



CWO

Nov - Dec 2018

eNews
Issue 113

A leading voice for women in the R C Church

**Creator Star-maker God
who became incarnate
as one of us,
be with us as we wait
and watch this Advent.**

**We wait for your justice
for women and men
who are denied
the opportunity
to use our gifts
in your church.**

WOW Advent Prayer



in this issue

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER



P 3

This year - a look back - and forwards!

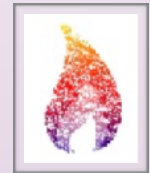


P 4

Votes for Women - what happened when we asked for this at the Synod for Youth



p 5 - 7 RIP We remember Fr Kevin Kelly and Jackie Hawkins who have worked tirelessly for the cause of justice in the Church



p 8

Report from ACTA's National Conference

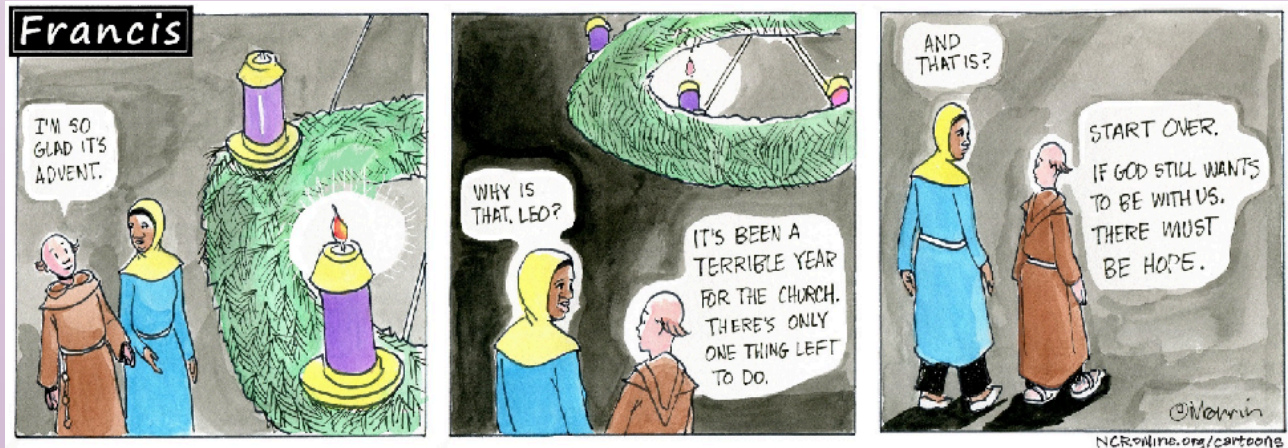


p 9 WOW Prayer for Advent - Pam Perry reports

p 10 - 12 CWO Saints, Prayer and Purchases

Acknowledgements:

Our warmest thanks to Pat Marrin & NCR for this beautiful Francis cartoon below



There is always hope! Out of pain and suffering comes renewal,

Mary Ring, Editor

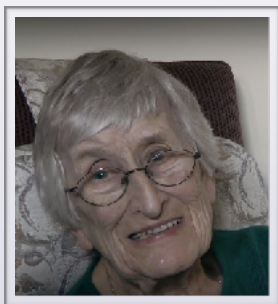
news@catholic-womens-ordination.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/CatholicWomensOrdination/>

<http://catholic-womens-ordination.org.uk/>

<https://twitter.com/CWOcampaign>

2018



We began our year with our Remembrance in Birmingham of our dear colleague and friend **Una Kroll**, in gratitude for the commitment and courage that she brought to our cause. "I was thirteen years a priest. I was very happy as a priest. I loved it!" she said, "I just long to see a Catholic Church embracing women."

January also saw the launch of **PARISHIONERS' CALL**, our sister-organisation, in Salisbury, calling for shared ministry of women and

men, married or celibate, in the Roman Catholic church.



In March, **Dr. Mary McAleese**, former President of Ireland, called with the trumpets of Joshua to "bring down the Church's walls of misogyny," and for an end to the "male bastion of patronizing platitudes."

Yet so many Catholics have not yet heard a word of her courageous and insightful speech. Share

both her written and her spoken speech with them in 2019!

<http://www.womensordination.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/McAleese-Voices-of-Faith-Text-1.pdf>

<https://www.facebook.com/voicesoffaithwomen/videos/dr-mary-mcaleese-the-time-is-now-for-change-in-the-catholic-church/1832022023499117/>

And in October, came the (somewhat muffled) **clarion call for a "duty of justice"**:

The worldwide Synod 'of hundreds of the Catholic Church's prelates ended Oct. 27 with the issuing of some of the global institution's **strongest language yet for the inclusion of women** in its all-male decision-making structures, calling the matter a **"duty of justice"** that requires a "courageous cultural conversion."

"The absence of women's voices and points of view impoverishes discussion and the path of the church, subtracting a precious contribution from discernment," it states. "The synod recommends making everyone

more aware of the urgency of an inescapable change."` NCR 27th Oct, 2018

https://www.ncronline.org/news/vatican/synod-ends-calling-womens-inclusion-catholic-leadership-duty-justice?utm_source=Oct+27+_+final+synod+document&utm_campaign=cc&utm_medium=email

How sad that it requires 'courage'! Yet - it has been said. Officially. is the tide turning? Ed.



VIOLENCE IN ROME AT OUR PEACEFUL DEMO



*A Roman policeman repeatedly grabs Kate McElwee as his forces try to break up the peaceful protest by WOW, WOC and CWO and others at the **exclusion of all women from voting** at the October Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khoX7zBVXD&feature=youtu.be>

“At the time, we dealt with this rough treatment of our members by police but afterwards the shock set in. We were chanting, singing and praying, yet the Vatican called the police to disperse us. Policemen on foot, two on horseback and a large police van. What on earth did they think we were going to do?”

I said to the one who had hold of Kate’s arm “Just let her go and we will all leave,” (we had decided this beforehand). But he would not let go and I could not force him to release his grip, it was so strong. She had bruises later.

Someone remarked that they did not call the police on abusers but did on peacefully protesting women. This is a theme I keep returning to and have used in Twitter and Facebook posts. The more I think about it, the more appalling it becomes. I have attended a lay-led liturgy at my church where I was able to share my feeling about all this, but I haven’t felt able to go to Mass since my return to UK.”

*Thanks to our **Pat Brown** for her courageous witness.*

“A closed-door session of bishops and clerics discussing young people is not the solution we need, rather it is the root of the problem.”

<https://womensordinationworldwide.squarespace.com>

CLERICAL CASTE HOLDS	ALL THE VOTES AT	YOUTH SYNOD
	Percentage of 1.3 billion Catholics worldwide	Percentage of voting rights at Youth Synod
Youths, Women, Lay people, Women religious	99%	0%
Cardinals, Bishops Priests and religious Brothers	1%	100%

REST IN PEACE
FR. KEVIN KELLY
MUCH-LOVED PARISH PRIEST & THEOLOGIAN



Please click on this link to our website for Fr Kevin's deeply insightful thoughts in his paper:
[**The Vatican's Tahrir Square?**](#)

and on this link to [**The Tablet's Obituary:**](#)

Kevin Kelly spoke about the first chapter of his book "50 Years Receiving Vatican II: A Personal Odyssey." (Columba Dublin, 2012.) His inspirational talk spoke powerfully of his ongoing Vatican II journey to carry out the original vision of collegiality, collaborative ministry and mentioned that his own specialism: moral theology moved to being person centred. "The bishops at Vatican II very deliberately put the 'People of God' before the hierarchical structure of the church."

His session spoke of "Our Church", "Our Eucharist" and "Our Parish" and "Our Experience" amongst other headings, the message being "our" - emphasising "we are church" - all of us. He quoted a priest who said, "Collaboration is not a way of doing something more efficiently; it is a way of being church more authentically." He urged each Parish to develop its own tailor- made mission statement. He quoted Jack Mahoney SJ who wrote that theology

involves " making faith-sense of experience, and experience -sense of faith."

Kevin Kelly developed this point by writing about how we receive God's teaching and "own" it. If we fail to "own" a specific teaching of the church because it does not make experience-sense of our faith and faith-sense of our experience then "at times God's spirit can be even more active in this process of non-reception than in the process of reception. In such instances, non-reception, sometimes misleadingly referred to as 'dissent', should be seen as loyal and faithful cooperation in the teaching ministry of the Church and needs to be listened to respectfully by the Pope and bishops in exercising their teaching authority." I personally found this very encouraging.

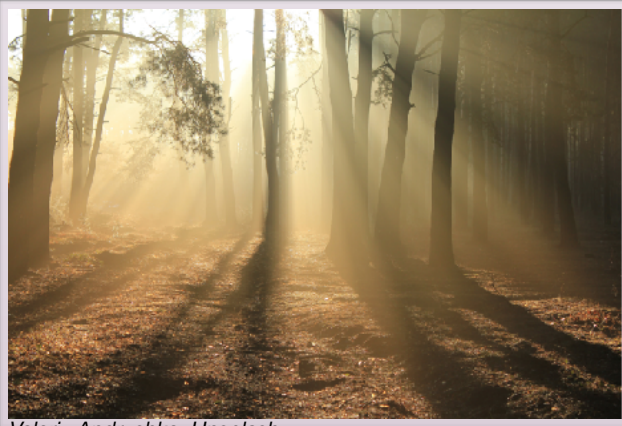
Pippa Bonner, CWO eNews

Nov-Dec, 2012

REMEMBERING FR KEVIN CWO NATIONAL MEETING 2012

Fr Kelly spoke at our national meeting in Leeds on 27 October 2012 entitled "Receiving Vatican II and Us". Our discussions were informed by his paper [The Vatican's Tahrir Square](#), *writes Pat Brown*.

Inspired by him and our other speaker, Sr Catherine Houlihan, we developed the following prayers.



Valeriy Andrushko, Unsplash

We offer our thanks for the opportunity to share our priesthood, concerns, pain and hope for the future.

We pray for courage and perseverance for ourselves and for others.

Help us to recognise the pain in those who may not share our views.

May we be Christ-like in our approach.

We offer our prayer in the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our prophet and brother.

We pray that all the people of God: women and men, lay people and clergy, enabled by silent contemplation, will listen with mind and heart and be led to compassionate and loving action.

*The Church in which God delights is something in which we should dream.
May it be a community where people discover God's delight in them
May it be a place where everyone's experience forms a theological library
May the church include each one of us and be where we can contribute, to use our vision for the fulfilment of others*

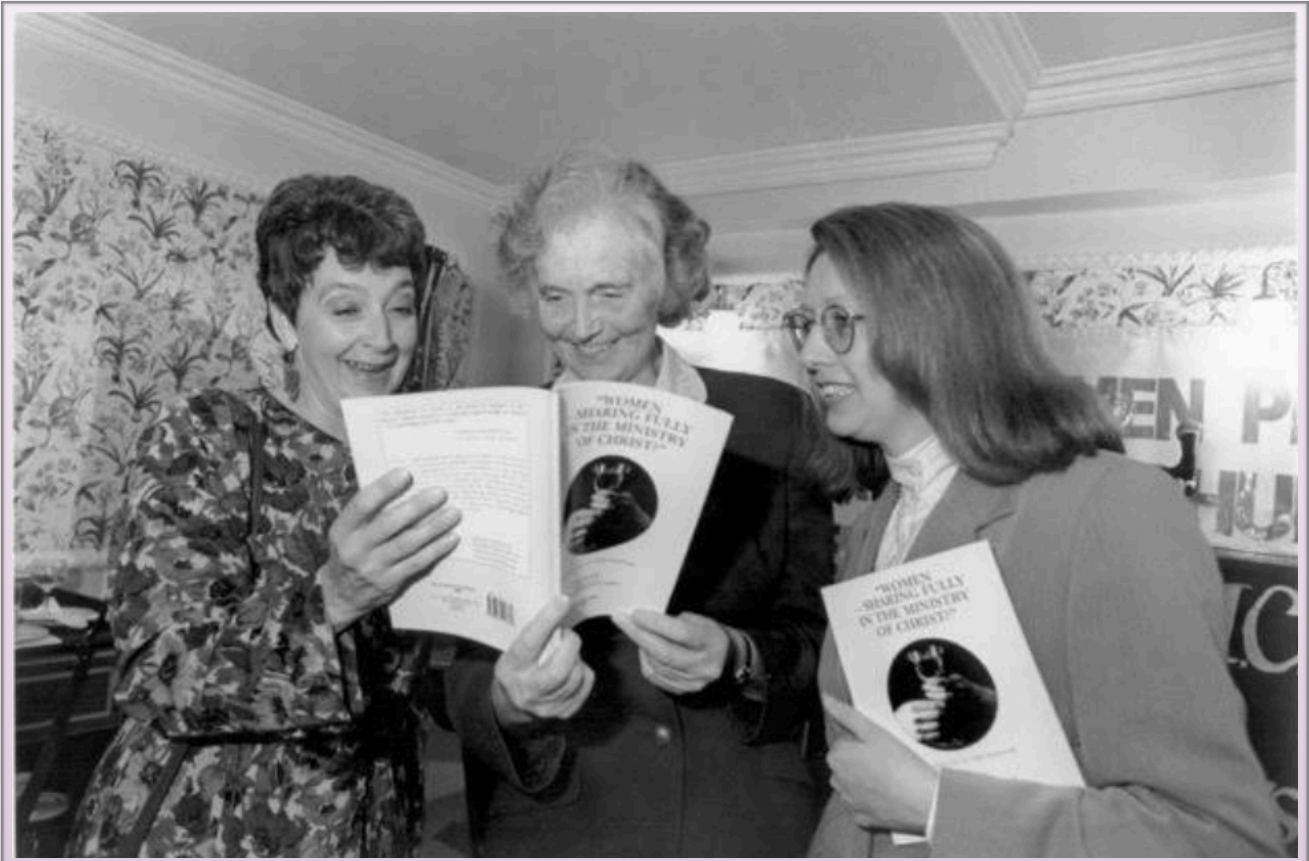
God gave each of us gifts; let us use them to bring about the future of the Church.

Holy Spirit, we believe you are continuing the work of Vatican II here and now in us. Help us to witness and proclaim the signs of hope.

Holy Spirit, take us forward; help us to remain optimistic, knowing that unless the seed dies, your resurrection hope cannot blossom.

REST IN PEACE JACKIE HAWKINS

25TH NOV 2018



"Women who are challenging as leaders — leadership has various forms and I am talking about myself — are very dangerous women. We are threatening power, we are claiming spiritual power and I make no apology for claiming spiritual power when it is properly exercised. I have long since given up wondering how my future will turn out; I do not know and therefore try to make one right decision at a time. But no one will ever take away from me the certainty that I am called to priesthood."

Jackie Hawkins, speaking at "Women Sharing Fully in the Ministry of Christ?" in Dublin, 25 March 1995, pictured here with Mary McAleese (R) and Delma Sheridan (L) died 25 November 2018 [#InMemoryOfHer](#) [#RestinPower](#) [#OrdainWomen](#)

Many of our readers will remember Jackie from WOW, which she helped to steer, particularly in the early days. She passed away in early hours of 25th November after a long battle with cancer. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family.

https://www.facebook.com/WomensOrdinationWorldwide/?epa=SEARCH_BOX&jazoest=26510012188545283857112211155708989109747211854117120114801154599865448525711011211652806998118518512210210465586510012288111661225776781199811984118481161201031161157710810353109559845557512187458685114528411277535111285119



ACTA - A Call To Action

It will always be Pentecost in the Church

National Conference, Cardiff

This year's A Call To Action (ACTA) day conference was held on 20 October in Cardiff.

We were greeted with the offer of a knitted daffodil badge; a feminine touch taken up by both women and men attendees. The two main speakers were both women theologians from the Margaret Beaufort Institute in Cambridge. Both had much to say that was relevant to CWO without particularly highlighting the "women" angle as their material was applicable to all members of the RC Church for whom transformation is urgently necessary. Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ mentioned that she been asked on Radio 4's Woman's Hour why she didn't leave the Church. "Because I **am** the Church," she snapped back.

Her exasperation at our current state was evident throughout her inspiring talk; both angry and humorous. She explored the gift of being prophets that we receive at baptism: prophets are "professional nuisances" listening attentively to God's word, and so speaking truth to power whether inside or outside the Church.

She was followed by Dr Anna Abram whose academic delivery was difficult to take. But, in the well organised afternoon discussion groups, she was much more relaxed and clear. I realised she was asking us if the Church now needed to develop and apply to itself a definite ethical framework for participation of all the currently excluded, i.e. women, religious and lay men. At present, seminary courses for celibate men on ethics and moral theology are confined to sex and marriage issues while ignoring church governance entirely. It seemed to me that encouraging her research into ecclesial governance would present a major challenge to the long embedded, often secret, informal hierarchical and patriarchal

administration whose complete unfitness is now being exposed by clerical sex abuse crises.

Gemma Simmonds had emphasised that we "need to stop fighting past battles," and it was a coup of Welsh ACTA to include on the programme three people in their twenties and early thirties.

From the CWO point of view, Lucy Wright was outstanding: in her reading of scripture and theology she has felt constantly excluded as a woman and feminist. The RC Church has nothing to offer her in her "relationship with Jesus." Lucy Byrne pointed out that this ACTA meeting itself was duplicating the Church's exclusivity in persistently referring to the three as "young people," treating them with condescension and leaving no room for their voices to be heard in the discussion groups. She was very effective. Adam O'Boyle has been following the Youth Synod in Rome, and described the clever use of social media by representatives in their twenties and thirties (no vote, of course) to overcome the built-in obstacles to expression of their views.

The word "representation" came up frequently during the day which chimed well with recent actions in Rome by Women's Ordination Worldwide (WOW) over male-only voting rights at the Youth Synod. The issue of representation was barely acknowledged by Vatican II, but it's become the unifying concern of the moment. The philosopher Hannah Arendt argued, "... no one can be called either happy or free without participating and having a share in public power."

How can we put our energies into creating a mature Church that respects its great variety of voices and offers real participation in decision making? Gemma Simmonds had shaped her talk around out baptismal standing as "prophets, priests and kings." To be priests, she said, is to live eucharistically, but she left open what it means, now in the Church, for us all to be "kings."

Thank you, Olive Powell, CWO, for this report.

www.acalltoaction.org.uk/news/644-cardiff-hosts-acta-national-conference

WOW ADVENT

CWO member Pamela Perry joined in. She writes:

“It was deeply satisfying and moving to tune into this international prayer of women. It was an occasion on which the phrase **“love’s fullness”** leapt out of the page and brought me into a deeper awareness of the love in and behind every single experience and which unites Christians in an incomprehensible way.

Then, during the reading of:

**“ your heart
a chapel,
an altar where
in the deepest night
can be seen
the fire that
shines forth in you
in unaccountable faith,
in stubborn hope,
in love that illumines
every broken thing
it finds”,**

I was reminded of my own reaction to a BBC documentary drama I watched last week about human trafficking called, “Doing Money”. The monstrous behaviour of the traffickers and the suffering of the women gave rise in my heart to an “unaccountable faith”, the “love that illumines”, a complete riposte to the evil shown.

I have never experienced an international conference before. I wonder if and how it might be developed further to bring more and more WOW members together? Is it difficult to arrange and expensive, I wonder? I would so welcome the chance to meet regularly in this way.”

Thank you so much for your feedback and beautiful reflection. Thank you for joining us this past Sunday! Others have expressed similar sentiments about having a more frequent call. We're taking all the feedback into account so we'll see what we can do, replied Alyssa Duffner,

<http://www.womensordination.org/>. Watch this space...



Women, Bearers of Light
AN ADVENT PRAYER EXPERIENCE
Sunday, December 2, 2018

Join one of our two call-in times:

- 14:00 Indian Standard Time (GMT +5:30)
- 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (US)/8:00 p.m. GMT

Join Women's Ordination Worldwide by phone, wherever you are, for a 30-minute, women-led reflection to begin Advent.

Register at intern@womensordination.org for call-in information.
Free international numbers available.

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
Fr Kevin Kelly

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

