

Compendium, Catechism of the Catholic Church

150. What is the mission of the Church?

The mission of the Church is to proclaim and establish the Kingdom of God begun by Jesus Christ among all peoples. The Church constitutes on earth the seed and beginning of this salvific Kingdom.

151. In what way is the Church a mystery?

The Church is a mystery in as much as in her visible reality there is present and active a divine spiritual reality which can only be seen with the eyes of faith.

Today's Readings

Gn 2:18-24/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12 (140)

Monday

October 5

Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37 (461)

Tuesday

October 6

Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42 (462)

Wednesday

October 7

Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4 (463)

Thursday

October 8

Mal 3:13-20b/Lk 11:5-13 (464)

Friday

October 9

Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26 (465)

Saturday

October 10

Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28 (466)

Sunday

October 11

Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27 (143)

What God Has Joined

Readings: Genesis 2:18-24 Psalm 128:1-6 Hebrews 2:9-11 Mark 10:2-16

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question.

The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never at issue. Moses had long ago allowed it (see Deuteronomy 24:1-4). But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today's First Reading.

Divorce violates the order of creation, He says. Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart"—their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfill the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, and to give people the grace to keep God's commands.

Marriage, He reveals, is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family—making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth (see Genesis 1:28).

That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children. Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam—made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family (see Romans 5:14; Psalm 8:5-7). The Church is the new Eve, the "woman" born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the cross (see John 19:34; Revelation 12:1-17).

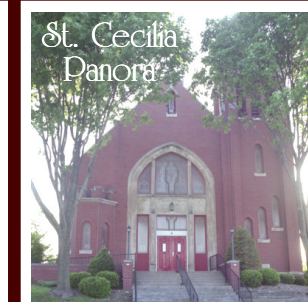
Through the union of Christ and the Church as "one flesh," God's plan for the world is fulfilled (see Ephesians 5:21-32). Eve was "mother of all the living" (see Genesis 3:20). And in baptism, we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning.

The challenge for us is to live as children of the kingdom, growing up ever more faithful in our love and devotion to the ways of Christ and the teachings of His Church.

~ St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology ~ www.salvationhistory.com

Twenty-Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

October 4, 2009



Our Mission: To authentically hand on the Catholic Faith by leading people to Jesus in the Eucharist; so that our living Savior will help us to Know Him, to Love Him as He desires, to use our gifts to Serve Him, and to fulfill our purpose of living with Him in Heaven.

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Mass Schedule & Intentions for this week:

Mon. NO Mass

Tue. NO Mass

Wed. NO Mass

Thu. NO Mass

Fri. 8:00 am (St M) Mass -- Allison Ruden

Sat. 4:30 pm (St P) Mass -- Kathryn Walstrom

Sun. 8:30 am (St C) Mass -- Nellie Watts

Sun. 10:30 am (St M) Mass -- StC & StM & StP Parishioner's



By her complete adherence to the Father's will, to his Son's redemptive work, and to every prompting of the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary is the Church's model of faith and charity. Thus she is a "preeminent and...wholly unique member of the Church; indeed, she is the "exemplary realization" of the Church.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Cecilia

Tuesday

3:30—7:00 pm

St. Mary

Wednesday

3:30—5:00 pm

St. Patrick

Sunday

9:00—10:00 am

Stewardship Gifts Last Week



St Cecilia 1,030.40

St Mary 1,236.00

St Patrick 568.00

St. Cecilia's Women's Night Out
All women of the parish are invited to play Bunko on October 22nd at 7:00 PM in the church basement. Please bring the drink of your choice and a snack to share. Don't worry if you don't know how to play...we will teach you in short order! If you have questions, call Faith Bratton at 515-249-0137.

The R1N1 flu has been receiving a lot of publicity and various organizations and churches have been taking precautions to lessen the number of people infected. As a result, we will not be offering the sacred blood of Christ at Mass and will also no longer shake hands at the sign of peace. When the flu-season is over we will resume our normal practice.

St. Cecilia Catholic Church will hold a Public Square Rosary at the Gazebo on Main Street in Panora on October 10, 2009 at 12:00 noon. We will be praying for our country. Everyone is invited to attend. Bring your lawn chairs and in case of rain it will be held at St. Cecilia's.



There are more than 4,000 rallies being sponsored by "America Needs Fatima" across America. The number seems to increase each day. If you would like more info, the website is

www.americaneedsfatima.org/



Guthrie Center Harvest Dinners

Sunday, October 4 -- 11 am - 1 pm
First Christian Church
Sunday, October 11 -- 11 am - 1 pm
First Presbyterian Church
Wednesday, October 14 -- 5 pm - 7 pm
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Wednesday, October 21 -- 5 pm - 7 pm
United Methodist Church
Wednesday, October 28 -- 11 am - 1 pm
Community Bible Church at the Guthrie Center Activity Center
Sunday, November 1 -- 10 am - 12:30 pm
Brunch - St. Mary's Church

**From PROLIFE ANSWERS TO PROCHOICE ARGUMENTS
By Randy Alcorn**

16a. To be pro choice about abortion is to be proabortion.

Suppose drug-dealing were legalized, as some have advocated. Then suppose you heard someone argue this way for selling cocaine:

I'm personally not in favor of drug dealing, but this is a matter for a drug dealer to decide between himself and his attorney. Lots of religious people are against drug dealing, but they have no right to force the anticocaine morality on others. We don't want to go back to the days when drug dealing was done in back alleys and people died from poorly mixed cocaine, and when only rich people could get drugs and poor people couldn't. It's better now that qualified drug dealers can safely give cocaine to our children. I personally wouldn't buy drugs, so I'm not prodrugs, you understand, I'm just prochoice about drug dealing.

In terms of moral impact, there is no significant difference between people who are in favor of drug dealing and people who don't like it personally but believe it should be legal. Someone who is prochoice about rape might argue that this is not the same as being prorape. But what is the real difference? Wouldn't being prochoice about rape allow and effectively promote the legitimacy of rape?

Those who were prochoice about slavery fancied that their moral position was sound if they didn't own slaves. Yet it was not just the proslavery position, but the prochoice about slavery position, that resulted in the exploitation, beatings, and deaths of innocent people in this country. Similarly, most people in Germany did not favor the killing of Jews, but they did nothing to stop that killing.

In ancient Rome it was legal for fathers to kill their newborn children by setting them out to die of exposure or to be eaten by wild beasts. While many people would not do this to their own children, they recognized the rights of others to do so. The early Christians saw this "right" as a wrong, and when they found such children, they took them into their homes to care for them.

Some people have the illusion that being personally opposed to abortion while believing others should be free to choose it is some kind of compromise between the proabortion and prolife positions. It isn't. Prochoice people vote the same as proabortion people. Both oppose legal protection for the innocent unborn. Both are willing for children to die by abortion and must take responsibility for the killing of those babies even if they do not participate directly. To the baby who dies it makes no difference whether those who refused to protect her were proabortion or merely prochoice.

Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., the author of a 2005 law authorizing \$265 million in federal research funds for adult stem cells from cord blood and bone marrow, asked in a statement: "Why does the president persist in the dehumanizing of nascent human life when better alternatives exist? On both ethics grounds and efficacy grounds nonembryonic-destroying stem-cell research is the present and future of regenerative medicine -- and the only responsible way forward." (*Catholic News Service*, 3/9/09)



ST. CECILIA'S ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Serving 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Veterans Auditorium - Panora, IA

Adults: \$9.00 Children 6—12: \$6.00 5& under: Free

Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Chicken Gravy, Cole Slaw, Vegetable, Homemade Pie, Coffee - Iced Tea - Lemonade

Carry Outs Available

Delicious Food Provided by Staley's Food Service of Charter Oak, IA

A Short Catechism on Prayer - Part 4

23. How is it possible to pray always?

We pray always when we frequently raise up our minds and hearts to God, and offer up to Him all our labors, sufferings, and pleasures. Yet at certain times we are to pray in an especial manner.

1. In time of temptation and other urgent need, and during private and public calamities; 2. In the morning and at night; before and after meals; when the Angelus bell rings; and when we are in the Church. [See About Traditional Basic Catholic Prayers.] [See also the Prayer of the Heart and Prayer without Ceasing.]

24. Why should we particularly pray in the Church?

Because the Church is especially the house of God and of prayer, where all that we see and hear is intended to raise our minds and hearts to the meditation on Divine things.

[The modern catechism, published in 1992, suggests places that are favorable for prayer. However they are not the only places. Actually anyplace can be a place for prayer.

"ccc 2696 The most appropriate places for prayer are personal or family oratories, monasteries, places of pilgrimage, and above all the church, which is the proper place for liturgical prayer for the parish community and the privileged place for Eucharistic adoration." See also, ccc 2691

"ccc 2743 It is always possible to pray: The time of the Christian is that of the risen Christ who is with us always, no matter what tempests may arise. Our time is in the hands of God: It is possible to offer fervent prayer even while walking in public or strolling alone, or seated in your shop, . . . while buying or selling, . . . or even while cooking." St. John Chrysostom.]

Regular Schedule

1st Weekend

Food Pantry Weekend
please bring nonperishable items

1st Wednesday

Altar & Rosary Aug-May 5:30 pm
StM Knights of Columbus 7 pm

1st Friday

Coffee & Rolls following
8:00 am Mass at St Mary's

4th Monday

StC Knights of Columbus 7 pm

Per Notice

St Cecilia CCW
St Patrick Ladies Guild

StC Religious Formation

Sunday's following 8:30 Mass

StP Religious Education

Wednesdays K-6 Class 4:00—5:00
7th -8th Class 5:30—6:30
9th-12th Class 7:00—8:00

StM Generations of Faith

2nd Wednesdays; Sept. - March
(Dec: 1st Wednesday)

ST P MINISTERS next weekend

Lector Jeanne Haverman
EM If no deacon, 1 volunteer

ST C MINISTERS next weekend

EM If no deacon, 1 volunteer
Gifts Kirby & Kathy Klinge
Greeters Toni & Ross Huney
Lectors Tom Arganbright, Fran Brune
Servers Elynn Arganbright, Grace Arganbright, Mark Arganbright
Usher Larry Book, Steve Kastner, Mark & Barb Moore
Video John Seeman

ST M MINISTERS next weekend

EM If no deacon, 1 volunteer
Gifts Lois VanCleave, Pat Stetzel
Greeter Len & Leona Troshynski
Lectors Mike & Linda Downing
Server Patrick Ahrens, Maria Ahrens
Usher John Eivins
Song Leader Diane Flanery