

## **CWO e-news August 2008 issue 8**

### **CWO Annual Gathering**

Saturday, 11 October 2008

Morning session

76 Church Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 3EB

10.30am Arrivals refreshments

11.00 am – 1.00pm CWO AGM

1.00pm – 2.00pm buffet lunch

Afternoon session

Lower Bebington Methodist Church Hall (5 minutes from 76 Church Road)

2.00pm Resources Exhibition on Conservation

2.30pm Main speaker – Martin Deane, activist and Green Party Candidate

Small group discussion and preparation of questions

Tea

3.30 panel of speakers

5.00pm finish

Directions M53 junc. 4

Follow signs to Bromborough

Turn left at traffic lights on to Church Road

No 76 is 100 yards along on left next to local shop

Members in North West offer accommodation to some members for overnight stay

There is also a Travel inn at Bromborough

Contact

[info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk](mailto:info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk)

07904210010

### **Women's Ordination Worldwide Conference in Los Angeles in June 2010**

As the new WOW rep for CWO, I would like to inform CWO members that the most favoured dates for this conference are 10-13 June 2010. If we choose later available dates eg the following weekend we would have to share the campus (Claremont College) with another group. The next available dates fall into late July. As LA is well known for its very hot climate, July did not seem a very viable option. If people are teaching, the July dates still did not accommodate our school holidays. For those of us who are students or who work at University technically the university term would not be over but in reality we could get away for 10<sup>th</sup> June. For everyone else interested in going to the conference I hope the earlier June dates would be acceptable. Please would you let me know if there are any problems with the early June dates as I have to confirm these with the WOW Steering Committee.

Please contact me with items for next e-news.

Also let me know if you would like an electronic version of the AG flyer to send to people

[info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk](mailto:info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk)

## **Petition re. Rosemary Radford Ruether**

In April 2008, Dr. Rosemary Radford Ruether, one of the pioneers of feminist theology, was invited to be the holder of the Portman Chair in Roman Catholic Theology at the University of San Diego, California. In mid-July, this invitation was withdrawn (after Ruether's acceptance had been publicly announced). San Diego stated that the invitation had been cancelled 'on review of the specific purpose of the Portman Chair'. This purpose is stated to be "to bring an eminent theologian to the University of San Diego for one or two semesters. As envisioned by the donor and Msgr. Portman, chairholders are to be distinguished theologians who think from within the Catholic tradition while exploring and expressing the tradition in contemporary contexts."

The USA organisation, Women's Ordination Conference (WOC) and Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual (WATER) have written jointly to protest, and to express their concerns about academic freedom. An on-line petition was set up, which has been signed by CWO and many other Catholic groups, and a number of individual CWO members.

The on-line petition is now closed for signatures, but the full text of the letter from WOC and WATER can be viewed on the WOC website [www.womensordination.org](http://www.womensordination.org)

This is probably the best place for up-to-date news on the issue. You can still write to San Diego to give your views (contact details are on the WOC/WATER letter).

## **Vigil on the Piazza outside Westminster Cathedral on 28 September .**

This has been organised by London CWO who are now linking their vigils to prominent Sundays in the year. This one is close to the feast of St Therese of Lisieux, who expressed the desire to become an ordained priest.

## **Peace activist priest assists at women's ordination ceremony**

From National Catholic Reporter  
<http://ncronline3.org/drupal/?q=node/1565>

Janice Sevre-Duzcynska was ordained in Lexington, Kentucky by newly elected bishop Dana Reynolds and the homily was given by Father Roy Bourgeois.

Comments on the NCR's website reveal much of where the Spirit is blowing. There will be a much more in-depth report about this in the printed newsletter which is currently under way. Janice is known to several of us personally as is Dana Reynolds but we hope other members of CWO may find this event brings up many questions for us all.

## **Greenbelt 22 - 25 August 2008 - Cheltenham Racecourse**

We have booked a stall at this years Greenbelt so come and see us if you're visiting the festival.

Greenbelt gives space to a range of issues, especially those that are given little or no debate at other Christian events.

See <http://www.greenbelt.org.uk> for more details.

## CWO Merchandise

These items are great way to advertise CWO without costing you very much. I often see people in my rear view mirror admiring the wit of my car sticker! You can leave the pens lying around in places where it might be difficult to leave a CWO leaflet.

Very smart biro with CWO logo, website and `phone no	Purple/silver lettering	£0.80
Car stickers with CWO logo, website and `phone no	Purple on cream	£1.50
CWO badge	Purple/white lettering Renewed Ordained Ministry for Everyone	£1.00
Postage and packing		£0.50
Donation to CWO (optional)		
Total		

**Please contact** [info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk](mailto:info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk) for details of how to order

Please visit our sister site from time to time as there is much of interest to us there. [www.womenpriests.org](http://www.womenpriests.org). You can sign up for their regular newsletter

Jesus is giving us a win-win scenario, but what we always do with the gospel is make it into a win-lose. That's the only way the dualistic mind can think. You're either in or you're out.

That's why the world does not love us, because we don't know how to include, how to forgive, how to pour mercy and compassion and patience upon events as God—thank God—does with us.

God's grace plays the middle, expands the middle, redeems the middle, and if that's not true, what hope is there? What hope is there if we don't learn how to hold the contradictions?

Richard Rohr from *[Holding the Tension: The Power of Paradox](#)*