

THE LITTLE FLOWER



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POPE'S MESSAGE

People can abuse reason when they demand proof from God, pope says



VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- While empirical science has done much to further progress, subjecting God and his truth to scientific scrutiny represents an incorrect and despotic use of human reason, Pope Benedict XVI said.

How reason, truth and faith interconnect has always sparked debate throughout history, the pope said June 30 during an award ceremony in the fresco-covered Clementine Hall in the Apostolic Palace. The pope gave three European theologians the Ratzinger Prize for their excellence in theological studies: Manlio Simonetti, an 85-year-old Italian professor and expert in ancient Christian studies and patristic biblical interpretation; Father Olegario Gonzalez de Cardedal, a 76-year-old Spanish priest and professor of dogmatic and fundamental theology; and Cistercian Father Maximilian Heim, a 50-year-old German theologian and abbot of the Heiligenkreuz monastery in Austria.

The pope used the occasion to talk about the significance and the challenges surrounding theology. He noted the important contributions theology has made, but warned that theology must not only be concerned with the past as that would "leave the faith today in darkness." Nor must theologians only look at psychological or

sociological studies leaving faith on the wayside as that would strip theology of meaning and a solid foundation, he added. Though studying the past and understanding human and social sciences are important in theology, the pope said the real question at stake is: "Is what we believe in true or not? In theology the question of truth is at play: truth is its ultimate and essential foundation."

Christ is the truth, and people can and must know him through reason, he said. "From here one understands that Christian faith, by its very nature, must call forth theology, it had to ask itself about the reasonableness of faith." So while reason is fundamental to faith, there is an incorrect use of reason -- a "despotism of reason which becomes the supreme and final judge of everything," he said. The pope said this use of reason, which is "incompatible with the nature of faith," can be seen in Psalm 95, which recalls Meribah as the place where the early Israelites tested God and "tried me though they had seen my works."

Putting God to some sort of a test is even more pronounced in today's world, where natural science and its empirical method have achieved so much, the pope said. But there is a limit to how reason is used: "God is not an object of human experimentation. He is a subject and he manifests himself only in a person-to-person relationship," he said. The correct use of reason in matters of faith then is when it is used on a personal level and is driven by love. The pope said: "Love wants to know better the person who loves. Love -- true

love -- doesn't make us blind," it makes people see. Love will satisfy a person's thirst to really know the other, and that is why those who seek the truth are on the path to seeking God, he said.

"This is why authentic theology is so important. Solid faith leads reason to open itself up to the divine, so that reason, guided by love for the truth, may know God even more from up close," he said. Therefore, theology must be made up of two elements: "humility, which lets us be 'touched' by God, and discipline, which is tied to the order of reason, (which) keeps love from blindness and helps develop its power to see," he said. During the ceremony, the pope greeted each of the prize recipients, handing them each a large award certificate and a small envelope. The prizes included a check for \$87,000. The Ratzinger Prize will be awarded each year in sacred Scripture, Patristics and fundamental theology.

This was the first time the prizes were awarded since the establishment last year of the Joseph Ratzinger (Benedict XVI) Vatican Foundation, which promotes theological studies on the pope's writings and to reward promising scholars.

Evangelize with courage, conviction, joy, Pope says :

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Benedict XVI said that a proper transmission of the faith to the young or the uninitiated depends on a solid grounding of the basics of Catholic formation -- baptism, first Communion and catechism.

Pope Benedict XVI told participants of a diocesan conference in Rome June 13 to not be afraid of their duty as Christians to evangelize and to pass on the word of God "with courage, with conviction, with joy." Speaking from Rome's Basilica of St. John Lateran, the pope called for renewed efforts for evangelization, which he said, "is not the duty of a few, but of all the members of the church." Special attention should be given to the education of children, adults who have not been baptized and those who have left the church, he said. It is the duty of Catholics today, he said, "to demonstrate the beauty and reason of faith."

He called on parents to baptize their children, saying that even youngsters are capable of understanding the importance of the Christian message, can appreciate prayers and rites and know the difference between right and wrong. The church continues children's religious education throughout their adolescent years by offering parish programs, church-run summer camps and youth groups so that children "can understand with intelligence the truth of faith" and also have the "experience of prayer, charity and fraternity," the pope said. He called on Roman parishes to continue the education of young Catholics through catechism, emphasis on the sacraments and guidance on the value of silence and prayer. Despite the obstacles daily life poses to the work of evangelization, he said "don't be afraid to commit yourself to the Gospel."


BENEDICT XVI

World Youth Day at Madrid

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI is scheduled to attend the event and organizers said they expect more than 1 million young pilgrims to join him. Organizers of this year's World Youth Day say that the figures for registration and requests to volunteer are higher than ever and auger well for a successful and joyful gathering in Madrid in August.

Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko, who leads the Vatican agency organizing the huge event, said that some 440,000 young people had already signed up, a record number for registrations with the event still six weeks away. More than 35,000 young Catholics have applied for one of 22,500 places in the vast volunteer corps, he said. At a news conference at the Vatican June 28, Cardinal Rylko said that every World Youth Day is "an extraordinary experience for a church that is a friend of young people, close to them with their problems" and is able to transmit "enthusiasm and missionary zeal." Young people, especially in increasingly secular Europe, "have a particular need for all of this," he said.

In fact, he said, Pope Benedict chose the Spanish capital for the August 16-21 event because of the specific need of Europe to rediscover its Christian roots and because of his conviction that young people are the most effective evangelizers. The pope will spend August 18-21 in Madrid, meeting with the young people several times and even hearing the confessions of some of them. The sight

of young people going to confession in fields and tents has been a standard part of World Youth Day gatherings, but the Madrid celebration will mark the first time the pope himself will administer the sacrament at the event. Yago de la Cierva, executive director of World Youth Day, said that the organization was proceeding on time and that an efficient and widespread network among parishes and other church institutions in Madrid was contributing to the good pace of preparation.

The work of volunteers, he said, was the key ingredient in making the whole event successful. De la Cierva said the Spanish government and local authorities were providing logistical help, certain venues and some tax breaks to companies working on the organization, but that no direct financial contribution had come from the public sector. While the total cost is expected to up to 62 million euros (\$89 million), De La Cierva said it was expected to generate 100 million euros for Madrid and Spain. Organizers also are asking the youthful participants to contribute, if they can, to help out their peers who otherwise would not be able to attend for financial reasons, de la Cierva said.

Cardinal Rylko said that one of the "strong points" of the gathering was the opportunity for youth to hear catechesis, and that some 260 bishops would be offering sessions in several different areas of the city in 30 languages. He said he hoped the nearly 14,000 priests expected would take advantage of the opportunity to learn and absorb some of the various lessons for use back in their home parishes.

BISHOP'S PASTORAL VISITS AUGUST-2011

2nd : Wedding at Mariapuram, Kadapa.

3rd-6th : Bangalore.

7th : AM- Sponsorship Children Meeting.
PM- Eucharistic Procession at Cathedral Parish.

11th : DNSSS General Body Meeting.

16th : Visit to RCM High School, Bitragunta.

21st : Feast Day Mass at Mariarani Parish.

22nd : Blessing of a New School at Podili Parish.

24th : Holy Mass at Bethlamites Convent, Kothur Parish.

26th : Holy Mass at Mother Theresa's Convent, B. V. Nagar Parish.

28th : Blessing of Presbytery, Mass and Confirmations at Dakkili Parish and visit to the Out Stations.

30th : Visit to Missionary Minor Seminary, Sunnapubatti.

NEWS FROM THE MONTH OF JULY 2011

14th : Church Blessing at Pantapalem, Muthhukur Parish. Our bishop celebrated the Holy Mass at Pantapalem Village and blessed the newly constructed Church and preached about the importance of having faith in the Lord. Bishop instructed the other faiths also who were present for the Festival, to be service oriented, humanly with one another, worshiping God in one's own way. The presence of many people brought life to the celebration.

16th -17th : Bishop on his Pastoral Visit went to Donakonda Parish.

10:00 AM : In the morning bishop went Thellabadu village and conducted prayer service for an hour and prayed for the faithful and blessed them. After the prayer service, bishop listened to the problems of the people. He assured them of his support.

11:00 AM : Bishop went to Arellapadu village and started the prayer service with hymns. He instructed the faithful to have faith in the Lord. He conducted the prayer service and preached on the Faith of the Centurion and asked the faithful to have likeminded. He spoke with the people and listened to their appeals.

03:00 PM : Bishop went to R. C. M. Aided High School and spent some time with the children. Sr. Head Mistress, Sr. Superior and other community members, the Staff and the Students solemnly welcomed our Bishop and felicitated him with a shawl and a garland. Bishop congratulated the Staff for the good results and for their hard work. He instructed the children to be well disciplined

and service oriented.

04:00 PM: Bishop went to Narasimhanayuni Palli and conducted the prayer service and prayed for the faithful. He stayed with the people for an hour and listened to the problems of the people. He encouraged them to be united in Christ and with fellow brethren.

05:00 PM: Bishop visited Venkatapuram Village and celebrated the Holy Mass. Since it is the feast day of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, bishop preached on Mother Mary as the Perfect Symbol of Faith and Holiness. After the Mass, he spoke with the people and assured them of his prayerful support and guidance. It is a good experience for our bishop to travel by an Auto Rickshaw to this village.

10:00 AM: Sunday morning bishop celebrated the Holy Mass in the Parish Church. Many Faithful joined the Mass from all the sub-stations and received the blessings. Bishop administered 50 Confirmations comprising of both children and adults. The Liturgy was well organized and systematic. Bishop preached on reception of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. As Apostles were strengthened, we will be also strengthened with the Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation, to live a holy and witnessing life. After the Mass, Rev. Fr. R. B. Victor along with the parishioner felicitated our bishop and thanked him for two day stay, visiting the villages and praying for the faithful.

18th : Bishop paid a visit to Podalakur Parish. He blessed St. Michael's Convent and celebrated the Holy Mass in the Chapel as they commence the Aspirants Entrance Day. He wished the candidates a happy stay and form

themselves to be service oriented.

19th - 20th : Bishop attended the junior priests gathering held at Youth Center. 20 priests gathered for this meeting. Fr. S.P.A. Suresh conducted the meeting under the guidance of our Bishop. As we mark the Catechetical Year, Bishop gave discourse on the topic. He encouraged junior priests and guided them to be a missionary. He concluded the meeting with Holy Mass and Agape.

21st : Bishop went to Kondapuram Parish and celebrated the Holy Mass. He inaugurated and blessed the newly constructed convent of Franciscan Sisters of the Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary. He thanked the sisters for their service in education and family apostolate. He also thanked Mother General Sr. Celina Nirmala and Provincial Sr. Loraine.

22nd : Bishop went to Darsi Parish and celebrated the Holy Mass. He inaugurated and blessed the newly constructed convent of Franciscan Sisters of the Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary. He thanked the sisters for their services in taking care of the Hostel Girls.

23rd : The Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus was solemnly celebrated at Sullurpet Parish. Bishop began the festival with blessing of Theru and paraded in and around the Parish premises. Many faithful gathered for the Holy Eucharist. In his sermon bishop instructed the faithful to have sincere devotion to the Sacred Heart, the perfect symbol of God's Love.

24th : Bishop visited Maramreddi Palli Parish and celebrated the Holy Mass in the Parish Church. Many Faithful joined the Mass from all the sub-stations. Bishop

administered 48 Confirmations comprising of both children and adults. He blessed the People and spent some time with them.

25th : Bishop paid a visit to Amancherla Lepers Colony to celebrate the Holy Mass as Sisters of Charity of St. Ann's celebrate the feast of St. Ann. After Mass, bishop stayed for a while with colony people and spoke with them. Bishop appreciated sisters for their services to the colony people.

26th : In the morning, bishop attended the feast day celebrations at Kavali Parish. He offered the Holy Mass and gave the Apostolic blessings to all the faithful. Bishop appreciated the Sisters of St. Ann's of Pirangipuram for their services in Health Care.

In the evening, bishop went to ***Puneetha Annammagari Devalayam***, Rebala Parish. He celebrated the Holy Mass and proclaimed the life history of St. Ann, the grandparent of the Lord who cared and nursed Child Jesus. Since it is the day of grandparents and we need to show our love and affection towards them.

27th -29th : Bishop went to New Delhi and joined the Hunger Strike Movement. Many Bishops, Priests, Religious and Laity made a Rally, claiming the Constitutional Equal Rights for Dalith Christians. The program was successful and thought provoking to all the Officials and Politicians of the Country.

31st : Bishop on his pastoral visit to H. M. Padu Parish, offered the Holy Mass and blessed the newly constructed Water Tank at Dasaripalli. Later on his pastoral visit comprised of Kanigiri Parish and spent the time with sponsor children.

DIOCESAN SELF RELIANCE FUND

St. Aloysius Gonzaga Provincialate	2,000
Fr. N. Rayanna, Maramreddi Palli Parish	3,000
Fr. A. Rayappa, Rebala Parish	2,000
Fr. R. B. Victor, Donakonda Parish	4,000
Presentation Sisters, Kondapuram	2,000
St. Ann Sisters, Amancharla	3,000
St. Ann Sisters, Kavali	2,000

Income:

St. John's English Medium School, Nellore	8,00,000
St. Joseph's English Medium School, Alluru	50,000

Thank you very much for your generous contribution. If anyone's contribution is missing, please inform us. Thank you.

COMMUNICATION CORNER

- Monthly recollection will be conducted in denary level on 9th August 2011.
- On 28th of August, our beloved Bishop celebrates his Episcopal Ordination Anniversary. Let us pray for him.

The New Translation of the *Roman Missal*

As English-speaking parishes around the world await delivery of the new translation of the Roman Missal, the Vatican's Vox Clara Committee already is at work on additional texts.

The committee, which advises the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments on English translations, met in Rome July 24-26. A committee statement released July 27 said members spent most of their time on a new translation of the prayers bishops use for the chrisom Mass, the Holy Week liturgy where the oils used in the sacraments throughout the year are blessed. In the United States and Canada, the bishops' prayers for blessing the oils were included in the old missal, which will go out of use on the first Sunday of Advent 2011. To avoid a situation in which bishops would need to pull the old missal off the shelf for the solemn Mass in 2012, the congregation commissioned its own draft translation of the prayers.

The translation was reviewed by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy which normally drafts the translations and was revised in consultation with Vox Clara, the statement said. The new text "should be available in the first months of 2012," it said, and bishops'

conferences can decide whether to adopt the new text for use in their countries, a Vatican official said. Also at their July meeting, members of Vox Clara "approved plans for several future publications on behalf of the congregation, most notably an interim edition of the 'Roman Pontifical,'" which contains prayers and rites usually reserved to bishops. In most countries, the chrism Mass blessing of oils is included in the book, rather than in the missal.

The statement said the committee also supported the congregation's authorization of several editions of the "Missale Parvum," an abridged version of the Missal traditionally used by priests who are traveling. "Finally, the commission adopted plans for the revision of the 'Ratio Translationis' for the English language," a translation style guide, "and approved the scope of work in the continuing revision of the translations of the Latin liturgical books of the Roman rite," the statement said. The new Roman Missal contains all of the prayers used at Sunday and weekday Masses throughout the year, as well as special Mass prayers for saints' feast days. However, the missal does not include texts such as the rite of matrimony, confirmation, baptism or ordination or the text of the Liturgy of the Hours -- all of which, eventually, will be translated.



Illicitly Ordained Chinese Bishop Is Excommunicated

The Vatican said a Chinese bishop ordained illegitimately in mid-July has been automatically excommunicated and lacks the authority to govern his diocese.

At the same time, the Vatican praised bishops loyal to Rome who resisted participation in the ordination ceremony before being forced by authorities to do so. "The Holy Father, having learned of these events, once again deplores the manner in which the Church in China is being treated and hopes that the present difficulties can be overcome as soon as possible," a Vatican statement said July 16.

The Vatican was reacting to the ordination of Father Joseph Huang Bingzhang July 14 at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Shantou, in southern China's Guangdong province. Bishop Johan Fang Xingyao of Linyin, president of the government-sanctioned Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association, was reportedly the main celebrant; he was one of eight Vatican-approved bishops at the ordination. It was the second ordination of a Chinese bishop without papal mandate in the last month. The Vatican has expressed deepening concern and emphasized that willing participants in such ordinations face severe penalties under church law, including automatic excommunication for the ordained bishop and the consecrating bishops.

In the latest case, the Vatican said, Father

Huang "had been informed some time ago that he could not be approved by the Holy See as an Episcopal candidate, in as much as the Diocese of Shantou already has a legitimate bishop." The Vatican statement said officials in Rome had learned that some Chinese bishops, when contacted by civil authorities, were unwilling to participate in the ordination and had offered "various forms of resistance" before being obliged to take part.

"With regard to this resistance, it should be noted that it is meritorious before God and calls for appreciation on the part of the whole church. Equal appreciation is also due to those priests, consecrated persons and members of the faithful who have defended their pastors, accompanying them by their prayers at this difficult time and sharing in their deep suffering," the Vatican said. The Asian church news agency UCA News reported that some bishops were accompanied to the ordination by government officials. Church sources said many of the diocesan priests went into hiding days before the ordination, but that some were found by government officials and had to attend to the ceremony.

The Vatican sees the right of the pope to appoint bishops as fundamental to church unity and as an essential element of religious freedom. China's civil authorities consider it a foreign interference. "The Holy See reaffirms the right of Chinese Catholics to be able to act freely, following their consciences and remaining faithful to the successor of Peter and in communion with the Universal Church," the Vatican statement said.

NEWS FROM SUVARTHA NILAYAM

1. Monthly Meeting of BCC Animators will be held at Podili Parish on 8th Moday, August.

2. In the month of July Viswasa Vikasa Dinostavam will be celebrated in the following Parishes:

Chinthareddy Palem, Kurichedu, Karamchedu

3. Camp sisters had visited the parishes of Rudrasamudram, Bestavaripet and Peddarikatla. During the camp they visited families and explained to them about the importance of the Sunday Mass. Thanks to Fr. Varam, Fr. Maria Joseph and Fr. Thomas George.

4. BCC unit of Karamchedu will be conducting Faith Formation Program on 5th Friday, August 2011.

5. BCC Co-Ordinator Mr. Michael visits the following Parishes to see how Jyothirmai Program is going on :

Tripuranthakam, Dornala, Donakonda, Darsi, Peddarikatla, Kanigiri, Komarolu, Besthavaripet, J. P. Cheruvu Thaticherla Motu

6. Reminder: Gnana Jyothi Bible Exam will be conducted on 6th Sunday, November, 2011. Exam coupons had already been sent to all the parishes through the catechists. I request you dear fathers to intimate the same to the children, youth and teachers in your respective parishes and make it successful. Prizes will be given both on diocesan

level and parish level as well.

7. I request all the priests and sisters who are in-charge of the Schools to collect Catechism Books from Pastoral Center. Books are available for all the classes (1st to 10th), get them and distribute to our children. I would like to visit all our Schools with your kind permission to continue catechism classes for our children.

Fr. M. Hrudaya Raj

Director.

NEWS FROM CHAITHANYA YUVATHA KENDRAM

• **Bon Voyage** : Sr. Prakasamma JMJ (DLYA), A.V.M Kumadha Vally and Prakashini, K. Thambi Sarada, George and Agatha Debora Rani, M. Sundar Kiran (Neo-Catechumene Youth) and Deva Prasad (Cathedral Parish) Who will be representing our diocese at World Youth Day, Madrid, Spain, in August, 2011.

Nellore Diocesan Youth Animation Team wishes them all a pleasant journey and fruitful participation at WYD. We sincerely thank our Bishop for supporting them to attend this great event. Our special thanks also to Rev. Fr. P. Bosco (Kandukur) who came forward to support us financially in this endeavour.

• **9th July, 2011** : A day - long meeting was held for Cathedral youth by Fr. T. Navy Kumar. It was well organized. A thought provoking talk by Fr. Elango SJ, on the topic "Youth and Social Responsibility" added flavor to the meeting. Thanks to Fr. Navy and Fr. Savio.

• **10th July, 2011** : Youth meeting was held at Chinthareddi Palem Parish. Rev.Fr. S. Thomas (DYD) gave talk on "Youth and Spirituality" which moved the hearts of youth to be spiritual persons in the society. Nearly 60-65 youth participated in this meeting. The youth were very active and alive in listening to the talks. Sr. Prakasamma & Br. Regent organized party games for the youth. I sincerely thank Rev. Fr. Ch. Balaraj for his support and encouragement towards youth.

• **25th July, 2011** : A special youth meeting was held at Youth Centre Nellore to recruit some youth (Dropouts from School & College) to work for a Glass Factory in Bangalore. 25 youth attended the meeting and 12 were selected. Thanks to our Bishop for availing this golden job opportunity to our youth.

Forthcoming Youth meetings

- 5th August : Thaticherla Motu
- 7th August : 53rd APCYM Council Meet, Hyd.
- 14th August : Vetapalem
- 21st August : Tripuranthakam
- 28th August : Bitragunta.

Please Note : The Casket of St. Don Bosco (Sacred Relics) will be arriving India in September. It will visit our Diocese on 18th & 19th of September. Kindly announce this in your parishes and encourage our people, especially youth to pay homage to the Sacred Relics and obtain spiritual benefits.

Fr. S. Thomas
Youth Director

NEWS FROM DON BOSCO INSTITUTION

Ongole

Dear fathers,

Greetings from Don Bosco fathers. This year we are late in sending the letter to ask you to send boys and girls to learn skill training program in our Technical Institute. I am giving you the details of the training available;

THREE MONTHS DRIVING COURSE:

We have tie up with a Driving School outside. The training cost and for LLR and License, it would cost 5, 000 rupees. Food and Accommodation is free. Please send the deserving boys to learn driving and get settled in life. To the deserving unemployed boys, 2,000 rupees concession will be given.

THREE MONTHS MORD COURSE:

The First batch of Ministry of Rural Development (MORD) program is complete and we had a good response from them. Most of them are job placed. You are welcome to send boys and girls to enroll their names for 3 months of short term course. Training, food and accommodation is free. Hostel facility is provided for Girls with Salatian sisters.

SIX MONTHS COMPUTER COURSE:

We give six months Computer Course for boys and girls those who have passed 10th and Inter Mediate, and also those who have failed. Only 25 seats are available, kindly inform those who are interested so that they can make use of the opportunity. For six months Computer Course, they have to pay per month 500 rupees. Hostel facility is provided for girls with Salatian sisters.

ONE YEAR TAILORING AND AUTO MOBILE COURSE:

We have Tailoring training unit and Auto mobiles training, especially water servicing. If there are boys who are drop outs from School or College, you can direct them to us.

Thank you very much for your brotherly support in past in carrying out the Skill Training Program to the drop outs and the needy. Kindly send this year also both boys and girls who can make use of our services.

Rev. Fr. Putti Anthaiah SDB

The Rector



BIRTH DAYS

AUGUST - 2011



1st : Fr. Marianandam

2nd : Fr. Arulanandam

3rd : Fr. U. Rayappa

4th : Fr. E.R. Lawrence

12th : Fr. P.L. Amalraj

13th : Fr. P. Rajarao

13th : Fr. Y.D. Hrudayaraj

17th : Fr. A. Stephen

19th : Fr. M. Mariadas

21st : Fr. A. Balaraj

24th : Fr. P. Anthonydas

25th : Fr. P. Alphonse



Ordination Anniversary

22nd : Fr. U. Maria Joseph Kumar

**LET US REMEMBER
THEM
IN OUR PRAYERS**



Episcopal Ordination Anniversary

28th August 2011



Dear Lordship,

As you are completing Nine years of your Episcopal Ordination, We wish and pray that the Lord may Bless you with good health and may our Blessed Mother Mary intercede for you to be a faithful and fruitful shepherd to our diocese. We thank you dear Lordship for your prayers and services to the diocese.