

Spiritan Magazine

Volume 33
Number 2 *Summer*

Article 13

Summer 2019

Food for Thought

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dsc.duq.edu/spiritan-tc>

Recommended Citation

(2019). Food for Thought. *Spiritan Magazine*, 33 (2). Retrieved from <https://dsc.duq.edu/spiritan-tc/vol33/iss2/13>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Spiritan Collection at Duquesne Scholarship Collection. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spiritan Magazine by an authorized editor of Duquesne Scholarship Collection.

Food for Thought

We educate to some extent by what we say,
even more by what we do,
and even more than that by who we are.
But we educate most of all by what we love.

F.H. Drinkwater

If we were to reduce the world's population to a village of precisely 100 people:

- 80 would live in substandard housing
- 67 would be unable to read
- 50 would be malnourished
- 33 would be Christians
- 33 would be without access to a safe water supply
- 24 would not have electricity
- 7 would have access to the Internet
- 5 (all American citizens) would control 32% of the world's wealth
- 1 would have a college education
- 1 would be dying of starvation

When it comes to answering the questions young people have in their lives, the Church is not there for them. Their spirituality is about relationship, about where and how each one's personal story can find meaning. They search for what gives and encourages life in all its aspects. Organized religion is not a source of this life.

We are a church with a "Shepherd image". Sheep do not seek the shepherd. It is the shepherd who seeks out the sheep and that seeking on the part of the Church is not evident. Many church leaders are afraid to approach youth. So the question is not whether the future generation will have faith, the question is will faith have the future generation.

Shelley Lawrence rscj

The number of Christians migrating to Canada is declining whereas Muslims and Sikhs are arriving in ever greater numbers. Christian immigrants are mainly from the Philippines, Korea, Vietnam and China. Catholics are no longer a minority among a mainstream Protestant majority. New Canadians attend church more regularly than Canadian-born Christians. Monthly Church attendance in 2001 was as follows:

Canada: 31% Ontario: 36% Toronto: 36%

Canadian-born: 28% New Canadians: 50%

Between 1985-2004 the No Religion category jumped from 12% to 19%. This category has become the new default for youth in Ontario.

Religion can be just as much the glue that holds society together as it can be the poison that dissolves it. We need to discern the difference...

Why do we want to love the poor, help the lonely, console the sad, heal the sick and bring freedom to the oppressed? Simply because this is what God does. No other reason.

Adolfo Nicolas,
Jesuit Superior General

There is need for a new model of education which is about the whole person ...

Our society can no longer afford an education as though business alone matters. Jesus came that we, ourselves and our children, might have life and have it to the full.

Michael Holman SJ