

Assumption Catholic Church

July 23, 2023

Here is the text of a wonderful article written for a parish bulletin in Lakeville Minnesota

The Politics of Bigotry

By Fr. Tom Wilson

Pastor of All Saints Church in Lakeville, Minnesota

In polite company, virtually everyone would agree that bigotry has no place in a civilized culture. Yet, we all know that it exists in both overt and subtle forms. Until recently, I assumed a widespread opposition to bigotry existed across cultural, social, religious, and ideological differences. Then the Los Angeles Dodgers decided to honor, not just invite, a group that was founded on mocking Catholic sisters, defiling sacramentals and the Eucharist, overtly blaspheming Jesus, and desecrating images of the Blessed Mother, at a game on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After realizing their mistake, they pulled back the honoring and then were ostensibly brow-beaten to reinstate them. People of goodwill (Catholic and otherwise) were properly outraged and put together information campaigns and organized protests at the stadium the night of the game.

The reporting on the backlash against the Dodgers was disheartening at best. Almost all the reporting ignored the actual behavior of the group, focused on them being an alleged downtrodden group, and referred to those opposing their bigotry as "right-wing," a political term. I thought being opposed to bigotry didn't have political lines, and that people on opposite sides of the fence on issues could agree on the human decency of not mocking what others believe as sacred. That wasn't the case. The honored group represented an elite-favored side in societal divisions, so their bigotry was ignored and even honored. It continues an accelerating pattern of overlooking bad behavior if the behavior is done by someone who is on "our" side. That is sad, and endemic to a win-at-all-costs attitude where the rules of engagement are disappearing.

We live in what we want to believe is a free society established by our founding documents and inspired by a Judeo-Christian way of life rooted in the dignity of the human person. To keep a society free requires that its people live virtuous lives, based on honesty, respect for others, and plain decency. Much of that is declining, as we saw in the Dodgers disrespecting their fans, and millions of people of goodwill. As it turns out, the honoring was a whimper with fewer than 50 people in the stadium for it, while thousands outside it prayed and honored their faith and the call for respect of all people. It's important to note the assembled group included many Protestants, Jews, and Muslims. Treating people with dignity is a tenant of our faith but is not limited to Catholicism. The Fourth of July is a reminder of the gift we have and a reminder of our need to protect it for ourselves and others. Bigotry is an affront to a free and civilized society and should be opposed no matter what strand of politics one adheres to or whom the bigotry is aimed at.

Question of the Week: What substantial service can I provide this week to someone who is elderly, whether a member of my family or not? What can I learn from this action?



If you are in need of consolation after losing a loved one, this Christ-centered faith-sharing group is for you. Our next Season, Season 2, will begin on Wednesday, August 2, and will run for six consecutive weeks. There will be two groups available, one at 10:00 am and the other at 7:00 pm. All sessions are at Sacred Heart, Frazee. For more details, contact Marlys (218.280.0760; marlysj.shfre@arvig.net)

If you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or its schools, your first call should be to law enforcement. In addition, the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator is available at 218-281-7895 (24-hour confidential number).

Pastor

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Cindy Hulst
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Mass Times

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Sunday 10:30 am

CONFESSIONS:

Tuesday @ 6:15 pm
Sunday after Mass

ADORATION:

Tuesdays: 5:00-7:00 pm



Announcements

Our next Church cleaning will be on Wednesday, August 16, at 11 am, followed by a potluck lunch.

Mass intentions for 2023 Sunday Masses have all been requested and scheduled. There are, however, a number of Tuesday Masses in the coming months that are still available for Mass intentions. Let the office know if you want to request one of these Masses.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

A PRAYER TO PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE BELOW: Lord, we pray for your loving support for the people listed below and their families as they deal with their illnesses. Guide the doctors who are seeking answers and making decisions about care/ treatments. We pray that their illness is at a stage favorable for effective treatment. Enable their bodies to respond well to care/treatment and their soul to experience comfort and peace in you. Make this an experience that draws them and their loved ones closer to you as well as to one another. We commit them to your mercy. Amen.

Crystal Bunnell, Theresa (Foltz) Thunder, Irene Hazelton, Stella Thielen, Lillian Welle, Cleo Baker, George Scherzer, Dolores Manning, Colleen Borgrud, LaVaun Borgrud, Kevin Clark, Karen Klarer, Darlene Johnson Maneval (RIP), Mark Winter, Stan Warren, Charlie Crommett and Michael Harvala.

*"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom."
Matthew 13:24, 37-38*

As children of God, we are all "good seeds". We are blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others and share our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow "good seeds" on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

Sunday, July 16, 2023--\$1,425.10

Upcoming

Sun., Aug. 6: First Holy Communion
Wed., Aug 16: Church cleaning at 11 am

Mass Intentions

Today's Mass: +James & Grace Fairbanks
Tues., July 25: +Marlys Steffl
Sun., August 1: +Jerry Flottesmesch

Ministry Schedule for July 30, 2023

Altar Servers

Nathan Loreth

Eucharistic Minister

Lori Stalberger & Virginia McDougall

Lector

Christina Loreth

Presentation of the Gifts

Gary & Sarah Helm Family

Ushers

Rick McDougall & Ken Pearson