

EDITORIAL

Suffering Amidst Celebration June 2010

Asylum Seekers are much in the news now. And later this month we celebrate World Refugee Day.

These events may seem distant from the Church's liturgical year. We are returning to ordinary time, after a cycle of important feasts which call us to reflect on God's abiding love for us.

We recently celebrated Trinity Sunday. The Dominican, Timothy Radcliffe, in an address in Brisbane last year, asked:

What has the doctrine of the Trinity got to do with the 21st century? What's it got to do with kids who are unemployed looking for jobs, what's it got to do with young married couples struggling to make sense of their lives? What's it got to do with dialogue with Muslims, what's it got to do with us as we face the crises of our age?

I would say absolutely everything. Here you have a love ... which gives entirely to the other, the Father sharing all that He is with the Son, even His divinity and that's the mystery of love with which we spend our whole life engaging."

In this season, we also celebrate the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. The Jesuit, Pedro Arrupe once said "Our celebration the Eucharist is incomplete as long as there is hunger in the world."

An ancient Christian prayer encourages us to consider the Eucharist by looking at what we do with our lives.

*As wheat becomes one loaf
and grapes become one cup,
we too are gathered and pressed
into the one body of Christ,
prepared to eat and drink as Jesus taught us,
inviting the stranger to our table
and welcoming those who are poor.
May their absence serve to remind us
of the division each Eucharist seeks to heal.
May their presence help transform us
into the Body of Christ we share.*

How we pursue justice for those in need is at the heart of our faith. That is why we remember the treatment of asylum seekers and others who suffer when we celebrate Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi. They belong together.

Madeleine Marson,
Acting Editor

In the coming months we shall review the Faith Doing Justice Newsletter, Facebook and Twitter accounts.

We welcome your suggestions about what you find helpful and what can be improved or adapted with the Faith Doing Justice Website, newsletter.

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