

## From Your Pastor

### “Charity in Truth” (*Caritas in Veritate*) ~ The Introduction to the Pope’s Encyclical

Last week, Pope Benedict XVI promulgated his third Encyclical or Pastoral Letter to the Church. Entitled “Charity in Truth,” the Pope’s letter addresses the Church’s commitment to the development of the human person and of society. Following are excerpts from the first half of the Introduction to the Encyclical.

Charity in truth, to which Jesus Christ bore witness by his earthly life and especially by his death and resurrection, is the principal driving force behind the authentic development of every person and of all humanity. Love — *caritas* — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace. It is a force that has its origin in God, Eternal Love and Absolute Truth. Each person finds his good by adherence to God’s plan for him, in order to realize it fully: in this plan, he finds his truth, and through adherence to this truth he becomes free (cf. Jn 8:22). To defend the truth, to articulate it with humility and conviction, and to bear witness to it in life are therefore exacting and indispensable forms of charity. Charity, in fact, “rejoices in the truth” (1 Cor 13:6). All people feel the interior impulse to love authentically: love and truth never abandon them completely, because these are the vocation planted by God in the heart and mind of every human person. The search for love and truth is purified and liberated by Jesus Christ from the impoverishment that our humanity brings to it, and he reveals to us in all its fullness the initiative of love and the plan for true life that God has prepared for us. In Christ, *charity in truth* becomes the Face of his Person, a vocation for us to love our brothers and sisters in the truth of his plan. Indeed, he himself is the Truth (cf. Jn 14:6).

Charity is at the heart of the Church’s social doctrine. Every responsibility and every commitment spelt out by that doctrine is derived from charity which, according to the teaching of Jesus, is the synthesis of the entire Law (cf. Mt 22:36- 40). It gives real substance to the personal relationship with God and with neighbor; it is the principle not only of micro-relationships (with friends, with family members or within small groups) but also of macro-relationships (social, economic and political ones). For the Church, instructed by the Gospel, charity is everything because, as Saint John teaches (cf. 1 Jn 4:8, 16) and as I

recalled in my first Encyclical Letter, “God is love” (*Deus Caritas Est*): everything has its origin in God’s love, everything is shaped by it, everything is directed towards it. Love is God’s greatest gift to humanity, it is his promise and our hope...

Through this close link with truth, charity can be recognized as an authentic expression of humanity and as an element of fundamental importance in human relations, including those of a public nature. *Only in truth does charity shine forth*, only in truth can charity be authentically lived. Truth is the light that gives meaning and value to charity. That light is both the light of reason and the light of faith, through which the intellect attains to the natural and supernatural truth of charity: it grasps its meaning as gift, acceptance, and communion. Without truth, charity degenerates into sentimentality. Love becomes an empty shell, to be filled in an arbitrary way. In a culture without truth, this is the fatal risk facing love. It falls prey to contingent subjective emotions and opinions, the word “love” is abused and distorted, to the point where it comes to mean the opposite. Truth frees charity from the constraints of an emotionalism that deprives it of relational and social content, and of a fideism that deprives it of human and universal breathing-space. In the truth, charity reflects the personal yet public dimension of faith in the God of the Bible, who is both *Agápe* and *Lógos*: Charity and Truth, Love and Word.

Charity is love received and given. It is “grace” (*cháris*). Its source is the wellspring of the Father’s love for the Son, in the Holy Spirit. Love comes down to us from the Son. It is creative love, through which we have our being; it is redemptive love, through which we are recreated. Love is revealed and made present by Christ (cf. Jn 13:1) and “poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit” (Rom 5:5). As the objects of God’s love, men and women become subjects of charity, they are called to make themselves instruments of grace, so as to pour forth God’s charity and to weave networks of charity... This dynamic of charity received and given is what gives rise to the Church’s social teaching, which is *caritas in veritate in re sociali*: the proclamation of the truth of Christ’s love in society... Without truth, without trust and love for what is true, there is no social conscience and responsibility.



God bless each of you.

*Mrs. Fay*

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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**Prayers Are Requested** for those who are ill, for vocations to the Priesthood and to the Consecrated Life; for married couples and for families; for the safe return home of the men and women in our military services; for the prayers listed in our book of intentions; and for the repose of the souls of Sheila McHugh and the deceased members of our parish, our families and our benefactors.

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**Msgr. Fay will celebrate the CatholicTV Mass on Tuesday, July 28 at 9:30 AM.** The CatholicTV Center is behind St. Patrick's Church at 34 Chestnut Street in Watertown. You are very welcome to be present at the TV Mass. It is always nice to have a community from the parish. Please be at the TV Center by 9:10 AM on the morning of the Mass. You can call Patricia McShane if you have any questions.

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**Feast Of San Donato** – The Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:00 PM on August 1<sup>st</sup> will be celebrated in honor of San Donato. Father Antonio Nardoiani, OFM, the pastor of St. Leonard Parish in the North End of Boston, will celebrate and preach the Mass. **Please note that the Mass and Homily will be celebrated bilingually in Italian and English.** Following the Mass there will be a solemn procession of the statue of San Donato and light refreshments. Though Italian is not a first language for many of us, I hope that you will join us for this joyful occasion.

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**Catechism Classes:** Gregory Vozzo is teaching a series of classes about the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The five classes will take place on Mondays, July 13 through August 10, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. All catechists are asked to attend. Anyone else interested in learning more about the Catechism is also welcome! We will meet in the large conference room in the rectory

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**A St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Donation Bin** is now located at the back of the school down by Leicester Street. All clothing donations will be accepted. Thank you for your donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Boxes in the church. The next meeting is July 28 at 7:00 pm.

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**Coffee & Donuts** will be served on the rectory front porch after the 9:30 Mass. All are welcome.

### **RCIA**

Are you...

- \* thinking about becoming Catholic?
- \* a baptized adult who would like to receive First Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation?
- \* someone who just wants to learn more about the Faith?

If so, please let us know! Call Patricia at the office and ask for Gregory Vozzo or leave a message.

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**Married Couples:** Scripture says about married people that "Two shall live as one". How often do you find yourselves living as two? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend can help you get back to basics in this complicated day and age. The next Weekends in New England are September 11-13, 18-20, 25-27 and October 23-25. For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit the webpage at [www.wwmeMA.org](http://www.wwmeMA.org).

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**Get Involved in Child Abuse Prevention:** Parents and guardians play a key role in the success of parish programs for young people. Parents and guardians who are involved in parish programs and events will be in the best position to protect their own children as well as all the children in the parish community. Involvement and communication are important factors in helping to ensure safe environments for all of our children

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### **UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**Sunday, July 26, 9:30am** - Family Masses

**Mondays, July 20, August 3 & 17, 7:00-8:00 pm**  
Choir rehearsal for the 9:30 Mass

### ***PARISH GIVING***

**Parish Offertory (July 11 – July 12): \$5,873**

**Black & Native American Missions: \$1,075**

**Catholic Appeal (to date): \$37,692**

**St. Vincent de Paul (July 11 – July 12): \$150.00**

***Thank You for Your Generosity***

*JULY 19, 2009*

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**From a Letter to the Corinthians  
by Saint Clement, pope (d. 98)**

Beloved, see what a marvelous thing love is; its perfection is beyond our expression. Who can truly love save those to whom God grants it? We ought to beg and beseech him in his mercy that our love may be genuine, unmarred by any too human inclination. From Adam down to the present time all generations have passed away; but those who were perfected in love by God's grace have a place among the saints who will be revealed when the kingdom of Christ comes to us. As it is written: Enter your chambers for a little while, until my wrath and anger pass away; and I shall remember a good day and raise you from your graves. We are blessed, beloved, if we fulfill the commands of the Lord in harmonious, loving union, so that through love our sins may be forgiven. For it is written: Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes not iniquity, and in whose mouth there is no deceit. This is the blessing that has been given to those who have been chosen by God through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

We should pray then that we may be granted forgiveness for our sins and for whatever we may have done when led astray by our adversary's servants. And for those who were the leaders of the schism and the sedition, they too should look to the common hope. For those who live in pious fear and in love are willing to endure torment rather than have their neighbor suffer; and they more willingly suffer their own condemnation than the loss of that harmony that has been so nobly and righteously handed down to us. For it is better for a man to confess his sins than to harden his heart.

Who then among you is generous, who is compassionate, who is filled with love? He should speak out as follows: If I have been the cause of sedition, conflict and schisms, then I shall depart; I shall go away wherever you wish, and I shall do what the community wants, if only the flock of Christ live in peace with the presbyters who are set over them. Whoever acts thus would win great glory for himself in Christ, and he would be received everywhere, for the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. Thus have they acted in the past and will continue to act in the future who live without regret as citizens in the city of God.

*JULY 19, 2009*

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**A PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS**

We thank you, God our Father,  
for those who have responded  
to your call to priestly ministry.  
Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf:

Fill your priests  
with the sure knowledge of your love.  
Open their hearts to the power  
and consolation of the Holy Spirit.  
Lead them to new depths of union with your Son.  
Increase in them profound faith  
in the Sacraments they celebrate  
as they nourish, strengthen and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests,  
may inspire us to strive for holiness  
by the power of their example,  
as men of prayer who ponder your word  
and follow your will.

O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother,  
guard with your maternal care these chosen ones,  
so dear to the Heart of your Son.  
Intercede for our priests that,  
offering the Sacrifice of your Son,  
they may be conformed more each day  
to the image of your Son,  
our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*St. John Vianney, universal patron of priests,  
pray for us and our priests.*

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**ORACIÓN POR NUESTROS SACERDOTES**

Te damos gracias, Dios nuestro Padre,  
por aquellos que han respondido  
a tu llamado para el ministerio sacerdotal.  
Acepta esta oración que ofrecemos en su nombre.

Llena a tus sacerdotes  
con la seguridad de conocer tu amor.  
Abre sus corazones al poder  
y consuelo del Espíritu Santo,  
condúcelos a nuevas profundidades  
de unión con tu Hijo.  
Llénalos de profunda fe  
en los sacramentos que ellos celebran,  
que nos alientan, nos fortalecen y nos sanan.

Señor Jesucristo, haz que estos tus sacerdotes,  
puedan inspirarnos a luchar por la santidad  
con el poder de su ejemplo,  
como hombres de oración que escuchan tu palabra  
y siguen tu voluntad.

O María, Madre de Cristo y nuestra madre,  
protege con tu cuidado maternal a estos llamados  
tan queridos al Corazón de tu Hijo.  
Intercede para que nuestros sacerdotes,  
que al ofrecer el sacrificio de tu Hijo,  
puedan parecerse cada día más a tu Hijo,  
nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo. Amén.

*San Juan Vianney, patrón universal de los sacerdotes,  
ora por nosotros y por nuestros sacerdotes*

***JULY 19, 2009***

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**Masses for the Week**

**Sunday, July 19 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**(Sat.)** 4:00 pm Robert McKee, 28<sup>th</sup> Ann.  
7:30 am *Missa pro Populo*  
9:30 am Ann Cammarata, 1<sup>st</sup> Ann.  
11:15 am Joseph & Rose Bisconte, Mem.  
12:45 pm Elvia Cadena Brabo, 32<sup>nd</sup> Ann.  
5:00 pm Anna & Maurice Ahern, Mem.

**Mon.** 7:00 am Manuel Preciado, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ann.

**Tue.** 7:00 am Margaret Maher, Mem.

**Wed.** 7:00 am Loreta Cedrone, Month's Mind

**Thu.** 7:00 am Sr. Evarista, CSJ, Mem.

**Fri.** 7:00 am Lucia Farracane, Mem.

**Sat.** 7:00 am Anne Flaherty, Month's Mind

**Sunday, July 26 – 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**(Sat.)** 4:00 pm Mary, Joseph & Evelyn LaPierre, Mem.  
7:30 am Joaquin Gutierrez, Mem.  
9:30 am *Missa pro Populo*  
11:15 am Emilio Paolini, 10<sup>th</sup> Ann.  
12:45 pm Rafael Afanador, 1<sup>st</sup> Ann.  
5:00 pm Anne Ridge, Mem.

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**Comments:**

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