

## ✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

**JANUARY 13, 2008 - OCTAVE DAY OF THE EPIPHANY**

**Catechism classes** are at **10:35 AM**. Early Epiphany Octave **Vespers and Benediction** are at **1:10 PM**.

**FRIDAY NIGHT NOVENAS**



•**The Chair of Unity Octave** - begins this Friday at both Masses. 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.



•**The Sorrowful Mother Novena** - opens this Friday evening *after Mass* and concludes with a blessing of the sick. Offer a ride to someone who could use the blessing. Please submit to the Church Office the "first names" of anyone you wish mentioned during the novena (the sick and/or family members and friends currently serving in the military.)

•**The Infant of Prague Novena** - continues at **5:35 PM**. Please join us in praying for all of our needs, corporal and spiritual, to the Divine Infant, as well as for the conversion of non-Catholics.



**THANK YOU** for your donation of **\$183.00** for the **Alter Christus Confraternity** in January for Masses to help support priests and their sanctification

Many, many thanks for the generous 2nd Collection for our Seminary Support last Sunday: **\$1,154.08!**

I also wish to particularly thank our young people and the adults who contributed to Fr. Leslie's African Mission. Thanks to your generosity a total of **\$2302.00** will be sent to aid Fr. Leslie. May Almighty God and Our Lady reward you!

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**Confessions** will be heard *before and during* all Masses. The **Blessing of Expectant Mothers** follows all Masses.

*Set your missal: January 20th, Septuagesima,* with the commemorations

of Ss Fabian P. and Sebastian, Mm. Preface of the Trinity.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**TUESDAY - JANUARY 22ND: Annual Pro-Life Day of Prayer and Adoration.**

This is the **35th Anniversary of Roe-v-Wade**. Following the 11:25 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?

**FRIDAY - JANUARY 25TH: Ladies Evening of Recollection.** Come for **Mass and Benediction** at **5:45 PM**. Confessions follow Mass. At approximately **7:30 PM** there will be a *Spiritual Talk* and an opportunity for questions and discussion. Refreshments conclude the evening. All ladies of the parish are invited.

**SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 2ND: Candlemas.** Join us for the Procession & "Mass of Candles" at 9:00 AM, followed by our annual *Winter Soup Lunch & Mardi Gras* - bring some soup or dessert.

**WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 6TH: Ash Wednesday** - already!

**WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 20TH: Children's Day of Recollection**

**Hishers**

JANUARY 20, 2008

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

**Severus**

JANUARY 14 - JANUARY 20, 2008

•MON 01/14 5:00 PM LOW: G. Keaveney  
•TUE 01/15 5:00 PM LOW: J. Bayer  
•WED 01/16 6:30 AM LOW: T. & C. Simpson, Sr.  
•THU 01/17 5:00 PM H. COMMUNION: G. Keaveney  
•FRI 01/18 5:45 PM LOW: G. Keaveney, J. Bayer, C. Ritze, M. Derksen  
•SAT 01/19 7:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson, Jr.  
8:00 AM HIGH: G. Keaveney, M. Briggs  
•SUN 01/20 7:30 AM LOW: D. & S. Brueggemann  
9:00 AM HIGH: MC: A. Lotarski; TH: D. Poeppelman;  
ACS: G. Wnek, T. Simpson, Jr.; TORCH: P. Duff, S. Arlinghaus, N. McClorey, A. Richesson  
11:30 AM LOW: I. French, C. Ritze  
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

Collection Report

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2008 ..... \$4938.88  
SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION ..... \$1154.08

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

## ✠ POETRY CORNER

**FORTY HOURS**

**Revisited**

BY JOHN SEYFRIED

The pomp, the pageantry,  
the circumstance, the beauty  
Of the showing of our love for Him  
in the performance of our duty.

**FORTY HOURS ON THE  
FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**

In the grandeur of the monstrence,  
'Tho it's hard to visualize,  
'Tis the Infant Baby Jesus,  
Whom we see with our own eyes.

**EPIPHANY REQUEST**

The Magi came  
and bowed to Him  
The King of all creation.  
So let us pray  
those Saintly Kings  
For His enthronement  
by every nation.



**LOVE AT HOME**

Home is a very happy place  
When all begin the day  
With prayer to ask God's blessing  
And help along the way.  
When children honor, love, obey,  
And share their every toy,  
Are always kind in thought and deed  
And give their parents joy.

When all the family kneel at night  
To say an evening prayer,  
To thank God for His blessings  
And for His loving care.

Such homes are lovely gardens  
Where God can walk each day,  
Where flowers give sweet perfumes  
Along the Master's way.

—SR. MARY JOSITA, OSF



**EPIPHANY HOME PACKETS OF BLESSED GOLD, CHALK, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH ARE STILL AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE, ALONG WITH THE HOME BLESSING CEREMONY IN HONOR OF THE THREE KINGS—A POWERFUL SACRAMENTAL FOR YOUR HOME AND FAMILY!**

## ✠ THE CALENDAR

<b>MON</b>	<b>01/14/08</b>	<b>ST HILARY, BPCD - ST FELIX, PRM</b> 11:25 AM <b>High Mass</b> <i>Padre Saavedra (Patton Family)</i> 5:00 PM <b>Low Mass</b> <i>Special Intention (Barb Steinmetz)</i>
<b>TUES</b>	<b>01/15/08</b>	<b>ST PAUL, FIRST HERMIT - ST MAURUS, AB</b> OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR 11:25 AM <b>High Mass</b> † <i>Charles &amp; Elinor Richardson (M/M Mark Lotarski &amp; Family)</i> 5:00 PM <b>Low Mass</b> <i>In Honor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, for Our Country &amp; All of Our Needs</i>
<b>WED</b>	<b>01/16/08</b>	<b>ST MARCELLUS I, PM</b> 6:30 AM <b>Low Mass</b> † <i>M/M Joseph Macchia (Tom &amp; Stella Simpson)</i> 11:25 AM <b>High Mass</b> <i>M/M Joseph J. Kunkel (M/M Tom Kunkel &amp; Family)</i> 7:00 PM <b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>THUR</b>	<b>01/17/08</b>	<b>ST ANTHONY, AB - OUR LADY OF PONTMAIN</b> 11:25 AM <b>High Mass</b> <i>Dale Wilker Family (Sharon Patton)</i> 5:15 PM <b>Distribution of Holy Communion</b> 7:00 PM <b>Compline</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>01/18/08</b>	<b>ST PETER'S CHAIR AT ROME - ST PRISCA, VM</b> <b>OPENING OF THE CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE</b> <i>"The return of all the other sheep to the one fold of St. Peter, the One Shepherd."</i> 11:00 AM <b>Confessions</b> 11:25 AM <b>High Mass &amp; Opening of the Chair of Unity Octave</b> <i>Poor Souls (Tom &amp; Stella Simpson)</i> 5:15 PM <b>Confessions &amp; Rosary</b> 5:35 PM <b>Infant of Prague Novena IV</b> 5:45 PM <b>Low Mass, Opening of the Sorrowful Mother Novena &amp; Blessing of the Sick, Sacred Heart Novena, Benediction</b> † <i>George VandeRyt - 11th Anniversary &amp; †Evelyn Rentschler - 9th Anniversary (With Gratitude Bishop Dolan)</i>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>01/019/08</b>	<b>EPIPHANY II ANTICIPATED - ST MARIUS &amp; COMP, MM - ST CANUTE, KING, M - CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE II - IHM REFUGE OF SINNERS</b> <i>"The return of all Oriental Separatists to Communion with the Apostolic See."</i> 7:15 AM <b>Confessions</b> 7:30 AM <b>Low Mass</b> <i>Our Lady Seat of Wisdom-Gratitude for Favor Granted</i> 8:00 AM <b>High Mass, Confessions</b> <i>To Honor the Christmas Angels (Bernie B.)</i>
<b>SUN</b>	<b>01/20/08</b>	<b>SEPTUAGESIMA - SS FABIAN, P &amp; SEBASTIAN, MM - CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE III</b> <i>"The Submission of Anglicans to the Authority of the Vicar of Christ."</i> <b>CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD BEFORE AND DURING ALL MASSES</b> 7:30 AM <b>Low Mass</b> <i>Special Intention Chris Ritze Family (Victor Ritze)</i> 9:00 AM <b>High Mass</b> <i>Our St. Gertrude Family-We Love You (Kathy, Sam &amp; Seth Cozzens)</i> 11:30 AM <b>Low Mass</b> <i>Richard VandeRyt (Patton Family)</i> 5:45 PM <b>Low Mass</b> <i>For the People of St. Gertrude the Great</i>

## ✠ HOLY WOMEN

The maiden Mother of God has appeared, she who has been heralded from the beginning of the world by the voices of the prophets, she whom the wise patriarchs and a multitude of saints foretold, and with them all the flower of womanhood, Sara, Rebecca, Rachel, Anna, and famous Miriam the sister of Moses. The ends of the earth share their joy, and all creation joins in praising the God who is born in the flesh, to bestow on the world the gift of His great mercy.

## ✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

About twenty years ago or more, St. Gertrude the Great Church organized the first pro-life Rosary Procession in downtown Cincinnati. Back then, the Rosary did not end with a rally with politicians speaking. Rather, it began with (if you can believe it!) Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on the steps of City Hall. The Blessed Sacrament was then carried reverently through the streets as the rosary was prayed. That was all. That was everything.

At some point Fr. Jenkins and his parish assumed the organization of this annual event, although the Novus Ordo got the parade permit first for a year or two. I remember once they scheduled Archbishop Pilarczyk to be a speaker, and the whole event was cancelled by an ice storm. Heaven had spoken!

For years, we were not sure that we would be welcomed at Fr. Jenkins' Rosary Procession, since we are regularly excoriated as non-Catholics from his pulpit each Sunday. However, indirect invitations were issued. This was a genuinely ecumenical event and we were received very kindly. A nice group has been going. The only problem I found was the political nature of this "Pro-Life Rosary and Rally". I've been thinking and praying over this for awhile.

I must confess that I am increasingly reluctant to be involved with anything that seems to encourage people actually to believe in, to put their hope in - or even to take seriously politics and politicians as the answer to our problems in society, as opposed to our true and only hope, Christ the King. The hour is late. Why waste precious time and energy?

While it is always good to pray the Rosary, in public or in private, it is surely always bad to link it with our "bought and sold" politicians, ecumenical rallies, etc. Those who do these things are good, and act from the very best of motives. I believe, however, that all of this serves only to give legitimacy to dead end naturalist strategies, and to neutralize the good; feeding false hope, year after year, and distracting from true solutions.

I must say as well that it seems odd that having heard Heaven for 15 decades, at one of these Rosary Processions, we should hear representatives if not of hell, at least of the deceptive voices of the deceived in an ecumenical setting. I think I'll just stick with the Rosary and the Blessed Sacrament.

Won't you plan to join us Tuesday afternoon and evening the 22nd of January for Masses, Rosaries, Holy Hours and Eucharistic Adoration? I know of no more powerful means to prevent abortions. Our business must be to make reparation through Mary's Immaculate Heart, to convert our land, not to participate in political parties and their lies.

I wanted to mention the above to you today, so I will save some 40 Hours thoughts for next week. This week Fr. Cekada returns to the Seminary, and Fr. Saavedra here from Mexico. Still it is Christmastide. Let us love our little, newborn King, and keep close to His crib.

I send the blessing of the Holy Family to each home,

—Bishop Dolan



## TEEN POVERTY IN AMERICA

I just spent several hours observing teenagers hanging out at our local mall. I came to the conclusion many teenagers in America today are living in poverty!

Most young men I observed didn't even own a belt;  
there was not one among the whole group!

But that wasn't the sad part. Many were wearing their daddy's jeans. Some jeans were so big and baggy they hung low on their hips, exposing their underwear. I know some must have been ashamed their daddy was short, because his jeans hardly went below their knees. They weren't even their daddies' good jeans, for most had holes ripped in the knees and a dirty look to them.

It grieved me that in a modern, affluent society like America, there are people who can't afford a decent pair of jeans. I was thinking about asking my church to start a jeans drive for "poor kids at the mall."

But here is the saddest part; it was the girls they were hanging out with that disturbed me most. I never, in all of my life, have seen such poverty-stricken girls.

These girls had the opposite problem of the guys. . .

They all had to wear their little sisters clothes. . . Their jeans were about 5 sizes too small. I don't know how they could put them on, let alone button them up. Their jeans barely went over their hipbones. Most also had on their little sister's top; it hardly covered their midsections.

Oh, they were trying to hold their heads up with pride, but it was a sad sight to see these almost grown women wearing children's clothes.

However, it was their underwear that bothered me most. They, like the boys, because of the improper fitting of their clothes, had their underwear exposed. I never saw anything like it. It looked like their underwear was only held together by a single piece of string.

I know it saddens your heart to receive this report on conditions of our American teenagers. While I go to bed every night with a closet full of clothes nearby, there are millions of "mall girls" who barely have enough material to keep it together. I think their "poorness" is why these two groups gather at the mall, boys with their short daddies' ripped jeans, and girls wearing their younger sisters' clothes.

The mall is one place where they can find acceptance. So, next time you are at the mall, doing your shopping, and you pass by some of these poor teenagers, would you say a prayer for them?

And one more thing; Will you pray the guys' pants won't fall down,  
and the girls' strings won't break. . . ?

I thank you all,  
'Gramaw

Here are words of wisdom to help kids remain happy and healthy: Five key strategies to follow before they 'go out' for the first time.

Having worked with scores of young, single Catholics over the past 20 years, I have discovered that many of them want a new approach to dating and courtship.

They are not happy with the "clinging," impure dating patterns that have been *de rigueur* over the past several decades. Some have made mistakes in the past, but now want to do courtship God's way, knowing this will be a great foundation for a happy, lasting Christian marriage.

Are there things parents can tell their children before they embark on this perilous adventure of dating and courtship, to help them avoid the mistakes so many others have made in their youth?

Indeed there are. Here are my five main suggestions.

### 1. Keep your balance

The first has to do with temperance or moderation in general. When young people first begin to date, there is often a certain euphoria on the part of both to be involved in such a delightful thing.

If they have never been taught how to moderate pleasures in general, they are likely to be swept up in this feeling and give themselves body and soul to each other so completely that when they crash – as they almost surely will – they may become suicidal. In other words, if they give in to their emotions and try to see each other all the time and call twice a day as their emotions dictate, they are risking serious sin and setting themselves up for a terrible letdown when the inevitable breakup happens.

The point is that every Christian must learn how to enjoy pleasures in life but not to make a god out of them. Eros, the emotional love between a man and woman, is one of the most powerful feelings a human being can have, so it can easily pretend to be a god. But as C. S. Lewis said in *"The Four Loves,"* if you make a god out of Eros, it will become a demon and destroy you.

### 2. Detach

The truth is, it is wrong to give the appetites free reign in anything, without moderation by reason. Parents need to teach their children early on the dangers of "attachments," that is, things they feel they must have – including girlfriends and boyfriends – to be happy. What we need to be happy is God and whatever He gives us for the moment.

Attachments tend to draw us away from God and happiness, despite the pleasure they afford. This is one of the great secrets of life.

What is the best way to teach moderation and a healthy aversion to attachments? Read them the lives of the saints when they are young. Help them to understand the importance of the Cross in loving God and others by reminding them of things the saints did (without nagging). And, of course, negotiate a reasonable amount of entertainment, sweets and video games, and provide good incentives for them to abide by these agreements.

Detachment is not an option for Christians; it's essential for a healthy spiritual life. (Of course, parents must set a good example of detachment from pleasurable things if they want their children to learn it.)

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**Teens are told they need a boyfriend or girlfriend to be happy; parents can teach healthy detachment by their good example.**

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### 3. Slow down

The next thing to teach your children is not to date seriously until they are old enough to marry. Joshua Harris wrote a best-selling book in 1997 entirely *"I Kissed Dating Goodbye"* (Multnomah, \$12.99). In it, he explained that he stopped dating in high school until he was old enough to consider marriage. Why? Because, as Harris put it, "if two people can't make a commitment to each other, they don't have any business pursuing romance."

He points out that dating seriously as a teenager is just asking for trouble in the form of impure sins and their possible consequences. Moreover, the emotional roller coaster of falling for someone and breaking up repeatedly is painful and leads to a divorce mentality.

Realistically, parents may have difficulty getting their children to read Harris' book, but there are two things they can do. First, get the book and share some of the stories at the dinner table. Second, get his CD by the same name. When you take a trip, put it on in the car. There's nothing like a captive audience.

How old should someone be before dating seriously? I would suggest 21 as a healthy average, earlier if one is ready for marriage.

Before that age, I recommend "group dating." It also involves no more than the occasional phone call and going out no more than once a week, always in a group.

### 4. Be affectionate and chaste

Another thing parents can do is teach their children by word and deed about the beauty of affection. Affection is a lost art in our impure world because it often is seen as merely a prelude to intimacy.

But affection is a beautiful way to show love in a healthy, non-exploitive way. We must rehabilitate this noble art. Young people should be taught that a warm, chaste hug among good friends is a healthy and wholesome way to say you like someone.

A further thing parents can teach their children before dating is the meaning of chastity and the dangers of impurity and pornography. Chastity is not just self-control, but a training of the appetite so it will not even desire sinful activity. It's a way to avoid struggles and live at peace with the appetite and God.

### 5. Pray hard

And of course, the most important thing you can teach your children before they go on a date is to pray, pray, pray. It was above all my praying the Rosary daily, in bed at night, from the age of 14 that saved me from any number of sins in high school and college and gave me the strength to avoid bad relationships as well.

It is ultimately the only protection young people have in the eight years of moral fire they go through in high school and college, and it is the source of all wisdom and happiness.

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### Questions of Catholics Answered

#### PERTAINING TO COURTSHIP

BY THE REV. WINFRID HERBST, S.D.S.

**Q.** *What is the proper age for a girl to go with boys? At what time should she return home?*

**A.** To go out with boys occasionally under proper auspices is one thing and to keep steady company with a boy with the intention of marriage is another. In both cases it is highly advisable to meet your company in your own home and in the presence of the family,—not to "go out" at all or very rarely. Any other way savors of recklessness, to say the least. When going out she should always return at a reasonable hour, say, ten o'clock.

But you wish to know *when*. No girl should accept the attentions of a young man until (1) she has become a good housekeeper, until (2) she has become a fairly good seamstress, until (3) she has acquired the virtue of staying at home, until (4) the young man is able to support a family and has saved at least something to start with, and, finally unless (5)

there is some intention of marrying him.

It may be, however, that you want the exact age. That is difficult to determine, since it depends upon so many circumstances. We might say, for the sake of definiteness, that since in this country girls rarely marry before the age of eighteen and boys are usually a few years older, and since steady company-keeping, or courtship, should ordinarily not be longer than six months or a year, the proper age for going with a boy is about eighteen *at the very earliest. But even that is rather too early.* The longer a girl under twenty keeps her heart and mind love-proof, that is, in easy possession and full control, the better for her present and future happiness.

The above is about regular and honorable courtships. The irregular courtships of young people in their teens are usually nothing else than sinful flirtations. Such "puppy love" ought rather to be called "the devil's game," since it is one of the most common and crafty ruses by which Satan gradually and insensibly lures innocent boys and girls into ugly sin and filthy vice under the guise of love.

#### 12 EASY STEPS TO MAKE A DELINQUENT

1. **Begin with infancy to give him everything he wants.** In this way he will grow up thinking the world owes him a living.
2. **When he picks up "bad" or "dirty" words, laugh at him.** That will make him think he is cute. He will run off and pick up some other words that will blow off your head.
3. **Never give him any spiritual training until he is 21, and then let him decide for himself.** By the same logic, never teach him the English language. Maybe when he is old enough he may want to speak Bantu instead!
4. **Praise him in his presence to all the neighbors;** show him how much smarter he is than the neighbors' children.
5. **Avoid the use of the word "wrong."** It may develop in the child a "guilt complex." This will prepare him to believe that when he is punished later on for wrong-doing society is against him and he is being persecuted.
6. **Pick up everything after him:** his shoes, his books, his clothes. Do everything for him so that he will be experienced in throwing burdens on others.
7. **Let him read anything he wants.** Have no concern whatsoever for what goes into his mind. Provide him with sterilized cups for his lips, but let his brain drink out of any dirty container for words and ideas.
8. **Quarrel frequently in the presence of your children.** In that way they will be prepared for broken homes later on.
9. **Give him all the spending money he wants;** never let him earn his own.

10. **Satisfy every craving of the child** for food, drinks, and everything that has to do with the sense of taste and touch, gratifying every sensual desire.

11. **Take his part against police, teachers, and neighbors.** They are all prejudiced against your little child.

12. **When he gets into real trouble, always defend yourself** and say: "I never could do anything with him."

POLICE DEPARTMENT, HOUSTON, TEXAS

#### CLOTHING IS A SOCIAL LANGUAGE

BY JUDITH MARTIN - "MISS MANNERS"

How can we tell when it is Halloween now that everybody is playing dress-up all year?

Business people dress up as vacationers. Urban residents dress up as cowhands. Travelers dress up as sunbathers. Respectable ladies dress up as hussies. Honest gentlemen dress up as thugs. Grownups dress up as children. School children dress up as all of the above.

Miss Manners supposes she wouldn't mind, if everyone were having a rollicking good time at this. She would still regret the confusion and the aesthetic mess, but she would manage to bear up. Etiquette is supposed to keep track of the proper dress for particular occasions, but if no one cares, she would gratefully retire to the hammock and let them play.

The problem is that people do care. The more liberty that is taken with dress, the more severe the etiquette problems that arise.

Some are complaints that people have about the way other people dress. Other people, Miss Manners is told, are indecent disrespectful and just plain disgusting.

They spoil the cityscape by going around half-naked. They spoil the work-place by making it look unprofessional. They spoil social events by refusing to dress up. They spoil public events by exposing those near them to smelly and unsightly body parts.

The rest are equally vehement complaints that people have about others who complain about the way they dress. Those people, Miss Manners is told, are shallow, narrow-minded and dictatorial. They judge by appearances instead of intrinsic worth. They have puritanical notions about the body. They think they can interfere with others' comfort and self-expression.

Everybody talks about comfort, especially those who are wearing pants too tight or too loose for them. And everyone talks about self-expression, especially slaves to fashion. What no one articulates in these arguments is that clothing is a social language that everyone reads, consciously or not. Any job counselor, costume designer or defense lawyer will attest to that.

Is this shallow? Well, it is undoubtedly on the surface. But sometimes that is all one can

see, and even those with the opportunity to dig deeper still have to deal with the surface.

Unlike beauty or other physical characteristics, dress is presumed to be subject to some degree of choice. You may choose to be as close or as remote from the prevailing convention of the time and occasion as you like, but the distance will be read as reflecting your attitude. This is why movie stars and hip-hop musicians dress so differently in court than they do otherwise.

Such symbolism is powerful, and those who use it to lie should not be surprised or offended when others take these statements at face value and presume them to be childish or criminal.

Except on Halloween of course. That's symbolism's day off.

#### MODESTY

"Modesty" - the very word comes from *modus*, a measure or limit—probably better expresses the function of governing and dominating the passions, especially sensual passions. It is the natural bulwark of chastity. It is its effective rampart, because it moderates acts closely connected with the very object of chastity.

Modesty makes man hear its warning, like a forward sentinel, from the moment he acquires the use of reason, even before he learns the full meaning and purpose of chastity. It accompanies him throughout his entire life and demands that certain acts, which are good in themselves because they are divinely established, should be protected by a discreet veil of shadow and the reserve of silence, in order to confer on them the respect owed the dignity of their great purpose. It is therefore just that modesty, as the depository of such precious possessions, should claim for itself an authority prevailing over every other tendency and every caprice, and should preside over the determination of fashions in clothing.

—POPE PLUS XII

**GIRLS**—have you, in any manner whatsoever, made immodest use of your bodies to draw to yourself attention from the opposite sex?

**BOYS**—have you, by subtle means or otherwise, sought to induce a girl to sin?

...IF SO, YOU HAVE MADE YOURSELF an instrument of destruction to any soul you have tempted to sin gravely, since grave sin causes a soul to be lost forever.

YOU HAVE MADE YOURSELF an actual companion of Satan, who has vowed to destroy every soul—every temple of God—he possibly could.

Do you not know

...that you are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwells in you? IF ANYONE DESTROYS THE TEMPLE OF GOD, HIM WILL GOD DESTROY; for holy is the temple of God, and this temple you are. —St. Paul to the people of Corinth. 1 COR. III, 16