

The West Wagga Wag

Issue 184

June 2018

Coming Events

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Trinity

- 6 to 7am daily;
- overnight from 9pm Friday through to 7am Saturdays

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus

Sun 3

Saint Boniface

Tue 5

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Fri 8

The Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sat 9

St Barnabas

Mon 11

St Anthony of Padua

Wed 13

St Aloysius Gonzaga

Thu 21

Sts John Fisher and Thomas More

Fri 22

The Birth of St John the Baptist

Sun 24

St Cyril of Alexandria

Wed 27

St Irenaeus

Thu 28

Saints Peter and Paul

Fri 29

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

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Wag Contacts

Email:

westwaggaparish@hotmail.com

Web Page: westwaggaparish.com

Phone: 6931 3601

The date for submissions for the next Wag is: Wednesday June 27th.

Trinity Sunday and The Feast of Christ the Priest

Happy Feast of the Most Blessed Trinity!

The Solemnity of the Holy Trinity was on Sunday 27th May.



And Happy Feast of Christ the Priest!

West Wagga Parish celebrated the Solemnity of Christ the Priest with Mass at 7am and the Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction at 7pm.



The Solemnity of Christ the Priest this year was on 23rd May - Jesus moved His Thursday Feast to the Wednesday to make way for His Mother's Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians on the 24th!

Confraternity members and students travelled from the West Wagga Parish to Melbourne for more Christ the Priest celebrations.



pastor's page - Keeping Salty

During May, a terrible thing happened in Ireland. A vote opened the gates to legalizing abortion. What makes Ireland's case so sad is that it is 78% Catholic. Why is abortion "a sin which cries to heaven for vengeance" and one of the few sins which carries an automatic excommunication for the abortionist, and

those who organize or help it to actually happen? (This does not apply to a teenager pushed into abortion by parents, but it does apply to those parents, murderers of their own grandchild.) Because EVERY child is of sacred worth, from the moment of conception: each child is made in the image of God, with a soul loved by God into existence despite whatever difficult circumstances exist.

As St Mother Teresa said,

The greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child, a direct killing of the innocent child, murder by the mother herself. And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another? How do we persuade a woman not to have an abortion? As always, we must persuade her with love and we remind ourselves that love means to be willing to give until it hurts. Jesus gave even His life to love us. So, the mother who is thinking of abortion, should be helped to love, that is, to give until it hurts her plans, or her free time, to respect the life of her child. The father of that child, whoever he is, must also give until it hurts.

By abortion, the mother does not learn to love, but kills even her own child to solve her problems. And, by abortion, that father is told that he does not have to take any responsibility at all for the child he has brought into the world. The father is likely to put other women into the same trouble. So abortion just leads to more abortion. Any country that



accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but to use any violence to get what they want. This is why the greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion.

How did a country of Catholics come to such a pass? Some blame the bishops for being too quiet in speaking up for life. But maybe the reason is more fundamental, a spiritual sickness which Our Lord spoke of when He said,

"You are the salt of the earth; but when salt loses its flavour, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing except to be trampled underfoot."

We are called to be salty, to have a flavour different from the worldliness around us. This means that we should not follow the world in our sexual morality or in other areas. Statistically, wherever contraception is accepted, abortion increases at the same rate. And people lose the beautiful vision of the purpose and dignity of sexuality and marriage given to us by God. This has happened in Ireland. They have approved same-sex unions and now abortion. Many Catholics have stopped going to Mass, and some who go share the values of the

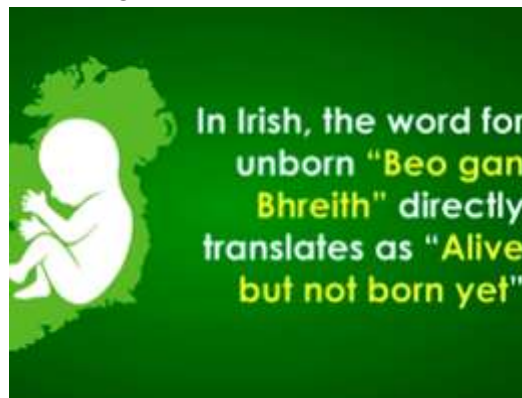
world, and almost never go to Confession. When a society becomes blasé about 'married relations' before marriage, unblushing about pornography etc (as Australia has too), then all the dominos of ethics start to fall, family and life among them.

What now? Is it now all too late for Ireland, for Australia? No its not! While the Irish are following the suicidal madness of European countries, there are places around the world waking up. The lady at the centre of the US abortion case "Roe vs Wade" converted to become Pro-Life and Catholic. The murderous and racist "Planned Parenthood" (just look up the ideas of foundress Margaret Sanger) is being defunded in the US and some states are banning abortion and declaring the unborn child to have full human rights. As once the pagan world was evangelized, the neo-pagan world can be re-evangelized. But it can only happen if we regain our saltiness, and that will only come about when we choose Jesus, not the world.

John 17:14-17)

I gave them Your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. I do not ask that You take them out of the world but that You keep them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth.

(There is no sin God will not forgive, including abortion, if we come for mercy and forgiveness. Confession is a unique, necessary experience of the mercy and healing of Jesus Christ. The Catholic Church also has special counselling about abortion, eg www.walkingwithlove.org.au)



Fr Thomas Casanova CCS

June Jests



A Nun Grading Papers-

Can you imagine the Nun sitting at her desk grading these papers, all the while trying to keep a straight face and maintain her composure!? Pay special attention to the wording and spelling. If you know the Bible even a little, you'll find this hilarious. It comes from a Catholic elementary school test. Kids were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. The following statements about the Bible were written by children.

'In the first book of the Bible, Guinnessis, God got tired of creating the world so He took the Sabbath off.'

'Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of Ark. Noah built and Ark and the animals came on in pears.'

'Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.'

'Sampson slaved the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.'

'Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread without any ingredients.'

'The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide.'

'The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.'

'St John the blacksmith put water on his head.'

'Moses died before he ever reached Canada, then Joshua led the Hebrews in the Battle of Geritol.'

'The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.'

'David fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in Biblical times.'

'The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 Decibels.'

'The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.'

'One of the opossums was St Matthew who was also a taximan.'

'Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.'



It was so cold that . . .

Grandpa's teeth were chattering - in the glass!

. . . when we milked the cows, we got ice cream! When we milked the brown cows - we got chocolate ice cream!

. . . when I turned on the shower - I got hail!

. . . the orchestra concert was cancelled at school. The nurse spent the entire afternoon - steamer in hand - removing instruments from the lips of the brass section!

. . . my rubber ducky refused to get in the tub.

. . . instead of yelling "freeze", the cops just yelled "go outside"!

. . . we didn't get frostbitten - we got frostgobbled!

It was so cold . . .

. . . the iceberg bits in my bathwater were a navigational hazard to my floaty toys!

. . . when the geese flew off - they took the pond! The air force thought the big oval of ice flying through the air was a UFO!

. . . I thought I had a stone rattling around in my boot - it turned out to be one of my toes!

. . . the lights would only go on in the house if we opened the door.

. . . I had to wave a blow-torch in front of my nose just to have a sneeze.

. . . the men didn't trim their moustaches and beards - when the hair got too long, they'd just break a little bit off!

. . . kids were using a new excuse to stay up late: "But Mom, my pyjamas haven't thawed out yet!"

. . . when I needed local anesthesia - the dentist told me to stick my head outside!

. . . words froze in the air. If you wanted to hear what someone said, you had to grab a handful of sentences and take them in by the fire!

. . . my mail broke when I tried to pry open the envelope!

. . . my shadow froze to the ground - when I took a step it snapped right off!

. . . we didn't clean the house - we just defrosted it!



The Trinity - God Himself explains it



Fr. Rutler's Weekly Column
May 27, 2018

An MRI scan gives more details about someone than a portrait, but it is the portrait that conveys personality. Dating agencies ask for photographs, not X-rays. So it is with using diagrams and natural analogies to explain the Blessed Trinity. They are inadequate for conveying the oneness of threeness.

For instance, to compare the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to water, which can be liquid, ice and steam, would mean that the Father morphs into the Son and the Son into the Holy Spirit. As a formal heresy, this is called Modalism, condemned at the Council of Constantinople in 381. A similar mistake is to portray the Father as Creator, the Son as Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit as Sanctifier, as if they were divided in their actions. The beguiling image of the Trinity

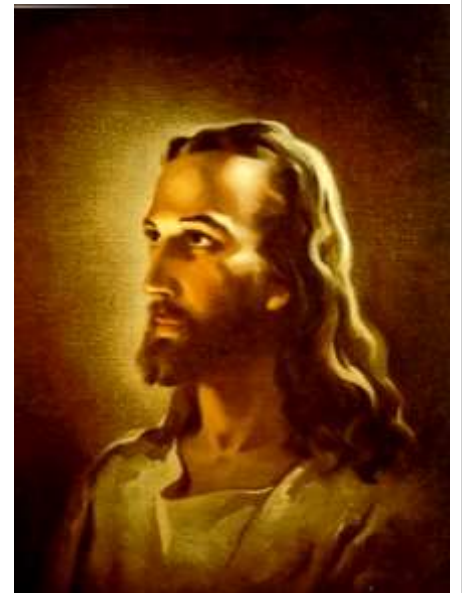
as sun, light and heat is the heresy of Arianism, depicting the Son and Holy Spirit as creatures of the Father.

The legend of Saint Patrick using a shamrock to explain the Trinity to the Druids on Tara makes the mistake of Partialism, depicting the Three Persons of the Godhead as different parts of one God, as though each were one-third of the whole. God is one Being who is three Persons, and not one Being who is three parts. The shamrock story was first mentioned more than a thousand years after Patrick died. That great saint was imbued with Trinitarian theology and referred to the Three in One in his Confessio with a mystical rapture capturing the mystical essence of God as a lover singing a song, and not as a technician performing a biopsy.

The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity follows Pentecost, because only God can explain himself: "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth" (John 16:13). Limited human intelligence complicates the simplicity of the Three in One. In Islam, the Trinity is considered a blasphemous denial of the One God (Koran 4:171; 5:73; 5:116) and no wonder, since Mohammed thought Christians worshipped the Virgin Mary as the Third Person. Modern heresies are even cruder: Mormonism multiplies the Trinity into polytheism, by which any man

can become a god. For Jehovah's Witnesses, like the Arians, Christ is a creature and therefore not divine.

Saint Paul travelled more than ten thousand miles, mostly on foot, and painfully so, since tradition says his legs were misshapen. He declared the Trinity, not with formulas, but often in triple cadences like a hymn. This was the great secret that the Son of God finally made public at his Ascension (Matthew 28:19). Had humans invented the Three in One as a concept, it would be perfectly lucid. Instead, it is not a puzzle, but it is a mystery, which is why the saints can say in awe: "I am not making this up."

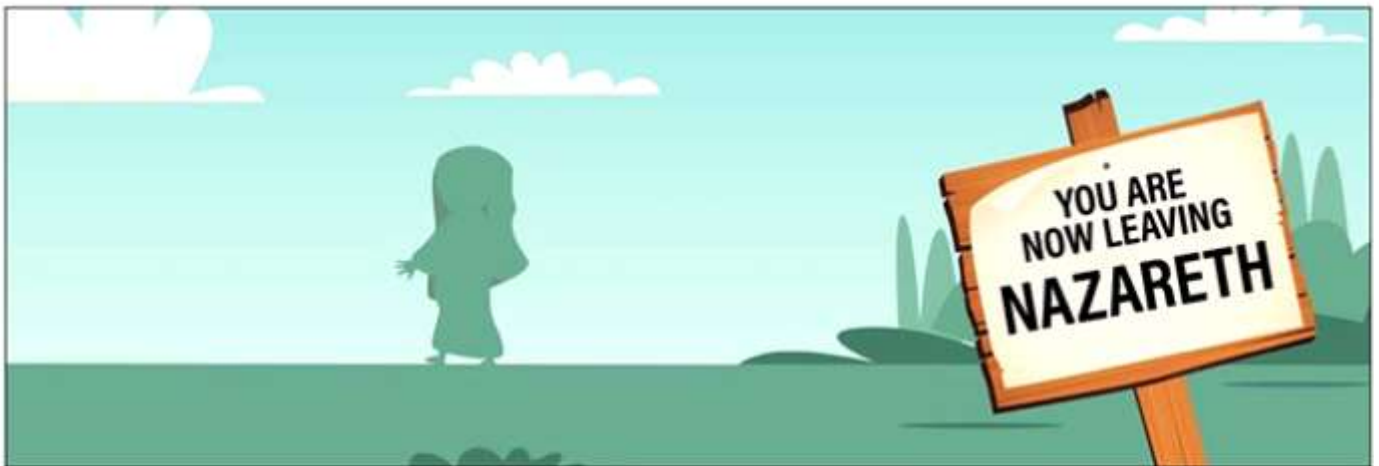


"With so many things coming back in style, i can't wait until morals, respect and intelligence become a trend again." - Denzel Washington



If I had a dollar for every gender there is, I'd have two dollars and a bunch of counterfeits.

Feast of the Visitation - Feast of Corpus Christi



BEATING AROUND THE BURNING BUSH © 2018

THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 2018

Encyclical Anniversaries!

Humanae Vitae, 50th Anniversary - **July**

Blessed Pope Paul VI, prophetic letter on the regulation of birth, with a clear 'no' to contraception.

Veritatis Splendor, 25th Anniversary - **August**

Saint John Paul II, the true teachings of Jesus about conscience and morality, with a clear 'no' to situation ethics.

“Let anyone who can hear, listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches:
those who prove victorious I will feed from the tree of life ...” *Revelation 2:7*

Thou shalt take it easy: 7 reasons to embrace SUNDAY REST

Sam Guzman



Recently, my wife and I were at a Catholic thrift store we frequent, and posted prominently by the entrance was a large sign announcing that beginning in January, the store would now be open on Sundays. The sign explained that Sunday used to be a special day for family, for worship, and for rest—but it simply isn't that anymore. Instead, it is just another day to get things done. "We want to meet people where they are," the sign concluded, "and that means being open on Sunday."

My wife and I were saddened. We had been proud of this store for being one of the handful that still closed on Sunday. In a day when nothing but profit remains sacred, it's hard to believe that only 50 or so years ago, everything was closed on Sunday. Catholic, protestant, or secular, the culture recognized the uniqueness of Sunday as a day of rest.

But while the culture is racing madly about, being "productive" on Sunday, we Catholics should still respect the Lord's day. Here are seven reasons why you should rest on Sunday.

1. GOD COMMANDS IT

The first and foremost reason for resting on Sundays is because God commands it. In Exodus chapter 20, God gives his people ten commandments that summarize the moral law. Among these is a

commandment to "remember the sabbath day to keep it holy." How is the sabbath to be kept holy? By resting.

Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

Mother Church also instructs the faithful to rest on Sundays, including a commandment to rest as the first of her six precepts.

"The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor") requires the faithful to sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord as well as the principal liturgical feasts honoring the mysteries of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints; in the first place, by participating in the Eucharistic celebration, in which the Christian community is gathered, and by resting from those works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days" (CCC #2042).

In other words, go to Mass and then enjoy some leisure.

2. GOD RESTED

When you think of resting on Sundays, you may immediately begin to think of reasons why it is impractical. Perhaps you don't feel tired, or maybe you have too much to get done to take a day off, or maybe you simply don't want to.

Whatever the reasons you come up with, though, your excuses are exploded by the fact that God rested on the seventh day—and if anyone didn't need to take a break, it was him! Think about it, God has unlimited energy. Creating the universe, magnificent and complex at it is, did not tax God's strength. He could have created a million universes without breaking a sweat. And yet he rested.

There are deeply theological reasons for God's Sabbath rest that can perhaps be explored in another

post, but the point is, God rested, and so should we.

3. YOU ACTUALLY NEED IT

Whether you think so or not, you need to rest on Sundays. Unlike God, you do not have unlimited creative energy. It is a scientific fact that the human brain and body can only take so much activity without deteriorating dramatically. The vast majority of us are overworked and stressed out, teetering on the brink of burnout. In fact, business is a badge of honor in some circles.

Stress is hard on the body, and rest is absolutely essential to productivity. St. Thomas once said, "Without work, it is impossible to have fun." This could easily be reversed: Without fun (rest), it is impossible to work effectively. You need a day off to recuperate before tackling a new work week.

4. FAMILY AND FRIENDS

When is the last time you shared a family meal with your wife and children or close relatives? Big Sunday meals with the family after Mass used to be a highlight of every Catholic week. They still should be.

The modern world, fueled by technology, has left us more isolated than ever before. The lack of face-to-face, personal interaction has left families fragmented and many people painfully lonely. Sundays, if properly respected, offer a unique opportunity to spend time with those we love, whether that is family or friends.

5. PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL READING

The saints tell us that prayer is absolutely essential to salvation. Spiritual reading, too, offers us an opportunity to hear God speaking in return. These two activities should be weekly habits for every Catholic.

Yet, despite their critical importance, many of us are so busy that we feel we simply do not have time to pray, read, or meditate as we want to. That's why Sundays

Take it easy on Sunday! continued

are so important—they offer us the space we need to commune with our Lord, both literally in the Holy Eucharist, but also in restful times of prayer and meditation on the truths of the Faith.

6. THINGS YOU ENJOY

Creativity is part of being made in the image of God. It is fascinating to me that cultures of the past had far less of what we would consider free time, and yet everything they made—from tools to blankets to clothing—was made beautiful with intricate patterns and decorations. These days, we have countless conveniences that give us incredible amounts of free-time, but rather than creating, we merely consume.

It is important for men to have a creative outlet. The options are endless—writing, woodworking, gardening, model building, working

on engines, leather-working, and a lot more. Again, Sunday offers a unique opportunity to work with our hands, doing something we enjoy for its own sake.

7. NAPS

Sundays are all about rest, and there's no better way to celebrate this fact than with a good nap. To be honest, I would feel pretty guilty if I took a nap in the middle of the day during the rest of the week when there are many obligations to attend to (my boss probably wouldn't appreciate it either). But on Sundays, I take a guilt free nap if I feel like it, and it really is great. You should try it sometime.

THOU SHALT TAKE IT EASY

If you think about it, it's really a beautiful thing that God commands us to rest. He is not a slave-driver or brutal taskmaster, pushing us to

exhaustion and burnout. On the contrary, he is a loving Father who knows and desires what is best for his children. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart," Jesus said, "and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

I would encourage you to examine your Sunday routine and look for concrete ways to make it more restful and relaxing. Cut out the unnecessary shopping and errands. Make it a day of quiet, rest, fun, prayer, friends, and family.

Our Lord, in his great love for you, is commanding you to keep holy his day by setting aside the to-do list and enjoying some rest. Six days thou shalt run around like a madman, but on the seventh, thou shalt rest, take it easy, play a little bit. Really. Just do it.

AIN'T

He was just a little boy,
On a week's first day.
Wandering home from Bible
school, And dawdling on the way.

He scuffed his shoes into the
grass;
He even found a caterpillar.
He found a fluffy milkweed pod,
And blew out all the 'filler.'

A bird's nest in a tree overhead,
So wisely placed up so high.
Was just another wonder,
That caught his eager eye.



A neighbour watched his zigzag
course,
And hailed him from the lawn;
Asked him where he'd been that day
And what was going on.

'I've been to Bible School ,'
He said and turned a piece of sod.
He picked up a wiggly worm
replying, 'I've learned a lot about
God.'

'A very fine way,' the man then said,
'for a boy to spend his time.'
If you'll tell me where God is,
I'll give you a brand new dime.'

Quick as a Dash the answer came!
Nor were his accents faint.
'I'll give you a dollar, Mister,
If you can tell me where God ain't.'

**Don't use a big word
when a singularly
unloquacious and
diminutive linguistic
expression will
satisfactorily
accomplish the
contemporary
necessity.**

* Life without God is like
an unsharpened
pencil - it has no point.

* Don't let your worries get
the best of you; Remember,
Moses started out as a
basket case.

* Peace starts with a smile.

* Be ye fishers of men
You catch 'em -
He'll clean 'em.

**Apparently you
can't use
'beefstew' as a
password.**



It's not stroganoff.

The West Wagga Wag

West Wagga Parish



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

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 2 Cor 5:17



Find the words below hidden in the 225 letters to the right.

NICODEMUS	FLESH
PHARISEE	AGAIN
KINGDOM	SPIRIT
TEACHER	NIGHT
ETERNAL	RABBI
WORLD	BIRTH
JEWISH	JESUS
LOVED	BORN
TRUTH	MAN
WATER	LIFE

Born Again!

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."



Jesus and Nicodemus
John 3

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