



"Many Christian communities already offer journeys of accompaniment in faith for homosexual persons: the Synod recommends that such initiatives be supported.

In these journeys, people are helped to read their own history; to adhere with freedom and responsibility to their baptismal calling; to recognize the desire to belong and contribute to the life of the community; to discern the best ways of realizing this.

Thus, all young people, without exception, are helped to integrate the sexual dimension of their personality more and more fully, as they grow in the quality of their relationships and move towards the gift of self."

- Synod of Bishops on Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment, 11 January 2019

LGBTIQ Resources for Teachers in Parramatta Diocese

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Pope Francis

Youth Synod Document Shows Vatican Evolution on LGBT Topics. Vatican embraces the use of the term LGBT in recent documents. Francis DeBernardo, New Ways Ministry, June 20, 2018. <https://tinyurl.com/yco6gddz5>

Pope's call for an Apology to LGBT Catholics. (2016) Global Network of Rainbow Catholics looks at the Pope's call to support LGBT Catholics the church may have offended <https://tinyurl.com/y8mjphny>

Pope says God made you this way. *New York Times* reports on the Pope's meeting with a Chilean gay Catholic. May 21, 2018. <https://tinyurl.com/y74ed6h6>

A Pastoral Approach – articles by Fr James Martin

Building a Bridge How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity, Revised edition, 2018, Harper Collins

Talk at World Meeting of Families, Dublin August 23, 2018 text and video:

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2018/08/23/father-james-martin-how-parishes-can-welcome-lgbt-catholics>

Original America Magazine article on church communicating better with LGBT Catholics: <https://tinyurl.com/yafs452j>

Talk on Building a Bridge at Villanova University:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNt2kK60VM>

Martin responds to criticisms of his book:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXGI9ysWsoW>

When LGBT issues are pro-life issues America Magazine:

<https://tinyurl.com/y785nmc6>

Other Useful Articles

Archbishop Vincent Nichols on love and friendship:

<https://tinyurl.com/y97sfw2m>

Why do LGBTIQ people feel excluded by the Churches? Sarah Bacheland and James Alison, Audio talk, London, 2018, <https://tinyurl.com/yap8l5dy>

Transgender: Catholic Bishops of England and Wales Statement on Transgender people and LGBT Catholics Westminster Response: 20/4/2018. Not yet published. <https://tinyurl.com/yboaxzjy>

...continued from 'Other Useful articles:'

I thought Gay Celibacy Was My Only Option — I Was Wrong. Patrick Gotham.

<https://tinyurl.com/y7pzeofc>

Breaking Up with God (2018). Alyssa tells her story of being Christian and lesbian.

<https://tinyurl.com/yahbgwbz>

Sexuality, Dialogue, and the Church: An interview with James Alison. James Alison offers a new anthropology for LGBT theology.

<https://tinyurl.com/yaov2bcp>

World Youth Day 2008 Forum (Acceptance, Sydney): Clip 1 of 10: <https://tinyurl.com/yaaef7o3> and Fr Donal Godfrey SJ

<https://tinyurl.com/y7ezwu4a>

Helpful Websites:

Global Network of Rainbow Catholics: <http://rainbowgbtcatholics.org/>
An international coalition of Catholic groups in ministry with LGBTIQ Catholics and allies.

Rainbow Catholics InterAgency (RCIA):

facebook.com/RainbowCatholicsInterAgency

Email: rainbowcatholicinteragency@gmail.com

An interagency working with Catholic LGBTIQ affirming outreach groups in Australia.

Acceptance Sydney: gaycatholic.com.au pastoral support; referrals to priests with experience supporting LGBTIQ Catholics and their families and allies.

Equally Blessed: equallyblessed.org Catholics coalition working for LGBTIQ equality in USA.

Catholics for Renewal www.catholicsforrenewal.org General Catholic Church renewal group in Australia with a sensitivity to LGBTIQ Catholics.

Catalyst for Renewal <http://catalystforrenewal.org.au/> Wider Sydney group supporting renewal through conversation including Lawson Reflection Mornings. Many useful links.

Future Church www.futurechurch.org USA Catholic renewal coalition. Good resources available.

Owning Our Faith - Catholic family and LGBTIQ stories:

www.owningourfaith.com See: <https://tinyurl.com/y8tdwl0k>

LGBT Westminster Catholics: www.lgbtcatholicswestminster.org UK Coalition based in London. Excellent links and resources.

Walk in my shoes: Helpful Definitions

*L.G.B.T.I. National Health Alliance, University of Western Australia , Anti Discrimination Commission
Queensland, NSW Police Force's Policy on Sexuality and Gender Diversity*

Lesbian - A lesbian is a person who self-describes as a woman and who has experiences of romantic, sexual, and/or affectional attraction solely or primarily to other people who self-describe as women. Some women use other language to describe their relationships and attractions.

Gay - A gay man is a person who self-describes as a man and who has experiences of romantic, sexual and/or affectional attraction solely or primarily to other people who self-describe as men. Some men use other language to describe their relationships and attractions.

Bisexual - A bisexual person is a person of any gender who has romantic and/or sexual relationships with and/or is attracted to people from more than one gender. Some people who fit this description prefer the terms 'queer' or 'pansexual', in recognition of more than two genders. Although 'bi-' technically refers to two, it is often used by people who have relationships with and/or attractions for people of more genders than just women or men.

Trans and Transgender are umbrella terms often used to describe people who were assigned a sex at birth that they do not feel reflects how they understand their gender identity, expression, or behaviour. Most people of trans experience live and identify simply as women or men; most do not have 'a trans identity'. In addition to women and men of trans experience, some people do identify their gender as trans or as a gender other than woman or man. People from Aboriginal/Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander communities often use sistergirl or brotherboy. People from societies around the world with more than two traditional genders often use culturally specific language.

Intersex - A person with an intersex characteristic is a person born with physical characteristics that differ from modern medical norms about strictly 'female' and strictly 'male' bodies. Intersex is not about gender, but about innate physical variations. Most people with intersex characteristics describe their gender as simple women or men, not as a 'third gender'.

Heterosexual - A person who is emotionally and/or sexually attracted to persons of the opposite sex. Also known as 'straight' (but need not be narrow).

Transitioning - is the process a person goes through when changing their public gender presentation, to match their affirmed gender. A person who is transitioning may dress and live as their preferred gender. They may alter their physical appearance or take hormones. Some, but not all trans* people, may choose sex affirmation surgery.

Cisgender - means that a person's biological sex and gender expression are the same. For example, a person expresses herself as female, and is also biologically female.

Heterosexism - is the belief that everyone is, or should be, heterosexual and that other forms of sexuality are unacceptable. This belief may underpin a range of areas – for example, health policy, health services, welfare and education services – and can make gay and lesbian people feel invisible. This can have a range of impacts. For example, it may mean that the form you fill in at a medical service may have no place to record that your nominated next of kin is a same sex partner. If you are a young gay person, you may not be permitted to take a same sex partner to the school formal.

Homophobia - means fear of homosexuality. Some people may feel threatened by people who have sexual preferences other than their own. They may express this fear in a variety of ways ranging from subtle discrimination to overt violence.

Transphobia is the hate and fear based harassment, abuse or violence directed at transgender people based on the expression of their internal gender identity, not their perceived or actual sexuality.