



Dear Parishioners,

Please continue to pray, as Archbishop Lucas and our American bishops have asked, for the preservation of religious liberty during the Fortnight of Freedom that continues until July 4th. Remember that on this coming Monday, July 1, I will be offering a special Mass at 6:00 P.M. for this intention and that following the Mass there will be an hour of Eucharistic adoration to pray for such. I hope that as many as possible will come on Monday to pray for our nation and leaders. Of course, I encourage attendance at the 8:00 A.M. Mass on July 4th as well to show Our Lord our thanksgiving for the freedoms that we have enjoyed until now and that these will continue in our nation in the future. Our prayers are most urgent in light of the Supreme Court's miscarriage of justice in not upholding the authentic definition and meaning of marriage this past week in its striking down the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). The five justices who voted to strike it down uprooted themselves from any rational and scientific reasoning (if anyone in the scientific community is honest, he or she knows that there is absolutely no scientific proof that homosexuality is "genetic" and therefore that homosexuality is not the same as the color of one's skin; and that therefore by defining marriage as between one man and one woman no hatred and no unjust discrimination occurs against those who call themselves "gay," "lesbian," "transgender," or "bisexual"). These five justices tragically gave into the pressure of the whims of those who follow merely their base desires and fantasies who have politically bludgeoned society into legitimizing that which is outright sin and against the natural law and God's revealed

law. We need to pray for the five Supreme Court justices whose intellects have been so darkened and hope that they will come to realize that you cannot change God's law and that one day they will have to meet Him who is the ultimate Judge and Supreme Court. Please see the insert in the bulletin that provides the press release statement of Cardinal Dolan and of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops immediate response to this tragic Supreme Court decision. In this moment of moral crisis in our nation, realize that whoever wants to claim to be truly a good Catholic must pray for and do what he or she can in defense of the true meaning of marriage. Even if the Church will face increasing persecution in society for its standing up for the truth, we cannot back down from being true disciples of Jesus who defend the truth of God and, therefore, that which is truly good for the human person.

On another note, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments at the Vatican, with the approval of Pope Francis, promulgated a directive that the name of St. Joseph, which already is always mentioned in Eucharistic Prayer I, should now also be explicitly stated in Eucharistic Prayers II, III, and IV. Hence you will now hear included the phrase "and blessed Joseph, her spouse" after Our Blessed Mother is referred to in Eucharistic Prayers II, III, and IV. It obviously is not yet in the text in the Missalette, so I just want you to be aware when you hear this but do not yet read it in there. It is wonderful that St. Joseph will now be explicitly mentioned as we sure need his prayers more than ever for the protection of the Church.

Have a blessed and grace-filled week.

God bless,
Fr. Gutowski

Mass Intentions for the Week



Omaha on Saturday, July 27 at 7 p.m. To register, visit www.ccli.org.

JULY 1 THRU JULY 7

Monday	Msgr. Charles Brodersen
Tuesday	Msgr. James Cain
Wednesday	Anne Boro
Thursday	Priest's Intention
Friday	Loretta Patry
Saturday	Fred & Mary Pontillo
Sunday	People of St. Joseph

2013 HEARTLAND CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Join us Saturday, August 3, 2013 for the Fourth Annual Heartland Catholic Men's Conference at Sokol Arena on the Creighton University Campus. This year's conference will feature former All Pro NFL wide receiver, Danny Abramowicz, FOCUS Missionary Founder and President, Curtis Martin, Director of Formation for the Western Province Dominicans, Fr. Michael Fones, O.P. and radio personality, Dr. Ray Guarendi (Sponsored by Spirit Catholic Radio, KVSS). As always we will have morning prayer and Mass with Archbishop George Lucas and time for confessions. For more information call 402-557-5610 or see our website at www.archomaha.org/mensconference

LIVE YOUR MARRIAGE SACRAMENT

Want to learn the secret to living your marriage sacrament freely, totally, faithfully and fruitfully? Come learn Natural Family Planning; it's highly effective and can do wonders for your relationship. To learn more visit www.live-the-love.org or call [402-571-4111](tel:402-571-4111). A series of classes taught by The Couple to Couple League is starting in



June 30

13th Sunday of Ordinary Time
"Follow me." Luke 9:59

PRO-LIFE GARAGE SALE

JULY 18, 19 & 20TH

Our Lady of Lourdes Gym

8a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday

Food & Refreshments Available

(Donate items - clean & in good condition, call 402-399-0299)

SHORT TAKES:

* Going to church doesn't make you a Christian anymore than standing in a garage makes you a car.

* Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

* How is it one careless match can start a forest fire but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

Good News Reflection

June 30, 2013

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:16b, 19-21

Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11

Gal 5:1, 13-18

Luke 9:51-62

How well do you handle rejection? This Sunday's Gospel reading shows us how the disciples reacted to rejection. They had entered a Samaritan village ahead of Jesus, as he had asked them to do, to gather an audience. But because the Samaritans had an anti-Jewish prejudice, they didn't want to listen to Jesus. Their hearts were closed to anything he might want to say. And so they missed an opportunity to experience the Savior of the world.

How do you feel when close-hearted people reject your efforts to bring Jesus to them? What do you feel like doing when someone refuses to listen to you? Or when you try to explain a teaching of the Church but they don't even want to try to understand?

The disciples who traveled with Jesus didn't like rejection any more than we do. Two of his closest friends, James and John, thought they would do Jesus a favor by asking, "Do you want us to zap them with a lightning bolt?"

Jesus had previously told them to deal with rejection by wiping the dirt from their sandals and walking away. Now he lived what he preached by walking away these Samaritans. He didn't force his beliefs upon the villagers, even though they definitely needed the truths he could have taught them.

There's a lot we have to give up when we follow Jesus, including the grudges we like to hold and our desire to deal with rejection

by retaliating. Why give others that kind of control over our moods? Wiping the dirt from our shoes means we get rid of the bad feelings that steal our joy.

At the end of this scripture, Jesus explains that following him is always a forward motion. We're always walking away from something – away from rejection, away from our unloving reactions to prejudice, away from the close-heartedness of those who are as yet unteachable – and moving into the loving embrace of Christ.

To move forward, remember that the Holy Spirit is the only one who can prepare a heart to receive Jesus. When we try to bring someone to Jesus and fail, we're not really failing; we're planting seeds rather than harvesting the crop. Let the Holy Spirit finish the work while you move on to other fields.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Who is frustrating you because he/she is not willing to change? What can you do to "walk away" lovingly and to give yourself a break? (It might not be a literal departure.)

Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:

Share the story of a time when someone rejected you because you spoke the truth. How did you feel about it? Did you walk away? How did (or might) the Holy Spirit work on that person's heart to prepare them to eventually accept the truth?

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**SUPREME COURT
DECISIONS ON MARRIAGE:
'TRAGIC DAY FOR
MARRIAGE AND OUR
NATION,' STATE U.S.
BISHOPS**

June 26

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Supreme Court decisions June 26 striking down part of the Defense of Marriage Act and refusing to rule on the merits of a challenge to California's Proposition 8 mark a "tragic day for marriage and our nation," said Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco, chair of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage.

The statement follows.

"Today is a tragic day for marriage and our nation. The Supreme Court has dealt a profound injustice to the American people by striking down in part the federal Defense of Marriage Act. The Court got it wrong. The federal government ought to respect the truth that marriage is the union of one man and one woman, even where states fail to do so. The preservation of liberty and justice requires that all laws, federal and state, respect the truth, including the truth about marriage. It is also unfortunate that the Court did not take the opportunity to uphold California's Proposition 8 but instead decided not to rule on the matter. The common good of all, especially our children, depends upon a society that strives to uphold the truth of marriage. Now is the time to redouble our efforts in witness to this truth. These decisions are part of a public debate of great consequence. The future of

marriage and the well-being of our society hang in the balance.

"Marriage is the only institution that brings together a man and a woman for life, providing any child who comes from their union with the secure foundation of a mother and a father.

"Our culture has taken for granted for far too long what human nature, experience, common sense, and God's wise design all confirm: the difference between a man and a woman matters, and the difference between a mom and a dad matters. While the culture has failed in many ways to be marriage-strengthening, this is no reason to give up. Now is the time to strengthen marriage, not redefine it.

"When Jesus taught about the meaning of marriage – the lifelong, exclusive union of husband and wife – he pointed back to "the beginning" of God's creation of the human person as male and female (see Matthew 19). In the face of the customs and laws of his time, Jesus taught an unpopular truth that everyone could understand. The truth of marriage endures, and we will continue to boldly proclaim it with confidence and charity.

"Now that the Supreme Court has issued its decisions, with renewed purpose we call upon all of our leaders and the people of this good nation to stand steadfastly together in promoting and defending the unique meaning of marriage: one man, one woman, for life. We also ask for prayers as the Court's decisions are reviewed and their implications further clarified."

Editors: Background information can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/backgrounder-on-proposition-8-and-doma.cfm>