pm
Place: Marymount, 34 David Rd, Castle Hill
Cost: \$5.00
RSVP: 17 November to the parish office. **Sr Judy**



Youth & Young Adults Ministry

LIFE Nights presents (for Grades 8 to 12 and bring a friend.) **Beach day - 14th November**

10:00 at the church for car pooling to Collaroy beach & back at the church by 4:30. RSVP to ym@stbernadette.org.au by 12th Nov. Bring packed lunch or money for lunch and swim gear. If you are under 18yrs you must bring a note from parents permitting you to be driven by a leader of the parish.



Into LIFE is this Monday from 7 - 8.30pm in the parish hall. Bring \$2 donation for food & drink. All in Years 6 - 8 are welcome to attend.

SUMMER CAMP 2010 - Make sure you come along to this fantastic annual event (18 to 21 January). Four fun-filled days of beach, crazy activities, friends and faith and a great way to start the new year! More information will be available soon. Keep a keen eye online at www.lifeteenaustralia.com and make sure you don't miss out on your spot!

CONGRATULATIONS to all who have finished exams. We thank God for helping all those who have made it through their exams and assignments and pray for those still working away. May all of the time spent preparing and studying be blessed with good results.



Christmas Hampers

On Sunday 13th December at 6.00pm, the annual Christmas Hamper Mass will be



celebrated. Once again we are looking for your generous support of this Parish initiative to bring the spirit of Christmas into the homes of needy families who struggle to meet the basic necessities of life.

Firstly, we need your donation of hampers, so kindly take a label from the foyer and return it to the church on the weekend of 12/13 December.

Please read the information on the notice board regarding the assembly of the Hampers.

We ask for consistent sizing of the hampers, not only for the handling but also for equitable distribution to the receiving families.

Secondly, we need your support in helping us manage the logistics of this appeal; in sorting the hampers within the Parish Hall and then distributing them to the families on Tuesday 15th December. A work sheet has been posted on the notice board in the church foyer. Please indicate the times you are available to help or call Maureen Scully on 9634 6925.

Prayer for the *Year of the Priest, 2009 - 2010*

Loving God,
You have given your church men to fulfil the role of priest. May they have the courage and strength to lead your people ever closer to you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Bernadette's Parish Community
Parish House, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Telephone 9634 2622 Fax 9899 3511 Email: admin@stbernadette.org.au
 Web page: http://www.stbernadette.org.au

Parish Staff

Fr John Boyle, Parish Priest
 Fr Eugene Szondi, Assistant Priest
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate
 Mr Luke Hackett, Pastoral Associate (Youth)
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 Mr Michael Watson, Maintenance Co-ordinator
 Mr Darren Edwards, Maintenance

Mass Times for this Week

Sunday Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am &
 6pm Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass

Weekdays Mon 6.45am
 Tue 6.45 am
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15am
 Fri 6.45am, 9.15am
 Sat 8.00am

Mass on Public Holidays at 8.00am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am-9.00am; 4.30pm-5.30pm

Baptisms and Marriages: By appointment only. Contact the Parish House. Please note the Church law: Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised in the first few weeks. As soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867 §1]

St Bernadette's Parish School: Mr Paul Colyer, Principal 9634 2898

Please pray for Darel Mullen, Elena Ortiz and Florence Daley who have died recently and for the anniversary of Henry Linden Cromack (Nov 7)

Prayers for the Sick: Brian Mooney, Abel De Guzman, Carmen Nazareth and Adeline Chong.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – November 14 & 15

ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
VIGIL Philip Myers S6	Sue Calabrese John Geoghegan Daniel Mezger	Jessica Fearnside, Rebecca Barrett, Harry Reyden, Marjorie, Dominic & Natasha Orioles, Moira Mitchell, Jackie/Cassandra Holden, John Geoghegan
7.30AM Melvyn Myers S7	Ron Gledhill Jo Wickens Joe Menezes	Rose & Peter Huby, Gerard & Geraldine Kearney, Carmel Moriarty, Joyan Fife
9.00AM Terry O'Mara S8	Karin Abrams Tim Abrams Cathy Richmond	Christine Kelly, Rodney Jilek, John Hogan, John Leach, Hilary Fong, Joan Claxton, Gi Zenere, Mike Reidy, Yvette Braganza
10.30AM John Stone S9	Chris O'Loan Mila Mina Max Bosotti	Tim Abrams, Coney & Charlie Lau, Letty & Robert Yu, Ollie Nguy, Susana Lorenzo, Adel Boudib, Dawn Wickramasinghe

6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - November 15

Adult Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion		Musos	
Andrew Tomic James Madry	Adam Chioatto Belinda Lee Darian Jessup- Lonsdale	Jeremy Smith Martin Collins Stef Musgrave Sean Finucane Veronica Sahabu	Bass Daniel Ang	Singers Alison Wong Annabel Irawan Julia Calixto Sara Ang Maree Calabria Natalie Jones
Lectors Josh Chaney Mystique Nelis Nicci Heidegger			Piano Alice Bradshaw	
Altar Servers S10	Projectionist Josh Becker		Guitar Michael Smith	
Gift Preparation Ben Mules	Ushers Paul Musgrave Phillip Smith	Welcomers Ingrid Fizely Jana Fizely	Horns/Strings/ Winds Matthew Ashton	

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Gerard Kearney Rosalind Yeo	CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Andrea Tomic, Ivonne Purnomo, Eva Mustapic Krystyna Graczyk, Janice Bonaccorso, COUNTING (1st Collection) Barbara Ingram Marie Sammut	COUNTING (2nd Collection) Campion Fernando, Audrey & Sarah Markowski, John McDermott, Barrie Waters, Emelie De Leon BOOKSHOP Joanne Barrett / Carmel Moriarty / Bernadette Navarra / Barbara Halpin / Natasha Orioles
FLOWER ROSTER Lorraine O'Mara		