

PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE KEYNOTE (1-19-20)

THE ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, embolden me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Your wounds hide me.
Never permit me to be parted from You.
From the evil Enemy defend me.
At the hour of my death call me and bid me come to You,
that with Your Saints I may praise You for age upon age. Amen.

THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOODNESS

I. God is perfectly good in holiness and love, and the source and end of all that is good:

“And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone” (Mark 10:18).

- A. The One God is perfectly holy—separated from evil—in His essence, substance, and nature
- B. God loves perfectly as a Communion of Divine Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

II. Goodness of Creation—The Original Call to Goodness and Love (Holy Communion):

- A. Creation and its creatures glorify God’s goodness by reflecting His glory:

“And God saw that the light was GOOD” (Genesis 1:4).

“And God saw that it was GOOD” (Genesis 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25).

“And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was VERY GOOD” (Genesis 1:31).

BUT: “Then the Lord God said, ‘It is NOT GOOD that should be alone’” (Genesis 2:18).

- B. God made His rational, personal creatures (angels and men) as good to chose in freedom (obedience) to participate forever in this goodness (blessedness/happiness) by the gift of life (Father), the way of truth (Jesus), and the power of love (Holy Spirit)—Two ways were presented to human persons—the Good Way of Life and the Evil Way of Death.

III. “And out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food, the TREE OF LIFE also in the midst of the garden, and the TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL” (Genesis 2:9).

- A. LIFE is to be “like God” with God and His help (grace and mercy)
- B. DEATH is the prideful and futile effort to be “like God” without God and His help:

LIFE—PERFECT GOODNESS/HOLINESS

Life in the Father as His child
 Life of truth in Jesus
 Life of love and freedom in the Holy Spirit
 Likeness to God
 Acceptance of my body and soul as a gift
 Offering my body and soul in thanksgiving
 “Tilling and keeping” in dominion
 Fruitfulness and furthering life
 Marriage and sex as sacred gifts
 Goodness of the family and children
 Communion

DEATH: EVIL/SIN

Death under Satan as his child
 Life of lies under Satan
 Malice, slavery of the world, flesh, and Devil
 Likeness to Satan
 Use of my body and soul as my own
 Grasping my body and soul in selfishness
 Destroying and taking in domination
 Sterility and fomenting death
 Marriage and sex as self-created pleasures
 Malice toward the family and children
 Alienation

TABLE TALK QUESTIONS

- I. In our contemporary culture, what obstacles do we find in DISCERNING what is good and SHARING this Gospel vision or knowledge with others?
- II. Even if we clearly discern what is good, what difficulties do we find in actually DOING what is good?

SACRED SEVEN QUESTIONS

- ___ 1. We call the OBJECT of a human act the true or apparent good that is chosen.
- ___ 2. The purpose for which a human person performs an act we call the INTENTION, or END.
- ___ 3. CIRCUMSTANCES, including the consequences, of a human act cannot make an otherwise good human act evil.
- ___ 4. We believe that there are times when a good end, or intention, will justify evil means to attain it, as in the case of a just war.
- ___ 5. We believe, in certain circumstances, in the choosing the lesser of two evils.
- ___ 6. We know of no good reason why God permits evil, but must accept blindly by faith that He does permit it.
- ___ 7. Ironically, evil in itself may bring about greater good, as in the crucifixion of Christ.

MISSION

- I. Morning Prayer: “Renewal of Baptismal Promises,” “Angel of God,” “Glory Be,” and “The Anima Christi”
- II. Mental Prayer During the Day (15-30 minutes):
 - A. The Rosary
 - B. Journal Meditation:
 - 1. 5-10 Minutes of Scriptural or spiritual reading
 - 2. 5-10 Minutes writing to either the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit
 - 3. 5-10 Minutes recording what you believe God is saying to you

III. Examination of Conscience and Act of Contrition:

Saint Paul writes to the Romans: “[God] will repay everyone according to his works, eternal life to those who seek glory, honor, and immortality through perseverance in good works, but wrath and fury to those who selfishly disobey the truth and obey wickedness. Yes, affliction and distress will come upon everyone who does evil, Jew first and then Greek. But there will be glory, honor, and peace for everyone who does good, Jew first and then Greek. There is no partiality with God” (Romans 2:6-11).

1. Consider each good deed you have done today with the right intention and in the proper circumstances, that you believe would withstand the scrutiny of the Holy Spirit of Truth.
2. Consider each wicked deed you have done today in selfish disobedience, considering the good (true or apparent), the intention, and the circumstances.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit strengthen in your soul the gifts of knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and counsel to help you always desire true goods with right intentions in the proper circumstances.

