

## **HAVE YOU EVER WISHED THERE WAS A CHURCH THAT... ?**

- Offers Catholic sacramentalism in its fullness, along with a deep understanding of the inward effects of the sacraments
- Preserves a valid and authentic apostolic succession
- Presents a new yet ancient interpretation of Christian teachings and symbolism
- Acknowledges the validity of the great world religions as other pathways back to our source in God
- Allows personal responsibility and therefore complete freedom of belief and conscience
- Invites all, regardless of belief, who approach reverently to receive Holy Communion
- Is non-judgemental regarding re-marriage or divorce
- Is served by trained but unpaid clergy as in the tradition of the early church

## **BELIEVE IT OR NOT THERE IS**

**Its called the Liberal Catholic Church and it can be found in over 40 countries**

**In your area, it operates from...**

### **THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE**

**Cr. Brewer & Lacy Sts. Perth**

**Holy Eucharist: Sundays 10.00 a.m.**

**Healing & Solemn Benediction: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays each month, 8.00p.m.**

**Enquiries:- (08) 9446 7505**

### **A VIEW OF FAITH**

#### ***From the Liturgy***

“We believe that God is love and power and truth and light; that perfect justice rules the world; that all his sons shall one day reach his feet, however far they stray. We hold the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man; we know that we do serve him best when best we serve our brother man. So shall his blessing rest on us and peace for evermore. Amen”.

### **A VIEW OF MANKIND**

#### ***From the Summary of Doctrine***

“Man is a complex of spirit, soul and body. The spirit of man made in the image of God is divine in essence. Therefore he cannot cease to exist; he is eternal and his future is one whose glory and splendour have no limit”.

### **A VIEW OF CHRIST**

#### ***From the Summary of Doctrine***

“Christ ever lives as a mighty spiritual presence in the world, guiding and sustaining his people. The divinity which was manifest in him is gradually being unfolded in

every man until each shall come 'unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ' (Eph, 4:13)".

## **A VIEW OF MAN'S PURPOSE**

### ***From the Summary of Doctrine***

"The world is the theatre of an ordered plan, according to which the spirit of man, by repeatedly expressing himself in varying conditions of life and experience, continually unfolds his powers. This spiritual unfoldment takes place under an inviolable law of cause and effect. 'Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap' (Gal. 6:7). His doings in each physical incarnation largely determine his experience after death in the intermediate world (or world of purgation) and the heavenly world, and greatly influence the circumstances of his next birth. Man is a link in a vast chain of life extending from the higher to the lowest. As he helps those below him, so also he is helped by those who stand above him on the ladder of life, receiving thus a free gift of grace. There is a communion of saints, just men made perfect or holy ones, who help mankind. There is a ministry of angels".

## **A VIEW OF MAN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

### ***From the Statement of Principles***

"The Liberal Catholic Church gives special attention to the ministry of healing. Although phenomena of healing appear to have been frequent in the time of the Apostles we are not justified in assuming that an ability to heal is conferred at ordination, or that the gift of healing is other than a charismatic power. But in the revivifying breath of the Holy Spirit, in the grace of Absolution, and in the sacraments of Unction and the Eucharist, Christ's church has means of grace to vitalise and supplement ordinary healing methods. Healing and priestly functions may be seen to be complementary; there is growing recognition that bodily ailments are in many instances the outcome of maladies of the psyche and can best be remedied when the soul is at peace. The Liberal Catholic Church endeavours to restore these ministrations of healing to their rightful place in the economy of life. The sacrament of Unction is used to this end in three ways; as public services of spiritual healing, as a private unction for the sick, and as Extreme Unction for those in imminent danger of physical death when it may particularly be regarded as a healing of the soul. Although instances of physical recovery do occur, the aim of spiritual healing is always more directed towards the actual sources of disease, often an unrecognised discord within the psyche and a separation from the stream of grace".

## **A VIEW ON THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY**

### ***From the Statement of Principles***

"As a church ceases to produce men of knowledge, so do its teachings narrow and harden, its theology grows legalistic and mechanical and its priesthood, lacking inner illumination, seeks to impose its will by authority and to persecute those who resist. The Liberal Catholic Church aims at being a Gnostic church, not in the sense of reproducing certain extravagancies of early Christianity, but in the sense of helping its members to attain for themselves this certainty of knowledge which is the true gnosis of which St. Clement of Alexandria wrote. The ancient path of purification, illumination and union, which in olden times brought the candidate to this certainty, is still open for his treading. Those who tread it may still hope to attain the discipleship, that direct communion with the Master which should be the aim of every Christian.

The Way of the Cross is the progressive unfoldment of the Christ-spirit within man, and to this end the sacraments of Christ's holy church avail".