

St. Nicholas News

Francis Street Parish, Dublin 8. ---- 01-5157512 ---- 01-5611390



17th Sunday Ordinary Time 24 July 2022

VATICAN VOWS NOT TO INVEST IN PORN OR GUNS



The Vatican will not invest in porn or weapons under an ethical investment policy that is part of Pope Francis's efforts to clean up the Catholic Church from a series of scandals. While there is no suggestion the Vatican currently has money in porn or other unholy industries, the new rules are an attempt to establish tougher principles and oversight in Vatican

finances. The Church recently made headlines over a botched real estate deal in central London at the heart of a corruption trial involving a cardinal. According to the 22-page document, Vatican money managers should stay away from pornography, prostitution, gambling, defence, pro-abortion health clinics, contraceptive products and stem-cell research, avoid money laundering havens, and favour long-term investments over riskier "speculative strategies". All investments should "aim to contribute to a more sustainable world" and be "aligned with the teachings of the Catholic Church", the Vatican said. There are specific exclusions for "financial investments that contradict fundamental principles, such as the sanctity of life or the dignity of the human being or the common good". The document refers to the need to invest in "environmentally friendly" companies with a strong record on corporate social responsibility and transparency, and identify "best-in-class" assets and investments that have "a positive and demonstrable impact regarding equality and climate change". Climate change and social justice have been a focus of Francis's papacy. The Argentine has also had his hands full with administrative reforms, including a recently adopted Vatican constitution, and he has allowed a Vatican court to put a cardinal on trial. Angelo Becciu is accused of embezzlement and abuse of office. He is being tried with nine others, mostly in connection to the purchase of a former Harrods warehouse in which the Vatican was allegedly fleeced by middlemen and Vatican staffers. All defendants deny the charges. The building was sold last month for £186 million, costing the Vatican a reported £66-150 million.

POPE FRANCIS: WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY 24 JULY

"In old age they will still bear fruit" (Ps 92:15). These words of the Psalmist are glad tidings, a true "gospel" that we can proclaim to all on this second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. They run counter to what the world thinks about this stage of life, but also to the attitude of grim resignation shown by some of us elderly people, who harbour few expectations for the future. Many people are afraid of old age. They consider it a sort of disease with which any contact is best avoided. The elderly, they think, are none of their concern and should be set apart, perhaps in homes or places where they can be cared for, lest we have to deal with their problems. The Scriptures see things differently. A long life - so the Bible teaches - is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance. Along with old age and white hairs, God continues to give us the gift of life and to keep us from being overcome by evil. If we trust in him, we will come to see that growing old is more than the natural decline of the body but the gift of a long life. Aging is not a condemnation, but a blessing!

Notices

Remembered in Prayer

Saturday 6pm
John, Josephine, Mary and Joan Hannon
Père Jacques Hamel (6th A)
French Priest (85 yrs old)
murdered in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray

Sunday 11.30am
Chrissie De Vesey
Joe Molloy
Johnny Hand
John & Elizabeth Goulding
Carmel Grogan (60th A)



City of Care: Our Liberties

'City of Care' is an exploration of community life in The Liberties undertaken by social scientists Lidia Manzo and Enzo Colombo of the University of Milan in Italy. The project considered issues of community wellbeing, the friction between established and new communities, and attitudes to development in an area undergoing considerable physical and social change. Using Oliver Bond House as a case study, Manzo and Colombo, together with photographer Pierluigi Cattani Faggion, sought to capture a community amidst change. The project is documented on a website www.cityofcare.org.



Domestic Violence

Women's Aid: 1800341900
Male Domestic Abuse:
1800816588
Rape Crisis Centre:
1800778888

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

Penitential Rite

As we gather as God's people, his daughters and sons, may our eyes and hearts be opened to his love.

Your Kingdom Come. Lord have mercy

Your will be done on earth. Christ have mercy

As we are forgiven, so may we learn to forgive.
Lord have mercy

May the gracious compassion and love of our God, sweep over us and free us from all selfishness and sin. Amen

Genesis: 18:20-32

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.' The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.' Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.' Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

Colossians 2: 12-14

You have been buried with him, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins. He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

Alleluia, Alleluia, The spirit you received is the spirit of sons and daughters, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!'
Alleluia

Luke 10: 38-42

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had

finished one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray: "Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."' He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants. 'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

Prayer of the Faithful

Praise to you, Father, Son and Spirit; family of love and compassion. Draw us into your life. Lord hear us

May our celebration as a community make the Kingdom of God a reality in our world. Lord hear us

May our praying together lead us to Prayer, where God can mould us into a community of compassion for all, without exception. Lord hear us

We remember those families among us who are suffering the pain of bereavement. May we be their support, as we look to the day when we will all be united again in your Kingdom. Lord hear us

Lord, let the ideals of the gospel transform our church and our world so that addressing the real needs of people will always be our first concern. Lord hear us

We remember in silence, all who need our prayer and support.....Lord hear us



Reflection

Our Parent, who is among us, blessed be your Creation.
May your reign be a reality here on earth.
May we become more interested in building your kingdom here and now than in waiting for it to come down from above.
Let us share our bread with those who hunger.
Let us learn to forgive as well as to receive forgiveness.
Help us through the time of temptation, delivering us from all evil.
For ours are the eternal blessings that you pour upon the earth.
Amen.

J. Manny Santiago