

PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE—OVERVIEW (9-8-19)

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Today and every day, as a child of God the Father:

I renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of the children of God.

I reject the lure of evil, so that sin may have no mastery over me.

I reject Satan, the author and prince of sin.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus, Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

Who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried,

rose again from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints.

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OVERVIEW: LIFE IN CHRIST—A LIFE OF FEARLESS LOVE IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- I. The Original Test of Angels and of Men—Epic Fails (Falls):
 - A. Fall of the Angels (Purely Spiritual, Rational, and Immortal Persons):
 1. Satan and His minions (“Non serviam”: “I will not serve.”)
 - a. “A murderer from the beginning” (John 8:44)
 - b. “A liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44)
 2. “And the great dragon was thrown down, the ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him” (Revelation 12:9).
 - B. Fall of Man (Persons with Bodies and Rational, Immortal Souls):
 1. Adam—“The whole human race is in Adam” (Catechism #404):
 - a. Eden: “Till and keep.”
 - b. “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die” (Genesis 2:15-17).
 - c. “It is not good that the man should be alone” (Genesis 2:18).
 2. Eve—“Woman, because she was taken out of Man” (Genesis 2:23).
 - a. “They become one flesh” (Genesis 2:24).
 - b. “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion . . .” (Genesis 1:28).
 3. The Serpent (Satan): “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?’” (Genesis 3:1).
 - a. Eve and Adam share the forbidden fruit of the tree.
 - b. Our sin tied to—Satan, the forbidden fruit of the tree, and the disobedience of Adam and Eve.
- II. Fallen Creation in the order of nature has been restored by a New Creation in the order of grace:
 - A. Fallen Creation comes through three persons—Satan/Eve/Adam.
 - B. The New Creation comes through three persons—Last Adam/New Eve/Holy Spirit:
 1. Jesus—The Last Adam—“Ecce homo”—“Behold, the man” (John 19:5).
 2. Mary—the New Eve—“Woman, behold your son” (John 19:25).

3. The Holy Spirit—"You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you" (Acts 1:8).
- III. Who Christ gives us to have fearless love as His Bride and Church:
1. His Father and Himself: Baptism ("Our Father")/Eucharist (Wedding Feast of the Lamb).
 2. His Mother: "Behold, your mother!" (John 19:27).
 3. His Holy Spirit: Pentecost/Baptism/Confirmation.

TABLE TALK QUESTION

Do I have a deep personal relationship with the Holy Spirit, and what experiences manifest this relationship to myself and to others?

SACRED SEVEN QUESTIONS (T/F)

1. Death as a punishment for Man is an act of divine justice but not of divine love.
2. God no longer loves Satan or the fallen angels or those human souls in Hell.
3. The Apostle Peter wrote, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out all fear."
4. Matthew writes that when Judas and "a crowd with swords and clubs" came to seize Jesus, "all the disciples forsook Him and fled."
5. During Christ's passion and death, Scripture shows that the women who followed Christ displayed far greater fear than did the men who followed Him.
6. God created angels, like humans, as either male or female.
7. Based on Genesis, we lay primary blame upon Eve for the Fall of Mankind, for she ate of the forbidden fruit first.

MISSION

- I. Morning Prayer: "Renewal of Baptismal Promises"
- II. Mental Prayer During the Day (20-35 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:
 - A. What fears kept me from living freely as a child of God the Father and of my heavenly Mother Mary?
 - B. What "forbidden fruit" kept me from more perfectly accepting and sharing the love of the Fruit of Mary's Womb, Jesus?
 - C. When did I reject the promptings of the Holy Spirit in my conscience to avoid sin or to do good?

