



From the Desk of Fr. Leo F. Arnone

Some time ago I heard a European commentary on the Catholic Church in America saying that we are obsessed with the issues of abortion and gay marriage while neglecting environmental issues. I'm not sure if it was meant to be a criticism, but I took it as a complement. Our Catholic Faith is to have some influence on the world around us. Since no other issues have meaning or purpose on dead people, the right to life must be our top priority. Let the child be born first, then we can talk about other issues that will have bearing on that life.

Intentional Disciples of Christ must be well informed on where the candidates stand on abortion if they are going to cast an informed vote. So, I've included a one-page sheet produced by *National Right to Life* highlighting their declared statements and accomplishments on the issue. You can find this and additional information at www.nrlc.org.



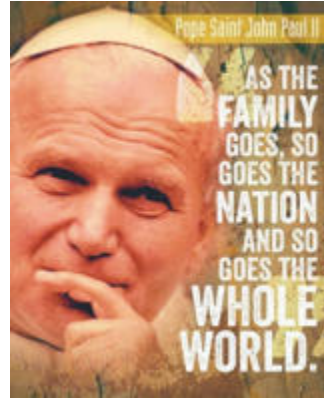
A Healing Mass is scheduled for Wed., Sept. 30 at 1:00pm at St. Aloysius church. Fr. Bob Hiltz, T.O.R. will preach and preside at this special Mass in which we will call on our Lord Jesus, the Divine Physician, through the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. All those 65 and above and/or in need of physical, spiritual or emotional healing are warmly invited.



The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults meets on Thursdays from 5:45 to 6:45pm at SA rectory. It is not too late to join in. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic or wants to complete the Initiation Sacraments, please contact me. While our primary focus is on the candidates for the Sacraments, we open these sessions to fully initiated Catholics who just want to refresh their Religious Education and share their Catholic Faith journey with the group. This week's topic – *God: Our Loving Creator*.



Angel Fund for All Saints Catholic School: I'd like to call your attention to these special envelopes found in your packets. Your contribution through these envelopes are entrusted to our School Principal, Mrs. Kathy Maurer, who in turn applies it to the tuition of families experiencing unexpected financial troubles. On behalf of these families, thank you for your compassion and for your commitment to Catholic Education.



FAMILIARIS CONSORTIO

The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World

Part. 1: BRIGHT SPOTS AND SHADOWS FOR THE FAMILY TODAY

The Influence of Circumstances on the Consciences of the Faithful

7. Living in a world, under the pressures coming above all from the mass media, the faithful do not always remain immune from the obscuring of certain fundamental values, nor set themselves up as the critical conscience of family culture and as active agents in the building of an authentic family humanism.

Among the more troubling signs of this phenomenon, in particular: the spread of divorce and [remarriage among] the faithful; the acceptance of civil marriage in contradiction to the vocation of the baptized to "be married in the Lord", the celebration of the marriage sacrament without living faith, but for other motives; the rejection of the moral norms that guide and promote the human and Christian exercise of sexuality in marriage.

Our Age Needs Wisdom

8. The whole Church is obliged to a deep reflection and commitment, so that the new culture now emerging may be evangelized in depth, true values acknowledged, the rights of men and women defended, and justice promoted in the very structures of society. In this way the "new humanism" will not distract people from their relationship with God, but will lead them to it more fully.

Science and its technical applications offer new and immense possibilities in the construction of such a humanism. Still, as a consequence of political choices that decide the direction of research and its applications, science is often used against its original purpose, which is the advancement of the human person.

It becomes necessary, therefore, on the part of all, to recover an awareness of the primacy of moral values, which are the values of the human person as such. The great task that has to be faced today for the renewal of society is that of recapturing the ultimate meaning of life and its fundamental values. Only an awareness of the primacy of these values enables man to use the immense possibilities given him by science in such a way as to bring about the true advancement of the human person in his or her whole truth, in his or her freedom and dignity. Science is called to ally itself with wisdom.

The following words of the Second Vatican Council can therefore be applied to the problems of the family: "Our era needs such wisdom more than bygone ages if the discoveries made by man are to be further humanized. For the future of the world stands in peril unless wiser people are forthcoming.

The education of the moral conscience...becomes a pressing requirement that cannot be renounced.

Modern culture must be led to a more profoundly restored covenant with divine Wisdom. Every man is given a share of such Wisdom through the creating action of God. And it is only in faithfulness to this covenant that the families of today will be in a position to influence positively the building of a more just and fraternal world.