



Corpus Christi Sunday—June 3, 2018

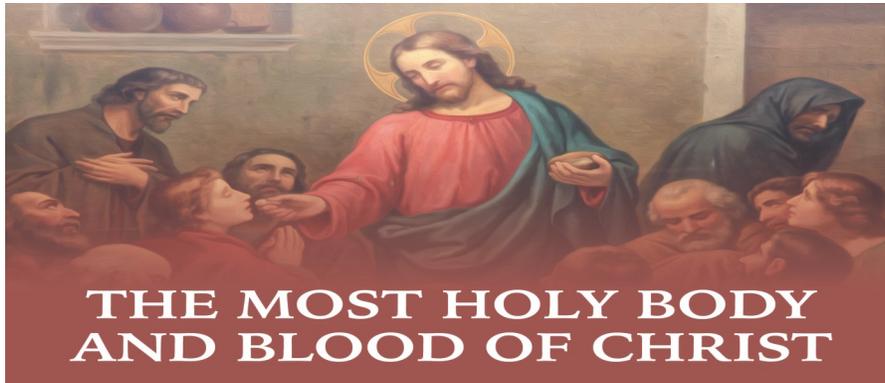
SAINT MARY'S & SAINT ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCHES

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VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON



“He took the bread, said the blessing, gave it to them, and said, ‘Take it; this is my body.’”

I don't have to go to Mass to be a good Catholic. How many times have you heard this? On the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), we are reminded about what it is that makes us uniquely Catholic, and that is our celebration of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The Holy Eucharist is the New Covenant of God's love, sealed by the blood of God's Son, Jesus Christ. Every time we gather at Mass as a community of faith and partake of the Holy Eucharist, we share in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This gift of our salvation cannot be found in one's home, or in the beauty of the outdoors, but only at the Holy Mass. We do have to attend Mass to be a good Catholic, so when someone suggests otherwise, remind them that in missing Mass, they are missing out on the graces of the Holy Eucharist, so necessary for their salvation.

Difficult Moral Issues, “Why does the Catholic Church oppose gay marriage?”

Just three years ago this summer, gay marriage was made the law of the land with the Supreme Court case, Obergefell v. Hodges. How did we ever come to this point? It wasn't that long ago that gay marriage was not even something conceivable. No one even talked about it! In fact, gay marriage is a very contemporary issue. Only in 2001 did the first country permit gay marriage (Holland) and in 2004, the first US state (Massachusetts). The thought of Christian denominations permitting gay marriage was a concept even more inconceivable, but that has come to pass as well. A number of mainline Christian denominations have adopted rituals for gay marriage and some even allow pastors to enter into gay marriage. As with so many moral issues of our day, the Catholic Church seems so out of touch in regards to gay marriage. The Church should just accept the inevitable and adopt what the secular and Christian cultures have already sanctioned. But, she can't. The Church in doing so would be violating the divine law and the natural law and she would be turning a blind eye to the tragic consequences of gay marriage, which will likely unfold.

In the debate about gay marriage, proponents of traditional marriage are often labeled as bigots, filled with hate for homosexuals. We are told, “God would never judge people because they are homosexual.” A distinction is in order. The Church in her teachings does not condemn a person for their homosexual orientation. Whether it is a result of genetics or socialization, some people believe that they are attracted to persons of the same sex. For most, this is a heavy cross they must bear. Despite the culture's push to convince them that “It's okay to be gay”, deep down, they know the orientation is not normal; it is objectively disordered. The Church does not condemn homosexuals for their orientation, but she does ask them to remain chaste. It is the sexual activity of the orientation (acting upon it) that is sinful; the person is not. In her understanding, the Church is bound by God's Holy Word, the divine law. (continued on page 3)

MASS & ADORATION SCHEDULE

Monday, June 4

7:30 AM SM—Communion Service

Tuesday, June 5

7:30 AM SM +Roy Mellmer by Ruth Fitterer

6:00 PM SE Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM SE -Arlene Rohr by Cely & Robert Stagl

Wednesday, June 6

7:00 PM SM– Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

7:00 PM SM– +Keith Herold by Brian & Kim Herold

Thursday, June 7

7:30 AM SM– Weir Family by a friend

Friday, June 8

7:30 AM SM– +Frank & + Seraphina Schmitt by a friend

12-3:00 PM—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, June 9

8:30 AM SM– +Tim Koch by Father Gary Benz

5:00 PM SM—+Kyle Binstock, +Joe & + Ida Binstock, +James & +Inez Hanson by Ervin & Diane Binstock

Sunday, June 10

8:30AM SE +Deceased Family members of Elven & Kathy Kaufman by Elven & Kathy Kaufman

10:30AM SM-Pro Populo

Please Keep in Your Prayers:

Nate Hernandez, Duane Dobitz, Andy Prokop, Henley Johnson, Duane Grundhauser, Pete Schaefer, Alice Candrian, Marilyn Jacobs, Leo Heck, Ross Thomas, Arlene Rohr, Brenda Barton, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz,, Linda Reisenauer, Rose Krebs (SE), Russ Lefor, Lori Lefor, Herbert Emmil, Reggie Gentz, Cindy Martin, Tim Theil, Howard Schiwal, Theresa Decker, Alyssa Binstock, Yvonne Fettig, Dale Reindel, Kim Kuhn, Don Miller, Katherine Splichal, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick, Dorothy Kohl, Colleen Churchill, Thresiamma (Fr. Biju's mom)

Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents: Aggie Wandler, Ken Stagl, Charlotte Krebs, Harvey Herberholz, Archie Jalbert, Benny Benz, Joan Binstock, Joe Wandler, Sylvia Koppinger, Leona Gordon, Joan Madler, Cecelia Jung, Donnella Koppinger, Marilyn Jeske, Willie Emmil, Frances Heick, Dale Schroeder

Our Deceased Loved Ones + Darwin Schaefer. +James Gatzke, + Ed Koppinger +Eleanor Keck +Ardelle Kovar, +Eugenia Stagl, + Nick Lenhardt , + Mike Urlacher , + Keith Herold, +Carla Rohan +Alvin Rotering +Jeanne Kovar +Bridget Urlacher, +Laura Grundhauser, +Florian Urlacher +Paul Schiwal, + LeRoy Jacobs +Victor Roller +John Herold, + Viola Martin

On the Lighter Side, Interesting Signs

In a veterinarian's waiting room, "Be back in five minutes. Sit! Stay!"

On a plumber's truck, "We repair what your husband fixed."

On a fence, "Salesmen welcome. Dog food is expensive!"

In a health food shop, "Closed due to illness."

Thank you for your love for the faithful departed

In visiting our cemeteries on Memorial Day, I was impressed by how well they are kept in order. To all who help maintain our cemeteries, may God bless you for your awesome work.

Thank to all who came to the cemeteries as well for the blessing of each cemetery and particular graves as well. It was a great honor for me as a priest to pray for your beloved faithful departed. Indeed, they are loved and never forgotten, even in death.

On Memorial Day, I left each cemetery with some baked goods that parishioners gave to me, to nibble upon as I traveled from cemetery to cemetery. These cookies and bars were very tasty. How about we do cemetery visitations more often!

St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments June 9 & 10, 2018

MINISTRY	Saturday 5PM	Sunday 10:30AM
Lector	Diane Binstock	Dan Gardner
Mass Servers	Braden R./Jim K.	Mark S./Will S.
Eucharistic Ministers	Cely S./Robert S.	David H./Vivian H.
Gifts	Leonard & Kathy G.	Ruth Fitterer
Rosary Leader	Maureen G.	Ann W.
Greeters	Vicki H.	Scott & Christa S.
Homebound Minister	Martina S.	Martina S.

Collection Report St. Mary's May 26 & 27, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 941.00	Envelopes	\$ 3.54
\$ 78.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 1022.54	Total	\$ 44.00
\$ 12, 225.00	God's Share Total	\$28,759.00 God's Share Goal

St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments June 10, 2018

Lector	Dorita
Mass Servers	Nathan
Eucharistic Ministers	Cindy & Fran
Gifts	Mary & Gregg
Greeters	Marsha & Greg
Ushers	Arlen & Lenny

Collection Report St. Elizabeth's May 27, 2018

Adult		Youth
\$ 595.00	Envelopes	\$ 8.00
\$ 44.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 647.00	Total	\$
\$	Month	\$
\$ 2,220.00	God's Share Total	\$6,970 God's Share Goal

Difficult Moral Issues, “Why does the Catholic Church oppose gay marriage?” (Continued)

Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Romans, reminded the early Church that sexual relations between a man and a woman are normative while sexual relations between men were a form of disordered passions, a shameful thing (cf. Romans 1:26-27). Saint Paul also encouraged the Corinthians to reject the sin of sodomy, warning that those who engaged in it would be barred from the Kingdom of God (cf. I Corinthians 6:9-11). Proponents of gay marriage claim that this was just Saint Paul’s nature, a little too zealous and a bit judgmental. They claim that Jesus never spoke of nor condemned homosexual relations. So therefore, He gave His tacit approval of them, and in turn, of gay marriage as well. Well, not really. In Matthew 19:4-9, concerning marriage, Jesus said, “Have you not read that the Creator from the beginning made them, male and female, and that He said: This is why a man leaves his father and mother and becomes attached to his wife, and the two become one flesh.” Jesus does not use the generic term “spouse”, but he makes reference to the union of a man and woman (i.e. his wife). In no clearer terms could Jesus define the true nature of marriage; it is heterosexual in nature. This is the divine plan and this Biblical truth cannot give way to societal trends; Truth is not determined by majority vote.

Gay marriage, with its presumption of sexual relations, also violates the natural law . . . the order of nature. From a strictly biological point of view, one sees the beautiful complementarity of the male and female bodies. They were made for the natural giving and receiving of sexual love and the greatest fruit of this sexual intimacy is the gift of children. Homosexual relations bring a disruption, a violence really, to the true nature of sexual intimacy. Parts of the body are forced to give and receive “love” that are not proper to their function or purpose. This unnatural nature extends as well to the ways of conceiving and bearing children in gay marriages: in vitro fertilization with sperm and/or egg donors; surrogate mothers; etc. The natural law reveals to us the order of nature, as set in motion by a loving Creator. Homosexual relations and gay marriage violate this order and reject the beauty of sexual intimacy that God intended from all eternity.

The Church reminds the culture that marriage is more than just emotions. The right to marry is not based solely upon the assertion, “But I love this person.” Marriage is a building block of society and the privileged place for the raising and formation of children . . . the future of our society. Children have a right to a father and a mother, for each parent, mother and father (male and female), offers their unique qualities and traits in the formation of their children. No child should be denied the strength and security of a father and the nurturing nature of a mother. Studies show that children without a father or a mother have increased: mental and emotional problems; educational challenges; psycho-social concerns; and rates of dropout from school. This is one of the greatest misfortunes of gay marriage; children suffer. Children have a basic fundamental need for a father and a mother and they suffer greatly when this is denied them.

Gay marriage may also usher in an age of discrimination, especially against people who are proponents of traditional marriage. The signs are already present: business owners are sued for choosing not to offer their services for gay weddings; executives are demoted or fired if it ascertained that they gave donations to organizations that uphold traditional marriage; and clergy are fined for preaching against gay marriage in their own pulpits! The rights to freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of the press . . . fundamental human rights and the foundation of freedom in our nation are being denied to those who practice the “hate crime” of being against gay marriage. A chill wind blows and people of faith and values will suffer greatly in years to come, because those who oppose gay marriage will be labeled as “un-American”. We will be enemies of the state, with all of the ramifications of this designation.

That is why people of faith must stand up for traditional marriage. With the changing of Supreme Court justices, we should hope that new laws against gay marriage might be revisited by the Supreme Court in the future. Why not push for laws defining marriage as between a man and a woman alone? There are many laws concerning marriage already: the legal age of marriage; the number of spouses in marriage; who can legally officiate at a marriage; the prohibition of an adult marrying a minor; etc. The silent majority must stand up for the right to enact laws upholding traditional marriage; courts are not supposed to be legislative in nature. To enact laws prohibiting gay marriage is not a malicious act. Rather, it is an act of great love. It shows love and reverence for God, our Creator, who wonderfully formed man and woman to be united in marriage, for their well-being and that of their children as well. To uphold traditional marriage shows great love and respect for homosexuals as well, for desiring their happiness and well-being on earth and in heaven, we must assist them in their call to chastity, rather than turn a blind eye to the exercise of their unhealthy and unnatural sexual relations in the redefinition of marriage. On this difficult issue, the Church must lead people to choose the true nature of love over desire. Yes, this will entail sufferings for people with a homosexual orientation, but as Christians, we believe that suffering is never overlooked by our loving Father in heaven. Because they faithfully carried this heavy cross, He will bless them with an outpouring of His grace. Obedience is always rewarded, with the great gift of His peace.

A Point to Ponder

A minute of prayer is worth more than an hour of talking.