

**Consumer** spending on the rise.  
**The Economy** growing with growth consolidated.  
**Record** numbers of new cars sold.  
**Record** numbers of people now in full employment.



**Then why is there such dissatisfaction and unhappiness?**

The answer is to be found within The Gospels. True happiness is found through Jesus Christ. We must feed our souls with The Holy Spirit and not look for instant gratification in *consumerism*

Everyday, everywhere we are bombarded with marketing hype. We are promised success, beauty and happiness. Subtly beguiling, forever urging, usurping Christ; it is the soft insistent, sibilant whisper of evil. It delivers a false message of fulfilment, it leads the vulnerable to debt and misery. It creates the shallow and tawdry cult of The Celebrity.

Yet there is a palpable hunger for 'something else'. That something else is Christ. Christ's Church must redouble her ministry, must remain true to the message in the Gospels. She must teach us how to turn to Christ, she must show us the way of The Cross. I pray for The Church and her ministry. Two thousand years since Jesus came to redeem us, those lessons he taught are as precious and pertinent today as they were then.

*I am the bread of life he who comes to ME will not hunger,  
And he who believes in ME will never thirst.*

Now retired, I was an IT executive in a global motor manufacturer. With a background in business analysis, process engineering, programme management and business planning; I had responsibility for a global portfolio and have lead global development teams. Special assignments included multi-million dollar contract negotiations for IT support and development and contract implementation.

The skills and techniques I learned over 35 years I now humbly offer to Our Church in the service of Our Lord.

Bishop Norman in one of his thought provoking sermons, once likened Saint Dominic to a Rottweiler, a Rottweiler for God. I like that! I do not 'do' political correctness. In a Church that commits to mutual flourishing and in which we are a communion bound in love and founded in God's love there must be freedom to speak plainly. On matters such as introducing gender neutral language I ask what problem does this solve? Is it in the interests of the general public or a minority within the communion? What evidence is there that it will be successful? How is success defined?

With the rising threat of radical Islam in our own country and the political chaos that threatens to spawn a murderous caliphate in the middle-east, God's Church stands as a beacon of hope and love. We must make sure we are not found to be wanting.

Heidi McCaughey

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