

PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE: THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT (11-10-24)

PRAYERS

- I. “Signum Crucis”: “In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.”
- II. “Prayer to the Holy Spirit”
- III. Saints and Virtue:
 - A. Saint Stephen the Martyr
 - B. Self-Control

SACRED SEVEN – TRUE/FALSE

- __ 1. A person may have a grave duty to defend a person’s life by taking the life of another person. T
- __ 2. To destroy directly an innocent human being is gravely contrary to the dignity of a person and the holiness of the Creator. T
- __ 3. Operations that would change one’s male body to appear, instead, female would be to sin gravely against the Fifth Commandment. T
- __ 4. I should not commit suicide, but could support and assist another person who may wish to commit suicide. F
- __ 5. War is always sinful, and the Church teaches that there would never be justifiable reasons for waging war. F
- __ 6. A person donating an organ could instruct others to permit this while he is on life support if doctors determine the person is “brain dead.” F
- __ 7. The most important care given to a dying person is to alleviation as much pain as possible. F

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT: “THOU SHALT NOT KILL” (251)

- I. Life = Fundamental gift (whether natural or supernatural) that must be accepted in truth, freedom, and love or rejected in untruth, slavery, and death.
 - A. God has chosen us for life, but we must choose His Life for ours:
 1. On earth (Life of Grace)
 2. For Heaven (Eternal Life)
 - B. Life (individually and communally) develops and extends by embracing truth to live in freedom and love.
- II. The Truth about the Gift of Life:
 - A. God = Author and Creator

- B. Gift of Creation—Human Dominion and Flourishing
 - 1. Co-Workers (with God/angels/one another): “Till”/“Keep”
 - 2. Fruitfulness—Cultivation/Pro-Creation: God gives man the earth for Man to cultivate and populate a world
- C. Re-Creation—Life in the Order of Grace (Re-Birth)
 - 1. Redemption in Christ (Truth)
 - 2. Sacramental Life of Grace
 - 3. A New Creation—Restoration/Resurrection
- D. Two Ways:
 - 1. On Earth—Way of Life (Abel)/Way of Death (Cane)
 - 2. In Eternity—Heaven (Life)/Hell (Death)
- III. Freedom in Life:
 - A. Freedom by Christ—The Truth that makes us Free:
 - 1. From ignorance (the Gospel)
 - 2. From sin (the Cross/Grace)
 - 3. From death (eternal life)
 - B. Freed by Christ for Freedom (Life in the power of the Holy Spirit):
 - 1. Baptism (Jordan)—being in a state of grace
 - 2. Confirmation (Pentecost)—bringing others to this state of grace by the power of proclamation and love
- IV. Life Crowned by and Consummated in Love (“God is Love”):
 - A. Two become one body (Sacrament of Marriage)/Many members of the Body of Christ become one in Christ the Head and by the
 - Love of the Holy Spirit (Heavenly Wedding Feast):
 - 1. One in the Father’s will
 - 2. One in the Sacred Heart
 - 3. One in the inspiration of the Holy Spirit
 - B. Evangelization—Love in action—Going forth (Apostolic life of disciples):
 - 1. Re-Birth—Sonship
 - 2. Establishing the Kingdom—Citizenship
 - C. True life freely fulfilled in love of God/neighbor/self:
 - 1. Foretaste = Holy Communion (receiving the Bread of Life) at the Sacrifice of the Mass
 - 2. Fulfillment = Heaven: Holy Communion with God/angels/saints
- V. The Fifth Commandment:
 - A. Requires: Proper care of one’s own spiritual and bodily well-being and that of one’s neighbor (252)

- B. Forbids:
1. Directly destroying an innocent human being—destroying embryos/direct abortion/direct euthanasia/suicide or assisting in suicide/abuse of food, alcohol, tobacco, medicine/illegitimate scientific, medical, or psychological experimentation involving humans/kidnapping, hostage taking, human trafficking, terrorism, torture, violence, direct sterilization, unnecessary amputation or mutilations/unjust warfare/harboring vengeance and hatred/reckless driving or life-threatening activity
 2. Primacy of the spiritual—the threat of death:
 - a. Last Rites
 - b. Prayers
 3. Rites for the Deceased (Works of Mercy):
 - a. Vigil
 - b. Requiem Mass
 - c. Interment (Preference for Body)

TABLE TALK QUESTION

Which do you find generally more difficult—to win an argument or to make a friend? Do most people unite as groups because of common enemies or because of shared worship?

FINAL COMMENTS/PRAYER AND BLESSING