

CATHOLIC NURSE JOURNAL



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THE ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC NURSES
 ENGLAND AND WALES



WELCOME
 13/03/2013



POPE FRANCIS 1
 Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio
 of Argentina

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	FR MICHAEL STACK National Ecclesiastical Adviser/National Chaplain PRAYER TO CHRIST THE HEALER EASTER 2013 Written by Fr Stack	
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In the comfort of Your love
I pour out to You

The memories

The anxieties

The fears

The sickness

That prevails upon me,
And the frustration of all
The pain that weaves
About within me

Lord ,help me to see

Your peace

Your compassion

Your forgiveness

And Your love
In my need

Touch me,O Lord, with Your
Healing power and strength.

My Saviour

That haunt me

That perplex me

That stifle me

In my turmoil

In my sorrow

In my weakness

MESSAGE FROM JANET MUCHENGWA NATIONAL PRESIDENT



CICIAMS Executive Committee Meeting Rome January 2013

Back Row Standing from left to right: Donatus Akpan, Janet Muchengwa, Annemarie Vlaemynck, Agnes De Baets and Lucy Thanga. Front Row Sitting from left to right: Juliana Nwazuruoke, Geraldine McSweeney, Sr Anne John RJM, Fr Thomas Nairn OFM and Theresa Cheong

Dear all

The months are really moving very fast, it's Lent and Easter is around the corner. Lets us keep our faith in prayer as we journey through Lent to Easter. We should also continue to pray for the conclave and the church as they choose a new Pope.

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We had a very successful meeting at the Bishops conference Offices in London Victoria. We touched on many issues concerning nursing and health in modern times especially the Liverpool Care Pathway (LCP) as there has been a lot of worrying stories appearing in the press. We were also invited to take part in a discussion on the Big Issue on the Liverpool Care Pathway but due to time constraints none of our members were able to attend. There are a lot of study days going around on ethical issues for which , I would urge members to attend so that we can keep abreast with ethical issues around us and know how to handle them when we encounter them in our work and lives. The Healthcare Conference Group road shows are still going on, hence please make an effort to attend when they are in your areas.

I did attend the CICIAMS Executive Board meeting in Rome in January which was very fruitful. The CICIAMS sub committees are asking for members to join them from the different regions. Nora McCarthy was nominated for the Ethics committee and they also need members for the Midwifery committee. If there are any interested members, please get in touch with me or contact the chairpersons of the different committees directly. The addresses are on the CICIAMS website.

Finally, I' am sure most of you have heard the cancellation of the World Congress in Croatia. The venue and date of the next World Congress will be announced in due course.

Thank you ,
Janet Muchengwa National President



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Tel: 0[044]7970981352

THOMAS MORE LEGAL CENTRE

THE FIRST FIVE YEARS



Article
By Neil Addison
Barrister and
Lecturer
Founder of the
Thomas More Legal
Centre

On 1st September 2007 a group met in London to consider the formation of an organisation to provide Legal advice and representation to individuals whose religious freedom was threatened by employers or Government. The initial impetus was the coming into force of the Sexual Orientation Regulations which were to ultimately lead to the closure of the Catholic Adoption Agencies.

Following that meeting the Thomas More Legal Centre (TMLC) was created with Mr Richard Kornicky CBE as Chairman and Neil Addison, Barrister as Director and on 7th January 2008 TMLC was officially registered as a Charity and began operations. On 7th January 2013 TMLC celebrates its 5th Anniversary. In those Five years it has developed a particular expertise in the Pro Life area and in the next few years we expect to be increasingly involved in defending the rights of pro-life groups to operate and express their views in Universities where Students Unions are increasingly adopting “pro choice” policies and then attempting to silence pro-life groups on the basis that they are “contrary to student union policy”. We also expect to see increasing intolerance of pro-life medical staff as part of what appears to be a systematic attempt by the NHS to minimise the right to Conscientious Objection in the Abortion Act.

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Soon after we were established a Trainee Doctor approached TMLC after being told that he had to refer patients for Abortion otherwise he would be sacked and/or not allowed to qualify. He was indeed referred to the General Medical Council for disciplinary purposes which was an extremely intimidating experience for a young professional at the start of his career. TMLC advised him on his legal rights to conscientious objection and wrote on his behalf to his employers. In that case as in others we relied not just on the Abortion Act but also on his Pro-life belief being a protected belief under the Equality Act. Ultimately he was exonerated by the GMC and has now completed his training and is a fully qualified, and still pro-life, Doctor.

Following this case TMLC were approached by various Catholic Nurses were told by their Hospital that they had to assist in Clinics where Abortion Inducing drugs were administered. In each case after TMLC intervention the Nurses were told that the Hospital accepted their right to Conscientious Objection and they would not be required to work in the Abortion Clinic.

In 2011 we were approached by a former NHS employee Margaret Forrester. Margaret was employed by the NHS as a Mental Health worker and in the course of a conversation with a colleague who worked as a receptionist organising Abortion appointments she gave the colleague a booklet "Forsaken" in which 5 women who have had Abortions talk about their experience of Abortion and its affects on them. The Booklet was not given to a patient and Margaret's colleague did not object to receiving it. A few days after the booklet was given to the

receptionist Margaret was suspended and subsequently disciplined for "Gross Misconduct" the wording of the Disciplinary Charge being "You distributed material which individuals may find offensive", ultimately she was sacked.

It was only after Margaret had been sacked that TMLC became involved and a claim was submitted to the Employment Tribunal claiming Unfair Dismissal and Religious Discrimination. In their defence given to the Tribunal the NHS states that their reason for disciplining Margaret is because the Forsaken booklet offered a "religious view" on Abortion ie they admit they objected to it because it is religious. They objected to it because one of the women who has had an Abortion said that she now regards what she did as a sin.

TMLC also brought a High Court claim against the NHS for breach of the Human Rights Act. (For technical legal reasons such a claim cannot be brought in the Employment Tribunal.) The Human Rights claim was based on breaches of Article 9 (freedom of religion), Article 10 (freedom of expression), Article 14 (discrimination in the application of rights) of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Ultimately the case was settled by the NHS

In the run up to 40 Days for Life the Abortion provider Marie Stopes International wrote to the Catholic Charity "Good Counsel Network" threatening them with Injunctions and reference to the Advertising Standards Authority arising from their prayer vigils. TMLC responded robustly to the various Solicitors letters and pointing out the legally inaccurate basis of the threats made. Following our responses Marie Stopes did not proceed with any legal action. Had Good Counsel been intimidated by MSI then it is likely that similar threats would have been made by MSI and BPAS against other Pro-Life Prayer Vigils

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Following a talk at UCL organised by the Students Catholic Society in which Lord Alton was a speaker the Union passed a resolution which would have required every student body to invite a "pro choice" speaker to any event which involved any form of debate or discussion of Abortion. Seemingly unobjectionable in principle it would in effect have given the Students Union the right to veto any event held by the Society. When contacted by TMLC the Students Union backed down and revoked the resolution. TMLC are working with other Student Organisations regarding intimidation towards Pro-Life groups in Universities and attempts to stifle free expression of pro life views. TMLC also gave legal advice and assistance in the formation of the new Alliance of Pro-Life Students

In the next few years TMLC expect to be increasingly involved in defending the freedom of conscience of NHS staff and others in an increasingly intolerant environment

(Neil Addison is a Barrister and the Director of the Thomas More Legal Centre www.ThomasMoreLegal.org.uk which is a Charity that depends entirely on personal donations)



Congratulations to our member Mary Barker of Stoke on Trent

on the celebration of her 100th Birthday 1st November 2012 .

What an eventful year it was for Mary. In February 2012 Mary was awarded the Ubi Caritas medal by Bishop McGough

For her 100th birthday her parish priest Fr The celebrated Mass in the family home with her three children Michael , William , Margaret and their families. Although Mary was expecting it to be a quiet occasion a few days later she attended a party organized by her family and the following weekend a party organized by the parish . In addition to the special customary birthday card from the Queen ,as an Irish citizen , Mary also received a gift card from the President of Ireland with a cheque for 2500 Euros



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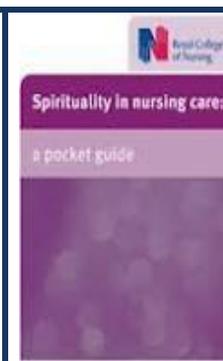
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THE ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC NURSES PRAYER

BOOK (3rd Edition) is now available in both A5 and A6 (pocket/handbag size).Copies can be purchased online or by sending payment to Mary Farnan ,National Secretary - contact details front page- or downloaded free from the Prayer Book page on www.catholicnurses.org.uk

RCN SPIRITUALITY IN NURSING CARE

The new RCN Guide to Spirituality Pocket Guide produced from the results of the RCN 2010 online Survey and can be downloaded from the RCN website [www.rcn.org.uk](http://www.rcn.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/372995/003887.pdf) or http://www.rcn.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/372995/003887.pdf





We welcome POPE FRANCIS 1 as he begins his journey of leading the Catholic Church

Our prayers also remain with our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI on his resignation due to ill health. His words below are extracted from his last message to his Church for World Day of the Sick



‘On 11 February 2013, the liturgical memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Twenty-first World Day of the Sick will be solemnly celebrated at the Marian Shrine of Altötting. This day represents for the sick, for health care workers, for the faithful and for all people of goodwill “a privileged time of prayer, of sharing, of offering one’s sufferings for the good of the Church, and a call for all to recognize in the features of their suffering brothers and sisters the Holy Face of ChristOn this occasion I feel especially close to you, dear friends, who in health care centres or at home, are undergoing a time of trial due to illness and suffering. May all of you be sustained by the comforting words of the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council: “You are not alone, separated, abandoned or useless. You have been called by Christ and are his living and transparent image” (*Message to the Poor, the Sick and the Suffering*)....

I would like to offer a word of warm gratitude and encouragement to Catholic health care institutions and to civil society, to Dioceses and Christian communities, to religious congregations engaged in the pastoral care of the sick, to health care workers’ associations and to volunteers. May all realize ever more fully that “the Church today lives a fundamental aspect of her mission in lovingly and generously accepting every human being, especially those who are weak and sick” (*Christifideles Laici*, 38)....

I entrust this Twenty-first World Day of the Sick to the intercession of Our Lady of Graces, venerated at Altötting, that she may always accompany those who suffer in their search for comfort and firm hope. May she assist all who are involved in the apostolate of mercy, so that they may become good Samaritans to their brothers and sisters afflicted by illness and suffering. To all I impart most willingly my Apostolic Blessing.’



Altötting is an ancient Marian shrine, with a chapel dating from the eighth century ,in Bavaria where Germany borders with Austria .

It is commonly called the Lourdes of Germany because of the many healings reported to have taken place there. Many pilgrims worldwide visit this favourite shrine of Pope Benedict XVI to pay homage to the statue to the Black Madonna (a medieval representation of Mary with darker east Mediterranean olive skin rather than fair skin so commonly portrayed in many western paintings)



MEMBERSHIP FORM

ALREADY A PAID UP MEMBER ? -IF SO WHY NOT PASS THIS FORM ON TO A COLLEAGUE ?

ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC NURSES (FORMERLY CATHOLIC NURSES GUILD) ENGLAND AND WALES
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please Complete in BLOCK Capitals

PERSONAL DETAILS

Mr /Mrs /Ms/Miss Sr/Fr/Br

Surname Date of Birth.....

First Name

Address

.....

.....

Post Code..... Tel Nos

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Please Tick FULL MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATE MEMBER

 STUDENT MEMBER RETIRED MEMBER

Professional Qualifications

.....

Brief details of Employment –(Position and Place of Work optional)

.....

.....

Diocese to which you belong.....

Please tick whether you are joining as a Branch Member

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Please return form and subscription to Mary Farnan National Secretary 26 Charnwood Road , Great Barr, Birmingham B42 1JR or log on to <http://www.catholicnurses.org.uk/membership.html> and complete your membership form and pay your subscription on line through Paypal

2013 DIARY DATES 2013

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FRIDAY JUNE 28th 2013
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9.30AM OPENING PRAYER AND TALK,
12MD MASS, 1PM LUNCH, 2PM QUIET
REFLECTION , 3PM DISCUSSION -4PM
BENEDICTION & CLOSING PRAYER**

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SATURDAY OCTOBER 26th 2013
11AM AGM
12MD MASS, 1PM LUNCH ,2PM TALK, 4PM
BENEDICTION**