



32nd Sunday Ordinary Time – 12 November 2023

POPE CONFIRMS TRANS PEOPLE CAN BE BAPTISED AS CATHOLICS

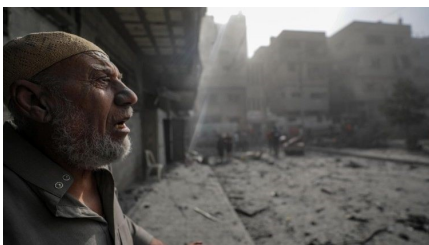


A document signed by Pope Francis has confirmed that trans people can be baptised as Catholics, become godparents and be witnesses at wedding ceremonies. The document was written in response to a letter submitted by Brazilian Bishop José Negri, which had questions about the possible

participation in baptism and weddings by transexual people. The response said that if it did not cause scandal or confusion among other Catholics, "a transsexual - even one who has undergone hormone treatment and gender reassignment surgery - may receive baptism under the same conditions as other faithful". The letter also asked whether transexual or other LGBTQ+ people could be witnesses at Catholic weddings. The Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith said there was nothing in the universal canonical legislation that prohibited either party serving as a witness at a Catholic marriage. When it came to baptisms, "pastoral prudence" was advised. Bishop Negri also asked if children of same-sex couples or those born through surrogacy could be baptised in a Catholic ceremony. For the child of a same-sex couple to be baptised, there had to be "a well-founded hope that it would be educated in the Catholic religion", according to the response. Last month, in a separate response to concerned bishops regarding his openness to the LGBTQ+ community, the Pope envisioned priests, on a case-by-case basis, blessing same-sex couples. Argentinian Archbishop Víctor Manuel Fernández, who co-signed the latest document with Pope Francis, is the new prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith. The body is responsible for promoting and defending Catholic doctrine. Pope Francis has said on numerous occasions that he wants to see a more inclusive church.

Courtesy Ailbhe Conneely – RTE

Pope Francis appeals for 'a just peace' for nations at war



Appealing, yet again, for attention and prayers for peoples across the globe who are subjected to war and are suffering its consequences, Pope Francis said, "Let us not forget martyred Ukraine and let us think of the Palestinian and Israeli peoples: may the Lord bring a just peace." "There is so much suffering," he said, as he neared the end of his weekly General Audience. "Children are

suffering; the sick are suffering, and many young people are dying," the Pope continued. "War is always a defeat. Let us not forget: War is always a defeat."

Pope Francis has made constant appeals for peace and for negotiated solutions to conflicts across the world, never neglecting to mention and to pray for those suffering from violence and displacement in Ukraine since the Russian invasion over 18 months ago. He has also made reiterated appeals for a ceasefire, for the release of hostages, and for the entry of humanitarian aid into the besieged Gaza Strip, since the beginning of violent hostilities between Hamas and Israel on 7 October 2023.

Courtesy Linda Bordoní Vatican News

November Mass of Remembrance

In Meath Street you are welcome to come along on Sunday 19 November at 11am.

City Quay

The Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, City Quay, will host an Evening of Music and Song on Sunday, November 19. The event is a fund raiser for Safe Home Ireland, who bring elderly Irish back to Ireland and help them settle and find a home. See <https://cityquayparish.com/news-events/>

Vatican joins interfaith declaration on fighting climate change

The Holy See has signed an interfaith declaration on taking action to protect the environment during a religious summit held ahead of the COP28 climate change conference in Dubai.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, signed the statement on behalf of Pope Francis during the Global Faith Leaders Summit in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Nov. 6-7.

Twenty-eight leaders from more than 19 different religions, faith traditions, and denominations joined the Interfaith Declaration on Climate Action Towards COP28, which declares that "our faith instills in us a sacred duty to cherish not only our human family but also the fragile ecosystem that cradles us."

Parish Office

Mon & Weds: 9.30am-12noon

32ND SUNDAY - ORDINARY TIME

Penitential Rite

As we enter into the mystery of Gods' wisdom, let us be mindful of his great love for us.

You lead us to your light and life. Lord have mercy

You show us your truth and love. Christ have mercy

You ask us to follow your way. Lord have mercy

May our wise and ever merciful God, forgive us our sin and bring us finally to everlasting life. Amen

Wisdom 12:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out". But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves". They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with

him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you". So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Prayer of the Faithful

Father, Son and Spirit, your life together gives birth to Wisdom. We thank you. Lord hear us

Lord, without Wisdom, terrible things happen; violence, war, hunger, destruction of the planet, and your people suffer. Grant us your Wisdom. Lord hear us

Through your Spirit, Lord, you bring us to the realisation that our future is based on this present moment. Help us to live fully in this moment. Lord hear us

We call to mind all those who have died, and especially those who have died needlessly through violence and war. May their memory inspire us to work for peace in our world. Lord hear us

Help us Lord, to cherish the Wisdom of those who are older, and to give them the respect they are entitled to. Lord hear us

In silence, we remember those who need our prayer and support.....Lord hear us



Reflection

"You have travelled too fast over false ground; Now your soul has come to take you back. Take refuge in your senses, open up To all the small miracles you rushed through.

Become inclined to watch the way of rain When it falls slow and free. Imitate the habit of twilight, Taking time to open the well of colour That fostered the brightness of day.

Draw alongside the silence of stone Until its calmness can claim you."

John O'Donohue