

James's Street Parish

01-4531143 - Working with Francis Street and Meath Street Parishes



Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time – 28 January 2024

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS ABOUT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



In his message for the 58th World Day of Social Communications, Pope Francis urges humanity to cultivate wisdom of the heart in the age of artificial intelligence. Pope Francis has released his message for the 2024 World Day of Social Communications, focusing on the theme: Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a

Fully Human Communication. Celebrated on 12 May, this year's theme is closely linked to the Pope's message for the World Day of Peace, which was devoted to the development of systems of artificial intelligence (AI). AI is "radically affecting the world of information and communication, and through it, certain foundations of life in society," says the Pope in his Communications Day message, adding that "these changes affect everyone." So, the Pope asks, "how can we remain fully human and guide this cultural transformation to serve a good purpose?" In answering this question, the Holy Father notes that "at this time in history, which risks becoming rich in technology and poor in humanity, our reflections must begin with the human heart." He recalls that, in the Bible, the heart is seen as the place of freedom and decision-making, "symbolising integrity and unity, while also engaging our emotions, desires, and dreams." But, he continues, the heart is, above all, "the inward place of our encounter with God." "Wisdom of the heart, then, is the virtue that enables us to integrate the whole and its parts, our decisions and their consequences, our nobility and our vulnerability, our past and our future, our individuality and our membership within a larger community," says the Pope. The Holy Father goes on to stress that such wisdom cannot be sought from machines. Although the term "artificial intelligence" has replaced the term "machine learning," he said, "the very use of the word 'intelligence' can prove misleading." The Pope explained that it is not enough to be able to store data, like machines do, but that this data must be made sense of, and "human beings alone" are capable of this. "Depending on the inclination of the heart, everything within our reach becomes either an opportunity or a threat," warns the Pope. He notes that the technology of simulation behind AI algorithms can be useful in certain specific fields. However, he adds, the use of AI becomes "perverse when it distorts our relationship with others and with reality." In fact, it is extremely important to know that in the wrong hands, such tools could lead to "disturbing scenarios." Artificial Intelligence must be regulated, asserts Pope Francis, acknowledging that, as in every human context, "regulation is, of itself, not sufficient." Pope Francis then invites everyone to grow together, "in humanity and as humanity," recalling that we are all challenged to make a qualitative leap in order to become "a complex, multiethnic, pluralistic, multireligious, and multicultural society." Speaking of information, the Holy Father warns that "information cannot be separated from living relationships." He explains that relationships involve the body and an immersion into the real world, but that they also involve human experiences, "compassion, and sharing." With this in mind, Pope Francis refers to the many reporters who have been injured or killed in the line of duty as they attempted to show the world what they themselves had seen. "For only by such direct contact with the suffering of children, women, and men can we come to appreciate the absurdity of war," says the Pope. Bringing his message for World Communications Day to a close, Pope Francis recalls that "it is up to us to decide whether we will become fodder for algorithms or will nourish our hearts with that freedom without which we cannot grow in wisdom." Only together, he concludes, can we increase our capacity for discernment and vigilance and for seeing things in the light of their fulfilment. Pope Francis then prays that humanity may never lose its bearings, and that the wisdom that was present before all modern technology

may return to us. Wisdom, says the Pope, can help us "to put systems of artificial intelligence at the service of a fully human communication."

Courtesy Francesa Merlot - Vatican News

St. Brigid's Day Fair

Richmond Barracks St. Brigid's Day Fair: Celebrating the creativity of women, spring, Brigit, and St Brigid's Day February 3rd and 4th, 11 am - 5 pm. Admission Free. Celebrate the beginning of spring, new growth and new creation at Richmond Barracks, Inchicore, Dublin 8. Beyond a traditional market, our fair invites you to engage in creative and fun activities, try something new, and discover what we do at Richmond Barracks.



Landscaped Area

Dublin City Council proposes to create a landscaped area at Blackpitts between Clanbrassil Terrace and Donovan Lane. The planned work includes removing areas of the footpath (while still maintaining wide footways), adding new trees and herbaceous underplanting and creating a small seating area. It is expected that the project will be completed this spring.



Young Adult Camino 2024

Young Adult trip to the Camino June 2024. Completing the last 110km of the Camino from Sarria to Santiago. Places are limited. To book, please fill out the form in the link: <https://forms.office.com/e/1GBviSd72R/>. All queries can be sent to natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie.

FOURTH SUNDAY—SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

Penitential Rite

Our God is a God of openness and generosity. As we begin our celebration let us call to mind that openness and generosity.

You make us poor in spirit. Lord have mercy

You make us mindful of all in need. Christ have mercy

You make us bearers of your vision for the world.
Lord have mercy

May the God of generosity and openness fill us with compassion, forgive us our sin and bring us to life everlasting. Amen

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said to the people: ‘Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. “Do not let me hear again” you said, “the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die”; and the Lord said to me, “All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.”’

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord’s affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world’s affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord’s affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world’s affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death. Alleluia!

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made

a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, ‘What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.’ But Jesus said sharply, ‘Be quiet! Come out of him!’ And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. ‘Here is a teaching that is new’ they said ‘and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.’ And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Prayer of the Faithful

Praise to You, God of love. In your wisdom you reach out to us and fill our lives with hope. We bless you and thank you. Lord hear us

For the gift of Jesus your Son, who, chose the authority of Love, rather than power, we bless you and thank you. Lord hear us

For Your Spirit, who breathes your life into us, filling us with wisdom and joy, and drawing the very best from us, we bless you and thank you. Lord hear us

Lord, the death of our loved ones fills us with sorrow. May their memory inspire us to greater goodness until that day when we are united again in your love.
Lord hear us

Lord, may we have the courage to live prophetically, to challenge injustice, poverty of opportunity, discrimination and violence. Lord hear us

In silence we call to mind those who need our prayer and support.....Lord hear us

Reflection

When first he spoke they heard him and were surprised. He did not have the look of someone special. Then their hearing turned to listening. Somehow this ordinary man had touched their hearts. This was unexpected, surprising and a little unsettling. He did not speak like the other teachers. There was no sternness or arrogance in his voice. He commanded their attention, but without commandments. This was new. He seemed, in so many ways, to be quite ordinary. They could understand him. It was as if he knew their lives intimately. Each one felt addressed personally. His wisdom, if that’s what it was, seemed to be grounded in everyday life. But somehow, when he spoke, the ordinary became extraordinary. There was passion too, but it was gentle, inviting. It made them feel that there was more to their lives—more that they could do with these ordinary lives. Yes, he spoke with authority an authority which made them believe in themselves as much as it did in him. Someone said, he was just a carpenter.