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SYDNEY SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the agencies in the Archdiocese of Sydney

A SERVICE OF CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS, SYDNEY

Archbishop Pell's Sunday Telegraph Column:

Response to Allegations of "Hush Money" to Silence Victims of Sexual Abuse



WITH everyone else in the Australian community I abhor the abuse and mistreatment of children. Sexual abuse of children by clergy is particularly abhorrent. Battling this evil

has always been a major priority in my time as archbishop in two cities.

...the Church response to sexual abuse must always have justice and compassion for the victim as first priority".

"Proper procedures and respect for the truth are essential. This has always been my policy. The image of the Church must always rank much lower than the needs of the people"; — especially the victims and their families.

This is an extract from Archbishop Pell's Sunday Telegraph column on June 16th, 2002. The entire article can be viewed at www.sydney.catholic.org.au The Sydney Archdiocese site also contains other articles relating to this issue.

For further information on the *Towards Healing* program, visit the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference website www.catholic.org.au

NFP Staffer Appointed Delegate to World Meeting of Families

SYDNEY couple, Anne and Peter McGowan, have been chosen as the official delegates of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference to the Fourth World Meeting of Families.

Peter is employed as a pastoral care worker at St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst. Anne is employed by Natural Family Planning Services, Sydney as supervisor of NFP teachers and family life educators. They have been involved in work with developmentally delayed people and have had a long-time involve-

ment with the Catholic Society for Marriage Education. Peter and Anne were founding members of the pre-marriage program, *Together as One*.

The McGowans are active members of St Christopher's parish, Holsworthy. They have four children. They are thrilled at their selection and consider it a great honour to have been chosen to represent the Catholic families of Australia.

The World Meeting of Families will be held in Manila, The Philippines, from 22 — 26 January 2003.

The chosen theme for the World Meeting is *The Christian Family: Good News for the Third Millennium*. The theme of each World Meeting has been specifically chosen by the Pope to reflect his belief in families and his view, expressed in his Apostolic Letter, *Familiaris Consortio* (#86), that "the future of humanity passes by way of the family".

In the Pope's view, the family is much more than a needy group. It is a major agent for evangelisation. Thus the Pope is calling the families of the world to continue to share their love and so to make God's love ever more relatable in every corner of human existence. This is the basis of his challenge: "Family, become what you are," (FC #17).



The absolute and yet sweet and gentle power of the Lord responds to the whole depths of the human person, to his loftiest aspirations of intellect, will and heart. It does not speak the language of force but expresses itself in charity and truth. (Pope John Paul II, 22 October 1978, at the first Mass marking the beginning of his pastoral ministry.)

Professor William May to Speak in Sydney

PROFESSOR William E. May, Professor of Moral Theology at the John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family in Washington, DC, will speak in Sydney later this month. The lecture, on "Marriage: a person-affirming, love-enabling, life-giving, and sanctifying reality", will be given on July 29 in the Gerry Gleeson Auditorium at the Australian Catholic University, 25 Barker St, Strathfield, at 7.30 pm. A donation of \$5 is suggested.

Professor May, one of the world's foremost moral theologians, was appointed by Pope John Paul II to the International Theological Commission, where he served from 1986 through 1997. He is the author of more than a dozen books, including *An Introduction to Moral Theology*, *Marriage: the Rock on which the Family is Built*, *Catholic Sexual Ethics*, and *Catholic Bioethics and the Gift of Human Life*. Copies of his books will be available for sale at the lecture. Professor May is married and is the father of seven children.

Further information may be obtained from the Catholic Adult Education Centre on 9643 3660.

Welcome

IN this issue of Sydney Snapshot you'll find links to sites and documents relating to the issue of sexual abuse within the Church, particularly in light of the accusations of offerings of "hush money" to silence victims.

Anne McGowan, from Natural Family Planning Services, has been selected with her husband to represent Australia at the World Meeting of Families in 2003. And a leading therapist from Centacare Perth is currently in Sydney to offer employers different approaches to handling the workplace.

Cardinal Clancy's new book is hot off the press (released June 27th), and is previewed in this edition.

If your agency has any upcoming events or stories of interest that could be published in 'Sydney Snapshots', please send details to Helen Ransom at cpmedia@sydney.catholic.org.au, phone (02) 9518-9101, or fax (02) 9518-7705. *Please note that the editorial deadline is the last week of each month

Come Back! The Church Loves You

A new book by Cardinal Clancy *Come Back! The Church Loves You* was launched on June 27th.

The book addresses Catholics who no longer practice their faith but may be feeling some desire to return to the Church's sacramental life. It will enlighten those who have strayed from the Church as well as regular churchgoers seeking a comprehensive understanding of their faith.

Cardinal Clancy repeats the appeal

uttered by Pope John Paul II in Sydney in 1986: "Come back! The Church opens her arms to you, the Church loves you!" Aware that many lack a clear and systematic understanding of the Catholic Faith, the Cardinal offers a brief, yet clear explanation of the Church's teachings. *Come Back! The Church Loves You* retails at \$17.95 and is available through most Catholic bookstores or you can order direct from the publisher by phoning St Pauls Publications on 9746 2288.

Leading Therapist Challenges the Way Australians do Business

LEADING Australian therapist and business consultant Ms Peta Slocombe is in Sydney to challenge the way managers, health experts, psychologists and educators do business.

Manager for Centrecare Corporate in Perth and ACCESS Programs' consultant, Ms Slocombe said professionals today often felt helpless after having implemented a range of unsuccessful improvement techniques.

"As simple as it sounds, employees still ultimately decide whether processes will work or not," said Ms Slocombe. "They remain the real drivers behind success and the test for employers is to find ways of motivating and empowering staff into positive action themselves."

Ms Slocombe, a counselling psychologist, has been working with Australian CEOs and managers for over five years on how to bring out the best in people. Her

work extends to the USA in which she works closely with two of North America's highest regarded practitioners.

Ms Slocombe said Australian managers were under more pressure these days, particularly in regard to meeting financial targets while also having to deal with staff conflict, depression, stress, absenteeism, turnover and workplace bullying.

Ms Slocombe said her work helped employers to bring spirit, meaning and balance back into the workplace. This was done by assisting staff to think and talk about times when they worked at their best and how they could make more of this happen.

Ms Slocombe is in Sydney from **26 June to 5 July** to deliver daily seminars that show business managers and employers practical ways in which they can start bringing out the best in their staff. For further information, contact Centacare.

Second course on the Catechism of the Catholic Church to begin in July

"If anyone thinks lay people are not interested in knowing what the Church teaches, or that the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is too heavy for them, I would invite them to the Catholic Centre in Lidcombe on a Tuesday evening later this month", says Fr John Flader, Director of the Catholic Adult Education Centre. Fr Flader gave a series of five classes on the Catechism in May and June and was overwhelmed with the response. "We had over 100 people in all", he says, "and they came from as far away as Newcastle and the Central Coast." Moreover, he adds, there were many in their 20s and 30s and several were non-Catholics.

A second series of classes on the Catechism will begin on Tuesday, July 23, and will cover the second half of the Creed. The classes, to be given again by Fr Flader, will deal with such topics as Christ's death and Resurrection, Redemption, the Holy Spirit and the Church, infallibility, the structure of the Church, Mary, and the Last Things (death, judgment, Heaven, Hell and Purgatory).

The classes begin at 7.30 and end at

9.15, with a break for coffee and tea. There is time for questions at the end of each half of the class. Participants are given a comprehensive set of notes at the beginning of each evening.

Once again there will be an afternoon session on Fridays, from 2.00 to 3.30 pm beginning on July 26, for those who find this time more convenient. The classes are given at The Catholic Centre in Lidcombe.

Fr Flader intends to give a total of 40 classes on the Catechism over the next two years, with 10 on each part of the Catechism. The classes are taped and the tapes are available for sale from the Catholic Adult Education Centre.

The course is of special interest to young people, parents, catechists, teachers, people involved in RCIA programs and non-Catholics interested in knowing what Catholics believe.

There is a nominal fee of \$10 for the course. Those desiring further information or wishing to attend should contact the Centre on 9643 3660.

Feast Days

July 3	St Thomas
July 11	St Benedict
July 22	St Mary Magdalene
July 26	Sts Ann and Joachim
July 31	St Ignatius of Loyola



Adoration at St Mary's

"Could you not watch one hour with Me?"

(Matthew 26:40)



SPEND some quality time before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament every **Thursday** evening at St Mary's Cathedral. Prayer begins at **6pm** and ends at 8pm in the Cathedral's Blessed Sacrament Chapel (behind the High Altar). If you can, join us for Mass at 5.30pm before Adoration!

Adoration evenings began during Lent 2002 and since then hundreds of people have prayed before the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral. Traditionally known as the Holy Hour, hundreds of thousands of people around the world have rediscovered this form of prayer, where Jesus, in the His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity as the Sacred Host, is truly present and exposed in the monstrance on the altar.

Weekly Adoration is organised by **Catholic Youth Services**.