



[The scribe said to Jesus,] “To love your neighbor as yourself” is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

MARK 12:33

Liking Versus Loving

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

“I never met a man I didn’t like.” Will Rogers said that. I can believe he said it, but I have a more difficult time believing he meant it. I don’t think he lied. I just find it hard to believe there could be a person who never disliked anyone.

Loving is something different, although there are many people who talk as if liking and loving are interchangeable. They love ice cream or country music, and they like their friends. One can love, that is, behave in a loving manner, without positive feelings. You couldn’t say that about liking, but about loving you can. Some folks say one of the reasons you should love others and do good for people is because of the good feeling you get when you help someone. The problem

with this is that when you no longer get a good feeling, you stop doing the good things. But as disciples of Jesus, love we must. It’s different than liking.

It seems to me the most difficult people to love today are the anonymous souls, the people we don’t know—the immigrant coming to our land, the person of another religion who prays differently, or those living a lifestyle foreign to us. Jesus didn’t have a problem with loving people like them. ●

Reflect

Who has loved you and who do you find most difficult to love?

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REFLECTIONS

Christian Discipleship in a Polarized Society

It should come as no surprise to hear and read about polarization. There are always going to be differing viewpoints on every issue, but the last decade or so in America has seen an increasingly toxic environment in society, political discourse and even in religion. It seems increasingly difficult, not just to reach common understandings, but even to have conversations with others. An atmosphere of differing opinions can mean productive discussion. But polarization, by its very nature, leads only to self-imposed isolation and rigidity of thought. How did we get to this point?

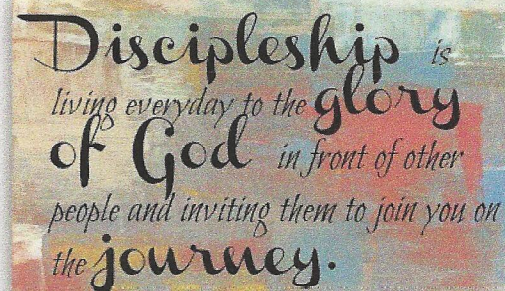
As Americans, we like to speak of unity, a sense of oneness in outlook on life, society and even politics. We have established a society and a political framework in which that unity can be realized through open discussion and resolution. That implies an attitude of compromise since resolution is never solution. Solution implies 'I win' and 'the other loses'; resolution emphasizes that after honest and charitable discussion the decision for action reflects that which most fairly deals with the current situation for all those concerned. In such a scenario, there is always the potential of change – since circumstances change over time as well as does our understanding of the facts. The method isn't perfect but it can and does work.

To yield to polarization demands that we adopt a mentality of the other as 'the enemy,' someone with whom it is neither possible to engage in conversation or to convert to another way of thinking. If we are not trying to convert the other to our belief – which is of course the only truth – there is no reason for talking at all. This atmosphere of rigidity leads only to isolation. We have no need to hear what the other – the enemy – has to say since it is quite obviously wrong. We need only cling

rigidly to personal belief and do all possible, even to the point of force, to impose our correct belief on others.

The challenge for the Christian, of course, is that such rigidity grounded on the idea of the other as 'enemy' is inconsistent with both the teaching and practice of Jesus. Jesus is clear: we must love the enemy. We are to bless them, pray for them, not seek to destroy them. That is the very foundation of the Christian message; that challenge to love must illumine every thought and action of the faithful disciple. It is never easy, but the Christian is always challenged to live within society without being controlled by what is negative in that society. The challenge is first personal – how am I called to live my faith in accord with the teaching of Christ? And then, the challenge becomes societal – how can my personal attitude and action help create a more positive environment? If we would live unity within a Christian framework, it must exclude polarization!

From Father Ken



Discipleship is
living everyday to the glory
of God in front of other
people and inviting them to join you on
the journey.

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have entered the Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time and the first full week of November. Hopefully you have entered the names of your loved ones in the **Book of Remembrance** at the front on the Chapel. We pray for them at every Mass during November.

Saint Irenaeus once declared: ***The Glory of God is a person fully alive.*** Sister Theresith, of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, wondered at a question presented to her: ***Am I fully alive, do I greet each day with passion and eagerness to continue to build up God's Kingdom in my small part of the world? Or, am I satisfied with just being comfortable?*** These words of wisdom certainly give us pause for thought as we search our faith and for meaning in our lives.

This Thursday November 7th we will have Anointing during the 9:00 AM Mass.



In a couple of weeks, our Advent Giving Tree will be set up in the lobby entrance to the Chapel. More information and gift ideas for will be published in next week's bulletin.



The Friary will be undergoing foundation repair work in the coming weeks. Please avoid driving golf carts in and around that area for the time being.



Saint Ann's Knights of Columbus are asking for gently used or new coats to be donated for those in need. The bins for the donated coats are located in the Sanctuary Foyer at Saint Ann Church, 100 SW Alsbury Blvd in Burleson, TX 76028.

As a reminder, the SFV Catholic Chapel contact information forms at Chapel entrance are being made available to update your contact information. Also, the forms contain selections for you to indicate your wish to volunteer for various Chapel Ministries. Please fill out these forms and take them by the Chapel Office or deposit them in the Suggestion Box.

In closing this week's reflections I continued to research our just concluded Masses for all Saints Day and All Souls Day. I want to share some notes from that research. The Mass on All Saints Day celebrates one of the most Glorious Solemnities in our Church. **All Saints are honored on this day ... And we are all called to be Saints.** On All Souls Day, which was celebrated this past Saturday, we had the opportunity to reflect on the fragility of life and the certainty of our death. It is also an opportunity to remember the impact the dead have had on our lives, and to be grateful for their presence.

May Christ's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

*God Give You Peace
Mike Pierson*



*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.*

Mass Intentions	
Nov. 3, 2024	SFV Catholic Chapel Community
Nov. 4, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Mabel Groh By Jim Groh
Nov. 5, 2024	Father Bob Strittmatter
Nov. 6, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Francis Patrick Gavin
Nov. 7, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Mabel Groh By Louise Roberts
Nov. 8, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Ima Ruth Shelton By C. Karnezis
Nov. 9, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Jared LaFleur By Knights of Columbus 2813 (5:00 PM Vigil Mass)

Dear Padre,

Do saints ever smile? That question comes to me every year on the feast of All Saints (November 1) as I look at the pictures and statues in church. The faces are so somber and serious. What are the saints really like?

Artists through the centuries may have portrayed sanctity in very subdued tones. The saints, however, and their biographers tell a different story. The holy men and women who make up the communion of saints are an incredibly fascinating array of diverse personalities. The feast of All Saints celebrates our universal call to holiness. Our challenge is to imitate the characteristics these unique individuals have in common.

Saint Irenaeus (125–202) said that the glory of God is the human fully alive which reflects Jesus' own words, "I came so that they may have life; and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Saints enjoy life! The nearsighted St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696–1787), founder of the Redemptorists, sat in the back row of the Naples theater with his glasses off so he could enjoy the music he loved without the distraction of the half-naked chorus line. Saint Teresa of Ávila (1515–1582), caught devouring partridge in the convent kitchen, said, "When I pray, I pray; when I eat partridge, I eat partridge!" Saint Joan of Arc (1412–1431) loved horses, and St. Charles Borromeo (1538–1584) loved chess. Indeed, saints do smile. They even laugh. ●



Sculpture of a smiling Pope St. John Paul II outside the Saint John the Baptist Cathedral in Trnava, Slovakia.

ADAM JAN FIGEL / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



YARA NARDI / CNS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

It is necessary that...the "great commandment," [love God and our neighbor] resound in us, that it be assimilated, that it become the voice of our conscience. This way, it does not remain a dead letter, in the drawer of the heart, because the Holy Spirit makes the seed of that Word germinate in us.

ANGELUS, ROME, OCTOBER 31, 2021

Monday

November 4

St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Phil 2:1–4

Lk 14:12–14

Tuesday

November 5

Weekday

Phil 2:5–11

Lk 14:15–24

Wednesday

November 6

Weekday

Phil 2:12–18

Lk 14:25–33

Thursday

November 7

Weekday

Phil 3:3–8a

Lk 15:1–10

Friday

November 8

Weekday

Phil 3:17–4:1

Lk 16:1–8

Saturday

November 9

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Ez 47:1–2, 8–9, 12

1 Cor 3:9c–11, 16–17

Jn 2:13–22

Sunday

November 10

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 17:10–16

Heb 9:24–28

Mk 12:38–44 or 12:41–44