

One Nation Under God

By Rick Potts, CSsR

Daniel Berrigan once said that if, as it says in Hebrews 4:12, “the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword,” there ought to be a little blood on the floor after it’s been preached. This is so true when we speak of politics and religion.

Our ancestors erected a government that recognized people’s right to prosperity and worship, and then they promised to keep the two separate. Many agree with the principle, some because they don’t want the state interfering with their religious beliefs, others because they don’t want religious institutions meddling in their civil and political lives.

For a believer, the two realms can’t be separated. The Catholic religion, for example, is not a Sunday-only faith. To be authentically Catholic, one must live that faith 24/7. The articles of our faith—the Gospel Jesus preached—impact every aspect of our lives. We may not like it, but the Gospel has something to say about what we do in our bedrooms and whom we do it with. It has something to say about the money we make and how



we make it. And it has something to say about our government and the laws and policies of a nation.

Abortion, for example, isn’t just a question of political freedom and disembodied rights. It raises ethical issues that cannot be ignored because they directly impact the value our nation places on all human life. And speaking of life, as children of the Redeemer who count on his limitless mercy for our own salvation, what do we say about condemning someone to death? No mercy, no forgiveness—only death?

A couple of very good pastors taught me to look for common ground. One of those pastors, Bishop Paul Zipfel, offered a Mass on the eve of Desert Storm, and began by saying something like this: “Some of us think going to war is what we need to do. Some of us think it’s a dreadful mistake. Some of us think all war is wrong. But we all want the same thing. We disagree on the means, but we all want the same thing. We want to feel safe. We want a future for our children. “We want beauty, calm, and a place to grow. We want peace. We all want peace. And so, let us unite ourselves in our prayer for peace.” †

Paige Byrne Shortal, Liguori bulletin, July 4, 2004

Likewise, we must address our economy specifically as Church. We’re like the wealthy man who had kept all the commandments and then asked Jesus what else he should do to be saved. When he was told to give all his possessions to the poor, he went away sad. (See Mark 10:17–27.)

He wasn’t alone: We who are wealthy often find the Gospel a hard pill to swallow. A fitting expression in the African American community is, “If you can’t say ‘Amen,’ then say ‘ouch!’” And indeed, the Word of God does hurt when it strikes close to the bone and challenges our comfort zone.

Like all good citizens, the Church is free to critique the state and free to challenge it when it crosses ethical lines or fails to protect its weakest citizens. You could even say the Church would be unpatriotic if it didn’t. Something to think about as the US celebrates Independence Day. †



Faithful God, as we each struggle with our own cross, make us mindful of the burdens others must carry, and allow us to be a blessing to them. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

July 3–8

Monday, St. Thomas:
Eph 2:19–22 / Jn 20:24–29
Tuesday, Weekday:
Gn 19:15–29 / Mt 8:23–27
Wednesday, Weekday:
Gn 21:5, 8–20a / Mt 8:28–34

Thursday, Weekday:
Gn 22:1b–19 / Mt 9:1–8
Friday, Weekday:
Gn 23:1–4, 19; 24:1–8, 62–67 / Mt 9:9–13
Saturday, Weekday:
Gn 27:1–5, 15–29 / Mt 9:14–17

Bringing Home
the Word †
July 2, 2023

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Bringing Home the Word †

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
July 2, 2023

Dead and Buried— but Risen

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

“Dead and buried” is a familiar phrase. But add “risen”? That’s something else. It may be that we have heard it so often we might miss how astounding it is. To say that we will die and be buried is one thing, but that we will rise is extraordinary. However, this is really not what St. Paul tells us today. The focus here is Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection—not primarily ours. Paul says that we actually enter into Jesus’ death, burial, and rising. This is amazing! People have always wanted somehow to be divine.

Sunday Readings

2 Kings 4:8–11, 14–16a

Elisha promised, “This time next year you will be cradling a baby son.”

Romans 6:3–4, 8–11

If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

Matthew 10:37–42

[Jesus said,] “Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.”

That was the great temptation in the Garden (“...you will be like gods, who know good and evil.” [Genesis 3:5]). Well, by baptism we are somehow divinized. Baptized into his death, we are buried with him and rise with him to “newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

Note the form of the verbs here. This death, burial, and rising do not occur in some future place at some future time. It happens here and now. It all began at our baptism when we were joined to Jesus in his death, burial, and rising. It continues when we die to whatever holds us back from living as we know we should. It continues when, feeling like we are buried with the dead, we stand against injustice, dishonesty, and oppression of any kind. It continues whenever we rise to “newness of life.”

How blessed we are to have died, been buried, and live—here and now—the risen life of Jesus. †

**Baptized into his death,
we are buried with him
and rise with him
to “newness of life.”**



A Word from Pope Francis

We remember the great struggles which led to the abolition of slavery, the extension of voting rights, the growth of the labor movement, and the gradual effort to eliminate...prejudice....When a country is determined to remain true to...those founding principles based on respect for human dignity, it is strengthened and renewed.

INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA,
SEPTEMBER 26, 2015



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do you believe in the resurrection?
- Do you witness to the promise of resurrection by how you live?



Parish of St. Vincent De Paul

"We as a community rooted in the Catholic faith seek to imitate Christ's
Examples of love and service to others and spread the light of our faith to others."
Parish phone: 509-234-2262 July 2, 2023 website: stvincentconnell.org
Fr. Lutakome Deo Nsubuga
Deacon Arturo Biebrich parish phone: 509-222-9223 after 5 pm only

13th Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass July 2, 2023

Lector: Stacy Kniveton

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

María G. Marv G. Deacon Arturo

Greeters & Presentation of Gift

Jeff & Andrea Shawver

Altar Servers:

Giselle & Aubriel

14th Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass July 9, 2023

Lector: James Elkington

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Greg H. & Wally g.

Greeters & Presentation of Gift

Helen & Terry Tobin

Alter Servers:

Mackenzie & Aubriel

Pope's Prayer intentions:

For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist
at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a
very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their
brothers and sisters.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. @ St. Paul's in Eltopia

10:30 a.m. @ St. Vincent's (English)

12:00 p.m. @ St. Vincent's (Spanish)

Saturday: 7:00 p.m. @ San Juan Diego (Spanish)

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. Adoration @ St. Vincent's

8:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Vincent's

Confessions: Wednesdays 6:30 pm @ St. Vincent's

Friday 4:30 pm @ San Juan Diego

Church Secretary: Elida Fernández - secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com

Tues, Weds. Thurs 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917; 12 pm – 3:30 pm on Tues. Weds. Thurs.

Prayer Chain: Call Carolyn Nordhus @ 509-234-5972

Breezeway Calendar: If you have any parish events or meetings that you would like
on the all-parish calendar that is posted in the breezeway please contact
Marla Goade @ 539-5354 wmgoade73@gmail.com

Weekly Bulletin: Please email Elida Fernández secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com by
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS for information to be included in the upcoming Sunday
bulletin. Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917

Website: To add or send information, pictures or news to the website please
email Jaeniffer Kaiser @ jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com

LIKE our Facebook page to get updated posts and information about our parish. You can also
see photos of all the activities that have been happening. If you want to post church happenings on
Facebook, please email Onna Pollock at olpollock@yahoo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Altar Flowers

July – Guadalupanas

August – Altar Society

CONFESSIONS

This Wednesday July 5th

@ St. Vincent Parish @ 6:30 pm

Confession Schedule

@ St. Pat's –Pasco

Tuesday – Friday

5 pm – 6 pm

@ Sacred Heart- Othello

Wed. @ 5 pm

Connell Food Bank

Banco de Comida

Seniors: Tuesdays

3rd Edad- Tues. / Martes

July 11th & 25th

10:00 am – 11:30 am

General Public:

El público en general:

Wednesdays / Miércoles

July 12th & 26th

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

May 14, 2023

May 21, 2023

10:30 am - 1636.00

Bilingual- \$1460.00

12:00 pm – \$2871.71

12:00 pm – no Mass

Basin City – \$976.36

Basin City – \$1515.00

HOG RAFFLE

BY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Tickets sold on Sundays after Mass

\$10 per ticket / \$50 per 6 tickets.

Raffle is on Sunday July 9th.

Registration for all Religious Ed

Registration began Tues. June 13th

All registration will be handled in the
parish office with the secretary.

Any questions, please speak with
Enrique López – Coordinator Rel. Ed.
Elida Fernández – Parish Secretary

ST. VINCENT PARISH PICNIC

Sunday July 16 12:30 – 1:30 BBQ

1:30 – 2:30 Games

CHURCH PROVIDES:

HAMBURGERS / HOTDOGS

BUNS / CONDIMENTS

PAPER PRODUCTS / DRINKS

DESSERT / ICE CREAM CONES

PLEASE BRING

IF YOUR LAST NAME BEGINS WITH:

A-H: LARGE SALAD

I-P: PASTA SALAD

Q-Z: CHIPS & FRUIT

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN

LAWN CHAIRS, BLANKETS

**See everyone at Pioneer Park after the
Bilingual Mass on July 16th.**

FR. GUS'S SCHEDULE FOR 2 WEEKS:

July 2, 2023 – July 16, 2023

Mon. July 3:

Fr. Luta's day of rest

Tues. July 4:

No Confessions @ Eltopia

No Mass @ Eltopia

Wed. July 5:

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

6:30 pm Confessions @ Connell

Thurs. July 6:

10:00 am Adoration @ Eltopia

10:30 Mass @ Eltopia

Fri. July 7:

8:30 am Prison Ministry @ Connell

4:30 pm Confessions @ Basin City

Sat. July 8:

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

Sun. July 9: Mass

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell

**Please Keep Fr. Luta & Fr. Gus
in Our Prayers.**

Mon. July 10:

Fr. Luta's day of rest

VBS week begins @ Connell

Tues. July 11:

4:00 pm confessions @ Eltopia

5:00 pm Mass @ Eltopia

Wed. July 12:

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

6:30 pm Confession @ Connell

Thurs. July 13:

10:00 am Adoration @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Eltopia

Fri. July 14:

8:30 am Prison Ministry @ Connell

6:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal @ Connell

Sat. July 15:

3:30 pm Wedding @ St. Vincent

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

Sun. July 16: Mass

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell