

Subject: Update

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Conversation: Update

NEW BOOK - "*Qu(e)rying Evangelism*" by Reverend Dr Cheri DiNovo

Reverend Dr Cheri DiNovo has been at Emmanuel Howard Park United Church in Toronto for six years. Under her stewardship, EHP has practised inclusion (she was the first to perform a same sex legalized wedding in North America) and the church has become one of the fastest growing urban churches in Canada. Her congregation, queer and trans positive has tripled in size with an exploding Sunday School.

She has a weekly radio show on CIUT FM, 'The Radical Reverend'. She has also been a key player in the fight for same-sex marriage rights in Canada, and is the author of the 2005 book, *Que(e)rying Evangelism*.

The book examines evangelism from a biblical, theological, post structuralist and experiential lens.

Available through Amazon, Pilgrim Press and Wood Lake books, you may read a description at

[http://www.thepilgrimpress.com/product_detail.taf?](http://www.thepilgrimpress.com/product_detail.taf?site_uid1=61&hallway_uid1=62&search_id=&catalog_uid1=580&link_type_uid1=&pers)

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NEW ARTICLE - Pope Urged To Apologize For Vatican Castrations

This is actually an old article from 2001, but I just heard about it and felt it was worthy of posting.

This is not meant to "bash" "the church", but I think that by exposing the mistakes of the past, we are more able to accept that a great mistake has been made in the present regarding the interpretation of the passages that would appear to condemn us. They do NOT!

Excerpt:

Revelations that the Vatican encouraged the castration of choir boys in the name of art for hundreds of years have prompted calls for a papal apology.

Human rights groups, historians and Italian commentators said the Pope, a singer himself, should ask forgiveness for his predecessors' role in the mutilation of castrati singers.

New research suggests that the employment of castrati was tolerated by the Vatican as late as 1959, long after other states had banned it as barbaric.

From the 16th century onwards, generations of Italian boys were castrated in the hope that their voices, prevented from breaking, would combine a child's high register with the vocal power of a man.

This article gets rather graphic toward the end, so if you have a squeamish stomach, I advise you not to read it.

For those who would like to read the whole article, you will find it at <http://www.christiangays.com/articles/castrate.shtml>

MENS PERSONALS

Thanks to all the men who updated their Personal ads. They are now organized according to who responded first, so some of the folks who posted a couple of years ago are now back at the top.

Check out the Men's Personal ads at <http://www.christiangays.com/personals/men.shtml>

FAMILY & FRIENDS MAGAZINE

Many thanks to *Family & Friends Magazine* out of Memphis, TN, for publishing my bio in their Sept issue.

They don't have a website yet, but I will be notifying you once I find that it is up and running, and I will suggest that you subscribe to receive this magazine. They are supporting us. Let's do our best to support them.

BACK MAGAZINE

has asked me to write two more articles. If you're a Canadian, please pick up a copy of **BACK** at any Chapters or Indigo store. Let's get this great magazine off to a good start!

FAMOUS GAYS' BIRTHDAYS - November 1 through November 14

November 1: Italian Renaissance sculptor Benvenuto Cellini, 1500; Olympic decathlete and founder of the Gay Games Tom Waddell, 1937

November 2: singer K.D. Lang, 1961

November 3: artist and writer Tee Corinne, 1943

November 4: Jazz singer and pianist Frances Faye, 1912; editor and publisher Barbara Grier, 1933; photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, 1946

November 10: activist Phyllis Lyon, 1924 - **please see** <http://www.christiangays.com/marriage/51years.shtml>

November 13: Writer and Saint Augustine of Hippo, 354

November 14: William III, King of England, 1650; American composer Aaron Copland, 1900

GOD BLESS YOU!



I asked the Lord to bless you
As I prayed for you today
To guide you and protect you
As you go along your way....
His love is always with you
His promises are true
No matter what the tribulation
You know He will see us through
So, when the road you're traveling on
Seems difficult at best
Give your problems to the Lord
And God will do the rest.

(Thanks Cindy!)

PAINTING THE CHURCH

I've sent this one to you before, but when Roger sent it to me again, I still laughed, so figured you probably would too. ;-)

There was a tradesman, a painter called Jock, who was very interested in making a penny where he could, so he often would thin down paint to make it go a wee bit further.

As it happened, he got away with this for some time, but eventually the Baptist Church decided to do a big restoration job on the painting of one of their biggest buildings. Jock put in a bid, and because his price was so low, he got the job.

And so he set to erecting the trestles and setting up the planks, and buying the paint and, yes, I am sorry to say, thinning it down with turpentine.

Well, Jock was up on the scaffolding, painting away, the job nearly completed when suddenly there was a horrendous clap of thunder, and the sky opened, the rain poured down, washing the thinned paint from all over the church and knocking Jock clear off the scaffold to land on the lawn among the gravestones, surrounded by telltale puddles of the thinned and useless paint.

Jock was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty, so he got on his

knees and cried: "Oh, God! Forgive me! What should I do?" And from the thunder, a mighty voice spoke...

"Repaint! Repaint! and thin no more!"

(Thanks Roger! – and you're right, it is a groaner - LOL)

7-Up RULES FROM GOD'S WORD

1. Wake Up !!

Decide to have a good day.

"Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24

2. Dress Up !! The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

"The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart."

I Samuel 16:7

3. Shut Up!! Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking.

"He who guards his lips guards his soul."

Proverbs 13:3

4. Stand Up!!... For what you believe in. Stand for something, or you will fall for anything.

"Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good..."

Galatians 6:9-10

5. Look Up !!... To the Lord.

"I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

6. Reach Up !!... For something higher.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path."

Proverbs 3:5-6

7. Lift Up !!... Your Prayers.

"Do not worry about anything; instead PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING."

Philippians 4:6

and remember: God answers Knee-Mail.

(And yet another thanks to Roger!)

LIST SERVE & CHAT ROOMS

If you are not taking advantage of all the resources that ChristianGays.com has to offer, may I suggest you visit the Subscribe page at <http://www.christiangays.com/subscribe.shtml> to see if there are any areas in which you would like to get involved. If you subscribe and then change your mind, it's very easy to unsubscribe.

I hope to get to know more of you in the chat rooms, on the List Serve, and through the Bulletin Boards.

God bless,
Mary

Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!

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Gay by God. Proud by choice!

If you have any questions or concerns, please write to mary@christiangays.com

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