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9.30am

6.30pm

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8.00am

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6.00pm

6.00pm

02 4787 6143

Thu 9.00am - 12.00pm

Fri 9.00am - 12.00pm

A Timely Resource for the Plenary Council 2020

To help you start thinking about ideas for the coming council here is an extract from the recently published book 'Saving Catholics – A Workbook for Reform and Renewal in the Catholic Church' by Gideon Goosen, Australian author and theologian.

" Good Leadership (from the chapter: Good Things about the Church)

To commence our theme of good things in the church, let us begin by considering some recollections of a parishioner called John.

....At the leadership level I have had a good experience of living through the papacy of John XXIII and Pope Francis. These two I would unhesitatingly point out because they gave great hope to many believers.

Pope John XXIII (1958-1963) brought fresh air into the church. He convened an Ecumenical Council in the face of stiff curial opposition and he introduced a new age of reconciliation with our fellow Christians in other churches and with members of other faiths. He liberated us from a narrow understanding of Christianity and gave us hope in a renewed faith.

Pope Francis (2013-) in the spirit of Francis of Assisi, has invited us to go back to the gospel and re-examine our lives in a call to real reform. He urges us to move away from too much focus on doctrine and move to more focus on living out our Christian lives. His daily reflections at Santa Marta are always on the Gospels. He wanted mercy and compassion to take pride of place. To a question regarding homosexuality he stunned the world by asking: who am I to judge? He is against career pastors and bishops and wants leaders to be good pastors, and wants all church members to speak their minds and not be fearful of the church. He has rejected clericalism and the infantilization of the laity (topics that will be a later chapter). Overall we have hope through this pope.

These two popes have certainly been sources of inspiration and hope in my personal journey of faith. It has been a good experience to know them. They together with only a few bishops I have known, have been encouraging. I think that the reason is that most bishops are in a certain mould. They must show unflinching loyalty to the Pope (which means being silent on their private views) and against change on principle. True leadership has been set aside for conformity and compliance.

.....Let us now turn to what makes a good leader. There is no fixed number of qualities of a good leader but some key ones can be identified. Let us mention some of them with a brief indication of what they mean.

2. Courage – take risks

4. Humility – strong but also humble

6. Focus -on what are the important

1. Vision – idea of where you are going

3. Integrity – truthfulness

5. Strategic Planning – looking ahead things

7. Cooperation – working with people

Pop-up Question: Of clergy and lay leaders in your parish or diocese that you have known, which of the above qualities were evident?

Another quality that distinguishes a brilliant leader from a merely good one, according to Coleman, is that of having what they call, emotional intelligence. This means having the ability to empathise with others, the ability to know what they might be feeling at a given time and be able to link up with their emotional state.

To the above description of emotional intelligence, we can add the elements that go to make up this most important quality, namely self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills. (Harvard Business Review, On Emotional Intelligence, Boston: Harvard Business Review Press, 2015.3.)

YOUTUBE View the following; 7 Qualities of Transformational Church Leadership 4.52 Minutes

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

27th Laurie Noves 28th Ron O'Brien



Our Diocese is holding information and training sessions to offer participants a broad understanding of what Plenary 2020 is all about and how we can participate. Furthermore resources and training will be offered to equip participants with the confidence and tools they need to engage others in Plenary 2020.

You are invited to attend one of the following sessions -

- Thursday, 26 July 2018 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm Parramatta Cathedral Hall

- Saturday, 28 July 2018 10.00 am to 12.30 pm St Thomas Aquinas Springwood School Hall

- Saturday, 28 July 2018 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm Emu Plains School Hall - Monday, 30 July 2018 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm St Patrick's Church Blacktown - Sunday, 5 August 2018 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm Institute for Mission Blacktown

RSVP to Marisa

marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org

Please pray for the sick and their carers: Barry Bowden, John & Marion Crowley, Daisy Kielv, Kevin Madden, Maria Slater, Frank McKrell, Marie Johnson, Trennah Portelli, Ray Wood.

_ . _ . _ . _ . WORKING BEE ~ Friday 27 July [•] from 8am. No mowing to do now but there are always jobs to be done and ' to keep our grounds buildings looking neat and [•] tidy. Please join us if possible. Many thanks Lindsay and Lance. ------

STAMPS, CARDS & CORKS ~ Please save all your old stamps, cards and corks. Julie O'Keefe is collecting them to help finance an orphanage in Africa. Please discard the backs of the cards and place them, with corks and used stamps into the box at the back of the church for collection. Thank You.

The Bishop's Blend: Looking to network with other young Catholics? Then join the Most Reverend Bishop **Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of** Sydney on Monday, 6th August 2018 at 7:00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney for The Bishop's Blend, a quarterly breakfast series for young professionals. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets go to https:// thebishopsblendfifthedition.eventbrite.com or contact us at bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org

subscribe there is a small charge of \$15 a year. Please see Jan or Marilyn booklets These | to ì LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS you would like

every three months. If

our parish

delivered to

Catholic devotion

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