

December 7, 2008

Second Sunday of Advent

Saint John Vianney

A Mission Church of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish serving you since August 10, 1997
1100 Hood Road, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
Soon to be: 1000 26th Ave NE, 87144

Hello fellow parishioners,

I'm not sure why but during church the other day I was wondering where we got the word "Pope". Even I know you will not find "Pope" in the bible. "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." Matthew 16:18 (NIV).

Maybe we should be referring to the Pope as the "Rock" instead. Instead of **Pope Benedict XVI** we would refer to leader of our church as **Rock Benedict XVI**. OK everyone calm down I'm not trying to start a movement. Below is what I found on the web.

What is the origin of the word "pope"?

"...The word "pope" means father. In ancient Greek it was a child's term of affection but was borrowed by later Latin as honorific. Both Greek-speaking Eastern and Latin-speaking Western Christians then applied it to priests and bishops and patriarchs ('head of the family'); and still today priests of the Orthodox Churches of Greece, Russia and Serbia call their parish priests 'pope'. Gradually, however, Latin started to restrict its usage. At the beginning of the 3rd century, 'papa' was a term of respect for churchmen in high positions; by the 5th century, it was applied particularly to the bishop of Rome; and after the 8th, as far as the West was concerned, the title was exclusively his...."

Source: Chronicle of the Popes, by P.G. Maxwell-Stuart

Now go forth and prepare for the coming of the Lord. God Bless you all.

Upcoming Events

December 21st, 10AM Mass Archbishop Michael Sheehan Celebrates Mass
December 24th Christmas Eve Masses 5PM, 7PM
December 25th Christmas Mass 10AM
December 27,28th New Mass ScheduleSaturday 4PM, Sunday 8AM, 10AM

Defending Our Faith - A Series on Apologetics by John Lombardo

Mormonism-Christian or Cult?

Those of us who have been visited by Mormon missionaries usually see two well dressed young men, Bible in hand, wanting to explain their beliefs to us. These missionaries usually have a beautifully pictured handout entitled “The Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ”: beautiful pictures, strange title. Respectfully introducing themselves, they cite a pre-determined New Testament quotation from their Bible (King James Version), discuss it and then ask questions concerning our beliefs. Sounds OK so far? The scripture passage used and their explanation sounds very Christian-like. Unfortunately, what you are not told is that Mormons use Christian terms with Mormon concepts. I’ll try to explain how this works.

Mormons believe that the only acceptable Bible is the Protestant King James Version. All others are in error. They also accept many Protestant errors such as rejection of the Eucharist, the Papacy, all Marian doctrines, the seven deuterocanonical books etc.(1) These issues can be handled and addressed via Scripture. However, doctrines such as Trinity, God, Resurrection, and even heaven have different meanings for Mormons.(2) These and other major Mormon doctrines are not based on Sacred Scripture or Sacred Tradition. Using Scripture to prove a point with distinctively Mormon beliefs is almost an impossibility for Mormons to accept. This article, however, will consider the Mormon belief of the “Great Apostasy,” their foundational doctrine. If we can show Mormons that no “universal apostasy” happened, the entire basis of Mormonism collapses.

The Great Apostasy

“Following the death of Jesus Christ, wicked people persecuted and killed many Church members. Other Church members drifted from the principles taught by Jesus Christ and His Apostles. The Apostles were killed, and priesthood authority—including the keys to direct and receive revelation for the Church---was taken from the earth. Because the Church was no longer led by priesthood authority, error crept into Church teachings. Good people and much truth remained, but the gospel as established by Jesus Christ was lost. This period is called the Great Apostasy”(3)

This week I will try to show our Catholic faithful that Sacred Scripture refutes the Mormon idea of the “great apostasy”. In future writings I will use history and reason to refute the viability of this Mormon teaching to Mormons. We Catholics know that Scripture is “very clear that Christ left a Church that would last until the end of time, and would faithfully teach the Gospel”.(4) The following Bible verses confirm this point.

Mt. 7: 24-27: In the parable of the wise man who built his house upon a rock that was impervious to winds and floods unlike the fool who built his house on sand and had his house destroyed, is Jesus the wise man who built His house (Church) on rock or is He the fool who built on sand? Obviously He is the wise man; what He builds won’t collapse.(5)

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Mt. 16: 13-18: Jesus reinforces what He said in the above Scripture by adding “permanence of what he has built by promising that the ‘gates of hell’ will not prevail against His church.” Obviously, the gates of hell would have triumphed had the Church vanished even for a short time.(6)

Mt. 18: 15-18: These verses extend and perfect what Jesus notes above. These verses contain Jesus’ concern with fraternal correction as a way of helping save a brother who has gone astray, and concludes with His giving Peter the power to bind and loose. Disputes involving religious matters are to be taken to the Church. This presupposes the existence of the Church throughout time and that the Church will remain true to her mission. Otherwise, we would have to take our disputes to some corrupt pagan church to follow Jesus’ command.(7)

Mt. 28: 20: “Behold, I am with you **always**, until the end of the age”. Jesus is telling us in no uncertain terms that he will remain with His Church until the end of time. Unless Our Lord is a liar, (and who would dare to so accuse Him), His Bride, the Church can not apostatize, that is, “to become doctrinally corrupt. It is impossible for Jesus to abandon His Church.” (8)

In summary, Scripture is quite clear: our Catholic Church has never been, nor can it ever be, “corrupted in her Apostolic authority and teaching”.(9)

My next endeavor will be concerned with the irrefutable footprints of history to refute and expunge the Mormon view of the Great Apostasy. Until then, **Peace**.

(1) Beginning Apologetics-2- How to Answer Jehovah’s Witnesses and Mormons, by Fr. Frank Chacon and Jim Burnham, p. 19

(2) *Ibid.*, pp.20-21

(3) “The Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ”, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Booklet, p. 8

(4) *Ibid.*, see# 1 above, p 22

(5) *Ibid.*, p.22

(6) *Ibid.*, p.22

(7) Navarre Bible-New Testament, footnote, p.53

(8) *Ibid.*, see #1 above, p.23

(9) *Ibid.*, p.23

CCD Classes

We will not have class on Dec 21 BUT we do want to remind everyone that we will be having our first Mass at the new Church on that day and hope to see everyone attend the 10am Mass.

We will have our Christmas break on Dec 28th. Classes will resume in January at the new Church.

– Edwinna

IT WAS PALM SUNDAY AND, BECAUSE OF A SORE THROAT, FIVE-YEAR-OLD TONY STAYED HOME FROM CHURCH WITH A SITTER. WHEN THE FAMILY RETURNED HOME, THEY WERE CARRYING SEVERAL PALM BRANCHES. THE BOY ASKED WHAT THEY WERE FOR. "PEOPLE HELD THEM OVER JESUS' HEAD AS HE WALKED BY."
"WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT," THE BOY FUMED, "THE ONE SUNDAY I DON'T GO, HE SHOWS UP!"

Saint Eulalia of Merida

Memorial: 10 December

Profile: A consecrated virgin who, from her early youth, wanted to be a martyr. During the Diocletian persecutions, when she was around 12-14 years old (sources vary), she went to the tribunal, and confessed her faith on her own. Tortured and martyred with Saint Julia of Merida. Legend says that when she was thrown naked into the street, snow fell to cover her; later when her ashes were dumped in a field, snow fell on them to create a burial pall.

Born: c.290 at Spain

Died: Tortured and burned alive
c.304

Patronage: runaways, torture victims, widows



*St. John Vianney Catholic Parish Hall
Dedication and First Mass*

December 21, 2008 at 10am

Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan, Celebrant

Christmas Eve December 24, 2008 at 5 & 7pm

Christmas Day at 10am

New Mass Schedule

Starting December 28, 2008

Saturday (Sunday Obligation) 4pm

Sunday 8 & 10am

Saturday Confession 3 - 3:45pm

Sunday Religious Education 11:15am

Prayer Corner

Let us join as a community in prayer for our fellow parishioners and/or their family members.

- ◆ Manuel Romero - For a liver transplant / recovery.
- ◆ Mary Q. Haygood – For her health.
- ◆ Healing and God's care for Ken and Sydney Mayer.
- ◆ For our country leaders to make the right decision for the well being of our country.
- ◆ All our brave men and women of the world keeping their country free.

To add someone you wish us to pray for please eMail bulletin@sjvnm.org.

Thank you for your prayers.

Pilgrimages for Vocations – May Pilgrimage and 100-mile June Pilgrimage

"For to me Life is Christ" Philippians 2:21

Do you love New Mexico? Are you fond of the scenic views, and spectacular sunrises? Wish you could take time to really enjoy the sights, live radically in Christ, and pray for vocations at the same time? If so, then join the hundreds of the faithful who have done this for the last 36 years. The Archdiocese of Santa Fe hosts the annual Pilgrimages for Vocations: May Pilgrimage and June (100 mile) Pilgrimage. There are five routes for the June Pilgrimage: Estancia, Costilla, Chama, Bernal, and Albuquerque. All routes finish at the Santuario de Chimayo in Chimayo, NM.

To learn more about the week-long 100 mile June Pilgrimage, or the one day May Pilgrimage, contact Olivia Caraveo (local leader) at (505)927-4438 or Della Caraveo at 505(994-2680). All applications must go through the local leader.

Applications can be found online at <http://pilgrimagesforvocations.org> or call Olivia or Della. Thank you.

Parish Directory

Vicar	Rev. Scott Mansfield
Coordinator	Ed Uhrich
Communications	Carl E. Beyer
Finance Building Chair	James Sandoval
Pastoral Chair	Ed Uhrich
Head Sacristan.....	Gerry Hoover
Head Usher & Altar Servers.....	Ed Uhrich
Head Lector.....	Peggy Riley
Head EM	Pinky Bjornstad
Head CCD	Edwinna Herrera
Head Snacker	Harlan Harrington
Parish Website.....	www.sjvnm.org
Concerns / Questions (Leave a Message)	974-1778



Thank you for reading our bulletin. Any suggestions, comments or articles can be sent to bulletin@sjvnm.org. We also like to hear about births, baptisms, marriages or other news about our church members.

Receive our bulletin via eMail
 Visit our website at www.sjvnm.org and click on **Subscribe** to be added to the eMailing list. to receive the bulletin electronically.

Holy Rosary
 Sunday 7:40AM
 Sunday 10:40AM

Holy Mass
 Sunday 8:00AM
 Sunday 11:00AM

Two kids went into their parent’s bathroom and noticed the scale in the corner.
 “Whatever you,” said one youngster to the other,” don’t step on it!”
 “Why not?” asked the sibling.
 “Because every time Mom does, she lets out an awful loud scream!”

Volunteer Schedule	December 7, 2008		December 14, 2008	
	8:00AM	11:00AM	8:00AM	11:00AM
Ushers	Tom Anderson James Dory	Tony Quinones Frank Charles	John Anderson James Dory	Ed Uhrich Phil Griego
EM of Holy Communion	April McClellan	Coz Madrid	Jose Guillen	Margaret Chavez
Rosary Leader	Sheila Howard	Rochelle Quinones	Fran Perko	Mary Bell Lucero
Altar Servers	Ian Burnside Fernando Lucero	Jamie VLS Jessica VLS	Shane Herrera Albert Ibarra	Amanda Jenkins Jen Reynolds
Readers	Net Montoya Petrita Lopez	Michael Tafuro Pink Bjornstad	David Schutten David Crawford	Pam McCarty Bill McCarty
Sacristan	Julie Burnside	Donna Madrid	Julie Burnside	Margaret Chavez

Debi Wendt - Realtor
 Coldwell Banker
 263-7095 Cellular
 891-6431 Direct
 mariska564@aol.com



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Holy Family

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Bible Crossword Solution No.2

D	NEO	B	A	B	Y	L	O	N		
E	T	E	R	N	A	L	E	A	S	E
M	C	R	E	M	E	C	A	D	E	T
O	A	K	S	E	A	T	R	E	W	
N	T	U	N	T	I	L	H	O		
E	A	R	M	A	T	T	E	R		
E	A	R	L	S	E	E	W	O	R	K
Z	E	A	L	O	T	W	O	E		
E	L	T	A	B	L	E	B	Y		
K	S	T	R	O	E	R	A	C	E	
I	O	T	A	S	O	A	S	I	S	M
E	D	E	R	T	H	I	S	T	L	E
L	E	P	R	O	S	Y	N	E	E	N

The Lord is coming