

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

JANUARY 14, 2007 - EPIPHANY II - ST. HILARY, BPCD - ST. FELIX, PRM
 The **Blessing of Religious Articles** follows all Masses. **Childrens' Catechism** classes resume today following the High Mass. **Vespers** and **Benediction** are at **4:45 PM**.

✠ALTER CHRISTUS

Many thanks to those who contributed to the "little church" last Sunday. The **Alter Christus Confraternity** received \$48.00 for Masses to help support priests and their sanctification

Many, many thanks for the generous 2nd Collection for our Seminary Support last Sunday: **\$1,764.00!**

✠CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE

Our annual devotion for the conversion of different non-Catholic groups begins this Thursday after the 11:30 AM Mass. Please join us in fervent prayer!

Pope St. Pius X sanctioned and blessed the **Chair of Unity Octave**. His Holiness, Pope Benedict XV, extended its observance to the Universal Church, highly enriching it with indulgences.

The **Chair of Unity Octave** has accomplished an immense good in awakening Catholics to a mission consciousness, and to the need of interesting themselves in the conversion of those without the fold. When the enemies of Christ seem to be triumphing as never before, how great is our obligation to pour forth fervent prayer for the millions who wander in darkness. Let's make this year's Octave a week of grace!

An indulgence of 300 days during the octave of prayers for the unity of the Church from the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter at Rome (Jan. 18) to the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul (Jan. 25). A plenary indulgence on the usual conditions at the end of the exercise.

OFFICIAL CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE PRAYER

Antiphon: That they all may be one, as Thou, Father, in Me and I in Thee; that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me.

V. I say unto thee that thou art Peter.

R. And upon this Rock I will build My Church.

Let us pray: O Lord Jesus Christ, Who

saidst unto Thine Apostles: Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: regard not our sins, but the faith of Thy Church, and vouchsafe to grant unto her that peace and unity which are agreeable to Thy Will. Who livest and reignest God forever and ever. Amen.

✠INFANT OF PRAGUE

Our novena in honor of the Divine Infant continues this Friday at 5:35 PM. Come with confidence to honor our loving little King.



Ladies, join us this **Friday, January 19th**, for an *Evening of Recollection* with **5:45 PM Mass, Benediction**, and a *Spiritual Talk* at **7:00 PM** with opportunity for questions and discussion. Confessions will be heard before the talk. Refreshments conclude the evening.

✠NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of the month. The **Blessing of Expectant Mothers** follows all the Masses.

Set your missal: January 21st. **Epiphany III**, with the commemoration of St. Agnes, VM. **PREF:** Trinity.

✠UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 28TH - SUNDAY: *Childrens' Confessions, 10:30 AM.*— Also,

CONFESSION SUNDAY - Confessions will be heard before and during all Masses.

FEBRUARY 2ND - FRIDAY: Candlemas & Winter Soup Supper.

✠Hishers

JANUARY 21, 2007

7:30 AM John Wiesman, Kent Maki, Joe Andreotta, Tom Kamphaus
 9:00 AM Jim Gebel, Richard Smith, Dale Wilker, Bernie Brueggemann
 11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Kirby Bischel, Dennis Hille, Tim Carney
 5:45 PM John Seyfried

✠SERVICES

JANUARY 15, - JANUARY 21, 2007

*TUE 01/16 5:45 PM Low: G. Keaveny
 *WED 01/17 6:30 AM Low: C. & T. Simpson
 *FRI 01/19 5:45 PM Low: Keaveny, Briggs, Bayer, Ritze
 *SAT 01/20 7:30 AM Low: C. & T. Simpson
 9:00 AM HIGH: Keaveny &/or Briggs
 *SUN 01/21 7:30 AM Low: D. & S. Brueggemann
 9:00 AM HIGH: Chaplains: T. Simpson & A. Lotarski;
 TH: D. Poeppelman; AC: T. Simpson & B. Lotarski; TORCH: G. Wnek,
 A. Richesson, Puglielli Bros..
 11:30 AM Low: C. Ritze, I. French
 5:45 PM Low: G. Miller

Collection Report

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2007 \$ 3826.16
 SECOND COLLECTION \$ 1764.00

*Thank you for your generosity!
 Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

✠ POETRY CORNER

FOR THE HOME AND FAMILY

"UNLESS THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE?"

Unless the Lord build the house,
 they labor in vain that build it.
 Unless the Lord keep the city,
 he watcheth in vain that keepeth it....
 Behold the inheritance of the Lord
 are children:
 the reward, the fruit of the womb.
 As arrows in the hand of the mighty,
 so the children of them
 that have been shaken.

Psalms 126:1, 3-4



WEDDING HYMN

BY ROBERT HUGH BENSON

Father, within Thy House today
 We wait Thy kindly love to see;
 Since Thou hast said in truth that they
 Who dwell in love are one with Thee,
 Bless those who for Thy blessing wait,
 Their love accept and consecrate.

Dear Lord of love, whose Heart of Fire,
 So full of pity for our sin,
 Was once in that Divine Desire
 Broken, Thy Bride to woo and win;
 Look down and bless them from above
 And keep their hearts alight with love.

Blest Spirit, who with life and light
 Didst quicken chaos to Thy praise,
 Whose energy, in sin's despite,
 Still lifts our nature up to grace;
 Bless those who here in troth consent.
 Creator, crown Thy Sacrament.

Great One-in Three, of Whom are named
 All families in earth and heaven,
 Hear us, who have Thy promise claimed,
 And let a wealth of grace be given;
 Grant them in life and death to be,
 Each knit to each, and both to Thee.



*The children that the Lord has given
 us...are His before they are ours...With
 them He pays us a great honor.*

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	01/15/07	ST PAUL, FIRST HERMIT - ST MAURUS, AB OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR 11:30 AM High Mass <i>Rita Ann Prell (Eileen Bartels)</i>
TUES	01/16/07	ST MARCELLUS I, PM 11:30 AM High Mass † <i>Maura E. Glueckert (Brendan Blase)</i> 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>In Honor of St. Michael for Tom Nies' Intentions (Bishop Dolan)</i>
WED	01/17/07	ST ANTHONY, AB - OUR LADY OF PONTMAIN 6:30 AM Low Mass <i>Holy Souls in Purgatory (William & Margaret Halm)</i> 11:30 AM High Mass † <i>Margaret Koehler (Barb Steinmetz)</i> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
THUR	01/18/07	ST PETER'S CHAIR AT ROME - ST PRISCA, VM OPENING OF CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE <i>"The return of all the other sheep to the one fold of St. Peter, the One Shepherd."</i> 11:30 AM High Mass † <i>Evenly Rentschler (Joyce & Darlene)</i> 7:00 PM Compline
FRI	01/19/07	ST MARIUS & COMP, MM - ST CANUTE, KING, M - CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE II <i>"The return of all Oriental Separatists to Communion with the Apostolic See."</i> 11:00 AM Confessions 11:30 AM High Mass , Chair of Unity Octave <i>St. Gertrude's Staff - Thank You! (Eileen Bartels)</i> 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena IV 5:45 PM Low Mass , SH Novena, Chair of Unity Octave, Benediction, Confessions <i>Special Intention (Joan Landry)</i> 7:00 PM Ladies' Evening of Recollection
SAT	01/20/07	Ss FABIAN, P & SEBASTIAN, MM CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE III <i>"The Submission of Anglicans to the Authority of the Vicar of Christ."</i> 7:15 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass † <i>Mary Montello (Paul & Karen Puglielli)</i> 8:45 AM Confessions 9:00 AM High Mass <i>Eileen Bartels (Bishop Dolan)</i> 11:00 AM Pro-Life Rosary Procession at Cincinnati City Hall 4:30 PM Confessions
SUN	01/21/07	EPIPHANY III - ST AGNES, VM CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE IV <i>"That the Lutherans and other Protestants of continental Europe might find their way back to Holy Church."</i> 7:30 AM Low Mass † <i>George VandeRyt, 10th Anniversary - 1/18 (Delores Ritze)</i> 9:00 AM High Mass † <i>Nick Bischak - 1st Anniversary (Katie Bischak)</i> 11:30 AM Low Mass † <i>Floyd Bischel (Kirby & Jean Bischel)</i> 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>For the People of St. Gertrude</i>

your discharge of these duties, and if any of them should perish through your neglect of giving them a proper education, He will require their souls at your hands.

Live, therefore, in the fear of God, faithfully observing all His divine commandments; be regular in your public and private devotions; mutually encouraging each other in the practice of virtue, and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost will descend upon you, and remain always with you.

(N.B.—Before you receive the sacrament of Matrimony, daily offer up some prayers to obtain the Divine blessing; and for this purpose ask your Director some days beforehand what devotions he recommends to you for that end, and faithfully perform them, as well as such prayers of thanksgiving afterwards, which he may judge proper.)

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

This past week I was able to fit in a quick but enjoyable Christmas visit to my mother in Michigan, as well as some dear old friends, and even to stop by and greet two wonderful teaching sisters I have known for many years (Sr. Mary Imelda and Sr. Mary Teresita) at St. Joseph's School in Wayne, Michigan.



I am so very grateful for our beautiful and touching 40 Hours Devotion, rendered all the more so not only by the magnificent altar, splendid ceremonies and pretty good attendance, but also by the assistance of our two devout seminarians and our edifying newly ordained priest.

No wonder the devil was particularly riled up and kept on playing with the wires in the Connection Box so as to plunge us into darkness! Still, the darkness did not triumph—it never does... Love does, the Love of God made manifest to all the world at Epiphany, and shown to the eyes of faith in the Sacred Host.

I want to thank Kathy Cozzens for the two lovely—delicious!—parties she planned and presented over the 40 Hours weekend. I want to thank so many of you for sacrificial watching and praying, and for help with music, decorations, and ceremonies. Finally, how impressive was the very generous second collection last Sunday for our seminary, our future. God bless all of you.

Today we think of Holy Matrimony, and pray Our Lord to bless all of our married couples so that their life and home may be a true reflection of Nazareth, with the graced presence of Our Lady of Grace, and of Prompt Succor, and of Good Counsel.

Remember the true "ecumenism" we practice this week in the Chair of Unity Octave, praying for the *conversion* of non-Catholic Sects, their submission to the one true Church.

May Our Lady bless you!

—Bishop Dolan

✠ ON THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

IF IT SHOULD PLEASE GOD TO BLESS YOU WITH CHILDREN, let it be your first, your immediate care, after they are born, to make an offering of them to Him; and as soon as possible, procure them to be washed from their original sin, and enrolled amongst the number of His adopted children by the sacrament of Baptism: and afterwards, in their earliest infancy, as soon as they can speak, begin to teach them the principles of the Christian faith, and the duties of a Christian life.

Watch over them with carefulness and diligence: keep them out of evil company and all the dangerous occasions of sin, and train them up in the fear and love of God, always remembering that you will one day have to give an account to God concerning

—Bishop Challoner



THE QUESTION OF THE POPE: "JUST AN OPINION?"

By Most Rev. Donald J. Sanborn

(This is a series in which Bishop Sanborn examines opinionism, and to render judgement whether it is a legitimate position to take. Can the identity of the Roman Pontiff be a matter of opinion?)

THE VACANCY of the Apostolic See, the non-papacy of Benedict XVI, and for that matter of John Paul II, John Paul I, Paul VI, and even of John XXIII, is an issue which has divided traditionalists perhaps more than any other over the past forty years.

Of those who have taken the path of resistance to the reforms of Vatican II, the majority profess to be *sedepenists*, that is, they hold that Benedict XVI is a true Roman Pontiff. Others, a minority but not an insignificant one, are *sedevacantists*, that is, they say that Benedict XVI is not a true Roman Pontiff, nor are his Vatican II predecessors.

This difference of theological position has caused a worldwide agony among those who are resisting Vatican II.

"I do not say that the pope is not the pope, but I do not say either that one cannot say that the pope is not the pope."

—Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre

This fundamental tenet of *Opinionism*, as defined by Archbishop Lefebvre, is what will be addressed in this article.

Q. What is a Theological Opinion?

A. A theological opinion is a doctrine which one holds concerning a theological issue, with a fear that its opposite may be true. It is not something which is defined by the Church. It concerns a matter which is "free," that is, where there is no obligation on the part of declarations of the Church to hold to one side or the other.

It is a fallacy, however, to say that because some doctrine is not defined or taught by the Church, it therefore ought to be placed in the category of theological opinion.

Theology is a science, and just like other sciences, draws conclusions from its highest

principles. Theology takes its highest principles from revelation itself, truths told to us by God, as they are contained in Sacred Scripture and Tradition, and proposed for our belief by the Catholic Church. From these truths which we hold by faith, theologians draw conclusions which, although they are not revealed by God, nevertheless flow certainly and reasonably from truths revealed by God.

There are some theological conclusions which are so certain and authoritative that, if you denied them, you would be logically bound to deny the Faith itself. Yet the Church has never defined them, not even taught them by her ordinary magisterium. They are theological conclusions, but they are intimately bound to revelation.

But many apply the fallacy of the "theological opinion" to the problem of Ratzinger's papacy. They say, "Because the Church has not declared him a non-pope, it is a legitimate theological opinion to hold that he is the pope or is not the pope, whichever you prefer. Neither position is offensive to the Faith."

This statement is *loaded* with error. The first error is that it places the identity of the Roman Pontiff, i.e., whether Ratzinger is the Vicar of Christ or not, in the category of "theological opinion." The second error is that it relegates the question of the identity of the Roman Pontiff to a mere theological opinion, as if it were a discussion among the theologians as to how many angels can fit on the head of a pin. The third error is that it confuses a theological conclusion and a theological opinion. The fourth error is that someone may be free to hold that Ratzinger is or is not the pope for the sole reason that the Church has said nothing about it. The fifth error is that neither position is offensive to the Faith.

(To be continued.)

✠ **PRO-LIFE ROSARY PROCESSION**
The Rosary Confraternity will be taking part in the **Annual Pro-Life Rosary Procession** on **Saturday, January 20th**. The Rosary Procession will start at **11:00 AM** at **Cincinnati City Hall**, 801 Plum Street, and ends at Fountain Square.

Begin your participation in the day with **Mass** offered at **9:00 AM**. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the perfect act of reparation. All Rosary Confraternity members are urged to attend the Mass and the procession. All members of the parish are invited and encouraged to attend.

Monday, January 22nd:

Pro-Life Day of Prayer.

This is the **34th Anniversary of Roe-v-Wade**. Following the 11:30 AM Mass, the **Blessed Sacrament will be Exposed for Adoration** all afternoon in reparation for the crime of abortion. A **Holy Hour** will be offered at **2:30 PM**. **Rosary and Pro-Life Devotions** are at **5:00 PM** and **Benediction** is at **5:30 PM**. **Low Mass** concludes this Day of Prayer at **5:45 PM**. Won't you come and spend time in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament and beg God's forgiveness on our country and plead that He spare us from His just and righteous anger for this horrible crime?



THE CATHOLIC WAY

The Catholic way of living is
An easy way of life

- Because it is so helpful in
Our struggle and our strife
However much we suffer and
However great our loss
We have the consolation and
The comfort of The Cross
We have The Holy Eucharist
To strengthen us each day
We have The Fourteen Stations and
Our rosary to say
And when we gather happiness
Our joy is magnified
With Jesus and His Mother and
St. Joseph at our side
The Catholic way of living is
The way to share and give
The holy, happy, friendly and
The easy way to live.

OUR GOAL

100%

75%

50%

25%



RECTORY FUND

Monthly goal \$5000.00

Please remember, this is an on-going appeal to your generosity so that we may complete the rectory without incurring an expensive debt.

Your support is needed and appreciated!

✠ AND...

OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR

The Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady of Prompt Succor is the principal Patroness of the city of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana. The devotion was brought to our shores by the Ursuline Nuns. The miraculous statue from France is enshrined in the chapel of the Ursulines in New Orleans.

"Most clement Jesus, Who didst deposit the treasures of Thy mercy in the bosom of Thy Mother Mary, grant us of Thy goodness to be delivered through her protection from all evils in soul and body. Amen."

—Collect of the Feast, January 15
from *THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC*



OUR LADY OF PONTMAIN

Pontmain, France, was a small agricultural community in 1871 when the Franco-Prussian War brought the Germans to the gates of Laval, a mere thirty miles away. On the evening of January 17, Our Lady showed herself in the sky, wearing a blue dress covered with stars, to some simple peasant children. "But pray, my children," was the message which unfolded in the sky. "My Son allows Himself to be moved in compassion..." The Germans had been ordered to enter Laval that night. A few hours later, coincident with the end of the Apparition, they received a totally unexpected order, forbidding them to take the village. The next day they withdrew; devout French attributed this to the intervention of Our Lady.



THINGS I WISH I'D KNOWN ABOUT DATING

The first thing, which I had an inkling of but never fully embraced until tradversion, was the concept of **courting for marriage rather than dating for fun**. That is, the concept that a man should not be seeking the companionship of a lady until he is prepared for marriage. For most this will mean being **gainfully employed** or at least near the end of an education cycle that would lead to gainful employment **so as to support a family**. For all it would mean being prepared to commit to a lifelong marriage. **For a woman**, this would mean basically not going out with gentlemen until

they're **ready to become a wife and mother**. In this model, "dating" is an investigative process to determine whether someone would be a good person to marry.

The modern concept of dating, which has only really existed since the 1950's is what I call "dating for fun" and I'm sure we're all familiar with it. In retrospect, such dating seems like a monumental waste of time and occasion for sin. Really, what is the point of creating a romantic relationship with someone whom you have no intention of marrying? It seems to me (from reason and experience) that it can only lead to bad things. Broken hearts, temptations, and a lot of time spent with someone you will eventually break things off with that could have been spent building friendships with friends and family. I'd like to recommend an excellent book that deals with this concept, *I KISSED DATING GOODBYE* by *Joshua Harris*. To be sure, Mr. Harris is an Evangelical Protestant and therefore one must exercise some caution while reading it. However, overall, the book is *excellent* and very Catholic in its thinking. I did want to throw the book across the room a few times as I read it, whenever I encountered some especially infuriating Protestant-isms. Nevertheless, I *highly recommend* it for what it says about relationships and saving ones' self for marriage. Another, specifically Catholic book that deals with the subject is *ABC'S OF CHOOSING A GOOD WIFE* by *Steve Wood* (and the corresponding *ABC'S OF CHOOSING A GOOD HUSBAND*). It's a Catholic "conservative" book and therefore...requires some caution in the reading. But overall, it is quite solid. Among the most memorable points made in the book was the recommendation to save the first kiss until your wedding day. My wife and I took this and it made marriage even more special, and also helped us to avoid any occasions of sin.

Now, why do I think this is important? I'm sure some might think it an example of rigorism to insist that one should not engage in romantic relationships except for the purposes of marriage. I mentioned earlier that I think nothing good can come from dating in the contemporary worldly sense, and as a person who was raised and pressured by my parents to engage in "casual dating" I have some experience. Now, being the sort of person I am, one who admits to

a degree of rigorism (even in my Catholic "conservative" days) I still got into trouble. Even setting aside the occasions of sin that arise in casual dating, I really feel that I missed out on a lot of time that should have been spent with friends and with God (in prayer) that I spent in pointless relationships that from the start had no purpose. Not that I dated a lot ... I think I went out with maybe 3 girls total (and one of them for five years) before I met my wife. But I still spent an awful lot of my time preoccupied with women and in times of being single, a lot of time "hitting on" various ladies looking for a date.

And this goes to my point: obviously it was a fairly committed relationship that I was in for five years. My ultimate goal was even marriage, however, I was obviously not prepared for marriage. Five years is way too long to be romantically involved with someone without getting married. Hence, why I wished I'd known that a man should wait until he's in a position to marry before he seeks out a ladyfriend.

(FROM THE WEBSITE OF
TRUE RESTORATION)



WANTED

CAREGIVER / COMPANION

Family of senior gentleman, seeking honest, patient, loving, in-house provider and companion. Meal preparation, errands, transportation, light housekeeping, coordinate appointments, activities, and outings. Full time / Part time / flexible hours. Client is truly a gem. Contact: Cary Griffin, 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. 513-933-0444. References Required.



BOYS SIZE 12 SUITS - for give away. Contact: Kathy @ the Church Office. 645-4212.



2006

THE YEAR IN REVIEW FOR ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT

HOLY MASSES: 745 (approx.)
HOLY COMMUNIONS: 24,000 (approx.)
MARRIAGES: 4
BAPTISMS: 22
FUNERALS: 3