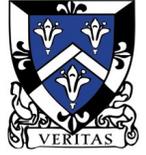




St. Thomas Aquinas Church

October 19, 2014, 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Pastor's Corner

The great Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen used to say that there are only a handful of people in the world who actually hate the Catholic Church. There are millions, he said, who hate what they mistakenly take to be the Church. I'm not so sure about the numbers, but he definitely had a point: speaking to many people about the Church's teachings can be a head-spinning experience. I was watching the tail end of a movie last week about the paranormal, in which a priest got called to perform exorcisms, and the number of errors came so fast and thick I couldn't have macheted my way through them even if I had a machete. It was stunning. Don't these people have anyone vetting their stuff? Movie companies would get read the riot act if they handled any other topic with that kind of carelessness and lack of research (not to mention news sources—yikes).

What prompts these remarks is the way reports from Rome are getting butchered. As you know, this time last year Pope Francis called a Synod of Bishops on the Family, and now the bishops are meeting, and will meet again next October. There are all kinds of important issues being discussed, and not a little confusion because of garbled press reports. Many Catholics have been ill-served in the transmission of the teachings of their own Church, and when it comes to matters concerning the dignity of the human person, and especially on marriage and sexuality, there is an especially poor grasp of things.

One thing that needs stating clearly is this: *being divorced does not mean one cannot receive Holy Communion*. What is the case is that those who are divorced and civilly-remarried may not receive the sacraments, because their lives are in direct conflict with the words of Our Lord: *whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery* (Mt 19). Civil divorce is something which should be avoided if at all possible, but sometimes a marriage becomes truly intolerable, both for the wronged spouse and the children—and also beyond rehabilitation. In such sad cases it is often necessary, and indeed *advisable*, for a person to seek a civil divorce. But even in such cases where spouses must live separately and divide assets, they are bound to each other by their marriage vows—the bond is not dissolved with the civil decree of divorce. And so living with another (or presuming to marry another while the other spouse lives) is adultery: it's *remarriage*, not *divorce*, that is the problem.

And a decree of nullity (a.k.a. an annulment) is not a "Catholic divorce" but rather a judgment that a valid marriage *never occurred*, either because of some hidden impediment, or because of some failure to give true consent to the vows (by at least one party) because of ignorance, psycho-

logical immaturity, or some such factor. The annulment procedure (under scrutiny at the Synod in Rome now) is often mocked as being a kind of hypocritical "Catholic divorce" but that is not true. No time to get into all that here, though. Let me simply close by saying this: if you know someone who has been away from the sacraments due to the erroneous opinion that their divorce has put them outside God's grace, please set them straight. Have them talk to one of priests here. No Catholic should go without the sacraments because of such a terrible and painful misunderstanding. —Fr. Peter, O.P.

(1) **More about server training:** I must have mistakenly implied that the recent server training (the one held on October 4) was only for *new* servers. In fact, it was supposed to be for *all* servers. The veterans among the ranks need some training, too. Maybe it's better to keep them separate after all (the rookies and the veterans, I mean), but we'll definitely need more training for both groups. Assuming that Saturdays still work best for most families, I'm going to schedule a training morning for older servers November 8, 10:00am-Noon, and another for rookies the following Saturday, November 15, again 10:00am-Noon (the new servers that came to the last one definitely should come again—we heed some rehearsing). *All servers who wish to be scheduled for 2015 please attend one of these* (obviously the one age-appropriate). If a significantly large number of servers cannot make these, then we will add an additional Saturday in the near future, or perhaps even one following the last Mass some Sunday.

But in the meantime, let me request that all servers wear dark-colored dress shoes henceforth when serving—*no athletic shoes/sneakers*. Nuthin' fancy, as far as those shoes go—just no sneakers, please. And although servers wear cassock and surplice during Mass, I ask that all servers (parents please help on this one) be mindful that what they wear as they cross through sanctuary of the church needs to be in keeping with the sacred space they are in. Modesty is definitely a value.

(2) I also need to meet soon with all **Extraordinary Ministers** who carry Communion to hospitals and the home-bound (i.e., all those who serve outside of Mass). Wednesdays-Fridays are good for me. Perhaps the first week of November? Morning? Afternoon? If you are one of those Extraordinary ministers and have a tight schedule, please email or call me to let me know. I'll announce a day and time in next Sunday's bulletin.



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

October 19, 2014, 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time



MASS INTENTIONS

Sun, Oct 19	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm	Don Frame & Family
7:00am	Helen, Bill, & Jackie Gallogly (+)
9:00am	Pauline Sentivany (+)
11:00am	Richard McCarty (+)
Mon, Oct 20	
8:00am	Pauline Sentivany (+)
Noon	People of the Parish
Tue, Oct 21	
8:00am	Roger D. Lasure (+)
Wed, Oct 22	
8:00am	Fallen-away Catholics
Noon	Leo Burkhart (+)
Thu, Oct 23	
8:00am	Sharon Luman (+)
Fri, Oct 24	
8:00am	Fallen-away Catholics
Noon	Charles & Leota Schaumleffel & Family
Sat, Oct 25	
9:00am	Woodrow & Valeria Haught (+)
Sun, Oct 26	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm	Peg Mattingly (+)
7:00am	Roy & Mary Miller (+)
9:00am	Tam Greulich (+)
11:00am	Leo & Eleanor Kuhn (+)

(Incense will not be used at 7:00am Masses; it may be used at other Sunday Masses, as well as evening Masses on Holy Days of Obligation.)

2nd Collections

This weekend: Society for the Propagation of the Faith
Nov. 9: Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Nov. 23: Dominican Novices

Parish Finances

Week of October 14, 2014

Envelopes (270).....	\$9,413.50
Loose.....	851.27
Total	10,264.77
Weekly Budget.....	11,538.00
Deficit.....	1,273.23

Thank you!

Please pray for the home-bound of the parish:

Margaret Gladys Abbott, Maxine Anders, William & Jan Barry, Josephine Basalla, Mary Battiger, Dorothy Beaver, Gertrude Bell, Ed Bowman, Madelyn Bronkar. Mathilda Clark, Mary Cowden, Michael Curtis, Jeanne Dittmar, Ralph Dosch, Paul & Marcy DuBeck, Betty Fedor, Jenni Finnen, Claude & Beverly Foley, Isabel Gilchrist, Mary Ellen Grafton, Nancy Hamler, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hartnett, Florence Herbert, Gabrielle Hinkle, Patricia Huck, Mary Imlay, Mary Carolyn Johnson, Eileen Johnston, Henry Long, David Macenko, Farida Mach, Josephine Marshall, Alice McGonagle, Betty Mercer, Michael Overstreet, Loretta (& Charles) Paynter, Patricia Perrone, Glenna Pfeifer, Alice Pitcock, Mary Polascak, Mary Postlewaite, George and Barb Ridenour, Barbara Schumacher, Charles & Mary Lou Scott, Loretta Sfliko, Theresa Tracey, Teresa Woods, Terri Woods

Weekly Calendar

Sun, Oct 19

10:00 a.m. CCD (School)
Coffee and doughnuts (Rosary Hall)

Mon, Oct 20

7:00 p.m. Children of God prayer group (Parish ctr.)

Tue, Oct 21

6:00 p.m. Rosary for Life (Church)
7:00 p.m. Catechism/RCIA (Rosary Hall)

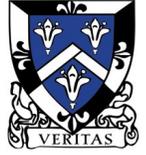
Wed, Oct 22

12:30-8:00 p.m. Eucharistic exposition



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

October 19, 2014, 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time



A History of St. Thomas Aquinas Church Part XIX (2) – A New Diocese, *continued*

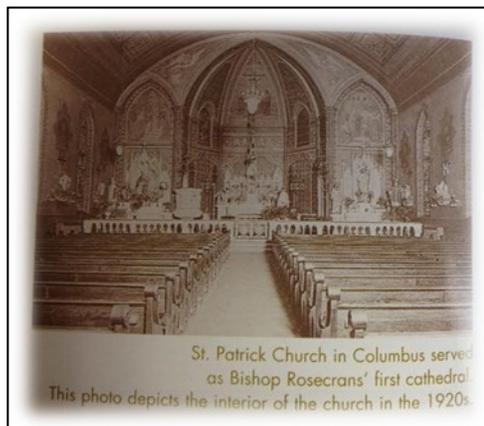
Sylvester Rosecrans examined the Faith and prayed. While visiting his brother William in 1845, they passed a Catholic Church, and William said, “It is high time, Sylvester, for you to put an end to this procrastination of yours; come in here and get baptized.” Sylvester was baptized May 10, 1845 at Cold Spring on the North River opposite West Point. Upon his return home, Sylvester practiced his faith with fervor often walking eight miles to attend Mass at Mt. Vernon, fasting all the way. He enrolled at St. John’s in Fordham, N.Y., and graduated with honors in 1846. When he expressed the desire to become a priest, Bishop Purcell sent him to the College of the Propaganda in Rome. Sylvester is described as having been a meek and humble man, and despite that, he carried the honors in his classes. He received his Doctorate in Theology and was ordained on June 5, 1852.

Fr. Rosecrans was assigned as pastor to St. Thomas Church in Cincinnati and then to the Cathedral, while teaching Theology at the seminary. He also assisted in editing the *Catholic Telegraph*. Rosecrans was appointed auxiliary bishop of Cincinnati and was consecrated on March 25, 1862 in St. Peter in Chains Cathedral by Archbishop Purcell. He continued teaching in the seminary until 1864.

In 1867, Rosecrans was sent to Columbus as pastor of St. Patrick Church, which was to be the first step in establishing the Diocese of Columbus. Pope Pius IX formally erected the diocese and appointed Sylvester Rosecrans as its first bishop on March 3, 1868. The former pastor and people of St. Patrick had already laid a foundation of a church for the new parish at the corner of Broad and Fifth Streets. The patron that had been chosen by the people was St. Joseph. Bishop Rosecrans had laid the cornerstone on November 11, 1866, amid much rejoicing. It was determined that the new St. Joseph Church was to be the Cathedral of the new diocese, and plans were modified accordingly. When citizens complained bitterly about the cost, Bishop Rosecrans serenely replied, “The dwelling was for the Most Holy Sacrament. He forgot Himself for us. Should we not forget ourselves for Him? He spent more on us than we are worth. Should we fear to spend our all on Him? It is a House for God, not for men; and its proportions are for the Owner and not the visitors. To its threshold crowds will come; some in carriages, some on foot; some poorly, some richly clad. At the door all distinctions vanish, and the Master greets all alike...It is God’s House, and with Him, there is no distinction of persons.”

Bishop Rosecrans administered the Sacrament of Confirmation here at St. Thomas on May 23, 1868. In 1875, the Bishop founded the *Catholic Columbian*, the first newspaper of the Diocese. St. Francis de Sales, the patron saint of journalists and the patron of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, was chosen to be the patron of the Diocese of Columbus. The Cathedral was consecrated in solemn ceremonies on October 20, 1878. Archbishop Purcell attended, and was prevailed upon to address the congregation. Leaning heavily on his crozier and in a voice tremulous with emotion and the infirmity of his nearly eighty years, he congratulated the people and urged them to remain steadfast to their faith and its practices.

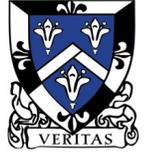
On October 21, the day following the culmination of ten years of labor and worry to bring the Diocese of Columbus into existence, Bishop Rosecrans died of hemorrhages, leaving the clergy and people to mourn his loss. His remains are entombed in the Cathedral undercroft.





St. Thomas Aquinas Church

October 19, 2014, 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Parish Life

Rosary Altar Society Auction The annual Christmas auction sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society will be held on Sunday, November 9th, 2014 beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. We are excited about all the great items that will be at the event this year, such as our "Theme Baskets," Religious Basket, Boy's Basket, Girl's Basket, (ages 2-8), Teen's Basket (gift cards from any Teen Store at the mall), and a Pasta Basket. Bake sales, items and 2-Liter Bottles of pop will be needed closer to the date. Also don't forget to turn in your Quilt raffle tickets. Parents, there will be **FREE BABYSITTING** available to assist you while you shop and enjoy yourself.

Youth Group will meet at Saint Nicholas parish teen center from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Students will enjoy some good food and lively discussion on habits. Neighbor Helping Neighbor - Students will be helping their neighbors again on October 25th. If you have a project for our students, please call Patty Boggs at (740) 453-5173 and we will be happy to put you on the list.

Thank You from Sister Maureen: *Dear friends, it's difficult to put into words the deep gratitude I have for everyone who was involved in my retirement party. It is impossible to name folks because I'm sure I'll forget someone. I do want to acknowledge our pastor, Fr. Peter Fegan, O.P. who got the ball rolling. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Your presence, cards, & gifts overwhelmed me. My prayers will be with you always. In loving gratitude, Sr. Maureen, OSF.*

Rosecrans All Alumni Dinner at the Knights of Columbus on November 28th from 7 - 10 pm. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$10 a piece. Appetizers and soft drinks included. This is the first alumni event like this, so we need to get this out to as many people as possible.

Varia

Board of Directors meeting for Catholic Schools of Zanesville is Monday October 27, 2014 at 7:00pm in Rosecrans Breifeller Theater. We need your support at this meeting to support our students and schools. We will be voting for new members to the CSZ Board of Directors and important information will be presented about our schools and auxiliary curricular and extracurricular groups. Please mark your calendars. We look forward to seeing you at this meeting. If you have questions, please contact the school offices: Ms. Jennifer Mallett, Principal, Bishop Rosecrans High School: (740) 452-7504; Mrs. Kelly Sagan, Principal, Bishop Fenwick School: (740) 454-9731.

Bishop Rosecrans is hiring a fundraising coordinator, who will be responsible for advancing the fundraising-related activities of Bishop Rosecrans High School. The position is part-time (20-25 hours per week). The essential job responsibilities in this position are as follows: plan and organize fundraising events; recruit, coordinate, and manage volunteers for fundraising events; and to maintain all records related to each event. Candidates must have excellent verbal and written communication skills, good leadership skills, and exemplary customer relations skills. Candidates need a current (less than one year old) BCI & FBI background check and submit proof of attendance for Protecting God's Children seminar. Please submit a letter of interest and resume to Ms. Jennifer Mallett, Principal, Bishop Rosecrans High School, 1040 East Main Street, Zanesville, Ohio 43701 or by email at rosecrans@cdeducation.org.

The Souper Bowl Benefit Luncheon will take place Sunday, October 19th, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Muskingum County Center for Seniors, 200 Sunrise Center Dr., Zanesville. Adults tickets are \$5 in advance & \$6 at the door. Children 12 and under \$4. Tickets will be available at the Center for Seniors. "A Simple Meal to Meet Basic Needs". Proceeds benefit: East-side Community Ministry, Fellowship of Christ's Community, Christ's Table, Salvation Army and the Muskingum Co. Center for Seniors.



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The following is a recent article written by Fr. Robert Barron, rector of Mundelein Seminary in Chicago. It helps give perspective on what is going on at the Synod on the Family in Rome, and why no one should become anxious by odd-sounding reports emanating therefrom. I hope it's helpful. —Fr. Peter

Having patience for the sausage-making Synod of Bishops

By Very Rev. Robert Barron

The midterm report on the deliberations of the Synod on the Family has appeared and there is a fair amount of hysteria all around. John Thavis, a veteran Vatican reporter who should know better, has declared this statement “an earthquake, the big one that hit after months of smaller tremors.” Certain commentators on the right have been wringing their hands and bewailing a deep betrayal of the Church’s teaching. One even opined that this report is the “silliest document ever issued by the Catholic Church,” and some have said that the interim document flaunts the teaching of St. John Paul II. Meanwhile the *New York Times* confidently announced that the Church has moved from “condemnation of unconventional family situations and toward understanding, openness, and mercy.” I think everyone should take a deep breath.

What has just appeared is not even close to a definitive, formal teaching of the Catholic Church. It is a report on what has been discussed so far in a synod of some two hundred bishops from around the world. It conveys, to be sure, a certain consensus around major themes, trends that have been evident in the conversations, dominant emphases in the debates, etc., but it decidedly does not represent “the teaching” of the Pope or the bishops.

One of the great mysteries enshrined in the ecclesiology of the Catholic Church is that Christ speaks through the rather messy and unpredictable process of ecclesiastical argument. The Holy Spirit guides the process of course, but he doesn’t undermine or circumvent it. It is precisely in the long, laborious sifting of ideas across time and through disciplined conversation that the truth that God wants to communicate gradually emerges. If you want evidence of this, simply look at the accounts of the deliberations of the major councils of the Church, beginning with the

so-called Council of Jerusalem in the first century right through to the Second Vatican Council of the twentieth century. In every such gathering, argument was front and center, and consensus evolved only after lengthy and often acrimonious debate among the interested parties. Read John Henry Newman’s colorful history of the Council of Nicaea in the fourth century, and you’ll find stories of riots in the streets and the mutually pulling of beards among the disputants. Or pick up Yves Congar’s very entertaining diary of his years at Vatican II, and you’ll learn of his own withering critiques of the interventions of prominent Cardinals and rival theologians. Or peruse John O’Malley’s history of the Council of Trent, and you’ll see that early draft statements on the key doctrines of original sin and justification were presented, debated, and dismissed—long before final versions were approved.

Until Vatican II, these preliminary arguments and conversations were known only to the participants themselves and to certain specialist historians who eventually sifted through the records. The great teachings of the Councils became widely known and celebrated, but the process that produced them was, happily enough, consigned to the shadows. If I might quote the great Newman, who had a rather unsatisfying experience of official ecclesial life in Rome: “those who love the barque of Peter ought to stay out of the engine room!” This is a somewhat more refined version of “those who enjoy sausage ought never to watch how it is made.” The interim report on the Synod represents a very early stage of the sausage-making process and, unsurprisingly, it isn’t pretty. Two more weeks of discussion will follow; then a full year during which the findings of the Synod will be further refined, argued about, and clarified; then the Ordinary Synod on the Family will take place (the one going on now is the Extraordinary Synod), and many more arguments and counter-arguments will be made; finally, some months, perhaps even a year or so, after that, the Pope will write a post-Synodal exhortation summing up the entire process and offering a definitive take on the matter. At that point, I would suggest, something resembling edible sausage will be available for our consumption; until then, we should all be patient and refrain from bloviating.

The historian and theologian Martin Marty com-