

Subject: Update

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GAY GOOD NEWS – CATHOLIC CHURCH MAKES 'STUNNING' MOVE

Excerpt:

The number of married Catholic priests could grow sharply as the result of the Vatican's epochal decision to welcome thousands of disaffected Anglicans and Episcopalians into the Catholic church.

At press conferences in Rome and London on Tuesday, Vatican officials announced that the church would set up a special canonical structure that will ease the conversion of members of the Anglican Communion without them having to give up what the Vatican called "the distinctive Anglican spiritual and liturgical patrimony." That means not only a body of prayers and hymns, but also a tradition of married priests and bishops.

Read the whole article at <http://news.aol.com/article/vatican-creates-new-structure-to-ease/728295?icid=main|htmlws-main-n|dl1|link3|http%3A%2F%2Fnews.aol.com%2Farticle%2Fvatican-creates-new-structure-to-ease%2F728295#axs238>

(Thanks Bruce!)

GAY GOOD NEWS – A MANIFESTO! THE TIME HAS COME! – by Bishop John Shelby Spong

Excerpt:

I have made a decision. I will no longer debate the issue of homosexuality in the church with anyone. I will no longer engage the biblical ignorance that emanates from so many right-wing Christians about how the Bible condemns homosexuality, as if that point of view still has any credibility. I will no longer

discuss with them or listen to them tell me how homosexuality is "an abomination to God," about how homosexuality is a "chosen lifestyle," or about how through prayer and "spiritual counseling" homosexual persons can be "cured." Those arguments are no longer worthy of my time or energy. I will no longer dignify by listening to the thoughts of those who advocate "reparative therapy," as if homosexual persons are somehow broken and need to be repaired. I will no longer talk to those who believe that the unity of the church can or should be achieved by rejecting the presence of, or at least at the expense of, gay and lesbian people. I will no longer take the time to refute the unlearned and undocumentable claims of certain world religious leaders who call homosexuality "deviant." I will no longer listen to that pious sentimentality that certain Christian leaders continue to employ, which suggests some version of that strange and overtly dishonest phrase that "we love the sinner but hate the sin." That statement is, I have concluded, nothing more than a self-serving lie designed to cover the fact that these people hate homosexual persons and fear homosexuality itself, but somehow know that hatred is incompatible with the Christ they claim to profess, so they adopt this face-saving and absolutely false statement.

Read the whole Manifesto at <http://christiangays.com/articles/spong.shtml>

(Thanks Bev and Frank!)

NEW ARTICLE – "TWO" DENOUNCES ANTI-GAY SMEAR CAMPAIGN - by Wayne Besen

Excerpt:

NEW YORK - Truth Wins Out criticized the on-going smear campaign that anti-gay organizations and politicians are orchestrating against Kevin Jennings, who is serving as the Assistant Deputy Secretary of Education for the Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools.

"We are witnessing a disgraceful political hit job filled with baseless allegations, ugly innuendo and outright homophobia," said Truth Wins Out Executive Director Wayne Besen. "Kevin Jennings is a hero that has saved the lives of many students and is eminently qualified for his position. Thanks to his work, countless gay youth were able to concentrate on scholastic success instead of basic survival or even suicide."

Read the whole article at <http://christiangays.com/articles/besen32.shtml>

(Thanks Wayne!)

NEW ARTICLE – AMERICAN EVANGELICALS PLAY ROLE IN UGANDA EFFORT TO 'WIPE OUT' GAYS - by Wayne Besen

Excerpt:

In March, American anti-gay activists traveled to Uganda for a conference that pledged to "wipe out" homosexuality. Seven months later, a draconian bill has been introduced that pledges to make good on this threat. The "Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2009" is so severe that it is designed to shred the spirit and suffocate the soul of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Ugandans. If it passes, Uganda will become a predator state that actively hunts down GLBT people to destroy them.

Read the whole article at <http://christiangays.com/articles/besen33.shtml>

(Thanks Wayne!)

BIBLE STUDY – RESUMES ON SUNDAY Oct 25

Rev John Brown had to be away this past weekend so Bible Study was cancelled for the week but it will resume on Sunday Oct 25, which incidentally will be the 43rd Anniversary of John being in Ministry. I hope a lot of you will be able to come out to offer your support and congratulations to him. We will be starting his series on "**The Revolution of the Marginalized**".

Bible Study starts in the Chat Rooms at 6 pm Pacific Time. That's 7 pm Mountain Time, 8 pm Central Time and 9 pm Eastern Time.

We have about 15 minutes of fellowship before getting into the lesson. The lesson will last about 45 minutes.

If you're not sure how our Bible Study works, all the details can be found by clicking on the "**Bible Study**" link in the Navigation column of the website. The direct link is http://christiangays.com/chat_study.shtml

Hope to see you there Sunday night!

(Thanks John!)

FYI - MUSIC ON THE WEBSITE

I have told you about this before but some still don't know about it.

Open any ChristianGays.com page - <http://christiangays.com/>

At the very top of the page, above the heart and above the title, you will find a gray bar and under it in white text:

"Listen To Gay Christian Music while you browse the website. Click the triangle above."

Just click on the triangle to play, the square to pause, double arrows for fast forward or reverse.

If you read the info in the bar it will tell you who is singing and what album it's from.

All the music on this current playlist is from Marsha Stevens' CD's. Some of the music is by her "upBeat Singers".

Now reduce that window or put it somewhere that you won't click on it, and open a new one because if you navigate away from it, the music will stop. You must leave that window open to hear the music while you continue to browse or go into chat, etc.

If you want to buy any of this music, you'll find it in the **ChristianGays.com**

Store - <https://christiangays.com/store/>

NEEDED – CHAT ROOM VOLUNTEERS

Ideally, one day, I'd love to have the chat rooms manned or womanned 24/7 to meet and greet people as they come in. So often people stop by and nobody is there to talk to them so they leave, disappointed.

Rev John and Bruce are often in the rooms (thanks John and Bruce!) and now Greg, elrenojohn (John) and Jessica have all volunteered to spend some time there for us, but there is still great need for others to help out.

This is a wonderful opportunity to be used of God. You don't have to have any special skills, education or "spirituality". You just have to be an ear to listen to people who need to know they're not alone.

If you think you could spare some time just to leave the chat room window open on your desktop to wait for people to come in while you do your other work, could you please write to me and let me know the day, time and time zone that would work for you. Many thanks!

NEW BLOGGER – "I AM STILL ME" by AYA

We have a new blogger and she has made her first entry. It's a wonderful post and very inspirational to someone who has just recently "come out". I hope you'll read it.

Find Aya's blog at <http://christiangays.com/blog/aya.php>

SOME WISDOM - THE SECRET

One day, one friend asked another, 'How is it that you are always so happy? You have so much energy, and you never seem to get down.'

With her eyes smiling, she said, 'I know the Secret!'

'What secret is that?'

To which she replied, 'I'll tell you all about it, but you have to promise to share the Secret with others.'

'The Secret is this:

I have learned there is little I can do in my life that will make me truly happy. I must depend on God to make me happy and to meet my needs. When a need arises in my life, I have to trust God to supply according to HIS riches. I have learned most of the time I don't need half of what I think I do. He has never let me down. Since I learned that 'Secret', I am happy.'

The questioner's first thought was, 'That's too simple!' But upon reflecting over her own life she recalled how she thought a bigger house would make her happy, but it didn't! She thought a better paying job would make her happy, but it hadn't. When did she realize her greatest happiness? Sitting on the floor with her grandchildren, playing games, eating pizza or reading a story, a simple gift from God.

Now you know it too! We can't depend on people to make us happy. Only GOD in His infinite wisdom can do that. Trust HIM! And now I pass the Secret on to you! So once you get it, what will you do?

YOU have to tell someone the Secret, too! That GOD in His wisdom will take care of YOU! But it's not really a secret... We just have to believe it and do it... Really trust God!

Today I pray your troubles be less,
May your blessings be more,
and May nothing but happiness
come through your door!!

Amen

(thanks Rose!)

REMINDER – CHRISTMAS IS ON ITS WAY – CHECK OUT THE STORE FOR GIFT IDEAS

If you're wondering what to get your special gay and lesbian friends and family, consider some Christian music especially for GLBTIQ's, movies or books. You'll find them, and more in the **ChristianGays.com Store** <https://christiangays.com/store/>

God bless,
Mary

Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!

<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

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

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No need to type anything. Just hit "Send" and you will automatically be removed from the email address from which you are sending - but remember, we will miss you. :-)

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