

AUSVANGELIST

NEWSLETTER OF THE CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE



VOLUME 54 ISSUE 2 • ASSUMPTION 2013

From the Director



And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exalts in God my saviour..." (Lk 1:46, 47)

In his homily during Mass for the inauguration of his

ministry as Bishop of Rome and Successor of Peter on 19 March 2013, the Feast of St Joseph, Pope Francis said "I implore the intercession of the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saints Peter and Paul, and Saint Francis, that the Holy Spirit may accompany my ministry, and I ask all of you to pray for me! Amen."

It is with grateful hearts that we pray for this new Holy Father who has brought great humility and a new joy to the Church while acting in continuity with his predecessors.

Pope Francis has on many occasions invoked the intercession of Our Lady. Once he asked "Let us ask for the help of Mary Most Holy so that the Church throughout the world may proclaim the Resurrection." It is Mary who has been rightly called the Star of the New Evangelisation.

I recently heard Our Lady referred to as a great 'untier of knots'. It is a lovely image of the assistance Mary can be in the face of life's troubles...

One of the practical matters the Catholic Enquiry Centre has been looking into for many months is the matter of offering the capacity for our valued donors to make their contributions to the work of the CEC online. While this is not going to alter the habits of all our supporters, it is bringing us into the 21st Century and availing ourselves of the technology with which generations are becoming more and more comfortable. Of

course cheque and credit card donations will still be available.

If you are interested in donating online, I would like to invite you to be part of our pilot program. When you are ready to make your donation, simply call or email the Catholic Enquiry Centre to be given instructions to access the website. Contact details are: 1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484) and info@catholicenquiry.com.

However it is delivered please know that all donations are gratefully received and put to good use in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with all who enquire.

While many of our enquirers are not Catholic, and our outreach is primarily to those who are seeking to become Catholic, there are a number who tell us they are Catholic but do not understand the basics of their faith. What an important gift which we can give to help these people to go deeper in their understanding of Jesus who is at the heart of what we believe. As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI reminds us, "Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." (*Deus Caritas Est*, 2005, n1)

We give thanks to God for all who support the work of evangelisation through the Catholic Enquiry Centre, sharing this vital mission of the Church.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

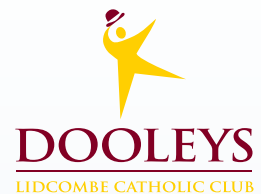
Marita Winters
Director
Catholic Enquiry Centre



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.

CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE

PO BOX 415
Crows Nest NSW 1585

1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484)
info@catholicenquiry.com

www.catholicenquiry.com

Projects Desk



Since my last column the Church and the whole world has received the gift of Pope Francis. In words and in deeds Pope Francis has captivated the heart of many. One memorable line from the Pope was

from a homily he delivered in his 'home' chapel at Saint Martha's House in which he said the confessional is not a *'laundromat' that removes sins. It is not 'a torture session' where beatings are inflicted.* Our Holy Father is a good communicator and he has the common touch. (See the *Inspiration* section for more on Pope Francis.)

I also reported in the last edition of *Ausvangelist* that the Catholic Enquiry

Centre was increasing its presence in the online environment through Facebook and Blogs. I think most of us have a sense of what Facebook is, but perhaps Blogs still remain something of a mystery.

In some ways a Blog might be compared with a letter from a close friend. The difference is that with a Blog a much larger audience is invited to read the thoughts and reflections. You may know of friends or relatives who write Blogs describing events that occur as part of an overseas trip or you might do it yourself.

The Catholic Enquiry Centre has its own Blog site. Short theological and pastoral reflections are posted on this site on a regular basis. The reflections or Blogs are specifically designed to meet the needs of those searching for God and

those who have recently become Catholics.

You are invited to visit, read, print and share the short reflective pieces that populate the Catholic Enquiry Centre Blog site. Simply go to: www.catholicenquiry.com and click on Blog across the top

As always, thank you very much for your continuing support in prayer and in donations.

In Christ Jesus,

John Francis Collins
Catholic Enquiry Centre

Resources

FOR PARISHES

Enquirers seeking to become Catholic? For parishes which have enquirers wanting to find out about the Catholic faith, please consider *Call and Response: An Introduction to the Catholic Faith*.

This resource has been very well received. Typical comments we have received as feedback:

"I find the book very user friendly".
(Religious sister working in a parish, Victoria)
"Thank you very much for your email and the book; it is really useful and a very easy read". (Enquirer, Queensland)

Some parishes use *Call and Response* as one of a suite of resources they draw upon for RCIA but the book was not written to be used as the sole resource for RCIA. An RCIA Companion

Manual has been prepared for those parishes who want to see how to use *Call and Response* within their RCIA framework.

To place an order please visit www.catholicenquiry.com/products or call us on 1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484) for more information.

FOR SCHOOLS

Want to follow what Pope Francis has to say? Try some of these apps and sites:

Pope Francis on Twitter: @Pontifex:
<https://twitter.com/Pontifex>
Join 2,261,188 followers!

The Pope App:
<http://www.thepopeapp.com/index.html>

News from Pope Francis and the Vatican:
news.va

The Vatican general site:
http://www.vatican.va/phome_en.htm

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

YOUR WILL

A significant number of Australians die without a Will. Our choices can make a difference in the world. We can choose to let our life's work continue for the good even after we have finished the journey. 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.

Inspiration

POPE FRANCIS

One of five children, Jorge Mario Bergoglio was born in Buenos Aires on 17 December 1936. His mother Regina Sivori and father Mario had both migrated from Italy.

After graduating as a chemical technician Jorge studied at the Diocesan Seminary before entering the novitiate of the Society of Jesus in 1958. Jorge completed his studies of the humanities and philosophy in Chile and Argentina.

Ordained a priest in December 1969 at the age of 33 Jorge continued his Jesuit training and made his final profession on 22 April 1973. Three months later he was appointed

Provincial of the Jesuits in Argentina, an office he held for six years. Following this appointment Fr Bergoglio resumed work teaching, running a college and managing a parish. At the age of 50 he went to Germany to finish his doctoral thesis.

In 1992 Fr Jorge was appointed Auxiliary of Buenos Aires by Pope John Paul II. At this time he chose as his episcopal motto, 'miserando atque eligendo', meaning 'lowly but chosen'. For his coat of arms he inserted the ihs, the symbol of the Society of Jesus. The motto and symbol remain as part of his Papal Coat of Arms.

In February 1998 Bishop Bergoglio was

installed as Archbishop of Buenos Aires. Three years later in 2001, Pope John Paul II appointed him as a Cardinal. As Archbishop and later Cardinal, he remained a simple pastor who was deeply loved in his Archdiocese. During the 15 years as Archbishop Bergoglio chose to live in a simple apartment, did his own cooking and travelled about Buenos Aires by bus and on the underground rail system.

Jorge Mario Cardinal Bergoglio was elected as the Bishop of Rome; the Pope on 13 March 2013.

For a longer version of this story visit http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/biography/documents/papa-francesco-biografia-bergoglio_en.html

Orders

BOOKS

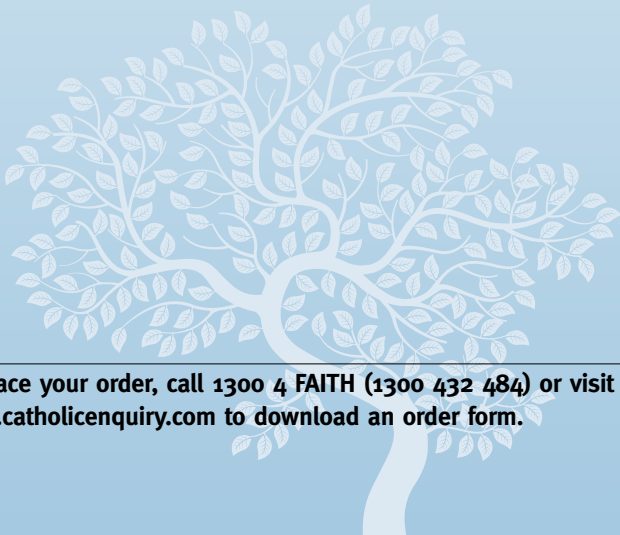
| | |
|---|-------|
| Call and Response: An Introduction to the Catholic Faith | 16.50 |
| Divorce and the Catholic Church FAQ's (No GST) | 2.00 |
| "Food for Life" Catholic Mission Cook Book | 25.00 |
| Marriage in the Catholic Church FAQ's (No GST) | 2.00 |

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 |
| How to Pray the Rosary | 0.45 ea |
| The Sacrament of Baptism | 0.25 ea |
| The Sacrament of Marriage | 0.25 ea |



To place your order, call 1300 4 FAITH (1300 432 484) or visit 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

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