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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time • July 15, 2012

July 15, 2012
dear Padre
Are exorcisms real?

The exorcisms and possessions I've seen in movies seem farfetched. As Christians, are we supposed to acknowledge demons and believe they possess humans?

Calvin

Dear Calvin,

You're right to doubt what you see in movies regarding exorcisms. What makes good Hollywood is often far from the truth.

As Catholics, we acknowledge that the devil exists and that he may have power over some people. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*,

When the Church asks publicly and authoritatively in the name of Jesus Christ that a person or object be protected against the power of the Evil One and withdrawn from his dominion, it is called *exorcism*. Jesus performed exorcisms and from him the Church has received the power and office of exorcizing. In a simple form, exorcism is performed at the celebration of Baptism. The solemn exorcism, called 'a major exorcism,' can be performed only by a priest and with the permission of the bishop. The priest must proceed with prudence, strictly observing the rules established by the Church (1673).

So yes, demons exist and they can possess people. But actual possessions are quite rare, and before an exorcism is performed the Church investigates to be sure mental illness isn't involved because, as the *Catechism* says, "treating this is the concern of medical science."

Patrick Keyes, CSsR | sundaybulletins@liguori.org

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Saint Maurice Church 860-643-4466

e-mail: saintmauricechurch@att.net

www.stmauricekofc.org

Website: saintmauricebolton.org

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

THIS WEEK

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 14 – July 15, 2012

USHERS GROUP I

Maintenance Collection

SATURDAY, JULY 14

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Evannie Yarnott
request of Irene Kehl

SUNDAY, JULY 15

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +Steven Gaumond
request of Elaine Gaumond

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

10:00 A.M. – Mass offered for +Vincenty Szwed
request of Lucy Szwed & Family

5:30 P.M. LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MONDAY, JULY 16 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for + Cornelius Flynn
request of Marge & Bert Flynn

5:00 P.M. Parish BINGO – Food available from 5
P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, JULY 17 – No Mass

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Levi and +Lomen
Fournier of the Family

9:00 A.M. to Noon – Christmas Fair Workshop

THURSDAY, JULY 19 – No Mass

FRIDAY, JULY 20 – No Mass

SATURDAY, JULY 21

ROSARY BEFORE 5:00 P.M. MASS

**Last week's Offertory July 8 \$3,596.
Last Year's Offertory July 10 \$2,923.**

*"He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick – no food, no sack, no money in their belts,"
(Mark 6:8)*

How different we are from the Apostles who took nothing when they ventured out to serve God. Today, we make our journey through life more difficult because of all the material baggage that we drag along. Yet, the more we can let go of, the freer we are to serve God with love and joy.

NEXT WEEK

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 21 – July 22, 2012

USHERS GROUP II

SATURDAY, JULY 21

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Paul
R. Gidius Sr. request of Rich, Gail &
Terri Gidius

Altar Servers: Ally Cianci, Kaila Toce

Lector: Charles Luchini

Eucharistic Minister: Patti Cinea

SUNDAY, JULY 22

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +Marion & +Bill
Miller request of The Family

Altar Servers: Shirley Warbeck

Lector: Joel Cohan

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

10:00 A.M. – Mass offered for +Frances Treschuk
request of son, Walter Treschuk

Altar Servers: Nicholas VanDine

Lector: Evelyn O'Connor

Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen Smythe

5:30 P.M. LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MONDAY, JULY 23 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for + Steven Gaumond
request of Elaine Gaumond

5:00 P.M. Parish BINGO – Food available from 5
P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, JULY 24 – No Mass

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Adam Mancino
request of Lynn Mancino

NO Christmas Fair Workshop

THURSDAY, JULY 26 – No Mass

FRIDAY, JULY 27 – No Mass

SATURDAY, JULY 28

ROSARY BEFORE 5:00 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of July 15, 2012**Sunday:** Am 7:12-15/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13**Monday:** Is 1:10-17/Mt 10:34--11:1**Tuesday:** Is 7:1-9/Mt 11:20-24**Wednesday:** Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Mt 11:25-27**Thursday:** Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Mt 11:28-30**Friday:** Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Mt 12:1-8**Saturday:** Mi 2:1-5/Mt 12:14-21**Next Sunday:** Jer 23:1-6/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34

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EXCERPT – CATECHISM FOR CATHOLIC VOTERS – Fr. Stephen F. Torraco, Ph.D.

Isn't conscience the same as my own opinions and feelings? And doesn't everyone have the right to his or her own conscience?

Conscience is NOT the same as your opinions or feelings. Conscience cannot be identical with your feelings because conscience is the activity of your *intellect* in judging the rightness or wrongness of your actions or omissions, past, present, or future, while your *feelings* should be governed by your intellect and will. Conscience is not identical with your opinions because your intellect bases its judgment upon the *natural moral law*, which is inherent in your human nature and is identical with the Ten Commandments. Unlike the civil laws made by legislators, or the *opinions* that you hold, the natural moral law is not anything that you *invent*, but rather *discover* within yourself and is the governing norm of your conscience. In short, conscience is the **voice of truth** within you, and your *opinions* need to be in harmony with that truth. This is the goal of correctly informing and properly forming your conscience.

So then, how do I get my conscience to be correctly informed and properly formed?

As a Catholic, you have the benefit of the Church's teaching authority or Magisterium endowed upon her by Christ. The Magisterium assists you and all people of good will in understanding the natural moral law as it relates to specific issues. As a Catholic, you have the obligation to be *correctly informed* by the teaching of the Church's Magisterium. As for your feelings, they need to be properly *formed* by virtue so as to be in harmony with conscience's voice of truth. In this way, you will have a **sound conscience**, according to which you will *feel* guilty when you are guilty, and *feel* morally upright when you are morally upright. We should strive to avoid the two opposite extremes of a **lax conscience** and a **scrupulous conscience**. Meeting the obligation of continually attending to this formation of conscience will increase the likelihood that, in the actual operation or activity of conscience, you will act with a certain conscience, which clearly perceives that a given concrete action is a good action that was rightly done or should be done. **Being correctly informed and certain in the actual operation of conscience** is the goal of the continuing formation of conscience. Otherwise put, you should strive to avoid being incorrectly informed and doubtful in the actual judgment of conscience about a particular action or omission. You should never act on a doubtful conscience.

Is it morally permissible to vote for all candidates of a single party?

This would depend on the positions held by the candidates of a single party. If anyone or more of them advocated positions that were opposed to the natural moral law, then it would not be morally permissible to vote for all candidates of this one party. Your correctly informed conscience transcends the bounds of any one political party.



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