

September 20, 2009

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saint John Vianney

A Mission Church of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish serving you since August 10, 1997
1000 26th Ave NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144

www.stjohnvianneyparish.org

Friends in Christ,

Last Sunday during the parish meeting, members came up with a plan in the event of some parish member needs immediate medical assistance. The committee concluded that it would be a good thing for parish members who are EMTs, doctors, or nurses to introduce themselves to our ushers. This way our ushers, in the event some person needs medical assistance, can know who to get assistance from.

Secondly, more ushers and rosary leaders are needed for the Saturday Vigil Mass. Please contact Carl Beyer for more information.

Finally, we will have yet another Potluck lunch on the 27th, after the 10AM Mass. This time we will be honoring all of the volunteers who keep our place looking so good, inside and out.

Have blessed week.

Fr. Scott Mansfield

Holy Rosary

20 Minutes before each mass

Holy Masses

Saturday4:00PM

Sunday.....8:00AM

Sunday..... 10:00AM

Sacrament of Confession

Saturday 3:00-3:45PM

Upcoming Events

9/27/09 After 10AM Mass Pot Luck

9/30/09 6:30PM @ St. John Vianney Usher Meeting

1st Sunday of every month..... Food Collection for St. Felix Pantry

New St. John Vianney Parish Members:

Billyjoe & Mary Lucero
Duane & Erica Esquibel
Lance & Maria Escalada

Fred & Equilda Chavez
Gerald & Deanne Sequra
Julian & Jane Rincon

Altar Server Meetings

New & Existing Altar Servers Sept 27th after 8AM Mass.

New Altar Servers training Sept 28th at 6PM.

Etymology (from Wikipedia)

The word "potluck" is commonly believed to have come from English origin. The earliest written citation is from 1592: "That that pure sanguine complexion of yours may never be famisht with pot lucke," Thomas Nashe. As this shows, the original meaning was "food given away to guests", probably derived from "whatever food one is lucky enough to find in the pot", i.e. whatever food happens to be available, especially when offered to a guest. By extension, a more general meaning is "whatever is available in a particular circumstance or at a particular time." The most common usage was within inns, taverns, and staging posts in the United Kingdom from the 16th century onwards. A wealthy traveler might ask what the hosteller had to offer to eat, and be told 'chicken', or 'beef' etc., and choose it. The poorer traveler might have to do with 'pot luck', a stew of whatever was left over from the fare of the last few days or weeks. Having usually been boiled many times over, it was safe enough, and often tasty, though its nutritional value was often low. Accompanied by starchy foods like bread or potatoes, however, the traveler might go to bed well satisfied.

POT LUCK - September 27th **After 10AM Mass - 11:15AM**



It is time to come together for a great meal and great company. So like the ladies on the left, get out your biggest pot and fill it with delicious food and bring it on over to share with your fellow parishioners. How about some working folks food in honor of our hard working parishioners who keep the church looking good inside and out. I am thinking the traditional food like ribs; roast; baked potatoes; mash potatoes; turkey with dressing; ham covered in brown sugar; bratwursts smothered in sauerkraut. And in honor of New Mexico some Green Chili Stew.

The Wooden Bowl

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered .

The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. 'We must do something about father,' said the son. 'I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor.'

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl.

When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

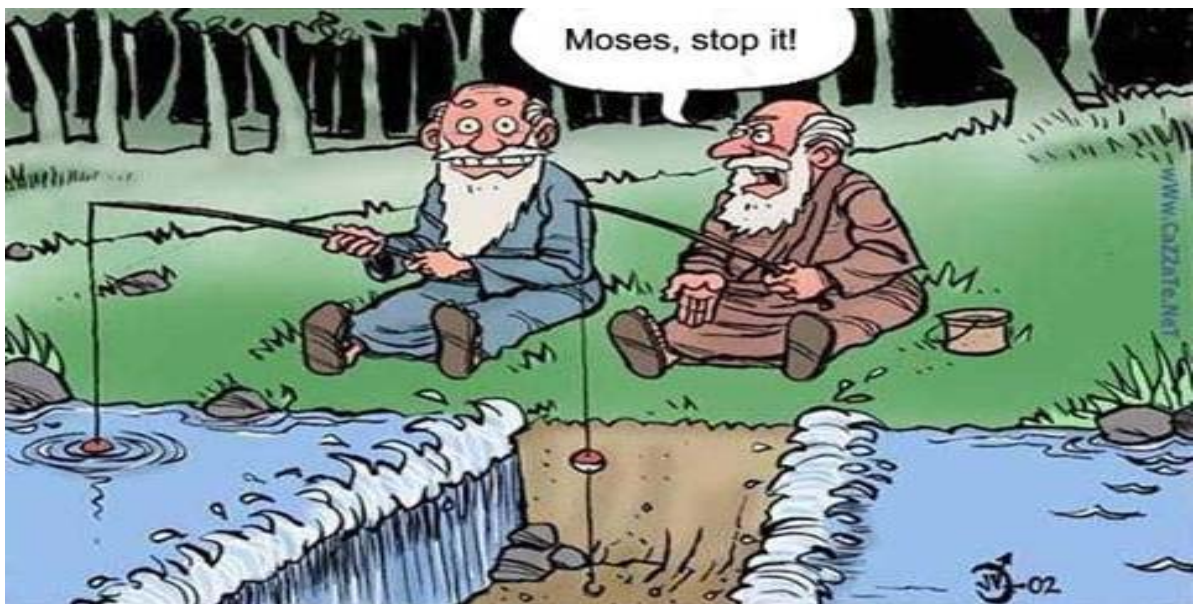
The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, 'What are you making?' Just as sweetly, the boy responded, 'Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up. ' The four-year-old smiled and went back to work.

The words so struck the parents so that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, Neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

*Be tender to the young, compassionate to the aged, and tolerant with the weak.
For in your life, you will be all of these.*



Congressional Health Care Plan vs. Catholic Medical Ethics -Part 4- Presidential and Congressional Misrepresentations

How many of us believe that our current government can cure a health care insurance system within the next few months? Reform is necessary even though “change” has been a political topic for the past forty years. My criticism however is leveled at the warp-speed this administration has pushed the issue without accepting input from the loyal opposition. This administration and Congress have labeled our input as either misrepresentations of the facts or myths which by definition is legend or folklore. This is pure deprecation, scorn and contempt.

The first myth I will tackle proffered by one of our Senators concerning health care reform alleges the government will maneuver vulnerable seniors to conclude for themselves that life is not worth living. H.R. 3200, Sec. 1233 does offer counseling services to answer a senior’s end-of-life questions . This provision allows Medicare recipients the opportunity to *voluntarily* obtain such services. Sound good?

Maybe not. Please stay with me as I try to unravel some of the legal verbiage in H.R. 3200, Sec.1401 which establishes a Center for *Comparative Effectiveness Research* and the Senate HELP bill which establishes a “comparative effectiveness entity“. These organizations will determine whether a treatment, drug or procedure is deemed to be less effective as conducted by the government. Such determinations could be based on a patient’s health status, age, and/or quality of life. Such determinations could deny care to patients based on these governmentally determined criteria. This type of decision is driven by *cost* rather a doctor’s best judgment. Dangerous!(1)

Comparative Effectiveness Research could also “become the means of advocating for the least expensive treatment *at the expense of respect for life*. With cost as the only driver, the elderly, sick, and disabled may find their options severely limited.”(2) Every Amendment to prohibit either cost driven limitations, withdrawal, or denial of life-sustaining treatment has been rejected in the Senate’s HELP bill. The Enzi, Hatch, and Roberts Amendments preventing the denial of end of life care, the rationing of health care, and the prevention of private health insurers from being barred from covering treatments which would have guaranteed that all individuals have access to essential health benefits were all **rejected**. This denial of adequate health care is rationing.(3)

House bill H.R. 3200, section 1233 addresses end of life care but leaves unclear whether the government or a health care provider could counsel or encourage a patient to choose physician-assisted suicide as a solution to terminal illness. Friends, while what I have noted above is still in transition, this administration has recently resurrected the Death Book, an end-of-life document entitled “Your Life, Your Choice” which originated in the Clinton administration but quashed by the Bush administration. The author of this document is a promoter of euthanasia who supported euthanasia in a Supreme Court case. It is well worth the effort to reconsider it here since it is a short step to implant the Death Book in any health reform bill now in Congress.

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The Veterans Administration is now using and advocating what it calls “the preferred living will throughout its vast network of hospitals and nursing homes”. Speaking plainly, the VA is counseling veterans to consider whether life is worth living, or not if they feel they are a burden on their loved ones. When the VA uses its medical staff to “advise” its veterans that they are a burden on their families and therefore consider death over life, you have euthanasia on a grand scale.(4) Checkout the section in the Death Book entitled “What makes your life worth living?” which lists 18 potential physical conditions .The veteran is required to check which column or columns reflects his outlook on life. One of these columns is entitled “**not worth living**”.(5) What happens then?

Dear friends, we really can not sit back and do nothing. Catholic teaching is clear concerning end-of-life decisions. The Church teaches that all human beings have a moral obligation to use ordinary means to preserving ones life, one which offers reasonable hope of benefit without imposing an excessive burden on the family. There is always a presumption that food and water is available to all patients- even those who need “medically assisted nutrition and hydration”.(6) Instead of counseling its depressed veterans to consider euthanasia, these veterans should be counseled out of their depression. We need to be more pro-active. Write, call, or e-mail our senators and congressmen; tell them they can do better than kill off the born and unborn.

My next missive will discuss this Myth: Health insurance reform will allocate federal funds to pay for abortions. Both the president and this congress have categorically denied this statement. I will not call them prevaricators, but I will attempt to show them they might be wrong. In the meantime, pray for the born and unborn that they may have life. God bless us, every one.

1. AUL Action Memo: A pro-life Look at the Health Care Reform Bills-pg. 6
2. Ibid. pg. 6
3. Ibid. pg. 7
4. Lifenews.com, August 23, 2009, by Steven Ertelt, Editor
5. Lifenews.com Pro-life News update 9/8/09 @ertelt@life news.com>
6. Summary of Catholic Medical Ethics, Archdiocese of Santa Fe Advanced Medical Directives, Pg. 2

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members.

On Death by Saint John Vianney

A day will come, perhaps it is not far off, when we must bid adieu to life, adieu to the world, adieu to our relations, adieu to our friends. When shall we return, my children? Never. We appear upon this earth, we disappear, and we return no more; our poor body, that we take such care of, goes away into dust, and our soul, all trembling, goes to appear before the good God. When we quit this world, where we shall appear no more, when our last breath of life escapes, and we say our last adieu, we shall wish to have passed our life in solitude, in the depths of a desert, far from the world and its pleasures. We have these examples of repentance before our eyes every day, my children, and we remain always the same. We pass our life gaily, without ever troubling ourselves about eternity. By our indifference to the service of the good God, one would think we were never going to die.



See, my children, some people pass their whole life without thinking of death. It comes, and behold! they have nothing; faith, hope, and love, all are already dead within them. When death shall come upon us, of what use will three-quarters of our life have been to us? With what are we occupied the greatest part of our time? Are we thinking of the good God, of our salvation, of our soul? O my children! what folly is the world! We come into it, we go out of it, without knowing why. The good God places us in it to serve Him, to try if we will love Him and be faithful to His law; and after this short moment of trial, He promises us a recompense. Is it not just that He should reward the faithful servant and punish the wicked one? Should the Trappist, who has passed his life in lamenting and weeping over his sins, be treated the same as the bad Christian, who has lived in abundance in the midst of all the enjoyments of life? No; certainly not. We are on earth not to enjoy its pleasures, but to labor for our salvation.

Let us prepare ourselves for death; we have not a minute to lose: it will come upon us at the moment when we least expect it; it will take us by surprise. Look at the saints, my children, who were pure; they were always trembling, they pined away with fear; and we, who so often offend the good God--we have no fears. Life is given us that we may learn to die well, and we never think of it. We occupy ourselves with everything else. The idea of it often occurs to us, and we always reject it; we put it off to the last moment. O my children! this last moment, how much it is to be feared! Yet the good God does not wish us to despair; He shows us the good thief, touched with repentance, dying near Him on the cross; but he is the only one; and then see, he dies near the good God. Can we hope to be near Him at our last moment--we who have been far from Him all our life? What have we done to deserve that favour? A great deal of evil, and no good.

There was once a good Trappist Father, who was trembling all over at perceiving the approach of death. Someone said to him, "Father, of what then are you afraid?" "Of the judgment of God," he said. "Ah! if you dread the judgment--you who have done so much penance, you who love God so much, who have been so long preparing for death--what will become of me?" See, my children, to die well we must live well; to live well, we must seriously examine ourselves: every evening think over what we have done during the day; at the end of each week review what we have done during the week; at the end of each month review what we have done during the month; at the end of the year, what we have done during the year. By this means, my children, we cannot fail to correct ourselves, and to become fervent Christians in a short time. Then, when death comes, we are quite ready; we are happy to go to Heaven.

	Sacristans	Ushers	EM of Holy Communion	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors
Sat Sep 19th 4:00PM	David Crawford	Ed Uhrich Therese Lopez Juan Serna	Laurie Storms	Bill McCarty	Victoria Perez Josh Storms	Vicky Howell Lillian Ortiz
Sun Sep 20th 8:00AM	Julie Burnside	John Christensen Tom Anderson Bill Deneen James Sandoval	Jeremy McClellan	Evelyn Romero	Shane Herrera Sergio Guillen Josh Kast Delaney Kast	David Schutten Geneva Torres
Sun Sep 20th 10:00AM	Margaret Chavez	Tony Quinones Brian Padilla Aaron Quinones Eddie Crespin	Carrie Jenkins Teresa Medrano John Jenkins	Rochelle Quinones	Angela Jenkins Ariana Jenkins Kevin Savela Krista Savela	Rosie Root Ana Padilla
Sat Sep 26th 4:00PM	David Crawford	Phillip Griego Eddie Crespin Mike Philbin	Janis Crespin	Anna Sellman	Emilio Crespin Chase McMillan James Uhrich	David Crawford Annette Montoya
Sun Sep 27th 8:00AM	Julie Burnside	David Schutten James E Dory Jim Cutler Karl Lucero	Ana Marie Hartenhoff	Jose Guillen	Peter Lucero Charles Lucero Shane Herrera	April McClellan Petrita Lopez
Sun Sep 27th 10:00AM	Donna Madrid	Tony Quinones Gary Vigil Nick Coca III Ariana Eck	Pinky Bjornstad Rosie Root Brian Padilla	Rochelle Quinones	Drew Garcia Karla Del Cid Jen Reynolds John Reynolds	Connie Dudon Michael Tafuro

Prayer Corner

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

- ◆ For Harvey Angers 88 yrs young, Alzheimers, going into a home.(9/20)
- ◆ For the soul of Bill Rounds, and for his wife, Vickie, healing and peace. (9/03)
- ◆ For Fr. Whorton on his deployment, and his family, that they all remain under God's loving care. (Till he returns)
- ◆ For the strength and courage of the disabled, sick, elderly, and dying
- ◆ For our country leaders to make the right decision for the well being of our country.
- ◆ For guidance to our leaders for the removal of the stain of abortion.
- ◆ All our brave men and women of the world keeping their country free.
- ◆ For the lonely that they find comfort in the heart of Our Blessed Mother Mary as she too suffered the loneliness of Christ's death.

Prayers are kept on the list for a month then need to be resubmitted.

Thank you for your prayers.

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Eat, Drink and Be Merry!!

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