

January 27, 2008

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Saint John Vianney

A Mission Church of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish serving you since August 10, 1997  
1100 Hood Road, Rio Rancho, NM 87124

[www.sjvnm.org](http://www.sjvnm.org)

Greetings, friends in Christ Jesus.

Here is a building update. There is scheduled a meeting between our architect and our builder. The meeting is scheduled for February 1. The purpose of the meeting is to pound out the final details. Soon after, construction will begin. Remember, however, that many prayers offered for success are very much needed. So, keep those beads in hand.

Finally, the Season of Lent begins very soon. Now is the time to be thinking about what to give up as a sacrifice or what to take up as a sacrifice for Lent.

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Scott Mansfield



**Holy Rosary**

Sunday .....7:40AM  
Sunday .....10:40AM

**Holy Mass**

Sunday .....8:00AM  
Sunday .....11:00AM

We will be having a potluck for  
Mardi Gras on Feb 3rd after  
the 11 AM Mass.



## **Defending Our Faith – A Series on Apologetics** by John Lombardo

### **Why do so many Catholics vote Pro-Abortion?**

2008 isn't just another election year. This year, we Catholics must not be just voters but informed voters as well. Is it okay for a Catholic to vote for a pro-abortion politician, knowing that this candidate supports murder by dismemberment of unborn babies? Or, to vote for a candidate who supports human cloning and/or embryonic stem cell research? How many know that SB 23, a bill supporting embryonic stem cell research, was introduced in the New Mexico Senate this past week? Do we support life or do we support death?

Every Catholic voter needs to judge each candidate, of any party, exactly on where he stands on key moral issues.

Why are these issues so important now?

Consider some facts: Catholics make up 26% of the electorate-approximately sixty-five million citizens;

66% of American Catholics support keeping abortion legal:

56% support assisted suicide and euthanasia;

34% support government funding of fetal stem cell research;

47% support homosexual "marriage."(1)

Sadly, Catholic voters are either misinformed, just vote for a particular Party out of habit or family roots, are uninformed where a candidate stands on key moral issues, or simply vote for a candidate's stance on human rights.

John Paul the Great refutes such actions thusly: "Above all, the common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination." (Christifideles Laici, 1988).(2)

Fr, Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life fleshes out what John Paul says: a candidate says "I stand for adequate and comprehensive health care." This sounds very good especially with over 40 million Americans who do not have medical insurance or the money to obtain adequate medical care. But, can your candidate say that a procedure that dismembers little babies is a part of health care? Isn't his perception of the term health care very different from the actual meaning of the words? This candidate loses credibility. His claim to health care is "illusory." It sounds good, but is in fact destructive, because it masks an act of violence.

Again, "my plan for adequate housing will succeed if you vote for me." Great. Ask yourself what are houses for, if not for people to live in them? If you allow the killing of children who would otherwise live in those houses, how am I supposed to get excited by your housing project?(3)

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Listen to what all the candidates are promising: Universal health care, tolerance, “change”, jobs, etc, etc, etc. It’s easy to be confused by all the promises, arguments etc in an election year. But if you start by asking where a candidate stands on abortion, you can eliminate many other questions you needn’t even have to ask.(4)

Yet why do so many people say, “This candidate favors legal abortion. I personally disagree. But I’m voting for this person because he/she has good ideas about health care (or anything else). The “Why” is what I will be writing about. You can not be Catholic and pro-abortion.

## PEACE

(1) Catholic Answers/www.catholic.com

(2) [www.priestsforlife.org/elections](http://www.priestsforlife.org/elections)

(3) ibid

(4) ibid

The day finally arrives. Forrest Gump dies and goes to Heaven. He walks up to the Pearly Gates and is met by St. Peter himself. The good saint says: "Well, Forrest, we're glad to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must let you know however, that the place is filling up fast, so we have been administering an entrance examination for everyone.

The test is short and you have to pass before you can get into heaven.

You need to answer these three questions:

1. What days of the week begin with the letter "T"?
2. How many seconds are there in a year?
3. What is God's first name?

Forrest says, "Well, the first one - that's an easy one. There are two of them - Today and Tomorrow". The saint's eyes open wide in surprise, "Forrest, that's not what I was thinking, but ... I'll give you credit for that answer.

How about the second question?"

"Now, that one's harder," says Forrest, "but I'll guess the only answer can be twelve." Astounded, St. Peter says, "Twelve? Twelve? Forrest, how in Heaven's name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?"

"Shucks, there's gotta be twelve," Forrest answers, "January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd, etc."

"Hold it" interrupts St. Peter. "I see where you're going with this, and I'll have to give you credit for that one, too. Let's go on to the next and final question. Can you tell me God's first name?"

"Sure" Forrest replies, "it's Andy."

"Andy?!" exclaims the exasperated and frustrated saint. "OK, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name of 'Andy' as the first name of God?"

"Shucks," Forrest replies, "that was the easiest one of all" :

ANDY WALKS WITH ME,

ANDY TALKS WITH ME,

ANDY TELLS ME I AM HIS OWN."

St. Peter opens the Pearly Gates and says "Run, Forrest, run!!!"

Volunteer Schedule	January 27, 2008		February 3, 2008	
	8:00AM	11:00AM	8:00AM	11:00AM
<b>Ushers</b>	Tom Anderson John Christensen	James Sandoval Carl Beyer	Tom Anderson John Christensen	Tony Quinones Frank Charles
<b>EM of Holy Communion</b>	David Crawford	Anna Marie H.	Jeremy McClellan	Marie Lombardo
<b>Rosary Leader</b>	Catherine Uhrich	Rochelle Quinones	MaryAnn Padilla	Bill McCarty
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Sergio Guillen Ian Burnside	Domenica Chavez Rocky Peyton	Ian Burnside Shane Herrera	Tabatha Chavez Dory Chavez
<b>Readers</b>	Jose Guillen Raquel Torres	Bill McCarty Pam McCarty	David Crawford April McClellan	Lillian Ortiz Michael Tafuro

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Parish Website ..... www.sjvnm.org

Thank you for reading our bulletin. Any suggestions, comments or articles can be sent to [bulletin@sjvnm.org](mailto:bulletin@sjvnm.org). We also like to hear about births, baptisms, marriages or other news about our church members. Please visit our website at [www.sjvnm.org](http://www.sjvnm.org) and click on **Subscribe** to be added to the eMailing list.

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