

# the flock

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**IN THIS ISSUE OF ‘THE FLOCK’**  
**A DEAFENING SILENCE (p1)**  
**PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN FROM SERIOUS HARM (p3)**  
**EVOLUTION – A THEORY IN TROUBLE (p6)**  
**GOOD INITIATIVES WE SHOULD SUPPORT (p8)**  
**NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS (p9) DEAR FRIENDS (p11)**

## A DEAFENING SILENCE

**F**IRST we must thank all of you who responded to our request last Autumn to write to the authorities in Westminster and in Rome about the scandalous SOHO Masses where Catholics who openly admit to living homosexual lifestyles receive sacrilegious Communions every first and third Sunday. We know that a great many of you wrote because we received so many copies of your letters. These letters varied immensely but they were all excellent. Some were scholarly and others were very direct and to the point – like the one from an electrician who pointed out that just as he would be called to account if someone died because he rewired a house carelessly, so will any priest, bishop or cardinal be called to account who causes even one soul to be lost.

A couple of our supporters actually visited Rome and left their letter, together with all the evidence we had already posted, with a Monsignor who promised to place it on his Cardinal’s desk. We also leafleted the thousands at the Rosary Procession of Reparation in October. These good faithful Catholics were aghast to learn that the scandalous Masses were still continuing and they all promised to write to the authorities who might be able to help, here and in the Vatican. Both Westminster and Rome must have been inundated with letters from zealous Catholics.

**SO WHAT IS THE RESULT? A DEAFENING SILENCE!**

**As far as we know, nobody even received an acknowledgement, which is**

**unusual as most letters which go to Rome are at least acknowledged now. Certainly no action has been taken and the Masses with their regular grave sacrileges still continue and still continue to spread.**

Church teaching on homosexuality has never been given at these Masses but now open dissent is being promoted. For example on Sunday 17th January 2010 they altered the words of the hymn *One bread one body* in the Newsletter, so the congregation had to sing “*Black or white, **straight or gay**, woman or man no more...*”: they publicised a meeting on Vatican II by the dissenting group, *Catholics for a Changing Church* which is to be addressed by dissenters: they suggested signing the petition on [www.whatifwejustsaidwait.org](http://www.whatifwejustsaidwait.org) which is calling for a halt to the implementation of the new translation of the Mass and most serious of all they advertised their showing in February of a documentary film on Sister Jeanine Gramick. Sister Gramick was censured by the Vatican in 1999 because as the then Cardinal Ratzinger explained. *The ambiguities and errors of the approach of Fr Nugent and Sr Gramick have caused confusion among the Catholic people and harmed the community of the Church. For these reasons Sister Jeanine Gramick SSND and Father Robert Nugent SDS are permanently prohibited from any pastoral work involving homosexual persons.* So these ‘Catholics’ are spreading dissent from Catholic teaching and in these confused times leading the young people they especially target out of the Church.

We should make it clear that these homosexuals are adults with free will and we cannot stop them living as they choose. Also, they should attend Sunday Mass as all Catholics should. Our concern is that they cannot receive Our Lord in Holy Communion while they are living such a sinful life style without committing grave sacrilege. This is not discrimination against homosexuals. If Warwick Street Church were full of Catholic heterosexuals boasting about their adulterous or fraudulent lifestyles we would still pray in reparation as any grave sin always bars us from receiving Holy Communion.

Tragically, instead of giving these people the pastoral care they should receive, Catholic priests and bishops are not just allowing but actively encouraging them to commit sacrilege by setting up Masses especially for them and, without ever giving them appropriate Church teaching, distributing

Holy Communion to them all, even though they openly boast that they are practising homosexuals and have no intention of amending their lifestyles. **This should never happen and this is what we all tried so hard to get our lawful Shepherds to stop, using their God-given authority.**

What can we do ?

We cannot understand why even authorities in Rome have decided not to help these Catholics to save their souls we can only determine that we must pray for them more fervently. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ and for His sake we love them and must help them all we can. As even Rome will not take action we have decided we should strengthen our prayer with fasting, for, as Our Lord pointed out, some devils will only be cast out with fasting as well as prayer. You will all know how and when you can fast but we suggest that what ever else we do separately, we all unite to fast on the three Ember days in Lent, as Catholics used to. This year the Ember Days are on Wednesday 24th February, Friday 26th February and Saturday 27th February. If you are unable to fast from food perhaps you will be able to find a substitute like T.V.

It has been suggested that we also ask you to arrange Masses in reparation for these sacrileges and that some of our many priest readers might be able to offer Mass for this intention too.

We cannot over-estimate the power of prayer, especially when linked to fasting and of course we know that this time we will not be ignored.



## **PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN FROM SERIOUS HARM**

**Y**OU will probably know that the Government has decided to step up the sexual lessons given in schools and to include children in Primary and Infant schools in these compulsory sex instructions. The details of their plans are on the excellent SPUC flier enclosed with this

Mailing. The official excuse that this concentration on sex from a very early age will cut teenage pregnancies, is very opposite of the truth and there is absolutely no evidence that this is the case. Children in Catholic schools will also be taught that homosexual lifestyles are normal even though this contradicts *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

This will be very confusing and there is abundant evidence that talking about such an intimate matter as sex publicly in a classroom, damages the children, especially if they are young. Some of them respond by becoming disruptive at home and at school, most are distracted from their academic work and there is a distinct possibility that their future marriages may be affected. The Government and the Church in this country ignore all this evidence.

Unbelievably we cannot expect any support from the Bishops or the Catholic Education Service for England and Wales (CESEW) as they have accepted all the Government rulings even trying to justify them by saying children already learn to “name external body parts” etc. Have we really forced five year olds to stand up in class and name all the sexual organs in the human body before? Would any adults like to do this at a mixed gathering? Understandably young children are coming home in tears after being subjected to this acute embarrassment. One eight year old boy even told his mother ‘we asked if the girls could go outside’ but they were told ‘No.’

Bishop Malcolm McMahon of Bishop’s House, 27, Cavendish Road East, The Park, Nottingham.NG7 1BB, in case you want to write, who has now replaced Archbishop Vincent Nichols as the Bishop in overall charge of Catholic Education has also conceded. Indeed he has publicly stated that he is not concerned as to whether his Catholic teachers are living Catholic lives or not. This probably explains why a Catholic Primary School in Liverpool allows a head master who has left his wife and family to live with his boyfriend, another Catholic teacher, to continue in his post, although all the pupils and parents are aware of the scandalous situation.

Unbelievably this Bishop even tells us that he “is not opposed to civil unions” – see *The Tablet* 16th January 2010, where he also admits that “We have many gay people in education...” Here he is not only going against Church teaching but the rulings of his fellow bishops in England and Wales who strongly opposed civil unions in 2003. Needless to say Bishop

McMahon has done nothing so far to improve the religious instruction in Catholic schools. A combination of totally inadequate R.E. and explicit lessons about sex is a recipe for lost souls.

We must pray that the bishops have a change of heart. Otherwise they are going to let down the Catholics of this country like they did in 1967 when they accepted the Abortion Act which has now killed over seven million unborn children.

Fortunately parents of children up to the age of fifteen can, at present, withdraw their children from these harmful lessons. This is not a perfect solution as they will still encounter the information in the playground. One eight year old girl who was withdrawn told her mother when she returned to school the next day that her friends 'were all different'. She was picking up on the damage sex-ed does.

Parents may have to insist on their rights to protect their child from harmful sex-ed. State schools seem to have no problem allowing parents to withdraw their children but Catholic schools have not always been so accommodating. If you can collect several other parents who feel as concerned as you do to support you it will help. Also it would be a good idea to step up the religious instruction and devotional practices you teach at home to strengthen your children against this attack on their innocence.

Another solution, if you are in a position to do it, is to home-school your children. More and more parents – not all of them Catholic - are turning to home-schooling as the best way to protect their children from sex-ed and other undesirable outside influences.

I would like to end by mentioning a good Catholic Programme which by contrast obeys Vatican Guidelines on sex-ed in schools. It comes from Lancaster Diocese where the other excellent Documents on Schools, Parishes and Marriage emanated. It is called *This is my body* and it starts by teaching our right relationship with God before going on to other relationships which must be right with God also. Also it fully involves the parents so they can talk to their own children about sex using material provided by the programme and guided by the school. It is used throughout the Lancaster Diocese and by other Primary schools who have opted to use

it. If you would like to promote it in your area you can contact the publishers *Philos Educational Publishing* on 020 8405 0543 or on enquiries@thisismybody.co.uk <mailto:enquiries@thisismybody.co.uk>



## EVOLUTION – A THEORY IN TROUBLE

**L**AST November we were privileged to host a talk on Evolution by Hugh Owen, Founder and Director of *The Kolbe Centre for the study of Creation*. Hugh was on his way back to America after hosting a Conference in Rome called *The Scientific Impossibility of Evolution* which was addressed by professors and scientists from around the world. I would like to record some of the points Hugh made as I know blind faith in this theory succeeds in demolishing belief in Adam and Eve, the Fall, Original Sin and therefore our need for a Divine Redeemer – all essential to the Catholic Faith.

1. Hugh started by reminding us that at the end of the nineteenth century a number of natural scientists claimed to have discovered “irrefutable evidence” that contradicted the traditional Catholic teaching of Creation.
2. For example, geologist Lyell finding fossils in sedimentary rock formations in various places speculated that they had been laid down over millions of years and constituted a record of the evolution of different beings from common ancestors. Lyell stated publicly that his aim in writing it was to discredit the Bible.
3. Amateur naturalist Darwin witnessed the ‘fact’ that some animals and plants changed over time (micro-evolution) and decided this confirmed Lyell’s findings.
4. From this evolutionists jumped to the conclusion that every species now on earth had evolved from a very basic living organism. They confidently promised there would be evidence for this evolution “from particles to people” when they found the fossils of the numerous ‘in between species’ needed to enable even one species to eventually become another.
5. Now more and more scientists, from various academic disciplines and not

all of them Catholic, are publicly stating that as no fossils of transitional species have yet been found, this evidence is obviously not forthcoming. Other difficulties have also arisen.

6. For instance, geologists like Professor Guy Berthault have demonstrated that sedimentary rocks layers are far more likely to have been formed by flowing water in sideways sloping strata. Studies in the aftermath of Mount St Helen's volcanic eruption demonstrated that rock formations thought to have been formed over millions of years can be formed by rapidly moving water in a matter of days. Thus strata cannot be used to date the fossils found in it.

7. Also Molecular Biologist, Michael Denison, says now that recent discoveries have shown the astonishing complexity of the molecular machinery of life, we realise it is not possible to have come from merely unthinking, material things. An intelligent agent must be involved.

8. World famous geneticist, Dr John Sanford shows in his book *Genetic Entropy* that mutations are harmful and as they accumulate in an organism it is *devolving* not evolving.. He says modern research shows the human genome cannot be more than thousands of years old because if it had been collecting mutations at the present rate for ten thousand years Man would be extinct.

This modern research shows the evolution theory, although unfortunately it is still taught in schools and universities throughout the world as fact, is not only unproven but impossible to maintain. **This means there is absolutely no reason why anyone should question traditional and consistent Church teaching, about Adam and Eve, our first parents, the Fall, Original Sin and our need for a Divine Redeemer.**

Hugh Owen hopes to visit Britain in April. If you would like to contact him with a view to speaking, contact *Catholic Truth* on [editor@catholictruthscotland.com](mailto:editor@catholictruthscotland.com) <<mailto:editor@catholictruthscotland.com>>

Recently, in this country, Dr James le Fanu has joined the experts debunking evolution with his book *Why Us?* Pub. Harper Collins, ISBN978-0-00-712-027-7 Dr le Fanu approaches evolution from a medical point of view showing that there are also anatomical reasons why it is impossible.

## GOOD INITIATIVES WE SHOULD SUPPORT

**I**T is very encouraging to be able to list so many good things, mostly the fruits of good young priests and lay people – the future of the Church.

1. **Carmel Books** – It was a great loss when Robin Pannel died so unexpectedly, putting his Apostolate selling sound Catholic books at risk. But now Carmel Books has arisen stronger than ever. The new catalogue with eighty pages giving the titles and details of over a thousand books covering every aspect of Church teaching is spiritual reading in itself. E-mail enquiries@carmelbooks.co.uk <mailto:enquiries@carmelbooks.co.uk> or phone 01392 824255 for more details.

2. **Evangelium** – Authors have now produced a very encouraging DVD *Arise Once More* on reviving Catholic Britain. It can be obtained from St Anthony Communications, Mount Carmel, St Bride's Lane, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire. SA69 9HL. Tel. 01834 812643. Web-site; www.stant.com Price £9.95.

3. **Mary's Dowry Productions** produces excellent DVDs and books giving lives of English saints. Ideal for parents to watch with their children. Visit their web-site [www.mary'sdowryproductions.org](http://www.mary'sdowryproductions.org) <<http://www.mary'sdowryproductions.org/>> or e-mail:mail@mary'sdowryproductions.org. Tel. 07906 446078.

4. **C.U.T.** urges us to unplug our television sets to protect our children and ourselves from blasphemy, violence and anti-Catholicism. They suggest we watch EWTN or sound videos like those mentioned above. To receive their newsletter write to C.U.T. Waun Llydan, St David's Well, Llananno. Powys. LD1 6YP

5. **Summer Schools** where children can receive sound religious instruction and meet other good young Catholics are an important help to parents now most schools offer such inadequate R.E. The long running Summer School the late David Foster initiated is continuing under the name *Christ the King Summer School*. This year it will be running from Saturday 24th July to Saturday 31st July and if you are interested you should book as soon as possible. Phone Dominic Sullivan on his mobile on 0771 267 9763 or e-mail him on; dsullivan@los.ac <mailto:dsullivan@los.ac>

6. **Family Publications** has published a quite beautiful booklet, *A Cure D'Ars Prayer Book*. It contains prayers by St John Vianney and extracts from his sermons as well as prayers to him and meditations. It costs only £2.50 and is available from Family Publications, Denis Riches House,66, Sandford Lane, Kennington. Oxford. OX1 5RP.

Web-site; [www.familypublications.co.uk](http://www.familypublications.co.uk)

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

7. **Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue** has written a booklet on the *Priesthood Today* which is well worth reading and perhaps buying for your parish priest. It is available from the C.T.S. 25a, Ashley Place,London. SW1 1LT Tel.020 7834 1363.

8. **Finally**, I can't help being pleased that CASE the agency for evangelisation has closed. It seemed to achieve very little except spend our money. It over spent its income of £250,000 by £125,000 while the money allocated to Catholic education and formation was only £150,000. Its Director, Mgr Keith Balthrop left CASE last March so Mgr Andrew Faley would it up. Perhaps now some money can be spared to provide children in Catholic schools with sound American religious textbooks.



## NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

One of our younger readers, Gabrielle Willis, has written this for other young readers, but I feel it will help all of us whatever age we are.

**A**T the start of a new year we feel a sense of a new beginning, a fresh start. We often look back at the past year and see certain aspects of our life we would like to change. It is, therefore, a very good time to make a new year resolution! However, there are usually two problems which arise concerning our new year resolution; *what sort of resolution should we make? And what happens if we break it?*

## **What sort of resolution should we make?**

First of all, our main aim in life, and God's greatest desire for all of us, is to share in eternal happiness with Him in Heaven. In order to do this, we must strive to become holy, to become more like Christ. Therefore, it is a good idea to make our resolution with this in mind. We ought to ask ourselves; in the last year, what sins did we repeat over and over again? What sins are preventing us from becoming more like Christ?

## **One resolution at a time**

When making our resolution, we should aim to make *only one*. Saint Ignatius advised that those striving to become holy, ought to concentrate on one sin at a time due to our weak nature, which is a consequence of original sin. We may be left feeling discouraged if we take too much on board. Once we have conquered one sin, we can then move on to another, and make our next resolution!

## **We need God's help!**

It is very important to remember that we depend on God's help when trying to keep our new year resolution, and that we cannot grow in holiness by our own efforts. Everyday we are constantly faced with temptations from the devil, who is always trying to make us break God's Commandments. God understands how difficult it is for us to be good but wants us to trust that He is always ready to shower graces upon us, and help us on our journey of holiness. **All we have to do is ask!**

## **Take it a day at a time**

Our quest for holiness lasts our whole life, therefore, we must not expect to arrive at the same level of holiness the saints were at in a short space of time. It is a good idea to take on our struggle one day at a time and if we find ourselves failing with our resolution, we must avoid feeling discouraged. Instead, we should pick ourselves up and start again. Nothing pleases God more than when we place our trust in Him and keep persevering!

**'Do not allow yourself to be disheartened by any failure as long as you have done your best' - Mother Teresa**

## DEAR FRIENDS

**W**E are living in what the Chinese call ‘interesting times’. There are so many problems in both Church and State in this country that we need to keep up our prayers more zealously than ever.

We must, however, be grateful that the outrageous Equality Bill was dismissed by the House of Lords as it would have made life very difficult indeed for the Catholic Church. I am sure this was the result of prayer and of course the timely appeal to the House of Lords by the Anglican Bishops. However, attacks like this will continue as Society becomes more and more hostile to Christianity and especially to Catholicism.

We will need to be prepared to explain and defend our Faith, sometimes we will have to stand up and be counted in spite of hostility. Above all, we need bishops who will lead us by never hesitating to promote and defend true Church teaching whatever the cost to themselves.

None of this is going to be easy but if we remember how cheerfully our glorious Martyrs suffered for the Faith and if we put our trust in prayer it is not only possible, it could be seen as a glorious opportunity. After all, Our Blessed Lord promised that He would reward everyone who spoke up for him and his teaching in public by speaking up for them before the Father. To help with the prayers we are enclosing as a devotional item a Prayer for the Church in these difficult times. If you can manage to say it daily, with your prayer for the consecration of Russia to Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart, we and the Church in this country, will have the strength we need.

As always I must thank all of you for your loyal support, for your prayers for us and our work, for your many kind letters and for the donations which make this work possible.

Wishing every blessing on you and your families,

*Daphne McLeod*



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