

## LOVE AND RESPONSIBILITY

WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> APRIL - FR TIM FINIGAN

### **HUMANAE VITAE – A CHALLENGE TO THE CULTURE**

*“I came that they might have life and have it abundantly.” (Jn 10, 10)*

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by Fr Timothy Finigan

#### **Early debate about contraception**

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##### **Casti Connubii on the dignity of chaste wedlock**

*Casti Connubii*<sup>1</sup> (1930) was about the dignity of chaste wedlock. It was occasioned by the decision of the Lambeth conference to allow the use of contraception within marriage where there were serious reasons for limiting the size of one's family.

##### **Humanae Vitae – moral teaching on marriage**

In 1968, *Humanae Vitae*<sup>2</sup> was “a new and deeper reflection upon the principles of moral teaching on marriage”. Famously, Pope Paul VI “by virtue of the mandate entrusted to us by Christ,” gave his reply to the questions raised about artificial contraception, and particularly the pill, by saying that contraception, sterilisation (whether temporary or permanent) and abortion were “to be absolutely excluded as licit means of regulating birth” (*Humanae Vitae* n.14)

##### **Marriage was the focus of discussion**

A few months before, Fr Holloway had written chapter 22 of *Catholicism: A New Synthesis*<sup>3</sup> in which he dealt with “Sexual Control and Birth Control”. He began the chapter saying

“It is a grief to have to speak of marriage and of married love as if the sexual act were the only thing, or the main thing in life between men and women in whose lives the bond of marriage is deeply and sincerely spiritual.”<sup>4</sup>

The point I wish to highlight in these three examples is that Pope Pius XI, Pope Paul VI, Fr Holloway and, indeed, all the contemporary commentators, whether pro- or anti- contraception, were writing about *conjugal* union, wedlock, marriage.

#### **An enormous cultural shift**

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##### **Now most contraception is outside marriage**

It is important to note this because of the enormous cultural shift that has taken place in the past 30 years. Even where couples wish to get married solemnly in the Catholic Church, some 90% in my own experience are already living together by the time of the wedding. We might reasonably presume that the percentage is rather higher for secular weddings. And indeed many people do not get married at all.<sup>5</sup>

##### **Chastity before marriage is rare**

The couple who come to marriage having remained chaste in their loving beforehand are now a rarity. (In passing it might be commented that as priests, we should recognise the nobility of spirit that has led such couples to live the standards of Christ in the face of so much cultural discouragement.)

Therefore, although the principles of the Church's moral teaching on artificial birth control are still absolutely right and true, we may be starting in the wrong place if we begin with chastity within marriage. Most couples have already begun, in practice, to use sex as “a way of loving” at best. Many, at some time in their lives, will have known the use of sex simply as a means of “harmless pleasure”.

##### **Children not part of the equation**

Using sex as a way of “expressing our love”, a cohabiting couple or a couple who are in a steady relationship will not normally want there to be a child born. Therefore the usual introduction to sexual activity will be through the various non-copulative means of sexual activity promoted in popular magazines. When the threshold is crossed to copulation, it will be contraceptive sex if the couple are in any way “responsible” according to the warped morality of our times.

##### **A common pattern of modern marriage**

Therefore, by the time couples get married in their late twenties or very often in their mid-thirties, many will have grown used to contraception as a normal component of sexual activity. The temporary discarding of contraceptive use will be a “special case” in order to have one or two children. After the requisite number of children have been born, the next step is either the resumption of contraceptive use or, very often, permanent sterilisation of either the man or the woman. (Then, quite frequently, they divorce.)

#### **Our culture's approach to love**

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##### **“Descent into the libido”**

This is the culture in which we live and breathe. It does not stop there in its approach to sex. Sex-education programmes teach children to masturbate as a healthy means of sexual exploration or the relief of tension. This activity is, of course greatly enhanced if pornography is available. It is available, either in late night “documentaries” produced to keep

ratings going, or easily available instantly in high quality on the internet. Fr Holloway referred to this as the “descent into the libido”.

### **Love is utterly corrupted**

“Love” is still seen as something that ought to be noble. But is completely corrupted in the lives of many by the inevitable link with sexual activity. The only rule is “don’t have sex unless you want to”. The age of consent is routinely undermined by advice in teenage magazines and in sex education programmes. The obvious corollary is that when you are *really* in love, you will want to express it physically. The only restraint is that there must be some sort of commitment to avoid the most animal kind of exploitation. At a drunken party or holiday binge, of course, this may be let go in the interests of a bit of harmless fun.

### **Homosexual dimension**

The homosexual lobby has managed to make young people feel that it is a sin to be “against homosexuality”. Therefore the use of various “routes” of sexual activity is a necessary part of our overall enlightened approach to loving.

### **A culture of lust**

As a result, we have advertisements for condoms promoted everywhere, pornographic advice for young teenagers, sex education that promotes early sexual activity, homosexuality promoted as a normal behaviour, marriage reduced to one among many diverse lifestyle options “How shall the young remain sinless?”

## **Consequences of contraception**

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### **The “Great Leap Forward”**

Of course there has always been sexual immorality since the fall. For that matter, there have always been atrocities and acts of genocide. However, the 20th century saw a vast growth in the scale of such atrocities. Europe was rightly horrified by the Nazi holocaust and the figure of Adolf Hitler. However, 20 years after he died, western students were waving copies of “The sayings of Chairman Mao” – the *Little Red Book*. I remember it at school – Fr Nesbitt, ever resourceful, distributed copies of the *Little Yellow Book* in competition – “The sayings of Jesus Christ.” But so little had been learnt. 9 years previously, Mao had come up with his asinine “Great Leap Forward” and the call “Everyone must produce steel” so that agriculture ground to a halt resulting in the deaths of tens of millions of people in the great famine. And at the very time that smart-alec students were flaunting the *Little Red Book*, he engineered the deaths of tens of millions more – by violence this time in the cultural revolution. The sheer scale of the killing is unimaginable.<sup>6</sup>

### **A vast increase in the scale of corruption**

I think that we need to look at the sheer scale of corruption of morality in the west. Yes there was homosexuality, prostitution and pornography in the days of the Roman empire. Yes, there was sexual immorality in the Borgia household. Yes, there was hypocrisy and decadence in the Victorian era. But all of the worst excesses are now accepted as “harmless fun”.

### **Worse than the Romans**

The Romans had their banquets ending in vomiting and orgies. But they were only for the rich and famous. We have them in every city centre every Saturday night. The vomiting is normally caused by drink – probably because our culture is too decadent to appreciate good food. Recently a mother in my parish reported to the police because a group of (underage) boys were lining up to have sex with an (underage) girl in our local park – the police thought it was terribly funny.

### **Impact on ordinary, quite good, people**

Of course, many good people would not get involved in this sort of thing. But very many quite good people do allow their natural affection to develop into sexual activity – and this is sanctioned and encouraged not only by society but also by parents who struggle with whether to allow them to share a bedroom when they are visiting home.

## **How did we get here**

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Please don’t misunderstand me – I am not making this point to condemn people who are confused and weak. We will look later at how to deal with weakness and sin. The question I want to raise at this point is: How did we get here?

### **Crisis in philosophy**

There are many answers to that question – we can trace the loss of certainty to the Reformation and the enlightenment that followed in its footsteps. We can look at the modernist crisis and the failure of the Church to respond with a new synthesis of philosophy and theology.

### **Widespread acceptance of contraception**

But at the practical level, this scale of sexual immorality in the everyday lives of ordinary good people would not have been possible without the provision of widespread, workable and easily available contraception.

### **Therefore... sex seen as a way of loving**

And at the level of the thinking of the ordinary man and woman in the street, you could not have got to

our present acceptance of sex as a way of loving – divorced entirely from the question of having children – without contraception.

## **Pope Paul prophetic**

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Here, I think it is opportune to quote Pope Paul VI in *Humanae Vitae*

“Upright men can even better convince themselves of the solid grounds on which the teaching of the Church in this field is based, if they care to reflect upon the consequences of methods of artificial birth control. Let them consider, first of all, how wide and easy a road would thus be opened up towards conjugal infidelity and the general lowering of morality.

Not much experience is needed in order to know human weakness, and to understand that men — especially the young, who are so vulnerable on this point — have need of encouragement to be faithful to the moral law, so that they must not be offered some easy means of eluding its observance.”<sup>7</sup>

## **The “general lowering of morality”**

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### **No longer primarily “conjugal infidelity”**

Notice again that in 1968, Pope Paul’s primary concern was “conjugal infidelity”. It was still possible to assume that most of the sexual immorality would be related to marriage and its misuse. The “general lowering of morality” has in fact meant that the normal thing now is to get married some time after the “sexual relationship” has begun.

### **The causal link with contraception**

Now some people will say that there has always been sexual immorality and sex outside of marriage. This did not start with the easy availability and public acceptance of contraception. However, it has to be a wilful blindness not to see that since the public acceptance of contraception, the widespread use of sex outside marriage in all sorts of different ways has become epidemic in our society.

## **The sex-education fallacy**

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### **It hasn’t worked yet so try it some more!**

The “sex education fallacy” neatly encapsulates the failure of public morality. The argument is that young people will be sexually active anyway so we should give more sex education to prevent teenage pregnancy and to lower the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases. After following this policy for several decades, the incidence of teenage pregnancy and STDs has shot up. The answer? “More and better sex education!” There really are echoes of Maoist fanaticism here.

## **Condoms and AIDS**

The same point could be made with the promotion of condoms as the solution to the AIDS problem. The key question is not some sneering BBC debate on the microscopic holes in condoms. The key question is “Has it worked?” The answer is no. And what happens when a Government policy insists on promoting monogamy and abstinence outside of marriage? The AIDS rate goes down. It’s a no-brainer – unless you have share options in SSL International or other commercial interests.

## **The commercial angle**

However, there is also a more “Western explanation” See, for example the Annual report for SSL International plc.<sup>8</sup> Which owns the “Durex” brand. On page 29, you can view the Directors’ emoluments and on page 31 the value of the share options they have. Page 8 outlines the “strategy for growth”

Our strategy for growth continues to focus on recruiting new users to the brand by targeted advertising and distribution at the 16-24 age range. For the first time Durex joined forces with Topman, a UK fashion retailer for young men, to provide a new distribution channel for quality condoms. The condoms were specifically packaged to appeal to the fashion conscious young male.”

Tobacco manufacturers insist that advertising does not encourage young people to start smoking but only to change brands. The phrase “recruiting new users to the brand” is, of course, capable of this interpretation but it is clearly in the commercial interests of SSL International to recruit new users in the sense of young people starting to have sex for the first time.

## **Link with abortion**

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### **Care of teenagers who keep their baby**

The link with abortion is very clear. Our society’s preferred way of dealing with teenage pregnancies is to “terminate” them. I took the point from a good Catholic doctor who said that Catholic schools should think hard about how they treat girls who fall pregnant and have to take time off to have the baby. The first option given to them will have been an early “termination”. The very fact that they have refused this shows a moral fibre that has survived even the confusion of their own relationships. They should be praised and encouraged for this brave stand in the face of opposition.

### **Abortion a temptation to many**

Even for those in longer term relationships, abortion will always be an option to ponder if the relationship was one in which sex is “a way of loving”. Nobody said anything about children and we can always convince ourselves that a child would be better off out of this dreadful world etc. The soothing platitude

might not last very long but there is a strong motivation to avoid the responsibility of parenthood. After all, the baby does not remain a baby for long. Then there is the whole question of school, education, upbringing – Lord! we might even have to give some spiritual guidance.

### **Inevitable consequence of the condom culture**

The acceptance of abortion is sadly an inevitable practical consequence of our contraceptive culture. If sex is a way of loving and can be divorced from having children, society will find excuses to get rid of the children conceived “accidentally” even despite beautiful 3D pictures of babies in the womb.<sup>9</sup>

## **The Pill**

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### **Abortifacient dimension**

And we know that the so-called “contraceptives” which are hormonal in action work in two ways – either to prevent fertilisation or to prevent implantation – in other words to cause an early abortion. The “morning after pill” again euphemistically called “emergency contraception” is nothing of the sort. It may work in a contraceptive fashion in some fluke circumstances but its primary action is clearly intended to be abortifacient.

### **Epidemic of Chlamydia**

A Catholic GP I know is very concerned about the whole business of hormonal contraception. First of all, she has had to treat increasing numbers of girls in recent years who present with chlamydia. The incidence in some areas is a reasonable percentage of the entire population of teenage girls. This is a condition that can lead to sterility. (Although she did ask me to reassure you that the first incidence of it does not usually do this.)

### **Ectopic pregnancies**

Then there are the ectopic pregnancies resulting from the slowing down of the passage of the ovum through the fallopian tube. Apart from being a life-threatening condition, it inevitably means the destruction of one of the tubes – important in considering fertility.

### **Thoroughly anti-life**

The point can be made as Dr Tom Ward did that the notes issued to doctors with the contraceptive pill all make clear that its action can be abortifacient. But my friend in the parish said that whatever way they work, they are anti-life in every respect.

### **Are you covered?**

And, girls, apparently the new big thing on the market is the marina IUD. It is a smaller coil and slowly releases progesterone. This, as well as the pill, is sold to women because of the potential effect in decreasing the nuisance of menstruation. Be aware –

this is so that you can be included on your GP’s checklist as “covered” by contraception.

## **Link with IVF**

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### **Choices for infertile couples**

We must, of course, have compassion for those couples who very much want to have children and are unable to do so. Sometimes, pro-life NFP counsellors can help by teaching the use of the natural cycles to maximise the likelihood of conception. Sometimes, couples adopt children – although this option is now severely limited for Christian-minded heterosexual couples who often fail the screening. A recent initial meeting for prospective adopters in Lambeth was attended entirely by homosexual couples.

### **IVF morally unacceptable**

One can understand the motives for good Christian couples who take the route of requesting IVF. It can seem a complex moral area and, Heaven knows! there has not been much clear instruction from the Church. But clearly the use of masturbation, the destruction of spare embryos and the elimination of the sexual act make this means of producing children morally unacceptable.

### **Total divorce of sex from procreation**

However, one wonders at the level of public policy why IVF has been given such prominence. There is a certain amount of humbug here when the same public policy is so anti-conception.

IVF and cloning show that the floodgates really have been opened. Sexual activity has been so divorced from its true meaning that we are prepared to countenance the formation of children without sex. In a way, it makes the whole moral collapse clearer than ever. Sex is for pleasure. Children come about in a different way – either when you do the strange thing of having sex without using contraception – or if that doesn’t work, you can arrange for it all to be done in the laboratory. And then, of course, you can achieve the equality of homosexual couples. The generally accepted route is for the male homosexual to provide sperm for the female homosexual couple to have a child. Doubtless we will soon see reciprocal arrangements become commonplace whereby the second child (or a clone) is given for adoption by the male couple.

### **“A dream that was Rome”**

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In the film *Gladiator*, Maximus comments on the utter corruption of the decadent Roman empire under Commodus. He says “Marcus Aurelius had a dream that was Rome, Proximo. This is not it. This is not it!”

We might alter that quote to say in the face of the sexual corruption of our society “Jesus Christ had a vision that was love. This is not it!”

## **The civilisation of love**

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### **Call for a genuine “Cultural Revolution”**

Clearly we have to rebuild from the ground up. There has been a terrible mistake in first principles. Again rather like the Maoist dream, it is wrong from the very start. But unlike the Maoist dream, it will not be corrected through unleashing violent mobs but from first principles – through positive, loving teaching, example and action.

### **Sex not a “way of loving”**

The mistake in first principles is to admit that sex is “a way of loving”. The correct first principle is that sex is for children – within a particular state of loving which is marriage. This might seem rather daunting at first sight. If the basic and fundamental purpose of sex is for having children within the state of loving which is marriage, then any use of sex at all outside of marriage will be wrong. And even within marriage, any use of sex which deliberately excludes children will also be wrong. In fact this is precisely what the Church teaches and has taught without any change since the time of Christ.

### **The fundamental principle**

We could state as a fundamental principle:

**Sex is for having children within a state of love which is marriage.**

## **Original Sin and disordered desire**

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What, then of a deep and emotionally intense love between two young people? Doesn't it naturally tend to sexual expression? Well in terms of our fallen human nature, it is very likely to go that way if it is not checked. But we do believe in Original Sin. And rather than being stupid old fogeys who didn't understand love, the Fathers and Doctors of the Church were actually quite down to earth and the *did* understand love in our fallen state very well.

### **Wounded physical appetites**

Because of our fallen human nature which is wounded, our physical appetites and their associated desires are disordered. They tend to be greedy, selfish and potentially addictive. We can see this in the misuse of food and drink. It is very clear in the misuse of sexual desire.

### **“In the beginning it was not so”**

When he spoke of the Mosaic concession of divorce, our Lord said “in the beginning it was not so”. It is true also that in the beginning, according to the original plan of God and the original creation of the first human people, it was not so. The over-

development of physical desire is a consequence and effect of the wound of original sin which is passed on to all of us. The disordered desire is often called “concupiscence”.

### **Control and direction of the spiritual soul**

The remedy for this overdeveloped and disordered desire is to bring our physical appetites back within the control and direction of the spiritual soul in harmony with our spiritual environment – the living God himself. This can be achieved only through the grace of God received in prayer, penance and charity and especially through the reception of the sacraments. The truth of our fallen human nature in relation to the subject of our discussion, sexual desire, is that every person will need to exercise self-control, also called the virtue of continence.

## **The Catholic vision of love**

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### **More than just mammals**

So far, this is a negative perspective on the problem. We must also look to the positive rediscovery of genuine Christian love. Here it must be said first of all, clearly and without any element of confusion that as human persons, we are body and soul. Love is a spiritual and not a physical thing. Much of the confusion over sex and love can be traced ultimately to a denial of this truth about ourselves. We are indeed more than “just mammals” and our love is first and foremost and always a spiritual and human activity.

### **Seeking the good of the other**

To love another is to think, speak and act in such a way as to seek that person's good. The denial of this is seen graphically in the argument raging over the Mental Capacity Bill where a doctor may be obliged to act in a way that is not in the patient's objective best interests but in a way that is defined through a subjective criterion of “best interests” (what I want). Love seeks what is good and true for another.

### **Thrilling to the image of God**

This rather philosophical approach, of course, does not do much to fill in the colours of the love between a young man and woman. We might be better to speak in terms of the love of God. When we love another, we thrill to the image of God that is in them. A devout person will give heartfelt thanks and praise to God for the one they love, blessing him with a full heart for creating such a wonderful person. This warmth is quite naturally expressed in tenderness and affection.

### **The need for prudence**

Unfortunately, our wounded and fallen nature means that this tenderness and affection can easily spill over into the desire for sexual activity and it is for this reason that we need to be prudent and honest with

ourselves. We need to observe some boundaries, not touch another person in a way that we know will excite them sexually – and not to speak to them in a way that will do this.

“Where are you going?”

This is the basic rule – not “How far can you go?” but “*Where* are you going?”. At the summer break, Fr Nesbitt brilliantly summed up the virtue of prudence in a quotation from the book of Proverbs 14.15 “The prudent man knows where he is going.” Prudence, practical wisdom in the joy of Christian loving means that you know what you are intending, where it is leading and where you must not go.

## **Christian Marriage**

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### **A much deeper vision of marriage**

Such a way of life has a profound effect on marriage and preparation for marriage. Marriage will not be a celebration some years after a “sexual relationship” has already begun. Marriage will be a choice made with eyes wide open, the determination to love whatever the cost, and the joy of choosing together to begin a family if that is God’s will.

### **The true context of the “marriage act”**

In such a context, “sex” will become something much more reverent – the “marriage act”. It will be entered into as a part of a relationship chosen carefully by the couple, witnessed by their family and friends and consecrated before God. Because the love is already there and firmly chosen as an act of the will, almost certainly subjected to self-control and self-denial, it will not depend on how much ecstasy can be produced by the sexual act itself. Within marriage, sex will take its proper place not as an “act of love” in itself but as something carried out within an already loving and selfless relationship that has been solemnly established. Its primary purpose will be the creation of children in co-operation with God for this world and for eternity. It will be no surprise that in fact, the breakdown of such marriages is quite rare.

### **Natural Family Planning**

St Paul did allow marriage as a remedy for disordered desire. The use of natural family planning is a modern implementation of this. It cannot be regarded as “catholic contraception” because it only finds its proper place in a marriage ordered to the bearing and spiritual care of children. In practice, a couple using NFP continually exercise care and love for each other rather than the greedy indulgence of “my needs”. Again it is no surprise that the divorce rate among couple who use NFP is minuscule.

It is also true that NFP is itself ennobling. A couple that cease using contraception and use NFP instead

will find the quality of their relationship deepened and their family blessed. In many cases, couples in fact decide to have more children.

## **A revolution in our own standards**

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### **The civilising effect of Christian marriage**

In our culture, this may seem a high standard to set. Do not say “impossibly high” because men and women have lived this vision of love for centuries. It could indeed be regarded as one of the greatest contributions of Christianity to human civilisation, establishing the equality of women. In England, this vision of love replaced marriage by rape and abduction and the establishment of one’s woman as a part of a man’s property.

### **A higher and nobler way of loving**

Yes, it is a high and a noble standard and one well worth living. It will affect the way that you look at men and women. From an early age, girls are taught to dress up sexy and boys to ogle them. Girls are taught to look for “fit” blokes and control them through the rationing of sexual pleasure. It is easy to fall into this way of life and end up in a bitter, sniping “partnership” that is inherently brittle and breaks under the stress of the first child. Even the “signing of a bit of paper” at the Registry office can be the prelude to the break-up of the partnership.

### **True to our nature and true to Christ**

The civilisation of love is the undermining of this whole concept of speed dating, online tests for sexual compatibility and the cattle market of the average Club. We do, of course very much hope that something like the Faith Summer Session offers a respite from this way of living and lusting and the opportunity to meet others in a spiritual context where friendships can be formed on the basis of a genuine spiritual love.

Such a love is higher and nobler, true to our nature and true to Christ.

## **And when we fall ...**

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### **A problem for very many today**

It is important to recognise that these standards can be recovered if they have not been lived from the start. Many young people have fallen into sin of one sort or another. The incidence of sexual addiction is growing – especially because of the availability of pornography on the internet. As we have seen, all of our sexual sins tend in one direction – the culture of death where ultimately even human life itself can be destroyed.

### **The sacrament of confession**

The sacrament of confession is very important. If you have particular habits of sin, it may be best to find a confessor who is kind and understanding but doctrinally sound and go to confession weekly if possible. It is Catholic teaching that all sexual sins are grave matter and therefore if committed with deliberate intent are mortally sinful. However it is also Catholic teaching that addiction can lessen “full consent”. You need a confessor who knows all this and believes it.

### **Avoiding the occasions of sin**

Therefore we need to be honestly aware of what are “occasions of sin” – the circumstances in which we know it is likely that we will be tempted to sin – and avoid them resolutely wherever it is possible to do so. And where it is not possible to avoid these occasions we should neutralise them as far as possible (making them more remote in the terms of moral theology). We can do this by making short prayers from the heart, asking our Lady’s help, and by seeking the company of good people.

## **Transforming our lives**

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### **Even fresh air seems strange**

The transformation in our lives can be very marked. Soon after the Encyclical *Humanae Vitae* had been issued, the news got to India of an American priest who claimed that many Catholics would not pay attention to the Encyclical and that if they did, we would be back in the Dark Ages. Rajmohan Ghandi’s comment was worthy of his grandfather: ‘His remark reminds one of the fellow who stepped out into the fresh air after a long spree and asked “What is this strange smell?”’

### **The sunshine of the soul**

Jesus Christ promises us fresh air and sunshine for the spirit. He teaches us the real meaning of human love – both the love of the permanent state of chastity and the love of a boy and girl who fall head over heels for each other. He teaches us the way to live and to love and he gives us the means to be faithful to his teaching.

Christ’s teaching is “fresh air” to the soul and we recognise it as such because it *is* written into our hearts from the beginning as the “natural law”. It is obscured by sin but it is then made clear by Christ. In Jesus Christ, the living God himself spells out what he has written on our hearts from the beginning.

There is one wisdom of God in creation of the universe, the creation of the soul, the natural law, the coming of Christ and the provision of the sacraments. When we truly live according to the natural law, there is not simply an absence of ill effects. There is a genuine deep-seated joy and peace of soul.

### **Life... and life more abundant**

Christ teaches us the truth because he loves us. He does not want us to be degraded and corrupted, addicted and besotted with more and more perverse physical desires. With all the love of his Sacred Heart, he wishes us to grow and flourish in his image, to thrill to his life and indeed to share it. As the Good Shepherd, he said “I have come that they may have life – and life more abundant.”

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<sup>1</sup> Pope Pius XI *Casti Connubii* “On Chaste Wedlock” 1930. (Search for “Casti Connubii” on the internet for the full text.)

<sup>2</sup> Pope Paul VI *Humanae Vitae* “on the Regulation of Birth” 1968. (Search for “Humanae Vitae” on the internet for the full text.)

<sup>3</sup> Holloway, E. *Catholicism: A New Synthesis* Faith-Keyway Trust (1976) Available from [www.faith.org.uk](http://www.faith.org.uk)

<sup>4</sup> Catholicism: A New Synthesis p 419

<sup>5</sup> For further information, see the excellent study by Patricia Morgan “Marriage Lite: The rise of cohabitation and its consequences” published by Civitas or available online as a pdf file at [www.civitas.org.uk](http://www.civitas.org.uk)

<sup>6</sup> Cf Chang, Jung *Wild Swans Three daughters of China* Harper Perennial 2004. The author traces the life of her grandmother, mother and herself through Mao’s rise to power. A moving account of the effects of his breathtaking megalomania and stupidity.

<sup>7</sup> *Humanae Vitae* n.17

<sup>8</sup> The website for the company is [www.ssl-international.com](http://www.ssl-international.com). As the site is currently frame-based, you have to navigate to / Investor relations / Financial Information / Annual Reports

<sup>9</sup> There are some good pictures at [www.createhealth.org](http://www.createhealth.org) and at [www.babyview.co.uk](http://www.babyview.co.uk). The recent 12 week scans can be seen at the BBC website:

[news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/3846525.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/3846525.stm)