

# Our Lady of Fatima Bulletin      October 13-14, 2012

Father J.D. Zatalava, Pastor    2010 12th Avenue    Altoona, PA 16601    814-942-0371    [www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com)

**More About Angels ...** In the Sept. 29-30 edition of our Bulletin we featured a discussion of four of our six angels -- The Angel of Fatima, the 2 Guardian Angels, and the Archangel Michael -- which appear in various locations in O.L.F. The constraints of column inches forced us to push forward a discussion of the two angels flanking the Tabernacle. Viewing these colorful cherubs should remind us that the theology of angels goes way back in the Old Testament. According to the book of Exodus, the Ark of the Covenant was constructed at Moses' command, as a chest in which the stone tablets of the covenant (which we know as the Ten Commandments) were



to be kept. These tablets were a declaration of the LORD God's having made a "covenant" with the people of Israel. A "covenant" is a sort of legal agreement -- like a treaty, except with a more personal dimension. The point was that they were now HIS people, under obligation to obey him..

The box was ornately decorated -- covered with gold and having a cover with carved "cherubim" on it. (These unusual creatures were considered to be God's heavenly agents and powerful GUARDIANS of his royal court and 'holy place.' The cherubim on the ark were not thought of as corporeal beings but as representative of those spiritual and heavenly servants.

This box was to be kept in the "Most Holy Place" -- the inner sanctuary in the 'tabernacle' (a tent) and later in the similarly designed Temple in Jerusalem.



C.C.C. 328 The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls "angels" is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of Tradition.

<b>Mon. 10/15</b>	<b><u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Cancer</u></b>
Feast	Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
8:00 AM Mass	Mark Farrell, B/day Ann., 10/4, Helen Glashauser
<b>Tues. 10/16</b>	<b><u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Heart Diseases</u></b>
Feast	Saint Hedwig, Religious
8:00 AM Mass	M/M Manuel Lo, Catarina Wong
<b>Wed. 10/17</b>	<b><u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Arthritis</u></b>
Feast	Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr
8:00 AM Mass	Eleanor Yeager, Ann., M/M Stephen Flanagan
<b>Thur. 10/18</b>	<b><u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Nervous Disorders</u></b>
Feast	Saint Luke, Evangelist
8:00 AM Mass	Denise Keagy, Joe and Patty Gaeto
<b>Fri. 10/19</b>	<b><u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Emotional Disorders</u></b>
Feast	SS. John de Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues, Pts. & Comps., Martyrs
8:00 AM Mass	Pour Souls in Purgatory, Carol Smith
<b>Sat. 10/20</b>	<b><u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Diabetes</u></b>
Feast	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 PM Mass	Sally Colledge, Husband, Pete
<b>Sun. 10/21</b>	<b><u>A Day of Prayer for Victims of Addictions</u></b>
Feast	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 AM Mass	Austin Hallinan, M/M Stephen Flanagan and Family
11:00 AM Mass	Liv/Dec Members of Our Lady of Fatima Parish

Lord  
Jesus  
Christ  
Son  
Of  
God  
Have  
Mercy  
On  
Me  
a  
Sinner

### Happy Birthday:

10/16 Marian Boslet  
Bob Summers  
  
10/19 Caitlin Jones  
Libby Jones  
Stan Krish  
  
10/20 Jim Hosgood

### Wedding Anniversaries:

10/17 Butch and Helen Caper  
10/19 Herr Bill and Fru Bert Bravin

#### *Christmas Choir Practice*

Practice for our Christmas Eve Mass choir begins on Tuesday evening November 13th from 6-9PM. All parishioners are welcome: Men, Women and Children of all ages. Instrumentalists welcome as well. The first Mass celebrated in the 100 year old church of St. Leo was the Christmas Eve Mass of 1912.

### MONEY MATTERS

#### **Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, (October 7, 2012)**

191 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$2,089.00 of which \$ 138.00 accounted for non-env. contributions.  
# Envelopes In Circulation      201      # Used      85      # Unused      116

Retired Priest's Medical & Retirement Collection = \$255.00  
(Last year Our Lady of Fatima collected and sent to the Diocese \$685.00)

St. Mathew School in Tyrone is sponsoring a Fall Craft Fair on Saturday, November 3rd from 9 am to 2 pm in Harkin's Hall on the parish grounds. Craft tables are available at \$20.00 each. A variety of crafters and vendors will be available with items for the upcoming holiday seasons. Luncheon will be served featuring pasta salad, meatball sandwiches, a variety of homemade soups, haluski, and baked goods. For information, please contact Debbie Zakrzwski at 814-632-3070.

## **YOUR ROLE AS A CATHOLIC VOTER**

Catholics have a moral obligation to promote the common good through the exercise of their voting privileges (cf. CCC 2240). It is not just civil authorities who have responsibility for a country. "Service of the common good require[s] citizens to fulfill their roles in the life of the political community" (CCC 2239). This means citizens ought to participate in the political process at the ballot box.

### **But voting cannot be arbitrary.**

- "A well-formed Christian conscience does not permit one to vote for a political program or an individual law that contradicts the fundamental contents of faith and morals". A citizen's vote most often means voting for a candidate who will be the one directly voting on laws or programs. But being one step removed from law-making doesn't let citizens off the hook, since morality requires that we avoid doing evil to the greatest extent possible, even indirectly.
- Some things are always wrong, and no one may deliberately vote in favor of them. Legislators, who have a direct vote, may not support these evils in legislation or programs. **Citizens support these evils indirectly if they vote in favor of candidates who propose to advance them.** Thus, to the greatest extent possible, Catholics must avoid voting for any candidate who intends to support programs or laws that are intrinsically evil.

## **THE ROLE OF YOUR CONSCIENCE**

Conscience is like an alarm. It warns you when you are about to do something that you know is wrong. It does not itself determine what is right or wrong. For your conscience to work properly, it must be properly informed—that is, you must inform yourself about what is right and what is wrong. Only then will your conscience be a trusted guide. Unfortunately, today many Catholics have not formed their consciences adequately regarding key moral issues. The result is that their consciences do not "sound off" at appropriate times, including on Election Day. A well-formed conscience will never contradict Catholic moral teaching.

## **FIVE NON-NEGOTIABLES**

These five current issues concern actions that are **intrinsically evil and must never be promoted by the law.** Intrinsically evil actions are those that fundamentally conflict with the moral law and can never be deliberately performed under any circumstances. It is a serious sin to deliberately endorse or promote any of these actions.

### **1. Abortion**

The Church teaches that, regarding a law permitting abortions, it is "never licit to obey it, or to take part in a propaganda campaign in favor of such a law, or to vote for it" (EV 73). Abortion is the intentional and direct killing of an innocent human being, and therefore it is a form of homicide.

The unborn child is always an innocent party, and no law may permit the taking of his life. Even when a child is conceived through rape or incest, the fault is not the child's, who should not suffer death for others' sins.

### **2. Euthanasia**

Often disguised by the name "mercy killing," euthanasia is also a form of homicide. No person has a right to take his own life, and no one has the right to take the life of any innocent person. In euthanasia, the ill or elderly are killed, by action or omission,

### **3. Embryonic Stem Cell Research**

Human embryos are human beings. "Respect for the dignity of the human being excludes all experimental manipulation or exploitation of the human embryo".

#### **4. Human Cloning**

"Attempts . . . for obtaining a human being without any connection with sexuality through 'twin fission,' cloning, or parthenogenesis are to be considered contrary to the moral law, since they are in opposition to the dignity both of human procreation and of the conjugal union"

#### **5. Homosexual "Marriage"**

True marriage is the union of one man and one woman. Legal recognition of any other union as "marriage" undermines true marriage, and legal recognition of homosexual unions actually does homosexual persons a disfavor by encouraging them to persist in what is an objectively immoral arrangement.

### **WHICH POLITICAL OFFICES SHOULD I WORRY ABOUT?**

Laws are passed by the legislature, enforced by the executive branch, and interpreted by the judiciary. This means you should scrutinize any candidate for the legislature, anyone running for an executive office, and anyone nominated for the bench. This is true not only at the national level but also at the state and local levels.

True, the lesser the office, the less likely the office holder will take up certain issues. Your city council, for example, perhaps will never take up the issue of human cloning but may take up issues connected with abortion clinics. It is important that you evaluate candidates in light of each non-negotiable moral issue that will come before them in the offices they are seeking.

Tomorrow's candidates for higher offices will come mainly from today's candidates for lower offices. It is therefore prudent to apply comparable standards to local candidates. One should seek to elect to lower offices candidates who support Christian morality so that they will have a greater ability to be elected to higher offices where their moral stances may come directly into play.

### **HOW NOT TO VOTE**

Do not vote based just on your political party affiliation, your earlier voting habits, or your family's voting tradition. You need to look at the stands each candidate takes. This means that you may end up casting votes for candidates from more than one party.

Do not cast your vote based on candidates' appearance, personality, or "media savvy." Some attractive, engaging, and "sound-bite-capable" candidates endorse intrinsic evils, while other candidates, who may be plain-looking, uninspiring, and ill at ease in front of cameras, endorse legislation in accord with basic Christian principles.

Do not vote for candidates simply because they declare themselves to be Catholic. Unfortunately, many self-described Catholic candidates reject basic Catholic moral teaching.

Do not vote for candidates who are right on lesser issues but will vote wrongly on key moral issues. One candidate may have a record of voting in line with Catholic values except for, say, euthanasia. Such a voting record is a clear signal that the candidate should not be chosen by a Catholic voter.

(What is presented above is material which should be taught in sixth grade Civics classes in any Catholic educational enterprise. These principles reflect a mindset which every Catholic should have developed long before he/she ever registered to vote or entered a voting booth. These principles preceded both in time and in importance the founding of any political party or the appearance of any political candidate. The material comes from the "Priests for Life" website.) For a video go online to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vl-Yka8O4Sw>

**Our Lady of Fatima Pleaded That we pray the Holy Rosary Daily  
At O.L.F. before each Mass and privately from 8:30am to 7:00pm**

The Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel in Loretto, PA is hosting "Candlelight Saints Tour 2012: Most Requested Saints" on Oct 26 and 27. Entertainment, education, local history, and a bit of Hal-loween spookiness - this event has it all! Tours depart every 20 minutes from 6pm-10pm and last approximately 1and 1/2 hours. Please note that it is not handicap accessible. Cost is \$7 per person. Ticket proceeds will be donated to the SFU Dorothy Day Center. Please dress for the weather, as tours continue rain or shine. Bring a nonperishable item in exchange for a free drink (coffee, hot chocolate, soda). Hot food is available for purchase. For more information please view the website at <http://www.basilica-loretto.org/saintstour.htm> or call the Basilica rectory at 472-8551.



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2012  
DOORS OPEN AT 9AM

Buy one of these entry passes from one of our sellers for \$5.00, all of which stays in the parish, and go to Boscov's on Wednesday the 16th and do your late "School Shopping" or your early Christmas Shopping and get a walloping 25% off most purchases. You can also get free food and win big prizes with this one ticket.

### **AN ELECTION YEAR PRAYER**

O Lord Jesus Christ, You alone are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. In Your Church You show us the Way, You teach us the Truth, and You give us Your Life.

Grant, we humbly beg You, that, always and in all things, we may be faithful to You in Your Holy Church, and to Your Vicar on Earth, the Supreme Pontiff, Pope Benedict XVI.

Grant also, we beg You, that, in these times of decision, all who profess to be Catholic and who are entrusted with the sacred duty to participate in public life, may, by the strength of Your grace, unwaveringly follow Your Way and faithfully adhere to Your Truth, living in You with all their mind and heart, for Your greater glory, the salvation of souls, and the good of our nation. Amen.



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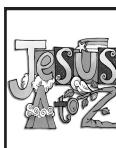
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