

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 20-21, 2008

Fatima Mirror

A weekly publication for the education and edification of parishioners and friends of Our Lady of Fatima Parish of the Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown in Altoona, Pennsylvania. Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec, D.D. is the diocesan bishop. Father J.D. Zatalava, M.Div. is the pastor. Parishioners worship in the church building named after Saint Leo the Great, 2000 12th Ave. 16601.

Visit our Web site at: ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com - Send us a Fax at: 814-942-0372 - Give us a call at: 814-942-0371

Archbishop Wuerl's letter to priests of the archdiocese of Washington

THE MOST REV. DONALD WUERL, S.T.D.
Archbishop of Washington

September 8, 2008 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Dear Brother Priests,

In late August, I wrote to you following a discussion in the national media regarding what our Catholic faith says about when life begins and about abortion. Many of you took the opportunity to present and affirm the teaching of the Catholic Church on this important issue with your parishioners, and I thank you. These are teachable moments, and present an opportunity to highlight the consistency and clarity of our Catholic faith.

Unfortunately, again this week on Meet the Press, the Catholic teaching on human life was not clearly presented by a public official. In an interview, Senator Joseph Biden said he is "prepared to accept the teachings of my church" on when life begins, but would not "impose that judgment on everyone else."

When asked about his stated belief that life begins at conception and his public record on abortion, he said, "I voted against telling everyone else in the country that they have to accept my religiously-based view that it's at the moment of conception. There is a debate in our Church...that's existed.... Thomas Aquinas said...it didn't occur until quickening, 40 days after conception. How am I going out and tell you, if you or anyone else that you must insist upon my view that is based on a matter of faith."

The role of elected officials to address the public policy issues before them must be respected, but the interpretation of the Catholic faith is the responsibility of the bishops. To avoid confusion among people of goodwill about the Church's teaching on human life, it is important to state once again the Catholic Church's constant teaching on human life, as well as clarify the difference between science, the theories of Saint Thomas Aquinas and the faith.

When life begins is not a matter of faith, but a matter of science. The scientific research available to us today confirms that the joining of the human egg and sperm begins a new human life. There is overwhelming empirical evidence that once conceived, that life will continue through its many natural stages, from embryo to fetus to infant to child and on until death. Religious belief does not change this scientific fact.

However, faith and the natural moral law guide us in how we treat this human life. The Catholic Church has been unwavering in its teaching, as we are told in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception... Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral

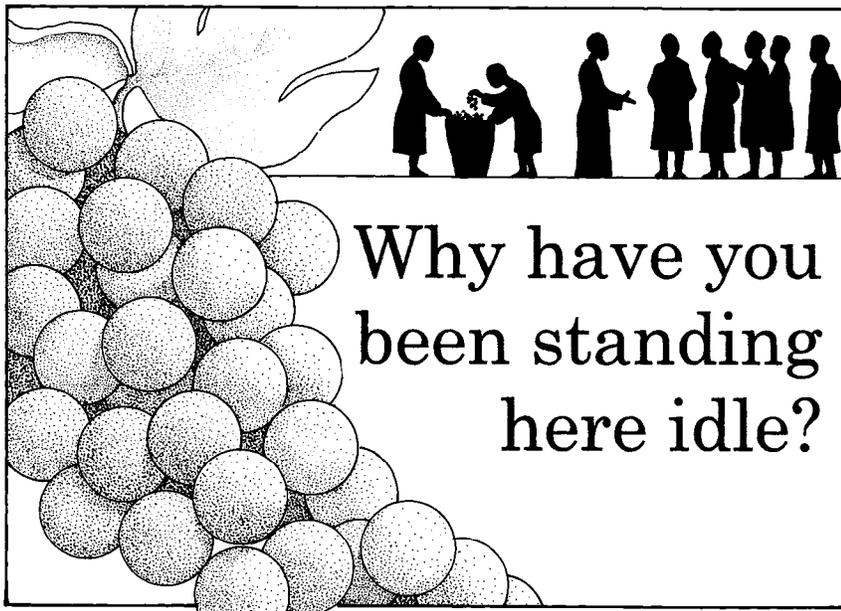


evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law." (paragraphs 2270-2271)

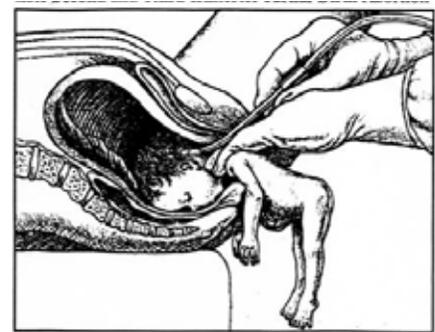
As you are aware, Saint Thomas Aquinas, who lived 800 years ago, shared this belief. Even while speculating on when the soul enters the physical body in light of biological theories of his time that have long since been disproved, Aquinas rejected abortion at every stage, calling it a sin "against nature" to reject God's gift of life.

Our Catholic faith proclaims what is already written in our human hearts and recognized in our conscience - to kill innocent human life is wrong. The commandment "you shall not kill" is, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us, "a privileged expression of the natural law" (2070). Modern science has demonstrated beyond any doubt that this innocent human life begins at conception. Defense of innocent human life is not an imposition of personal religious conviction but an act of justice.

Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington



Life is Precious
Link-up with Life Chain
 Sun. Oct 5, 2008
 Politicians, You shall not kill!



Please remove all items from Cemetery.
 Fall clean-up begins September 25th.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR September 22-28, 2008

Monday	09/22	08:00 AM	Edward & Genevieve Hallinan, Family	<i>Weekday</i>
Tuesday	09/23	08:00 AM	Debra Shuma, George & Pat Koeck	<i>Pio of Pietrelcina, priest</i>
Wednesday	09/24	08:00 AM	Guy & Louise Stoltz, Family	<i>Weekday</i>
Thursday	09/25	08:00 AM	Catherine Twyford, Joan & Merle Hirt	<i>Weekday</i>
Friday	09/26	08:00 AM	Wally Jorkasky, Phyllis Mosney & Carol	<i>Cosmas & Damian, martyrs</i>
Saturday	09/27	04:30 PM	Austin Weakland, Bernadette Weakland	<i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Sunday	09/28	09:00 AM	Liv/Dec of Our Lady of Fatima Parish	<i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Sunday	09/28	11:00 AM	Denise Keagy, Family	<i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>

MONEY MATTERS Exaltation of the Cross Sunday (September 14)

235 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$ 1811.65 of which \$ 260.30 accounted for "loose" cash.

Envelopes In Circulation **241** # Used **101** # Unused **140**

Our Lady of Fatima Perennial Flower Sale

Top 10 Selling Tips

- 1. Start Immediately!** Begin by selling to your family, friends and neighbors. It's easier to build confidence and to practice your selling techniques when you "warm up" with those closest to you.
- 2. Never Go Door to Door Alone!** You should only go to your neighbors with a trusted adult, and stay in familiar neighborhoods.
- 3. Look Good!** Dress for success. Wear a shirt or jacket with your church name or group name on it. That shows pride for your organization.
- 4. Remember You're Selling Great Products!** Be sure to tell your customers that Breck's is world-renowned for its Dutch bulbs and plants, and that **every single bulb and plant is 100% guaranteed to grow!**
- 5. You Are Selling Beauty—for Years to Come.** Think locally and globally! You're not just selling bulbs and plants—you're selling beauty not only for next spring, but for many years to follow as well! In fact, some of the flowers will multiply in size and bloom quantity. That means more for their money!
- 6. Identify Why You're Raising Money.** People love to feel good about supporting a good cause. Tell your customers why you're fundraising.
- 7. Always Be Polite.** Ask potential customers if you may have just a few minutes of their time. If it's not a good time for them, ask if you can come back when it's more convenient. Always say "Thank You"—even if they don't place an order with you.
- 8. Make a List of Potential Customers.** Family, neighbors, friends and their co-worker are all potential customers. Update the list as you continue having selling success!
- 9. Set Your Goal HIGH!** Strive to be the #1 bulb and plant seller in your organization! Wouldn't it be great to be known as the person who sold the most bulbs.
- 10. Turn in Your Orders ON TIME!** Your organization is counting on you. It's your responsibility to return your orders on the date your leaders have provided below...

All Order Forms and All Money Must be at the Rectory by October 5.

(Oct. 5 is a Sunday so for convenience, parishioners can use the Offertory Basket to make returns.)