

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Divine Mercy of Jesus Council 17249 Newsletter Editor: Jim Hand
St. Jerome's Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd. Largo, FL
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"We want this show out there. Everywhere, as easy to find as possible. Like the song says, "Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm going to let it shine." Please be sure you're letting others know what's inside this issue—that *The Chosen* is on The CW every Sunday night," said Dallas Jenkins, producer of *The Chosen*.



FROM AROUND THE WORLD
OF INTEREST TO CATHOLICS

U.S. bishops warn against proposed change to definition of brain dead

21-year-old terminally ill Spanish Carmelite dies on eve of feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Two more anti-Catholic attacks: church in El Paso and school in Denver

Police investigate alleged attack on pro-lifers outside DC Planned Parenthood

Americans' belief in God, heaven, hell continues prolonged decline

After latest Oklahoma execution, Archbishop Coakley calls for death penalty abolition

St. Peter's Basilica upgrades its sound system

North Carolina woman files lawsuit in wake of gender transition surgery as a teen

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Pete McCabe

Brothers:
The month of August was a busy one. Cleaning the Church was a major chore in which both the Knights and Columbiettes got involved.

Thanks to all who showed up. There was a lot of work, but it certainly paid off since masses are now being held in the Church. This alleviates our obligation to reset the parish center every Wednesday evening for bingo and every Thursday back to the mass

configuration.

Speaking of bingo, it has been going great. The crowds have been steady during the summer and things should improve as the temperature cools down which will bring our northern neighbors back to the area. Another benefit of mass being back in the Church is breakfast is back! We'll be flipping pancakes and the Baconator (Bill) will be busy every 3rd Sunday of the month (next one is 17 September). You can join us in the kitchen or just swing by to have breakfast (make sure you say hello). Finally, I am still looking for a few volunteers to help with the Grotto and Fr. Sean Garden committees. Please let the Worthy Deputy Grand Knight or me know if you are inter-

ested in joining one or both of the committees.

Thanks for all you do.

The Journey of Life



World Youth Day Pilgrim Receives Her Sight after Communion at Mass

"I opened my eyes and I could see perfectly," said Jimena, a 16-year-old Spanish World Youth Day pilgrim who said she miraculously recovered her sight after receiving the Eucharist at Fátima, Portugal, during a Mass there.

This possible miracle has moved hearts and filled with hope all those who have been following the events at WYD, which brought together more than a million young people in the Portuguese capital last week. For two and a half years, Jimena has suffered a loss of sight due to a myopia problem that left her with a 95% vision loss.

On the morning of Aug. 5, when the Holy Father was also praying the rosary at the Fátima shrine, Jimena received what she describes as a "great gift" from the Virgin Mary.

Jimena told the Spanish radio station COPE that she woke up that morning "as I have been getting up for two and a half years, seeing super blurry, very badly."

She explained that she had gone to Mass with her friends "because we are at WYD and after receiving Communion I began to cry a lot, because it was the last day of the novena and I wanted to be cured and I had very much asked God please [cure me]."

"When I opened my eyes, I could see perfectly," the young woman continued, "it was overwhelming; very many thanks must be given for the miracle, because I saw the altar, the tabernacle, my girlfriends were there, and I could see them perfectly."

In addition, she said that she was able to read the novena prayer that she was praying and that she still

reads "quite well" — she hadn't forgotten at all how to read.

The young woman also told the cardinal that they had been praying for nine days asking the Virgin for her healing.

Cardinal Omella encouraged the faithful to give thanks to God and explained that "This doesn't lead to the cause of beatification for anyone, because the Virgin is already a saint, but it is indeed a grace from God."

He pointed out that "Doctors will have to assess it, what it was like, if it existed, if it could be cured or not. But for now for the girl that has been a major event. Let's say a miracle. She didn't see and now she sees. Now the doctors will be able to say the rest, but she has gone home seeing. Well, she sees; blessed be God."

What are the criteria for discerning the authenticity of a miracle? On this topic the Catholic Church is very prudent and has reason to be so. From the year 1908, by order of the ecclesiastical authority, the following seven criteria were laid down by Benedict XIV (Pope from 1740 to 1758), which are very stringent:

1. The disease must be serious, and must have, in addition, an unfavorable prognosis.
2. It must be known to medicine.
3. It should be organic, referring to an injury, or it must have objective, biological, and radiological criteria. Mental or nervous illnesses will not be recognized.
4. There should be no treatment which has interfered with the healing. This criterion is not easy to corroborate and requires significant medical work.
5. The cure must be sudden, immediate, instant, no convalescence, which is never seen in medicine.
6. It must not consist only in a reduction of symptoms, but on the restoration of all the vital faculties.
7. It should be a definitive cure.

Knight of the Month



Jim Cullinan and GK Pete McCabe

Newly Added Members to Our Council



GK Pete McCabe and Tim Condron



GK Pete McCabe and Ken Koster

More Newly Added Members to Our Council



GK Pete McCabe and Joe Giles



GK Pete McCabe and Mike Keeser



GK Pete McCabe and Rick Neuzil

TRUST IN THE SLOW WORK OF GOD

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. (1881-1955)

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
We are quite naturally impatient in everything
to reach the end without delay.

We should like to skip the intermediate stages.
We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown,
something new. And yet it is the law of all progress
that it is made by passing through
some stages of instability-
and that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you.
Your ideas mature gradually - let them grow,
let them shape themselves, without undue haste.

Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time
(that is to say, grace and circumstances
acting on your own good will)
will make of you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will
be. Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you,
and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself
in suspense and incomplete.

~~Submitted by Fr. Mike O'Brien

In the Spotlight

Joe Ghezzi is a Jack of All Trades and Master of Them All.

He was born in Uhrichsville, OH, and upon graduating from high school, Joe thought he might go to college or into the military, but he ended up working for his dad in his cabinet shop when he was 12 years old until he was 18 or so and then for a steel mill for about 3 years. "I worked machine gun barrels for the Viet Nam war. I worked for Republic Steel in Canton, OH," he said. In time his dad said, "We can't have two incomes in this household. It was time for him to go move on, so he went to work for a carpenter's union and worked there for three or four years and then started his own company." He built everything from apartments and remodeling homes and kitchens. "I got married in 1974. After 10 years things slacked off, and I moved to the southern part of the state and then started working in a coal mine. I did everything in the



Joe Ghezzi

Ed Joe Ghezzi Shares His Life Story

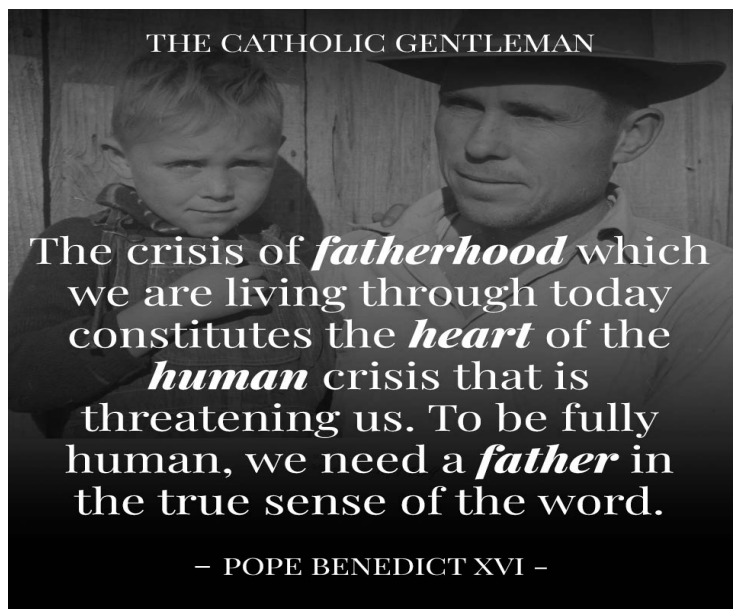
mines from sifting coal to becoming a foreman. It can be dangerous work if you don't know what you're doing," he said. Furthermore, he had to pull down loose ceilings and check for methane gas. He would hold a flame up to the gas, and if it lit up, there was danger nearby. He worked at this for another 3 years. Then he went back to Columbus until 1984 at which time he moved to Florida. "Even though I had a contractor's license in Ohio, it wasn't recognized in Florida. I had to work under another contractor for 4 years." He got his Florida license in 1988 and worked as a general contractor, doing everything from commercial buildings to building and remodeling houses or houses that had been damaged from fire. He did that until 2006 at which time he retired and moved to North Carolina where he lived for about 10 years, and then they moved back to Florida where he and his wife have lived for twenty-two and a half years. "My wife thinks she died and went to heaven." He started work on the grotto in 2020. Pete Grasso contacted Joe and

said he would like to see a grotto built in honor of the Blessed Mother, and he also wanted a rosary surrounding the pond. "I said fine and went ahead and measured everything. I laid it all out, and I made a presentation in the rain to several Knights, and everybody was fine with it." After everyone left, Pete and Joe decided where they wanted to place things. Fr. Tom dropped by and suggested where the Blessed Mother should go, and so Joe began looking for a statue. He found one, but by the time he contacted the seller, the statue was gone. He found another one and bought it. "It's a statue of Our Lady of Fatima," he said. "Once we got the statue out of its shipping box, we could feel her presence," he said. "She was there." Joe designed the grotto and told workers what to do. "The workers did what they had never done before, and there was not a harsh word among any of us. It was the inspiration of the Blessed Mother." Father Dacian Dee often came over to watch them work and was inspired by it, Joe said. Fr. Tom could not believe how well things were moving along. "He was a doubting Thomas," Joe said laughingly. "I'm just a guy who tries to get things done," Joe concluded.



"THE TRUTH DOES NOT CHANGE ACCORDING TO OUR ABILITY TO STOMACH IT EMOTIONALLY."

FLANNERY O'CONNOR



THE CATHOLIC GENTLEMAN

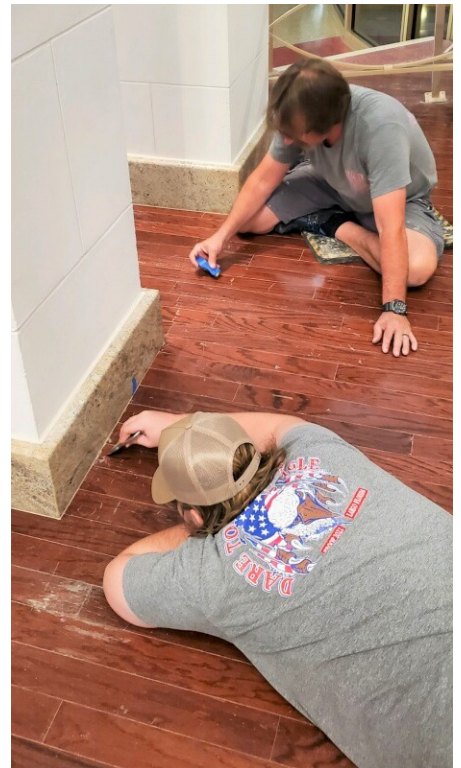
The crisis of *fatherhood* which we are living through today constitutes the *heart* of the *human* crisis that is threatening us. To be fully human, we need a *father* in the true sense of the word.

- POPE BENEDICT XVI -

Volunteers Help Clean Up the Church for Its Grand Opening



Bottom row (L - R): Kathy Patton, Jim Patton, Anne Lecuyer, Keving Manning, Bill Bannon.
 Middle row (L - R): Rachel Keeser, Denise McCabe, Miriam Giotta, Kay Condon, Edgar Lecuyer, Pete McCabe, Matthew Keeser.
 Top row (L - R): Tony Crevello, Tom Giotta, Tim Condon.
 Also helping but not pictured: Wayne Nunez, Michele Cappozoli, Becky Parhalo, Debbie James, and JoAnn Bannon



BITS AND PIECES

The Supreme Court has ruled 6-3 that the state of Colorado cannot compel a Christian website designer to create messages that violate her faith.

The U.S. bishops have released a statement praising the Supreme Court's decision to protect employees' religious beliefs in the case of a mail carrier who would not work on Sunday. "In so many ways today, we see people of faith being told that they can only follow their religious beliefs in private or within the four walls of a church," said Cardinal Timothy Dolan. "But religious freedom means nothing if it does not extend to the public square, and the public square is better off when religion is welcome there."

The Indiana Supreme Court upheld the state's heartbeat law, which prohibits abortions once a heartbeat can be detected - usually around six weeks. "We celebrate this day - one long in coming, but morally justified. Thank you to all the warriors who have fought for this day that upholds LIFE," Indiana's Attorney General said.

Republican-led efforts in Kentucky and Tennessee to protect children from puberty blockers and hormonal manipulation were denied by federal judges.

The Alaska Department of Corrections has instituted a new policy that banned the use of altar wine during religious ceremonies, effectively barring Catholic Mass from being offered at correctional facilities. "No altar wine or other alcoholic beverages will be used by anyone who is involved with any activity. The use of a non-alcoholic substitute (juice) for altar wine may be considered," the interim policy established on June 6 reads.

Editor's note: A day or two after this decision was made, it was revoked.

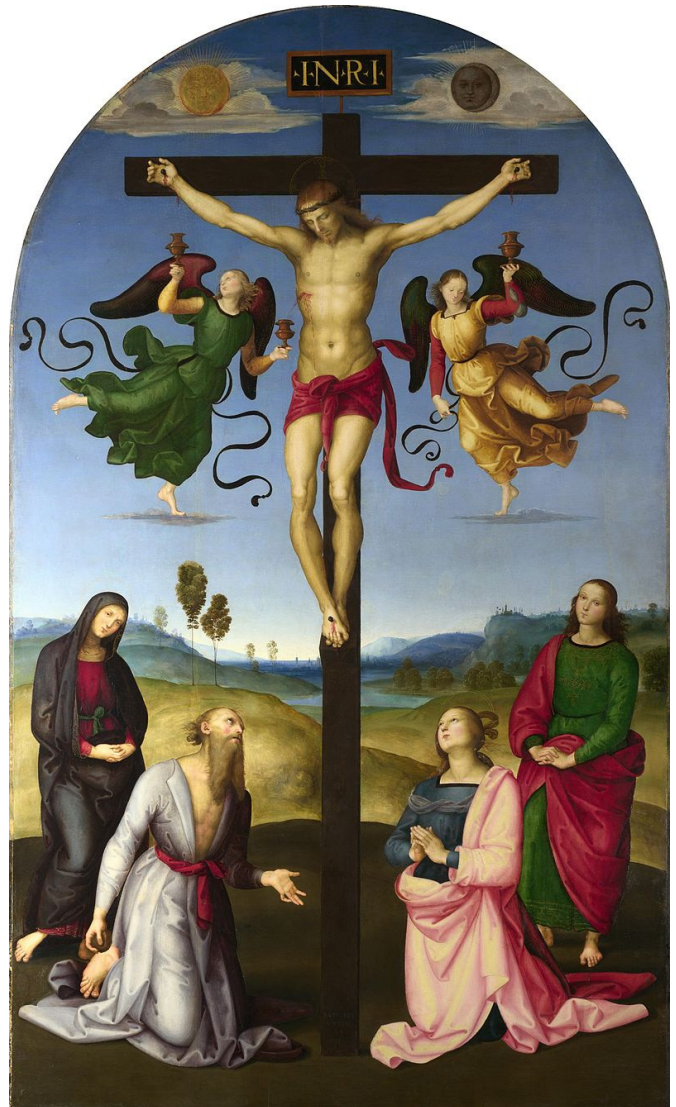
When a Louisiana farmer lost two-thirds of his business after sharing an Instagram post honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus and questioning the value of "LGBTQ pride," he received so much support that he is now raising money to build a church.

American citizens are beginning to contend that the tide is turning, and that Americans are open to common sense on the most basic truth about the human person: that there are only two genders.

It looks as though President Biden is preparing to use HIV funding to pay for abortion in Africa.

C.S. Lewis is known for being a great Christian writer, one of the most beloved of the 20th century. But he was not always a Christian, and he did not have any singular moment of conversion. In fact, his conversion was full of dejection and reluctance at first. It was a long journey for Lewis to become the Lewis we know.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha was the first Native American saint to be canonized. During her youth, there was a smallpox outbreak which killed her immediate family and left Kateri with scars on her face. During her teens, Jesuit priests came to her tribe and Kateri converted to Catholicism. She soon moved to a town in Canada where she was free to live out her faith in rigorous ways. She died at the age of twenty-four saying, "Jesus, Mary, I love you." According to eyewitnesses, within minutes after her death, the smallpox scars disappeared and she radiated beauty.



Angels collecting the Most Precious Blood of Christ at His crucifixion. Raphael, c. 1502

Filming of the fourth season of "The Chosen," the popular Christian television series about Jesus and his disciples, will continue after a union granted the production an exemption from its strike against major Hollywood studios.

The show said that it requested an exemption because it is privately funded.

Filming is due to wrap up soon.

An "unhinged" individual reportedly broke into a Catholic church in Manhattan and vandalized a shrine to American-born St. Elizabeth Ann Seton over the weekend.

The man who was wearing priest's vestments and reportedly without pants broke into Our Lady of Rosary Catholic Church and ripped down a large crucifix at the Seton shrine.

Investigation of Possible Corporal Miracle



Picture of Typical Corporal Cloth

On the afternoon of June 9, 2022, when a Catholic Church was celebrating the liturgical feast of Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, José Elmer Benítez Machado arrived before anyone else at the chapel of the community to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word and distribute to the faithful the hosts previously consecrated by the priests of the diocese. When it was time to distribute the Eucharist, Benítez opened the tabernacle and noticed that the corporal (sacred linen cloth), under and folded over the wooden ciborium and on a white satin cushion, showed large stains that seemed to be of human blood. "I was amazed," he said. "My first hope was: 'It's the blood of Christ.'" However, in the confusion of

the moment, and to complete his ministry, he continued with the celebration and distributed the Eucharist.

The next day, Father Marvin Sotelo and Father Oscar Rodríguez, Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, went to the community of El Espinal to corroborate what the parish coordinator had told them over the phone. Sotelo put the corporal in a plastic bag with a hermetic seal, kept it in his rectory, and handed it over to Bishop Guillén two days later.

Guillén was particularly skeptical and decided to keep it in his personal chapel while he decided what to do. "I'm not prone to naively believing in things. Logic makes us prudent in terms of believing things without sifting through them and without analyzing them," he said.

Almost three months later, the bishop ordered some scientific tests to be carried out at the Santa Rosa de Copán Medical Center. Concluding that the necessary material was not available to carry out an analysis, the corporal was sent to the toxicological center in Tegucigalpa, where Dr. Héctor Díaz del Valle, who holds a doctorate in chemistry and pharmacy, led the investigation.

At the end of October 2022, the

analysis began with the intervention of an external forensic expert and an expert in analytical toxicology.

Subsequent procedures revealed that the blood was human and was type AB with a positive Rh factor, the same as the Eucharistic miracle of Lanciano, Italy, as well as that found on the Shroud of Turin, also in Italy. Less than 2.5% of the population in that country has that same blood type.

The expert tests also ruled out that the pattern of the blood stains could have been made artificially. To date it does not show deterioration or fungus.

After carrying out the investigations and putting the statements of the witnesses under notarized oath, the bishop of Gracias confirmed that it was a surprising occurrence. "I don't place in doubt its credibility," he said. "I think that this extraordinary, visible, tangible, perceptible, verifiable sign of this manifestation of the blood of the Lord in an obscure community of our agricultural environment says a lot at this time," he said.

"You have to think that God seeks extremes to call us to the balance of good sense and truth. It seems to me that this is an extreme sign of God who manifests himself again, as he has done in the Holy Scriptures, in the history of salvation, by those simple ones whom Mary praises for their lowliness," the bishop said.



JUDGE NOT!

Remember...Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.

A Poem to Make you Think

I was shocked, confused, bewildered
As I entered Heaven's door,
Not by the beauty of it all,
Nor the lights or its décor.

But it was the folks in Heaven
Who made me sputter and gasp --
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics and the trash.

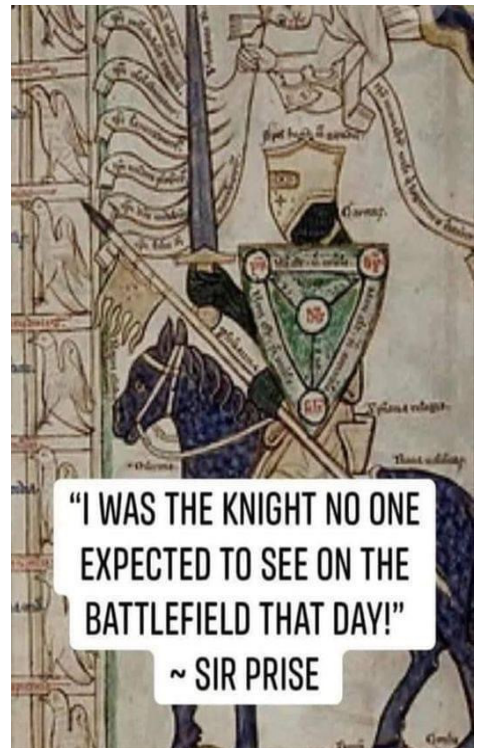
There stood the kid from seventh grade
Who swiped my lunch money twice.
Next to him was my old neighbor
Who never said anything nice.

Bob, who I always thought
Was rotting away in hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?
'I would love to hear Your take.
'How'd all these sinners get up here?
'God must've made a mistake.'

'And why is everyone so quiet,
'So somber -- give me a clue.
'Hush, child,' He said,
'They're all in shock!
'No one thought they'd see you.'

~~Author Unknown
(Though possibly written by either the worst sinner or the most thankful person in heaven, or both!)



Professor Fired for Teaching about "Birds and the Bees"

When a biology professor taught the fundamentals of the human reproductive system to his students at a Texas community college last fall, four students were offended and walked out of his class. In January 2023, he was fired for his "religious preaching."

Dr. Johnson Varkey had told his students that chromosomes determine male or female sex. He said that procreative sex, necessary for the propagation of the species, is between males and females.

He also explained that when a sperm fertilizes an egg, it creates a zygote with 46 chromosomes. "If we allow that to continue, we have a beautiful baby," Varkey said. He told his class that no information is added or removed after the zygote is formed. "That zygote is the beginning of life, not birth."

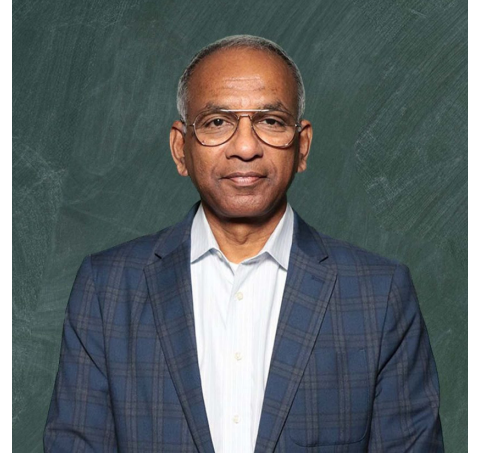
Varkey was fired in January of this year. He had taught at St. Philip's

College in San Antonio since 2003. He offered the biology class, Human Anatomy and Physiology, to 1,500 students over the course of his twenty years at St. Philip's College. "I was a research scientist, but my passion was to teach all the time," Varkey told the law firm First Liberty Institute, a Christian nonprofit. In Varkey's termination letter, the college said he was fired for "religious preaching" in class, "misogynistic banter," "anti-abortion rhetoric," and "discriminatory comments about homosexuals and transgenders," according to First Liberty.

Varkey denies this accusation. "I don't bring my preaching into my classroom," he said.

First Liberty defends Varkey's past performance as a teacher.

"[He] consistently received exemplary performance reviews and was never subject to discipline," First Liberty said. "He never discussed with any



Dr. Johnson Varkey

student his personal views—religious or otherwise—on human gender or sexuality."

As a professing Christian, Varkey volunteers as an associate pastor at his church and hosts a radio ministry.

Teenager Continues to Inspire 10 Years after His Death

Donal Walsh was tired of seeing young people end their lives while he was fighting each day for his.

Born and raised in County Kerry, Ireland, Walsh was diagnosed with bone cancer in his tibia at the age of 12. He endured nine months of chemotherapy and an operation to give him a prosthetic knee. After two years the cancer returned, this time in a lung. The young boy underwent surgery again to have half of his lung removed and endured more chemotherapy.

In October 2012, Walsh was diagnosed for a third — and final — time with tumors in five different locations in his body.

During his final months, Walsh took to writing about his battle with cancer and how his faith allowed him to persevere in what he called "climbing God's mountains." He also wrote about his frustration at seeing a rise in teenage suicide.

It was then that he decided to go on national television to encourage young people to value life.

With only a few weeks left to live, Walsh went on the Irish talk show "The Saturday Night Show" with Brendan O'Connor hoping to emphasize the value of life by sharing his own story. "If I'm meant to be a symbol for people to appreciate life — it might not be just suicide — but just to appreciate life more in general, then I'd be happy to die if that's



Donal Walsh

what I'm dying for," Walsh said during his television appearance.

Walsh passed away four weeks later on May 12, 2013, at the age of 16.

Ten years later, his legacy lives on.

On May 11 of this year, more than 2,000 Irish students gathered at the Knock Basilica and Shrine in County Mayo, Ireland, to honor Walsh's memory. The students listened to several speakers who spoke about different issues that affect the world today, especially mental health.

Walsh's parents, Elma and Fionnbar, were also in attendance. "When we were told he was terminal, we turned around and started to say, 'Why us?' And Donal changed the question to, 'Why not me?'"

"Donal was very upset for the first few days, but it only lasted a few days," Elma Walsh added. And he decided he wasn't going to let cancer dictate his life. Whatever was left of his life, he wanted to do something." His mother shared that he had a "remarkable" faith. He loved to pray the rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Walsh asked his mother to ensure he received Holy Communion every day and that he would die with a "clean spirit."

"His faith was kind of innate to him. It was just in him ... It's hard to explain. It was just part of Donal," she explained.

After Walsh's death, his parents started the Donal Walsh Live Life Foundation, which has raised more than half a million Euros to date for various charities, all of which promote life. And once a year, students meet at the Basilica of Knock to celebrate Mass, to be inspired and encouraged by guest speakers, and to be reminded of the value of life.

"I think a lot of people would be very afraid of the idea of terminal illness, but his bravery to endure so much hardship and still have faith--that's inspiring to people," said Adam Walsh (no relation), a student in attendance. Another student, Anastasia Mullen, added: "I think that he is very inspirational. He really creates this beacon of hope for the youth — just keeps hope alive."

Catholic Order Sells New Hampshire Shrine to Shaker Museum

The Catholic La Salette Missionaries are selling one of their Marian shrines in Enfield, New Hampshire, to a museum devoted to the preservation of the history of the Protestant sect known as the Shakers.

Once known as "The Shaking Quakers" for the ecstatic trembling that accompanied their worship, the utopian religious group split from mainstream Quakerism in the 18th century, peaking in popularity in America in the mid-1800s. The practitioners of nonviolence, celibacy, and furniture-making has about 75,000 in America. The La Salette Missionaries, who spread the message given by the Virgin Mary to two shepherd children in the French Alps during the 1800s, were founded to heal spiritual wounds through a call to repentance and the administering of the sacraments.

On the shrine's website, there is an explanation of the apparitions at La Salette, France.

While the Virgin Mary was weeping, she said to the shepherd children, "If my people do not obey, I shall be compelled to let go my Son's arm. It is so heavy, I can no longer hold it. How long have I suffered for you! If my Son is not to abandon you, I am obliged to entreat him without ceasing. But you take no heed of that. No



Statues depicting the apparition of Our Lady of La Salette at the La Salette Shrine in Enfield, New Hampshire

matter how well you pray in the future, no matter how well you act, you will never be able to make up to me what I have endured on your behalf. I have given you six days to work. The seventh I have reserved for myself, yet no one will give it to me. This is what causes the weight of my Son's

arm to be so heavy. The cart drivers cannot swear without bringing in my Son's name."

The rest of the apparition can be read about on the shrine's website: <https://lasaletteofenfield.org/the-apparition-story-from-la-salette-france/>

Hollywood Goes to Lourdes with 'The Miracle Club'

The Miracle Club makes miracles palatable to the secular viewer.

The film suggests that miracles aren't lightning strikes from God but rather moments in which ordinary men and women summon supernatural amounts of grace and courage. In short, *The Miracle Club* forgoes the salt of Christianity for the sugar of humanism. While this may lack flavor for some Catholic viewers, it's a worthwhile appetizer for just about anyone else.

The Miracle Club is set in 1967 Dublin and opens to a sweet and funny sequence of Lily (Maggie Smith), Eileen (Kathy Bates) and Dolly (Agnes O'Casey) competing in a church talent show for the chance to visit the baths at Lourdes, the holy site in France. They hope the visit will give Dolly's son, who does not speak, his voice. The women win the tickets, and then harangue, threaten, and trick their husbands into taking on the housework in their absence.

But a wrench is thrown in their plans right as they're about to leave for Lourdes. Chrissie (Laura Linney)

returns to their small town, unannounced and unexpected after 40 years in America. Slowly, the film reveals that Chrissie isn't just an estranged neighbor: She was Eileen's best friend and Lily's deceased son's teenage love. At the encouragement of the local priest and to the dismay of the other women, Chrissie joins the Lourdes pilgrimage at the last minute.

The group eventually goes to Lourdes where Linney personifies mercy and grace in her portrayal of Chrissie, and her tender performance suggests an intimate acquaintance with those virtues.

This film does a commendable job of explaining that the majority of modern-day miracles are, in fact, simply the ways we choose to love and forgive each other — even if the film fails to credit the source of that love and forgiveness.

Some Catholic viewers may find it hard to watch a film about Lourdes that references the miracles of St. Bernadette and Our Lady as dubious rumors rather than church-approved apparitions. But perhaps it was time for a film that told the story from a new perspective to new audiences. And if Bernadette's faith could reach even one person from this film, wouldn't that be a miracle?

~~by Clare McCallan



L-R: Maggie Smith, Agnes O'Casey, and Kathy Bates

What Is a Plenary Indulgence?

A Plenary Indulgence can remove all temporal punishment due to forgiven sin. No one but God knows for certain when a plenary indulgence is actually gained, because only He knows whether a person's dispositions are adequate.

One norm for such dispositions is that "all attachment to sin, even venial sin, be absent." If these dispositions are

in any way less than complete, the indulgence will only be partial.

The same provision applies to the three external conditions necessary to gain a plenary indulgence: sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Pope. If these conditions are not satisfied, an otherwise plenary indulgence becomes only partial.

These conditions may be satisfied several days before or after the performance of the prescribed work, though preferably Communion should be received and the prayers offered for the Pope on the same day as the indulgenced work.

A plenary indulgence can be gained only once a day.

Thou Shalt Not Take the Lord's Name in Vain: Blasphemy Is Still a Sin

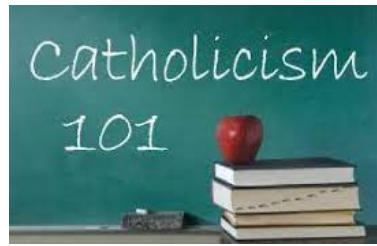
How did this become a forgotten sin? God's name is holy. Even though Western society no longer takes it seriously, blasphemy is still a sin - and a grave one at that.

The second of the Ten Commandments states clearly: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord your God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that takes his name in vain." (Exodus 20.7)

Here's how the Catechism explains it: "Respect for his name is an expression of the respect owed to the mystery of God himself and to the whole sacred reality it evokes. The second commandment forbids the abuse of

God's name, i.e., every improper use of the names of God, Jesus Christ, but also of the Virgin Mary and all the saints." (CCC 2144, 2146)

One way to break this commandment is blasphemy, which the Catechism defines as "uttering against God - inwardly or outwardly - words of hatred, reproach, or defiance; in speaking ill of God; in failing in respect toward him in one's speech; in misusing God's name." As a result, the Catechism concludes "it is in itself a



sin." As with all sins, a person can receive forgiveness if he repents and confesses his sin. But this means the person acknowledges that what he's done is wrong and resolves to commit the sin no more. Meanwhile, the casual misuse of God's name seems to be ubiquitous throughout society without a thought to its seriousness.

So, may we first repent of our own sins, and then lovingly and appropriately warn others!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



Council 17249 Divine Mercy of Jesus Officers for 2023-2024

Worthy Chaplain
 Worthy Grand Knight
 Worthy Deputy Grand Knight
 and Program Director
 Worthy Chancellor
 Worthy Recorder
 Worthy Financial Secretary
 Worthy Treasurer
 Worthy Advocate
 and Membership Director
 Worthy Warden
 Worthy Inside Guard 1
 Worthy Inside Guard 2
 Worthy Outside Guard
 1-year Trustee
 2-year Trustee
 3-year Trustee
 Worthy District Deputy
 Field Agent
 Newsletter Editor

TBD
 Sir Knight Pete McCabe
 Sir Knight Bill Bannon

 Sir Knight Greg Musick
 Sir Knight Rocco Totino
 Sir Knight Fred Belzel
 Sir Knight Paul Lee
 Sir Knight Gregg Appel Pgc

 Knight Gene Sanders
 Knight Dave Unkrich
 Knight Ed Wirth
 Sir Knight Joe Moore
 Sir Knight Rick Hendrickson
 Sir Knight Jim Patton
 Sir Knight Bill McClelland Pgc
 Sir Knight Pete Grasso Pgc
 Knight Tony Crevello
 Knight Jim Hand