

Catholic Culture Update for the week beginning November 4th, 2018

Quote to carry in your heart this week
“I love you, Lord, my strength.” Psalm 18

November 4th is the Thirtieth-First Sunday in Ordinary time. “Practice of Hope – “Some people asked Jesus questions to trap him. Others asked because they wanted to know how to believe and live. It’s midterm election time in the United States, and we have all heard the pointed questions candidates fire at each other. By contrast, Catholics are called to ask questions aimed at the common good. ♦ For tips on a good approach to public life and voting, read the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,” available at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship.pdf>. The document says in part, “Without the proper ordering of relationships of persons with each other, with creation, and ultimately with God, sin takes hold.” The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops publishes similar material on their website: <http://www.cccb.ca/>. Cast ballots as an informed Catholic, not someone in lockstep with a party. ♦ Pray for elected officials and for the country.” AT HOME with WORD 2018. LTP, page 143

“Scripture Insights > “Love God and love your neighbour” captures the essence of Jesus’ message. Today’s First Reading contains a passage known as the Shema Israel (“Hear, O Israel,” Deuteronomy 6:4), the central statement of belief of the Jewish people. A high point in the synagogue service still today is the recitation of these words. There is only one God, and God alone is Israel’s God. This belief calls forth a total dedication to God with “your heart, your soul, and your strength” – God must be loved with our entire being. A scribe (someone well trained in interpreting the Jewish Law) comes to Jesus in today’s Gospel with a question: “Which is the first of all the commandments?” This was a much discussed question in Israel at that time with two main schools of thought: Rabbi Shammai was very strict, while Rabbi Hillel was more pastoral and taught that the whole law is summed up in the words “What you hate for yourself, do not do to your neighbour.” Against this background the scribe wishes to see where Jesus stands. Jesus quotes the words of the Shema Israel, but goes even farther by adding a second part: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself” (Leviticus 19:19) By bringing together these two commandments, Jesus makes an important point. While he upholds the Old Testament, he also offers a clear way of interpreting the numerous laws – through the lens of love: love God and love your neighbour as yourself. Jesus offers us today a path to follow in life: love of God and love of neighbour should direct every action. When faced with decisions in life, our first question must always be: How does the law of love of God and neighbour influence this situation?

- Looking carefully at the First Reading and Gospel, find specific words that reveal the bonds of affection between God and humanity rather than simply dutiful or even fearful obedience from the people.
- What helpful insights about the love go God does today’s Responsorial Psalm offer you?
- How do you live the commandment of love in your private life and in your public life?” AT HOME with WORD 2018. LTP, page 143

November 5-11th is **Treaties Recognition Week**. “The goal of this week is to promote public education and awareness about treaties and treaty relationships. In Ontario, we believe all students, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, are enriched by learning about the histories, cultures, contributions and perspectives of First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada.” Bruce Rodrigues, Deputy Minister For more information about the treaties of our area look here. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/treaties>

Month of the Holy Souls – “It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins,” observes the writer of Maccabees in the Old Testament (2 Maccabees 12:45-46; quoted in *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 958). Intercession on behalf of those who have died is a cherished tenet of our Catholic faith, springing from our belief in the resurrection of the body and the communion of saints. “Though separated from the living, the dead are still at one with the community of believers on earth and benefit from their prayer and intercession” (*Order of Christian Funerals*, 6). Trusting in God’s mercy, we continue to pray for them, knowing that this spiritual bond with our brothers and sisters who have died can never be broken. In the month of November, when we celebrate All Souls, we pray in a special way for those who have died – those who are known to us, and those who are unknown.” Companion to the Calendar – A guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, Second Edition, page 136

November 10th is the memorial of **St. Leo the Great**, Pope and Doctor of the Church. “As pope and Doctor of the Church, St. Leo the Great (+ 461) strongly supported the teachings of the Council of Chalcedon, especially on the humanity and divinity of Christ. He advocated papal authority by moving from the traditional approach that the pope is a successor to St. Peter’s chair to the pope as St. Peter’s heir. Under his leadership, uniformity of pastoral practice was encouraged, liturgical and clerical abuses were corrected, and

priests were sent on a mission to extinguish Priscillianism, a heresy that claimed the human body was evil. St. Leo is recognized as a “protector of the people” because he persuaded Atilla the Hun to not invade the city of Rome and later prevented the Vandals (East Germans invaders) from torching the city of Rome and massacring its people.” Companion to the Calendar – A guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, Second Edition, pages 139-140 *Help us, St. Leo, to treat our bodies well with enough sleep, exercise and food.* Exercise today in St. Leo’s honour.

Doing Justice and Creating Hope – a quote for the week

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ontario Catholic Student Graduate Expectations – A discerning believer formed in the Catholic faith community who seeks intimacy with God and celebrates *communion* with God, others and creation through prayer and worship. Most of our students have no difficulty experiencing God’s/the Creator’s presence in the forest. We want to help our students to also experience God’s presence at Eucharist and at prayer time. For it to happen in prayer time, there ought to be some ability to hear the prayer over the PA or to be lead in the classroom. Meditation is also a time to experience God’s presence, God is as close to us as our breath.

Catholic Character Education and the Virtues + Wisdom, la sagesse, Nibwaakaawin

Wisdom is also one of the Grandfather Teachings. “Wisdom is Nibwaakaawin in Ojibwe. To cherish knowledge is to know wisdom. The beaver represents wisdom because he uses his natural gift wisely for his survival. The beaver also alters his environment in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way for the benefit of his family. Use your inherent gifts wisely and live your life by them. Recognize your differences and those of others in a kind and respectful way. Continuously observe the life of all things around you. Listen with clarity and a sound mind. Respect your own limitations and those of all of your surroundings. Allow yourself to learn and live by your wisdom.” <http://ojibweresources.weebly.com/ojibwe-teachings--the-7-grandfathers.html>

Living Our Mission Statement

We strive to affirm the sacredness of life and respect for all creation. The bookends of all life are found in birth at one end and death at the other. It is what we make of our life decides its sacredness. In Autumn the trees help us to see that the process of letting go is part of the death end of living. The trees let go of their foliage and the leaves become a part of the earth’s goodness again.

Staff Self-Care Tip of the Week – Eat your food mindfully. It is supposed to cut down on overeating and may help you to digest your food in a better way. I am working on this myself. When I sit with a group for a meal, I am always the first one finished. So I am trying to eat mindfully and gratefully. Savour the flavour!

Christian Meditation Insight – “Daily Wisdom – To meditate we sit still. Physical stillness helps stillness to come to stillness of mind. We sit because St. Bernard said sitting is the ideal posture for prayer because it is halfway between standing up and lying down. If you are standing up you are going to be doing something, going to be busy. If you are lying down of course you are relaxing and the next step is falling asleep. You’ll want to sit in a way that is both relaxed and alert. So sit with your back straight, your feet on the ground, your hand on your lap or on your knees, so that your physical posture tells you are not just relaxing, sitting back in the chair watching the TV, drowsing off. You are awake and yet relaxed. Finding Oneself, Meditatio Series 2017C

Governance – Strategic Direction of the Multi Year Strategic Plan

We have a new Trustee on our school Board. Joe Ruscio is a new member to our school Board, so when you see him, welcome him to our Catholic learning community.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada 2012 Calls to Action

“In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission makes the following calls to action.

Education for Reconciliation

62. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in consultation and collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal peoples, and educators, to:

iii. Provide the necessary funding to Aboriginal schools to utilize Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods in classrooms.

[Having elders in the classroom is so helpful to understanding and learning indigenous knowledge.](#)

Twenty-first Century Learning

https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/2018/10/handling-sensitive-conversations/?utm_source> How to have sensitive conversations in and out of class with students.

<https://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=YYWL7WNNX> > Wherever I Go by Dan Bremnes – Inspirational music video
This video was filmed in eight days in seven different countries.

[https://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=110921NU&utm_source=GodTube%20MustSee%20\(PD\)&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=10/22/2018](https://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=110921NU&utm_source=GodTube%20MustSee%20(PD)&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=10/22/2018) > Paul Barton plays piano for retired elephants at Elephant World – cute video This British-born pianist has made it his mission to help aging, retired elephants a private concert. As many online videos have shown, music has a soothing effect on animals as it does humans. For those who are recovering from stressful situations, such as a health crisis or aging, music can be a successful form of therapy. 3.31 mins

<https://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=11F0JMNU> Matthew West – Something Greater – Christian Music video 3.19 min

https://ingeniumcanada.org/aviation/education/legacy-series.php?utm_source= - The [Canada Aviation and Space Museum](#) is pleased to present *The Legacy Series*, a collection of free teaching tools to engage your students in powerful stories of the Second World War during Remembrance Week, Nov. 3-11, 2018. [particularly useful for Grade 10-12 social science classes]

<http://wccm.org/> > World Community for Christian Meditation > This is a site for Christian Meditation for teachers and students alike.

www.CARFLEO.com > best kept secret for religious education teachers of every grade

<https://www.facinghistory.org/educator-resources> > Resources for teaching difficult topics in history

Saints Kit – All the saints of the Roman Calendar and More by Sister Mary Kathleen Glavich, S.N.D., and other Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon

“St. Charles Borromeo – Charles Borromeo was a highly gifted and rather serious young man. By the time he was twenty-one, he had doctorates in civil and canon law. Within a year he was called to Rome by his uncle, Pope Pius IV, and made a cardinal and administrator of Milan, Italy. The list of his duties at that time is long. As secretary of state at the Vatican, Charles was in charge of all the papal states. He also worked closely with the pope at the Council of Trent, when many topics led to heated arguments. Several times it seemed as if the council would break up and everyone would return home. Charles, working behind the scenes, helped keep people together. When Charles was twenty-five, his older brother died. Usually this meant the next boy in the family would be the head. Charles decided to be a priest instead. Shortly after he was ordained, he was made the bishop of Milan. Although the pope wanted him to remain in Rome, Charles felt the need to be with his people in Milan. There his talents and holiness became clear, for, more than anyone else at the time, he tried to make the decrees and changes of the council alive in his diocese. He traveled through his diocese constantly. He set up orphanages, hospitals, homes for neglected women, seminaries, and colleges. He tried to reform the lives of priests and religious. He started a group of priests called the Oblates of St. Ambrose (now the Oblates of St. Charles) to help him. Once Charles tried to reform a religious order that became so angry that they hired an assassin to kill him. An attempt was made on his life as he prayed, but he was not killed. In 1567 a plague broke out in Milan, and with it came a famine. So many people were ill and dying that even the city officials fled the area, but not Charles. He stayed with the sick and cared for them. He ate very little and slept only a few hours a night on boards. During the plague, he sold all he had and even borrowed large sums of money so that he could feed the 60,000 to 70,000 people who came to him for help. When he was forty-six years old, Charles died, worn out from caring for others and bearing the burdens of his position. Although Charles asked much of the priests and religious he worked with, he never asked them to do anything he himself was not willing to do. *St. Charles, pray that we might do many good works!*” Card 155

CATHOLIC I.Q. – Quizzes for Fun and Learning by David O’Brien – Catechist October 2018 page 18-19

Doing Good, Acting Justly – Exploring social doctrine

1. According to Catholic social teaching, people are more important than things. T or F
2. St. Thomas Aquinas defined _____ as “willing the good for another.”
A. love B. sportsmanship C. wishful thinking D. social justice
3. Pope Paul VI famously wrote the encyclical entitled _____ explain the Catholic teaching on artificial birth control.
A. Be Fruitful and Multiply C. Rerum Novarium
B. The Song of Songs D. **Humanae Vitae**

4. By _____, we contribute to God's creation of the universe.

- A. singing B. eating C. dreaming **D. working**

5. Ignoring Catholic social doctrine is a mortal sin.

T or F

CATHOLIC I.Q. – Quizzes for Fun and Learning by David O'Brien – Catechist October 2018 page 18-19

Doing Good, Acting Justly – Exploring social doctrine

1. Catholicism teaches that _____ are the central social institutions of our society.

- A. marriage and family C. Facebook and Snapchat
B. the prime minister and cabinet D. the Army and the Navy

2. "If [one] part [of the body] suffers, all the parts _____." (1 Corinthians 12:26)

- A. pray B. suffer with it C. avoid it D. call for help

3. It is _____ to pick on someone if they are different.

- A. never okay B. sometimes allowed C. fun D. American

4. "If you want peace, work for _____." Pope Paul VI

- A. the United Nations B. the military C. justice D. Google

5. Like the Ten Commandments, you can find a list of the principles of Catholic social teaching in the Bible.

T or F

Taking Jesus to the Movies ...A blog by Pat Carter

Adrift – released in 2018. It is based on a true story of a young woman (played by Shailene Woodley) and man (played by Sam Claflin) who are trying to sail another person's boat from Tahiti to the San Diego. Then the boat meets a hurricane, the worst hurricane in recorded history. The young man is wounded and the young woman Tami finds courage, strength and determination to continue the trip against all the odds. It is a provocative film. I give this movie ♥♥♥/5 hearts.

A Blog for Eclectic Readers – by Pat Carter csj

A Time of Love and Tartan by Alexander McCall Smith. This is part of his Forty-Four Scotland Street series. The residents of 44 continue in their lives in Edinburgh. It is a gentle read with much British humour. The characters are unique so you get to know each one easily. "Whether caused by small things such as a cup of coffee and a book, or major events such as Stuart's application for promotion and his wife Irene's decision to pursue a PhD in Aberdeen, change is coming to Scotland Street. But for three seven-year-old boys--Bertie Pollock, Randal, and Big Lou's foster son, Finlay--it also means getting a glimpse of perfect happiness." Amazon review
I give this book 😊😊😊😊/5 happy faces

Catholic WORD of the Week – For Those Who Read to the end...Just like the credits at the movies.

"Candlemas –Literally, the "Candle Mass." A popular name given to the liturgical celebration of February 2 (now officially "The Presentation of Our Lord" and formerly "The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary"), because of the blessing of candles and candlelight procession associated with the feast, both in Jerusalem (where the feast was called *Hypapante*, the "Meeting") and Rome (where this procession replaced a similar pagan practice). In the East, the celebration was known by the year 400 and took place on the fortieth day after the Epiphany. In the West, mid-fifth-century sources designate the fortieth day after Christmas for the observance. Although Christmastide officially ends with the celebration of the Lord's Baptism after Epiphany, some liturgical commentators have referred to this feast as the formal ending of the Christmas season. The words of Simeon to Mary in the long

form of the Gospel of the day (“a sign of contradiction”) turn our reflections from the Incarnation of Christ toward the paschal mystery established by His death and resurrection.” Our Sunday’s Visitor Catholic Encyclopedia, page 162