

WUCWO

October 17, 2018

Incarnate Word,
in whom all nature lives.
Cast fire upon the earth:
raise up contemplatives
Among us, men* who
walk within the fire
of ceaseless prayer,
impetuous desire.
Set pools of silence
In this thirsty land.

James McAuley

*And women



*Incarnate Word,
in whom all nature lives.*

*Cast flame upon the earth:
raise up contemplatives*

*Among us, men who
walk within the fire*

*Of ceaseless prayer,
impetuous desire.*

*Set pools of silence
in this thirsty land:*

*- James McAuley (1917 - 1976)
Australian Poet*

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Rejoice and be glad!

Gaudete et Exsultate:

Apostolic

Exhortation on the

Call to Holiness

In today's world



A brief overview of “Rejoice and Be Glad”, *Gaudium et Exsultate*

SEEING

**TOGETHER WHAT POPE
FRANCIS HAS WRITTEN**

Chapter One

THE CALL
TO
HOLINESS



Respons-
-ibility

GIFT

Holiness in everyday ordinary life

“The Inner History of a Day”

We seldom notice how each day is a holy place
Where the eucharist of the ordinary happens,
Transforming our broken fragments
Into an eternal continuity that keeps us.

James O'Donohue

Chapter Two: TWO SUBTLE ENEMIES OF HOLINESS

PALAGIANISM

GNOSTICISM

THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

THE BEATITUDES (CONT.)

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Matt 5:5-11)

THE GREAT CRITERION

“I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me” (Matt 25: 35-36).

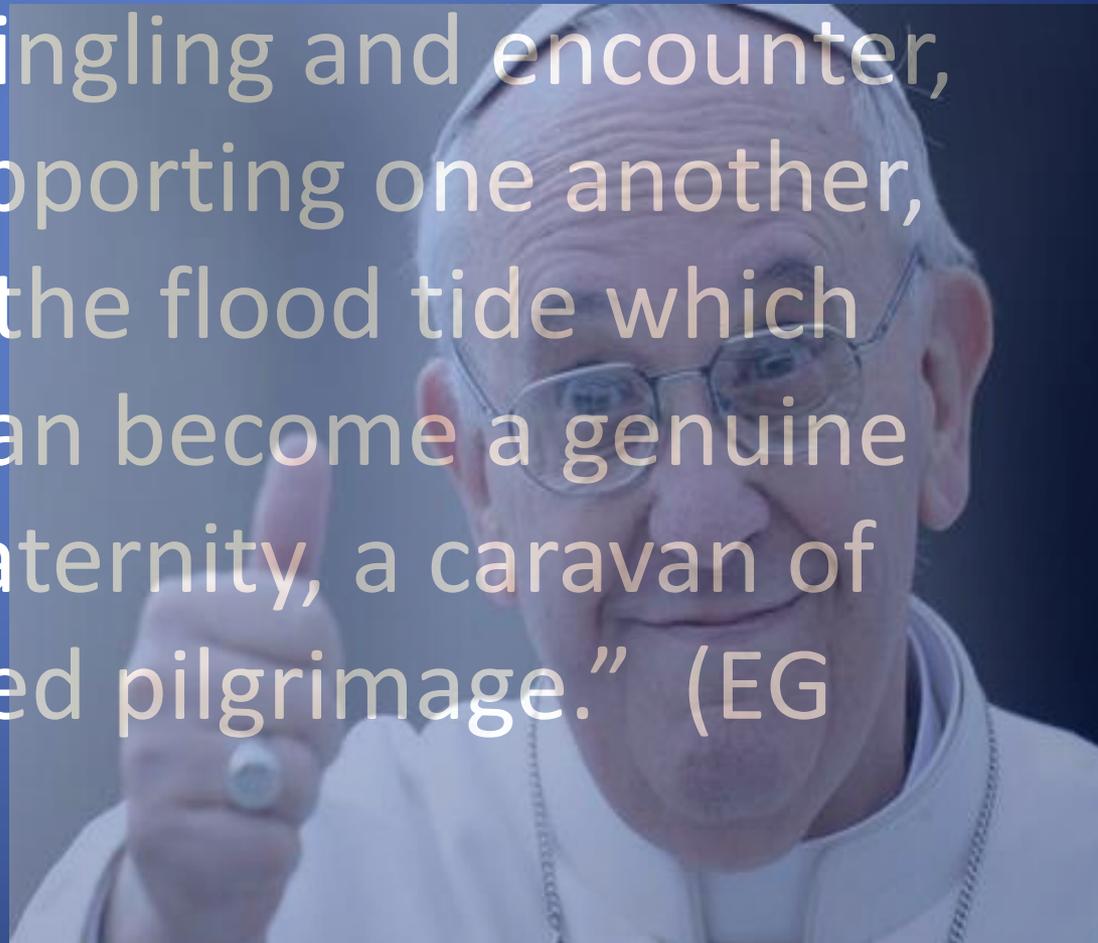
“Whatever you did to the least of these brothers and sisters, you did to me.”

CHAPTER FOUR: SIGNS OF HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD

- (1) perseverance, patience and meekness;
- (2) joy in faith and a sense of humour;
- (3) boldness and courage in witnessing to Jesus,
- (4) communal joy;
- (5) constant prayer.

ON COMMUNAL JOY

in *Evangelii Gaudium* Pope Francis writes of the “mingling and encounter, embrace and supporting one another, of stepping into the flood tide which while, chaotic, can become a genuine experience of fraternity, a caravan of solidarity, a sacred pilgrimage.” (EG 87)



CHAPTER FIVE: SPIRITUAL COMBAT, VIGILANCE AND DISCERNMENT

The final chapter, “Spiritual Combat, Vigilance and Discernment” acknowledges that the pursuit of holiness includes a spiritual battle where we find ourselves fighting *both* forces *outside ourselves* like the cultures of individualism and materialism *and forces within*.

What might Pope Francis be saying
to WUCWO today through *Gaudete
et Exsultate*?

A POSSIBLE SUGGESTION

(judging\discerning)



**“DON'T BE AFRAID OF
BEING HOLY!”**

Pope Francis

What are we to “do”

What **actions**
can we take?

SOME ADVICE FROM ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

(WHAT SHE HEARD
THE LORD SAY TO HER)

True,
your Son is not about to come
again
except in majesty, to judge . . .
But, as I see it, you are calling
your servants christs,
and by means of them
you want to relieve the world of
death and restore it to life. How?
You want these servants of yours
to walk courageously along the
Word's way,
with concern and blazing desire,

working for your honor and the
salvation of souls, ...

Oh best of remedy-givers!

Give us then these christs,

who will live in continual
watching

and tears and prayers for the
world's salvation.

You call them your christs

because they are conformed with
your only-begotten Son.

A CLOSING PRAYER

Incarnate Word, in whom all nature lives.

Cast fire upon the earth: raise up
contemplatives

Among us, **women** who walk within the fire

Of ceaseless prayer, impetuous desire

Set pools of silence in this thirsty land.