

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
St Brigid & St Patrick
September 5, 2021

Remedy For The Seven Capital Sins
(A Series on: The Seven Sinful Tendencies)

Pastor: Fr. Charles LaCroix
charles.lacroix@fargodiocese.org



Last week, we began to identify how the sin of our first parents, *Adam and Eve*, has had dire consequences for us all. They passed on to us a **fallen human nature**: our intellect is clouded, our will is weak and our emotions tend to dictate our choices (instead of following our reason). Plus, they were supposed to pass on to us the gift of sanctifying grace, but they lost it by sinning. We need sanctifying grace in our souls in order to enter into Heaven.

Now, part II of this series.

Baptism, how this needs to be underlined, baptism does indeed restore the supernatural gifts that our first parents received when they were first made by God. Sanctifying grace is restored and that means the indwelling Holy Spirit and that means the infused theological virtues, it means the infused gifts of the Holy Spirit. All of those are restored by baptism. What is **not** restored is the *gift of integrity*, which means the built-in, divinely built-in, **control** of our sinful drives. That is not restored. *Concupiscence* remains.

The seven capital sinful tendencies remain. Baptized or not. With that we say, that these are the result of the fall. We should also add that God must have had a profound reason first, for allowing our first parents to sin. But then, for allowing us to inherit these sinful tendencies. And, by the way, a good synonym for the *Seven Capital Sins* is the **Seven Passions**. Seven human passions to which every human being is spontaneously prone.

Why, we may ask, has God allowed us to have these sinful tendencies? There must have been in God's goodness and wisdom, there must have been a good reason for allowing it. There is. **First** of all, whatever else, whatever else God wants us to be, He wants us to be **humble**. And no matter what other people may think of us, what pedestal they may put us on, we know better. We know down deep in our hearts, each one of us, the sinful drive that I've got. Except for the grace of God, there is no criminal on earth that every one of us could not, either have become or unless we watch ourselves, can become. To keep us **humble**.

Secondly, this is over the centuries, the masters of the spiritual life reflecting on why we have these *Seven Capital Sins*. In order that, realizing we cannot, and the verb is, we **cannot** control these passions by ourselves. We cannot.

Now we will take a look at each of the Seven Capital Sins. First up: **Pride**.

What is pride? Pride is *the inordinate desire for ones own excellence*. First of all, are we to have a recognition of our own excellence? Are we to recognize the goodness, the virtue, the intelligence that we have? Is there anything wrong with knowing that we are, intelligent. Or that I can sing? No. The key word is "*inordinate*". When is the desire for one's own excellence or the desire for recognition, when is this *inordinate*? When I want *first* of all to recognize my own excellence, I want others to recognize it, too. Is that wrong? No. It is wrong when I **credit myself** for what I am and have.

In other words, the sin of pride is when I fail to give God the credit for everything that I *am* and *have*. And so, **Our Lady's Magnificat** is the perfect prayer for humility. My soul magnifies whom? The Lord. What do proud people do? They magnify themselves! And they will **not** give credit to God. What's the *remedy* for pride? *Censure*, knowledge of one's self. *Ah*, that's why God allows us to sin. And **hear it**, the higher the sanctity He wants to call us to, the more He's allowed us to sin in the past. St. Paul was the hunter and even murderer of Christians, then converted, came to his senses, and became the zealous apostle of Gentiles. And, St. Peter, *oh how* Christ wanted to make sure no one had any doubt that Popes are very common, very human beings.

The **Remedy**: *Meditation* on the humility of Christ. But **watch this**. In theology, we speculate how would anybody answer: Was Christ ever humiliated? In one sense, of course: condemned to death, scourged, stripped of His garments, nailed to the cross. What greater humiliation could there be? Christ chose to be what we call "*humiliated*" but in His own eyes, He **wanted** it. Christ's humility is not only an inspiration for us to accept, resign ourselves to being humiliated. But, even, **hear it**; providing we know it's God's will, we even prefer what is humiliating to that which is in the eyes of others, is elevating.

Because Christ **chose**, He *wanted* to be humiliated. Pray for humility, and, get into the **habit**, the moment you are humiliated (and all it takes is a moment), the moment you are humiliated, *immediately* say a prayer. It could be as simple as, "*Thanks, Jesus*". "*Thanks, Jesus*", you may not want to say it. Gratitude for the humiliations. **No one** gets to Heaven without humility.

(excerpts from *The Real Presence Association*)

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

Stacey Rinde, Jack Peterson, Mason Palmiseno, Judy Hultin, Jim Dunnigan, Patty Durand, Lori Hill, Millie Laxdal, John Christian-son, 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. Sep Church Cleaners: Dianne, Ashley, Sean & Blanca. Collection: Dianne & Melissa (Sep 5); Sherry & Kari (Sep 12). Reader: Nick Wild (Sep). Sanctuary Lamp: Kam & Ashley Johnson Family (Sep 5); Lawrence O'Toole (Sep 12). Sacristan: Mary T (Sep 5); Duane (Sep 12). Rosary: Melissa (Sep 5); Mary T (Sep 12)

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. Sep Church cleaners: L-R . Collection: Kevin & Mitch (Sep 5); Michael & Val (Sep 12). Readers (Sep): Sat-Kevin; Sun-Matt. Rosary: Larry C (Sep). Sanctuary Lamp: Larry Puppe (Sep 12)

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"

St. Brigid Fall Dinner Is Back! Mark your calendars for *Sunday, Sep 26th* from *11:30 am to 2:00 pm* (take-out and delivery only this year). We have another great menu this year. We need lots of help. Please **sign-up**.

Family Faith Formation begins on *Wednesday, Sep 29th!* You will be receiving a letter with more details.



This week on "Formed"
Learn about **St Teresa of Calcutta** (feast Sep 5) & the **Birthday of Our Lady** (feast Sep 8)!
Sign-up at **formed.org**



Mon		Sep 6	5:15 pm	St Brigid	Allan Kraft
Tues		Sep 7	8:00 am	St Patrick	+ Wade Puppe
Wed	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin	Sep 8	Noon	St Brigid	Amanda Dammen Family
Thur	St Peter Claver	Sep 9	8:00 am	St Patrick	+ Delores, Arni & Dirk Johnson
Fri		Sep 10	Noon	St Brigid	Michael Mathers Family
Sat		Sep 11	9:00 am	St Patrick	St Brigid & St Patrick Parishes
			5:00 pm	St Brigid	+ Carl Winkler
Sun	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sep 12	8:30 am	St Patrick	St Brigid & St Patrick Parishes
			10:30 am	St Brigid	Steven Heck

Stewardship (as of 8-22-21)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
Adult Envelope	1140.00	338.11	St Patrick's Care Collection (Aug)		195.00
Plate	60.00	00.00	Cemetery	4,415.00	4,831.69
Weekly Total	1200.00	338.11	St Anthony Cemetery \$1605.00		
Yearly Actual Total	81,694.26	31,038.46	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		