



Catholics United for the Faith

Affirming Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee

St. Gregory VII Chapter
March, 2020

Fr. James Kubicki, S.J., will provide an "Afternoon of Recollection" Sunday, March 15

Again, we are grateful to Fr. Kubicki for making the trip from the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota to provide his annual Lenten message for our Chapter. He has been located at this "St. Francis Mission Among the Lakota" for almost three years now, where he explains that he has three jobs: 1) the pastor of the Reservation with its five churches, 2) the chief administrator of the Mission with over 30 employees, and 3) the fundraiser. Rosebud has a small grade school, with about 50 K-8 students, that provides an alternative to other schools on the Reservation, which means that Fr. Kubicki's focus must be on cutting expenses and raising funds for the school. The Mission was established in the 1870s when the chief of the Rosebud Lakota told the U.S. president that, "My children, all of them, would like to learn how to talk English...I would like to get Catholic priests. Those who wear black dresses. These men will teach us how to read and write English." That "U.S. president" was probably either Ulysses S. Grant (1869-1877) or Rutherford B. Hayes (1877-1881).

Again, we thank Fr. Kubicki for continuing to be our Spiritual Advisor, and for his wonderful, daily messages on Relevant Radio! Please come, bring a friend, and help us give Fr. Kubicki a warm, CUF welcome!

The Importance of "Spiritual Warfare"

WHERE: Sacred Heart Church
917 North 49th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208

WHEN: Sunday, March 15

TIME: 2:00 p.m. – Program
1:45 p.m. – Rosary

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God bless Bishop Thomas Paprocki for his "Pastoral Guide on Gender Identity"

According to a *National Catholic Register* article published on 2-11-20, Bishop Thomas Paprocki, of Springfield, Illinois (who will receive our 2020 "Msgr. Popek Award") has issued a pastoral guide regarding diocesan policies on gender identity, expanding on existing policy that schools and other diocesan institutions will recognize students and adults by the biological sex with which they were born. In the guide, Bishop Paprocki noted the need to approach the issue with compassion and sensitivity, while also adhering to Church teaching and the truth. The article explained that, "According to diocesan policy, students and adult employees or volunteers in all diocesan agencies and activities will be referred to by pronouns that correspond with their biological sex, and will be expected to use bathrooms and other facilities according to biological sex. All diocesan records will also record the person's biological sex. The policy notes that it encourages counseling with a counselor who has a Christian anthropology and adheres to Catholic teaching...A person cannot change his or her gender. A person should accept and seek to live in conformity with his or her sexual identity as determined at birth...The Church considers any medical interventions that remove or destroy healthy reproductive organs as a type of mutilation, and intrinsically evil. Procedures, surgeries and therapies designed to assist a person in 'transitioning' his or her gender are morally prohibited...Some families may not be willing to agree with this approach, and we need to respect their freedom; but they must likewise respect the Church's duty to adhere to revealed truth if they are to participate actively and fully in our faith community, especially our Catholic schools..."

Election of officers for the Board of Directors will be held at the April meeting

The annual election of officers for the Board of Directors will be held at the April meeting. For questions, or to submit nominations, contact the Nominations Committee Chairman, Larry Schmidt, at 414-774-2824. Nominations can also be taken from the floor at the time of the election. The officers and the Newsletter Editor are ex officio members of the Chapter's Board of Directors, which meets monthly, on a Thursday evening, at the home of Al and Margo Szews, 12223 W. Ohio Avenue, and includes coffee and dessert (except during Lent) after the meeting.

Plan to attend the annual meeting of the Institute on Religious Life on April 17-19

The annual meeting of the **Institute on Religious Life** will be held April 17-19 at the University of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois (only an hour from Milwaukee). Speakers will include two former "Msgr. Popek Award" recipients, **Bishop Hying**, who will deliver the **Keynote Address**, "*Walking with the Lord in Meditative Prayer*" on Friday evening, and **Fr. Kubicki, S.J.**, who will give a workshop Saturday afternoon titled, "*Prayer from and with the Heart.*" The *Pro Fidelitate et Virtute Award* will be given to **Rev. Mitch Pacwa, S.J.** at the Saturday evening dinner. IRL President, **Rev. Robert F. Vasa**, will celebrate the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday. Additional information regarding all ten listed speakers, and registration information can be found at the website, www.instituteonreligiouslife.com, or call 847-573-8975.

Please take time to read the article on page 3 by Bill McGurn

Bill McGurn is a regular columnist for the *Wall Street Journal*, writing weekly under the "Main Street" title. About ten years ago, Al and I drove to Detroit for an annual meeting of the **Fellowship of Catholic Scholars**, an organization Al joined 40 year ago at the suggestion of Msgr. Popek. As it turned out, **Bill McGurn was one of the speakers** and we were able to meet him, and thank him for the wonderful articles we enjoyed! One never knows where a Catholic may turn up!

Catechetical Corner: Why do Catholics hold their hands out and open during Mass?

According to Fr. John Zuhlsdorf, it could be because someone told them that it was "more meaningful than folded hands because it was more...well...Protestant. There could also be a measure of imitation of the priest... Priests are required to use the orans posture at certain times during sacred liturgical worship. Lay people who are present are not...There are no rubrics for lay people concerning what they do with their hands during Mass...with the exception of Communion on the hand." In 1997 the Holy See's **Pontifical Council for the Laity** issued a document entitled, *Instruction On Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-Ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of Priests*, which states that: "Neither may deacons or non-ordained members of the faithful use gestures or actions which are proper to the same priest celebrant." Feb., 2, 2020



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Book of the Month: "Live Today Well"

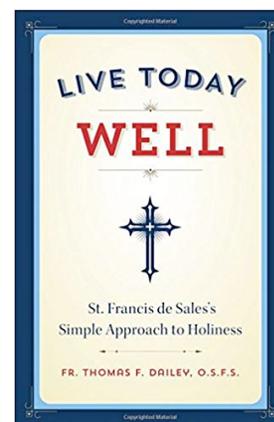
Author: By Fr. Thomas F. Dailey, O.S.F.S.

Publisher: Sophia Institute Press, 2015

"Living the Christian life requires a strategy. Most of us won't get to heaven through heroic feats of sanctity, but by learning to live the devout life through our everyday activities. That's why St. Francis de Sales has developed for you a spiritual plan of action – a plan to help you acquire holiness despite the many responsibilities and mundane realities that take up all your time and effort.

Fr. Dailey - an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales - gently guides you through St. Francis's spiritual plan, showing how you can balance time devoted to God with the time needed to complete your many tasks. You'll also learn St. Francis de Sales's technique of daily prayer and grace-filled awareness that will transform your life one day at a time – no matter how busy your lifestyle. From making a spiritual retreat during the day to fending off the many temptations you face, you'll commune more with God throughout your day when you *Live Today Well.*"

Contributors of \$12 or more per year to the Chapter receive discounts on books displayed at CUF meetings, and can receive the Newsletter by First Class Mail.



"Bill Barr 'Gets' Religion"

"MAIN STREET"

By William McGurn (Write to mcgurn@wsj.com)

October 15, 2019, *The Wall Street Journal*, p. A17

For Notre Dame fans, this football weekend was a twofer. Not only did the Irish beat a longtime rival, the University of Southern California, on Saturday, the campus was treated to a sight it had never before seen: the attorney general of the United States, at a pregame tailgater, serenading faculty, students and fans with his bagpipes.

Turns out that was William Barr's second performance on campus. The first came at the law school Friday, when he delivered a bracing speech on the role of religion in the American story of freedom. The attorney general advanced two broad propositions. First, the waning of religion's influence in American life has left more of her citizens vulnerable to what Tocqueville called the "soft despotism" of government dependency. Second, today's secularists are decidedly not of the live-and-let-live variety.

"The secular project has itself become a religion, pursued with religious fervor," he said. "It is taking on all the trappings of religion, including inquisitions and excommunication. Those who defy the creed risk a figurative burning at the stake - social, educational and professional ostracism and exclusion waged through lawsuits and savage social media campaigns."

Right out of central casting, critics stepped forward to prove his point. New York Times columnist Paul Krugman accused Mr. Barr of "religious bigotry" and described his words as a "pogrom type speech." Political ethicist and professional attention seeker Richard Painter tapped out a series of even more furious tweets, here calling the speech the latest episode of "The Hand-

maids Tale," there suggesting Mr. Barr isn't much of a Christian, here again saying Mr. Barr sounded like "vintage Goebbels." Over at MSNBC, meanwhile, retired army Col. Lawrence Wilkerson, once chief of staff to Secretary of State Colin Powell, told Joy Reid the attorney general is "Torquemada in a business suit," a reference to the Spanish Inquisition's grand inquisitor. This is what we have come to expect when someone in public life mentions reli-

"Mr. Barr focused on the irreplaceable role of religion in cultivating the morality citizens need to be capable of self-government."

gion in a positive light. Many didn't like Mr. Barr's blaming secularism for social pathologies such as drug addiction, family breakdown and increasing numbers of angry and alienated young males. Yet few engaged his more arresting contention, which is that all these problems have spiritual roots. Whereas religion addresses such challenges by stressing personal responsibility, Mr. Barr argued, the state's answer is merely to try to alleviate "bad consequences." "So the reaction to growing illegitimacy is not sexual responsibility, but abortion," he said. "The reaction to drug addiction is safe injection sites. The solution to the breakdown of the family is for the state to set itself up as an ersatz husband for the single mother and an ersatz father for the children. The call comes for more and more social programs to deal with this wreckage - and while we think we're solving problems, we are underwriting them." Vincent Phillip Munoz, a Notre Dame professor, notes there was nothing particularly Catholic about this speech. Like Washington in his

Farewell Address, he says, Mr. Barr focused on the irreplaceable role of religion in cultivating the morality citizens need to be capable of self-government. "The speech wasn't first and foremost about religious freedom," says Mr. Munoz. "It was about the human and social consequences of the new secular morality, and what happens when the state views its citizens not only in purely material terms, but as subjects who can't really govern themselves." Even those who strongly disagree with Mr. Barr ought to have found this an invitation for thoughtful and vigorous debate. But rather than engage, some imply there is something unseemly about an attorney general's even *speaking* at a Catholic university. Given the hostility that holding such a conversation engenders on campuses today, perhaps America can count itself fortunate it still has a university where this can happen. Carter Snead, the law professor who invited Mr. Barr, puts it this way: "At Notre Dame, we are not afraid to explore the hard questions about God, religion and America together in friendship, especially on those matters about which people strongly disagree." Mr. Barr's argument has been echoed throughout American history: "Our Constitution was made for only a moral and religious people" (John Adams). "Liberty cannot be established without morality, nor morality without faith" (Tocqueville). "In teaching this democratic faith to American children, we need the sustaining, buttressing aid of those great ethical religious teachings which are the heritage of our modern civilization. For 'not upon strength nor upon power, but upon the spirit of God' shall our democracy be founded" (FDR). And so on.

That so many would become unhinged by Mr. Barr's relatively modest contribution to the genre is highly revealing of the absolutism of secularist opponents determined to marginalize and destroy anyone who dares dissent from their own uncompromising orthodoxy.

THE WINTER – SPRING - FALL SCHEDULE:

- March 15** AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION, by Fr. James Kubicki, S.J. (at Sacred Heart Church)
- April 19** CREATION vs. EVOLUTION, by Hugh Owen (at St. John Church hall)
- May 17** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- September 13** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- October 18** MSGR. POPEK AWARD DINNER---Recipient: Bishop Thomas Paprocki
- November 15** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- December 13** MSGR. POPEK BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS LUNCH
- January 17** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- February 21** AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION, by Fr. James Kubicki, S.J. (at Sacred Heart Church)
- March 21** TO BE ANNOUNCED



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To Support, Defend and Advance the Efforts of the Teaching Church

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Join us on April 19
Hugh Owen
Creation vs. Evolution

Come and bring a friend to hear

Fr. James Kubicki, S.J.

Discuss the importance of

“Spiritual Warfare”

Sunday, March 15

Sacred Heart Church
917 North 49th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208