



The Cathedral of
ST. EUGENE

2323 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(707) 542-6984

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Epperson, Rector
Rev. Alan Acevedo, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Jeffrey Keyes, In Residence
Deacon Mike Heinzelman
Deacon Gary Moore
Deacon Russ Bowden

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Email Comments/Suggestions to:
cathedralresponse@gmail.com

Parish Office Phone	542-6984
Parish Office Fax	542-1621
Religious Education	326-3408
Finance Council – Marty McCormick	526-1700
Choir Directress – Pam Zieminski	578-8848
School Office – Sharon Jeffrey	545-7252
Preschool Office – Sharry Caesare	528-9133
Homeschool Academy– Jessica Warner	206-5579

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Entrance is located at SW corner of Rectory

WEBSITES

Parish: www.steugenes.com
School: www.steugenesch.org

REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH

Our warmest welcome to all who worship in our community. If you are not registered in the parish, please complete a registration card. Cards are available at church entrances or at the parish office.

MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Please contact the office at least 12 months in advance for weddings and 3 months in advance for baptisms. Check the parish website for more information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office when a parishioner is home bound or hospitalized to arrange for Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick.



MASS TIMES

Daily Mass: 6:45 and 8:00 a.m.
Saturday: 8:00a.m; 4:30 p.m. & Sp.6:30 p. m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
12:00 noon and 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday Latin Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Latin Mass: 1:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Perpetual Adoration is in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. To sign up for your hour with our Lord, call Annette (English) at: 542-3635 or Maria Vega (Spanish) at: 710-5094

Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament is held in the chapel every First Friday following 8:00 a.m. Mass. *During this time of Covid-19, Benediction is not being held.*

DEVOTIONS

Recitation of the Rosary is Monday – Saturday at 7:30 a.m. in the Cathedral

Chaplet of Divine Mercy is Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral

CATHEDRAL SHOPS

Cathedral Thrift Shop Hours: Tues & Wed. 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Cathedral Books & Gifts Hours: Wed-Sat 8:30-4:30

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 15, 2022

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY MAY 15

Masses – Cathedral – 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00, 1:30 pm (Latin) & 5:30 pm
Coffee Social – Parish Life Center – 8AM – 12:00 PM
RCIA & RCIF – School – 10:30 am

MONDAY MAY 16

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

TUESDAY MAY 17

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Women of the Word – PLC (Hope Rm) – 9:30 am
PSR – School – 3:45 pm
Latin Mass – Cathedral – 5:30 pm

WEDNESDAY MAY 18

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Outdoor Rosary – Fatima Grotto – 6:00 pm

THURSDAY MAY 19

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

FRIDAY MAY 20

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

SATURDAY MAY 21

Morning Mass – Cathedral – 8:00 am
Confession – Cathedral – 3:30 – 4:30 pm
Sunday Vigil Masses – Cathedral – 4:30 pm
& 6:30 pm (Spanish)

PETER BESSONE ALZHEIMER'S FUND

~ALZHEIMER'S FUND~

The Peter F. Bessone Alzheimer's Fund was established at St. Eugene's in honor of Mr. Bessone, a former parishioner who suffered from this debilitating disease. Upon his death, the Bessone family set up the Fund to provide financial assistance to parishioners who also suffer from Alzheimer's or who provide care for family members who have been afflicted. This monetary assistance is to help cover respite care expenses that are not already covered by private or public insurance. If you find yourself in this position, please contact the parish office (707-542-6984) to inquire about any assistance the Fund may be able to provide to you.

The bulletin item deadline is Thursday @ 3:00pm for the Sunday after next bulletin. E-mail items to: office@steugenes.com. We reserve the right to edit or omit items.

Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

ADMINISTRATION

For the Week of: 5/1/22

Sunday Donations Received:	\$14,223.
2nd Collection : No Second Collection	N/A

~CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS~

The Special of the Month for the month of May is 25% off all in-stock clergy wear! We have albs, surplices, cinctures, vestment bags, and much more! Do you serve at the altar? Do you have a friend or a loved one who is a priest, a deacon, or an acolyte? Take advantage of our low prices on our in-stock clergy wear this month! Also, please share with your Spanish-speaking friends that we have a great section with Spanish books and cards! The shop is open Wed-Fri 9:30-4:30 & Sun 9:30-1:30. Call us at 542-0250.

~PRAYER INTENTIONS~

A book for your personal prayer intentions is available in the east side vestibule of the church. It is located on a stand in the corner and is entitled, "Hear Our Prayer Book". If you would like to add an intention, please do so!

ST. EUGENE'S CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

~FALL REGISTRATION~

Saint Eugene's Cathedral School is now enrolling Kindergarten through 8th Grade students! Please go to the following link to apply. <https://www.steugenesch.org/html/admissions/Admissions.html> Upon the submission of your completed application, you will receive an invitation to the student screening and tour date. If you have questions, please contact our office between 8 am and 1:30 pm Monday-Friday, at 707-545-7252.

~PRE-SCHOOL~

Our preschool is now accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. We also offer an 8-week summer session. For more information, please contact Sharry Caesare at caesares@steugenesch.org or 707 528-9133 for information and availability.

SECOND COLLECTION INFORMATION

~NO SECOND COLLECTION~

This weekend, May 14 & 15, there is no Second Collection. Next weekend, May 21 & 22, the Second Collection will be for our school's Tuition Assistance Program. Thank you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	May 14
8:00 am	Carl Goslovich, deceased
4:30 pm	George and Chris Schirle, deceased
6:30 pm (Sp)	Graciela Cardenas, living & Familia Calderon, living & deceased
Sunday	May 15
7:30 am	ICF Members, living & deceased
9:00 am	William Avilla, deceased
10:30 am	People of St. Eugene's
12:00 pm	Bill Peter & Family, living
1:30 pm (EF)	Fr. Daniel Roa, living
5:30 pm	Connor Bundock, deceased
6:00 pm	Paul L. Erickson, deceased
Newman Ctr.	
Monday	May 16
6:45 am	Edward A. Dailey, Jr., deceased
8:00 am	Leo Pimentel, deceased
Tuesday	May 17
6:45 am	Nancy Reilly, living
8:00 am	McShane & Stronge Families, living & deceased
5:30 pm (EF)	Michael Tran, living
Wednesday	May 18
6:45 am	Rosa Marie Jeri, living
8:00 am	Stephanie Buettner, deceased
Thursday	May 19
6:45 am	John Brott, deceased
8:00 am	Frank & Joseph Reilly, deceased
9:20 am (Sch)	Kathleen Hope Bramer, deceased
Friday	May 20
6:45 am	Andres Jeri Rosenthal, deceased
8:00 am	Fabiano Monterroso, living
12:00 pm (Hosp)	Catalina Sandoval & Alfred Alegria, deceased
Saturday	May 21
8:00 am	Fr. Alan Acevedo, living
4:30 pm	Charles Forkner, deceased
6:30 (Sp)	Andres & Cody Landeros, deceased

~PLEASE PRAY FOR~

Those who are ill need your support and prayers: Tristan Humble, Samuel Agius, Sandy Torti Wilcox, Marjorie Miles, Amelia Lansangan, Gail Brown, Leo Del Santo, Emeline Jane Smith, Rosalind Britto, Ken Davis, Rita Wyatt, Karen Mills, Eileen Carol, Nancy Amador, Patrick Welter, Cristeta Marentes, Jesus Navarro, Michael Boland, Stephen Warner, Thomas Patrick, Aida Cata-pang, Bob Goldman, Pat Davenport, Joan Cosgrove, Paulita Castro, Jean L. Alfano, Theresa Pham, Rainey Olson, Michele Otten, Pauline Goslovich, Mary Gonzales and Nick Sidjakov.

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

~INTERNATIONAL ROSARY CRUSADE~

People around the world are still praying the Rosary in a public place every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. for an end to the many ills that have befallen the world: pandemic, war, and also the rise of atheism and anti-Christian sentiment and laws. Join us as we join in this international effort! We meet at the Fatima Statue/grotto outside the east entrance of the Cathedral **every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.** to publicly pray the Rosary and implore our Lady for help. *"Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ."*

~4 MILE PILGRIMAGE~

Join us on Saturday, May 21st for a 4-mile pilgrimage! We will begin our day with the 8:00 a.m. Mass here, at St. Eugene's. We will then be led on our walk by Stephen Morris, Director of Youth Activities for the Diocese of Santa Rosa. He will lead us on a section of the Camino de Sonoma. We will discover a bit more about Santa Rosa history, early church communities and the missions, finishing our pilgrimage by 11:00 a.m. at Prince Gateway Park, near the home of Luther Burbank. (If you do not wish to walk back to St. Eugene's, you may want to arrange to be picked up at the park!) RSVP/info: dsryouth@srdiocese.org // 310-849-2342.

~9 MILE PILGRIMAGE~

On Thursday, May 26th, there will be a 9-mile pilgrimage starting in Oakmont! The day will begin with the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Star of the Valley Catholic Church. Walk along the Warren Richardson Trail in Annadel State Park, ascend to Lake Isanjo, descend to Spring Creek trail and enjoy lunch at Spring Lake Park. Finally, walk from there to Flat Rock Park on Yulupa and finish at 2:00 pm! RSVP/info: dsryouth@srdiocese.org // 310-849-2342.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

~GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES~

Golden Opportunities is a St. Eugene's parish social group for seniors 50 and up that meets on the **2nd Thursday** of every month at 11:30 am in the Parish Life Center and then either a guest speaker, games, or entertainment. Lunch is provided or sometimes a potluck is provided by members. Please join us!

~RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE~

Are you Pro-life? What are you doing to promote respect for life from conception to natural death? Are you aware that St. Eugene's has a Respect Life Committee? We are a small group that would greatly like to have more members. We meet once a month and occasionally have a speaker. New members would make it possible to do much more at this pivotal time in our nation's history when the pro-life voice must be heard! Please consider joining. For more information, please call Betty Bjornstrom at 707-542-5060.

***Happy Belated Mother's Day to all of our mothers!
Please remember these mothers, living & deceased, especially in your prayers!***

<i>Claudia Ramirez</i>	<i>Ilse Perez</i>	<i>Maria de Jesus Sanchez</i>	<i>Elisa Bunanig</i>	<i>Petra Manansala</i>
<i>Nancy Marinski</i>	<i>Maria Asuncion Carcache</i>	<i>Helen Catherine Marinski</i>	<i>Soledad Mata</i>	<i>Guadalupe Gomez</i>
<i>Paula Mata</i>	<i>Mary Tillman</i>	<i>Laura Cousineau</i>	<i>Alice Armerich</i>	<i>Theresa Pham</i>
<i>Christy Armerich</i>	<i>Barbara Eichhorn</i>	<i>Visenta Sanchez</i>	<i>Olieta Royston</i>	<i>Lori Hatch</i>
<i>Gloria Wynn</i>	<i>Rita Arnaudo</i>	<i>Mary Baoano</i>	<i>Consepsion Vasquez</i>	<i>Marcelina Morales</i>
<i>Victoria Perez Vasquez</i>	<i>Juana dela Cruz Garcia</i>	<i>Catalina Miranda</i>	<i>Felicitas Bahena</i>	<i>Graciela Vigil</i>
<i>Josephine Kelly</i>	<i>Blessed Mother, Mary</i>	<i>Mother Rosina Provenzano</i>	<i>Cousin, Debra Walker</i>	<i>Henriette Bernardy</i>
<i>Susan Schutz</i>	<i>Maria Glena</i>	<i>Janice Lucha</i>	<i>Apolonia Herrera-Fermina</i>	<i>Eusevia Mercado</i>
<i>Margart Martinez</i>	<i>Carmen Lopez</i>	<i>Rita Ramira</i>	<i>Linda Crandall</i>	<i>Kristin Heystek</i>
<i>Victoria McCargar</i>	<i>Noreen Coburn</i>	<i>Bernice Panoski</i>	<i>Patricia Hess</i>	<i>Karen Panoski</i>
<i>Jane Dines</i>	<i>Kathleen Barry</i>	<i>Lourdes Santos</i>	<i>Liwayway Retaga</i>	<i>Fernande Alice La Casse</i>
<i>Ermina La Casse</i>	<i>Marie Anne St. Hilaire</i>	<i>Kenny & Stark Families (and all of my foster Mothers)</i>	<i>All of the forgotten Mothers in the world</i>	

MY CATHOLIC FAITH

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

~ST. AUGUSTINE~

The following is an excerpt of a homily given by St. Augustine (354-430) : "The Lord Jesus declares that he is giving his disciples a new commandment, that they should love one another: *I give you a new commandment: love one another.* But wasn't this commandment already part of the ancient law of God, where it is written *You shall love your neighbor as yourself?* Why, then, is it called a new one by the Lord, when it is really so old? Is it new because he has divested us of our old humanity and clothed us with the new? It is true that love renews those who listen to it (or rather, those who act in obedience to it) but it is that particular love which the Lord distinguished from all carnal affection by adding love one another as I have loved you. This is the love that renews us, making us new men, heirs of the New Testament, singers of the new song. "

~ A SPECIAL KIND OF LOVE~

"It was this love, my beloved brethren, that renewed the patriarchs and prophets of old, and later renewed the blessed apostles. For entire homily, go to: <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/thenewcommandmentoflove/>

PENANCE & MARTYRDOM

~ BLOODLESS BUT PAINFUL~

"It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God."

"Not all the faithful who suffer for Christ also die for Christ. Opposition to the Christian faith and way of life does not always end in violent death for the persecuted victims. Consequently, it is well to distinguish between what may be called martyrdom of blood and martyrdom of opposition, which is bloodless indeed, but no less--and sometimes more--painful to endure. Not all the victims of persecution die at the hands of a godless government. Millions more are ostensibly free to walk the streets and live in a home. Yet they are, in effect, deprived of every human liberty to practice their religion and to serve Christ according to their Faith. If they teach their children catechism, the parents are prevented from enjoying such privileges as decent living quarters or any kind of skilled job. If they are seen attending church, they are first warned, then threatened, and finally penalized - even to the loss of their possessions. So the sorry tale goes on, and has been going on for years, in spite of the conspiracy of silence in our American press." But that is not the

whole picture. We need to shake ourselves into awareness that our country is going through persecution. It is no less real for being subtle, and no less painful for being perpetrated in the name of democracy. What do I mean? I mean that any priest or religious, any married or single person in America who wishes to sincerely and fully live up to his Catholic commitment, finds countless obstacles in his way and experiences innumerable difficulties that accumulatively demand heroic fortitude to overcome and withstand."

~ POLAR OPPOSITES~

"All we have to do is place the eight beatitudes in one column and the eight corresponding attitudes of our culture in another column, and compare the two. Where Christ advocates poverty, the world despises the poor and canonizes the rich. Where Christ praises gentleness, the world belittles meekness and extols those who succeed by crushing anyone who stands in their way. Where Christ encourages mourning and sorrow for sin, the world revels in pleasure and the noise of empty laughter. Where Christ promises joy only to those who seek justice and holiness, the world offers satisfaction in the enjoyment of sin. Where Christ bids us forgive and show mercy to those who have offended us, the world seeks vengeance and its law courts are filled with demands for retribution. Where Christ blesses those who are pure of heart, the world scoffs at chastity and makes a god of sex. Where Christ tells the peaceful that they shall be rewarded, the world teaches just the opposite in constant rebellion and violence and massive preparation for war. And where Christ teaches the incredible doctrine of accepting persecution with patience and resignation to God's will, the world dreads nothing more than criticism and rejection; and human respect which means acceptance by society, is the moral norm."

~ ACTUALLY SHEDDING OF BLOOD~

"On the bloody side, our century has had more Christians who were martyred for Christ than in all the centuries from Calvary to nineteen hundred included. I should know because not a few of my own relatives behind the iron curtain have shed their blood for Christ rather than deny their Catholic Faith. To this day, innumerable Catholics are dying for their faith at the hands of Muslims who are told by the Koran to either convert Christians from their idolatry of adoring the man Jesus as though he were God, or put them to death, but my focus here is on

on our own country. Call it an un-bloody martyrdom, but have no doubt that to live an authentic Catholic life in America today is to live a martyr's life.

~ MARTYRDOM OF WITNESS~

"... We still have one more type of martyrdom to reflect on, and it is, in a way, the most pervasive of all because no follower of Christ can escape it. This is the martyrdom of witness. What do we mean by martyrdom of witness and how does it differ from the other two? It differs from them in that, even in the absence of active opposition--the imitation of Christ must always face passive opposition. From whom? From those who lack a clear vision of the Savior or who, having had it, lost their former commitment to Christ. All that we have seen about the martyrdom by violence applies here too, but the method of opposition is different. Here the firm believer in the Church's teaching authority; the devoted servant of the papacy; the convinced pastor who insists on sound doctrine to his flock; the dedicated religious who want to remain faithful to their vows of authentic poverty, honest chastity, and sincere obedience; the firm parents who are concerned about the religious and moral training of their children and are willing to sacrifice generously to build and care for a Christian family--natural or adopted--such persons will not be spared also active criticism and open opposition. But they must especially be ready to live in an atmosphere of coldness to their deepest beliefs." For the complete article by Fr. John Hardon, go to: http://www.therealpresence.org/archives/Martyrs/Martyrs_001.htm

~NEW HEAVEN—NEW EARTH~



When our LORD comes back, He will judge the world, meaning the General Judgement will begin. All of the bodies of those who have died since the beginning of time will rise and be reunited with their souls. (Those in heaven, purgatory and hell right now are disembodied souls.) As bodies are material and not spiritual, they will need a material place to occupy, ie: the new earth. Those souls in heaven and purgatory will receive glorified bodies and those souls in hell will receive bodies that are the exact opposite of glorified! Purgatory will cease to exist. The Catechism says, "The universe itself will be renewed. In this new universe, the heavenly Jerusalem, God will have His dwelling among men."

MI FE CATOLICA

AMOR Y MARTIRIO

~DEL PASTOR~

Nuestras lecturas de esta semana hablan de muchas cosas interesantes. Por ejemplo, nuestra primera lectura habla de las muchas dificultades que debemos atravesar para entrar en el reino de Dios. ¿Qué es todo eso? Luego, nuestra segunda lectura del Libro de Apocalipsis nos habla de la visión de Juan de un cielo nuevo y una tierra nueva. ¿Cómo sucederá esto? Finalmente, en nuestra lectura del Evangelio de Juan, leemos que Jesús nos da un nuevo mandamiento: “amaos los unos a los otros”. ¿Qué quieres decir con esto? ¡Sigue leyendo!

AMARSE LOS UNO A LOS OTROS

~ SAN AGUSTÍN~

El siguiente es un extracto de una homilía pronunciada por San Agustín (354-430): “El Señor Jesús declara que está dando a sus discípulos un mandamiento nuevo, que se amen unos a otros: Un mandamiento nuevo les doy: amarnos los unos a los otros. ¿Pero este mandamiento no formaba ya parte de la antigua ley de Dios, donde está escrito Amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo? ¿Por qué, entonces, el Señor lo llama nuevo, cuando en realidad es tan viejo? ¿Es nueva porque nos ha despojado de nuestra vieja humanidad y nos ha revestido de la nueva? Es cierto que el amor renueva a quienes lo escuchan (o más bien a quienes actúan en obediencia a él), pero es ese amor particular que el Señor distinguió de todo afecto carnal al agregar amarse unos a otros como yo los he amado. Este es el amor que nos renueva, haciéndonos hombres nuevos, herederos del Nuevo Testamento, cantores del cántico nuevo.”

~ UN TIPO ESPECIAL DE AMOR ~

“Fue este amor, amados hermanos míos, el que renovó a los patriarcas y profetas de antaño, y más tarde renovó a los bienaventurados apóstoles. Este es el amor que ahora renueva a las naciones, y de entre el linaje universal del hombre, que se extiende por todo el mundo, forma y reúne un pueblo nuevo, el cuerpo de la recién casada esposa del unigénito Hijo de Dios. De ella dice el Cantar de los Cantares: ¿Quién es la que sube vestida de blanco? Vestida de blanco porque ha sido renovada; y ¿de qué otra manera puede haber sido renovada sino por el mandamiento nuevo? Por esto, los miembros del pueblo de Dios se

interesan mutuamente; y si un miembro sufre, todos los miembros sufren con él; y si un miembro es honrado, todos los miembros se regocijan con él. Porque esto oyen y esto observan: un mandamiento nuevo les doy: que se amen unos a otros: no como los que fingen amarse para corromperse unos a otros, ni como los que se aman de verdad, sino humanamente”.

~ DIOS ES TODO EN TODO ~

“Más bien, se aman unos a otros como los que pertenecen a Dios. Todos ellos son hijos del Altísimo y, por tanto, hermanos de su Hijo único. Comparten el amor con que él los conduce hasta el fin que les traerá el cumplimiento y la verdadera satisfacción de sus verdaderos deseos. Porque cuando Dios es todo en todos, no hay deseo que quede sin cumplir. Este amor nos lo da aquel que dijo: Así como yo os he amado, también os améis los unos a los otros. Él nos amó para que nos amemos unos a otros. Al amarnos nos unió unos a otros en amor mutuo, y por este vínculo suave nos unió en el cuerpo del cual él es la Cabeza más noble”.

PENITENCIA Y MARTIRIO

~ SIN SANGRE PERO DOLOROSA ~

“Es necesario que pasemos por muchas penalidades para entrar en el reino de Dios”.

“No todos los fieles que sufren por Cristo mueren también por Cristo. La oposición a la fe y al modo de vida cristianos no siempre acaba en la muerte violenta de las víctimas perseguidas. Consecuentemente, es bueno distinguir entre lo que puede llamarse martirio de sangre y martirio de oposición, que es ciertamente sin sangre, pero no menos, y a veces más, doloroso de soportar. No todas las víctimas de la persecución mueren a manos de un gobierno sin Dios. Millones más son ostensiblemente libres para caminar por las calles y vivir en una casa. Sin embargo, están, en efecto, privados de toda libertad humana para practicar su religión y servir a Cristo según su fe. Si enseñan el catecismo a sus hijos, los padres no pueden disfrutar de privilegios tales como una vivienda digna o cualquier tipo de trabajo calificado. Si se les ve asistiendo a la iglesia, primero se les advierte, luego se les amenaza y finalmente se les sanciona, incluso hasta la pérdida de sus posesiones. Así que la triste historia continúa, y ha estado ocurriendo durante años, a pesar de la conspiración de silencio en nuestra prensa estadounidense”.

Pero esa no es la imagen completa. Necesitamos sacudirnos para tomar conciencia de que nuestro país está pasando por una persecución. No es menos real por ser sutil, ni menos doloroso por ser perpetrado en nombre de la democracia. ¿Que quiero decir? Quiero decir que cualquier sacerdote o religioso, cualquier persona casada o soltera en América que desee vivir sincera y plenamente su compromiso católico, encuentra innumerables obstáculos en su camino y experimenta innumerables dificultades que acumulativamente exigen una fortaleza heroica para vencer y resistir”.

~POLOS OPUESTOS~

“Todo lo que tenemos que hacer es colocar las ocho bienaventuranzas en una columna y las ocho actitudes correspondientes de nuestra cultura en otra columna, y comparar las dos. Donde Cristo aboga por la pobreza, el mundo desprecia a los pobres y canoniza a los ricos. Donde Cristo alaba la mansedumbre, el mundo menosprecia la mansedumbre y ensalza a los que triunfan aplastando a cualquiera que se interponga en su camino. Donde Cristo alienta el luto y el dolor por el pecado, el mundo se deleita en el placer y el ruido de la risa vacía. Donde Cristo promete alegría sólo a los que buscan la justicia y la santidad, el mundo ofrece satisfacción en el disfrute del pecado. Donde Cristo nos pide que perdonemos y mostremos misericordia a quienes nos han ofendido, el mundo busca venganza y sus tribunales están llenos de demandas de retribución. Donde Cristo bendice a los puros de corazón, el mundo se burla de la castidad y hace del sexo un dios. Donde Cristo dice a los pacíficos que serán recompensados, el mundo enseña todo lo contrario en constante rebelión y violencia y preparación masiva para la guerra. Y donde Cristo enseña la increíble doctrina de aceptar la persecución con paciencia y resignación a la voluntad de Dios, el mundo no teme más que a la crítica y al rechazo; y el respeto humano, que significa aceptación por parte de la sociedad, es la norma moral”.

~REALMENTE DERRAMAMIENTO DE SANGRE~

“En el lado sangriento, nuestro siglo ha tenido más cristianos que fueron martirizados por Cristo que en todos los siglos desde el Calvario hasta mil novecientos inclusive. Debo saberlo porque no pocos de mis propios parientes detrás de la cortina de hierro han derramado su sangre por Cristo en lugar de negar su fe católica. Hasta el día de hoy, innumerables católicos están muriendo por su fe a manos de musulmanes a quienes el Corán les dice que conviertan a los cristianos de sus idolatría de adorar al hombre Jesús

como si fuera Dios, o darles muerte, pero mi enfoque aquí está en nuestro propio país. Llámelo un martirio no sangriento, pero no tenga ninguna duda de que vivir una auténtica vida católica en Estados Unidos hoy es vivir la vida de un mártir.

~ MARTIRIO DEL TESTIGO ~

“... Todavía tenemos un tipo más de martirio sobre el que reflexionar, y es, en cierto modo, el más generalizado de todos porque ningún seguidor de Cristo puede escapar de él. Este es el martirio del testimonio. ¿Qué entendemos por martirio del testimonio y en qué se diferencia de los otros dos? Se diferencia de ellos en que, incluso en ausencia de oposición activa, la imitación de Cristo siempre debe enfrentarse a una oposición pasiva. ¿De quien? De aquellos que carecen de una visión clara del Salvador o que, habiéndola tenido, perdieron su antiguo compromiso con Cristo. Todo lo que hemos visto sobre el martirio por la violencia se aplica aquí también, pero el método de oposición es diferente. Aquí el firme creyente en la autoridad docente de la Iglesia; el devoto servidor del papado; el pastor convencido que insiste en la sana doctrina a su rebaño; los religiosos dedicados que quieren permanecer fieles a sus votos de auténtica pobreza, honesta castidad y sincera obediencia; los padres firmes que se preocupan por la formación religiosa y moral de sus hijos y están dispuestos a sacrificarse generosamente para construir y cuidar una familia cristiana -natural o adoptiva-, tales personas no se librarán también de la crítica activa y la oposición abierta. Pero deben estar especialmente preparados para vivir en una atmósfera de frialdad a sus creencias más profundas”.

~NUEVO CIELO – NUEVA TIERRA~

Cuando nuestro SEÑOR regrese, juzgará al mundo, es decir, comenzará el Juicio General. Todos los cuerpos de los que han muerto desde el principio de los tiempos resucitarán y se reunirán con sus almas. (Los que están en el cielo, el purgatorio y el infierno en este momento son almas desencarnadas). Como los cuerpos son materiales y no espirituales, necesitarán un lugar material para ocupar, es decir: la nueva tierra. ¡Aquellas almas en el cielo y el purgatorio recibirán cuerpos glorificados y aquellas almas en el infierno recibirán cuerpos exactamente opuestos a los glorificados! El purgatorio dejará de existir. El Catecismo dice: “El universo mismo será renovado. En este nuevo universo, la Jerusalén celestial, Dios tendrá su morada entre los hombres”.



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