



**From the Desk of
Fr. Leo F. Arnone**

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom (2 Cor 3:17). The Spirit is fully

divine, coequal with God the Father and the Son. His work within us gives us freedom from the condemnation of the Old Covenant and boldness to proclaim the Gospel without fear. ***For freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery*** (Gal. 5:1). The freedom Christ gave us was a freedom from the old Mosaic Law with its burdensome ceremonial requirements given to a people who were coming out of paganism and into a maturity of Faith. With His Incarnation and Gospel proclamation, God pronounces humanity mature enough to grasp and freely accept His Gospel. ***Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil, but live as servants of God*** (1 Pt 2:16). Christians cannot submit to human authorities, institutions, and laws that contradict the laws of God. Part of the Christian mission is to bring civil legislation in line with the divine law and, when this proves unsuccessful, to make a courageous stand in favor of the Gospel.

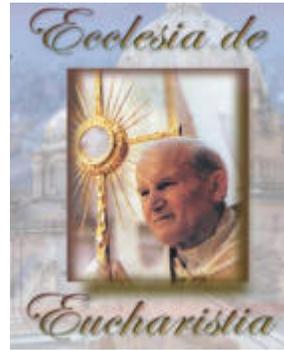
Just as we are to use our Spiritual Freedom in service to God, especially through our freedom to worship His without fear, let us resolve to use our National Freedom in service to and for one another, especially in our efforts to secure the basic human rights for all our fellow Americans – including those Americans waiting to be born.



Congratulations First Holy Communion Class of 2020! Last Wednesday and this coming Wednesday (July 1st & 8th), we welcome to Christ's Altar our Second Graders from both parishes who are receiving the Eucharist for the first time. It is such a joy to witness their excitement in achieving this spiritual milestone. ***May the freshness of their First Holy Communion remind us of the purity with which we should always approach the Blessed Sacrament.***



Attention 2020 Confirmation Families & Sponsors: The Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated for SA Candidates on Wed, July 15 at 6:30pm and for FX Candidates on Wed, July 22 at 6:30pm at your respective churches. To prepare, Candidates are to get to Confession *before* their Confirmation. Candidates with their Sponsors who have yet to meet with me are to arrange this meeting *ASAP* prior to your Confirmation date.



ECCLESIA DE EUCHARISTIA
Letter on the Eucharist
POPE JOHN PAUL II (2003)

**Ch. 5 The Dignity of the
Eucharistic Celebration**

51. The development of sacred art and liturgical discipline which took place in lands of ancient Christian heritage is also taking place *on continents where Christianity is younger*. This was the

approach supported by the Vatican II on the need for sound and proper "inculturation". I have seen, throughout the world, the great vitality which the celebration of the Eucharist can have when marked by the forms, styles and sensibilities of different cultures. By adaptation to the changing conditions of time and place, the Eucharist offers sustenance not only to individuals but to entire peoples, and it shapes cultures inspired by Christianity.

It is necessary that this important work of adaptation be carried out with a constant awareness of the ineffable mystery against which every generation is called to measure itself. The "treasure" is too important and precious to risk impoverishment or compromise through forms of experimentation or practices introduced without a careful review on the part of the competent ecclesiastical authorities. The centrality of the Eucharistic mystery demands that any such review must be undertaken in close association with the Holy See. "Such cooperation is essential because the Sacred Liturgy expresses and celebrates the one faith professed by all and, being the heritage of the whole Church, cannot be determined by local Churches in isolation from the universal Church".

52. All of this makes clear the great responsibility which belongs to priests in particular for the celebration of the Eucharist. It is their responsibility to preside at the Eucharist *in persona Christi* and to provide a witness to and a service of communion not only for the community directly taking part in the celebration, but also for the universal Church, which is a part of every Eucharist. It must be lamented that, as a result of a misguided sense of creativity and adaptation, there have been a number of *abuses* which have been a source of suffering for many. A certain reaction against the "forms" chosen by the Church's great liturgical tradition and her Magisterium as non-binding and to introduce unauthorized innovations which are often completely inappropriate.

I consider it my duty, to appeal urgently that the liturgical norms for the celebration of the Eucharist be observed with great fidelity. These norms are a concrete expression of the authentically ecclesial nature of the Eucharist. Liturgy is never anyone's private property, be it of the celebrant or of the community. The Apostle Paul had to address fiery words to the community of Corinth because of grave shortcomings in their celebration of the Eucharist resulting in divisions (*schismata*) and the emergence of factions (*haireseis*) (1 Cor 11:17-34). Our time, too, calls for a renewed awareness and appreciation of liturgical norms as a reflection of, and a witness to, the one universal Church made present in every celebration of the Eucharist. Priests who faithfully celebrate Mass according to the liturgical norms, and communities which conform to those norms, quietly but eloquently demonstrate their love for the Church. No one is permitted to undervalue the mystery entrusted to our hands: it is too great for anyone to feel free to treat it lightly and with disregard for its sacredness and its universality.