

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
St Brigid & St Patrick
August 29, 2021

The Seven Capital Sins
(A Series on: From Where Sin Comes)

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In today's Gospel, Jesus says that sins come from **within**. How did they get there, what are these sins, and how do we get rid of them??? We begin a short series in today's bulletin on the **Seven Capital Sins**.

Capital sins are the "inordinate tendencies from which all sins originate as from their source". They are therefore called **capital** sins for as you know in Latin, *capita* means head; they are then the sins which are the root or the cause of all other sins in the moral order. When we say they are inordinate tendencies, we affirm that these capital, we call them sins, sinful tendencies are the result of **original sin**.

Our first parents **did not** have these inordinate tendencies. Every child of Adam and Eve, therefore, has these 7 capital sinful tendencies. In other words, when we speak of somebody as just behaving naturally, that is **not** a complement. To behave naturally means to be behaving according to one's fallen human nature. St. Paul speaks of these as sins. That's why the Church, following St. Paul's teaching, has over the centuries called them the *Seven Capital Sins*. However, the Church has explicitly defined that they are not actual sins as such. They are sins only in the sense that they arise from sin, **originally** from original sin, **and** they lead to sin, **unless** they are controlled. They are therefore the seven capital drives of our fallen human nature. To which all of us, and the word is all of us, are constantly, spontaneously, naturally drawn.

When do the sinful tendencies begin? At the *moment of conception*, as more than one mother can attest. However, when we say that they originated these tendencies, with original sin, it doesn't mean merely, **watch this**, it **does not mean merely** that when our first parents sinned they somehow set a bad example. It's not only bad example, but it's also that we inherited these bad tendencies. When we say these are sinful tendencies, we mean that when God *originally* made man, he intended human beings **to not have** what these tendencies are.

One word description for these tendencies is, I'm sure you know, is **concupiscence**. And the opposite of concupiscence is **integrity**. So then when we say that they are natural, you know the trouble is every time we use the word either "nature" or "naturally" as believers, and apply the word "nature" or "natural" to human beings, then our faith tells us unlike, well, the rest of creation. We have a human nature, and our human nature is *natural* all right; **but it lacks** not nature but **the gift over and above nature** that God had *originally* given to the human race called the gift of integrity (*sanctifying grace*)!

What is the basis for the *capital sins*? As we've just said, it is man's fallen human nature and, *watch this*, **and** his own *personally induced* bad habits or vices. Every child, the moment that child is conceived in his mother's womb already has these capital sins as sinful tendencies. And what a difference it makes in the raising of children, what a difference, to recognize that already in the womb, and surely from birth my child, *I may love the child with all my heart*, but my child **does have** sinful tendencies. And we can't be blinded by our affection for the child, we cannot do nothing about those sinful tendencies. Because, not only do we inherit these sinful tendencies, called the *Seven Capital Sins* from our fallen human nature, **but**, every time we sin, every sin we commit, **increases**, *deepens* those sinful tendencies.

Unless a person **realizes** they have a fallen human nature, and consequently a nature that is *prone to acting in seven capital sinful ways*, people may not realize how to *master* these sinful drives. People must realize that, not only are they **not** to give in to the sinful urges they have, they need to know that every time we give in, we **increase** the *pressure* of these sinful drives. In other words, this is **not merely** the acquisition of a habit, but also that each habit tends to perpetuate itself. This is true for either **good** habits (called *virtues*) or for **bad** habits (called *vices*). In other words, the bedrock foundation for the spiritual life is knowing among these *Seven Capital Sin* tendencies, *which* are the most capital in my own life?

The *two most fundamental* are **pride** and **lust**, and they are very closely related. Indispensably related! As St. Paul, remember in his letter to the *Romans*, tells us, because of their **pride** (these are the Romans) in refusing to acknowledge the one true God, because in their **pride** they refused to submit their wills to the one true God says St. Paul. Therefore God made them *slaves* of their lusts. So they then were not able to control their sinful drives. We inherited a fallen human nature from Adam and Eve. Thus, we must not follow our fallen human nature's tendencies, but instead follow the new nature of grace given to us by Christ.

More next week!

(excerpts from *The Real Presence Association*)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
(ANY CHANGES, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.)

Judy Hultin, Jim Dunnigan, Patty Durand, Lori Hill, Millie Laxdal, John Christianson, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, Jane Zidon, Marla Zidon, Rex Grill, Heidi Gustafson, Adriane Wellman, Isabelle Copeland, Tracy Letzring, Kelly Morrison, Jody Deibert, Allison Bleick, Dale Hultin, Bob McCartney, Susie Dimsha, Sherry McDonald, Shelbie Goodoien, Oliver Goodoien, Brent Collins, Merle Larson, Robert O'Toole, Ruth Rieger, Melanie Fischer, Ruth Ivesdahl, Carol Smith, Mary Louise, Bernard & Aletha Schommer, Brianna Fernandez, Brett & Rick Letzring, Jane Grazadzieleski, Rick Kilichowski, Donald Denault, Gary Olson, Fr. Finnestad, Joan Kerian.

ST PATRICK ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 8:00 am. **Adoration with Confessions:** Sat at 8:00 am. **More Confessions:** Sun 8:00 am. **Aug Church Cleaners:** Mary Wild, Nick & Molly Wild, Marilyn Olafson. **Collection:** Clay & Jim (Aug 29); Dianne & Melissa (Sep 5). **Reader:** Tom (Aug); Nick Wild (Sep). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Lance & Tanya Wieler Family (Aug 29); Kam & Ashley Johnson Family (Sep 5). **Sacristan:** Melissa (Aug 29); Mary T (Sep 5). **Rosary:** Jim (Aug 29); Melissa (Sep 5)

ST BRIGID ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 10:00 am. **Adoration with Confessions:** Wed & Fri at 11:00 am; **More Confessions:** Sat 4-5:00 pm, Mon 5-5:15 pm. **Aug Church cleaners:** G-K. **Collection:** Trevor & Scott (Aug 29); Kevin & Mitch (Sep 5). **Readers** (Sep): Sat-Kevin; Sun-Matt. **Rosary:** Larry C (Aug & Sep). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Vacancy (Aug 29 & Sep 5)) **Bishop Folda requests** that we contact our federal legislators and urge them to keep the Hyde Amendment intact. The Hyde Amendment is a pro-life amendment which prevents the use of federal funds to pay for abortion. It has saved 60,000 lives per year. You can also visit this website: <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com/>

Year of St. Joseph Prayer: "Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen"



This week on "Formed"
Learn about **St Gregory the Great** (feast day Sep 3) and **St Teresa of Calcutta** (feast day Sep 5)!
Sign-up at **formed.org**



Mon		Aug 30	5:15 pm	St Brigid	Tara Scholler
Tues		Aug 31	8:00 am	St Patrick	+ Dorothy Michaelson
Wed		Sep 1	Noon	St Brigid	+ Everett DeMars
Thur		Sep 2	8:00 am	St Patrick	Kayla Arens
Fri	St Gregory the Great	Sep 3	Noon	St Brigid	+ Thomas Winkler
Sat		Sep 4	9:00 am	St Patrick	Harrison Young
			5:00 pm	St Brigid	St Brigid & St Patrick Parishes
Sun	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sep 5	8:30 am	St Patrick	+ Tony Neururer
			10:30 am	St Brigid	St Brigid & St Patrick Parishes

Stewardship (as of 8-22-21)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
Adult Envelope	1555.00	537.27	St Patrick's Care Collection (Aug)		195.00
Plate	137.00	24.00	Cemetery	4,415.00	4,831.69
Weekly Total	1692.00	561.27	St Anthony Cemetery \$1505.00		
Yearly Actual Total	80,494.26	30,700.35	St Brigid Gods Gift Goal: \$23,485.48	12,913.00	
Monthly Envelope Building Fund	2,407.00	2,885.00	St Patrick Gods Gift Goal: \$9,103.15		6,204.00
Solemnity of the Assumption	285.00	65.00	St Helen Cemetery \$2,575.00		
St Patrick Sidewalk Final Cost: \$18,000	Collected so far	14,000	St Bernard Cemetery \$262.00		