

# St. Nicholas News

Francis Street Parish, Dublin 8. ---- 01-4530387 ---- 01-5611390



Fifth Sunday of Easter 19 May 2019

## POPE'S COMMENTS SHOW THAT WOMEN ARE STILL SECOND CLASS



Pope Francis's comments on women deacons show the Catholic Church is a "men's church", according to the Association of Catholic Priests (ACP). The organisation, which represents more than 1,000 Irish priests, expressed disappointment over the Pope's comments on women deacons while on the papal flight back to Rome after his three-day visit to Bulgaria and Macedonia. The pontiff revealed that the commission he appointed in 2016 to study the issue of

women deacons was divided and could not reach a consensus on whether women who served as deacons in the early Church were ordained in the same way as male deacons. He said the commission could go no further. This weekend, the ACP said the Pope's comments were "an enormous blow to reforming the Church" and sent "all the wrong messages about women", adding that "it confirms that women are not good enough, and that in the eyes of the official Church, men are more worthy than women". The priests' group accused the Pope of "kicking the can down a timeless road" on the issue and said women's gifts would continue to be wasted. Co Limerick parish priest Fr Roy Donovan, an ACP spokesman, called on Irish bishops to demand concrete practical actions from Pope Francis to open up all structures of the Church to women. "We are seeing the end of an era in the Church where priests took over so many ministries," Fr Donovan told the Irish Independent. He said many women were already doing a lot of what a deacon does. Meanwhile, the Wijngaards Institute for Catholic Research has said the lack of unanimity on the papal commission is likely to be used by the Vatican to continue excluding women from the diaconate. According to Miriam Duignan, a trustee of the Wijngaards Institute, manuscripts with identical ordination rites to the diaconate for men and women are preserved in the Vatican library itself.

*Courtesy Sarah Mac Donald Irish Independent*

## METHODISTS HAVE CHANGE OF HEART ON ALLOWING SAME-SEX MARRIAGE



A Methodist working group in GB has recommended that gay couples be allowed to marry in their churches for the first time. In a document published in the run-up to the Methodist Conference this summer, a task force gave a series of recommendations in an effort to modernise the church. The report was drawn up as the church looks to reflect changes in society regarding

same-sex relationships, cohabitation and the declining marriage rate. The recommendation to change the rules to allow same-sex weddings in its chapels was revealed in the publication entitled *God in Love Unites Us*, and was drawn up by the Methodist Church's marriage and relationships task group. The report's authors said that there was a need to address the "hurt" felt by those who believe that the church's current definition of marriage implies that gay people are "lesser persons". However, the report also contains a clause which ensures that ministers who object to same-sex marriage will not have to officiate the ceremony. Revd. Ken Howcroft, chair of the task group, said: "Methodists have no problem with having ministers or members who are in a same-sex marriage, but we have not been allowed - up until now - to bless those relationships in a church. So this is the next step on the journey." Emma Meehan, assistant director of public affairs at the LGBT Foundation, said of the report: "Despite progress in recent years, it is still the case that many LGBT people of faith are unable to seek formal blessings from their place of worship on the one of the most significant days of their lives. "It's therefore fantastic to see religious institutions taking steps to better include and support people to celebrate all parts of their identity." The Methodist Conference will be held from June 27 to July 4.

*Courtesy Church News Ireland*

## NOTICES

### Money Matters

Sunday 12 May 2019

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: p330

2nd Collection: p350

Share: p35

Family Offering: p225



### Remembered at Mass

Patrick Rattigan (14th Ann)

Sun 11.30am: Mary & Richard Finn, Denis & Julia Hyland, Ellen & Patrick Hyland & Deceased Members, Christina & Michael Phillips & Son Anthony, Elizabeth Cora Gorman, Michael Harvey Rec Deceased, William Grogan.

Recently Deceased: Gavin Byrne



### St. Vincent de Paul Collection

...takes place this weekend. Please be as generous as you can afford. Thank You.



### Outlandish Theatre

The next work in progress performance SMILE, presented in association with Age and Opportunity as part of the nationwide Bealtaine Festival - celebrating the arts and creativity as we age, takes place at the Coombe Hospital, Sunday 26th of May at 4 pm. Admission free. [www.outlandishtheatre.com](http://www.outlandishtheatre.com)



### Faith for Life

is an adult faith course designed to help you to discover new ways to live out your faith in the reality of today's world, within relationships, family, home,

workplaces and the events of daily life. It aims to help you to be more active, open, faithful, confident, trusting and willing to work for change. The course is experienced as a journey of four 'Movements' inviting you to explore the call you received in Baptism. The process for each weekend includes teaching, personal and group reflection, prayer and liturgy. Participants are required to attend all four weekends. This course has taken place in Dublin Diocese for the past six years and is designed and delivered, through a partnership agreement between the Archdioceses of Dublin and the Archdiocese of Liverpool.



### Remembrance Service

A Little Lifetime Foundation (ALLF) will hold a Blessing of Remembrance in Glasnevin Cemetery at the Old Angels Memory Garden on Sunday 26 May at 3.00pm. This special Blessing of Remembrance is for all parents, family members and friends who lost a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, cot death or died shortly after birth. This invitation is for all families who have lost a baby - we hope you will find some comfort in coming together to remember your baby in a special way.



### Hitting the High Note

Dublin 8 students hit the high note on The Liber8 Music Project. The showcase event took place at BIMM Institute, Dublin 8. 'The Liber8 Music Project' is an exciting collaboration for The Digital Hub with BIMM Institute Dublin. The 10-week music programme is designed for 14 - 16 year olds living within and around the Liberties area of Dublin 8, who have limited exposure to music and digital media. Over the course of ten weeks, students immerse themselves in the creative programme which includes modules on 'Music Styles', 'Introduction to Performance Techniques', and 'Introduction to Recording and Sound Design'. The programme culminates with a showcase event where the course participants perform live on stage to an invited audience.



### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and

with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

#### This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

#### Psalm 144

##### I will bless your name for ever, O God my King

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. R/

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. R/

Yours is an everlasting kingdom;  
your rule lasts from age to age. R/

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment:  
love one another; just as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

#### A reading from the Gospel of John

When Judas had gone Jesus said: 'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

#### This is the Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

When a man whose marriage was in trouble sought his advice, the Master said, "You must learn to listen to your wife. The man took this advice to heart and returned after a month to say he had learned to listen to every word his wife was saying. Said the Master with a smile, "Now go home and listen to every word she isn't saying."

*From 'One Minute Wisdom' by Anthony de Mello*