



Cardinal Newman Faith Resources / inc.

National Religious Education Resource Centre +Specialists in Family Catechetics. Non Profit.
+(Formerly Cardinal Newman Catechist Centre: 1974-2000 and
Cardinal Newman Catholic Bookshop: 2000-2003) ABN: 42 431 502 463

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PO Box 359 St Marys NSW 1790 AUSTRALIA

BookNews 48, 49

4th October, 2013 , Feast of St Francis of Assisi.

"I bless you Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth , for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children." Mat 11:25. Gospel reading for the feast day.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2012/13 will be remembered as the 'year of moves' for CNFRI. Finally we are settled into our new premises at St Marys. So, if you haven't already done so come and see us! These moves were possible because of the prayer, determination, hard work and financial support of a number of people. All of us at CNFRI are very grateful. In particular, I must acknowledge and thank our Manager, Fiona Gleeson, who has admirably shouldered an enormous burden, well beyond the call of duty.

At the close of each financial year, I shall provide a short summary of our financial performance for the previous year. We are providing this information to keep you informed of how we operate as a not-for-profit apostolate, and more importantly to demonstrate just how important your ongoing donations are. The table below is a "snapshot" of our audited statement of financial performance for 2012/13.

Income				
Stock Sales	Less Purchases of Stock:	Donations	Other Incidental Income	Total Income
\$86 802	- \$41 346	\$32 556	\$134	\$78,146
Expenses				
Includes advertising, bank charges, computer expenses, utility costs, insurance, postage, maintenance, removalist, superannuation, telephone, internet, wages				Total expenses \$72 457

On the surface, this shows an operating surplus of \$5,687. This would not have been possible without the donations we received to assist us in what has been a very expensive year with reduced income due to the moves. Some of the donations were large sums of money from donors who will be unable to make further donations. These donations helped us through the two moves.

We see a strong future in being able to serve the significant demand for faith resources in this area of western Sydney and beyond. New visitors are coming to the shop regularly, and it is a blessing to hear stories of people enquiring about the Catholic faith and looking for good Catholic faith resources. Our website upgrade is almost complete and will be launched in the forthcoming weeks.

So, stay tuned for our updated website and other improvements. I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter with some marvellous insights as usual from Fr James Tierney.

Michael Brearley, President of the Incorporated Association
Cardinal Newman Faith Resources Incorporated

A smooth and easy life, an uninterrupted enjoyment of the goods of Providence, full meals, soft raiment well furnished homed, the pleasures of sense, the feeling of security, the consciousness of wealth— these,if we are not careful, choke up all the avenues of soul which the light and breath of heaven might come."

From John Henry Newman: In My Own Words p.27

IN THIS ISSUE

1. Message from CNFRI President Michael Brearley

2. Tribute from a customer, Joy Mason

3 Donations

4 - 10 Book and media reviews

11. Handouts n. 93 Euthanasia

13. Handouts n. 94 Vocations

15 Handouts n. 95 Good Motives- Humanae Vitae

17. Handouts n. 96 The Holy One

NEWMAN PUBLICATIONS
Catholic Family Catechism;
Confirmation Kit for Home Preparation;
Fr P Murphy's Catechetics
Workbooks: Penance , Eucharist., Confirmation.

Heart Speaks to Heart;;
Bedside Prayer Card;
Reasoning Things Out;
Catholic Thinking;
Why We Believe.

Bush Boys and Cuthbert Joins the Bush Boys;
Bush Boys and Bush Ranger;
Bush on the Move;
New Boys in the Bush.

WEBSITE: book lists and prices; and Fr James Tierney's **Handouts**.

NEWSLETTER **BOOK NEWS**.

Prayer request

Staff member Julie Mackenzie Oliverio has been on leave after becoming seriously ill in March this year with an unexpected heart condition. She is making some recent improvement. Please keep Julie and her family in your prayers as they navigate this challenging time.

Fiona Gleeson
Manager

A Tribute to the Cardinal Newman Faith Resources Inc. from Mrs Joy Mason of Inverell 12-6-2013

Dear Manager of Cardinal Newman Faith Resources

Thank you very sincerely to Father Tierney for his wonderful Handouts.

I do hope he is in good health. Thank you for your great book lists in *BookNews*. Thank you for all in the Newsletter.

Please may I send my sincere congratulations to Marie [McNulty] and Carolyn [Giblin] for a magnificent contribution to keeping the "faith of our fathers" alive in Australia [See April 2013 *BookNews* re Marie and Carolyn's each receiving a Diocesan medal].

Personally, I was at my wits end with what was happening in the late seventies and eighties, until I found Father Tierney and the Newman Centre. I can assure Father Tierney and Marie and Carolyn that I will be eternally grateful to them, for showing me the way out of the chaos. With every newsletter I have received over those thirty years plus, I have received reassurance and comfort and the determination to stand firm in the "Faith of our Ancestors" (that is, in as much as a very frail sinner can). I thank Our Heavenly Father, His Son Jesus, and The Holy Spirit for the incredible mercy towards me in allowing me the contact with the Newman Centre. I know of many people far more intelligent than me who have not been given such a contact. I'll call it a lifeline!!

It is lovely that Marie and Carolyn have been officially recognised by Bishop Fisher. I am sure their names are already written in gold letters in heaven.

Thank you, Michael Brearley, for taking on the President's position. I wish you well and pray all will run smoothly for our. I imagine you will indeed be busy.

Well, I must close and get this posted before any more weeks go by.

May Jesus, Mary & Joseph bless and protect you and your families and your work, very specially, always.

Sincerely and with love and many, many 'thanks'.

Mrs Joy Mason

A GRATEFUL WORD IN RESPONSE

Marie, Carolyn and I are most grateful for Mrs Mason's heartfelt tribute. It has been our privilege, under God's Providence, to "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

There are three things more to add:

First, gratitude for "the time before", when Mrs Meg Bennett was the pioneer manager of the Cardinal Newman Catechist Centre, ably assisted by Mrs Bridie Groves (now RIP), from 1974. They got things started, now so long ago.


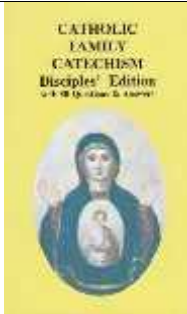
Secondly, now that Marie and Carolyn have handed on the apostolate to those they tutored, we are blest to have Miss Fiona Gleeson as Manager and Mrs Julie Mackenzie-Oliverio as an assistant. They also will have a blessed "portion with those who have well administered the Word of God from the beginning", meaning those who imitate the Blessed Virgin in "hearing the Word of God and keeping it." All of us are "links in a chain, a bond of connection between persons," because Heart speaks to Heart.

And thirdly, thanks for the lay association of Christ's faithful of eight laity and four priests which is the Cardinal Newman Faith Resources Inc. for taking on the ownership and responsibility of the whole enterprise. Mr Michael Brearley was its first President, then Mrs Helen Gordon, & now Michael once more. Further details of our history are to be found in the ten pages of *Vera Doctrina* -- True Doctrine, on website our www.cardinalnewman.com.au (at the end of the numerical listing of Handouts). It is a history of more than 40 years working to implement "the greatest concern of the Second Vatican Council, that the Sacred Deposit of Christian Doctrine should be guarded and taught more efficaciously."

Father James Tierney Priest-director 24-6-2013

Family Catechisms by Fr James Tierney

Both catechisms are ideal for families -- or those wanting to enhance their knowledge of Catholic faith using a concise text.

	
<p><i>CATHOLIC FAMILY CATECHISM Apostles Ed. II</i> Concise answers to 500 questions about Catholic doctrine. Includes scripture references and instructive illustrations 145 pages pocket size paperback \$5</p>	<p><i>CATHOLIC FAMILY CATECHISM Disciples Ed. II</i> Alternative format: 50 questions and answers with additional Scripture texts and illustrations. Extends to a broader age range. 129 pages pocket size paperback \$5</p>

ARE YOU ABLE TO ASSIST US IN OUR APOSTOLATE?

We have been grateful to receive generous donations from benefactors who assist in our valuable apostolate. Please be assured that you are remembered in our prayers.

We currently have several projects underway which include our website upgrade and stock management system upgrade both of which we regard as essential for our ongoing work.

You can donate in the following ways

- Direct Deposit to our Bank Account: ANZ Bank: BSB# 012 347 Acct: 2273 29572.

Please quote your *Booknews* number as the reference number. Your *Booknews* number can be found on your *Booknews* envelope, next to your name. Customers receiving *Booknews* via email, please contact us for your *Booknews* number.

For notification of EFT Remittance: fr@cardinalnewman.com.au or Fax: (02) 9637 3351

- Credit card, cheque, money order. See form below

DONATIONS

For Cheque/ Money order/ Credit card payments, please return this form to:

Cardinal Newman Faith Resources Inc., PO BOX 359 St Marys NSW 1790 Fax: (02) 9623 3181

NAME: _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL: _____ EMAIL _____

PAYMENT OPTION

Please tick this box if you require a receipt

☐

1. I enclose a cheque/money order for \$..... (suggested \$25.00 per year)

2. Please deduct \$..... from my credit card:

Card Number _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Mastercard / Visa

Expiry date ____/____/____

3 Digit verification No: _____

Name on card _____

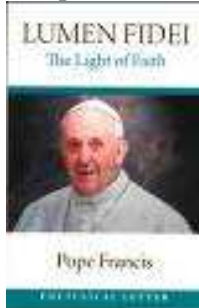
Signed _____

Date: _____

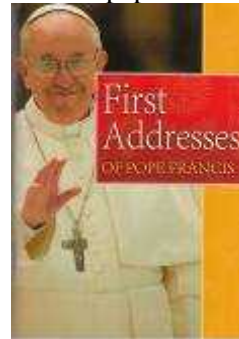
BOOKS AND MEDIA

RECENT RELEASES/ CURRENT INTEREST

Lumen Fidei: The Light Of Faith
 Encyclical Letter Pope Francis
 96 pages Paperback \$8.95



FIRST ADDRESSES OF POPE FRANCIS
 83 pages pocket sized paperback \$6.95

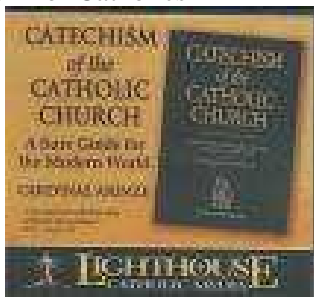


CD CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Cardinal Arinze

CD \$5

A powerful talk on the value of the catechism for Catholics



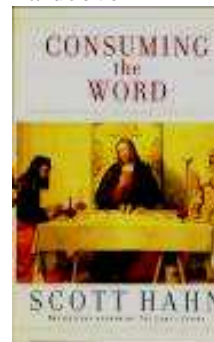
CONSUMING THE WORD: the New Testament and the Eucharist in the early church. Latest book by Prof Scott Hahn exploring the connection between the Mass and Scripture.

Professor Scott Hahn

159 pages

Hardcover

\$34.95



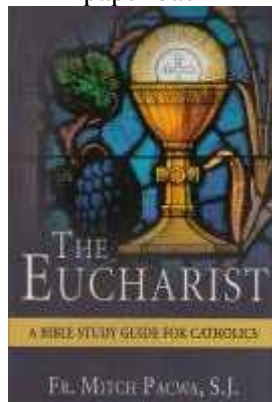
THE EUCHARIST: a Bible study for Catholics

Fr Mitch Pacwa

111 pages

paper back

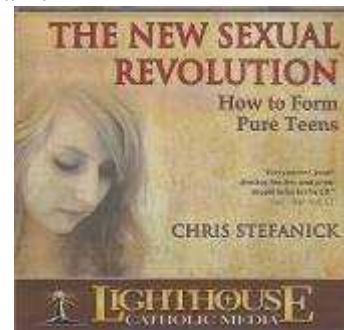
\$15.95



CD The NEW SEXUAL REVOLUTION: How to form Pure Teens. (Lighthouse Catholic Media)

Chris Stefanick

\$5



MARRIAGE AND FAMILY/ CURRENT AND MORAL ISSUES

Educational Guidance In Human Love

Outline for Sex Education

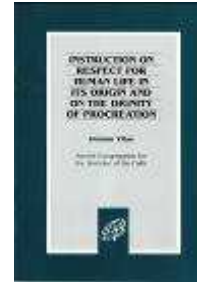
\$1 **SPECIAL**



Instruction On Respect For Human Life In Its Origin And On The Dignity Of Procreation

Donum Vitae

\$4 **SPECIAL**

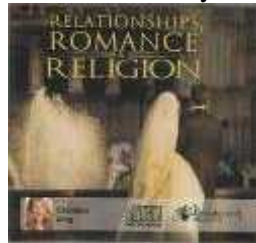


Audio CD Relationships, Romance & Religion

Christina King

\$10

A discussion on the relationship of body and soul from a Catholic perspective from this dynamic speaker

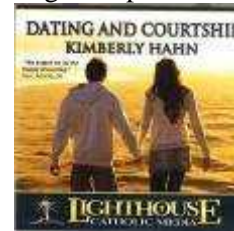


Audio CD Dating & Courtship

Kimberly Hahn

\$5

An exploration of the difference between dating and courtship along with practical advice..



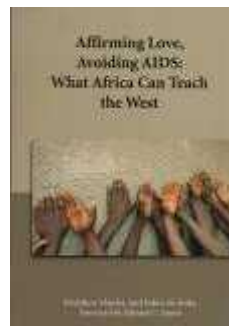
Affirming Love, Avoiding AIDS: What Africa Can Teach the West

Matthew Hanley & Jokin de Irala

202 Pages

Paperback

\$24.95



Life – Giving Love: embracing God's beautiful design for marriage

Kimberly Hahn

375 pages

Paperback

\$21.95



MISSALS

St Pauls Sunday Missal

Leatherette \$39.95

Hardcover

\$29.95



St Pauls Weekday Missal

\$79.95 leatherette

hardcover 59.95



DAILY MISSAL 1962

Baronius Press. Tridentine rite authorised by *Summorum Pontificum* Edition Flexible Leather 2,248pp
\$76.50



SCRIPTURE

Revised Standard Version (RSV) Catholic Edition Bibles

Ignatius Press

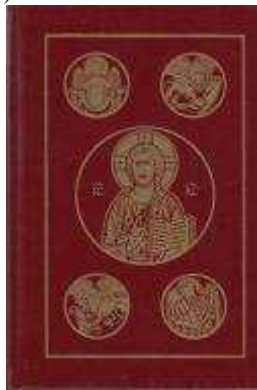
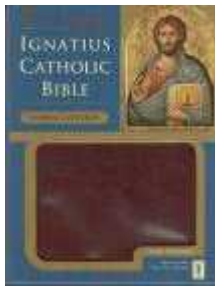
2nd Catholic Edition

\$47.95 compact

2nd Catholic Edition

\$52 Hardcover

2nd edition has helpful sub- headings, clear footnotes and cross references (one per line)



THE TABERNACLE

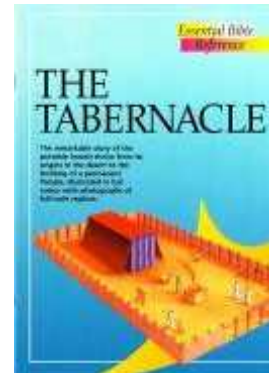
Tim Dowley

32 pages

Paperback

\$6.00

Ideal for those interested in studying the Old Testament. The Protestant author unfortunately does not mention the Church's understanding of the Tabernacle as prefiguring the tabernacle reserving the Blessed Sacrament or seeing in the Ark of the Covenant, a prefiguring Our Lady. However there are excellent graphics and easy to read information such as a calendar of Jewish feast days.



SAINTS/MYSTICS

Maria of Guadalupe: shaper of history; shaper of hearts

Paul Badde

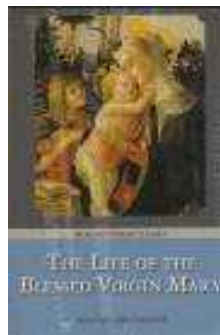
263 pages Paperback \$20



THE LIFE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Anne Catherine Emmerich

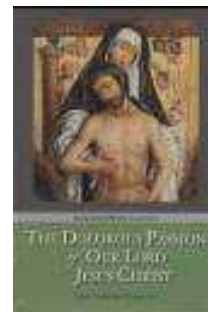
Paperback \$24.95



THE DOLOROUS PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Anne Catherine Emmerich

Paperback \$24.95



NOVENA PRAYER CARD TO ST.

PHILOMENA 30c A beautiful prayer card and picture of this powerful intercessor.

**St. Peregrine Novena and Prayers**

24 pages Paperback \$3.60

ST. PEREGRINE RELIC MEDAL \$2.70

Or buy together during October for \$5.50

**PRAYERS / DEVOTIONAL ITEMS****ST JUDE NOVENA AND PRAYERS**

Fr Daniel Lord

24 Pages Pocket Sized \$3.60

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

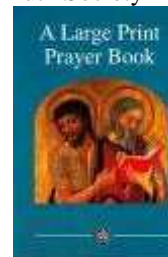
Catholic Truth Society

94 pages Pocket sized \$10.60

**A LARGE PRINT PRAYER BOOK**

Catholic Truth Society

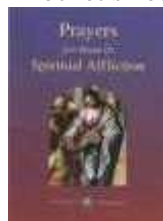
\$4.95

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN SPIRITUAL AFFLICTION**

Compiled by Archbishop Julian Porteous (now Hobart).

A selection of traditional and modern prayers to equip us for spiritual battle.

35 pages Pocket sized \$5.30

**ST GERARD NOVENA AND PRAYERS**

Fr Daniel Lord

24 Pages Pocket Sized \$3.60

**THE NINE FIRST FRIDAYS/ THE FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS LEAFLET**

\$1.50

Explanation of the purpose and promises as well as how to fulfil this devotion

**ST MONICA and the power of persistent prayer****Mike Aquilina and Mark Sullivan**

Aimed at parents praying for their children, includes a meditation on different aspects of persevering in prayer, including contemporary stories, quotes from St Augustine and short prayers.

127 Pages Paperback \$21.95

PIETA

Prayers Black and white edition

72 pages

Paperback

\$5.50



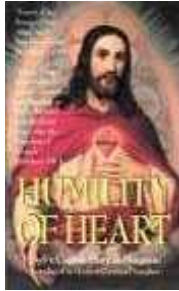
Please note that the promises attached to the prayers of St Bridget listed in this booklet do not have Church approval

GENERAL SPIRITUAL READING

HUMILITY OF HEART

Fr Cajetan Mary da Bergamo

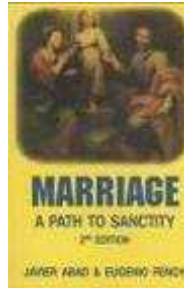
203 pages Paperback \$14.50



MARRIAGE: a path to

Sanctity (2nd ed.) J. Abad & E.

Fenoy
282 pages Paperback \$21.50



TREE And LEAF

J.R.R. Tolkien

150 pages Paperback \$20

Includes Tolkein's essay *On Fairy Stories*; vital reading for understanding Christianity hidden in the *Lord of the Rings*.

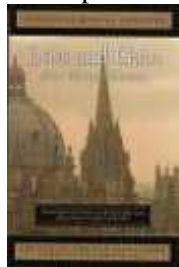


LOSS AND GAIN

Blessed John Henry Newman

John Henry Newman's first novel, about an Anglican student who converts to Catholicism.

400 pages Paperback \$19.90

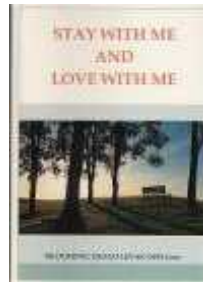


STAY WITH ME AND LOVE WITH ME

Br Dominic Levak

111 pages paperback \$15

Beautiful reflections from a Franciscan brother who is an abortion survivor

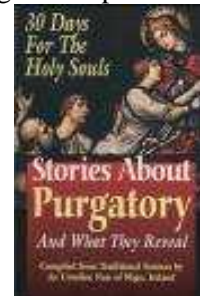


30 DAYS FOR THE HOLY

SOULS: Stories about Purgatory

And What They Reveal Compiled by an Ursuline Nun from Sligo, Ireland

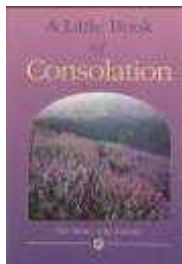
169 pages Paperback \$21



A LITTLE BOOK OF CONSOLATION for those who mourn

David Coombs

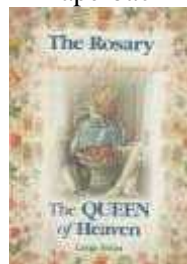
56 pages pocket sized \$4.95



The ROSARY: Roses of Prayer for the Queen of Heaven

large print. Meditations for each mystery; traditional illustrations
Fr D Lord. (Ed Dr Kelly Bowring)

64 pages Paperback \$4.50

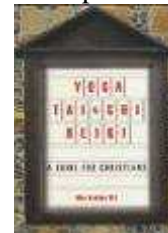


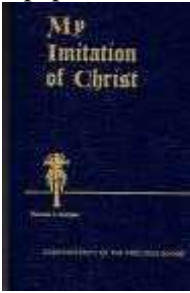


YOGA, TAI CHI, REIKI: A Guide For Christians

Max Sculley DLS

A critique of these popular practises, which are fundamentally incompatible with Christianity. Recommended by A/Bp Julian Porteus

180 pages Paperback \$24.95



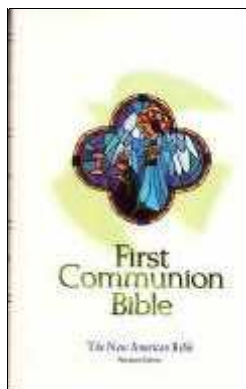
<p>MY IMITATION OF CHRIST Thomas à Kempis Confraternity of the Precious Blood edition. 474pp pocket sized paperback \$13.50</p> 	<p>FIVE LOAVES AND TWO FISH; meditations on the Eucharist Card. Nguyen Van Thuan 71 pages Pocket sized \$7 Meditations from a Cardinal imprisoned by the Communists. Recommended by Fr Tierney</p> 	<p>MY MEDITATION ON THE GOSPEL Fr James Sullivan The Confraternity of the Precious Blood edition 627 pages pocket sized paperback \$13</p> 
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CHILDREN'S BOOKS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/

FIRST COMMUNION BIBLE

Presentation page and rosary prayers with pictures are features of this indexed Bible
Imitation leather white cover \$38



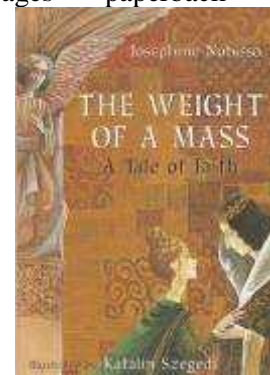
MY FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Updated children's missal with beautiful traditional pictures and prayers.
Cover available in boys or girls and with angels or statue of Our Lady in the background.
127 pages Hardcover pocket size \$16

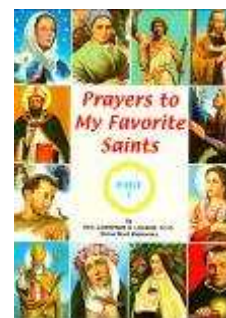
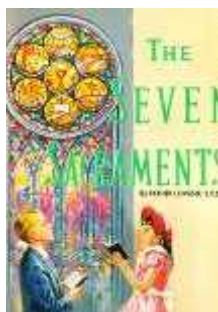
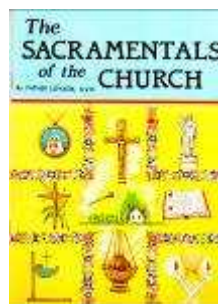


THE WEIGHT OF A MASS

Josephine Nobisso
Beautifully illustrated tale of a man who cannot afford to pay the baker for bread so offers to pay him by having a Mass said. But what is a Mass worth?
32 pages paperback \$20



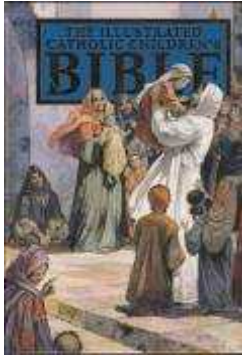
ST JOSEPH PICTURE BOOKS \$2.80 each



Children's Bibles

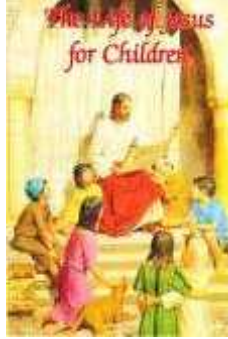
THE ILLUSTRATED CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S BIBLE

431 pp Hardcover \$39.90



THE LIFE OF JESUS FOR CHILDREN

Sr Karen Cavanaugh
32pp Paperback \$2.80



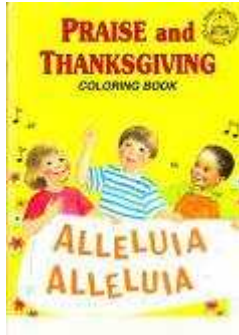
NEW CATHOLIC PICTURE BIBLE

Hardcover padded 232pp
\$14.95



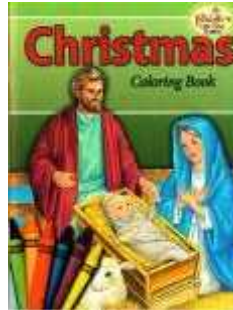
PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING COLORING BOOK

\$1.95



CHRISTMAS COLORING BOOK

\$3.30



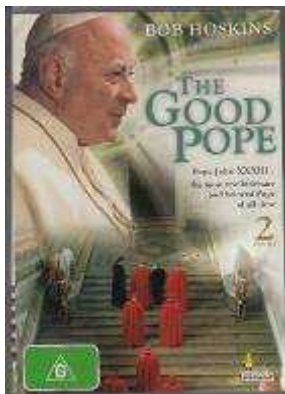
LASER STICKERS

30 or 60 per sheet \$3.60
Popular gifts for catechists to give their students..



DVDs

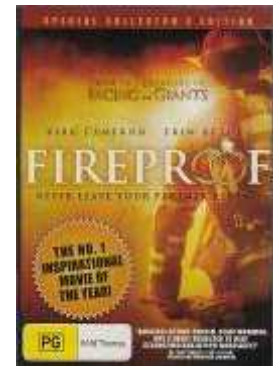
Movie The GOOD POPE. The life of Bl John XXIII \$18



Movie: BELLA \$25.50
Pro-life theme. A young woman faces an unplanned pregnancy



Movie: FIREPROOF \$13.95
Popular Christian movie about a firefighter, competent in his job yet battling to face challenge in his personal life.



The Coming of Compulsory Euthanasia... *The Waiting Room 2050 A.D.*

by Dale Francis

WHEN THEY had walked into the waiting room together, holding hands to give one another courage, the other people had looked at them and she felt a necessity to explain.

She sat there with her husband, looking around at the others in the room, then she turned to a man beside her. "My husband and I are exactly the same age, born on the same day, that's how we happen to be here together."

The others looked at them, smiled, then turned inward to their own thoughts, having had the mystery solved.

One of the most terrible things about The Waiting Room was being there alone, without someone who loved you and cared about you. She thought to herself that she and Franklin were among the fortunate ones, the only ones who had the same birthdays of all the couples she knew. It was the second time in The Waiting Room for both of them. They were fifty-five.

The first time was the hardest of all. It was the dread of a new experience. Not that she doubted the wisdom of the government decision. There were too many people, everyone knew that, too many people. It was only reasonable to insist that people who did not contribute sufficiently to society should be — she hated even to think the words — be put to sleep.

The truth was the population hadn't really grown all that much. But, well, just as once a half century ago she and the boy who was to become her husband belonged to the youthful majority, now they belonged to the elderly majority. It was as one of the senators had said, today's young people were too few to support a society that is predominantly aged.

But fifty years didn't seem at all old to her. She could understand why it was necessary to put all people more than 75 to sleep but fifty was only middle-aged. That was the age the government had decided on for the first of the Fives, though, and there was very little good that could come from arguing about it, one wouldn't want to be reported as uncooperative.

The first Fives, when they were 50, was bad because it was first but it was rare that anyone failed the first Five, only the criminal elements, the drunkards, the disruptive, the uncooperative. The second Five was different, there were more who didn't make it and for lesser reasons.

That was why she was worried about Franklin. He wasn't really doing very well at his job, he never had quite gotten used to the new computer equipment. His quality ratings hadn't been high, partly because Mr. Holden didn't seem to like him.

Ruth worried more about Franklin than herself. She was a volunteer worker at the 24-hour-a-day child care centre and she was good with children. One of

the sadnesses of her life was that they had never had any children. There had been diabetes on Franklin's side of the family, that had meant they never were able to get a licence to have a child. A child had been conceived but when she reported to the doctor after six months, government officials placed her in the hospital. One of the nurses had told her the baby was a little girl. In her mind she had named her little girl Rita, her favourite name. Rita would have been 25 now. The irony was she would be needed now, the government no longer required abortions and young people were encouraged to have children but 30 years ago it was different. After the death of Rita — she never could think of it as anything but death although abortions were no more registered than appendectomies in those days — Franklin had been sterilized and she had been sterilized too; it was one of the penalties for conceiving a child without a licence.

A tall, military-looking man was called and he went into one of the examining rooms. He walked straight, his face set. He must have been 60.

She remembered the procedure. Three officials sat there, the record before them. They asked questions, more to perceive alertness than for the answers. One of her questioners had been a woman who was very kind to her, who spoke softly, comforting her in her nervousness. When the interview was finished, the chairman of the committee nodded, either to the door behind them or to the door back to The Waiting Room. The woman had smiled and she knew they would point to The Waiting Room and they did.

A heavy-set woman was called, she looked as if she was only 50 and she laughed nervously and said, "Well, here goes nothing", speaking to no one in particular.

They called Ruth's name first. She held Franklin's hand. He had been sitting very quietly, his thin face set, there was the hint of tears in his eyes.

"It will be all right, Honey", she said.

There were two women and a man on the board, one of the women was the chairman. She looked at the record before her. "Are you nervous?" she asked. Ruth tried to speak but her mouth was dry and no words came out. She swallowed, "A little, I guess."

"Your supervisor says you are excellent with children. Did you have children yourself?"

Before Ruth could answer, the chairman said, "Oh yes, I see. No children." Ruth thought of Rita again.

The man spoke, "I see you do not live at the centre."

Ruth answered quickly, "I live with my husband. But I never have missed a day's work, not one day in nearly 10 years. My husband sees that I'm always at the centre on time."

They sat before her quietly. She knew they had

already decided, they always had decided before you came in for one of the Fives. The chairman, who did not smile, spoke. "That will be all". She pointed to the door leading back to The Waiting Room. Ruth felt a surge of happiness, another five years, another five years.

She stepped back into The Waiting Room. With a start she saw Franklin was not there. But of course, his name was called right after her own. The room was empty except for a man who had gone into the committee room as she left it.

Franklin would be coming back soon. She sat down and waited for him. The time moved slowly. The man came back into The Waiting Room, smiling happily. She waited for Franklin. The clock on the wall moved so slowly. She continued to wait.

Then a brisk young woman came into The Waiting Room, saw her and looked surprised. "Were you waiting to be called before the committee?" she asked.

"Oh, no," Ruth said, "I've been in. I'm waiting for Franklin, my husband, we have the same birthday, you know."

The young woman looked at her, sadly, almost as if she was going to cry. "I'm sorry," she said. "Everyone has gone. Perhaps your husband went on home."

"Oh, yes," Ruth said. "Of course, he went on home ahead of me. Of course, that's what happened, he went on home ahead of me."

She left The Waiting Room. She would stop at the supermarket. She would buy shrimp. Franklin liked shrimp. What a dinner they would have, they would celebrate, another five years for both of them, they would celebrate.

She kept thinking of the celebration, allowing no other thoughts into her mind, right up to the moment she turned the lock on the door and stepped into the empty apartment.

COMMENT

THIS text was circulating in 1973 when the big pro-life battle was the so-called conscience vote in parliament on abortion. At that time, many people could not see its relevance to euthanasia.

Now it is more relevant than ever.

The background is the 1960s and earlier.

Contraception seemed to solve a lot of problems. Most people did not realize it would lead on inexorably to abortion, the ultimate in child-abuse. They became accustomed to believe they had sovereign rights over their sexual powers, so, if contraception failed, they had a right to kill the unwanted child in the womb.

Abortion seemed to justify others sorts of killing. The soft-sell at present is voluntary euthanasia. People claim they have a right to suicide, to kill themselves if they want to, or at least for others to kill themselves, and to be helped to do so.

HARD CASES MAKE BAD LAW!

Voluntary euthanasia leads on inexorably to

compulsory euthanasia. The proof is in countries like Holland, where old people avoid going to doctors, because doctors might kill them against their will.

A Letter to *The Australian* 26-5-1995

By Jim Dominguez

LAST YEAR, concern about the implications of Leuthanasia was expressed in a report on medical ethics from a standing committee of the House of Lords which reviewed euthanasia in the Netherlands. It made the point that 'society's prohibition of intentional killing is the cornerstone of law and social relationships.'

The report went on:

We do not believe it is possible to set secure limits... on voluntary euthanasia. It would be next to impossible to ensure that all acts of euthanasia were truly voluntary. [Finally, it said] ...euthanasia is a 'violent solution which impoverishes the human (and medical) community.'

The case for euthanasia is flawed if only because it is impossible to quarantine such voluntary euthanasia from the 'slippery slope' syndrome.

Following the Nuremberg trials of Nazi doctors, one English commentator wrote: 'The beginnings at first were merely a subtle shift in emphasis in the basic attitude of the decisions. It started with the acceptance of the attitude, basic in the euthanasia movement, that there is such a thing as life not worthy to be lived. This attitude in its early stages concerned itself merely with the chronically sick. Gradually the sphere of those to be included in this category was enlarged to encompass the socially unproductive, the ideologically unwanted, the racially unwanted and, finally all non-Germans.'

But it was probably left to Malcolm Muggeridge to make the final comment on the undermining of human dignity explicit in euthanasia when he said: 'It is true that the delay in creating public pressure for euthanasia has been due to the fact that it was one of the war crimes cited in Nuremberg. So, for the *Guinness Book of Records*, you can submit this: that it takes just about 50 years in our humane society to transform a war crime into an act of compassion. That is exactly what has happened.'

FURTHER COMMENT

PEOPLE who are old and frail and in pain do not need lethal solutions. Nor should they be offered them, because it makes them feel they are a nuisance to their families and a financial burden on society. This is untrue and cruel. What the old and frail and in pain most need is someone to talk to.

Our compassionate treatment of those in pain already provides wonderful relief in palliative care.

Our compassionate treatment of the old and frail also provides meals-on-wheels. Those who deliver the meals soon discover their kindness also needs expression in listening to and talking with the lonely.

"Man does not live on bread alone but by every word which proceeds from the mouth of God."

"Clear, brief and easily assimilated by all"

Vocation?

Pope St Pius X, speaking to a group of cardinals, said:

What is most necessary at the present time is to have in each parish a group of laymen at the same time virtuous, enlightened, determined & really apostolic for which he depended on the FERVOUR OF PRIESTS.

Quoted in *The Soul of the Apostolate* by Dom Chautard, Part Four (D), p. 151

J.R.R. Tolkien:

Eomer: "How shall a man judge what to do in such times?"
Aragorn: "As he has ever judged. Good and evil have not changed since yesteryear, nor are they one thing among Elves and Dwarves and other among Men. It is a man's part to discern them..." [cf. 1 Kings 3:9-12]

The Lord of the Rings, chapter on 'The Riders of Rohan'.

God speaks to each of us via His Revelation AND in my own unique personal circumstances: so RULE UP THREE COLUMNS and JOT down your thoughts while praying...

NEEDS of the Church and the world; THE ADORATION OF GOD	MEETING THE NEEDS	with MY TALENTS
AUSTRALIA'S MORAL CRISIS is from ignoring God		
Atheism and its militant promotion of Godless immorality and unbelief often by governments, media, academics and schools; atheism is now a default-setting, with religion often reduced to a myth		Natural abilities from genetics
Economic Determinism: dollars \$ trump hearts ♥, profits trump workers hence <i>conditioning</i> to buy the cheapest (and to consume and waste) even when it's made with slave labour! Ignorance of subsidiarity and solidarity (social justice)		Talents acquired growing-up from father & mother, siblings, relatives, friends
School teachers often brainwashed government schools have become normative Religious and other 'private' schools a mistaken extravagance Children & Youth often brainwashed by their surroundings bad companions, 'stranger danger' on internet etc hence their lack of Religion, devotion and the cardinal virtues.	MATCH UP WHAT YOU CAN	Further Talents aquired from outside the home: use what you've got and acquire more, but remembering that "behaviour is purposive"
Scientists proclaim they have the fact, and Religion is mere feelings coupled to a Philosophy of Relativism that there is no Truth Evolution of man by blind chance Man-made global warming		
Sexual immoralities supported by civil law and considered 'normal'		
Feminist Philosophy of the interchangeability of the sexes abolition of motherhood, fatherhood, children, family... Contraception, masturbation, fornication, adultery Abortion, possibly criminal offence to oppose it, possibly infanticide Euthanasia, voluntary at first, then extermination of unwanted Marriage to be redefined (Orwell's 1984, Huxley's <i>Brave New World</i>) to include same-sex unions and further possibilities of bigamy, incest, polygamy, bestiality		WORKS OF MERCY Hungry Thirsty Naked Stranger Sick Imprisoned Dead and Sinners Ignorant Doubting Afflicted Grieving Bearing wrongs Forgiving injuries Praying for living & dead
CHURCH PROBLEMS: all the above, plus:		
The Trinity and the Incarnation of Christ must be central in our devotions		
Defeating Satan, Sin and Selfishness: Worldliness: Greed, Sloth The Lusts of the Flesh: Lust, Gluttony The Pride of Life: Pride, Anger, Envy		VIRTUES with God's grace: Faith Hope Charity and Prudence Justice Fortitude Temperance
Restoration of Catechetics, Confession, Conception (no contraception!) and the Mass Liturgy in parishes		
Helping the Lefebvrists in the Society of St Pius X; the Separated Brethren in Protestant communities; non-Christians, Modern Pagans and atheists.		
THE SHORTAGE OF LAY APOSTLES in family life, specially full-time homemaking mothers and fathers active in family, workplace and society		
SHORTAGE of good PRIESTS and RELIGIOUS and the conversion of the imperfect...		

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

→

→

→

"Here am I! Send me."

Reluctant Prophets

MOSES

told God the job was too difficult:

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" He said, "But I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought forth the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God upon this mountain." (Exodus 3:11-12)

Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'" (Exodus 4:1)

But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either heretofore or since Thou hast spoken to Thy servant; but I am slow of speech and of tongue." Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him dumb, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." But he said, "Oh, my Lord, send, I pray, some other person." Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and He said, "Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well; and behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you he will be glad in his heart. And you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. He shall speak for you to the people; and he shall be a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God." (Exodus 4:10-16)

Then Moses turned again to the LORD and said, O LORD, why hast thou done evil to this people? Why didst thou ever send me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in thy name, he has done evil to this people, and thou hast not delivered thy people at all. Exodus 5:22-23

But Moses said to the LORD, "Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips; how then shall Pharaoh listen to me?" And the LORD said to Moses, "See, I make you as God to Pharaoh; and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet..." (Exodus 6:30; 7:1)

ISAIAH

felt he lacked the qualifications:

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then flew one of the seraphim to me, having in his hand a burning coal which he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin forgiven." And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." And he said, "Go, and say to this people: Hear and hear, but do not understand; see and see, but do not perceive." Isa 6:5-9

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

...tempted as we are, yet without sin:

Thy will be done. Matthew 6:10
And going a little farther He fell on His face and prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt." Matthew 26:39

JEREMIAH

felt his inadequacy

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, I am only a youth; for to all to whom I send you you shall go, and whatever I command you you shall speak. Be not afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant." (Jeremiah 1:4-10)

ANANIAS

(not the Ananias in Acts 5:1-5)

thought God did not know His own business...

But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man [Saul], how much evil he has done to Thy saints at Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call upon Thy name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; for I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of My name." (Acts 9:13-16)

"FRODO"

Frodo: "I wish it need not have happened in my time."

Gandalf: "So do I, and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."

... ..

FRODO: "What a pity Bilbo did not stab that vile creature [Gollum] when he had a chance!"

GANDALF: "Pity? It was pity that stayed his hand. Pity and mercy..."

FRODO: "He [Gollum] deserves death."

GANDALF: "Deserves it! I daresay he does. Many that live deserve death. And some that die deserve life. Can you give it to them? Then do not be too eager to deal out death in judgement. ... My heart tells me that he [Gollum] has some part to play before the end; and when that comes, the pity of Bilbo may rule the fate of many — yours not least."

... ..

FRODO: "Why was I chosen?"

GANDALF: "Such questions cannot be answered. You may be sure that it was not for merit that others do not possess; not for power or wisdom, at any rate. But you have been chosen, and you must therefore use such strength and heart and wits as you have."

J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*
chapter on "The Shadow of the Past"

AND HIS GREATEST DISCIPLE SAID...

Behold, the handmaid of the Lord.

Be it done to me, according to Thy word.

O Mary, Mother of Christ the High Priest,
obtain for me the most important grace
of knowing my vocation in life.

Good Motives and with Good Means

THE CHURCH encourages big families — see *Humanae Vitae* n. 10 (below).

She also teaches that Natural Family Planning (NFP) can be morally justifiable for physical, economic, psychological and social reasons.

However, the status of NFP among Catholics is sometimes confused by varying translations of "just", "earnest", "serious" or "grave". Accurate translations of *Humanae Vitae* (HV) have "a just reason" or equivalent.

TRICKY WORDS: 'just', 'serious', 'grave'

MORAL THEOLOGY and Church Law use "just reasons" in the sense of "not trivial", and in sharp contrast with "grave" or "serious" (even if the latter are used interchangeably).

In ordinary English, "Be serious" simply means, "This is not trivial! Stop being flippant", and the meanings of "serious" can ascend through "honest", "earnest", to "grave", all depending on the context. Also "grave" means "weighty" as well as "serious", which can be "a life-or-death issue" for the soul.

In *The Code of Canon Law* (CCL) the Latin *iusta causa* (or *iusta ratio*) is always translated **just cause**, as it is in Moral Theology. When CCL uses the Latin *gravis*, our official English translation has **serious**. Therefore translating *iustus* in *Humanae Vitae* as **serious** tends to be misleading.

A 'grave' reason is required by any of the faithful (priest included) to excuse from Sunday Mass (canon 1248 §2), but priest can hear Confessions outside a proper Confessional for a 'just reason' (canon 933).

In canon 869 §2, the official translation of the CCL uses *seria ratio* in "a serious reason for doubting the validity" of a baptism that justifies conditional baptism. This is something more than a just reason, but scarcely grave.

And in canon 667 §4 "just" contrasts with "grave".

In ordinary Catholic usage, **serious** conjures up the idea of serious sin, i.e. grave sin, mortal sin. Also, to receive the Anointing of the Sick, a sick man must be "seriously ill" i.e. to have "begun to be in danger of death from sickness."

Finally, actions that **actively prevent** the procreation of children are gravely sinful, even if this prevention is for a good purpose such as the unitive purpose of marriage and its blessings and pleasures.

CONFUSION

WE MUST recognize that the Devil's present strategy is to lure men and women into the *politically correct* life-style of the new paganism, with its *anti-child* activities of **contraception, sterilization and abortion** (HV n. 14). His tactics have several fall-back positions, such as using NFP for unworthy worldly reasons. If this too fails to make sinners, he stirs up hostilities about the words used for NFP, and the meanings of those words.

THE FULL TEXT of *HUMANÆ VITÆ* n. 16

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/paul_vi

NOW AS We noted earlier, some people today raise the objection against this particular doctrine of the Church concerning the moral laws governing marriage, that human intelligence has both the right and responsibility to control those forces of irrational nature which come within its ambit and to direct them toward ends beneficial to man. Others ask on the same point whether it is not reasonable in so many cases to use artificial birth control if by so doing the harmony and peace of a family are better served and more suitable conditions are provided for the education of children already born. To this question We must give a clear reply. The Church is the first to praise and commend the application of human intelligence to an activity in which a rational creature such as man is so closely associated with his Creator. But she affirms that this must be done within the limits of the order of reality established by God.

If therefore there are **well-grounded reasons** (*iustae causae*) for spacing births, arising from the physical or psychological condition of husband or wife, or from external circumstances, the Church teaches that married people may then take advantage of the natural cycles immanent in the reproductive system and engage in marital intercourse only during those times that are infertile, thus controlling birth in a way which does not in the least offend the moral principles which We have just explained.

Neither the Church nor her doctrine is inconsistent when she considers it lawful for married people to take advantage of the infertile period but condemns as always unlawful the use of means which directly prevent conception, even when the reasons given for the later practice may appear to be upright and serious. In reality, these two cases are completely different. In the former the married couple rightly use a faculty provided them by nature. In the latter they obstruct the natural development of the generative process. It cannot be denied that in each case the married couple, for **acceptable reasons** (*probabiles rationes*), are both perfectly clear in their intention to avoid children and wish to make sure that none will result. But it is equally true that it is exclusively in the former case that husband and wife are ready to abstain from intercourse during the fertile period as often as for **reasonable motives** (*iustas rationes*) the birth of another child is not desirable. And when the infertile period recurs, they use their married intimacy to express their mutual love and safeguard their fidelity toward one another. In doing this they certainly give proof of a true and authentic love.

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

The 40th anniversary translation by Professor John Finnis from CTS (UK) has **sound reasons, acceptable reasons and sound reasons** respectively.

Confusion arises from otherwise excellent authorities.

Father John Hardon S.J.'s *Catholic Dictionary* quotes the first reference in bold typeface above as **serious motives**. He does not give the rest of HV n. 16.

Similarly, the Daughters of St Paul's *The Catechism of Modern Man* (also otherwise excellent) translates the first reference in bold as **serious motives**, the second as **plausible reasons**, and the third as **just motives**.

THE FULL TEXT of *Humanae Vitae* n. 10

MARRIED LOVE, therefore, requires of husband and wife the full awareness of their obligations in the matter of responsible parenthood, which today, rightly enough, is much insisted upon, but which at the same time should be rightly understood. Thus, we do well to consider responsible parenthood in the light of its varied legitimate and interrelated aspects.

With regard to the biological processes, responsible parenthood means an awareness of, and respect for, their proper functions. In the procreative faculty the human mind discerns biological laws that apply to the human person.

With regard to man's innate drives and emotions, responsible parenthood means that man's reason and will must exert control over them.

With regard to physical, economic, psychological and social conditions, responsible parenthood is exercised by those who prudently and generously decide to have more children, and by those who, for serious reasons (*seriis causis*) and with due respect to moral precepts, decide not to have additional children for either a certain or an indefinite period of time.

Responsible parenthood, as we use the term here, has one further essential aspect of paramount importance. It concerns the objective moral order which was established by God, and of which a right conscience is the true interpreter. In a word, the exercise of responsible parenthood requires that husband and wife, keeping a right order of priorities, recognize their own duties toward God, themselves, their families and human society.

From this it follows that they are not free to act as they choose in the service of transmitting life, as if it were wholly up to them to decide what is the right course to follow. On the contrary, they are bound to ensure that what they do corresponds to the will of God the Creator. The very nature of marriage and its use makes His will clear, while the constant teaching of the Church spells it out.

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Professor Finnis also has **serious** in his translation.

The Daughters of St Paul's otherwise excellent *The Catechism of Modern Man* has **grave motives** which is misleading, since *seriis causis* means "earnest" or "serious" motives, and choosing **earnest** rather than "grave" matches the three quotes in HV n. 16. (Their translation also has less-known words like 'fecund' and 'fecundation'. It would be clearer and equally accurate to use "fruitful" or "fertile".)

However, elsewhere in HV n. 10, their *Catechism* gives a good translation of *prudens consideratione magnanimo animo ducti, statuant numerosiores suscipere liberos*, "the deliberate and generous decision to raise a numerous family". This is a very important text, for which the Vatican website (cited above) has, "responsible parenthood... is exercised by those

who prudently and generously decide to have more children". Significantly, Pope Paul VI ranks this vital teaching first, and his approval of NFP second.

OTHER MAGISTERIAL DOCUMENTS

Pius XI's *Casti Connubii* (1931) lacks details on motives. Pius XII's *Address to the Midwives* (1951) n. 36 has "moral motives, sufficient and sure". We need moral theologians to guide us from contextual documents: should nn. 37, 38, 39, with *grave* in Italian, translate it as "serious", "weighty" or "grave" (as in an Italian-English dictionary)? N.B. n. 39 has "serious motives" and also "grave personal motives or deriving from exterior circumstances". The last suggests "weighty".

Blessed John Paul II's *Christian Family in the Modern World* (*Familiaris Consortio*, 1981) n. 32 says, "In the Christian view, chastity by no means signifies rejection of human sexuality or lack of esteem for it; rather it signifies spiritual energy capable of defending love from the perils of selfishness and aggressiveness, and able to advance it towards its full realization."

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* n. 2370 (in 1992) justifies NFP and simply gives references to nn. 11, 12, 14, 16 and 23 without details.

PROPHECIES NOW FULFILLED...

POPE PAUL VI has proved a true prophet in his teaching the Church's traditional morals. He foretold with the utmost accuracy the outcome of ignoring or defying God and His law. Thus HV n. 17 has predicted the outcomes of artificial birth control:-

1. **infidelity in marriage** and general lack of morality;
2. men, especially youth, with little respect for women, treating them as things for selfish enjoyment;
3. **governments promoting or enforcing immorality**;
4. **manikind making up its own morality** and losing its self-discipline and capacity to bring up the youth of the nation as morally responsible to God.

FURTHER READING

Fr Tony Percy's *Theology of the Body made Simple*, 2008, explains Blessed John Paul's theology of the body.

SUGGESTIONS

Do not disparage NFP as "natural family planning" rather **uphold marriage and the blessings of big families**.

Reject very kindly and very firmly all pretences at marriage and all the evil anti-child activities such as abortion, sterilization and contraception.

By our nature and God's grace, maturity and fulfilment usually come by way of marriage and parenthood, or their *sublimation* in the consecrated celibacy of priesthood and convent. **Marriage exists to populate Heaven with saints, and so do the priesthood and Religious Life.**

*Thou has made us for Thyself, O God,
and are hearts are restless until they rest in Thee.*

COLLINS LATIN DICTIONARY plus Grammar

Latin → English

iustus (adj.) → just, fair; right, regular, proper

serius (adj.) → earnest, serious

gravis (adj.) → heavy; pregnant, (but figuratively) serious.

English → Latin

just → *iustus, iustus*

earnest (in sense of 'serious') → *serius*.

serious → *gravis, serius, severus*.

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"Clear, brief and easily assimilated by all"

The Holy One

THE MYSTERY of God's Being is that He is The Holy One, 'a tremendous mystery and fascinating', a *Mysterium tremendum et fascinans*.

We do not deal here with the 'Mystery within the Mystery', the Mystery of the Blessed Trinity, nor of God's moral holiness, i.e. His Goodwill (God is love).

God, The Holy One is 'entirely other than' His creatures, 'wholly other'.

Why is God called The Holy One?

God is called The Holy One
because there is only One God,
a Mystery, Awesome and Wondrous.

Catholic Family Catechism Apostles' Edition II n. 16

Who is the Creator of everything?

God is the Creator of everything,
for He made all things from nothing;
He is THE HOLY ONE,
a Mystery Awesome and Wondrous,
the Supreme Being, the Supreme Spirit,
All-knowing, All-loving, Almighty and Eternal.

Catholic Family Catechism Disciples' Edition II n. 2

HOLY FEAR — The Fear of the Lord

HOLY FEAR is man's response in an experience of The Holy One, at being in God's presence. It is the Sense of the Sacred, of Awe and Wonder, that is, fear with fascination or enchantment.

At Confirmations, with hands held out over the candidates, the Bishop asks for them the spirit of the Fear of the Lord, the Holy Fear, "the spirit of WONDER AND AWE in your presence."

More servile fear (that love casts out, 1 John 4:18), lacks the solemn joy, wonder and fascination of the Holy Fear.

A THEOPHANY is a meeting with God face to face, seeing God and receiving His revelation. The theophany of Our Lord to the Wise Men unfolds further in His Baptism and at Cana. The liturgy uses a kindred word, *Epiphany*, 'a manifestation', for all three events.

HOLY FEAR in the Biblical Theophanies

Jacob's Dream

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place; and I did not know it." And he was afraid, and said, "How terrible is this place! This is none other than the House of God and the Gate of Heaven."

Genesis 28:16-17.

Moses at the Burning Bush

And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and lo, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed...

When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here am I." Then He said, "Do not come near; put off your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground"...

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO AM." And He said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'HE WHO IS has sent me to you.'"

Some translations have "I am who I am" and "I Am" has sent me to you. Exodus 3:2,4,5,13,14.

Moses after receiving the Ten Commandments

And Moses said to the people, "Do not fear; for God has come to prove you, and that the fear of Him may be before your eyes, that you may not sin." Exodus 20:20.

Our Lady at Annunciation and Visitation

And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God" ... And Mary said, "His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation." Luke 1:30,50, cf. Psalm 118(117):4,6.

Apostles at the Transfiguration

As the men [Moses & Elijah] were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah" ... As he said this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My Son, My Chosen; listen to Him!" Luke 9:33-35; cf. Moses; also Elijah in 1 Kings 19:7-13.

Sharing in the Holiness of The Holy One

...but as He Who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:15-16, quoting Leviticus 19:2 etc

FICTION: The Wind in the Willows

In Chapter 7, "The Piper at the Gates of Dawn," of Kenneth Grahame's animal fable, the characters Mole and Rat encounter God, who is depicted as Pan, a pagan myth. It encapsulates both features of The Holy Fear in the Biblical theophanies:

"This is the place of my song-dream, the place the music played to me," whispered the Rat, as if in a trance. "Here, in this holy place, here if anywhere, surely we shall find Him!"

Then suddenly the Mole felt a great Awe fall upon him, an awe that turned his muscles to water, bowed his head, and rooted his feet to the ground. It was no panic terror — indeed, he felt wonderfully at peace and happy — but it was an awe that smote and held him and, without seeing, he knew it could only mean that some august Presence was very, very near...

"Rat!" he found breath to whisper, shaking. "Are you afraid?"

"Afraid?" murmured the Rat, his eyes shining with unutterable love. "Afraid! Of Him. O, never, never! And yet — and yet — O, Mole, I am afraid!"

'Afraid and not afraid', the apparent contradiction of Holy Fear.

HOLY FEAR, The Sense of the Sacred at Mass

The removal of tabernacles from sanctuaries weakens the faithful's awareness of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, as does the reduction or abolition of genuflections. A parish church is a shrine of the Blessed Sacrament. Emmanuel's abiding presence does not detract from the renewal of His Sacrifice at the consecration; both are The Mystery of Faith.

The Old Rite of the Latin Mass sometimes seems a better expression of The Sacred. God's holiness is manifested by the priest's orientation at the altar, his gracious movements and gestures, silences, sacred words (even when unlearned), male servers, vestments, incense, bells, kneeling for Communion.

Benediction, too, strongly conveys the sense of the sacred.

The *Novus Ordo* in Latin or in its newly translated English can and must achieve the same, that is, foster Holy Fear:

...the liturgy must favour the sense of the sacred and make it shine forth. It must be permeated by the spirit of reverence, adoration and the glory of God.

Final Report, 1985 Extraordinary Synod, St Paul Edition p. 34.

A creature in revolt — **The Evil One** — who said, "I will not serve"

GOOD AND BAD ANGELS

Who are angels? (N.B. Angels are persons.)

Angels are spirit creatures
whom God made to adore Him in Heaven
but Lucifer and other angels rebelled
and BECAME SATAN and devils in Hell.

Catholic Family Catechism Disciples' Edition II n. 4

THE DEVIL'S TRADE IS TREACHERY

Satan is a Master Spy. He likes to remain unknown, unrecognized, ignored or even better, declared a fantasy.

Flannery's popular first edition of *The Documents of Vatican II and Post-Conciliar Documents* has an entry in the Index under Satan saying, "see Devil" — but there is no entry under Devil!

Espionage: Satan spies on our actions and infers our secret thoughts, **looking for chinks** in our armoury of virtues. His agents are other fallen angels (demons) and sinners:

But because of false brethren secretly brought in, who slipped in to **spy out our freedom** in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage... Galatians 2:4.

Sabotage: Satan's aim is to destroy God's grace and virtues in our immortal souls:

He was a murderer from the beginning. John 8:44.

Subversion: Satan is a wily serpent (Apocalypse 12:9) who 'moves right to go left'; he is the master of deceit:

The coming of the lawless one by the activity of Satan will be with all power and with pretended signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are to perish, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10; cf. Matthew 24:24.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

2851 In this petition ["Deliver us from Evil" — 'Evil' has a capital letter in the Latin, French and Italian editions], **evil is not an abstraction, but refers to a person, Satan, the Evil One, the angel who opposes God.** The devil (*diabolus*) is the one who "throws himself across" God's plan and his work of salvation accomplished in Christ.

2852 "A murderer from the beginning... a liar and the father of lies," Satan is "the deceiver of the whole world." Through him sin and death entered the world and by his definitive defeat all creation will be "freed from the corruption of sin and death." Now "we know that anyone born of God does not sin, but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are of God, and the whole world is in the power of the evil one."

The Lord who has taken away your sin and pardoned your faults also protects you and keeps you from the wiles of your adversary the devil, so that the enemy, who is accustomed to leading into sin, may not surprise you. One who entrusts himself to God does not dread the devil. "If God is for us, who is against us?" (St Ambrose)

The scripture quotes are from John 8:44; 1 John 5:18-19.

FURTHER TEXTS in Catechism of the Catholic Church

- Devil: 391, 1707, 2851
- Satan: 414, 538, 540, 566, 1086, 1237, 2113, 2116, 2119, 2388, 2852, 2864.

SCRIPTURE

I will put enmity between thee and the Woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel.

Genesis 3:15, 20; in new Vulgate, "he" not "she".

The life of man on earth is a warfare.

Job (Douni) 7:1; 14:14. Our spiritual warfare is fighting against selfishness, sin and Satan, and all his wiles and empty show.

Our weapons are not worldly.

2 Corinthians 10:4; 1 Peter 2:11; see also Matthew 4:1-11; 21:31ff.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

James 4:7.

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking some one to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experience of suffering is required of your brotherhood throughout the world.

1 Peter 5:8-9.

See also *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis.

FANTASY — *The Silmarillion* by J.R.R. Tolkien

The lies of Melchior, mighty and accursed, Morgoth Bauglir, power of terror and of hate, are a seed that does not die and cannot be destroyed, but continues to bear evil fruit even unto the latest days.

Melchior reminds us of Lucifer, and Morgoth when he became Satan.

BEWARE of the DEMYTHOLOGIZERS

Some theologians have reduced vital Catholic teachings to myths or fiction, without reality but with a moral:

- the Devil
- Guardian Angels, and angels generally
- The self-knowledge of Christ
- The miracles of Christ (or reduced to 'psychosomatic')
- The Resurrection of Christ from the dead
- The Virginal Conception of Christ
- The soul of Christ and all human souls
- The authenticity of the Scriptures.

Some breakaways from Christianity have even demythologized God — "God is a story, made up to make us good." Such is Jung, an atheist psychiatrist of the Viennese school, whose name is linked with Freud and Adler. Jung was happy for people to have a religion because it seemed to do them good, even though it was untrue... a placebo!

PRAYERS AGAINST THE DEVIL

OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY; *Onward, Christian Soldiers*, etc.

VISIT, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this dwelling, and drive far from it all the snares of the Enemy; may Thy holy angels, who keep us in peace, dwell here, and may Thy blessing be upon us always, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Night Prayer (Compline) on Solemnities (but not Sundays).

BLESSED MICHAEL, the Archangel, defend us in the hour of battle;

be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the Devil — may God restrain him, we humbly pray — and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast Satan down to hell, and with him, all the other evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.