

PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE: THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT (11-17-24)

PRAYERS

- I. “Signum Crucis”: “In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.”
- II. “Prayer to the Holy Spirit”
- III. Saints and Virtue:
 - A. Saints Joachim and Anne
 - B. Partnership

SACRED SEVEN – TRUE/FALSE

1. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “Everyone, man and woman, should acknowledge and accept his or her sexual identity.”
T
2. God made Man male and female for opposition, such that a male calls the female the “opposite” sex. F
3. Sexual desire is a necessary evil that arose after the original sin. F
4. We know that what a person feels very strongly must be true and good, so we should always affirm him and say things such as: “I love your passion!” F
5. We know that God’s sexuality is male. F
6. Men and women are not in fact exactly the same, yet they are equal in dignity. T
7. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “Jesus came to restore creation to its original purity.” T

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT: “THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY

- I. Chastity integrates each person inside, so as to properly love those outside of themselves:
 - A. Gospel vision (on Earth) and Godly vision (in Heaven) is pure (holy):

“Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God” (Matthew 5:8)

1. Chaste vision on earth = To see and keep the sacred image of Christ in my own heart, and to see and keep the sacred image of Christ in other hearts—purity of heart is:
 - a. Experienced and expressed in thought, word, and deed

- (individually)
 - b. Given to others according to the natural and sacramental order and hierarchy (relationally)
 - 2. Chastity expressed in marriage and the family, whether in the mystical, natural, or supernatural sense:
 - a. Christ/Church : Father/Family of God (Mystical)
 - b. Husband/Wife : Domestic Church (Nature perfected by grace)
- B. Proper hierarchy and order within each person, soul and body— established and restored by God’s love for us— chastity begins with holy love and produces holy, fruitful love:
 - 1. Head— Love given as Truth (Memory/Imagination/Reason)
 - 2. Heart— Truth willed in Freedom (Obedience = Love/Sacrifice)
 - 3. Stomach— Nourishment thankfully accepted for individual Life
 - 4. Loins— Power given for flourishing and fruitfulness of Life
 - 5. Lower aspects of the person must be disciplined by, directed by, and directed toward the higher aspects the person:
 - a. The body is directed by the soul
 - b. The soul sanctifies the body for divinization and resurrection— as a fit altar for the soul offered to God, that God may lift up the soul first, and then the body, to Heaven
- II. Discipleship of chastity:
 - A. Self-Mastery in the Master (Christ):

“Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for the master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks.” (Luke 12:35)

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with Me. He who conquers, I will grant him to sit with Me on my throne, as I Myself conquered and sat down with My Father on His throne.” (Revelation 3:20-21)

- B. Chastity = Integration of self for integration with others (holy communion):
 - 1. Discipleship (Role and Relationship):
 - a. Acceptance of personhood and sex

- b. Acceptance of natural order and structures (inclination/marriage/family)
 - c. Acceptance of supernatural order, roles, and structures (Hierarchical Church/Vocations—Lay and Sacraments/Domestic Church)
 - 2. Apostleship (Vocation)—Burning lamps and girded loins:
 - a. Preparation—Unmarried: Virginity/Celibacy
 - b. Sacramental Marriage—Free/Total/Faithful (Exclusive)/Fruitful union—salt, light, and leaven in the world
 - c. Spiritual Marriage—Religious life as a virgin or celibate
 - C. Basic Principles:
 - 1. The sexual act is never about pleasing myself but about pleasing God through obedient sacrifice of my will and proper direction of my desires:
 - a. Never using myself or using others for pleasure
 - b. In Marriage—The marital act—expressing as one body God’s intentions: “Thy will be done on earth as it heaven”—not self-pleasure, but mutual for partnership and
 - 2. Catholic chastity—Requires both modesty and moderation:
 - a. Not prudishness and immoderate shame (terror)
 - b. Not crudeness and lewdness—no immodesty in words, looks, and actions, whether alone or with others (256)
 - 3. Dangers to chastity = idleness, sinful curiosity, bad companions, drinking alcohol in excess, immodest indecent books, plays and videos (257)
 - 4. Preserving chastity = to avoid carefully all unnecessary dangers, to seek God’s help through prayer, frequent Confession, Holy Communion and assisting at devotion to the Blessed Virgin

is in
self-sacrifice,
pro-creation

dress,

Mass, and

TABLE TALK QUESTION

Do sins against the Sixth Commandment often lead to sins against the Fifth Commandment, and vice versa?

CLOSING COMMENTS/PRAYER AND BLESSING

