

## More from the Daily Log

### LOVE AND COMMANDMENTS

**"If you love Me keep My commandments."**

John 14:15, cf. 15:10; 1 John 5:3; 2 John 6.

Our Lord is quoting from the First Commandment of the Decalogue, its final words in its full Biblical form:

**"And (I) show mercy unto thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments."**

Exodus 20 :6; Deuteronomy 5:10

Douay-Rheims, Knox, RSV2CE, lack any cross-reference from one to the other. JB tries, with Deuteronomy 6:4-9, plus a note: "Jesus, like God Himself, asserts His right to love and obedience," but it still lacks any explicit cross-reference to the Ten Commandments. It is a link we need to know.

### REGIMEN OF RISING

*Regimen* means a manner of living, especially a daily programme, diet or government rule, from Latin, *regere* = to rule, cf. regimentation, regime etc. (English speakers limp without a bit of Latin.)

Spiritual writers insist on a daily regimen with a fixed hour of rising for prayer. A rock-bottom minimum for morning prayer (to keep out of Hell) is to make the Sign of the Cross in mid-air jumping out of bed. But spiritual writers would not countenance that!

**Growing boys and young men need early rising.**

- It strengthens them against mere whims and feelings by helping them act contrary to their inclinations, hence taking a step towards maturity.
- The Devil exploits whims and feelings, and tempts souls, without their even being aware of it. He specializes in assassination and stabs in the back.
- The discipline of early rising rather than lying abed helps build up self-control against unruly male urges and temptations (as do Lenten penances that are also self-denial).
- It requires the further self-discipline of putting oneself to bed the night before.
- Hence it helps the growth to maturity measured by the capacity to defer plans and desires according to a scale of good priorities.
- It helps develop the self-discipline of punctuality for meals and meetings. Being on time is part of justice and charity, in that it is consideration for others, and not making them waste time waiting.
- Claims for consideration of 'morning persons' and 'night persons' might not be relevant here. It is quite feasible to will oneself to become an early riser, given the motivation, for instance, keeping a job.
- Early rising is the recipe used in seminaries, the army, boot camps etc. But it doesn't work unless the imposed discipline becomes self-discipline. Otherwise, it is useful only for its own time, and not life-long — hence unpunctual and disobedient priests.
- Besides, it's in *Biggles*: time lost at the beginning of the day is never made up.
- Daylight saving is a veiled tribute to early rising, with everyone fooled by the clock and carried along by the crowd to get up an hour earlier.

### TYPESSETTING

**Sentences** start with a capital and finish with a full stop. Sometimes it is hard to recognize the start of a new sentence because the full stop is too hard so see.

Once upon a time, in the dim dark ages before computers, journalists writing 'copy' used to finish a sentence with a **full stop with a ring around it**, something eye-catching. Likewise good proof reading with a marginal correction for a missing full stop still has not only a dot but a ring round it, just to make sure.

Another aid to accurate reading is to put a long space (a technical expression) after a full stop. Father John Doyle S.J., R.I.P. who popularized the phrase 'voucher funding' in the daily papers, insisted on it. Notice the typesetting on this page: not just a space-bar, (or two space-bars of the old typewriting days, but a typo-graphical long space. Does MS-Word translate two space-bars into a long space?

**Paragraphs** often start without indents nowadays, and in lieu add a white space between paragraphs.

This gets corrupted by omitting the white space — to wit, many emails, and poorly typeset articles. The result is unbroken lines of type down the left margin; and the only way a new paragraph can be discerned is to look at the end of the preceding one. This is silly.

When it is done incorrectly, without the white space between, an unindented paragraph that ends at the end of a line is not marked off from the next paragraph.

Even when it is done correctly, a paragraph might finish at the bottom of a page with a sentence that fills the whole line. It is not obvious if the top of the new page is a new paragraph or not.

These *Handouts* and all of more recent Newman Centre publications eschew the fad of unindented paragraphs.

Mind you, especially for typing letters, a white space between paragraphs is a good idea, and is quite compatible with out-of-fashion indents as well.

### IMPORTANT TELEPHONE CALLERS

Phones and mobiles have become so insistent, imperious, invasive, intrusive, and often downright inconsiderate and inconvenient — like visitors who lob-in unexpected and uninvited right on lunch time.

Curiosity, blended with genuine consideration for the unlikely urgent calls, prompts people to answer everything. Yet it may well be a strategic mistake to pander to every caller: perchance he has not learnt to discipline his whims and rings up the instant he thinks of it... Too much ease of communication may easily suffocate it. Far from strengthening human relationships, it trivialises and weakens them.

Thus face to face conversations or activities are regularly interrupted for trivia, and it is hard to transact anything serious. This is bad for human relationships. "In understanding, be men."

Phones, computers, internets must be servants, and not "improved means to deteriorated ends".

## Aims of the Bush Boy Books

1. First & foremost BBB are adventures for boys, though it was foreseen that girls would read them.

2. BBB are a **life-situational catechesis** enflashing the 'doctrine' in the 50 Q&As in the *Australian Bush Catechism of Camping* of April 1989, written months before the first BBB was even thought of. It was for boys to learn bushy Safety First, **AND** an ironic protest against diocesan officials who aimed to suppress the *Catholic Family Catechism* from 1980 onwards.

3. BBB are also a **life-situational catechesis in religion and morality** enflashing the doctrine in the Q&As of various editions of the *Catholic Family Catechism*. Such catechesis needs a catechism, a doctrinal skeleton, to fulfil "the greatest concern of Vatican II, that the sacred deposit of Christian doctrine be guarded and taught more efficaciously."

4. BBB are **life-situational catechesis on family life**; they oppose feminist unisex mindsets on women priests and altar girls. VCII itself negated unisex:

Above all, they [teachers] should work in close co-operation with the parents. In the entire educational programme they should, together with the parents, **make full allowance for the difference of sex and for the particular role which Providence has appointed to each sex in the family and in society."**

Christian Education *Gravissimum Educationis* §8

## Religion in Adventure Stories

**READERS young or old resent being preached at in fiction.** Let authors beware!

In the new one volume of *Bush Boys and Cuthbert* (with new pagination) religious practice is mainly matter-of-fact mentions of morning and night prayers, grace before meals, the Sign of the Cross, with advent-ures time-tabled to get back for church on Sundays.

The older girls of the city Cumberland attend an Anglican Confirmation class, and the boys usually go to Sunday school (p. 39). At Coachwood Falls, the mountain Cumberlands have come from church (p. 42). Also a Uniting Church youth group was lost (p. 97). Greg mentions "our priest" (p. 103) and they eat fish on Friday (p. 191). He is an altar server (p. 372). Cuthbert has no religious practice (p. 296) but progresses (p. 383). The kidnappers mock the boys for singing *Onward, Christian Soldiers*, (p. 481).

In *Bush Boys and Bush Rangers* Greg explains Confession to the Anglican cousins, (p. 307).

In *Bush Boys on the Move* altar boys get a mention (p. 98), and Friday abstinence (p. 338).

Religion is more explicit with the Lawsons in *New Boys in the Bush*: the grandeur of Sunday Mass, (pp. 68, 231, 433); the kind but lapsed Italian Catholic marvels at really boyish boys going to church, (p. 240); and they sing hymns when lost, (p. 258).

Before leaving for work, Dad gives them homeschool incidental lessons on maths, science and religion. Some readers, unused to the author's compact descriptions and lateral thinking, find these obscure and overdone, (pp. 104, 135, 152, 170, 206, 250, 284, 302, 336, 363).

Mrs Lawson describes bullying at school for being practising Catholics, and going to Sunday Mass and monthly Confession;" (p. 383).

### READERS PLEASE ADVISE

The question is: "Is it overdone and off-putting?" "Is an author unfairly 'getting at the reader' by describing as matter-of-fact a Catholic's integrity of life?"

### Handouts to 25th March, 2008

- 1: A *Catechism About Catechisms* (in 50 Q&As)
- 2: *The Australian Bush Catechism (ABC) of Camping*
- 3: "Between you and me," says the Bible (pronouns/grammar)
- 4: Pastoral Councils Help Foster Pastoral Action
- 5: How to Write a Story
- 6: The Great 'O' Antiphons (for Advent)
- 7: Authentic Liturgy (rules for translations)
- 8: St Joseph the Worker  
and the Complementarity of the Sexes
- 9: How to Write a Strong Letter (protests to Rome)
- 10: Bishops & Priests: Teachers, and Teachers of Teachers
- 11: The 3 Cs: Confession, Communion, Confirmation —  
What Order?
- 12: Classroom Catechist (needs more on Asking Questions)
- 13: *Catholic Family Catechism* in 50 Q&As
- 14: 50 Q&As of CFCDE without the italicized add-in lines
- 15: Anointing of the Sick
- 16: The Noble Art of Reading Aloud
- 17: INCOMPLETE, on Geometry
- 18: Pythagoras' Theorem
- 19: INCOMPLETE, on Trigonometry
- 20: What am I giving up for Lent? SIN!
- 21: My Way of Life (similar to CFCDE pp. 5-10)
- 22: *Bush Boys on the Move* (2 reviews)
- 23: Electricity; Logarithms
- 24: Benediction Hymns
- 25: INCOMPLETE: Maths for Muddlers and Murmurers  
(especially homeschoolers who feel so)
- 26: Bibles and Commentaries & prices at Newman  
Resources
- 27: God and the Soul (Apologetics)
- 28: Best People Home-made; Love, greatest thing in world
- 29: INCOMPLETE: Basic Algebra and Calculus
- 30: INCOMPLETE: Rotating the Axes and Binomial Series
- 31: Complimentary & Complementary (no unisex or lingo)
- 32: INCOMPLETE: Theology
- 33: 'Sex-ed' violates Subsidiarity
- 34: Conscience: Compass in need of a Map; Kid's Rights
- 35: *Compendium of the Catechism*
- 36: INCOMPLETE: Implementing the *Compendium*
- 37: *Dies Irae* (the greatest of the Latin hymns)
- 38: Paper called A4
- 39: INCOMPLETE: Fixing Error and Evil
- 40: Introduction to VATICAN II for High School
- 41: Early Easter 2008
- 42: Copy Book Maxims (on handwriting)
- 43: Freedom
- 44: Snippets from Fr. Tierney's Daily Log Book
- 45: Riches in the *Catholic Family Catechism*
- 46: Exiles, Come Home!
- 47: Kneel, Genuflect, Bow
- 48: Driving with Goodwill
- 49: More from the Daily Log Book etc.