



The Calling of Saints Peter and Paul
Cigoli (1559-1613)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

I realize that last weekend I made quite an overwhelming data drop with regards to the moral permissibility of using certain vaccines, not to mention a weekend during a very tense situation in the Capital, all just before I jumped into my pickup to head to the Swan Valley for a week of silence and solitude. The retreat was excellent and most welcome, by the way. By now you should have had some time to review the material, including the links to some online resources that I had sent to you via Flocknote.

I want to start off by saying that I know full well how complex and difficult the reading can be. For all of us. I can only imagine that this might be the very first time many of you may have been confronted with such a difficult choice, and learning how to make these choices is going to be equally difficult. My first and most primary concern is that you make these decisions in a way that is in keeping with human dignity, and for that to happen your choice must be intelligent and free. Duress is an awful cross to bear, and we all know way deep down that it constitutes a kind of violation of our person. Neither do we do things simply because everyone else does it, or out of a place of fear and uncertainty.

At this point in time we are not in any real mad rush and those who attempt to impress upon us some sense of immediacy and urgency need to be gently rebuked, not too mention that when people inquire about whether or not we have accepted the vaccine, that this in an intrusion into our privacy. We need time, and we can explain that we need time to examine the issue under all of its aspects before determining whether or not accepting the vaccine at this time is a good choice. Do not fear telling people when they cross personal boundaries, and do not fear or make excuses for wanting or needing more time.

Last week we looked at our nearness to an act of evil that has been committed; the use of tissue from an aborted child in the development of a vaccine in order to test its potential efficacy, or to produce the vaccine itself. To be close to the

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

24 January 2021

Sacred Heart, Ronan
Immaculate Conception, Polson
St. Joseph Mission, Charlo

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

Immaculate Conception at 6:00 pm
Confessions are available at 5:00 pm

Sunday

Sacred Heart at 8:30 am
Immaculate Conception at 10:30 am

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday-Friday

Immaculate Conception at 12:10 pm
Confessions are heard on each of these days at 11:30 am and again immediately after the 12:10 pm Mass on Wednesday during a period of Eucharist Adoration.

evil, is to be involved in the evil act itself, or to consent to the evil even after the fact. We saw that that was called *formal cooperation*, and this is never morally permissible under any circumstances. We also should be very much on guard against complacency or any attitude that might convey the message that this is ok. Because it is not. To do so could move one dangerously close to the area of formal cooperation.

To be truly *passive* in the material cooperation with some evil there must be distance, and this means that we had no involvement or say in the evil that was committed *and* that we strenuously object to the evil committed, demanding in this case a clean and ethically developed vaccine. Last week I provided some names and contact information to help give us all a start in this regard. And yes, there are some vaccines in development that are ethical, but at this point in time there are not any that have not been compromised. A chart will be provided for you.

For lack of space we'll wrap up right here and next week we will look at a couple of other considerations, and those would be *grave necessity* and *conscientious objections*. "Little by little with great serenity" is what the late Bishop Morlino always used to tell me. Great advice. And so let's proceed in just that fashion.

God bless,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson

St. Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder (The Ursulines)
Memorial January 27th



Keep to the ancient way and custom of the Church, established and confirmed by so many Saints under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. And live a new life. Pray, and get others to pray, that God not abandon His Church, but reform it as He pleases, and as He sees best for us, and more to His honor and glory.

Beware of trying to accomplish anything by force.

You will accomplish more by kind words and a courteous manner than by anger or sharp rebuke, which should never be used except in necessity. 😬

Do not lose heart, even if you should discover that you lack qualities necessary for the work to which you are called. He who called you will not desert you, but the moment you are in need he will stretch out his saving hand.

Reflect that in reality you have a greater need to serve [the poor] than they have of your service.

Consider that the devil doesn't sleep, but seeks our ruin in a thousand ways."



Endow study group for women on Thursdays at 10:30 am. Please call Sheila LeBrun for more information at 406-208-5788.

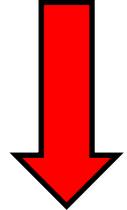


That Man Is You!
Thursdays at 6:00 am. Meetings start with hot premium roast coffee and breakfast.



The Polson and Ronan Councils of the Knights of Columbus will be resuming their monthly meetings. The next meeting of the Polson Council will be **Thursday, February 18th at 7:00 pm**. The Ronan Council will meet on **January 17th after the 8:30 am Mass** at Sacred Heart.

Please bear in mind that people eat year round and not just on Thanksgiving. Help keep this project going. Thank you!



Food Pantry Necessities

Peanut butter and cereal are a constant need; as well as oats, flour and rice. As the holidays approach please consider contributing canned pumpkin, cranberries, gravy and desert mixes. And don't forget the stuffing mix ! Items may be left in a bin at the entrance of the church.

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 23rd

Vigil Mass; Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Repose of Samantha Wing Schaff rb The Reum's

Sunday, January 24th

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Sick and the Shut-ins/Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Tuesday, January 26th

Memorial of Sts. Timothy & Titus
The Repose of Ron Marquardt rb Sheila Marquardt

Wednesday, January 27th

Memorial of St. Angela Merici
The Repose of Neil Miskimins rb The Lebrun's

Thursday, January 28th

Memorial of St. Thomas Aquinas
Speical Intention of the Donor

Friday, January 29th

Votive Mass in Honor of the Holy Cross
The Deceased Members of Our Pariah

Humbly asking for your prayers

Marcy Bishop, Mary Oullette, Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Lou Marchello, Liz Hipp, Michael Conrad, Neil Miskimins, Ellen Holland, Kevin Normandeau, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Leonard & Gail Piedalue, Kate Shrider Olsen, Don Herbst, Bill Nash, Donna Jacobs, Derrie Edge, Madge Vert, Bob Mahon, Joe Wolfekuhle.

Please help to keep the list current by contacting the Parish Office. Also, out of respect for a person's privacy, please make sure that all individuals wish to be publicly identified.

Grace be to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for you all; Making a remembrance of you in our prayers without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 1:2

The Holy Father's prayer intention for January

Human fraternity: May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Please pray for our seminarians!
Dillon Armstrong, Tyler Frohlich, Matthew Christians, Kyle Tannehill and Kaleb Michell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, John Cooney



Note on the morality of using some anti-Covid-19 vaccines

1. As the Instruction Dignitas Personae states, in cases where cells from aborted fetuses are employed to create cell lines for use in scientific research, “there exist differing degrees of responsibility” of cooperation in evil. For example, **“in organizations where cell lines of illicit origin are being utilized, the responsibility of those who make the decision to use them is not the same as that of those who have no voice in such a decision”.**

2. **In this sense, (regarding the note above, ed.)** when ethically irreproachable Covid-19 vaccines are not available (e.g. in countries where vaccines without ethical problems are not made available to physicians and patients, or where their distribution is more difficult due to special storage and transport conditions, or when various types of vaccines are distributed in the same country but health authorities do not allow citizens to choose the vaccine with which to be inoculated) it is morally acceptable to receive Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process.

3. The fundamental reason for considering the use of these vaccines morally licit is that the kind of cooperation in evil (passive material cooperation) in the procured abortion from which these cell lines originate is, on the part of those making use of the resulting vaccines, remote. **The moral duty to avoid such passive material cooperation is not obligatory if there is a grave danger**, such as the otherwise uncontainable spread of a serious pathological agent--in this case, the pandemic spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes Covid-19. It must therefore be considered that, **in such a case, all vaccinations recognized as clinically safe and effective can be used in good conscience** with the certain knowledge that the use of such vaccines does not constitute formal cooperation with the abortion from which the cells used in production of the vaccines derive. **It should be emphasized, however, that the morally licit use of these types of vaccines, in the particular conditions that make it so, does not in itself constitute a legitimation, even indirect, of the practice of abortion, and necessarily assumes the opposition to this practice by those who make use of these vaccines.**

4. **In fact, the licit use of such vaccines does not and should not in any way imply that there is a moral endorsement of the use of cell lines proceeding from aborted fetuses.** Both pharmaceutical companies and governmental health agencies are therefore encouraged to produce, approve, distribute and offer ethically acceptable vaccines that do not create problems of conscience for either health care providers or the people to be vaccinated.

5. **At the same time, practical reason makes evident that vaccination is not, as a rule, a moral obligation and that, therefore, it must be voluntary.** In any case, from the ethical point of view, the morality of vaccination depends not only on the duty to protect one’s own health, but also on the duty to pursue the common good. **In the absence of other means to stop or even prevent the epidemic, the common good may recommend vaccination, especially to protect the weakest and most exposed.** Those who, however, for reasons of conscience, refuse vaccines produced with cell lines from aborted fetuses, must do their utmost to avoid, by other prophylactic means and appropriate behavior, becoming vehicles for the transmission of the infectious agent. In particular, they must avoid any risk to the health of those who cannot be vaccinated for medical or other reasons, and who are the most vulnerable.

6. Finally, there is also **a moral imperative** for the pharmaceutical industry, governments and international organizations to ensure that vaccines, which are effective and safe from a medical point of view, as well as ethically acceptable, are also accessible to the poorest countries in a manner that is not costly for them. The lack of access to vaccines, otherwise, would become another sign of discrimination and injustice that condemns poor countries to continue living in health, economic and social poverty.

The Sovereign Pontiff Francis, at the Audience granted to the undersigned Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, on 17 December 2020, examined the present Note and ordered its publication.

NEW GROUP!

Knitters and Crocheters meet in the parish hall of Immaculate Conception on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Please contact Julie Hille at 715-882-2716 for more information. All are welcome!



Sacred Heart/St. Joseph \$8,870 of \$11,200 (79%)
Immaculate Conception \$22,180 of \$29,900 (74%)



All Sunday homilies are available on YouTube and can be found by searching the full name *Fr. Kevin Christofferson*.

ROSARY GROUP

St. Joseph Hospital Chapel

Monday at 6:00 pm
 Friday at 9:00 am



DIVINE MERCY RADIO
 90.7 FM



DMR is a locally owned, listener supported non-profit 501(c)3
 PO Box 568
 Polson, MT 59860

Parish Offertory Progress Report

Fiscal Year beginning July 1st

Immaculate Conception
 \$80,918 of \$170,000 (48%)
Sacred Heart/St. Joseph
 \$26,201 of \$44,500 (59%)



Thank you for your generosity!