

CWO e-news August 2009 issue 19

Welcome to issue 19 of the e-news. Joint editors Pat Brown and Myra Poole. Please visit CWO's website www.catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk
Previous issues can be seen there.

Please send items for August enews by 10 September 2009.
Contact: info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk

CWO Annual Gathering Vocation to Love - Vocation to Priesthood

Saturday 10 October 2009 10.00am - 4.30pm

St Olave's Church Hall
Marygate lane
off Marygate
York
YO30 7BJ

10.00am arrive, refreshments

10.30am -1.00pm AGM

1.00pm - 2.0pm lunch

2.00pm - 4.30pm Talk and discussion followed by liturgy

On the occasion of her relics being in Yorkshire, we will be looking at the spirituality of St Therese with special reference to her call to priesthood and her wish for a renewed model of ordained ministry

[map](#)

God, you gave us our sister Thérèse, whose life, too short for us, was long enough to prove that no life, however brief, is without meaning.

Thérèse showed us a path to sanctity yet untrodden - her Little Way of life as a signpost to its fullness and completion. Through her we learned that in every moment of our lives the glory of the infinite is offered and may be grasped.

Grant us the simplicity of heart and let each of our moments dedicated to your service unite us with you. May our efforts be blessed by Thérèse who taught us how.

The CWO Newsletter

(That's the "physical" one with the purple cover.)

The newsletter editor welcomes articles, book reviews etc, perhaps developing some of the shorter items you've seen in or written for e-news. The deadline for the CWO Newsletter is 16th August.

Please submit items for the newsletter to info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk

If you haven't already done so, please let me know if you would like to receive the Newsletter in electronic form.

info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk

This saves printing and postage costs (and trees) but there will always be a physical newsletter for those who want it.

Meeting in Liverpool

7.00pm Monday, 14 September
St James' House
(next Anglican Cathedral) L1 7 BY

Hilary Cotton will be speaking to her London WATCH paper 'Women bishops - the real threat'

This paper looks at the current legislative proposals and the threats they pose for the Church and the Gospel, as well as for women themselves.

Contact info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk

I have never been able to find out precisely what feminism is: I only know that people call me a feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a door mat.
Rebecca West

Stand Up for Vatican II

I have been involved with Catholics for a Changing Church (CCC) for a few years and we have become increasingly concerned about the way the anti-Vatican II forces in the church have been making the running in recent times. This has led us to consider starting a campaign, working title *Stand up for Vatican II*. Nothing is set in stone and at this stage we are trying to establish if enough people and organisations might be interested in supporting us, if we receive a positive response we will move on to the next stage.

I trust you will feel able to offer your support even if only in being prepared to sign a petition, if you agree with the wording.

Please contact us to give support or for more information
standup4vat2@yahoo.co.uk

Derek Reeve

The Sacred Feminine

Throughout the earth men spoke the same language, with the same vocabulary... But they said to one another, 'Come, let us build ourselves a town and a tower with its top reaching heaven'" (Gen. 11:1- 4).

"In the world the powerful lord it over the others. This must not happen among you" (Luke 22:25-26).

Until quite recently we white males of the Northern Hemisphere have been holding all the cards, naming all the questions, and providing all the answers for the entire Christian era—except for those few golden years when God took poor flesh in Jesus. He took twelve Jewish men and tried to show them how they could be part of the solution instead of part of the problem. Unfortunately, it didn't work. Males continued to build towers and operate as lords over others, and the sacred feminine or human vulnerability just didn't fit in.

That is the world and the Church that I was born into. It has been preoccupied with domination and status-quo logic to this day and thus finds itself largely incapable of understanding, much less believing, most of the clear teaching of Jesus. Poverty, meekness or nonviolence, tears, justice-love, mercy, purity of heart, peacemaking and reconciliation, and bearing persecution...are his eight opening statements. But try to get elected in a Christian country or promoted to high office in the church today while seriously following those teachings! Yet we all agree that Jesus called them the "Eight Happinesses."

Richard Ruhr

Prayer Link

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

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

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

The CWO Prayer

*Moved by a compulsion of the Holy Spirit,
we cannot remain ignorant of this injustice in our midst.
We long for all humanity to be acknowledged as equal,
particularly among your community of the church,
so we pray grieving for the lost gifts of so many women.
We ask you, God of all peoples,
to bring insight and humility
to all those in positions of dominance,
and an understanding that the ascended Lord called us all to act
doing Christ's work here and now.
We ask this of you, God our Creator,
Jesus our Redeemer, Spirit our Sustainer*

Also on first Wednesday

A prayerful presence inside Westminster Cathedral is the logical progression of London CWO's witness outside the cathedral, which London CWO has persevered in for the last 14 years! This we hold in silence beneath the 8th Station with all its significance for us and wearing our purple scarves/stoles. Please join us if you are in London

Websites

www.womenwordspirit.org

Women, word, Spirit (formerly Catholic Women's Network)

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

Group for rescinding the Act of Synod

www.womenandthechurch.org

Women and the Church

<http://ncronline3.org/drupal/>

National Catholic Reporter - Joan Chittester is a regular contributor

www.womenpriests.org.

You can sign up for their regular newsletter

www.spirituschristi.org

An inclusive Catholic Church where all are welcome

www.womensordination.org More news of Rome Petition, Fr Bourgeois and many other issues

Do you have any CWO "How To Join" Forms?

The Bank of Ireland has changed their address (for the second time!) so any forms you have will have to be recycled. They can't be given to people.

Please email if you would like a copy of the form with the new address.

info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk

Spirit of God

*When I face the shadow of the institutionalised church and I fall into despondency,
Spirit of God,
strengthen in me the energy of your goodness.*

*When my world seems bleak,
when I walk with sadness written on my soul,
Spirit of God,
stir the energy of joy within me.*

*In those difficult times
When fear threatens to drown my trust in you,
Spirit of God,
renew in me the energy of trusting in you.*

*As we yearn to be faithful
amid the changes of inner and outer growth,
Spirit of God,
move us with the energy of your guidance.*

Amen.

From Prayermail