

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time-B



Why We Do What We Do

"But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from law, although the law and the prophets bear witness to it, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe." (Rom 3:21-22) Henceforth, Christ's faithful 'have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires'; they are led by the Spirit and follow the desires of the Spirit." (Gal 5:24; cf. Rom 8:14,27)

"Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." (Rom 12:2)

When the Church speaks about issues, it is often because the world is going in the wrong direction. And we are concerned that Catholics may choose to conform and go along rather than take a stand. By our baptism we are made different, just as Christ as different. We must live differently, act differently, and be different.

We live in a time when the world has stopped listening to God. That always has consequences. They are not always immediate, but they will come. History tells us. God tells us. "But my people did not listen to my words; Israel would not submit to me. So I thrust them away to the hardness of their heart; Let them walk in their own machinations." (Ps 81:12-13)

In 1963, Madalyn Murray O'Hair won a U.S. Supreme Court decision (*Murray vs. Culet*) that declared school-sponsored Bible reading in [public schools](#) in the United States to be [unconstitutional](#)." (Wikipedia) This gained more attention than a decision the year before (*Engel vs. Vitale*) "that determined that it is unconstitutional for state officials to compose an official [school prayer](#) and encourage its recitation in [public schools](#)." (Wikipedia)

Associate Justice Potter Stewart dissented writing "a refusal to permit religious exercises thus is seen, not as the realization of state neutrality, but rather as **the establishment of a religion of secularism**." Today God cannot even be mentioned in some public schools.

Freedom of religion has become freedom from religion. Freedom from God. On January 22, 1973, the decision of Roe vs. Wade legalized abortion. God says, "You shall not kill!" Five years before, Pope Paul VI wrote that "all direct abortion, even for therapeutic reasons, are to be absolutely excluded." (*Humanae Vitae*, 14) He also wrote: "Too numerous are those voices—amplified by the modern means of propaganda—which are contrary to the voice of the Church. To tell the truth, the Church is not surprised to be made, like her divine Founder, a 'sign of contradiction.'" (HV, 18) In the last 39 years, there have been more than **55 million abortions** in the U.S.

Now the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services seeks to bypass our consciences and our pro-life values. "A new HHS 'preventive services' mandate requiring private health plans to cover female surgical sterilization and all drugs and devices approved by the FDA as contraceptives, including drugs which can attack a developing unborn child before and after implantation in the mother's womb." (USCCB) "Never before in our US History has the Federal Government forced citizens to directly purchase what violates our beliefs," said Cardinal Daniel Dinardo of Galveston-Houston.

In 1968, Pope Paul VI wrote: "Who will prevent public authorities from favoring those contraceptive methods which they consider more effective? Should they regard this as necessary, they may even impose their use on everyone. It could well happen, therefore, that when people, either individually or in family or social life, experience the inherent difficulties of the divine law and are

determined to avoid them, they may give into the hands of public authorities the power to intervene in the most personal and intimate responsibility of husband and wife." (HV, 17)

Prayer

"The promotion and protection of marriage begins with prayer and is nourished by prayer. We invite you to pray for marriage with us, using either this prayer or your own. "God our Father, we give you thanks for the gift of marriage: the bond of life and love, and the font of the family. "The love of husband and wife enriches your Church with children, fills the world with a multitude of spiritual fruitfulness and service, and is the sign of the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, for his Church. "The grace of Jesus flowed forth at Cana at the request of the Blessed Mother. May your Son, through the intercession of Mary, pour out upon us a new measure of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as we join with all people of good will to promote and protect the unique beauty of marriage. "May your Holy Spirit enlighten our society to treasure the heroic love of husband and wife, and guide our leaders to sustain and protect the singular place of mothers and fathers in the lives of their children. "Father, we ask that our prayers be joined to those of the Virgin Mary, that your Word may transform our service so as to safeguard the incomparable splendor of marriage. We ask all these things through Christ our Lord, Amen. "Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us." (*Marriage, Unique for a Reason*)



"2012" Weekly Budget.....\$ 5,650.00
Offertory collected January 29th.....\$ 5,782.31
Difference.....+\$ 132.31

Second Collection

Second collection January 29th "No Scheduled Collection"

Campaign '12 Pledges:

Total donations made (from pledges) as of 1/22.....\$ 117,000.00
January 29th collection.\$ 60.00
New Campaign total donations from pledges.....\$ 117,060.00

Next week's Second collection

Next week's second collection will be for our Str. Vincent de Paul Society. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Family

"If it is displeasing to you to serve the LORD, choose today whom you will serve, the gods your ancestors served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." (Josh 24:15)

St. Agatha



A beautiful Christian girl named Agatha lived in Sicily in the third century. The governor heard of Agatha's beauty and brought her to his palace. He wanted to make her commit sins, but she was brave and would not give in. "My Lord Jesus Christ," she prayed, "you see my heart and you know my desire. I am all yours. Save me from this evil man. Make me worthy of winning out over the devil." The governor then sent Agatha to the house of a wicked woman and hoped she would become bad too. But Agatha had great trust in God and prayed all the time. She kept herself pure. She would not listen to the evil ideas of the woman and her daughters. After a month, she was brought back to the governor. He tried again to win her. "You are a noblewoman," he said kindly. "Why have you lowered yourself to be a humble Christian?" "Even though I am a noble," answered Agatha, "I am a slave of Jesus Christ." "Then what does it really mean to be noble?" the governor asked. Agatha answered, "It means to serve God." When he realized that she would not sin, the governor became angry. He had Agatha whipped and tortured. As she was being carried back to prison she whispered, "Lord, my Creator, you have protected me from the cradle. You have taken me from the love of the world and given me patience to suffer. Now receive my soul." Agatha soon died a martyr at Catania, Sicily, in the year 250.

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February 5, 2012

First Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7

I am filled with restlessness until the dawn.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Jesus cured many who were sick with various diseases.

Living the Paschal Mystery

In all these healings (and we will be hearing more in the Sundays to come), we receive glimpses of the greater mystery being revealed by Jesus: the mystery of salvation, the movement from death to life.

The evil that affects all of our lives in one way or another is a reminder that the kingdom of God is "not yet" fully established. The healings and Good News of Jesus are reminders that the kingdom is "already" gradually being revealed in the words and deeds of Jesus whose mission is to inaugurate God's kingdom.

By means of personal encounters with individuals in the healings, Jesus establishes a relationship with others so that he might preach the Good News that God's kingdom is at hand. The healings performed by Jesus inaugurate the kingdom of God, inaugurate salvation. We know that Jesus desired to preach in "the nearby villages." We know what Jesus did: encountered people and offered them wholeness. As his disciples, this is our work as well. It is our way of life. We must be as up close and personal as Jesus was.

~ Living Liturgy

Saturday, February 4 th , 5:30 pm.....	June Macejkovic (Health)
Sunday, February 5 th , 8:30 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 5 th , 10:00 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 5 th , 11:30 am.....	Ruth McGarvey (RIP)
Sunday, February 5 th , 1:00 pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 5 th , 7:00 pm.....	Our Parish Family
Monday, February 6 th , 12:15pm.....	Daily Mass
Tuesday, February 7 th , 12:15pm.....	Rita Kausky (RIP)
Wednesday, February 8 th , 12:15pm.....	Daily Mass
Wednesday, February 8 th , 6:30pm.....	Rosary in English
Wednesday, February 8 th , 7:00pm.....	Rosary in Spanish
Thursday, February 9 th , 12:15pm.....	Communion Service
Thursday, February 9 th , 6:00pm.....	Prayer Group/Adoration
Saturday, February 11 th , 5:30 pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 12 th , 8:30 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 12 th , 10:00 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 12 th , 11:30 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 12 th , 1:00 pm.....	Jailee Nicole Diaz (40 Day Presentation)
Sunday, February 12 th , 7:00 pm.....	Our Parish Family

Food for Thought

The subjects of suffering and healing, faith, preaching the Good News, and prayer, today link the Scripture passages. Job experiences tremendous suffering but keeps his faith in God. In St. Mark's Gospel, through the disciples' faith in Jesus, Simon-Peter's mother-in-law is healed. Jesus teaches us, as His disciples, the importance of prayer and to know through faith that He is always present to strengthen and heal us from our afflictions.

Reflection on 10 Years



Yesterday (Feb. 4) was the two-year anniversary of Jenna Proctor's fall. The miracle and the recovery continue. I was in Kennesaw when I received the phone call that Erin and Sean

Proctor's eight-month old daughter (Mary Douglas' granddaughter) had been injured in a fall and was on the way to Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in Atlanta.

By the time I arrived at the hospital, Jenna was in a private room and they had determined she had bruising on and around the discs on the back of her neck (C-4, C-5). The next three days would be critical. I found the family and we talked and I remember saying a prayer. I then had the opportunity to go back and see Jenna. She was

very unhappy (a good sign), all strapped in, immobilized, and connected to machines. I talked to her and put my finger in her hand. She squeezed and held on. I stayed there for quite a while, said a lot of prayers, and got another finger squeeze before I left. I took those as good signs.

On the way home, there was a car accident caused by a DUI on I-75, north of Cartersville. The highway was closed for two hours. I got stuck waiting. I called Mary Douglas and Mary Molla, who left an hour behind me to let them know. They took Highway 41 and arrived home before me. Trying to take care of my sheep in whatever way I could.

Jenna would be in the hospital for more than three months before coming home in late-May. The whole community would pray for her, many buying special bracelets. Her fall would delay her physical development, but not her verbal. She's a good little talker.

On December 15, 2011, Jenna gave us a special Christmas present by taking her first steps. Two years ago we weren't sure if we'd ever reach this point. Now we want more. Please keep praying because God has big plans for this little girl. She'll tell you!

Our Prayers are needed for:



Katie Dain-cancer, Laverne Dembecki-health, Brian Dingler-health, Fr. Denis Kolumber-health, Jean Satz-chrons disease, T.J. Rushing-tumor, JoAnn Silvers-health, Alice Nott-surgery, John Muysken-health, Dolores Maldonado-health, Karla Tatiana Hernandez Maldonado-recovery, Terese Zanol-cancer, Ally Opeka-helath, Yseult Forcier-coma, Casey Collins-recovery, Cooper Brazell-health, Gino Alteri-cancer, Paul Jeffery Adams-health, Sister Mary Phillips-health, June Macejkovic-health.

Pope Benedict XVI's February Prayer Intentions

That all peoples may have access to water and other resources needed for daily life, we pray to the Lord...



That the Lord may sustain the efforts of health workers assisting the sick and elderly in the world's poorest regions, we pray to the Lord...

Archdiocesan News

2012 MARRIAGE DAY BALL: Sat., Feb. 11; 6 p.m.-midnight; Crowne Plaza Ravinia Hotel. The 27th annual Marriage Day Ball in Atlanta is sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter and is an evening for married couples, from newlyweds to those married the longest, to celebrate marriage in a joyous atmosphere at a dinner dance. Cocktail hour with cash bar, dinner, dancing and silent auction offered at semi-formal event. Cost is \$115 per couple. Contact: <http://www.meatlanta.com/marriage-day-ball/> or Liz and Angel Bonet at (770) 623-4333 or worldmarriageball@gmail.com.

VALENTINE'S DINNER & DANCE: Sat., Feb. 11; 5:30- 10:30 p.m.; Holy Trinity Church, 101 Walt Banks Road, Peachtree City. "A Night to Celebrate Marriage—Romance, Fine Food, Music & Fun" will begin with a 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass and renewal of wedding vows. From 6:30-10:30 p.m. will be the dinner, dance and festivities. Dinner is \$5 per person or \$10 per couple, catered by Italian Oven with lasagna, salad and bread. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share and 5x7 wedding picture (with name and wedding date on back) to the parish Faith Formation Office. Contact: Terri Thomas at (678) 466-1739 or tthomas@holytrinityptc.org for menu and other information and to register.

MASS FOR THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Sat., Feb. 11; 11 a.m.; Holy Spirit Church, 4465 Northside Drive, Atlanta. As a special project this year, the Order of Malta, Federal Association, will sponsor a Mass for the Anointing of the Sick. Msgr. Edward Dillon will serve as the principal celebrant and will be joined by several local clergy. Members of the order will be available at the Mass to assist anyone in need, and handicap access will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information call (404) 252-4513.