



CWO

A leading voice for women in the R C Church

eNews

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Issue 112

“Would you be a Catholic if you could?” we asked **EVE**

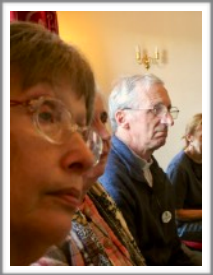


“In a heartbeat!” she said.

Eve Rose-Keenan, C of E priest and pioneer, talks to **CWO**

in this issue

OCTOBER



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So much news this month! We've done our best to condense it for you here.

I've been asking friends and colleagues across the country - has your parish even mentioned the **Pope's global letter of apology?** My straw poll reveals 3 out of 15 so far, and one of those was of the "yes, but the Church has been through stuff before" variety.

Only 2 parishes showed any meaningful engagement at all. Is it the same with women's place in the Church? We need to **liberate parishes to ask - where are our women?**

MARY RING, EDITOR

news@catholic-womens-ordination.co.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/CatholicWomensOrdination/>
<http://catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk/>
<https://twitter.com/CWOCampaign>



CWO Annual Gathering in York

Gathered to hear **Eve Rose-Keenan** at the **Bar Convent in York** on 29th Sept, CWO members were deeply impressed by her courage, her warmth and her transformative kindness. A survivor from abuse at the age of 10, Rose reclaimed her life with this central message: "Don't let the abuse define you. Reclaim your power!"



After many personal struggles, Eve was amongst the second wave of **women priests in the Church of England**, having carried out much of her training alongside the then-seminarians of Oscott, who were overwhelmingly supportive of her and of the idea of women in ministry.

Always drawn to chaplaincy work, the breaking news that 1,500 young girls in Rotherham had been abused for decades drove her to expand her vision into politics, and she was elected a Councillor in Rotherham, becoming the **first ordained woman Mayor in Britain** a year later.

In politics as Mayor (unlike her priesthood) as a priest and a survivor of abuse, she said that she never received hate mail, and nothing but 100% support in her work with young survivors. It has given her a feel for politics. She'd like to stand for Parliament. **Asked whether she would be a Catholic if she could, she replied: "In a heartbeat!"**



"Catholicism speaks to the poor, it speaks to the oppressed, it fights for justice"

"Let that justice apply to its women!" we said.
"Reclaim it!" she said.



"I was part of the second wave of women priests. They all assumed I was there because it was my husband - but it wasn't, it were me!"

"I loved Cardinal Hume. He put his arm around me: "This woman is my sister," he said"

"The young girl burst into tears. "What Church would want me?" she said."

"I got quite a lot of hatred at first (as a woman priest), hate emails, and hate mail. The worst thing was when my daughter was at the altar rail with her little hands out... when this priest .. refused her Communion... That was the worst."



"How has your home life with children nourished your ministry?"

"When I was a curate, and homeless people used to come to the door, they used to see them coming down the street. One would put the kettle on, one would start making the food for the homeless person, while I attended to his physical, otherwise spiritual needs... They are 100% behind it."

"I think, the most important thing, (for you, CWO) now, is not to give up..."

Because, look, it has happened. .. and it's so normal, now, in Anglicanism."

CWO AGM AT YORK



NatCog Farewell to PAT BROWN

FOR AS LONG as most of us can remember, Pat **has** been NatCog CWO. She has been indefatigable in campaigning on piazza and platform since the early days twenty-five years ago. Nothing has daunted her, not rain, nor freezing winds; not opposition, nor theological sophistries. Driven by a passionate desire to see justice

for women all over the world, she has travelled that world as our CWO rep on WOW (Women's Ordination Worldwide), raising funds for others to attend, handling the media, giving interviews from holiday beaches - and reporting faithfully back to us. May she enjoy some well-deserved rest - and may she not forget us, either!

AND TO RUTH WOOD ✦

*longer-serving even than Pat!



Remaining an active member of CWO Wales and South-West, Ruth is also taking a well-deserved leave of NatCog to spend a little more time with her parish, U3A and garden.

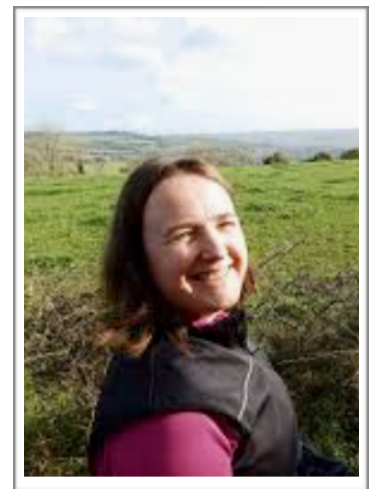
Those who know and love Ruth's outspoken bluntness treasure her wonderful gift for putting her finger on the point, and for taking few prisoners.

She too, like Pat, has turned up come rain, come shine, faithfully supporting our events, meetings and prayer times. She has also gained a reputation for a remarkable 'hit-rate' with her letters to the Tablet over the years, a testament to her literary skills. Ruth, we salute you! may you enjoy a little more well-deserved free time - and we'll see you soon anyway :-)

And in their place, NatCog welcomes



LISA LOVERIDGE, right active in the Green Party, Diocese of Clifton Justice and Peace Commission and the Laudato Si Implementation Group. Now a Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, she hopes to become an Interfaith Minister.



R H I A N N O N THOMPSON, left, keenly interested in ecumenical networks and who is the Catholic Church representative on the Chichester Christian Aid Committee. She is active in a range of work, trade union, church and community-based environmental campaigns, including Transition Network.

NatCog looks forwards to working with our two new members!

PARISHIONERS' CALL

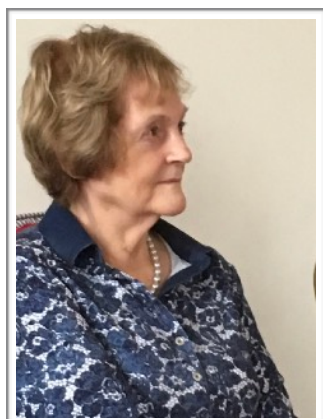
SALISBURY, 6TH OCT

Parishioners from across the South and West gathered to listen to Bishop Emeritus Crispian Hollis and Canon Julie Bradley outline their call to ministry and to discuss shared ministry, married or celibate, with them. We were sorry that Amanda Mukwashi, CEO of Christian Aid, had had to withdraw.



Bishop Crispian spoke of MMaC, the Movement for Married Clergy, and of his understanding that celibacy is a gift, which can only be freely given, not mandated as a requirement for ordination. He fully endorsed Bishop John Crowley's recent call in the Tablet for women's ordination to be discussed.

Canon Julie spoke of her surprise at realising that her call to ministry was hers, and not her husband's, and the complementary nature of their work. Discussion in the hall was altogether respectful and positive, although many present expressed surprise when CWO was outlined. "Why have we never heard about Catholic women's ordination?" people asked, unaware that normal debate has been suppressed since Ordinato Sacerdotalis in 1994.



Pamela Perry, Parishioners' Call Convenor and NatCog member, above. Sue Williamson and other parishioners listening intently, below and right.

Teresa Baron outlined the story of Ludmila Javarová, the Czech underground priest ordained in the Cold War, who was then scandalously ordered back to laity and silence by the Vatican. This witness was news to many present.



Parishioners' Call is building a website and toolkit to enable all parishes to convene and respectfully discuss shared ministry in this way. Contact Pam at parishionerscall@theclose.org.uk

'ORDINATION OF WOMEN: PROS AND CONS'

A Study Day at Pusey House, Oxford,
arranged by the Women's Ministries Initiative in the Orthodox Church -
29th September



For those who argue that women cannot be priests because of 'tradition', I recommend paying close attention to the work of **Dr. Ally Kateusz** on the texts and iconography of Mary as Priest, which exposes the hidden history of women's early leadership in the Christian tradition, writes CWO member *Miriam Duignan*.

The study day in Oxford was a fascinating gathering of Anglican and Orthodox theologians and

ministers including Revd. Prof Andrew Louth who concluded that, as priests in the Orthodox tradition are tasked with calling down the Holy Spirit and not to be the physical likeness of Christ, it is hard to justify upholding the Orthodox ban on women priests.

Dr. Ally Kateusz spoke on behalf of the Wijngaards Institute on the topic 'Mary as a Temple High Priest'. Using material from her upcoming book, she condensed fifteen years of research into an hour in which she convincingly demonstrated that Mary was depicted as a priest and in a leadership position in countless images throughout the Christian world for many centuries.

Ally's research also points to the many ways the Vatican continues to hide evidence of women in leadership positions including fascinating images of an altar above St Peter's tomb in Rome which included a carved image of a woman presiding at the altar together with a man. Despite overwhelming evidence and eye witness testimony, the Vatican claims this was a portable altar and never held a fixed position over Peter – heaven forbid his tomb should have been sullied by such an image!



The oldest picture of Mary in Rome, AD 650, shows her with arms raised as if presiding at the altar (Baptistry, St John Lateran)

Ally's book will be published in Spring 2019 with a launch event that will send a clear message to the Vatican. Watch this space for more updates and check out the latest research via our website: www.womenpriests.org

Miriam Duignan

Communications Director & Trustee, Wijngaards Institute for Catholic Research

NEWS FROM ROME

Outside the Synod.....

With the news that religious brothers would be allowed to vote at the Synod for Youth, Faith & Vocational Discernment, but not religious sisters, because "For now, that's how it is", WOC and CWO are taking action. Join us!



No women voting at the Synod? No way. Join our "Votes for Catholic Women" campaign today!

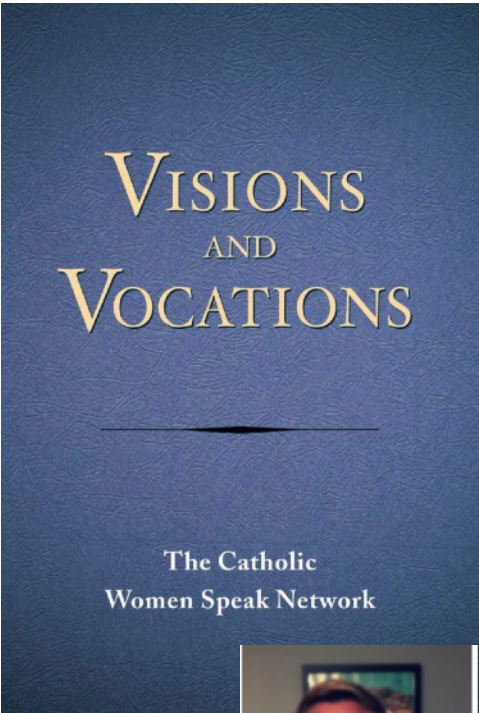
1. Put on a white shirt (the color of the suffragist movement).
2. Make a "Votes for Catholic Women" sign.
3. Take a photo, share and use [#votesforcatholicwomen!](https://twitter.com/votesforcatholicwomen)



Whilst the Synod excludes women from voting, **Catholic Women Speak** held the launch of their new book on 1st October:

<https://catholicwomenspeak.com>

Please click on their website above and sign the petition asking for women religious to have voting rights as the men do:



To: Roman Catholic Bishops, Cardinals, all voting members of the Synod on Youth, to Pope Francis

Catholic Women Religious Superiors Should Vote at The Synod

Campaign created by Deborah Rose-Milavec

A large black sign with white text that reads "VOTES for CATHOLIC WOMEN".

And let's make sure we all get our **VOTES** pics up as well!

#VotesForCatholicWomen



ACTA

National Conference 2018

**It will always be Pentecost
in the Church.....
(Romero)**

Dr Anna Abram

Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, Cambridge

Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ

Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, Cambridge

Voices of Young People

- **Saturday 20th October 2018**
- Registration 10.30am for 11.00am start, close 4.30pm
- St David's RC Sixth Form College, Cardiff CF23 5JB
- Cost £20 (includes light lunch). **Discount for payment before 31st July 2018**. Under 25's free
- **Further information and booking form at www.acalltoaction.org.uk**
- Need advice? Contact ACTA Coordinator [Cardiff]
Mob: 07956005459 Email fbcallus@aol.com

CWO SAINTS

Mary MacKillop
Ruth Norton
John Hatfield
Celia Greenwood
Michael O'Gara
Sheila Houlihan
Mary Daly
Estelle White
Pat McCarron
Marcella Althaus-Reid
Astrid Klemz
Jean Palmer
Elizabeth Rendall
Maureen Brown
Tissa Balasuriya
Jack Sutcliffe
Pat Regini
Mary Ann Schoettly
Pam Skelton
Robert Kaggwa
Mike Ward
Anne Hepburn
Peter Nelson
Stanley Baxter
David Konstant
Eileen Sikorski

Pray for us



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.

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. The badges attract a lot of attention with the slogan based on the letters of ROME. We now have mugs which as well as being practical are a good way of advertising CWO. You might like to send one to your bishop!

		how many	unit cost	total
Biro - CWO logo, website and phone no	Purple with silver lettering Black ink		0.80	
Car sticker CWO logo website and phone number	Purple on cream		1.50	
Mug CWO logo website "CWO's my cup of tea"	Purple on white Buy for your office, church tea room, meeting room		4.50 each 3 for £12 10 for £35	
P & P *see below				
Donation (optional)				
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY				
Name				
Delivery address				
Post code				
Contact email or telephone number				
Send to Pat Brown, 4 West Park Gardens, Leeds, LS8 2HD				

***Postage and packing**

orders up to £10	3.00
orders £10 - 20	5.00
orders over £20	free

AWAKENING

Catholic Women's Ordination from the Public Square,

by Myra Poole and Pippa Bonner.

£10.00 post free, from info@catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk

address as above for CWO Merchandise

