



## From the Acting Director



Regular readers of the *Ausvangelist* will notice that replacing the happy smiling face of Marita Winters is a picture of someone else. That someone else is me, Dr John Collins. Again if

you are a regular reader of *Ausvangelist* you will recognise that since 2007 my face and column has been on the Projects Desk section of the newsletter. Marita is currently on maternity leave having recently given birth to her second daughter. I am sure you join with us at the Catholic Enquiry Centre in thanking God for this new addition to Marita's family. It is my privilege to act as Director of the Catholic Enquiry Centre until Marita returns to work.

The other thing that regular readers might see as different is that I now have "Dr" before my name. It has taken many years studying part-time but earlier this year I graduated from Australian Catholic University with a PhD on the topic of Method in Practical Theology. I was heartened to read that the Holy Father Pope Francis completed his doctoral studies as a mature student. Apparently he returned to study after many years working in pastoral and administrative settings in Argentina.

The Catholic Church has certainly been in the news of late, most of it good. I recently read that Pope Francis has been judged by Forbes magazine to be fourth most powerful person in the world. In order of power, Vladimir Putin is number one followed by Barack Obama, third Chinese President Xi Jinping then Pope Francis followed by Angela Merkel. The Pope of course does not command a powerful army, manage a huge economy or directly govern a billion people. Pope Francis however does influence thinking

among Catholics and his thoughts and actions are obviously having a positive impact on many people who are not Catholic.

I was interested to read recently that the government department in Paris which maintains Notre Dame Cathedral is considering charging people to enter the building. They are however making exceptions for those who are entering to worship. No one of course is born a Catholic and perhaps this pricing structure will provide an opportunity for evangelisation. There are only two types of people in the world: Catholics and potential Catholics. Perhaps what they need at Notre Dame is a sign that reads "Catholics and potential Catholics". There are many ways to invite people to consider becoming a Catholic.

To make it easier for you to invite people to think about becoming a Catholic in this edition of *Ausvangelist* we have included a number of bookmarks. You may want to keep the bookmarks in your Bible or prayer book but they are designed to be given away. To obtain more bookmarks to distribute far and wide simply contact us at the Catholic Enquiry Centre on 1300 423 484 (1300 4FAITH) or email [info@catholicenquiry.com](mailto:info@catholicenquiry.com).

As we stop to reflect, give thanks and celebrate the extraordinary gift to humanity of Godself in the infant Jesus I take this opportunity to thank you for your support during this year and look forward to an exciting 2015.

**Dr John Francis Collins**  
Acting Director  
Catholic Enquiry Centre



**Catholic Enquiry Centre**

Reaching out in faith  
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



### FOR OUR SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

Your donation helps to provide a copy of *Call and Response: An Introduction to the Catholic Faith* for someone who has indicated that they want to know more about Jesus Christ and his Church. We thank you for your ongoing support, in both spiritual and practical ways, for those who receive the information on the Catholic faith. Sharing the gift of faith is the best gift you can give.

### CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE

PO BOX 415  
Crows Nest NSW 1585

**1300 4 FAITH** (1300 432 484)  
[info@catholicenquiry.com](mailto:info@catholicenquiry.com)

[www.catholicenquiry.com](http://www.catholicenquiry.com)

## Projects Desk



A short introduction, my name is Jan O'Donoghue and I have been in the role of Projects Manager for the Catholic Enquiry Centre since 2009. While Marita

is on leave and John is Acting Director I am in charge of the Projects Desk.

Recently we have received feedback from a few enquirers thanking us for the book *Call and Response*. One enquirer wanted to return back to Church after a hiatus and another wanted to join after being baptised in another Christian community. It is not often

we see the fruit of our work but these sorts of stories encourage and affirm us that the Catholic Enquiry Centre is truly reaching out. The work of the office is not ours alone; it is thanks to the work of our faithful donors that we can keep the mission running. Donations help cover the costs of printing and distributing copies of *Call and Response*: an Introduction to the Catholic Faith to enquirers for free.

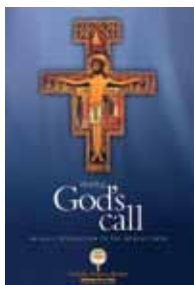
Currently, we receive enquiries mostly through advertisements placed in newspapers or on internet pages such as Facebook and Google. Constantly our office is looking for new ways to reach out to people wanting to know what Catholics believe. However effective advertising is, we realise that

personal invitation cannot be neglected. A new project is underway to distribute bookmarks to Church chaplaincies and groups involved in grassroots, face to face evangelisation to hand out to enquirers they meet. These bookmarks are an invitation for people to ask for *Call and Response* and receive information about the Catholic Faith. With Christmas around the corner this is an especially good time to be inviting people to know more about Christ and we hope that this will be a fruitful time to distribute these flyers.

May you all have a blessed Christmas, full of Christ's peace, joy and love.

**Jan O'Donoghue**

## Resources



*Hearing God's Call: An Audio Introduction to the Catholic Faith*

Are you looking for a Christmas present to give to those to whom you want to share the faith?

*Hearing God's Call* is an audio program which has been written and recorded specifically for adults and young people who are and interested in finding out about the Catholic Faith. The program has 30 ten-minute sessions on 4 CDs.

*Hearing God's Call* is great to listen to on long holiday car journeys. The topics are interesting and relevant and are very easy to

listen to. Each session also contains the name of a film chosen by an expert in theology and film available from your local Video store to enrich and expand on the material presented in the talk. The recommended films provide a wonderful opportunity to stimulate family discussions.

### Topics

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Hearing God's Call: Models of Faith in the Old Testament.
3. The Prophets: Faithful Witnesses to God.
4. Stories of Call in the Gospels
5. Peter and Paul, Apostles of Jesus Christ
6. God's Call: Saints and Heroes I
7. God's Call: Saints and Heroes II
8. God's Call: Saints and Heroes III
9. The Bible
10. The Bible and the Catholic Church
11. Praying the Bible; Lectio divina.
12. The Story of Jesus
13. One Story, Four Gospels

14. Forgiveness in action: The Story of the Prodigal Son
15. The Church in History: Always Changing, Always the Same
16. The Apostles Creed I
17. Apostles' Creed II
18. The Ten Commandments.
19. The Beatitudes: Blessings from God
20. Life after death.
21. The Lord's Prayer
22. Sacred Time, Sacred Space, Sacred Things.
23. Sacramentality and Sacraments.
24. Eucharist
25. Mary, the Mother of the Lord.
26. History of the Rosary.
27. How to Pray the Rosary.
28. Prayer of the Church.
29. The Church in the Modern World: Catholic Social Teaching.
30. Review, Summary and Invitation.

To order a copy of *Call and Response*, visit our website, [www.catholicenquiry.com](http://www.catholicenquiry.com) or call us on 1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484).

## Inspiration



**GIANNA BERETTA MOLLA**

Gianna Beretta Molla was born in Magenta (Milan) on October 4, 1922. She was the tenth in a family of thirteen children.

From a young age she was committed to apostolic service in the Church through her involvement in Catholic Action and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. In 1942 she commenced her studies at the University of Pavia and attained her degrees in Medicine and Surgery. Following her studies Gianna opened a medical clinic in Mesero. She continued her studies, specialising in Paediatrics at the University of Milan, and

this would help her to give special attention to mothers, babies, the elderly and poor.

Gianna had hoped to join her brother as a missionary in Brazil, however she remained in Milan because of health reasons. The field of medicine was her mission and she generously dedicated her time to serve Catholic Action.

In September 1955 Gianna married Pietro Molla. Gianna wrote to him before their marriage: "Love is the most beautiful sentiment that the Lord has put into the soul of men and women."

They became the parents of Pierluigi, Mariolina and Laura. In 1961 Gianna was pregnant again, however, during the

second month of the pregnancy a fibroma was discovered in her uterus. Gianna was left with the gruelling decision of choosing her life or her child's. Gianna knowing fully the risk and complications of a continued pregnancy courageously made a sacrificial decision, and said, "If you must decide between me and the child, do not hesitate: choose the child – I insist on it. Save him."

On the morning of April 21, 1962, Gianna Emanuela was born. Despite all efforts and treatments to save both of them, on the morning of April 28, at the age of 39 Gianna Molla passed away.

Gianna was beatified by Pope John Paul II on April 24, 1994, during the international Year of the Family.

# Orders

## BOOKS

Call and Response: An Introduction to the Catholic Faith	16.50
"Food for Life" Catholic Mission Cook Book	25.00

## MULTIMEDIA

Christ Bearers - Understanding Baptism (DVD)	32.95
Hearing God's Call: An Audio Introduction to the Catholic Faith - 4 disk set with 30 sessions of 10 minute duration (CD)	44.00
Pope Benedict's Encyclical - God Is Love <i>Deus Caritas Est</i> (CD)	24.20
The Mass - Images of Catholic Life (CD)	32.95

## PAMPHLETS

About the Catholic Faith	0.25 ea
The Sacrament of Baptism	0.25 ea
The Sacrament of Marriage	0.25 ea

## YOUR WILL

The Catholic Enquiry Centre benefits from the generosity of many of our donors and supporters, even after they are no longer able to contribute on a regular basis. Those who have died and left a bequest to the Catholic Enquiry Centre give a gift which keeps on giving.

After meeting all ordinary obligations in your Will, you may consider a bequest supporting the Catholic evangelisation of our nation. The Catholic Enquiry Centre can supply a form of words for such an intention to your legal advisors.



To place your order, call 1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484) or visit [www.catholicenquiry.com](http://www.catholicenquiry.com) to download an order form.

# Your Support

Online donations are now being piloted. If you would like use this method to support the Catholic Enquiry Centre's mission of evangelisation, please call 1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484) or email [info@catholicenquiry.com](mailto:info@catholicenquiry.com)

## TO AID THE CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE IN ITS MISSION IN AUSTRALIA

### I enclose

My donation cheque for \$

Name:

Address:

State/Territory:  P/code:

Email:

### or please debit my

Card type:  Mastercard  Visa

Amount: \$

Card number:

Expiry date:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

**POST THIS COUPON TO:** Catholic Enquiry Centre  
PO Box 415, Crows Nest  
NSW 1585 Australia



**Catholic Enquiry Centre**

Reaching out in faith  
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference