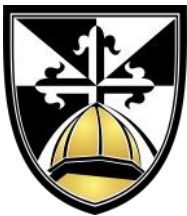


30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 25, 2020

Exodus 22:20-26
Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51
1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
Matthew 22:34-40

**"I love you, Lord,
my strength."**



**St. Dominic's is a Catholic
Parish Inspired by
Dominican Spirituality
Igniting the Faith for the
Salvation of Souls**

Mass Intentions

Sun	10/25	7:00 am	(D) Joseph Lobo
		9:00 am	(D) Siu Ming Lau
		11:00 am	(A) Joe & JoAnn Talken
		1:00 pm	(T) People of the Parish
		5:00 pm	(H) Margaret Lobo
Mon	10/26	6:45 am	(T) Rev. Br. John Winkowitsch, OP
		8:15 am	(T) Lobo Family
Tues	10/27	6:45 am	(T) Rebecca Rhee
		8:15 am	(A) Joe & JoAnn Talken
Wed	10/28	6:45 am	(D) Sr. Pierina Enriquez, DSP
		8:15 am	(T) Rosary Group
Thurs	10/29	6:45 am	(D) Sr. Rosemary Sullivan, RSM
		8:15 am	(B) Emmanuel Esguerra
Fri	10/30	6:45 am	(D) Cecilia Wittman
		8:15 am	(B) Amando Tolentino
Sat	10/31	8:15 am	(D) Emmanuel G. Musico
		5:00 pm	(D) Patricio & Dolores Macaraeg
Sun	11/01	7:00 am	(D) Ergina Family
		9:00 am	(B) Allyson & Ashlee Telepak
		11:00 am	(D) Josephina Raymundo Co
		1:00 pm	(D) Ethel Co Leonares
		5:00 pm	(T) People of the Parish

Legend: (D) Deceased (H) Health

(A) Anniversary (B) Birthday (T) Thanksgiving

Mass & Flower Intentions available

Contact Alisa aaquino@stdombenicia.org

 **Altar Flowers for
Our Lady of the Rosary** 

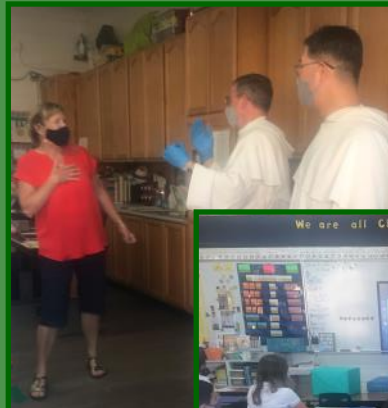


**Treats
for our
awesome
SDS staff!**

**You
ROCK!**



**A Quick
Blessing in
2nd Grade**



Open Public Masses **Sunday**

7:00 am (church)
9:00 am (small lot*)
11:00 am (small lot*)
1:00 pm (English/Spanish-church)

Monday-Saturday
8:15 am (church)

*Weather permitting, otherwise inside church

Live-Stream Masses

WatchStDom.com

Sunday

7:00 am, 1:00 pm & 5:00 pm

Monday - Saturday

8:15 am

Saturday

5:00 pm



475 East I Street, Benicia, CA, 94510
(707) 747-7220 www.stdombenicia.org
@stdombenicia #stdominicsbenicia



Pastor's Corner

Below are excerpts from What did Pope Francis say about civil unions? A CNA Explainer; the full text can be found at <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/what-did-pope-francis-say-about-civil-unions-a-cna-explainer>

Fr. Carl Schlichte, O.P.

frcarl@stdombenicia.org 707.335.4668

What did Pope Francis say about civil unions?

"During a segment of 'Francesco' which discussed Pope Francis' pastoral care of Catholics who identify as LGBT, the pope made two distinct comments.

"He said first that: 'Homosexuals have a right to be a part of the family. They're children of God and have a right to a family. Nobody should be thrown out, or be made miserable because of it.'

"While the pope did not elaborate on the meaning of those remarks in the video, Pope Francis has spoken before to encourage parents and relatives not to ostracize or shun children who have identified as LGBT. This seems to be the sense in which the pope spoke about the right of people to be a part of the family...

"On civil unions, the pope said that: 'What we have to create is a civil union law. That way they are legally covered.'

"I stood up for that," Pope Francis added, apparently in reference to his proposal to brother bishops, during a 2010 debate in Argentina over gay marriage, that accepting civil unions might be a way to prevent the passage of same-sex marriage laws in the country.

What did Pope Francis say about gay marriage?

"Nothing. The topic of gay marriage was not discussed in the documentary. In his ministry, Pope Francis has frequently affirmed the doctrinal teaching of the Catholic Church that marriage is a lifelong partnership between one man and one woman.

"While Pope Francis has frequently encouraged a welcoming disposition to Catholics who identify as LGBT, the pope has also said that 'marriage is between a man and a woman,' and said that 'the family is threatened by growing efforts on the part of some to redefine the very institution of marriage,' and that efforts to redefine marriage 'threaten to disfigure God's plan for creation.'

Why are the pope's comments about civil unions a big deal?

"While Pope Francis has previously discussed civil unions, he has not explicitly endorsed the idea in public before. While the context of his quotes in the documentary are not fully revealed, and it is possible the pope added qualifications not seen on camera, an endorsement of civil unions for same-sex couples is a very different approach for a pope, one that represents a departure from the position of his two immediate predecessors on the issue...

Some people have said what the pope taught is heresy. Is that true?

"No. The pope's remarks did not deny or call into question any doctrinal truth that Catholics must hold or believe. In fact, the pope has frequently affirmed the Church's doctrinal teaching regarding marriage...

"It is also important to note that a documentary interview is not a forum for official papal teaching. The pope's remarks were not presented in their fullness, and no transcript has been presented, so unless the Vatican offers additional clarity, they need to be taken in light of the limited information available about them...

Are Catholics bound to agree with the pope on civil unions?

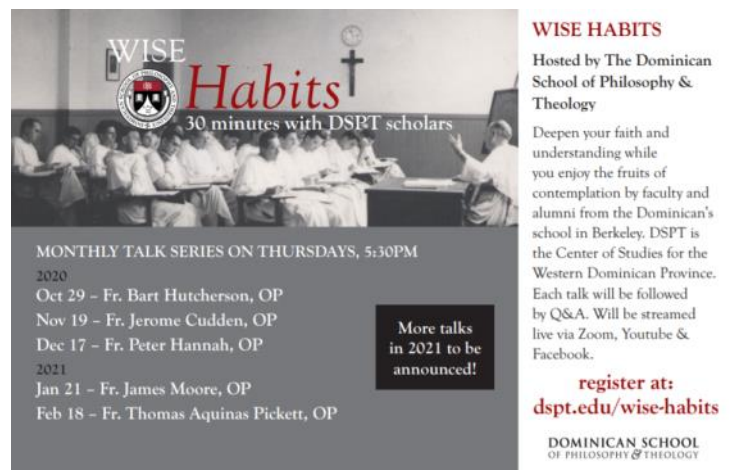
"Pope Francis' statements in 'Francesco' do not constitute formal papal teaching. While the pope's affirmation of the dignity of all people and his call for respect of all people are rooted in Catholic teaching, Catholics are not obliged to support a legislative or policy position because of the pope's comments in a documentary...



Fall is Flu Shot Season

FREE Flu Shots ~ This Weekend Only

Sunday
October 25, 2020
After Mass
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Courtyard



WISE Habits
30 minutes with DSPT scholars

MONTHLY TALK SERIES ON THURSDAYS, 5:30PM
2020
Oct 29 - Fr. Bart Hutcherson, OP
Nov 19 - Fr. Jerome Cudden, OP
Dec 17 - Fr. Peter Hannah, OP
2021
Jan 21 - Fr. James Moore, OP
Feb 18 - Fr. Thomas Aquinas Pickett, OP

More talks in 2021 to be announced!

WISE HABITS
Hosted by The Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology
Deepen your faith and understanding while you enjoy the fruits of contemplation by faculty and alumni from the Dominican's school in Berkeley. DSPT is the Center of Studies for the Western Dominican Province. Each talk will be followed by Q&A. Will be streamed live via Zoom, Youtube & Facebook.
register at:
dspt.edu/wise-habits
DOMINICAN SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY & THEOLOGY



ATTEND OUR OPEN HOUSE

PRE-REGISTER AND JOIN US
October 25, 2020, 12PM - 3PM
1500 Benicia Road, Vallejo, CA 94591

ST. PATRICK ST. VINCENT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Pre-registration is required and tour times will be assigned prior to your arrival. Email admissions@spsv.org. Space is limited.

ST. PATRICK ST. VINCENT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



Carondelet High School's 20-21 Admissions Season has officially opened! We have many virtual events and on-campus tours available (space is very limited). To register for events and find out more about our school, please visit carondeleths.org/apply.

Dominican Saints of the Week

October 25th - Blessed Peter of Geremia, friar and priest. Peter was born in 1381 at Palermo, Sicily and educated at the University of Bologna, Italy; a brilliant law student. One night while he was meditating on his worldly success he would have, he was visited by the spirit of a deceased relative, a man who had also been a lawyer, whose pride and perjury had lost him his chance at Paradise. Shaken Peter devoted himself to prayer asking for his vocation. Soon he received a word that he should become a Dominican. In a rage his father came to Bologna to stop him, but when he saw how completely happy Peter was in the religious life, his father gave him his blessing. Peter became one of the finest preachers in Sicily, always preaching in the open-air because no church was large enough to hold the crowds. One day there was no food for the community. Peter asked a Fishman for a donation and he was rudely refused. Peter got into a boat, Peter rowed from the shore and made the sign of the cross to the fish; the fish overwhelmed the nets to the point of breaking. The fisherman apologized, and the monastery was ever afterward supplied with fish. Peter was known as a miracle worker, raising the dead to life, healing the crippled and the blind, and converting sinners. Peter died on March 3, 1452 in the convent of Santa Zita, Palermo, Sicily of natural causes. He was beatified on May 12, 1784, by Pope Pius the VI. Blessed Peter of Geremia pray for us.

October 26 - Blessed Damian Furcheri of Finale, friar and priest. Lesson Damian was born at Furcheri, Liguria, Italy to wealthy Italian nobility. When he was kidnapped as an infant by a mentally ill man, his parents prayed fervently to the Virgin Mary for help. Searchers were led to his hiding place by a miraculous light and the baby was returned unharmed. Damien joined the Dominicans at Savona, Italy. And became a famous preacher throughout Italy with hundreds converted during his missions. Known as a miracle worker in life, there were also miracles reported at his tomb, and he became the object of popular devotion almost immediately upon his death. He died in 1484 at Modena, Reggio Emilia, Italy of natural causes. He was beatified on August 4, 1848 by Pope Pius IX. Blessed Damian Furcheri of Finale pray for us.

October 27th - Blessed Bartholomew of Vicenza, friar and Bishop. Blessed Bartholomew was born in Vincennes, Italy sometime in 120 and. little is known of his early life. Receiving the habit from St. Dominic himself Bartholomew gave himself over to his formation so that he might grow faithfully in religion. Immediately after his ordination, he was sent to Lombardy to preach against the Heretics, Albigensians, who were leading others away from the true faith. He was so effective in his preaching, that the Holy Father, Pope Gregory IX called him to Rome and appointed him Master of the Sacred Palace, the Papal Theologian, which is an office traditionally held by Dominicans, even to this day. He was appointed Bishop of Limassol, Cyprus in 1255 and Bishop of Vincenza, Italy in 1255. Blessed Bartholomew died in 1270 in Vicenza, Italy of natural causes. He was beatified September 11, 1793 by Pope Pius VI. Blessed Bartholomew of Vicenza, pray for us.

October 30th - Blessed Benvenuta Bojani, lay Dominican and Virgin Blessed Benvenuta was born on May 4, 1254 in Cividale del Friuli, Venice, Italy. Benvenuta refused to participate in childhood games. She was a pious

child devoted to the service of God rather to the secular world. In 1266 she began to wear a hairnet and a rope girdle as signs of austerities, but as she grew the girdle began to cut into her and had to be removed. The girdle could not be removed because it was far too embedded to be untied but after turning to God the rope fell to her feet. In her adolescent she became a professed member of the third order of St. Dominic and lived her entire life at home to continue practicing her austerities. She became very ill due to long periods of fasting and lack of sleep and was confined to bed for five years and had to be carried to Mass. One kind older sister carried her to the church at least once a week to celebrate compline. During the celebration of Mass on the eve of the feast of Saint Dominic near the tomb of the saint in the Basilica of San Domingo in Vilonia the saint himself - alongside Saint Peter - appeared to her, and she was healed during the Mass. She saw the Saints face take the place of the Pryor's face when compline commenced then the saint then went to his tomb and disappeared while the Madonna came down the aisle with the Infant Jesus and blessed all the priests present. This moment of apparitions was when she was healed of her ailment. Blessed Benvenuta died on October 30, 1292 and was interred in the church of Saint Dominic in her hometown. She was beatified by Pope Clement XIV on February 6, 1763. Blessed Benvenuta pray for us

October 30th - Blesseds Terence Albert O'Brien, Bishop, and Peter Higgins, priest, Martyrs of Ireland. In 1992 St. John Paul II beatified 17 Irish martyrs, two of them were Dominicans blessed Terence Albert O'Brien (1600 - 1651) and blessed Peter O'Higgins (1602 - 1642). Both gave tremendous witness to the true faith, and neither were willing to compromise for anything less. Blessed Peter O'Higgins was sent to refound the Dominican community in Naas. He was truly a man of God, even stopping the attempted execution of an Anglican Minister by Catholics. When his town was taken by English forces, he willingly surrendered himself since he was innocent of all crimes. He was found guilty of not accepting the English king as the head of the church and martyred. Blessed Terence O'Brien, provincial of the Irish Province at the time, recounted the martyrdom of Peter to the general Chapter in 1644. Blessed Peter had been offered the chance to keep his life if he renounced his Catholic faith, he replied, "So here the condition on which I am granted my life. They want me to deny my religion. I spurn their offer. I die a Catholic and a Dominican priest. I forgive them from my heart all who have conspired to bring about my death. " A few years later it was blessed Terence's turn to be martyred for the faith. He also refused to recognize the English king's authority over the church, he was martyred in 1656 and he also gave a final statement on The Gallows, " Jesus despised the shame for me upon the cross, and God forbid but I should despise the shame for him upon the Gallows... I am not in love with this passage through the Red Sea, for I have the weakness and infirmity of flesh and blood in me, and I have prayed as my savior taught me, and exempld me: that this cup might pass away from me; but since it is not, that my will may, his will be done; I shall most willingly drink of it as deep as he pleases, and enter into the sea, and I pass through it, in the way that he shall be pleased to lead me." Blessed Terene O'Brien and Peter Higgins, pray for us.

ST. DOMINIC'S CHURCH, BENICIA, CA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT TO THE PARISH

OCTOBER 17 & 18, 2020

Even during these challenging times, St. Dominic's has been blessed with the resources to continue to offer to the people of the parish most of our usual ministries and services. This is due to your ongoing generosity and the creative effort of dedicated church staff. Our financial operations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 and our budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 are as follows:

	Actual FYE <u>6/30/20</u>	Budget FYE <u>6/30/21</u>
Income:		
Collections	\$1,021,826	\$1,070,000
Sacraments	69,956	82,160
Community Services & Other Programs	12,093	22,900
Other Income	84,580	102,610
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Operational Income	1,188,455	1,277,670
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenses:		
Salaries and benefits (clergy and lay staff)	708,690	716,133
Property maintenance & utilities	100,756	110,847
Worship and sacraments	47,933	69,010
General and administrative	161,593	164,319
Diocesan Assessment	193,464	193,500
Other expenses	14,966	19,300
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Operational Expenses	1,227,402	1,273,109
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenses in excess of Income	(38,947)	4,561
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Other Income & Expenses:		
Diocesan & special collections	21,400	
Diocesan & special distributions	(20,869)	
Interests	3,999	1,129
Capital contributions	47,915	50,000
Capital outlay	(19,194)	(55,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Overall Income (Loss)	<u>(\$5,696)</u>	<u>\$690</u>

Collections/Overall Operations

Our collections were trending down before the pandemic started. Exacerbated by it, they decreased by 4.9% (\$52,959) over the prior fiscal year (\$1,021,826 vs. \$1,074,785). We are very thankful for all your efforts to get your contributions to us (via mail, drop-off, online, PayPal and other venues). Overall, under this difficult situation, we were short \$38,947 to support our operations this year (19/20). We pray and hope you continue and consider increasing your contributions to help us with our operations.

Capital Program

There are three areas that need immediate attention – replacing the air conditioning units and the windows in the parish hall and re-paving the parking lot. These projects will be scheduled in the very near future based on available funds (we are low on capital funds) taking into consideration, scheduling and when (during the year) we get the most effective project costs.

Diocesan Assessment

This year's annual assessment from the diocese was \$193,464. This amount is taken out from the parish's regular operations.

Thoughtful Ways to Contribute to Your Parish

We are taking this opportunity to ask you to please consider increasing your contributions to meet our operational needs. There are several ways to give. Simply choose what works best for you – weekly envelopes, Paypal, Online Giving (Select Online Giving at www.stdombenicia.org) Sunday Baskets, Securities, IRA distributions, etc. Online giving provides us with a solid base of donations and helps us plan our expenditures throughout the year. See the bulletin or our website for details.

Finance Council

Fr. Carl Schlichte, O.P. – Pastor

Teresa Stone – Parish Business Manager

Noreen Cillo – St. Dominic School Office Manager

Sharon Capece, Edna Masbad, Mike Monahan, Christine Souza Morrison, Mike Munn

Sunday Worship Aid

Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Thus says the LORD: "You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans. "If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him. If you take your neighbors cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in? If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, O Lord, my strength, O Lord, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

My God, my rock of refuge, my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold! Praised be the Lord, I exclaim, and I am safe from my enemies.

The Lord lives and blessed be my rock! Extolled be God my savior. You who gave great victories to your king and showed kindness to your anointed.

1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

Brothers and sisters: You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has

gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the

Lord the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer for the Sick during the Pandemic

O God, our refuge in trials, our strength in sickness, our comfort in sorrow, spare your people, we pray, and hear our prayers for all who are sick: Grant them, we implore you, your merciful help, so that, with their health restored, they may give you thanks in the midst of the Church.

Your Only-Begotten Son took on our human nature and bore our infirmities; protect and strengthen also we pray, nurses, doctors, first responders, and all others on the front line of this pandemic, who put themselves in harm's way to serve the needs of others.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Our Lady of Guadalupe	Pray for us!
St. Joseph	Pray for us!
St. Patrick	Pray for us!
Holy Father St. Dominic	Pray for us!

Éxodo 22:20-26

Lectura del libro del Éxodo

Esto dice el Señor a su pueblo:
"No hagas sufrir ni oprimas al extranjero, porque ustedes fueron extranjeros en Egipto. No explotes a las viudas ni a los huérfanos, porque si los explotas y ellos claman a mí, ciertamente oíré yo su clamor; mi ira se encenderá, te mataré a espada, tus mujeres quedarán viudas y tus hijos, huérfanos. Cuando prestes dinero a uno de mi pueblo, al pobre que está contigo, no te portes con él como usurero, cargándole intereses. Si tomas en prenda el manto de tu prójimo, devuélveselo antes de que se ponga el sol, porque no tiene otra cosa con qué cubrirse; su manto es su único cobertor y si no se lo devuelves, ¿cómo va a dormir? Cuando él clame a mí, yo lo escucharé, porque soy misericordioso".
Palabra de Dios.

Te alabamos, Señor.

Salmo 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

Yo te amo, Señor, tu eres mi fortaleza.

Yo te amo, Señor, tu eres mi fortaleza, Señor, mi roca, mi alcázar, mi libertador.

Dios mío, peña mía, refugio mío, escudo mío, mi fuerza salvadora, mi baluarte. Invoco al Señor de mi alabanza y quedo libre de mis enemigos.

Viva el Señor, bendita se mi Roca, sea ensalzado mi Dios y Salvador. Tu diste gran victoria a tu rey, tuviste misericordia de tu Ungido.

1 Tesalonicenses 1:5c-10

Lectura de la primera carta del apóstol san Pablo a los tesalonicenses

Hermanos y hermanas: Bien saben cómo hemos actuado entre ustedes para su bien. Ustedes, por su parte, se hicieron imitadores nuestros y del Señor, pues en medio de muchas tribulaciones y con la alegría que da el Espíritu Santo, han aceptado la palabra de Dios en tal forma, que han llegado a ser ejemplo para todos los creyentes de Macedonia y Acaya, porque de ustedes partió y se ha difundido la palabra del Señor; y su fe en Dios ha llegado a ser conocida, no sólo en Macedonia y Acaya, sino en todas partes;

de tal manera, que nosotros ya no teníamos necesidad de decir nada. Porque ellos mismos cuentan de qué manera tan favorable nos acogieron ustedes y cómo, abandonando los ídolos, se convirtieron al Dios vivo y verdadero para servirlo, esperando que venga desde el cielo su Hijo, Jesús, a quien él resucitó de entre los muertos, y es quien nos libra del castigo venidero.

Palabra de Dios.

Te alabamos, Señor.

Mateo 22:34-40

+ Lectura del santo Evangelio según san Mateo

En aquel tiempo, habiéndose enterado los fariseos de que Jesús había dejado callados a los saduceos, se acercaron a él. Uno de ellos, que era doctor de la ley, le preguntó para ponerlo a prueba: "Maestro, ¿cuál es el mandamiento más grande de la ley?" Jesús le respondió: "*Amarás al Señor, tu Dios, con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con toda tu mente.* Este es el más grande y el primero de los mandamientos. Y el segundo es semejante a éste: *Amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo.* En estos dos mandamientos se fundan toda la ley y los profetas".

Palabra del Señor.

Gloria a ti, Señor Jesús.

Profesión de Fe

Creo en un solo Dios, Padre todopoderoso, Creador del cielo y de la tierra, de todo lo visible y lo invisible.

Creo en un solo Señor, Jesucristo, Hijo único de Dios, nacido del Padre antes de todos los siglos: Dios de Dios, Luz de Luz, Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero, engendrado, no creado, de la misma naturaleza del Padre, por quien todo fue hecho; que por nosotros, los hombres y por nuestra salvación bajó del cielo, y por obra del Espíritu Santo se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se hizo hombre; y por nuestra causa fue crucificado en tiempos de Poncio Pilato, padeció y fue sepultado, y resucitó al tercer día, según las Escrituras, y subió al cielo, y está sentado a la derecha del Padre; y de nuevo vendrá con gloria para juzgar a vivos y muertos, y su reino no tendrá fin.

Creo en el Espíritu Santo, Señor y dador de vida, que procede del Padre y del Hijo, que con el Padre y el Hijo recibe una misma adoración y gloria, y que habló por los profetas.

Creo en la Iglesia, que es una, santa, católica y apostólica. Confieso que hay un solo bautismo para el perdón de los pecados. Espero la resurrección de los muertos y la vida del mundo futuro.

Amén.

Oración para los Enfermos durante la Pandemia

O Dios, refugio nuestro en dificultades, nuestra fortaleza en la enfermedad, nuestro consuelo en la congoja, protege a tu pueblo, te lo pedimos, y escucha nuestras oraciones por todos los que están enfermos: Concédeles, te imploramos, tu misericordiosa ayuda, para que, con su salud restaurada, ellos puedan darte gracias en tu Iglesia.

Tu Hijo Unigénito tomó nuestra naturaleza humana y cargó con nuestras debilidades; protege y fortalece, también te lo rogamus, a enfermeros, doctores, a aquellos respondiendo en primeros auxilios, y a los que están en la primera línea de esta pandemia, quienes se ponen en peligro al servir a otros en sus necesidades.

Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo, quien vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un Dios, por los siglos de los siglos.

Santa Virgen de Guadalupe

¡Ruega por nosotros!

San José

¡Ruega por nosotros!

San Patricio

¡Ruega por nosotros!

Santo Padre Santo Domingo

¡Ruega por nosotros!

The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship



Part I of II: Our Call as Catholic Citizens

This brief document is Part I of a summary of the US bishops' reflection, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, which complements the teaching of bishops in dioceses and states.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship is the teaching document of the Catholic Bishops of the United States on the political responsibility of Catholics. It provides guidance for all who seek to exercise their rights and duties as citizens. As Catholics, we bring the richness of our faith to the public square. We draw from both faith and reason as we seek to affirm the dignity of the human person and the common good of all.

Everyone living in this country is called to participate in public life and contribute to the common good.¹ In *Rejoice and Be Glad* [*Gaudete et exsultate*], Pope Francis writes:

Your identification with Christ and his will involves a commitment to build with him that kingdom of love, justice and universal peace. . . . You cannot grow in holiness without committing yourself, body and soul, to giving your best to this endeavor.²

As Catholics, we are part of a community with profound teachings that help us consider challenges in public life, contribute to greater justice and peace for all people, and evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises and actions in light of the Gospel in order to help build a better world.

Why Does the Church Teach About Issues Affecting Public Policy?

The Church's obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith, a part of the mission given to us by Jesus Christ. As people of both faith and reason, Catholics are called to bring truth to political life and to practice Christ's commandment to "love one another" (Jn 13:34).

The US Constitution protects the right of individual believers and religious bodies to proclaim and live out their faith without government interference, favoritism, or discrimination. Civil law should recognize and protect the Church's right and responsibility to participate in society without abandoning its moral convictions. Our nation's tradition of pluralism is enhanced, not threatened, when religious groups and people of faith bring their convictions into public life. The Catholic community brings to political dialogue a consistent moral framework and broad experience serving those in need.

Who In the Church Should Participate in Political Life?

In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to any political party or interest group. In today's environment, Catholics may feel politically disenfranchised, sensing that no party and few candidates fully share our comprehensive commitment to human life and dignity. This should not discourage us. On the contrary, it makes our obligation to act all the more urgent. Catholic lay women and men need to act on the Church's moral principles and

become more involved: running for office, working within political parties, and communicating concerns to elected officials. Even those who cannot vote should raise their voices on matters that affect their lives and the common good. Faithful citizenship is an ongoing responsibility, not just an election year duty.

How Can Catholic Social Teaching Help Guide Our Participation?

In the words of Pope Francis, "progress in building a people in peace, justice and fraternity depends on four principles related to constant tensions present in every social reality. These derive from the pillars of the Church's social doctrine, which serve as 'primary and fundamental parameters of reference for interpreting and evaluating social phenomena.'"³ The four principles include the dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity. Taken together, these principles provide a moral framework for Catholic engagement in advancing what we have called a "consistent ethic of life" (*Living the Gospel of Life*, no. 22).

Rightly understood, this ethic does not treat all issues as morally equivalent; nor does it reduce Catholic teaching to one or two issues. It anchors the Catholic commitment to defend human life and other human rights, from conception until natural death, in the fundamental obligation to respect the dignity of every human being as a child of God.

Catholic voters should use Catholic teaching to examine candidates' positions on issues and should consider candidates' integrity, philosophy, and performance. It is important for all citizens "to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically, and to choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest" (USCCB, *Living the Gospel of Life*, no. 33). The following summary of the four principles highlights several themes of Catholic social teaching for special consideration: these include human rights and responsibilities, respect for work and the rights of workers, care for God's creation, and the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable.⁴

The Dignity of the Human Person

Human life is sacred because every person is created in the image and likeness of God. There is a rich and multifaceted Catholic teaching on human dignity summarized in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*. Every human being "must always be understood in his irrepeatable and inviolable uniqueness. . . . This entails above all the requirement not only of simple respect on the part of others, especially political and social institutions and their leaders with regard to every man and woman on the earth, but even more, this means that the primary commitment of each person towards others, and particularly of these same institutions, must be for the promotion and integral development of the person" (no. 131). The *Compendium* continues, "It is necessary to 'consider every neighbor without exception as another self, taking into account first of all his life and the means necessary for living it with dignity' (*Gaudium et Spes*, no. 27).

Every political, economic, social, scientific and cultural program must be inspired by the awareness of the primacy of each human being over society.”⁵

Subsidiarity

It is impossible to promote the dignity of the person without showing concern for the family, groups, associations, and local realities—in short, for those economic, social, cultural, recreational, professional, and political communities to which people spontaneously give life and which make it possible for them to achieve effective social growth.⁶ The family, based on marriage between a man and a woman, is the fundamental unit of society. This sanctuary for the creation and nurturing of children must not be redefined, undermined, or neglected. Supporting families should be a priority for economic and social policies. How our society is organized—in economics and politics, in law and public policy—affects the well-being of individuals and of society. Every person and association has a right and a duty to participate in shaping society to promote the well-being of individuals and the common good.

The principle of subsidiarity reminds us that larger institutions in society should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local institutions; yet larger institutions have essential responsibilities when the more local institutions cannot adequately protect human dignity, meet human needs, and advance the common good.⁷

The Common Good

The common good is comprised of “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfilment more fully and more easily.”⁸

Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if **human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met**. Every human being has a right to life, a right to religious freedom, and a right to have access to those things required for human decency—food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to ourselves, to our families, and to the larger society.

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. An economic system must serve the dignity of the human person and the common good by **respecting the dignity of work and protecting the rights of workers**. Economic justice calls for decent work at fair, living wages, a broad and fair legalization program with a path to citizenship for immigrant workers, and the opportunity for all people to work together for the common good through their work, ownership, enterprise, investment, participation in unions, and other forms of economic activity. Workers also have responsibilities—to provide a fair day’s work for a fair day’s pay, to treat employers and coworkers with respect, and to carry out their work in ways that contribute to the common good. Workers, employers, and unions should not only advance their own interests but also work together to advance economic justice and the well-being of all.

We have a duty to **care for God’s creation**, which Pope Francis refers to in *Laudato Si’* as “our common home.”⁹ We all are called to be careful stewards of God’s creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for vulnerable human beings now and in the future. Pope Francis, consistent with St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI (World Day of Peace Message, 1990 and 2010), has lifted up pollution, climate change, lack of access to clean water, and the loss of biodiversity as particular challenges. Pope Francis speaks of an “ecological debt” (no. 51) owed by wealthier nations to developing nations. And he calls all of us to an “ecological conversion” (no. 219), by which “the effects of [our] encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in [our] relationship with the world around [us].”¹⁰ Indeed, this concern with “natural ecology” is an indispensable part of the broader “human ecology,” which encompasses not only material but moral and social dimensions as well.

Solidarity

Solidarity is “a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to . . . the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all.” It is found in “a commitment to the good of one’s neighbor with the readiness, in the Gospel sense, to ‘lose oneself’ for the sake of the other instead of exploiting him, and to ‘serve him’ instead of oppressing him for one’s own advantage.”¹¹

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Our Catholic commitment to solidarity requires that we pursue justice, eliminate racism, end human trafficking, protect human rights, seek peace, and avoid the use of force except as a necessary last resort.

In a special way, our solidarity must find expression in the **preferential option for the poor and vulnerable**. A moral test for society is how we treat the weakest among us—the unborn, those dealing with disabilities or terminal illness, the poor, and the marginalized.

Conclusion

In light of Catholic teaching, the bishops vigorously repeat their call for a renewed politics that focuses on moral principles, the promotion of human life and dignity, and the pursuit of the common good. Political participation in this spirit reflects not only the social teaching of our Church but the best traditions of our nation.

Notes

- 1 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1913-15.
- 2 *Gaudete et Exsultate*, no. 25.
- 3 *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 221.
- 4 These principles are drawn from a rich tradition more fully described in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005), no. 160. For more information on these principles, see *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, 2016, nos. 40ff.
- 5 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 132. This summary represents only a few highlights from the fuller treatment of the human person in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*. For the fuller treatment, see especially nos. 124-159 where many other important aspects of human dignity are treated.
- 6 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 185.
- 7 *Centesimus Annus*, no. 48; *Dignitatis Humanae*, nos. 4-6.
- 8 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 164.
- 9 *Laudato Si’*, no. 77.
- 10 *Laudato Si’*, no. 217.
- 11 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 193. (See Mt 10:40-42, 20:25; Mk 10:42-45; Lk 22:25-27)

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ST. DOMINIC'S TEEN MINISTRIES

FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, & FUN

YR I Confirmation

There will be a YR I Confirmation (teen) small group gathering tomorrow Monday, October 26th from 6:30-7:30 pm via zoom. We look forward to meeting the YR I teens!

YR II Confirmation

There will be a YR II Confirmation Parent/Teen gathering today Sunday, October 25th from 6:30-7:30 pm via zoom. We will see you then!

Youth Ministry

Knots 4 Love

(Pre-registration required)

The Knots 4 Love service project is back! There will be a gathering on **Wednesday, October 28th from 7:00-8:00 pm**. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Please contact Lisa at ltoomey@stdombenicia.org for more information.

St. Dominic's Youth Ministry program follows the guidelines outlined in the diocesan document, Guidelines for Returning to Ministry.

Current guidelines require pre-registration for all youth ministry activities. Gatherings will take place outside with all participants masked and physically distanced (6ft or more).

A Call for Cards!

St. Vincent de Paul is inviting help from parish families to create greeting cards for the upcoming holidays (Thanksgiving and Christmas). The cards will be included with the holiday help packages that SVdP is providing this year to our neighbors in need.

Cards can be store-bought or homemade.
Creativity is encouraged!



Cards should be no bigger than 8.5 x 5.5-inches to fit in our envelopes.

Please mail or drop-off your cards to the parish office.



Due Dates

Thanksgiving Cards

Tuesday, November 10th

Christmas Cards

Tuesday, November 24th



Rosary for the Sick

Wednesday
at 7:30 pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
WITH DEACON SHAWN



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2020-2021 A Distance Learning Year



Late Registration Accepted



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Important Dates



September 23rd:
Classes Began

Grades 1st-7th

- ◆ Blest Are We
- ◆ Faith in Action Take-Home Textbook
- ◆ Login Credentials to RCL Benziger Flourish Website
- ◆ Formed.org Digital Media Platform

Grades 1st & 2nd

- ◆ Blessed Series: First Holy Communion/ Reconciliation
- ◆ Take-Home Textbook from Dynamic Catholic
- ◆ Blessed Series: First Holy Communion/ Reconciliation Email Program for Parents from Dynamic Catholic
- ◆ Sacrament Animation Series from Formed.org

Contact Information

1st-7th Grades Program

Deacon Errol Kissinger, DRE
ekissinger@stdombenicia.org

First Sacraments

Debi Thurin
dthurin@stdombenicia.org

Rosary for the Sick

Wednesday
at 7:30 pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
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40 DAYS FOR LIFE[®]

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

Peaceful, prayerful, effective 40 Days for Life campaign to build on successes in Vallejo/Benicia/American Canyon CA

Vallejo/Benicia/American Canyon CA – Beginning September 23rd thru November 1st 2020 we will be conducting our 40 Days For Life prayer vigil. Due to the COVID concerns and smoke problems from the CA fires we are proposing three ways you can participate in focused prayer for an end to abortion, for conversion of hearts, for mothers and fathers who feel they have no other choice, and for the unborn child who's very life is at risk. 1.) Focused visible prayer on the sidewalk of PP in Vallejo. Masks must be worn and people must be 6' apart, or you can park and pray in your car. 2.) We are offering a virtual-Zoom prayer hour each day at 3:00 pm during the vigil. Login info will be sent to those who wish to pray in this format. 3.) Please consider to commit to one hour in front of the Tabernacle at St. Dominic's, offering your prayers for this most important cause for life. There is no specific day when you must commit to praying, but please commit to prayer and fasting and let me know if you want to participate in the virtual-Zoom option so I can gather email addresses and send the login information. Please contact Tony Hensley at tonyh@ctpub.com to sign up for one hour per week.

40 Days for Life is a peaceful, highly focused, non-denominational initiative that focuses on 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil at abortion facilities, and grassroots educational outreach. The 40-day time frame is drawn from examples throughout Biblical history. The prayer vigil will take place in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood at 303 Sacramento St. Vallejo CA. All prayer vigil participants are requested to pray for peace, pledging to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner at all times.

For information about 40 Days for Life in Vallejo/Benicia/American Canyon, visit:
www.40daysforlife.com/Vallejo/Benicia/Am.Cyn.

Please pray for the recovery of the sick listed in our Book of Intentions and the following:



Lucita Rios
Emilio Ermio
Lisa Santini
Daniel Foley
Sheila Garvey
Al & Anne Caruso
Donna W.
Ardath Kroner
Peggy Burton

Maria Kielien
Mary Barnhart
Stan Gabel
Joanne Flanagan
Margaret McClune
Alma Johnson
Gladys Haddad
Bessie Sharp
Jane Gasper

Please remember the following recently deceased (and their families) in your prayers:
Lucille Vitalie, Daniel C. Leary,
Michael Francone, Veronica Arkin,
Antonio Valdellon, Bill Mahoney, Mark Parish,
Jim Mahern, Kristin Tobias,
Ruth Marks, Sara Smith, Lydia Leveriza,
Benjamin Alvendia, Ora Weber, Maria Cardoso,
Maria De Lourdes Cardoso
Sick or remembrances will be listed for a period of 3 months

Parish Office

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Parish Staff

Fr. Carl Schlichte, O.P.

frcarl@stdombenicia.org

Errol Kissinger

ekissinger@stdombenicia.org

Shawn Carter

scarter@stdombenicia.org

Fr. Gregory Liu, O.P.

gliu@stdombenicia.org

Br. John Peter Anderson, O.P.

jpanderson@stdombenicia.org

Teresa Stone

tstone@stdombenicia.org

Lori Telepak

ltelepak@stdombenicia.org

Alisa Aquino

aaquino@stdombenicia.org

Francisco Ortiz

fortiz@stdombenicia.org

Lisa Toomey

ltoomey@stdombenicia.org

Debi Thurin

dthurin@stdombenicia.org

Fr. David Farrugia, O.P.

Fr. Vincent Serpa, O.P.

Deacon John Flanagan

Pastor

Deacon & Dir Rel Ed

Deacon

Parochial Vicar

Student Brother

Business Manager

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Music Director

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Retired

St. Dominic School

www.sdbenicia.org

(707) 745-1266

Katie Perata (K-8th grade)

kperata@sdbenicia.org

Tanya Sanchez (Pre-K/TK)

tsanchez@sdbenicia.org

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