



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK – JANUARY 26, 2020

This week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Because of that, I have posted today’s homily on our website as I do each week thanks to Deacon Ralph. It is based on the scripture readings for today. In place of the usual homily, I would like to share some thoughts on the state of education in our country today.

Catholic Schools Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

In our country, as you know, God is no longer officially welcome in the public square or in our public schools. That is not to say that our teachers in public schools are Godless people. Many of them are good practicing Catholics. Some of them are from our parish and they are excellent teachers. I’m speaking of the philosophical foundation of the public-school system – not the teachers or the students in the system.

It all began in 1933 when the first “Humanist Manifesto” was published. It was signed by the Father of public-school education in these United States – John Dewey. It proclaims that God did not create us, we created God. God does not exist. We simply put him in the gaps that science cannot yet explain. Professor Lennox (a math scholar and respected scientist who teaches at Oxford) does not agree. His thoughts on the subject can be found on YouTube. He claims that science proves the existence of God and he makes a compelling case. No matter, it’s been downhill ever since. In 1947 the Supreme Court in *Everson vs. the Board of Education* turned the Constitution upside down with the wall of separation. There is no wall of separation in the Constitution.

In 1990, unknown to most people, our Supreme Court in *Roberts vs Madigan* decided it is unconstitutional for a public-school classroom library to have books dealing with Christianity. And public-school teachers may not have a personal bible on public school property. There are some who do, but the law does not allow that, and they are “breaking” the law.

So where are we now - 30 years later? Pastor Rick Warren put it like this. He said, “In our culture today...

- Materialism is idolized
- Truth is minimized
- God is marginalized
- Immorality is glamorized
- Sin is marginalized
- Divorce is rationalized
- Abortion is legalized – 60 million babies have never seen the light of day since *Roe v Wade* in 1973. That’s 12 million more than the total population of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania put together. Is it possible that one of those children (male or female) could be the leader we may need in our country when war inevitably comes to our homeland? Is it possible that one of those

children would be the person to find a cure for a pandemic that has not yet happened?

ON TV AND IN OUR MOVIES

- Crime is legitimized
- Comedy is vulgarized
- Sex is trivialized
- The Bible is fictionalized
- Churches are satirized
- God is marginalized
- Christians are demonized
- Elderly are de-humanized
- Sick are euthanized
- Poor are victimized
- Mentally ill are ostracized
- Children are tranquillized

IN OUR FAMILIES

- Manners are uncivilized
- Speeches are vulgarized
- Faith is secularized
- Everything is commercialized
- Christians are disorganized
- Pastors are de-moralized
- Faith is compartmentalized
- Witness is compromised

WE NEED

- Worship to be re-vitalized
- Differences to be minimized
- Members to be mobilized
- Marriages to be re-energized
- Everyone, including priests and bishops to be re-Catechized”

Do we need Catholic Schools? The short answer is yes. Perhaps more now than ever before. For a few moments in silence, ask God to bless our students, their families and their teachers – in our Catholic Schools, and in our public schools as well.