

3. Rethinking moral theology

ACTIONS [in the light of Have your say feedback on Ministry and Diversity the actions will all be compiled into one list, under the heading We believe the Holy Spirit is now urgently calling the People of God:]

We believe the Holy Spirit is now urgently calling the hierarchy:

1. To respect the freedom of the informed conscience and free and responsible speech for all, including both 'ordained' and 'lay'; to leave coercion and disparagement behind; to declare no topic taboo.
2. To set aside government by diktat, listening instead to the Spirit who speaks in and through the People of God. e.g. 1995, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, ruled that the teaching on an exclusively male priesthood had been "set forth infallibly" e.g. 2021 CDF statement that the Church cannot bless same-sex unions because it cannot bless 'sin'
3. To acknowledge that papal infallibility has only been invoked twice and that other teaching, introduced under the *guise* of infallibility, cannot suppress the *sensus fidelium*.
1854 Immaculate Conception, 1950 Mary's Assumption
4. To review moral theology and amend canon law to remove sexism and homophobia, and to fully embrace the unborn child.
5. To amend canon law to welcome procreation but not insist on it to make a marriage valid.
6. To protect women's right to sexual and reproductive health, related to multiple human rights, 1966 birth control commission and to end threats of excommunication against leaders who promote birth control options President Benigno Aquino III of Philippines 2012
7. To amend church teaching to forbid both the death penalty and corporal punishment and to make protection of the vulnerable paramount.

Continued...

We believe we are all being called immediately:

1. To ignore clerical monopoly on discussion and decision-making and to engage in informed dialogue about every issue. To connect with international reform groups and authors of books on church reform.
2. To publicise the fact that the majority of Catholics ignore the hierarchy's ban on artificial contraception and that the hierarchy's undiscerning preoccupation with sexual matters has alienated it from the *sensus fidelium* and deafened it to the contemporary voice of the Spirit.
3. To encourage sex-education for all young people to explore safe sex.
4. To share our stories.
5. To support reform groups.

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