

West Wagga Wagga Catholic Parish
Ashmont, Collingullie, Glenfield, Lloyd, San Isidore

The West Wagga Wag

Issue 150

August 2015

Coming Events

Monthly Cuppa, after 9am Mass on last Sunday of the month

Adoration - 6 to 7am daily, all night Fridays starting 9pm

St John Vianney Tues 4

Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross Sat 8

Assumption of Mary into Heaven Holy Day of Obligation Sat 15

St Monica Thurs 25

St Augustine Fri 26



"If you believe what you like in the gospels, and reject what you don't like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself."
- Saint Augustine

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Wag Contacts

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The date for submissions for the next Wag is: Wednesday Sept 2.

Two Mary Feasts!

Patroness of the Wagga Diocese - St Mary of the Cross - August 8

Join our Bishop Hanna in celebrating our Diocesan Patroness, solemn Mass at St Michaels Cathedral 12.15pm, Saturday 8 August 2015.

"Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God."



"We feel our crosses hard at times, but our courage should rise with them."

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven - August 15

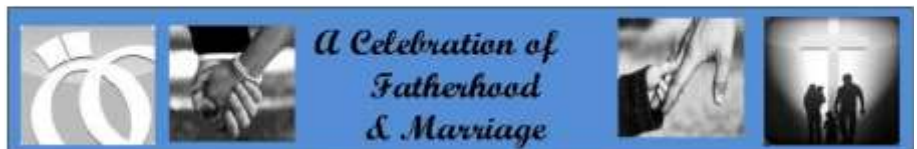
This great feasts of Jesus' and our Mother is a **Holy Day of Obligation**, meaning that, like Sunday, we are called by God to come to Mass.

We can fulfil our obligation by going to a vigil Mass on the Friday evening (14th August), or by going to any Mass on Saturday, including the vigil Mass on Saturday evening Mass.

So on the weekend of 15th - 16th August, we need to go to Mass two times.



4th Annual Pro Life Symposium



Brought to you by **I Choose Life...from Womb to Tomb, Griffith**

GUEST SPEAKERS REV FRED NILE,
Fr Stephen Onyekwere & Mr Tony Grace

Saturday 15th August 2015

Father O'Dea Hall @ St. Patrick's School, Griffith

Parking off Kooba St, (opposite North Griffith Public School)

2:30pm Afternoon Session - No registration fee

Guest Speakers & an opportunity to ask the speakers questions.

pastor's page

More on Marriage

Without doubt, marriage is fundamental in any teaching on society. It is part of the human nature that God gave us. Marriage and romance is also a major part of Catholic moral teaching because "grace perfects nature". A holy life includes living according to God's plan with grace supporting and elevating our life to be something supernaturally beautiful, an offering to God and a sharing in the life and love of the Most Blessed Trinity.

So it is only right that the Catholic Church should teach clearly God's Word on married love, so that we as Catholics can know it more clearly, and even share it those we meet.

With thanks to Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, here are some more thoughts on Marriage, answering some arguments against God's plan for marriage as between one man and one woman only.

*Fr Thomas Casanova
CCS*

Is marriage only about love?

Over the last few decades there have been some very real advances in appreciation of romance and intimacy in marriage, in respect ..., in sharing ... and in the theology and pastoral care of marriages. Yet even as our understanding of relationships has been enriched in these ways, modernity has found itself in a mess about marriage. In just a few decades we've moved from a situation where almost everyone in the West got married and stayed married, to one where most people of marriageable age are not married: they live singly or in a series of more temporary relationships.

Eventually one of these relationships may settle into being a sort of 'de facto' marriage. At some point, perhaps when a couple are thinking of having children, they may decide to solemnize it. But after years of try-before-you-buy

and habitual non-commitment, many find they cannot sustain actual marriages once entered. Some try again - and fail again. Many eschew child-bearing altogether; some want children but in limited numbers, later in life, after achieving other goals. Many children now grow up without ever experiencing the love and care of a mother and father, committed to each other and to them over the long haul....

We all know and love people who have suffered from family breakdown ... Theories abound about the whys and wherefores of all this, but the what is undeniable: **never before in history have we been so unsuccessful at marrying.**



If we are not as good at entertaining and sustaining marriages as we were in the past, it is surely significantly because we are at least **ambivalent about the defining dimensions of marriage as faithful, fruitful and final.** So too the notion of marriage as a sacred act has been abandoned by many. And now another dimension, the sexual complementarity of marriage - **the very thing which points beyond the union itself towards family life** - is also being questioned. All that may be left at the end of this half-century-long unpicking of marriage will be an emotional-sexual bond that places the wishes of adults for long-lived intimacy above all else.

Some will say: no problem. Marriage in their eyes is merely a very flexible label for an institution with no intrinsic meaning...

Reflecting such a 'marriage is what you make it' approach, there have been many experiments in recent years. In 2004 the French President approved Christelle Demichel's 'wedding' to her deceased boyfriend, a policeman killed two years before by a drunk driver. About ten posthumous marriages are now registered each year in France. In the same year a former soldier, Erika La Tour, fell in love with the Eiffel Tower and, after a 'wedding' ceremony, took Eiffel as her surname. The French experiments continue: in 2013 the mayor of Saint-Jean-de-Fos conducted the 'wedding' of a woman to a mediaeval bridge - the menacingly-named Pont du Diable in Céret. Before you make comments about the French, the 'bride', Jodi Rose, was an Australian!

Meanwhile, across the Atlantic in 2009 Amy Wolfe Weber announced that she was to 'marry' a rollercoaster ride. In 2012 a Seattle woman, Baylonia Aivaz, was 'wed' to a building set for demolition. The following year Florida woman, Linda Ducharme, took a ferris wheel for her husband... And this year Yasimin Eleby of Houston, having failed to find a husband by age 40, decided to 'marry' herself ...

In the U.S. there is now a campaign for legalized polyamory. The National Geographic channel recently ran a sympathetic series on polygamy in America, Cambridge University Press in the U.S. published a book *In Defense of Plural Marriage* and only yesterday the New York Times ran a sympathetic op-ed piece entitled "Is Polygamy Next?" The 'throuple' is fashionable at present: three people purporting to marry each other at once. ...

"All you need is love" really isn't enough. And if we agree on that, then we agree that we need some concept of what marriage is, what its ends, limits and scope are.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

August Jokes



Mrs Baker wanted to go ice fishing. She had read several books on the subject, and finally, after getting all the necessary equipment together, she made her way out onto the ice. After positioning her comfy stool, she started to make a circular cut in the ice.

Frighteningly, from up above, a voice boomed, 'There are no fish under the ice.' Startled, Mrs Baker moved farther down the ice, poured herself a large coffee, and began to cut yet another hole.

Again, from the heavens, the voice bellowed, 'There are no fish under the ice.' Mrs Baker, now became very concerned so she moved way down to the opposite end of the ice, set up her stool, and began again to cut her ice-hole.

The voice rang out once more, 'There are no fish under the ice.' Mrs Baker, stopped, looked upwards and said, 'Is that you, Lord?'

The voice replied, 'No, this is the Ice-Rink Manager.'

Q: Why are fish so smart A: Because they swim in schools!

Q: How do fish go into business? A: They start on a small scale!

The fishing was good; it was the catching that was bad.

There's a fine line between fishing and just standing on the shore like an idiot.

Calling fishing a hobby is like calling brain surgery a job.

The fisherman's golden rule: the one that got away is always bigger than the one you gotta weigh.

A customer at Stingray Fishmongers marvelled at the owner's quick wit and intelligence.

'Tell me, Simon, what makes you so smart?'

'I wouldn't share my secret with just anyone,' Simon replies, lowering his voice so the other shoppers won't hear. 'But since you're a good and faithful customer, I'll let you in on it. Fish heads. You eat enough of them, you'll be positively brilliant.' 'You sell them here?' the customer asks.

'Only \$4 apiece', says Simon.

The customer buys three. A week later, he's back in the store complaining that the fish heads were disgusting and he isn't any smarter.

'You didn't eat enough,' says Simon.

The customer goes home with 20 more fish heads. Two weeks later, he's back and this time he's really angry.

'Hey, Simon,' he complains, 'you're selling me fish heads for \$4 a piece when I can buy the whole fish for \$2. you're ripping me off!'

'You see?' says Simon, 'you're smarter already.'

Q: What do you call a small fish magician? A: A magic carpet

Q: What is the fastest fish in the water? A: A motopike

A monastery is in financial trouble, so it goes into the fish-and-chips business to raise money. One night a customer knocks on its door. A monk answers. The customer asks, "Are you the fish friar?" "No," he replies. "I'm the chip monk."

What kind of music should you listen to while fishing? Something catchy!

Why did Batman and Robin quit going fishing together? Because Robin ate all the worms!

"Pass me the shellfish," Tom said crabbily.

Diner: Waiter, waiter, what's wrong with this fish? Waiter: Long time no sea, sir.

Q: Where do fish sleep? A: In a river bed

Q: What is the difference between a fish and a piano? A: You can't tuna fish.

Q: If fish lived on land, in which country would they live? A: Finland.

Q: What do you call a fish without the eye? A: fish

It was a cold winter day, when an old man walked out onto a frozen lake, cut a hole in the ice, dropped in his fishing line and began waiting for a fish to bite. He was there for almost an hour without even a nibble when a young boy walked out onto the ice, cut a hole in the ice not too far from the old man and dropped in his fishing line. It only took about a minute and WHAM! a Largemouth Bass hit his hook and the boy pulled in the fish. The old man couldn't believe it but figured it was just luck. But, the boy dropped in his line and again within just a few minutes pulled in another one. This went on and on until finally the old man couldn't take it any more since he hadn't caught a thing all this time. He went to the boy and said, "Son, I've been here for over an hour without even a nibble. You have been here only a few minutes and have caught about half a dozen fish! How do you do it?" The boy responded, "Roo raf roo reep ra rums rrrarm." "What was that?" the old man asked. Again the boy responded, "Roo raf roo reep ra rums rrrarm." "Look," said the old man, "I can't understand a word you are saying." So, the boy spia into his hand and said, "You have to keep the worms warm!"



‘Nutella Founder Dies, Said Secret of Success Was Our Lady of Lourdes



Devout Catholic took employees to visit site of Marian apparitions

This year on a February Saturday afternoon in Monte Carlo, after a months-long illness, Michele Ferrero, 89, founder of Nutella died. His company, founded in 1946 in Italy, produced the popular hazelnut chocolate spread along with Mon Cheri, Kinder eggs, Ferrero Rocher, Fiesta, and Pocket Coffee treats.

As Michele Ferrero said at the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the company:

"The success of Ferrero we owe to Our Lady of Lourdes, without her we can do little." And indeed, a small statue of the Virgin is present in each of the Ferrero establishments worldwide.

Michele Ferrero was the richest person in Italy, with a net worth, according to Forbes Magazine of \$23.4 billion. He was a man endowed with a strong faith who spent his life away from the spotlight and the tabloids. Each year he went on pilgrimage to Lourdes taking his top manager. He also organized a visit to the French shrine for his employees.

According to the Guardian newspaper, which published a profile of him in 2011, the company's Rocher pralines are rumored to have been inspired by the craggy rock grotto, called the Rocher de Massabielle, at the shrine in Lourdes.

He built his empire valuing the best of Italy with quality products and innovation. But his greatest talent was knowing how to involve employees and show special attention to employees when training them. "My only concern," he once said, "is that the company is increasingly solid and strong to guarantee all workers a secure place."

Under his leadership, his products were available in 53 countries with over 34,000 employees and 20

production facilities, and nine agricultural enterprises."



ST. VINCENT de PAUL TWINNING NEWS

Good news! Our Conference has received letters from both our twinned Conferences. Thomas Jose, President of St. Anthony's Conference at Amboori [which is in the very southern part of India - Google earth it] writes'

"Greetings. Peace be with you. We have five adopted families. In every year we visit Orphanages and help them money and clothes. We visit Cancer patients and help them. Here very very poor people. This is a hill area. So we want twinning support regularly. God bless you.



[the underlining is theirs, not mine] Our Sonal officer [don't know what this is] brother K. P. Philip Vakanil passed away 24/5/15. Please pray for his soul. He was a good and active worker of St. Vincent de Paul Society in Amboori. Please help your twinning support regularly. With love"

Thomas Ambrose, President of St. Thomas' Conference at Pathukani [also in the southern part of India and fairly close to Amboori] writes, "... we have selected three new families adopt with our conference and we have already five families before. We are giving educational assistance, medical assistance, and Distribution of Food material, home visit, hospital visit and etc... we are receiving the twinning support regularly and we thank you very much for the same ... We pray for you and we thank you once again for your financial and spiritual support."

Thomas Jose wrote to us last November seeking our assistance in providing sewing machines and materials for ten poor families. We think this may be possible [we provided sewing machines and milking cows several years ago to our then twin]. We are making enquiries as to how this can be done nowadays and we will keep you informed through the Wag of our progress.

Thank you for your continued support of our twinning programme. One dollar a month - twelve dollars a year - can work wonders in India. We desperately need new contributors, we would love to have you. If you wish to support us, please tell Father Gerard or one of our St. Vincent de Paul local Conference members.

Paul Smythe, Holy Trinity Conference Twinning Officer.

When it Hurts: How to Share the Catholic Faith Tyler Blanski



This is for those men and women who have risked sharing the faith only to be psychoanalyzed, slighted, even shamed. God knows sometimes you just need a few hours before the Blessed Sacrament. Or a cup of coffee with your parish priest. Or a word of encouragement like this one.

Jesus wants you to share the Catholic faith with everybody, even Christians who are not yet Catholic, even though it's testing friendships. Do not lose heart (2 Cor. 4:16). The Holy Spirit works best through tears. When the going gets rough, here are three things to remember when you share the Catholic faith.

Be Humble

Do not mistake indecision for humility. ... If your experience has been anything like mine, sharing the joy of Catholicism with non-Catholics has been met with an almost unanimous: "Stop being so arrogant and unkind!" What begins as an inquiry quickly turns into ad hominem speculation about your tone, your motives, your subconscious fear of being wrong.

Do not defend yourself. Be insulted, be diagnosed, and be grateful that you have been slandered for the sake of Christ. This is much easier said than done. But how will God paint something beautiful if you will not let him press you against the canvas of others?

G.K. Chesterton noticed that today people are considered humble not when they are doubtful about themselves but when they are doubtful about the truth. ...

Do not be humble about the truth. God's revealed truth is not your truth; it's the Church's truth. Be

humble about yourself, but do not be humble about the "faith delivered once for all" (Jude 1:3).

No one will think you are being nice for sharing the Catholic faith. But love and niceness are not the same thing. Besides, the niceness of a doctrine is not a measure of its truth.

Be Biblical

The Bible is your best tool for sharing the Catholic faith with non-Catholic [Christian]s. Your shared love, your mutual recognition of its inspiration and submission to its authority, make the Bible a great starting point.

But read the Bible with the Church. Do not share your interpretation or your perspective with non-Catholics. Share the interpretation of the Catholic Church. The Bible is, after all, her book. Because of the Catholic Church we know that Paul's second letter to Timothy is a legitimate part of the Bible, and in that letter Paul says that Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness (2 Tim. 3:16). By "useful" Paul means that Scripture is to be used.

Pray

Prayer does more than persuasion can. In an effort to share the truth of transubstantiation, for example, you can explore Revelation, 1 Corinthians 10, and John 6 and it might not be enough. You can appeal to the Old Testament parallels and the witness of the church fathers and it might not be enough. Apart from the Holy Spirit, reason and rhetoric are never enough. That's okay, because truth is not your gift to give.

Truth is God's gift to give. Wisdom is God's gift (Eph. 1:17), faith is God's gift (1 Tim. 1:14), love is God's gift (1 Thess. 3:12), salvation is God's gift (Eph. 2:8), and the bishops of the Catholic Church are merely stewards of God's gifts (2 Tim. 2:2). You must pray that God would work mightily through his Church. Every good and perfect gift

comes from above (James 1:17).

You must pray. Get into apologetics, hermeneutics, and church history, but not until you get on your knees. "Rejoice in hope, patient in tribulation, constant in prayer" (Rom. 12:12). Seek opportunities to share the Catholic faith in word and deed. But most of all, seek opportunities to pray. "Devote yourselves to prayer, watchful and thankful" (Col. 4:2). More often than not, you are not battling ignorance and indifference but the giants of pride and passion. Only prayer can contend against the giants.

Conclusion

To be Catholic is to be in love. Your love for the Trinity and the Church will overflow into a more vulnerable love for everyone. A Catholic in love cannot help but to share the faith.

Point everything to God. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us" (2 Cor. 4:7). God is the jewelry; you are just the box.

The Catholic Church exists to bring glory to the triune God through joining Christ in his mission of salvation. We are called not only to share the good news of Jesus with every single person in the world, but also to invite them to believe, and not only to believe but also to be baptized, and not only to be baptized but also to grow into the full stature of Christ through works and God's sacramental graces. It's a whole new Genesis, a new beginning.



10 Surprising things that happen when you go to Adoration

- Ruth Baker

The Eucharist is described in the catechism as the 'source and summit' of our faith. Finding the time to go to Adoration can be difficult. But if you can make it happen, committing to regular Adoration with an open heart can have some surprising results.

1. You develop a sense of awe and wonder

There is nothing like the atmosphere of a quiet chapel or



church, the smell of incense and the splendour of the monstrance to help you understand the truth of what is happening in Adoration. We are truly before Jesus Christ, His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. The more you sink into that silence in front of the Host, the more you'll realize that the only response is awe and wonder at the greatness of our God.

2. You experience peace in other areas of your life



Jesus said "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you." (John 14:27) The outward peace

we can experience in Adoration reaches much deeper. It leads to an inner peace that affects all areas of our lives. It doesn't mean everything in our life will be perfect and without suffering, but Christ's peace means that we know that the storms of life can't shake us.

3. You begin to look outwardly

Jesus told us to "love one another as I have loved you". (John 13:34)



Spending time in Adoration connects us to the whole world – after all, we're spending time with the Creator of all things! More time praising and adoring God means

you can look beyond your own concerns and see the needs of others in your life and in the world that we live in.

4. You get bored sometimes

There are going to be times when Adoration can feel anything but



glorious. You get distracted, your mind begins to wander, you can hear someone else sniffing next to you. Maybe in the beginning Adoration was full of wonderful feelings! Regular Adoration is when daily life sets in and it can make it feel not so special. But that doesn't devalue or take away from the truth of what Adoration is. Our faith is more than feelings and God will still be working in you. ... Know that even if an hour spent in Adoration is a continual returning to Him every few minutes when your mind wanders, you are still giving God the best gift you can – your time and company.

5. But you become excited going to Adoration



The more time you spend in Adoration discovering that God is a

God who loves you and wants to spend time with you, the more you begin to actually want to go. If Adoration once felt like a chore, you might even find yourself becoming excited to go! Adoration is addictive, not just because of the things we can gain for ourselves, but because we were created to adore. As we say in the Mass, it is "right and just" that we should give thanks to the Lord!

6. Grace enters your life

It's amazing how a simple act of committing to



even a short time of regular Adoration makes such a huge difference to the rest of your life. You can carry that moment of being in His presence with you long after you've left the church or chapel. His grace sustains you in every moment, especially in moments of temptation. Temptation becomes easier to resist when you're spending more time in Adoration. Sometimes, it really is that straightforward.

7. You realize how fortunate you are

If it is as simple for you as getting in the car and



driving to Adoration at church, or even walking to the chapel nearby, you realise how much you can take it for granted. There are those who would love to spend more time with Jesus in Adoration but who are housebound, sick or busy parents. Then there are those around the world who actually risk their lives for the Eucharist, in places where they are persecuted for their faith. When you remember those who walk for hours or days in dangerous situations in order to be present with Jesus, you realise what a gift it is to be able to pray openly, not to mention having a priest to minister the sacraments.



8. You realize that God has a sense of humour

The more you are able to sit

and let God speak to you (instead of spending all your time filling the silence with talking to Him), you'll find that God has a really good sense of humour. He likes a joke or two, and sometimes these moments are funny enough to make you want to laugh out loud. Surprising, maybe, but don't the best fathers show you their love by affectionate good humour?!?

10 surprising things continued..

9. You want to go to Confession more



This might sound scary, but it's not. Confession allows us to experience

the mighty boundless ocean that is God's mercy. His mercy swallows up all our sins and gives us a true kind of freedom, a freedom without fear, which allows us to make the leap into His love and goodness, complete with all His perfect plans for our life.

10. You fall in love



Ultimately, you can't help this one! When you spend more time with an open heart in

Adoration and just let Christ love you, then you'll fall in love too. That love will define you and allow you to be yourself. "I came that they may have life, life in all its fullness." (John 10:10)

So what are you waiting for? Make

a date now for some Adoration and let God transform your life!

Ruth Baker is 24 and comes from England. She loves running, wild camping and writing and thinks there is almost nothing better than the feeling of satisfaction after a day out in the mountains. She is due to begin a degree in Creative Writing at the University of Wales. With an eclectic background of careers in watersports, education and youth ministry, she loves new challenges and adventures. Her faith means everything to her.



Man Speed-Walks to Confession Line to Beat Family with 11 Kids

POPNews: St. Paul, MN – A parishioner at St. Agnes Catholic Church started speed walking to the confession line Saturday afternoon upon seeing the O'Malley family arrive in their 15-passenger van on the other side of the parking lot.

"It's inspiring to see a good, solid Catholic family living their faith together," he told ChurchPOP as he took a short cut through the church's shrubs. "But if those parents with their eleven kids get in the confession line before me, that's at least another hour of waiting in line, if not longer."

Although he was out of his car before them, he explained he better get moving because "their 11-year-old Irenaeus usually runs ahead and saves a spot for the rest of the family," a practice he said he thought was "kind of cheap, but what can you do."

The parishioner admitted that confessions had started an hour earlier, but that he liked to arrive in the latter half of the scheduled time. "Just as the initial lines have thinned out," he proudly explained, "but with enough time to make sure I still get in."

But he didn't take into the possibility of getting stuck behind the O'Malley family today. "What are they doing here?! They almost always go to confession before the 7 am daily mass on Tuesdays." He then recalled the priest had been out of town on Tuesday.

When the parishioner entered the back of the sanctuary, he saw that Irenaeus O'Malley had just entered through a side door and was getting close to the end of the confession line. Although the parishioner walked as quickly as he felt he appropriately could, the 11-year-old beat him to it.

At press time, the parishioner was still bargaining with the child to let him cut in line. But the child's 7-, 9-, 13-, and 14-year-old brothers had arrived before the deal was closed, with their parents and six more children close behind, making any deal less likely.

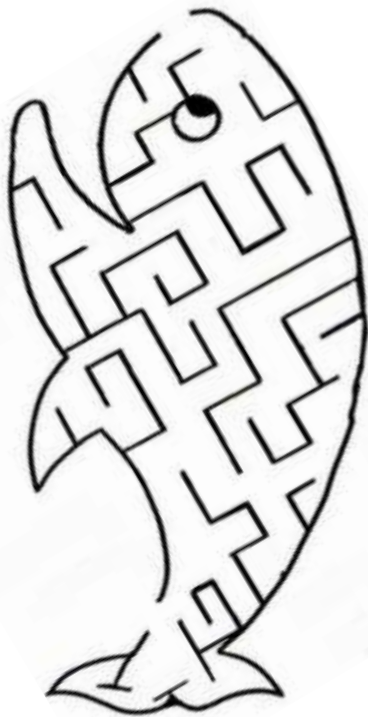


The West Wagga Wag

West Wagga Parish



Serving: Ashmont,
Collingullie,
Glenfield, Lloyd,
and San Isidore



JESUS	BOAT
THANKS	LOAVES
TWELVE	TOWNS
LEFT	BASKETFULS
HEALED	SATISFIED
FISH	FOLLOWED
CROWDS	SICK
PEOPLE	

Jesus Feeds the 5000

Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. John 6:11 (NIV)



H	J	F	W	W	W	H	F	J	S	S	X	N	N	V
V	B	B	O	A	T	T	B	K	X	A	Y	C	D	D
X	P	T	J	M	F	L	N	A	M	T	H	Q	P	J
C	D	Q	F	E	A	A	C	K	K	I	E	N	T	R
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L	D	C	R	G	S	C	U	L	E	E	S	F	S	K
J	O	T	A	E	M	I	M	S	J	D	O	D	K	C
F	B	A	S	K	E	T	F	U	L	S	W	P	S	K
P	I	B	V	T	T	A	K	B	D	O	H	S	L	W
P	S	S	L	E	B	D	U	I	R	K	M	X	M	E
Q	D	J	H	K	S	F	K	C	L	M	E	H	A	O