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Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time • September 16, 2012

September 16, 2012  
**dear Padre**  
**When does a sacramental become superstition?**

*I would call a Saint Joseph statue a sacramental, but it seems to me that burying it in the front yard upside down to make a house sell faster turns it into an object of superstition. Where do we draw the line?*

*John*

**Dear John,**

Prayer and sacramentals become objects of superstition when we use them to try to control God. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, "Sacramentals derive from the baptismal priesthood: every baptized person is called to be a 'blessing,' and to bless" (1669). All the baptized have a right to use sacramentals to ask for God's blessing.

You rightly point out, though, that people get carried away: "If you bury the statue upside down in the front yard, your house will sell." "If you say a Hail Mary every night, you'll find a job." These practices fit the *Catechism's* definition of superstition: "the deviation of religious feeling and of the practices this feeling imposes....when one attributes an importance in some way magical to certain practices otherwise lawful or necessary" (2111).

The *Catechism* points out that at times the Church must "purify and correct the religious sense which underlies these devotions so that the faithful may advance in knowledge of the mystery of Christ" (1676). The Church must remind people not to use sacramentals and prayer to convince God to do what you want him to do, but rather to ask his blessing.

Patrick Keyes, CSsR | [sundaybulletins@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletins@liguori.org)

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**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****TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****SEPT. 15 – 16 2012****MAINTENANCE COLLECTION****Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive****USHERS GROUP II****SATURDAY, SEPT. 15 –****5:00 P.M.** Mass offered for +Clara Stygar request of Florence Tracy**7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for +Kenneth Devins request of Jeanne Devins**CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**10:00 A.M. –** Mass offered for +Raymond Lemaire request of Yolande Tellier & Ruth Gousy**Blessing of the Catechists****Baptism – Ethan Kevin Bigliuzzi****5:30 P.M. LITURGY OF THE HOURS****MONDAY, SEPT. 17 –****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for +Matteo Quagliano request of Mr. & Mrs. Silvio Maratta**5:00 P.M. –** Parish **BINGO** – Food available from 5 P.M. **GAMES** begin at 6:30 P.M.**TUESDAY, SEPT. 18 –****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for +Henry Leonard**7:15 P.M. –** Adult Choir Rehearsal**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19 –****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for +Henry Leonard**9:00 A.M. to Noon –** Christmas Fair Workshop**3 to 7 P.M. –** *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament***THURSDAY, SEPT. 20 –** No Mass**FRIDAY, SEPT. 21 –** No Mass**SATURDAY, SEPT. 22 –****Last week's Offertory – September 9 – \$**  
**Last year's Offertory – September 11 – \$3,960***"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." (Mark 8:34)***When we truly believe that all we have is a gift from God, then we must be willing to deny ourselves some things so that we can share our blessings as God intended them to be shared.****NEXT WEEK****TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****SEPT. 22 – 23 2012****USHERS GROUP III****SATURDAY, SEPT. 22 –****5:00 P.M.** Mass offered for +Clara Stygar request of Olga Delaney*Altar Servers: Kyle Toce, Josh Meyers**Lector: Georgette Pelletier**Eucharistic Minister: Maureen Mozzer***SUNDAY, SEPT. 23 –****7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for Christopher & Mae Magnano*Altar Servers: Shirley Warbeck**Lector: Joel Cohan**Eucharistic Minister: Linda Richardson***CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**8:30 A.M. –** *Breakfast for Faith Formation***9 A.M. –** Faith Formation – First Session**10:00 A.M. –** Mass offered for +Donald & +Barbara Sullivan request of Patricia & Peter Ruvolo*Altar Servers: Nicholas VanDine**Lector: Evelyn O'Connor**Eucharistic Minister: Betty Aitkin***12:30 to 7:30 P.M. – Youth Explosion IV Retreat for Confirmation Students at St. Bernard in Uncasville****NO LITURGY OF THE HOURS** in church this week –Evening Prayer and the Office of Readings can be obtained online by visiting <http://www.ebreviary.com/> and selecting Sundays and feast days, prayers; then 09/23/2012.**MONDAY, SEPT. 24 –****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for Christopher & Mae Magnano**5:00 P.M. –** Parish **BINGO** – Food available from 5 P.M. **GAMES** begin at 6:30 P.M.**TUESDAY, SEPT. 25 –****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for Christopher & Mae Magnano**7:15 P.M. –** Adult Choir Rehearsal**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26 –****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for +Ivan Dube (6<sup>th</sup> Aniv.) request of Solange Fournier**9:00 A.M. to Noon –** Christmas Fair Workshop**3 to 7 P.M. –** *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament***THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 –** No Mass**FRIDAY, SEPT. 28 –** No Mass**SATURDAY, SEPT. 29 –**

ROSARY BEFORE 5:00 P.M. MASS

**Readings for the Week of September 16, 2012**

**Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35**  
**Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Lk 7:1-10**  
**Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Lk 7:11-17**  
**Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31---13:13/Lk 7:31-35**  
**Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Lk 7:36-50**  
**Friday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13**  
**Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Lk 8:4-15**  
**Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Jas 3:16---4:3/Mk 9:30-37**

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**SILVER AND GOLD JUBILIEE ANNIVERSARY MASS**

**Sunday, October 21, 2012 ~ 2:00p.m.**

Inviting all couples married 25 & 50 years, also those celebrating a significant anniversary year, to participate in and renew your wedding vows in a Pontifical Mass which will be celebrated by Bishop Michael R. Cote at the Cathedral of St. Patrick. Family and friends are invited to share in this special testimony and witness to love and marriage. Light refreshments will be provided in the Cathedral Hall following the Mass. Registration is through the Parish office. Sponsored by Annual Catholic Appeal.

**ST. MAURICE CHRISTMAS FAIR**

The Christmas Fair uses over 100 lbs. of flour and over 100 lbs. of sugar, along with Crisco, molasses, chocolate and many other items in our mixes, pies and food sales. If you can help us with some flour and sugar it would help cut down our expenses. If it should ever happen that we receive more than we can use we donate it our holiday families. Thank you for your support. *The Fair Group*

**EXCERPT - CATHECHISM FOR CATHOLIC VOTERS – Fr. Stephen F. Torracco, Ph.D.**

*What about elected officials who happen to be of the same party affiliation? Are they committing a sin by being in the same party, even if they don't advocate pro-choice views? Are they guilty by association?*

Being of the same political party as those who advocate pro-abortion is indeed a serious evil **IF** I belong to this political party **IN ORDER TO ASSOCIATE MYSELF** with that party's advocacy of pro-abortion policies. However, it can also be true that being of such a political party has as its purpose to change the policies of the party. Of course, if this is the purpose, one would have to consider whether it is reasonable to think the political party's policies can be changed. Assuming that it is reasonable to think so, then it would be morally justifiable to remain in that political party.

**Defending Our Religious Liberty**

As stated on the website for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), beware of claims especially by partisans, that bishops are partisan. Bishops have formed their position opposing the federal healthcare mandate based on principles – in this case, religious liberty for all and for the life and dignity of every human person. They did not base their decision on polls, personalities or political parties.

If you haven't done so already, please contact the offices of your Congressional Representatives and United States Senators to express your opposition to the federal healthcare mandate. For addresses and phone numbers, please visit: [www.ctcatholic.org](http://www.ctcatholic.org) or [www.norwichdiocese.org](http://www.norwichdiocese.org).

**Marriage Preparation Class for Engaged Couples**

“God’s Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage” offered by the Office of Family Life. For info or to register for the 4 session class call 860-889-8346 ext.283. Cost \$50 per couple.

**Date :** Fridays, Oct.5, 12, 19, 26, 6:30pm-8:45pm  
**Location:** St Joseph’s Church, RT.97, Occum

**Twenty-second Annual Blue Mass For All Law Enforcement Officers**

**Sunday, September 23, 2012, at 10:15 a.m.**

All law enforcement officers (federal, state, and municipal, active and retired) and their families are invited to the Twenty-second Annual Blue Mass and Reception, Sunday, September 23, 2012, in the Cathedral of Saint Patrick, 10:15 a.m. All parishioners are cordially invited to attend this Mass. Bishop Cote, the Bishop of Norwich, will celebrate the Mass and The Very Reverend Robert E. Casey, V.F., Pastor of Gate of Heaven and Saint Brigid Parishes in South Boston, and Chaplain of the Medford, Massachusetts Police Department, will be the Homilist.

Norwich Police Chief Louis J. Fusaro, Sr., and Connecticut State Police Captain Louis J. Fusaro, Jr., is the Blue Mass Co-Chairs. For more information, please call Chief Fusaro, Captain Fusaro, or Monsignor Brown at 860-887-9294, ext. 232.

**A BIG Thank You!**

**From Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti**

A big thank you goes out to all of the parishioners who donated toys for the children in Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti Education Scholarship Program. We have received an overwhelming response and are happy to say that thanks to you, all of the children in our program will receive a gift this Christmas. Our students are ready and excited for the start of school in October—and from their hearts and ours, we deeply thank you!

You can still contribute through 9/23 by dropping your gifts off in the box located in each vestibule of the Church


**“Theology of the Body for Teens” New Middle School Edition**

**Discovering God’s Plan for Love and Life Presentation**  
 Sponsored by the Office of Family Life:


Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012 ~ 6:30p.m. – 8:30p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Hall, Quaker Hill

Thursday, Sept. 27, 2012 ~ 6:30p.m. – 8:30p.m. at St. Maurice Church Parish Center, Bolton.

This Introduction is intended for middle school and teen educators as well as home school parents who want to learn about and see materials on TOBTeens new Middle School Edition and the High School Edition. Learn how this new program based on the teachings of John Paul II can provide your teens with the knowledge and understanding they desire concerning God’s plan for life and love. There is no charge. [www.TOBforTeens.com](http://www.TOBforTeens.com) website provides additional information. For info or to register contact SusanWilliams at 860-889-8346 ext.283.



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