

CALIFORNIA BISHOPS STATEMENT ON PROP 73

The California Catholic Conference of Bishops supports Proposition 73, *Termination of Minor's Pregnancy Waiting Period and Parental Notification*, an initiative constitutional amendment, which will appear on the November 2005 ballot. The proposed law, which has been called the *Parents Right to Know* by its sponsors, would require notification of the parent (s) or guardian(s) of a minor 48 hours before she obtains an abortion, unless a judge determines that such notification place the minor in danger.

The initiative states: "The People of California have a special and compelling interest in and responsibility for protecting the health and well-being of children, ensuring that parents are properly informed of potential health-related risks to their children, and promoting parent child communication and parental responsibility." We concur fully in the guarantee of these fundamental parental rights.

We hold that both the young woman's welfare and society's common good are best served when family communication is promoted in public policy. A minor faced with a serious emotional, psychological and medical decision needs her

parents—their love, their wisdom, their counsel. In addition, society's common good is enhanced when family integrity is honored and parental responsibility is respected.

Our *Catholic Catechism* teaches that the family is the "privileged community" wherein children are meant to grow in wisdom, stature, and grace. We are also counseled to work with public authorities to ensure that the family's prerogatives are not usurped.

We are convinced that "the Church must be committed to the task of educating and supporting ... people involved in law-making, government and the administration of justice, so that legislation will always reflect those principles and moral values which ... advance the common good."

We strongly encourage Catholics in our state to offer their full support in promoting Proposition 73 as good public policy, and in exercising their citizenship in voting for it in November.

California Conference of Bishops



RESTORED CANDLE HOLDERS TO BE PRESENTED TO WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AN EXCHANGE OF GIFTS THIS MONTH.

SACRAMENTO LIFE CENTER SALUTE TO LIFE

The Sacramento Life Center's Salute to Life Dinner and Auction will be held on Friday November 4 at the downtown Sheraton Hotel. This is the Life Center's major fundraising event of the year. Tickets are on sale for \$115 a person or tables hosts (10 people) for \$1,000. For information on attending, sponsoring or purchasing raffle tickets, contact Donalee Hallenbeck at (916) 451-4357. On the Web at www.saclife.org.

RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

Catholics for life is sponsoring a Respect Life Essay Contest. A \$250

prize will be awarded to the first place student winner and a second place prize of \$150. All high school age students (both public and parochial) living in the Diocese of Sacramento are invited to participate. The topic of the 1500 word or less essay is to be "*How does abortion hurt women's equality as well as degrade individual women?*" Mail to Catholics for Life, c/o Sally Fisher, Educational Chair, 3 Somer Ridge Drive #127, Roseville, CA 95661. All essays due by January 3, 2006. Essays may be e-mailed to sallyf@bigvalley.net. Send essay in body of e-mail, not as an attachment.

JANITOR STILL NEEDED AT CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral parish has an opening for a custodian to work 20 to 25 hours per week. Work on weekends is included. Duties include routine custodial work in the parish facility. Please fax your resume to Elia Maciel at 443-2749 or mail to Cathedral Rectory, 1017 11th Street, Sacramento, Cal 95814.

FATHER MURPHY ON VOCATION TRIP

Father James Murphy will not be at the Cathedral this weekend of October 15-16, nor the weekend of October 29-30 due to trips for the diocesan vocation program.

35 DAYS TO GO

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK FOR MISSION SUNDAY

Next Sunday, October 23, the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, calls every Catholic to celebrate at the Eucharist our vocation to be missionary and to help the missions. Let us pray for the Church's worldwide missionary work and offer financial help through the Propagation of the Faith to the more than 1,150 dioceses in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Pacific Islands that desperately need assistance. Please be generous with your financial support and your prayers that the great gift of Faith may be carried to every place and nation.

THE YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

EXPRESSING OUR COMMUNION

Reverend Lawrence E. Mick

Liturgy is faith made visible. When we celebrate the liturgy, especially the Eucharist, we express what we believe in word and song and action. Sometimes when the liturgy is reformed, it requires us to relearn what the Church really teaches about its meaning.

This may be especially true of our understanding of Holy Communion. For many generations, the liturgy was celebrated without much active involvement by most of the people present. This led us to develop habits and ways of thinking about the liturgy that were very individualistic. We learned to think of Communion as a very private moment between each of us and Jesus.

The problem with that way of thinking is that it overlooks the central meaning and purpose of the Eucharist. Jesus gave us the Eucharist to make us one body in him, so Communion is never a private moment between the individual and the Lord. It is a very personal moment, but it is also communal, for it involves all those around us who share the same body and blood.

There are two primary ways that we express our unity in Christ at the moment of Communion. The first is to join in the Communion procession. As we move to the table of the Lord, we form one procession, a pilgrim people on the move together. Thus it makes sense that we should all stay standing until the procession is completed. A procession is a communal action, a group movement. It is more than just individuals going to the table. We go as one people, as one body of Christ. Respect for each member of the assembly in the procession calls for us to remain standing until all have received.

The second way we express our unity at Communion, as we do throughout the Mass, is with singing. The Communion song is supposed to begin when the priest receives Communion and continue until the last person has received. The singing accompanies the procession in which we are all involved. All of us should be singing throughout, except when we are actually receiving the bread and wine. Even when moving in the procession, we can at least sing the refrain of the song.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

Volunteers are needed to help with a new Cathedral Parish ministry known as Catholic Returning Home. Non-practicing Catholics are the 2nd largest Christian "denomination" in this country. This program will run for six Tuesday evenings starting in January. If you are called to this ministry, please contact Sister Jenny or Jorge Usi at the Cathedral Rectory (444-3071).

When the procession is finished, the singing stops and we all sit together for some time of silent prayer. This is also a shared activity, a time to rest and pray together in the joy of our communion **with** Christ and one another. Many of us are used to time for quiet prayer as soon as we have received Communion. The liturgy simply calls us to wait until all have received so that we can share this quiet time together.

When we come to the minister of the body of Christ, we bow our heads and say "Amen" to express our reverence for Christ's presence there. We do the same when we come to the minister of the blood of Christ. With our voices and our bodies, we acknowledge the Lord's presence in the bread and wine. Remembering that he is also present in all those who share the meal with us, we use our voices and our bodies to acknowledge his presence there, too. By maintaining a common posture and joining in the singing, we proclaim our faith in the presence of the Lord in all his members as we share his holy meal. It should be obvious to anyone who watches us that we reverence Christ in one another as well as in the bread and wine. Liturgy makes our faith visible.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MON 10/17/2005	St. Ignatius of Antioch
7:00 am: Joseph Binh Bui +	
12:00 noon: Jose Ramirez +	
TUES 10/18/2005	St. Luke, evangelist
7:00 am: Joseph Binh Bui +	
12:00 noon: Proxedis Ramirez +	
WED 10/19/2005	St. John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, & companions, martyrs
7:00 am: All Souls	
12:00 Noon: Feliz Espinoza +	
THURS 10/20/2005	St. Paul of the Cross
7:00 am: All Souls	
12:00 noon: All Souls	
FRI 10/21/2004	
7:00 am: All Souls	
12:00 noon: Roy Pilando +	