

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**St Brigid & St Patrick**  
October 3, 2021

*October: Respect Life Month*  
(A Series on: Building a Culture of Life)

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



The future of the human race depends on the Catholic Church's teaching on **abortion**. *The survival of the human race* depends finally on the **acceptance** of the Catholic Church's two thousand years' teaching that the killing of unborn children is murder.

- that abortion is a crime against the divine rights of God over the human beings He created
- that God will not long tolerate this world-wide denial of His rights and,
- therefore that either the world will accept the Catholic Church's teaching on abortion or the future survival of the human race is in jeopardy.

Church's Teaching. The Catholic Church's teaching on abortion is **deeper** than most people realize. For almost twenty centuries, the Catholic Church has taught that the direct killing of an unborn child is a grave violation of the rights of God because human life is **sacred**. Abortion is above all, *and beyond all*, a crime against God. Why? Because human life is sacred. It belongs to Him, and *only He* has a right to determine how long mortal human life is to remain alive, and when the life of a human being on earth may cease.

There is one quality of human life that the Catholic Church has been teaching since the first century of her history. Human life, says the Church, is not only wonderful and superior, and beautiful and precious: **human life is sacred**. What do we mean when we say that, on Catholic premises, human life is sacred? We mean that human life *belongs to God*. After all, that is the essence of being sacred or holy, and not merely secular or profane. What are we really saying? We are saying that God is intimately and uniquely bound up with each human life, as He is the creative Author of each human being.

Human life is holy because it mysteriously and distinctively belongs to God. Something is sacred, we say, if it pertains to the divine. If we ask further why this is so, we have the answer written in the pages of revelation and by now, two millennia of Catholic tradition. When the Church came into existence, it was this **sacredness of human life** that it had to defend against the paganism of the *Roman Empire*. Abortion and infanticide were approved by the laws of the Caesars, and one of the sure signs of being a Christian was to **deny Caesar's right** to legalize the murder of the unborn.

Human life is sacred because unlike all other forms of life on earth, it participates in God's own immortality. Unlike God, it has begun in time, but like God, it is **never to end**. Human life will never cease to be. It is therefore sacred because God has endowed human beings with a share of His own eternity. And, human life is sacred because it has been given a share in the divine attribute of eternal liberty. Like God, we are able *to choose*; and we are able to choose to love God. Human life is also sacred because of its divine destiny. Our purpose for existence is not to remain here on earth, in the possession and enjoyment of creatures. We are destined for the possession and enjoyment of God.

In light of what we have been saying, what is our responsibility? Our responsibility is to **witness** to the Catholic faith we profess. The world-wide assault on unborn human life offers us a historic opportunity *to prove our faith* in God's revealed truth, love the awesome truth that innocent human beings may not be killed because human life is sacred; it belongs to God. In the generations to come the conflict between abortionists and the pro-life movement will become more and more clearly a conflict between those who **believe** in Christ and His Church, and **those who do not**. It is imperative that we Catholics see our struggle as founded not on mere human wisdom, but on faith that comes from God.

Many well-meaning and high-minded people are pro-life, but **only** a believing and well-instructed **Catholic** understands why. Only a Catholic who lives his faith sees with the eyes of faith, why human life is so valuable that it must – at any cost, be protected against those who are demonically inspired to destroy it.

The real question is – **whose right** are we defending? Is it only, or even mainly, the right of the unborn child, that cannot speak for itself? Whose rights are we defending when we talk about the right to life? Against whom is the injustice protracted if human life is destroyed? Certainly it is the right of the individual child, and the rights of human society. **But more basic** than all human rights, it is first and foremost the *rights of God* that we are defending. God has rights to the unborn human life which He creatively produced, which He became man and died on the Cross to redeem, which He personally made to His own image and likeness, and which He is lovingly preparing to join Him in **Heaven** in the company of the Holy Trinity.

**Prayer:** “*Almighty God, you came into the world to teach us the dignity of human life by being conceived by the Virgin Mary and becoming a speechless Child when you were born at Bethlehem. Strengthen our courage to defend the sanctity of human life which is being destroyed even before it is born. We ask this through the merits of your Mother, Mary, the Mother of the Church, and our Mother. Amen.*”  
(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, Lucy Rieger, John Christianson, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, 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. **Oct Church Cleaners:** Don & Laurie Z; Duane & Linda D; Kaci Sharp. **Collection:** Paul & Blanca (Oct 3); Deidre & Dianne (Oct 10). **Reader:** Burrell (Oct). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Scott Salwei Family (Oct 3); Steffie Daley (Oct 10). **Sacristan:** Mary T (Oct 3); Duane (Oct 10). **Rosary:** Melissa (Oct 3); Mary T (Oct 10). **Breakfast:** Sign up sheet in back of the church for all who want to volunteer to help.

**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. **Oct Church cleaners:** S-W . **Collection:** Scott M & Mary Ellen K (Oct 3); Lynette & Cathy (Oct 10). **Readers** (Oct): Sat-Ryan; Sun-Trevor. **Rosary:** Larry C (Oct). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Vacant (Oct 3); Mahar Family (Oct 10).

**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”

**A Big “Thank You”!** Thanks to all who helped out with the annual St. Brigid Fall Dinner! May God reward you for all your efforts!

**Family Faith Formation** continues on *Wednesday, Oct 6th with Chapter Two!* The high school meets at St. Patrick!

**Meals On Wheels** needs your help! “*For I was hungry and you gave Me food.*” (Matthew 25:35). Serve Jesus, by serving those in need. Please contact Rose Winkler if you can help: 265-4430.

**Calling all Catholic Men!** Mark your calendars. Men's conference: Nov 15 & 22, 6-8 pm St. Brigid. “*We have a serious crisis: one in three Catholic men have left the faith. God has a plan for your life, but so does Satan.*” (From: “*Into The Breach*”)



This week on “Formed”

Learn more about **St. Francis of Assisi** (feast: Oct 4) & **St. Faustina** (feast: Oct 5)!

Sign-up at [formed.org](http://formed.org)



Mon	<b>St Francis of Assisi</b>	Oct 4	5:15 pm	St Brigid	<b>Skylar Alex</b>
Tue	<b>Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos</b>	Oct 5	8:00 am	St Patrick	<b>Makensie Miller</b>
Wed	<b>St Bruno</b>	Oct 6	Noon	St Brigid	<b>+Carl Winkler</b>
Thur	<b>Our Lady of the Rosary</b>	Oct 7	8:00 am	St Patrick	<b>Jim &amp; Melissa Young</b>
Fri		Oct 8	Noon	St Brigid	<b>Winston Miller</b>
Sat		Oct 9	9:00 am	St Patrick	<b>St Brigid &amp; St. Patrick parishes</b>
			5:00 pm	St Brigid	<b>Landon Alex</b>
Sun	<b>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Oct 10	8:30 am	St Patrick	<b>Miranda Alex</b>
			10:30 pm	St Brigid	<b>St Brigid &amp; St. Patrick parishes</b>

Stewardship (as of 9-26-21)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
<i>Adult Envelope</i>	<b>1505.00</b>	<b>385.00</b>	<i>St Patrick's Care Collection Oct</i>		
<i>Plate</i>	<b>37.00</b>	<b>63.00</b>	Cemetery	<b>4,415.00</b>	<b>4,931.69</b>
<i>Weekly Total</i>	<b>1542.00</b>	<b>4488.00</b>	St Anthony Cemetery \$1605.00		
<i>Yearly Actual Total</i>	<b>89,09926</b>	<b>33994.16</b>	St Brigid Gods Gift Goal: \$23,485.48	<b>12,943.00</b>	
<i>Monthly Envelope Building Fund</i>	<b>2532.00</b>	<b>3115.00</b>	St Patrick Gods Gift Goal: \$9,103.15		<b>6,204.00</b>
<i>Assumption</i>	<b>285.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>	St Helen Cemetery \$2575.00		
<i>St Patrick Sidewalk Final Cost \$18,000</i>	Collected so far	\$14,000	St Bernard Cemetery \$262.00		