



26th Sunday Ordinary Time – 01 October 2023

COMMISSION ASKS SYNOD TO DEDICATE TIME TO SAFEGUARDING ISSUES



Ahead of the upcoming Synod on Synodality, the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors has made an appeal for child protection to be seriously deliberated during Synod discussions. In a statement, published in English and Italian, and titled 'A Call to Action on the Occasion of the Consistory for the Creation of New Cardinals and the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops,' the Commission calls for action. Pope Francis has entrusted and encouraged the Commission, which is within the Roman Curia's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, but maintains its independence, to speak forth with what needs to be done, and not let others impede their efforts. In the text, the Commission members urge solidarity with victims and survivors in light of ongoing revelations of abuse. Moreover, the Commission asks Church leaders to increase commitment and resources to promote safeguarding everywhere, as well as requests that safeguarding be given a priority in the Synod. "We ask, that sexual abuse in the Church permeate your discussions as they address teaching, ministry, formation, and governance," the Commission members wrote, noting, "As a community of the reconciled, the Church's sacred worship should also find adequate inclusion and expression of this most intimate of Church failures." "While at times it may seem like a daunting set of questions to face," they acknowledge, "please rise to the challenge so that you may address, in a comprehensive way, the threat posed by sexual abuse to Church's credibility in announcing the Gospel." They urge Synod participants to dedicate meaningful time and space to integrate the testimony of victims and survivors into your work, noting that most Synod's participants have their own experiences of confronting or dealing with sexual abuse in the Church, which could become an explicit part of their deliberations. "We urge you to work towards the day when all ministries in the Church become places of welcome, empathy and reconciliation for those impacted by abuse," they add. The Commissions' members conclude their statement by saying, "We urge you to work towards these long-overdue goals not just for one or two days during your gathering, but to consider them throughout the entire Synod process." "Their achievement will be a singular sign of the Synod's success, a sign that we are walking with the wounded and the forgotten as disciples of the one Lord, in search of a better way," they conclude. Pope Francis has repeatedly called for combating the scourge of sexual abuse of children and vulnerable persons during his pontificate, issuing significant legislation aimed at punishing anyone, who at any level, perpetrates abuse, and those who cover up.

Courtesy Vatican News

Newman University Church

Tuesdays at 6pm Taizé Prayer. The church is dimly lit and Taizé cross is brought out as a focal point for prayer. There is meditative song, silence, readings, and prayer. During the procession of light each person brings up their lit candle to the cross to pray.

Iveagh Market

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, and the Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan TD, have announced approval in principle of €9 million under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) for essential conservation works at the Iveagh Markets. The Iveagh Market complex is a protected structure and was developed by the Guinness family in 1907. The market closed in 1996, and has been disused ever since. Dublin City Council has made proposals to secure the fabric of the structure through a programme of essential works to be carried out to prevent this protected structure from continued decline. The announcement of significant support funding by DHLGH now means this proposal can now progress.



Bereavement Support

The Irish Hospice Foundation provides a free Bereavement Support Line. This National Freephone Service is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday, by calling 1800 807077. Visit www.hospicefoundation.ie for more information.



Aware

If you or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, consider using Aware's phone-in and Zoom support and self-care groups, support line or support mail. For more information, visit www.aware.ie

26TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

Penitential Rite

As Our God is a God of openness and generosity. As we begin our celebration let us call to mind that openness and generosity.

You make us poor in spirit. Lord have mercy

You make us mindful of all in need. Christ have mercy

You make us bearers of your vision for the world.
Lord have mercy

May the God of generosity and openness fill us with compassion, forgive us our sin and bring us to life everlasting. Amen

Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: You object, "What the Lord does is unjust". Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.

Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other person's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as people are; and being as all people are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me they will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we shall come to them.
Alleluia!

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today". He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him'.

Prayer of the Faithful

Lord God, for your tenderness and sympathy, we are grateful. Lord hear us

That you inspire us to respond from hearts, and not simply obey the law, we are grateful. Lord hear us

That you take away our conceit and make us self-effacing and non judgemental. We are grateful. Lord hear us

That you draw us to the needs of others and away from our own needs, we are grateful. Lord hear us

That you give us your Son Jesus as our Way, Truth and Life, we are grateful. Lord hear us

For the memory of those who have died, and whose lives inspire us and give us hope, we are grateful. Lord hear us

That you grant us this moment to be still, in your Presence, we are grateful.....
Lord hear us



Reflection

Then said a rich man, "Speak to us of Giving." And he answered: You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give. For what are your possessions but things you keep and guard for fear you may need them tomorrow? There are those who give little of the much which they have - and they give it for recognition and their hidden desire makes their gifts unwholesome. And there are those who have little and give it all. These are the believers in life and the bounty of life, and their coffer is never empty. Through the hands of such as these God speaks, and from behind their eyes He smiles upon the earth.

Kahlil Gibran – The Prophet