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Magazine**

Surrounding Apple Valley
Dec & Jan 2024

Cover shot by Fr. Paul Kammen

Local Mass and Reconciliation Times

Burnsville Mary Mother	Burnsville Risen Savior	Eagan St. John Neumann	Eagan St. Thomas Becket	Farmington St. Michael	Lakeville All Saints	Rosemount St. Joseph
Mass: Sat. 4pm, Sun. 8:30am, 11am, Confession: Wed. 4:30pm, Sat. 9am	Mass: Sat. 5pm, Sun. 9am, 11am, 1pm (Spanish), Confession: Sat. 3:30-4pm	Mass: Sat. 5pm, Sun. 8am, 10am, Noon, 5:30pm, Confession: Mon.- Fri. 11:15 - Noon, Wed. 6 - 6:30pm, Sat. 8:30-9am	Mass: Sat. 5pm Sun. 9am, 11am	Mass: Sat. 4:30pm, Sun. 8am, 10:30am, Confession: Wed. 9am, Sat. 3:00-4:00pm	Mass: Sat. 5pm, Sun. 7:30am, 9am, 11am, 5:30pm, Confession: Sat. 8:30-9:30am, Sun. 4:30 - 5pm	Mass: Sat. 5pm, Sun. 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, Confession: Sat. 3:30pm

Schools: Unity Catholic High School (Burnsville), Faithful Shepherd (Eagan), All Saints (Lakeville), St. Joseph (Rosemount)

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The Middle East - A Layman's Perspective

by Jimmie Jett

For those of you who don't understand exactly what is happening in the Middle East and what's taking place here on American soil, I'm going to break it down as simple as I possibly can.

God found favor with Abraham. God even called Abraham His friend. Abrahams wife was named Sarah and together they were leaders of a large tribe, community or encampment you could say.

God promised Abraham that his seed (offspring) would be numbered like the sands of the seas.

Sarah, being 99 years old (and folks lived long lives at this time in history), began to doubt Gods promise and suggested Abraham sleep with her very attractive and younger handmaiden, Hagar.

Abraham, being human and born of a sinful nature, agreed with Sarah (because he's a dude) and slept with Hagar. Soon after it was realized that Hagar was pregnant with Abraham's first born, Ishmael. True to God's promise, thirteen years later, Sarah birthed Abraham's second son, Isaac.

Since the original sin, (Adam & Eve) mankind has disappointed, failed and angered God. It was not Gods will that man fail, it's has and is always been about choices and free will.

From Hagar came Ishmael. From Sarah came Issac.

True to Gods promise, Abrahams seed became and is as the sands of the seas. However, true to there being consequences for sin, God told Abraham that he must get the sin out of the camp.

Having to banish Hagar and Ishmael from the camp grieved Abraham a great deal. He loved both of his sons like any good father would.

When it comes right down to it, Ishmael was born against the will of God. From that beginning Ishmael descendants have waged war against Issacs descendants.

From Ishmael came the Arab Nations, the prophet Mohammed, who was a fierce warrior and writer or the Islamic Quran, which instructs followers of Muhammad that if Christians or any other faith won't convert to Islam or the Muslim faith, they're labeled as infidels and must be killed.

From Isaac came the Jewish nation and eventually Judaism, Christianity and finally Jesus as a blood sacrifice for sin to all nations. This is how the Middle East has been labeled 'the cradle of civilization'.



Ishmaels decdants don't believe that Jews and Christians have a right to live. That's why leaders of Iran, who is the head of the octopus direct the tentacles like Hamas, Hezbola, ISIS and a host of other murderous Islamic terrorist organizations to attack and chant "death to Israel and death to America"

This war, jihad has been going on from the beginning and will be going on when Christ appears for His second coming to wage the final war against evil.

This country has been blessed because this country has been a defender of Israel and the Jews.

As you can see by the siding of the youth of this nation with supporting and protesting on the behalf of terrorists, that we're only a generation away from turning our backs on Israel.

They're so misguided, indoctrinated and naive that they don't understand the weight of their actions.

God chose the Jews for Jesus to take on human flesh and walk among us for 33 years, ultimately becoming a blood sacrifice on the cross. This sacrifice was not just for Christians and Jews, it was for any human who would answer the call to become Christ like.

Remember folks, God said that Israel is the apple of His eye.

I will stand with Israel.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

 **Parish
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Eagan, Farmington,
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The Connection Between Climate-Alarmism and Abortion

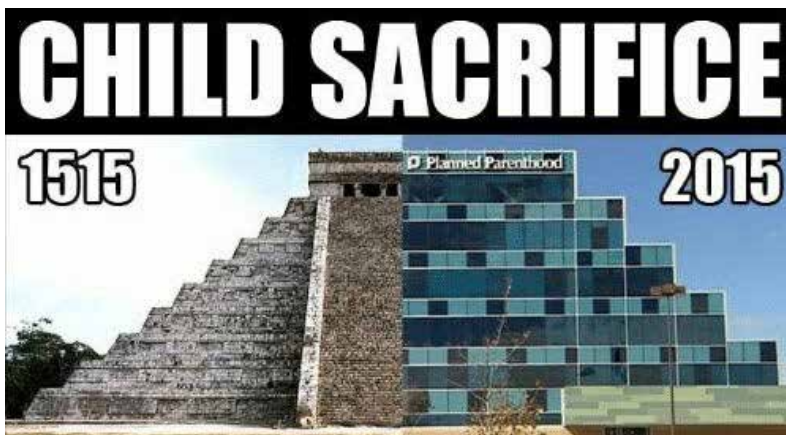
by Fr. David Nix

We are starting to see that the secular religion of leftists is Satanism. Perhaps, if you were in a pub in 1965 in Chicago, you might hear a healthy debate between a conservative man and a liberal man on, say, how much taxes should be allotted to waste-disposal or the local police force. There were probably good arguments on both sides of the fence. But now that the left is arguing for infanticide and genital mutilation of pre-teens, we have to ask: *What is driving such assertions found to be so irrational?*

We all know that the answer to anything that irrational is this: Demons are *directly* influencing human beings. That has always been the case, but the leftists have fully unmasked themselves since 2020.

I have wondered a long time the connection between climate-change and abortion. Why is nearly everyone setting off alarms about climate-change also lobbying for abortion? I suspected de-population was the underlying motive of this. However, after hearing a talk by a pro-life activist in California named Seth Gruber, I have now had my eyes opened to see that a connection that is not political—but rather, religious.

Gruber explains in the above link that Aztecs in the 15th century sacrificed humans to the sun-god because the world was going to go **cold** if the sun-god was unable to defeat darkness through the sacrifices of humans. Similarly, climate-change alarmists today in the 21st century teach that the world will go **hot** if we cannot continue the human sacrifice of others in abortion. Do you see the brilliant connection he has made? A superstitious climate-alarm is the reason why demons have tricked humans to kill more humans in *both* pre-Colonial Aztec times *and* the secular leftists of the Western governments today.



The top left picture is where the blood of human sacrifice flowed down during the Aztec Empire, just outside modern-day Mexico City. The top right picture is where the blood of human sacrifice flows today, at a Planned Parenthood in Houston, TX. These two buildings are less than 1,000 miles from each other. Gruber is correct: Abortion is a diabolical human-sacrifice needed to “feed” demons who have only empty threats of changing the climate. You would think that modernists who “follow

the science” would see through the farce of climate-change (as there is no evidence of any *significant* man-made climate-change) and connect the de-population goals of the globalists to the blood-thirsty Aztecs who ripped the hearts of out of hundreds of thousands of Mexicans belonging to surrounding tribes.

As Seth Gruber brilliantly notes, a fertility-cult like birth-control is always connected to the Moloch-cult of infant sacrifice. “Jesus says, ‘I must die so that *you* may live,’ whereas the climate-culture says, ‘Babies must die so that *I* may live.’”

Demons are using the same playbook as they did 500 years ago. Demons have found any mind not coordinated to Jesus Christ and His Church to be just as susceptible to deceit, climate-superstition and murder as any pagan in those *seemingly*-darker times of world history. It seems to be shaking out that without Christ (and his holy Mother, as we saw these sacrifices of the Aztecs only end through the miraculous appearance of Our Lady of Guadeloupe) we are all doomed to continue the history of mass-murder at the diabolical instigation of superstitious climate fears. Again, the devil has no new-playbook for those who don’t know Jesus Christ.



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Why Does the Bell of All Saints Catholic Church Ring at 9am, Noon, 3pm, and 6pm?

by Nadine Friederichs



On a good day, with the wind blowing just right, the ringing of the All Saints bell may be heard as far away as three miles from the church located on the hill off Holyoke Avenue. The main group of our community who gets to hear them daily is the

All Saints Catholic School students who are in class underneath the bell tower. They hear the monstrous arm begin to move and the clanging of the bell. And, as all kids are, they are curious.

Earlier this year, a group of elementary students asked, “Why does the church bell ring at lunchtime?” Before answering them, I asked what they thought the reason was for the ringing. The most popular answer was, “Because it’s time to eat lunch!” While a good answer, it is not the reason.

Then, this spring, I was asked the same question by some neighbors of the parish property. They said, “You [All Saints] sure ring that bell a lot! Why do you do that?”

And, yes, All Saints Catholic Church bell rings four times a day, except on Sundays when it rings more often as a signal that Mass is about to begin. The practice of ringing the church bell at 9am, 3pm, noon, and 6pm is a tradition begun by the Catholic Church, but then adopted by several Christian denominations throughout the Middle Ages and is still practiced today across the world. It coincides with a Catholic prayer known as The Angelus. The Angelus traces its beginnings to

the thirteenth century and recognizes morning, midday, and evening prayer. It signifies a time to stop what you are doing, rest, and offer a prayer of thanksgiving.

An image that exemplifies this practice is the renowned painting by Jean-Francois Millet entitled *The Angelus*. It depicts a man and a woman standing in a field with heads bowed in prayer, taking a break from the work before them.

All Saints Catholic Church is one of the oldest parishes in Dakota County established in 1877 (nearly 150 years ago). The ringing of the bell has been part of the daily life of the current church, except for a period from 2018-2019 when the bell was being repaired. The townships that would eventually become the village and then the town of Lakeville, have heard the bell signify this tradition, as well as mark other important days, for many years.

If you happen to hear the ringing, pause in what you are doing, say a prayer or a quick word of thanks for the day you have been given, the people who will be a part of it, and the work you will complete.



To read more about the All Saints bell please see www.allsaintschurch.com/bell

Nadine Friederichs, and her family, became Lakeville residents and members of All Saints parish in 1998. She serves as the Director of Mission for All Saints and is a member of the Lakeville Faith Community.

To learn more about the All Saints Catholic community, contact Nadine at nfriederichs@allsaintschurch.com.

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Leaving the Church

A young man comes to the priest and says:

- Father I won't go to church anymore!

The priest answered:

- But why?

The young man replied:

- I see the sister who speaks ill of another sister; the brother who doesn't read well; the singing group who lives defuncting; the people who during the mass look at the cell phone, among many and many other bad things I see doing in church.

The priest says to him:

- Okay, but first I want you to do me a favor: take a glass full of water and go three laps around the church without spilling a drop of water on the floor. After that you can leave the church.

And the young man thought: too easy!

And he did the three laps like his father asked. When he finished he said:

- Ready, Father.

And the priest answered:

- When you were walking around, did you see the sister talk bad about the other?

The young man:

- No

Did you see people complain to each other?

The young man:

- No

Did you see anyone looking at their cell phone?

The young man:

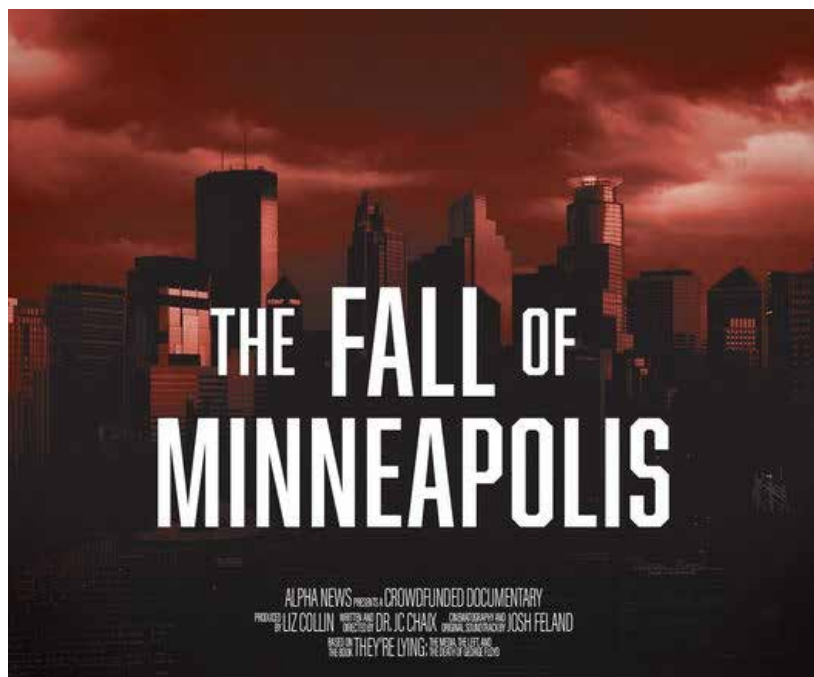
- No

Do you know why? You were focused on the glass so you wouldn't throw the water away.

The same is in our life. When our focus is our Lord Jesus Christ, we will not have time to see people's mistakes..

Who leaves church because of people,

It's because he never came in for Jesus.



Are you a truth seeker or swayed by culture, narratives, politics and the world?

Regardless of your political position watch this documentary put out by Liz Collin, formerly of WCCO News.

View it free at: thefallofminneapolis.com

If after watching it, you have comments please email them to this publication at Pete@parishneighbors.org



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Seven Sisters Apostolate

...that our prayers may find the heart of every priest and bishop

by Anne Miller

Seven Sisters Apostolate Tenth Annual Day of Reflection and Renewal was held on Saturday, October 28, 2023. The Seven Sisters group of Mary, Mother of the Church in Burnsville hosted the gathering of 360 women from throughout the Archdiocese of St Paul-Minneapolis with warm hospitality.

The Spirit-filled day began early with Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary, followed by Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Hebda along with Father Jim Perkl and Deacon Jim Pufahl. Prior to and after Mass, first class relics of St John Vianney and St Mary Magdalene were available for veneration.

A beautiful reflection by Sister Amelia Hueller, OP was entitled “Can you not watch with Me for one hour? and emphasized the Seven Sisters’ anchor verse *...in quietness and trust is your strength.* (Isaiah 30:15).

The inspiration for Seven Sisters Apostolate dates back to 2010 when Janette Howe sensed a nudge to pray more frequently and intentionally for her pastor, Fr. Joseph R Johnson, rector of the Cathedral of St. Paul. Later, during a walk one day, it occurred to Janette that the very least she might do in gratitude for Father’s ever-generous pastoral care would be to offer a Holy Hour once a week for him. Janette began to offer this additional hour in the summer of 2010, not mentioning it to him, but delighting in simply offering the hour and trusting he was benefiting from the graces.

On March 24th, 2011, while in prayer for Fr. Johnson, Janette ‘heard’ the words Seven Sisters in her heart. After some time, she sensed clearly that the Lord wanted to invite six others— seven in total—to offer one Holy Hour once a day for Fr. Johnson just as she was doing. It was exhilarating to consider the benefit of these multiplied graces for her pastor and also the interior benefit for his intercessors.

What an awesome moment it was to hear Janette’s update at this 10th Day of Renewal and Reflection: From seven groups in this archdiocese, the



The tri-patrons of the Seven Sisters Apostolate, Mary Madonna of the Grapes and Saints John Vianney and Margaret Clitherow

Apostolate has grown to 4000 groups on six continents, 30 countries, all 50 USA states and most Canadian Provinces. Pope Francis has nine groups. Groups cover priests in service as pastors, parochial vicars, hospital chaplains, seminary rectors/teachers/spiritual directors, canon lawyers, exorcists, high school and college chaplains, college professors, military service, missionaries, cathedral rectors, priests in chanceries, priests in the media, bishops, cardinals.

Janette went on to read testimonies from three priests. One said that with his “sister warriors praying for him, like John the Baptist with the women at the foot of the Cross, he can be courageous.” From another priest: “Rome is built on seven hills...my priesthood is built on Seven Sisters.” A third referred to them as “standing in the breach...extra oil for his lamp...”

In his talk, Archbishop Hebda spoke of his immense gratitude for Seven Sisters, his own (a bishop has 21 sisters, praying morning, noon and night each day of the week) and for the Apostolate. He noted that 13 men will, God-willing, be ordained to the Holy Priesthood next May. “That’s 91 more Sisters,” he exclaimed!

Please prayerfully discern if you are called to serve as a Seven Sister. Visit

sevensistersapostolate.org to learn more or contact the anchoress at your respective parish:

All Saints / Kim Thoraldson / 952.985.6927

St Michael, Farmington / Connie Fifarek / cfifarek@yahoo.com

Mary Mother of the Church / Terese Shearer / jshearer@usfamily.net

Mary McGrath / mcczm@comcast.net

St John Neumann / Lynn Hilton / 952.898.4019

St Joseph, Rosemount / Anne Miller / annemiller12@comcast.net / 651.208.9932

For information on starting a group at another parish not listed here, contact Anne Miller (above).



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The Matuszewski Family



“Faith, Family, and Food”

By: Michelle Nabors
Photos by Fr. Paul Kammen

As the day draws to a close, the Matuszewski family gathers before prayers and bedtime for a family check-in. As a busy family of seven, their calendar “on an average after school day has six events overlapping,” which requires a flowchart, check-ins to plan transportation needs, and helpfulness of all family members to manage. Each family member pitches in to help in various ways from “kids being patient for a pickup and older siblings willing and able to drive down highway 3 again.” The family takes care of and supports each other in their activities and interests. For the Matuszewskis, “Faith, Family, and Food” is the motto that brings them together.

Mike and Donna Matuszewski lovingly lead a busy household, full of activities at church and school. Their children, Grace (18), Beth (17), Joey (16), Mary (14), and Veronica (12) all attended their parish school, St. Joseph in Rosemount, for grades K-8. They choose Catholic school “to embed faith and considerations of morality and social justice in any subject” because they knew that “if nurtured, that can become a way of life.” Mike and Donna have been involved in school life with Donna serving as a member of the School Advisory Board where she “enjoys supporting our principal in her many efforts” and Mike remaining “involved in all their daughters’ lives as the coach for the middle school girls’ basketball program,” giving him additional opportunities to connect with them and their friends.

Faith is nurtured for the Matuszewskis through regular practices in daily family life. Together they share, “regular prayers at meals and bedtime” along with “modeling prayer at other times - when we’re feeling overwhelmed, when we’re grateful, when emergency vehicles

pass, etc,” which integrates the faith into daily life. The family members “rotate choosing the style of prayer and the kids have turns to lead.” Prayer cards are taped to the mirrors in the bathrooms and prayer is incorporated into routine tasks. For example, “instead of reciting the ABC’s, we can read the Memorare every time we wash hands.”

Sometimes the witness of faith comes in the challenging family moments. Through the passing of Donna’s mom this past year, the family was given a “deeper understanding of faith and what it means for the end of life.” After the “long and difficult goodbye” that came with “each change and transition” as Donna’s mom declined with dementia, the family “saw real Catholic marriage in sickness and unto death.” Walking through this as a family, “they learned you can share your own dignity when someone else runs out and somehow God multiplies it. They got to be ok with feeling awkward and could just sit in love.” Their experience of God through this continued at the funeral: “When mom, as the famed seamstress of the family, immediately interceded on a major wardrobe malfunction when all eleven of her granddaughters requested it of her specifically, not one of them questioned if there is life after this one.”

Mike and Donna’s faith is invigorated through involvement in their church and parish life. Mike has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for 16 years and the family notes that “Knights of Columbus pancake breakfasts = Catholic faith, friends, and cake.” Donna “installed and led St. Joe’s giving garden for all the years at its original location.” Through this effort, the family “made many connections with creation, the school, 360 Communities and their client families, and the

county master gardener groups.” Their example of involvement positively impacted their children.

Over the years, the kids have also found a home in parish life. Mike and Donna noted that “each of our kids learned how to altar serve at Sunday Mass and took other roles at school mass,” which they believe “encouraged continued participation in Mass as they grew into high school.” Now the children are “Eucharistic ministers, ushers, and feel comfortable at the cantor mic as needed.” Beth and Grace have both taken “opportunities to lead in the faith formation program.” Grace “wrote and shared a witness speech in front of peers” on the Retreat Team and “learned how to approach peers one on one to pray with them.” They have “acted in a silent drama that brought many to tears, including their mom.” Also on the retreat team, Beth and her boyfriend “decided to co-teach the 2nd grade faith formation class as sophomores.”



As the kids continue to grow and with Grace now in college, Mike and Donna know how quickly the precious time goes as parents. Mike’s advice is “find a way to slow down and spend time together as a whole family while you can. The time will come when everyone is running around and doing their own thing and family time will be few and far between.” The Matuszewsks enjoy “visits to the local lakes, trying out more of the State Park system with camping, and spring break trips.” Most summers, the “whole extended family rents a cabin” which gives the opportunity for “a week long sleepover with cousins, swimming,

and fishing.” Great fun can always be found at home with game nights, some favorites including Catan in which “Veronica will break any peace treaty for sheep” and Mario Kart where “Joey better watch out for mom’s blue shells.” They also enjoy movie nights as a family. With Christmas around the corner, “it’s almost time for Mary to start quoting the Grinch’s schedule.” Games such as PIG, HORSE, or MATUSZEWSKI with the hoop in the driveway are always a fun pastime.

As media continues to evolve, Donna shares they have found ways to embrace this. In today’s culture, “kids are constantly consuming media - so different than when we were growing up. We have found it really effective to normalize Catholic and other Christian media.” The family has discovered shows such as The Chosen which “brings the New Testament characters to life for this generation” and is “great for a Sunday night show to counter the blues of starting a new work/school week.” She

notes that “KTIS 98.5 is a must. It’s a soundtrack to our lives on the morning commute. You wouldn’t believe how God can put the right song on that your kid needs to hear.” They also embrace Christian music in concerts: “The kids have attended rock concerts with us – Christian rock is every bit as exciting with the lights and dancers, but the message is exactly the uplifting and relevant content they need. Casting Crowns and Toby Mac are favorites, but there are regularly concert tickets under the Christmas Tree.”

Continued on page 22



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Sunday Mass Readings

We have introduced a new format for each Sunday's Mass readings. Each Sunday, you will see the location of each reading, a short summary, along with the Catechism of the Catholic Church paragraphs that go with each Sunday.

Spending a few minutes before each weekend's Mass you attend by reading and looking up the Scriptures and Catechism paragraphs attached can help you bring the Mass into greater focus.

December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

READINGS:

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 Comfort my people. Speak tenderly to her. "Prepare a way for the Lord."

Psalms 85 Lord, let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation.

2 Peter 3:8-14 The day of the Lord will come with judgment. Await and hasten that day by remaining holy and undefiled.

Mark 1:1-8 John appeared, proclaiming, a baptism of repentance in expectation of the coming of him who will baptize in the Holy Spirit.

CATECHISM:

976-980, 1262-1266 One baptism for forgiveness of sins. Regeneration and a new life.

2525-2527 Purification of the social climate (Ninth commandment).

December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

READINGS:

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 Rejoice in the Lord heartily.

(Psalm) **Luke 1:46** My soul rejoices in my God.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 May you be preserved blameless for the coming of the Lord.

John 1:6-8, 19-28 John witnesses to the one to come who will proclaim freedom and deliverance.

CATECHISM:

2012-2016 Christian holiness (call to intimate union with God). Ascetical dimension. Grace of final perseverance.

759-769 The Church Born in Father's heart.

1285-1289, 1303 Baptismal grace is completed in the anointing of the Holy Spirit in confirmation.

December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent

READINGS:

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16 I took you from the pasture to make you leader, O Israel. Your house will endure, and your heir will sit upon your throne.

Psalms 89 Forever will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Romans 16:25-27 The mystery kept secret is now manifest all nations.

Luke 1:26-38 Gabriel speaks to Mary: You will bear a son and name him Jesus. He will rule from the throne of David.

CATECHISM:

464-469 Jesus: True God and True Man (some early heresies).

148-149, 273-274, 49-4, 2617-2619 "With God nothing is impossible": the

example of Mary's faith and prayer.

721-726 Spirit's role to fulfill the Father's plan in Mary.

December 25: Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

READINGS:

Given the vast scope and great riches of the Scriptures proclaimed in the Nativity of the Lord, there is no attempt here to refer to particular passages.

CATECHISM:

65-67 Finality of the revelation of the Word made flesh.

156-469 Why did the Word become flesh? Jesus is not part God and part man.

525-526 The Christmas mystery.

December 31: Feast of the Holy Family

READINGS:

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 Father and mother are to be honored.

Psalms 128 Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Psalms 105 The Lord remembers his covenant forever.

Luke 2:22-40 (or 2:22, 39-40) Jesus is presented in the temple. He grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.

CATECHISM:

2685 Family: first place of prayer.

529 The presentation in the temple.

1156-1158 Tradition of singing when we pray

2207-2213 Family: original cell of social life. To be protected.

January 1: Solemnity of the Mother of God

READINGS:

Numbers 6:22-27 The Lord's name was to be invoked upon the people in blessing: "The Lord, bless you and keep you."

Psalms 67 May God bless us in his mercy

Galatians 4:4-7 In the fullness of time, God sent his Son, born of a "woman".

Luke 2:16-21 The shepherds went to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in the manger. Mary reflected on all these things in her heart.

CATECHISM:

484-489 Jesus: "Conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit; born of the Virgin Mary."

495 Mary's divine motherhood.

January 7: The Epiphany of the Lord

READINGS:

Isaiah 60:1-6 Rise up in splendor. The glory of the Lord shines upon You.

Psalms 72 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6 The mystery made known: The Gentiles are coheirs of the promise.

Matthew 2:1-12 Magi from the East arrived. "We saw his star. Finding the child, they offered their gifts.

CATECHISM:

830-845 Who belongs to the Church?

528 The mystery of Epiphany.

846-848 "Outside the church there is no salvation."

January 14: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS:

1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19 The lord calls Young Samuel in the night: "Speak, Lord, Your servant is listening."

Psalms 40 Here am I, Lord. I come to do your will.

1 Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20 The body is for the Lord.

John 1:35-42 "Look, the Lamb of God." "Where do You stay?" Come and see.

CATECHISM:

523/ 606-608 The "Lamb who takes away the sin of the world." Jesus comes to do the Father's will.

2578 Samuel learns prayerful listening for God's voice.

January 21: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS:

Jonah 3:1-5,10 The "Ninevites listened to the preaching of Jonah and repented of their evil ways.

Psalms 25 Teach me your ways, O Lord. The world in its present form is passing away.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 The world in its present form is passing away.

Mark 1:14-20 Repent! Believe in the Gospel.

CATECHISM:

1427 Jesus calls to conversion.

874-876 Christ as source of ministry in Church.

January 28: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Moses challenges the Israelites to listen to God's voice.

Psalms 95 If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 Be concerned about the things of the Lord that You may be holy.

Mark 1:21-28 Jesus taught them as one having authority.

CATECHISM:

914-933, 1579, 2349 The consecrated life. Celibacy for the sake of the kingdom.

1672-1673 Consecrations for God's service Exorcism: the invocation of God's protection.

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St. Joseph School

St. Joseph School is proud to celebrate 70 years of Catholic education in 2023! The school was founded by Father James Furey in 1953 and located on South Robert Trail. It was initially staffed with the Sisters of St. Agnes. In 2009, St. Joseph School opened a new K-8 school building connected to the new church. In 2017 a preschool program was added. St. Joseph School continues to grow and thrive as an important ministry of the Church of St. Joseph.

St. Joseph School is proud to partner with families in preparing our youth to be leaders in their community working for the common good while embracing the rich traditions of the Catholic Church. For 70 years, our dedicated teachers and staff have ensured that every student is known and loved for his or her unique gifts and talents.

Rigorous academic instruction results in students' scoring above the national average in reading and math. Daily religion class, integrated service learning, and student leadership opportunities make the SJS experience unique. With the addition of multiple preschool classrooms and two classes each of Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade, enrollment continues to increase in preschool-8th grade.

Through an integrated approach reaching across all curriculum areas, students actively engage in learning and living out the social justice teachings of the Catholic Church. In our middle school, which includes 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, students participate in meaningful field trip learning experiences based on our Catholic social justice teachings.

Option for the Poor & Vulnerable

Our 6th grade students focus on Option for the Poor & Vulnerable. Students participate in a Poverty Project Day that includes learning about poverty in Scripture, playing the online money management simulation game "Spent," class discussions, and a solidarity meal with the Feed My Starving Children manna packs.

My hope is that students gain a broader understanding of poverty-perhaps break some stereotypes and reflect on their own attitudes and beliefs. I would like them to see how blessed we are, develop an attitude of gratefulness and empathy, to be challenged by the church's social justice teachings, and to see each other with God's grace lens and follow the example of Jesus. ~Mr. Terry Hale



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Celebrates 70 Years

by Kelly Roche
St. Joseph School Principal



Care for God's Creation

Our 7th grade students focus on Care for God's Creation. Students embark on a 3 day field trip to Long Lake Environmental Learning Center, which is aligned to our middle school science curriculum and provides students with opportunities that encourage us to think about our impact on God's Creation.

Rights & Responsibilities

Our 8th grade students focus on Rights & Responsibilities with a 3 day trip to our Minnesota Capitol, Cathedral of St. Paul, and Grand View Lodge. Students choose an important civic issue to research, write and debate a bill, participate in mock trial, and engage in a faith retreat.



Kelly Roche
St. Joseph School Principal
Life-long member of Church of St. Joseph parish, St. Joseph School alumni, & former SJS 2nd grade teacher

A common saying at St. Joe's is, "God is Good All the Time!" He truly is, and we are thankful for God's blessings as we continue to thrive and educate students and families in our Catholic faith at St. Joseph School.



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What Does It Mean To Be A Knight?

Below are two stories from our Grand Knights from Rosemount and Lakeville. Men, as you read, please consider joining a council where you live, you will not regret it.

DRAMATIC IMPACT

One of the phrases used often by the Knights of Columbus is, a cord with many strings is very strong. Not only are the individual parish KC councils strong because of their 100 plus members, even more are the knights stronger and more effective when many councils work together.

So it is with the beautiful fundraising initiative that our six parish councils and our fourth Degree Assembly have taken on to purchase a new state of the art Ultrasound for Pregnancy Choices in Apple Valley. Along with the KC Supreme Councils Ultrasound Matching Grant Program our local knights need to raise over \$ 14,000. A donation request letter will be sent to all 700

plus KC members over the next two months. All knights will be given the rare opportunity to join in on this most wonderful life saving cause.

I joined the knights in 1998 not simply to ...make a difference, but to make...Dramatic Impact in people's lives. Being part of the Knights of Columbus and their 2 million members allows me to help build a stronger cord! Men, Please prayerfully consider becoming a knight soon ! Why wait ?

Paul Laursen

LifeForward Director, Lakeville KC Council.

IN SERVICE TO ONE



IN SERVICE TO ALL

Some time around 1999 or 2000 I was volunteering at Loaves & Fishes at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Minneapolis with my two daughters. We did this once a month together as I felt it gave them the important lessons of compassion and just how blessed our lives were.

There was another regular who attended every month, Loren Sworski. He asked me if I ever thought of being a Knight of Columbus? My response was, "I don't have time for that." He was persistent and after about six months I said yes. Now looking back it was one of those life changing decisions. It has really made me a better husband, father, friend, and parishioner. But most of all, it made me a better Catholic. I have

become more involved in my parish community and have gotten to know so many people over the past 20 some years. I have also been a recruiter for our local council hoping that other people will experience what I have when I became a Knight.

I feel God has placed the desire in my heart to help people become better Catholics and along the way people have helped me to become a better Catholic

John Brockman

GK - Rosemount Council



Local Events

12/15 - Dinner with Awards at 6pm, Mary, Mother Fireside Room, Burnsville

1/13 & 1/14 - Cinnamon Roll Sales after Masses at Mary, Mother of the Church

1/28 - Omelet Breakfast at All Saints, Lakeville

1/28 - Breakfast at Saint Joseph, Rosemount

2/2 - Chili cook off and tailgate party, St. Michael, Farmington

2/4 - Pancake Breakfast at Mary, Mother of the Church, Burnsville

2/4 - Pancake Breakfast at Saint Michaels, Farmington

2/16 - Fish Fry at Saint Michaels in Farmington

2/23 - Fish Fry at Saint Joseph in Rosemount

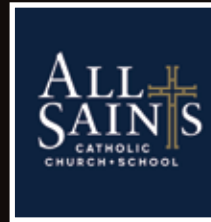
2/24 - Spaghetti and Bingo at Saint Michaels in Farmington

3/8 - Fish Fry at Saint Michaels in Farmington

3/10 - Pancake Breakfast at Saint Michaels, Farmington

3/15 - Fish Fry at Saint Joseph Rosemount

Knights of Columbus



Lakeville Council 8367:
Membership interest?
Contact contact Allen at
952-693-5940



Farmington Council 2400:
Membership interest?
Contact Steve Frey at
kofc2400@gmail.com



Burnsville Council 6374:
Contact Shane Whate at
shane.white4441@gmail.com



Rosemount Council 5569:
More information:
www.kc5569.mnknights.org

To Adore and

The Great Commandment of Love

As Divine Providence would have it, the Mass concluding this stage of the Synod process at the Vatican included the Gospel where Jesus proclaims the Great Commandment, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mt 22:37-39). Like in the Season of Advent, within this Great Commandment, Pope Francis finds, “the principle and foundation from which everything begins ever anew: by loving.”

Two verbs: to adore and to serve

Asking his listeners how we may “channel this momentum of love,” of the Great Commandment, and I would add Advent . . . the Pope proposes two verbs, “to adore and to serve.” Regarding the first he teaches, “To adore God means to acknowledge in faith that he alone is Lord, and that our individual lives, the Church’s pilgrim way, and the ultimate outcome of history, all depend on the tenderness of his love. He gives meaning to our



lives.” How true this is of Advent, when in this Season we welcome Emmanuel who is God with us.

Speaking directly to pastors about our need to adore God, the Pope invites us to worship, as we do during the Four Sundays of Advent, “May worship be central for us, let us devote every day to intimacy with Jesus the Good Shepherd, adoring him in the tabernacle.”

Widening the circle to include more than pastors, the Pope desires that, “. . . in every diocese, in every parish, in every community, let us adore the Lord! Only in this way will we turn to Jesus and not to ourselves.” In Advent, the Faithful see Mary as that Mother who is the Holy Tabernacle, holding and loving Jesus in her womb.

The second verb that Pope Francis addresses is, “to serve.” He teaches again, “In the great commandment, Christ binds God and neighbor together so that they will never be disconnected.” Referencing the plague of terrorism and war in this present time, Pope Francis addresses us as “brothers and sisters.” And being first on the list, he gives preeminence to, “the victims and atrocities of war; the sufferings of immigrants . . .” At the conclusion of this short list of those most needing to be served, the Pope gives the encouragement, “. . . put God in first place and together with him, those whom he especially loves: the poor and weak.”

Jesus, The Immigrant

A beautiful reflection for Advent is to conceive Jesus within the womb of Mary . . . as an Immigrant. As the Pope “binds God and neighbor together so that they will never be disconnected,” So we may view Jesus as the closest “neighbor” to Mary, residing as He does within her womb. Today we have the technology of Ultrasound, that gives us a three-dimensional moving picture of the Christ Child within her womb. Not available in Jesus’ time, but in our own, we are able to see as the Pope says . . . God not “disconnected” but “bound” to her. This Advent consider how



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To Serve

by Fr. James M. Perkl
Pastor of Mary, Mother of the Church

beautiful the Maternal Mystery, that from the Motherland of Mary, Jesus was cared for until that moment of His immigration across the border of her body . . . Holy Birth into the New World that Emmanuel was born to Save.

Like “the victims and atrocities of war” that cause immigrants to move out of the line of fire by the millions, so too the number of souls lost to abortion are numbered in the millions. That is why Pope Francis’ focus on immigration may be a new way for us to see anew, and so welcome the “little immigrant” hidden in the Mother’s womb. Thanks be to God, for us in the Life Forward movement, Life does move forward and is welcomed in Life Care Centers across the nation.

It is impossible to conceive nations killing people who are living in their own Motherland. Likewise, no civilized nation would allow those very same lives to be killed crossing or entering a New Land and life. Yet, around the world, the plague of abortion kills millions of little persons seeking to be welcomed into a loving supportive community, even more by their Mom’s and Dad’s.

Thanks be to God then for the Season of Advent, and for Mary, who is that beautiful example of adoration. She is adoring, as the Pope is encouraging, Jesus within His Own Tabernacle. She knows herself to be pregnant with Jesus, and she wants to serve Him!

This Advent, the Pope may be inviting us to see the person inside of Mary in a new way, as an Immigrant. Will we welcome Him? Let’s say with Mary, “Yes.” Jesus, we want to serve you. This Christmas, we want to welcome you in the manger, but even more, we your brothers and sisters want to welcome you into the arms of our loving community. With us, life is allowed to move forward from its little beginnings.

O Come, let us adore Him! O Come, let us serve Him!

Fr. Jim Perkl
*Pastor of Mary, Mother of the Church
Burnsville*



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5 Things a Catholic Can Do to Help a Protestant Feel Comfortable at Mass

by Lorelei Savaryn

Having a Protestant friend visit Mass may seem like a big deal. As a Protestant, there was a lot that confused me during Mass, and I often didn't feel super comfortable. The following things would have been helpful to me as a visitor, and I hope they are able to help others as well. Because Mass can be a rich faith-building experience for Catholics and other visiting Christians alike.

1- Explain what the Holy Water/Baptism font is and why we stick our fingers in there and cross ourselves.

Just a simple explanation that we utilize the font to remember our own baptism, and cross ourselves, as a recognition of our belief in the Holy Trinity.

2- Show them how to use the Missalette (and find one for them).

What we do during Mass becomes second nature for a practicing Catholic. But, as a former Protestant, speaking from experience, I was lost for a long time when attending Mass. Finding a Missalette for your friend, and showing them how to use it is one of the greatest kindnesses you can do for someone visiting Mass. They can then follow along with the readings, find the songs, follow along with the prayers, and the whole order of service. They will have something to guide them so they know what is coming next, and what words they should be saying during the Creed, or at other times, like the Penetential Rite.

3- Prep them when we will be standing/kneeling ahead of time.

Just as a general rule of thumb, explain that we will be kneeling in front of the Eucharist (which you might need to explain is Holy Communion). Explain we will be standing when we pray and out of respect when we hear the Gospel. And explain we sit when we are listening. A brief overview will help a Protestant friend at least be aware of the general purpose and timing of our bodily postures during Mass.

4- Encourage them to participate!

- Here are a few ways Protestants can comfortably participate in a Catholic Mass: The Penetential Rite. Most Protestant churches I have been to have some sort of brief moment to acknowledge our sins. The Catholic version is more extensive, but is basically the same concept.
- Listening to the readings
- Listening to the homily
- The Lord's Prayer (we all have that one!)
- The Creed (Protestants can totally recite the Nicene or Apostles Creed. It's all stuff we agree on. Even the part at the end that says "One holy, catholic and apostolic church." The word 'catholic' there is lowercase, and is referring to all of Christianity, the Universal Church, not only Catholicism.)
- The petitions
- Most of the songs. There are times when we sing a song to Mary, or sing about the Eucharist in a very Transubstantiation-oriented way, and they may prefer to stay quiet during those times. But so many of our hymns are theologically in agreement with all of Christianity. They may find they even recognize one or two from their own faith tradition!

5- Explain the Eucharist.

Briefly share why we kneel in front of The Blessed Sacrament. Share that it is because we believe it is truly Jesus in the form of bread and wine, and kneeling is an appropriate response to being in His presence. Give your Protestant friend grace, though, if they choose not to kneel. Obviously it is the True Presence whether they acknowledge it to be or not. It may even be an entirely new concept to them, as Protestant churches view Communion as symbolic.

I remember sitting in Mass as a Protestant, scooting forward in the pew so I could give the person behind me room to kneel, but myself not kneeling

Continued on page 22



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Quiz: How well do you know Catholic feast days?

Think you have what it takes to name these special Catholic celebrations? Take this quiz now to test your knowledge of the many important days in the church.

1. The Sunday before Easter Sunday is known as _____ Sunday?
 - a. Precious
 - b. Patient
 - c. Palm
 - d. Peter's
2. Also known as The Lord's Passion, this is the day in which Catholics reflect on the suffering and death of Jesus Christ...
 - a. Easter Sunday
 - b. Good Friday
 - c. Christmas Eve
 - d. Pentecost
3. Forty days after Easter Sunday is known as _____ Thursday.
 - a. Fortieth
 - b. Holy
 - c. Ascension
 - d. Assumption
4. _____ is celebrated on the 50th day after Easter when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles.
 - a. Fiftieth Sunday
 - b. May Day
 - c. Assumption Sunday
 - d. Pentecost
5. On January 6th, Catholics celebrate Three Kings Day which is also known as the Feast of the _____.
 - a. Christ
 - b. Epiphany
 - c. King
 - d. Magi
6. On which day do Catholics celebrate and remember The Last Supper?
 - a. Good Friday
 - b. Holy Thursday
 - c. The Assumption
 - d. Christmas Eve
7. Following Halloween, this Catholic feast day is on November 1st each year...
 - a. All Saints Day
 - b. All Hallows' Eve
 - c. Christ the King
 - d. Immaculate Conception
8. When is the Feast of All Souls' Day celebrated?
 - a. October 31st
 - b. November 2nd
 - c. December 31st
 - d. December 25th
9. To whom are the 31 days of the month of May dedicated?
 - a. Jesus
 - b. Joseph
 - c. Elizabeth
 - d. Mary
10. This Saint is known as the Little Flower and her feast day is celebrated on October 1st with lots of roses...
 - a. St. Therese of Lisieux
 - b. St. Margaret
 - c. St. Anne
 - d. St. Agnes
11. What is the name of the feast which celebrates the Blessed Virgin Mary conceived without sin?
 - a. Holy Saturday
 - b. Christmas
 - c. Immaculate Conception
 - d. Feast of Mary
12. New Year's Day, or January 1st, is known as the Feast of _____.
 - a. Mary
 - b. God
 - c. Jesus
 - d. Joseph
13. What is the season of 40 days leading up to Easter known as?
 - a. Advent
 - b. Lent
 - c. Obligation
 - d. Summer
14. What is the name of the day which begins the 40 days of Lent?
 - a. Holy Sunday
 - b. Palm Sunday
 - c. Ash Wednesday
 - d. Holy Wednesday
15. What is the name of the feast which celebrates both the body and soul of Mary taken up into Heaven?
 - a. Feast of Candelmas
 - b. The Assumption of Mary
 - c. Christmas Eve
 - d. Passion Sunday
16. Which feast day celebrates the close of the Christmas season?
 - a. New Year's Day
 - b. Christmas Day
 - c. The Baptism of Christ
 - d. New Year's Eve
17. On this special feast day, white beeswax candles are blessed during or after mass...
 - a. Feast of Candelmas
 - b. Ash Wednesday
 - c. Palm Sunday
 - d. Christ the King Day
18. On which day is the Great Easter Vigil held?
 - a. Palm Sunday
 - b. Holy Thursday
 - c. Holy Saturday
 - d. Holy Wednesday
19. Hispanic Catholics celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of _____ about two weeks before Christmas every year.
 - a. Honduras
 - b. Guatemala
 - c. Guadalupe
 - d. Passion
20. What is the name of the season which precedes Christmas?
 - a. Lent
 - b. Assumption
 - c. Advent
 - d. Spring
21. On which day is the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul commemorated?
 - a. December 25th
 - b. August 15th
 - c. June 29th
 - d. December 8th
22. July 26th celebrates the Feast of St. _____, the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and grandmother of Jesus.
 - a. St. Paula
 - b. St. Anne
 - c. St. Agnes
 - d. St. Agatha
23. September 8th celebrates the Nativity of _____, as she was born without sin.
 - a. Mary Magdalene
 - b. Elizabeth
 - c. Mary
 - d. Anne
24. July 26th is the feast day of St. _____, the father of the Blessed Mother Mary.
 - a. James
 - b. Luke
 - c. Matthew
 - d. Joachim
25. Celebrated on June 24th, the Feast of St. _____ celebrates he who baptized Jesus Christ.
 - a. Elijah
 - b. Judas
 - c. John the Baptist
 - d. Peter



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Quiz Answers: 1. c, 2. b, 3. c, 4. d, 5. d, 6. b, 7. a, 8. b, 9. d, 10. a, 11. c, 12. a, 13. b, 14. c, 15. b, 16. c, 17. a, 18. c, 19. c, 20. c, 21. c, 22. b, 23. c, 24. d, 25. c

After Death Movie

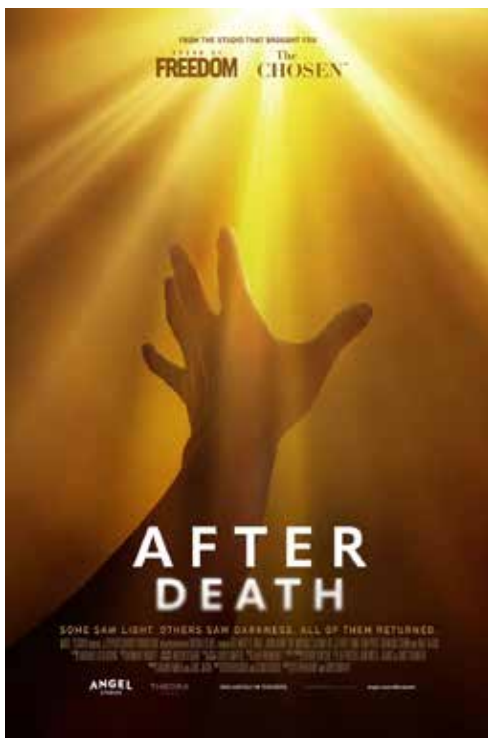
by Brian Hoyland
Parishioner at St. Joseph in Rosemount

I just saw the movie After death and, I appreciated the very credible stories along with the confirmation by doctors and scientists. God is Amazing Love and Light

and people need to know that After Death is promoted as a faith-based documentary that explores the possibility of life after death. The films exploration of scientific discovery reveals the reality that people are dying physically, but upon their return to life these people reveal the soul continues to live. It was incredible to hear that tens of thousands of people have reported having an NDE during their death experience and the shared spiritual pattern of heaven which NDE experiencers describe and the scientific proof that studies and medical documentation bring forth to support them.

Keeping in mind that people do not hallucinate in unison or have Mass Hallucinations, the fact that people describe the same pattern occurring in these various and separate NDEs is statistically significant. So, when the movie covers the fact that there is a hell and 23% of those who have experienced an NDE reported having experienced hell it makes the viewer think of how they have lived their life. And the evidence provided by people born blind who have NDEs similar to those with sight is certainly convincing and possibly impossible to refute. This movie does present rational challenges to those who believe nothing exists after life.

However powerful and compelling the evidence has become, as it has accumulated over the last several decades the movie seemed to take a non-preaching, science, and facts first approach to NDEs, with testimonials from the experiencers intermittently sprinkled in. There were some references to Jesus by individual experiencers, but there seemed to be a



direct focus on science and a purposeful limit on proselytizing. This was disappointing because the movie brings the viewer to the very point of death with these experiences, but then leaves the viewer to determine who will greet them after death and perhaps thinking there are no requirements for admission, such as belief in Jesus and repentance for one's sins.

While our Faith in Jesus Christ is the main course of our spiritual meal and the only thing necessary, it's still nice to have dessert even after I've had my dinner. And that is how I felt about this movie. It was fun to think of how God has a plan even when we think it is all darkness around us. We should always practice the presence of God, remembering that he is here with us now, everywhere we go, and sees everything and knows everything, even when our end will come. This movie causes the viewer to think of their end and if they then, draw closer to God, that would be a wonderful result of this movie.

This movie will comfort someone who has drifted from the Lord, those in grief, sickness, or other forms of suffering, but it's not going to do much more than cause someone of faith to feel good when contemplating the goodness of the Lord, but perhaps nothing more is desired for those souls.

Overall, this was a very fascinating and interesting film, especially from a science-based perspective. This would be exceptional for someone who questions NDEs, the afterlife, or Heaven. Still, the lives of the saints are more inspiring than what was shown of these stories. As Catholics this film should have much of an impact on our faith, but it certainly supports and validates what we believe by faith. So, go and enjoy this movie, I'm sure you'll feel compelled to thank the Lord for his LOVE.

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Can Satan be Redeemed? Is That What We Should Want?

by Emily Stimpson-Chapman

The short answer is no, Satan cannot be redeemed. Nor can any of the angels who fell with him. Unlike men and women, who can fall and repent throughout the entire course of our earthly lives, the fallen angels cannot repent of their evil choice. Their choice, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, is “irrevocable,” and “definitive” (393, 414). So too is the choice of the angels who did not join with Satan—those who surround God’s throne in Heaven and help us on earth. They can never and will never reject God.

None of this is because God lacks mercy or justice. He does not. Nor is it because He has deprived the angels of their free will. He has not. Rather, it’s because angels are not men.

As human beings, everything we know, we know through our senses—through what we see, hear, read, touch, and smell. But that knowledge is never perfect. Nor is our judgement. It’s always limited by our moods, emotions, pasts, biases, hormones, bodies, time, space, and fallen human nature. This is why we change our minds. As time passes, we acquire new and different knowledge, which causes us to think and feel differently about things. But even those different thoughts and feelings can be wrong. For this reason, God gives us every possible chance to choose Him. His plan for our salvation works with our fallible judgement and fallen human nature.

Angels, however, are not like us. They are pure spirits, so their knowledge is not limited like ours is—not by time, space, the material world, or, at the time of their choosing, a corrupted nature. From the first moment of their creation, angels had full knowledge and full freedom. They knew in an instant what we don’t even know after a lifetime.

So, when they fell, they fell with full knowledge and full freedom—

knowing exactly who God was, what His plan was, and what their role in that plan was supposed to be. They could never know more or think differently than they could at the moment they made their choice. No new knowledge could ever come along that would cause them to change their minds. Satan and his companions knew exactly what they were doing when they rejected God. And they did it anyhow. Since that moment their choice has been as irrevocable as ours will be after we die. But they’re okay with that. After who knows how many millennia of damnation, they still think they made the right choice. And they always will think that. They wouldn’t have it any other way, even if given the chance. That’s not in their nature.

As for the last part of your question—should we want Satan to repent—I think we can feel sorrow for Satan. We can wish he hadn’t been such a prideful fool. So much grief and loss and horror has come into the world through his horribly stupid choice. But He doesn’t see it that way. He doesn’t regret anything. More important, God doesn’t regret anything. He saw what Satan would choose before He created Satan. And He created him anyway. He created him knowing all the evil that would come of Lucifer’s choice, but also knowing all beauty and wonder that would come of His own life-saving death and our adoption as His children. He counted the cost and considered it worth it.

I know, on this side, in this life, it rarely seems that way. Sometimes the misery seems too much to ever be worth it. But the God who died for us says, “No. Trust me. This will be worth it.” So, that’s what we need to ask for the grace to do: to trust. Trust and hope. It’s either that or do what Satan did and say, “My way is better.” I don’t have perfect knowledge, but I have enough knowledge to know that’s not true. And remembering that helps.



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Matuszewski Family

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such as the Jesse tree. When the kids were younger, they “decorated ornaments that would be attached to the tree on the wall; each would have a different thing from a story in the Bible like a globe for creation or an apple for Adam and Eve.” The Jesse tree is “a way to tell the Old

With Advent soon upon us, the Matuszewskis will begin to get ready for some of their seasonal traditions,

Testament stories” and one small part of passing down the faith. In Mike and Donna’s intentional passing on of the faith, they note that “it’s pretty amazing to see your kids go from only liking church for the friends and donuts to choosing the faith for their own. And it’s incredibly humbling to hear them stand up for their faith when it would be easy to be silent.” This season, the Matuszewskis continue to be thankful for the gifts of faith, family, and food. The Matuszewskis are long time parishioners of Saint Joseph in Rosemount

5 Things...

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because I just didn’t get it yet. I wasn’t trying to be irreverent to Jesus. I just honestly didn’t know He was there.

Also, explain to them about who is able to receive Communion. That it is appropriate for those who believe in the True Presence, and are in a state of grace. Invite them to come up during Communion time, and to cross their arms over the body and receive a blessing. Encourage them that no one will think they are weird for staying back, or crossing their arms. In fact, they are showing respect for our faith by not receiving irreverently, or feigning

agreement in an area where they disagree.

Conclusion

If we have Protestant friends/relatives visiting us in Mass, these 5 things will go a long way from them feeling like outsiders, to being able to follow along and participate as they are comfortable. I know they would have been helpful to me as a Protestant. They were things I learned over time, but I spent many an awkward Mass as I tried to put the pieces together. Protestant services, especially contemporary ones, can be quite different than Catholic Masses, and helping bridge that unfamiliarity is a great step in helping our Protestant brothers and sisters to better understand all that is mysterious to them about the Catholic faith.

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Knights of Columbus Walk for Life

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For 8th-12th Grade Students

Students, be honest and use your heart and mind when writing this essay. Here is the scenario:

Jack and Dianne are your friends and recently you sat with them at the public high school where Planned Parenthood, the nations largest provider in sex education and Abortion came in and did a presentation explaining reproductive health care including how easy it is to have an abortion in Minnesota.

Later that week, you find out that Dianne is pregnant and Jack is the Father.

Answer the questions below:

- You are alone with Dianne and you have an opportunity to talk to her about her situation. What would you say to her?
- You are alone with Jack and you have an opportunity to talk to him about his situation, What would you say to him?
- Put yourself into the role of Jack or Dianne's parents – they have found out this news.
- As Jack's parents what you would you say to Jack?
- As Dianne's parents what would you say to Dianne?



Prizes

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Directions: 500 - 800 words (in a Word or Google document) emailed to pete@parishneighbors.org

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**Winners will be
published in the
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Deadline: Monday, January 19, 2024.

We will notify contestants of the results the end of January. Essays will be judged anonymously without names on the papers by the Respect Life Group of Saint Joseph Church in Rosemount.

Questions or More Info?

Pete@parishneighbors.org