



Saturday, April 24

5:30pm – Deceased Members of the Gawlik and McCarron Families by Helen Gawlik

Sunday, April 25

8:00am – Eileen Brophy by Nancy Black

10:00am – *Pro populo*

Monday, April 26

8:00am – Darth Steadman

by Mark and Freddie Templeton

Tuesday, April 27

8:00am – The Health of Pamela Mary Woods

Wednesday, April 8

8:00am - Merget by Ingrid Hennig

Thursday, April 29

8:00am -

Friday, April 30

8:00am -

Saturday, May 1

5:30pm – Garry Robb

by Glenn and Karen Cestaro

Sunday, May 2

8:00am – Clifford W. Barney by Daughter Marie

10:00am – *Pro populo*

Let us remember in prayer:

all the sick, the dying, and those who care for them.

Dear All,

By no means, am I vain enough to think that I have something meaningful to say about the Chauvin-Floyd matter. My law enforcement friends tell me that the prosecutors were right about the facts. It is not my place to second guess or comment on the verdict and the sentencing part of the trial is two months off.

But, in line with my recent reflections on the relevance of Easter to contemporary events, I am inclined to ramble a bit on some issues related to this case, but larger than just one case.

Implicit bias is a sociological term to describe what religious people have long known ‘presumption’, a tacit (or maybe spoken) assumption that I am so right that anyone would of course want to have what I have and be what I am. The other side of implicit bias is envy, soul-deep sickness over the happiness of someone else. Presumption blinds one to the goodness in God or our neighbor; envy blinds us to the goodness in ourselves. Presumption kills fellow-feeling; envy kills responsibility.

Each of these is a sin against God; the first in that it does not consult his will, but only one’s own smug self-satisfaction; the second in that it does not consult his will, but only one’s own desires. Each prevents ‘loving my neighbor as myself’; the first by pride and the second by self-pity.

But this is the critical point: such political shibboleths as *justice* and *equality* and *reform* cannot and will not ever redress the wrongs that flow from presumption and envy. Each is but a shadow of the same reality – the implicit bias is clearly embodied in certain racial issues, but is more fundamentally a failure of true spirituality, a deeply imbedded elitism rooted in materialism.

You see, all human lives matter because *God matters* and is, in a real sense, the ‘matter’ that makes each of us matter. He has created each of us in the divine image so that we may grow in likeness to the Son who is, as all sons are, the image of his Father.

Spirituality is not a privatized relationship with some vague ‘other’ that is not of this world. Spirituality is the process by which we grow more and more like the Son of God whose whole life was lived for others. Thus, when a real spirituality prevails, all the members of the community share a single commitment to a single goal that is already realized in and for the Risen One.

I know that not everyone shares a Christian spirituality. But if everyone decided that a single theistic spirituality would be a good idea, we would be much further ahead that we are even after the recent verdict in Minneapolis.

And even if we Christians do not get to call the tune on the content of a shared vision and commitment, we can – because we recognized the need for such sharing – become the principal movers in a community/nation-wide conversation about what we expect from each other and what we will do for each other in pursuit of those expectations.

Where presumption has killed community and envy bred resentment, only a single hope – even if it is only a secular hope – change the hearts that have the power to change the world.

Really and truly and presumptuously yours,
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The Catholic Home Mission Collection

Will take place on this weekend. This collection supports dioceses in the United States and its territories that are unable to offer their people the basic pastoral ministries of word, worship, and service without outside help. The collection supports a wide range of pastoral services. It focuses principally on evangelization activities, religious education, ministerial training for priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and laypeople. Poor parishes across the country benefit from the success of this collection. Envelopes for this collection can be found at the exit from the Church.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God’s plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Peter & Sheila Oprysko at 201-651-9367 or visit them at <https://wwmevtw.org/>.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter experiences:
Mondays/Thursdays May 3-24