

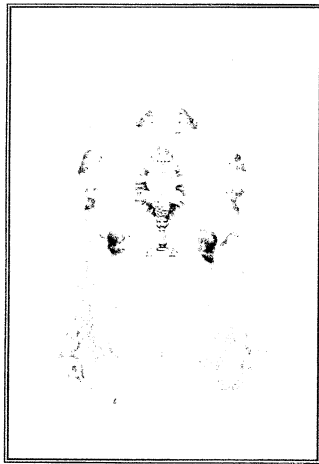


ROCKLAND CATHOLIC COALITION

THE ROCKLAND COUNTY CATHOLIC COALITION

P.O. BOX 65, BLAUVELT, NY, 10913

Spring 2005



The Holy Eucharist
Sacrament of Mercy

October 2004 to October 2005 has been declared The Year of the Eucharist by Pope John Paul II. "The Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a single and indivisible Gospel." Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae* – March 1995.

† † †

National Day of Prayer is May 5, 2005. The theme for the day is, "God shed His grace on thee," which so clearly applies to our nation at this pivotal moment in history. With the continued erosion of the moral and biblical principles upon which our country was founded, and the ongoing threat of terrorism, our need is great for God's healing intervention.

In loving memory of

Pope John Paul II
1920 – 2005

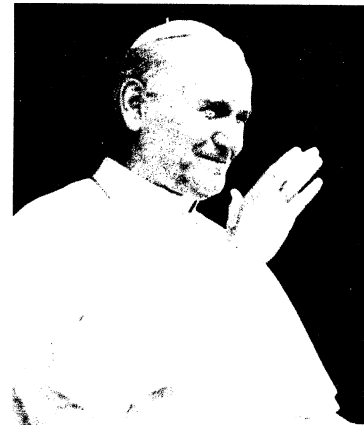
Ordained 1946
Bishop 1958
Archbishop 1964
Cardinal 1967
Pope 1978

O God, from whom the just receive an unfailing reward, grant that your servant John Paul, our Pope, whom you made vicar of Peter and Shepherd of your Church, may rejoice forever in the vision of your glory, for he was a faithful steward here on earth of the mysteries of your forgiveness and grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

† † †

We mourn the loss of Pope John Paul II and remember his words, "Be not afraid." As much as he loved America, he lamented our "culture of death." He questioned the future of a nation that legalized abortion with a toll of 30 million abortions to date. Our country is on a slippery slope on many moral issues. We who are pro-life are considered the "radical right." Many of our politicians have positions that are anti-Catholic. We Catholics need to "be not afraid," as was our blessed leader. We need to speak out and let our elected officials know where we stand!

† † †



Joanna Paulus II

† † †

Examples of Anti-Catholic Bias

"Candidates with deeply held Christian beliefs are unfit and disqualified from serving as a federal judge."

-- NY Senator Charles Schumer

On June 11, speaking of Alabama Attorney General Bill Pryor, a nominee for the appellate court, Schumer said Pryor's beliefs "are so well known, so deeply held, that it's hard to believe that they're not going to influence" his decisions. Attorney General Pryor is a Catholic. Sen. Diane Feinstein of California also opposed Pryor because of his "deeply held religious beliefs."

Email is fast and easy and you don't need a stamp:

www.Clinton.Senate.gov
www.Schumer.Senate.gov
www.House.gov/Engel
www.House.gov/Lowey
www.SueKellyforCongress.com

"God doesn't ask us to be successful; he asks us to be faithful."

-- Mother Teresa

Item in a March 9 newspaper:

Abortion rights forces lose in new Congress. The first test was a skirmish over the rights of protestors in bankruptcy court. The president of the National Abortion Federation said, "It's very difficult for us to be able to prevail on issues pertaining to upholding a woman's right to choose" since both houses have a pro-life majority. Protestors cannot be denied the chance to use bankruptcy proceedings to avoid payment of court fines and penalties.

† † †

Natural Family Planning

Available at the Family Life-Respect Life Office, a VHS tape on Natural Family Planning, only 20 minutes long and an invaluable tool. It's informative for married couples striving to observe God's way. Call 212-371-1000 x3182. Other informational resources available as well.

† † †

Abortion continues to be devastating to parents. Yes, FATHERS as well as MOTHERS. Fathers are increasingly calling those in the Rachel Ministry for healing. For more information about the Rachel Ministry, contact Eileen Peterson at 429-2077. Or, Email: RachelMinister1@aol.com

† † †

Ave Maria Singles is a web site devoted to devout Catholic Singles seeking marriage. They can be found online at:

www.AveMariaSingles.com

Pray the Rosary

Pray the Rosary as Our Blessed Mother asked through the three children at Fatima. Sr. Lucia, the oldest of the children who saw the vision of Our Lady, died recently at 97 years of age. Read her testimony of the visitations -- available at Catholic Bookstores. Whatever Mary, Our Blessed Mother, asks comes from her Son!

Fr. Patrick Peyton, CSC, spent forty years promoting daily family rosary and daily family prayer. He devoted his life and priesthood to the service of Mary, the Mother of God. He is now under consideration for beatification and canonization. With our culture of death, the breakdown of family life, lack of vocations to the priesthood, immorality, we need Mary. We need to pray the rosary. "The family that prays together, stays together."

† † †

Highlighted on the cover page of the Journal News Education Outlook Section in January, "Campuses help students pursue the spiritual life." The article was based on nation-wide data. "The Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California - Los Angeles study finds that 77 percent of college students pray. According to a national study of 3,680 students at 46 wide-ranging colleges and universities, students who participate in religious activities are more likely to have better emotional and mental health than those without religious inclinations."

Parents & Grandparents Alert

The Media can corrupt your children and be instrumental in their lost innocence at a very early age:

TV: Programs advertised as family-type are very often definitely NOT. Ex: "Everwood" glamorized sex between two 16-year-olds. The parents know, but say nothing and are confused about "what to do." One parent says to his wife, "Maybe I should recall the bible instruction that she (the daughter) attended years ago." She replies, "Do you really think that would do any good?"

RADIO: Saturday, March 5, WNYC, Storytelling, 2:20 p.m. A woman read an excerpt from a book currently selling in stores. It was explicitly sexual, dealt with three young children 11, 8, and 6 years of age listening to their 13-year-old sister describe sexual intercourse with mental commentaries of the three, and all could be said to be very titillating and VULGAR!

PORNO MAGAZINES: True story, 3/5/05. A teacher of second graders had a student come up to her to tell that another boy was "showing dirty pictures." She sought out the boy and he turned the pornographic picture taken out of a magazine to her. The teacher called the mother, who came to school the next day and, yes, she said, her husband leaves the magazines around the house! PLEASE know the people whose houses your children visit.

The internet can be terribly damaging to young minds, too.

"A Christian does not control his life; he gives it to God."

-- Mother Teresa

Did you Know?

Catholics represent 40% of the New York State population. Only one state in the Union (California) has more Catholics than New York State, and only four states (Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Connecticut) have a higher percentage of Catholics in their population than New York.

CATHOLICS MUST USE THEIR CLOUT! LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR STATE'S GOVERNMENT!

✠ ✠ ✠

Stem Cells

Support adult stem cell and umbilical cord blood research because it is successful and ethical, and oppose embryonic stem cell research, which depends on human cloning, destroys human embryos, and has been unsuccessful to date in treating human suffering and disease. We must urge biotech companies and pharmaceuticals to devote their energies to researching the stem cells gotten from adults and umbilical cords. We must be outspoken and write to our legislators wherever we can.

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God's Miracle

In February, a baby born 13 weeks prematurely and weighing only 24 ounces, became the smallest infant to survive a type of open-heart surgery. The doctor switched the aorta and pulmonary arteries in a heart no larger than a grape in the baby's chest.

✠ ✠ ✠

It seems like everything comes down to where the big money is, with no regard to morals. New advertisement at Mt. Sinai Hospital and being placed in colleges:



YOUR CHANCE
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
BECOME AN EGG DONOR.

\$8,000

You're healthy, compassionate and generous. Through egg donation you can give a couple one of the greatest gifts — the chance for them to fulfill their dream of parenthood. Donors will receive \$8,000 in compensation as well as a free, comprehensive medical evaluation. All applicants must be in good health and between the ages of 21 and 32. All treatment will be administered by board certified physicians at Reproductive Medicine Associates of New York, a division of Mount Sinai Medical Center. Anonymity and confidentiality guaranteed. Please call (212) 756-5775. Or, visit us at www.rmany.com/donor_app.asp

RMA of New York Mount Sinai

Please be aware that the treatment cycle involves injections that produce more than two eggs. These hormones can have bad side effects.

Please contact your state legislators to support the ban on human cloning – S2400/A4855. This would prohibit the use of cloning for therapeutic research:

NYS Senate: 518-455-2800

NYS Assembly: 518-455-4100

NYS Bill Hotline: 800-342-9860

For more information on state legislation, call Mary A. Smith at 516-825-4852. Also, let legislators know you support The Family Protection Act – S2139/A4753. This would require parental notification for minors under 18 and informed consent before anyone can be given an abortion.

Misspent Taxes

Rockland County taxes are again funding \$19,070 to Planned Parenthood, a multimillion-dollar corporation! The vote was 9 to 7 in favor of the funding. It is important to know who voted to take the funding out of the budget:

Gerold Bierker, C-Bardonia; Theodore Dusanenko, R-Valley Cottage; Doug Jobson, R-Stony Point; Patrick Moroney, R-Pearl River; John Murphy, R-Pearl River; Roman Rodriguez, D-Haverstraw; Phil Soskin, D-Monsey.

County Executive C. Scott Vanderhoff indicated he approved the funding and signed the legislation. Our pastors are to be commended for signing a letter to Vanderhoff vigorously opposing his decision. They represent a considerably large number of citizens and voters throughout Rockland County. Please thank your pastors for doing so. Call the County Executive and let him know how you feel about this travesty!

A possible alternative to Mr. Zebrowski in the county legislature:

R. Ed Day

2 Capral Lane

New City

Email: www.ElectDay.com

Check him out!

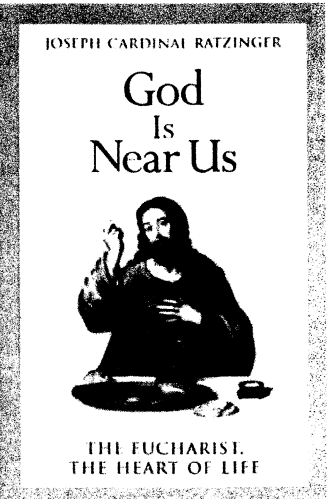
✠ ✠ ✠

**Happy moments, praise God.
Difficult moments, seek God.
Quiet moments, worship God.
Painful moments, trust God.
Every moment, thank God.**



Terri responds to her mother's playful attention.

HABEMUS PAPAM!



Terry Schiavo

In regard to Terry Schiavo, a disabled woman in Florida who has made news, Our Holy Father has led the movement to respect life in every person. She was unable to swallow and required a feeding tube as she was considered by some doctors to be in a vegetative state. Yet, a priest who took care of her for the past five years said she was responsive and always acknowledged her mother. Our Church said we are morally required to use ordinary means to sustain life. Her parents wanted to continue to feed her as a moral requirement, but in the end the dignity of human life was not upheld. In our society we would be subject to serious punishment if we abused or starved an animal.

Everyone needs a New York Health Care Proxy. For a copy of this form, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Will to Live Project
419 7th St., NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20004

Or call: 202-626-8800
Or visit online: www.nrlc.org
There is no charge

† † †

Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, was a trusted ally of our late Pope John Paul II. He will be a true successor like his predecessor, a genius, truly knowledgeable, full of love and joy. May he continue to have the physical strength in his papacy to fulfill the teachings of Christ's Church.

As to why he chose the name Benedict XVI, Ratzinger told cardinals he wanted to pay homage to Benedict XV, known for tireless efforts to help refugees and reunite a world divided by what was then known as the Great War. He also took the name to honor St. Benedict of Nursia, founder of the Benedictine Order, who said, "Jesus Christ is first and foremost. Everything else is secondary."

† † †

"Dear brothers and sisters, after our great pope, John Paul II, the cardinals have elected me, a simple, humble worker in God's vineyard. I am consoled by the fact that the Lord knows how to work and how to act, even with insufficient tools, and I especially trust in your prayers. In the joy of the

resurrected Lord, trustful of his permanent help, we go ahead, sure that God will help. And Mary, his most beloved mother, stands on our side."

-- Pope Benedict XVI

Born: April 16, 1927

Place of Birth: Markt am Inn, Bavaria, Germany

Education: Doctorate in theology, University of Munich, 1953

Ordained: June 29, 1951

Archbishop: May 28, 1977

Cardinal: June 27, 1977

Pope: April 19, 2005

† † †

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† † †

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