

February 17, 2008

Second Sunday of Lent

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

Greetings, friends in Christ Jesus.

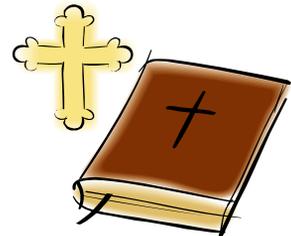
Today, and over the next few Sundays, some of our children will be making their first Confession. This can be, of course, you may remember, a nerve rattling experience. Please pray that our first confessors will be able to make a traumatic free first confession.

In a few days S.J.V. will be looking into what items will be needed for the new building; altar cloths, vestments, candle holders, incense vessel, etc. We will be asking for help to purchase these needed items. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Have a blessed week,

Happy building.

Fr. Scott Mansfield



February 24th after 11:00 AM
Mass there will be a mandatory
Altar Server meeting for new
and existing Altar Servers.

Holy Rosary

Sunday 7:40AM
Sunday 10:40AM

Holy Mass

Sunday 8:00AM
Sunday 11:00AM

Defending Our Faith – A Series on Apologetics by John Lombardo

The Dogma of Hell-The Most Terrible Truth of Our Faith

This topic is a further extension of my previous three monographs: Voting Catholic. This topic is not “more of the same.” All humans have free will to do good or evil. I wanted to show what Church dogma teaches when we make the wrong choice. Unfortunately many Catholics have voted in the recent caucuses for pro-abortion candidates as reported by Fox News Network. Four weeks ago I noted that 66% of Catholics support keeping abortion legal. These Catholics who don’t consider the dignity of life when voting may be denied the Sacrament of the Eucharist under Canon 915 and excommunicate themselves due to their “obstinate persistence in manifest grave sin.” I believe our Pastor and priests will soon speak out to help our parish form and reform our consciences concerning voting Catholic.

Using Hell as the fourth leg of my dissertation on voting Catholic, (a subject I planned doing later), I exhort and urge parishioners to conform their consciences to Catholic teaching to avoid the consequences of falling into mortal sin.

The doctrine of Hell, noted in CCC1033 states “Our Lord warns us we shall be separated from him if we fail to meet the serious needs of the poor and *the little ones who are his brethren.*” (1) Thus, to die in this state of mortal sin without repenting and accepting God’s merciful love requires imprisonment in Hell.

What/Where in Hell is Hell

“The Dogma of Hell is the most terrible truth of our faith. There is a Hell;...that truth is known to us by the infallible truth of God.”(2) Hell is a definite place, confirmed in St Luke (16:22): “But the rich man also died and was buried in hell.” The Sacred Scripture uses the word “buried” because burials are made in the earth. This rich man describes Hell as a place of torment (Lk 16:28), apparently confirming Hell is a definite place.(3) St. Thomas Aquinas notes that the dimensions of Hell cannot be determined.(4)

Pains of Hell

St. Thomas Aquinas warns that those condemned to everlasting punishment will have bodies that are whole and complete. However ,these bodies will be subject to pain (but not destruction) for all eternity. They will be weighed down as if the soul were chained to the body.(5)

St.Alphonsus agrees with the Angelic Doctor, St. Thomas, that the hell-fire is corporeal and material to torment the damned after their corporeal resurrection. (6) St. Alphonsus further notes that “the vengeance on the flesh of the ungodly is fire and worms;” (7) a fire that will be the instrument of the avenging justice of God. (8)

The approach of physical death may threaten the body with different types of pain, to which the soul is immune. Death brings an end to such physical pain. But the punishment of Hell is called “everlasting death” where body and soul will suffer as though dying, but without the respite from pain that comes with death. In fact, the damned soul in Hell exists without hope, realizing that this pain it faces will *never cease* thus aggravating the souls punishment. (9)

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Remorse and Separation from God

Again, the Angelic Doctor tells us that the damned will suffer every type of pain possible. The damned will always remember the things they knew on earth but not for their consolation, but only to increase torment. In Hell the souls of the damned will constantly remember all the divine appeals to change his ways during life, as well as the number of sins which he committed, each of which will exacerbate pain for all eternity in Hell. (10)

The Greatest pain of Hell

St. Augustine says that in Hell, the damned will be forced to think of nothing but God a cause of horrible torment. St. Bonaventure adds that the Lord will give them a very vivid knowledge of their offended God, how good He is, yet spurned by the sinner.(11)

Dear friends, I could continue in this vein ad infinitum. I hope I've made the point that our eternal salvation depends on forming our consciences so we can judge good and evil. We do this when we receive such guidance from the Catholic Church's teaching on matters of faith and morals. Voting Catholic is a matter of/for faith and morals. Why would a Catholic voter risk the loss of his/her soul for such a sinful act?

Is voting for a person who consistently votes for the evil of abortion and other evil acts worth the suffering one sustains in Hell for all eternity? I pray that those parishioners who vote for such candidates will recant. Hell is not worth it.

PEACE.

- (1) 1 John 3:14-15
- (2) Hell, Fr. F.X. Schoupe, SJ,1
- (3) What Will Hell Be Like , St. Alphonsus Liguori, by TAN books & Publishers pg.3
- (4) Ibid
- (5) The Rosary Light & Life, Fr. Reginald Martin O.P., Director, Vol. 61, NO 1 Jan.-Feb 2008
- (6) See: Deuteronomy 32:22; Job 20-26; Isaias 33:14, 66:24; Judith 16:21.
- (7) Eccl 7a:19
- (8) Ibid #3 above pg 4
- (9) Ibid #3 above pg 4
- (10) An Existence in Hell-place of eternal punishment mortal sin hatred sheol death horror terror. Htm.pg 2
- (11) Ibid #3, pg 11

Parish Directory

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Vicar..... | Rev. Scott Mansfield |
| Coordinator..... | Ed Uhrich |
| Communications..... | Carl E. Beyer |
| Finance Building Chair..... | James Sandoval |
| Pastoral Chair | Ed Uhrich |
| Head Sacristan..... | Gerry Hoover |
| Head Usher & Altar Servers..... | Ed Uhrich |
| Head Lector | Peggy Riley |
| Head EM | Pinky Bjornstad |
| Head CCD | Edwinna Herrera |
| Head Snacker..... | Harlan Harrington |
| The Traveling Man | Tony Quinones |
| Parish Website..... | www.sjvnm.org |

Survival Guide

A Scout Master was teaching his boy scouts about survival in the desert. "What are the three most important things you should bring with you in case you get lost in the desert?" he asked. Several hands went up, and many important things were suggested such as food, matches, etc. Then one little boy in the back eagerly raised his hand. "Yes Timmy, what are the three most important things you would bring with you?" asked the Scout Master. Timmy replied: "A compass, a canteen of water, and a deck of cards." "Why's that Timmy?" "Well," answered Timmy, "the compass is to find the right direction, the water is to prevent dehydration..." "And what about the deck of cards?" asked the Scout Master impatiently. "Well, Sir, as soon as you start playing Solitaire, someone is bound to come up behind you and say, "Put that red nine on top of that black ten!"

| Volunteer Schedule | February 17, 2008 | | February 24, 2008 | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | 8:00AM | 11:00AM | 8:00AM | 11:00AM |
| Ushers | Tom Anderson John Christensen | Phil Griego Ed Uhrich | Karl Lucero James Dory | Tony Quinones Frank Charles |
| EM of Holy Communion | Jose Guillen | Anna Marie Hartenhoff | Harlan Harrington | Coz Madrid |
| Rosary Leader | Evelyn Romero | Rochelle Quinones | MaryAnn Padilla | Rochelle Quinones |
| Altar Servers | Gary Vigil Amanda Vigil | Steven Chavez Jordan Juarez | Charles Lucero Fernando Lucero | Jessica V.L.S Jamie Uhrich |
| Readers | Julie Burnside James Dory | Bill McCarty Pam McCarty | Jose Guillen Annette Montoya | Vicky Howell Kellie Reynolsa |
| Sacristan | | Donna Madrid | | Gerry Hover |

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