



The Year of Faith

October 11, 2012 to November 24, 2013

Week Number

3

Declared by Pope Benedict

Know the Faith

About the Souls and Saints the Bible Sez:

Punished after death and still saved (1 Cor. 3:15)

Phillip: Just reading your justification for the belief in Purgatory but to tell you the truth, I found it unconvincing. Realistically, I believe you must choose to accept Jesus while we are alive, after death, we don't get a second chance. God's willingness to forgive our transgressions "while we are alive" is second chance enough. Purgatory is a fable, along with the deification of Mary & the saints (all believers in Christ are considered saints according to scripture). You must come up with more to convince me that the "faith" I have been raised in is accurate. I would prefer to get my information directly from a Bible that was not changed by Constantine, The Jehovah Witness, The Mormon etc. The Word of God is infallible, the pope is human and thus, very fallible. Sorry to be such a poor sport, but the "faith" has let me down.

A disillusioned Catholic from Toronto, Canada

John Salza: Phillip, if you wish to get your "information directly from the Bible," then look to 1 Cor. 3:12-17. In these passages, Paul is talking about how God judges our works after death by using a string of metaphors (we are God's building; works are good and bad materials, etc.). Paul says that if a person builds with good materials, he will receive a reward (verse 14). If he builds with a mixture of good and bad materials, his work is burned up, but he is still saved (verse 15). If he only builds with bad materials, he has destroyed the temple, and God will destroy him (verse 17).

This passage demonstrates several things. First, it demonstrates that our works serve as a basis for determining our salvation. This is contrary to the erroneous Protestant belief that, once we accept Jesus by faith alone, we are saved. Protestants have no good explanation for why Paul is teaching the Corinthians that our works bear upon our salvation. Second, the verse demonstrates that, if a person does both good and bad works, his bad works are punished, but he is still saved. The Greek phrase for "suffer loss" (*zemiotesetai*) means "to be punished." This means the man undergoes an expiation of temporal punishment for his bad works (sins) but is still saved. The phrase "but only" or "yet so" (in Greek, *houtos*) means "in the same manner."

This means that the man must pass through the fire in the same way that his bad works passed through the fire, in order to expiate himself of the things that led him to produce the bad works in the first place.

This demonstrates that there is punishment after death, followed by salvation. The Church calls this purification "Purgatory." If accepting Jesus as Savior by faith alone during one's life were true, there would be no punishment after death for those who are saved. Your sins would already be washed away. This passage proves that there is punishment and forgiveness after death, followed by salvation. This biblical teaching of a post-death punishment by fire which is followed by salvation is inimical to Protestant theology.

Phillip, there is nothing new under the sun, other than an ongoing splintering of Protestant Christianity. If you study the early Church Fathers and medievals, you will see that they were all Catholic. Don't imbibe this Protestant mentality of "Jesus, the Bible and me." God gave us His Holy Catholic Church, built upon the rock of St. Peter, to whom Christ gave the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and the authority to bind and loose in heaven what he binds and looses on earth.

Study your Catholic faith by reading Catholic material (fathers, doctors, etc.), not by listening to the typical, polemical, anti-Catholicism that is always historically ignorant, and intellectually groundless.

The Bible Passage Referenced

1 Cor 3:12 If anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw,

3:13 the work of each will come to light, for the Day * will disclose it. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire (itself) will test the quality of each one's work.

3:14 If the work stands that someone built upon the foundation, that person will receive a wage.

3:15 But if someone's work is burned up, that one will suffer loss; the person will be saved, but only as through fire.

3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

3:17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for the temple of God, which you are, is holy.

John Salza is an attorney and renowned Catholic apologist, author and speaker. Mr. Salza is the creator of ScriptureCatholic.com, one of the most popular apologetics sites on the Internet. ScriptureCatholic.com is a veritable library of over 2,000 Scripture citations and over 800 quotes from the early Church Fathers that explain and defend the Catholic Faith.

Mr. Salza is the author of the following best-selling books by Our Sunday Visitor: The Biblical Basis for the Catholic Faith; The Biblical Basis for the Papacy; The Biblical Basis for the Eucharist; and, Masonry Unmasked: An Insider Reveals the Secrets of the Lodge. He is also the author of Why Catholics Cannot Be Masons and The Mystery of Predestination – According to Scripture, the Church and St. Thomas Aquinas (TAN Books) and The Biblical Basis for Purgatory (St. Benedict Press), and The Biblical Basis for Tradition – Why Catholics Don't Rely on Scripture Alone (ACLA Press), as well as the booklet Honor Your Mother, Defend Your Queen: A Marian Treasury (Relevant Radio). Mr. Salza is also a columnist for The Remnant Newspaper, Catholic Family News, The Fatima Crusader, and also serves as President of Apologetics for the American Catholic Lawyers Association.

Veneration / Honor of the Saints

Matt. 18:10 - the angels in heaven always behold the face of God. We venerate them for their great dignity and union with God.

Matt. 15:4; Luke 18:20; Eph. 6:2-3 Exodus 20:12; Lev. 19:3; Deut. 5:16 - we are instructed to honor our father and mother.

Luke 1:28 - the angel Gabriel venerates Mary by declaring to her "Hail, full of grace." The heavenly angel honors the human Mary, for her perfection of grace exceeds that of the angels.

Romans 13:7 - we are to give honor where honor is due. When we honor God's children, we honor God Himself, for He is the source of all honor.

1 Cor. 4:16 - the most important form of veneration of the saints is "imitating" the saints, as Paul commands us to do.

1 Cor. 11:1 - again, Paul says, "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." The ultimate objective of veneration is imitation.

Phil. 2:25-29 - Paul teaches us to honor Epaphroditus who almost died for the faith. How much more honor is owed to the saints that did die for the faith!

Phil. 3:17 - Paul says to imitate him and others, which is the goal of veneration. Veneration is not worship.

1 Thess. 1:6 - Paul says to the Thessalonians, "You became imitators of us and of the Lord." This is the goal of veneration.

2 Thess. 3:7 - Paul says that the Thessalonians should imitate him and the other bishops.

Hebrews 3:3 - Jesus is worthy of "more" glory and honor than Moses. This does not mean that the saints are worthy of no glory and honor. Instead, it proves that saintly people are worthy of glory and honor out of God's goodness.

Heb. 6:12 - the author teaches us to be imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Heb. 13:7 - we must imitate the faith of our faithful leaders. We ask for their intercession and venerate them for their holiness.

James 5:10-11 - James teaches us to take heart in the examples of the prophets and Job, who endured suffering.

1 Peter 2:17 - Peter teaches us to honor all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the emperor. Don't those living with Christ in heaven deserve honor? Catholics believe they do, and honor them with special feast days, just as we honor those living by celebrating their birthdays.

Gen. 19:1 - Lot venerates the two angels in Sodom, bowing himself with his face to the ground.

Gen. 42:6 - Joseph's brothers bow before Joseph with the face to the ground. This is veneration, not worship.

Exodus 28:2 - it is especially important to honor religious leaders. Sacred garments for Aaron give him dignity and honor.

Lev. 19:32 - we should also honor "the face of an old man." When the elderly die in Christ, we should continue honoring them, because death does not separate them from us or the love of Christ.

1 Sam. 28:14 - Saul bows down before Samuel with his face to the ground in veneration.

2 Chron. 32:33 - Hezekiah was honored at his death. We honor our brothers and sisters in the Lord.

Sir. 44:1-2 - we should praise and give honor to those who the Lord apportioned great glory. It is our family in Christ.

1 Tim 2:1-2 - because Jesus Christ is the one mediator between God and man (1 Tim. 2:5), many Protestants deny the Catholic belief that the saints on earth and in heaven can mediate on our behalf. But before Paul's teaching about Jesus as the "one mediator," Paul urges supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people.. Paul is thus appealing for mediation from others besides Christ, the one mediator.

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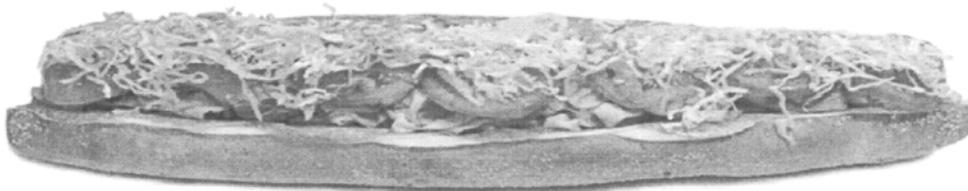
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Monday, October 29

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Mon. 10/29 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Cancer**
Feast Weekday
8:00 AM Mass Theresa M. McCall, M/M Thomas Stoltz

Tues. 10/30 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Heart Diseases**
Feast Weekday
8:00 AM Mass Bill Conrad, *Kristen Clemens*

Wed. 10/31 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Arthritis**
Feast Weekday
8:00 AM Mass Marguerite Frederick, *Mim, Carol & Janet Cichetta*
6:00 PM Mass Anna Wineland, M/M Glenn Storm

Thur. 11/01 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Nervous Disorders**
Feast All Saints
8:00 AM Mass Helen Kasun, *Maria Czarnik*
6:00 PM Mass Shirley Smithmyer, B/day Ann., *Fran & Carol*

Fri. 11/02 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Emotional Disorders**
Feast Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, All Souls Day
8:00 AM Mass Thomas Gibbons, *Alan P. Cambell*

Sat. 11/03 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Diabetes**
Feast Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 PM Mass Helen Pufka, M/M *Chuck Hennigan*

Sun. 11/04 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Addictions**
Feast Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 AM Mass Living/Deceased Members of Our Lady of Fatima Parish
11:00 AM Mass George Glashauser, *James Farrell and Family*

*Lord
Jesus
Christ
Son
Of
God
Have
Mercy
On
Me
A
Sinner*

Happy Birthday:

10/30 Frieda Conrad
10/31 Frank Frucella & Richard Rodkey
11/01 Patrick Gaeto
11/02 David Conrad

Christmas Eve Choir Practice begins
Tues. Nov. 13th from 6-7pm.
Not as previously noted.

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

On Sunday, November 11th St. Joseph's Parish in Williamsburg will hold their annual Swiss Steak Dinner. The meal includes the entree, mashed potatoes, vegetable, stuffing, salad, roll, and desert. The price is \$9.00 for adults and \$4.50 for children under 10. Takeout dinners will be available from 11:00 AM until Noon. Dine-in meals will be available from 12:30 until 2:00 PM. There will be no tickets sold at the door; presold tickets only. For tickets call Delores Verbonitz at 931-7944 or St. Joseph's Rectory at 832-2137.

MONEY MATTERS
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, (October 21, 2012)
202 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$2,761.20 of which \$ 87.00 accounted for non-env. contributions.

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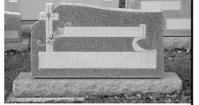
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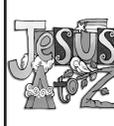
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