

## ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Rev. Sebastian J. Thekkedath, CMI

Deacon Tyrone Necaize

November 1, 2020  
31st Sunday of Ordinary Time

### MASSES

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00PM

SUNDAY: 8:00AM & 10:30AM

WEEKDAY MASS: CHAPEL

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM  
(ROSARY AFTER)

FIRST SATURDAY 8:00AM  
ANNOINTING OF THE SICK &  
NOVENA TO MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 3:00-3:45 PM

SUNDAY: 7:15 - 7:45AM  
9:45-10:15 AM

OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT

### ADORATION

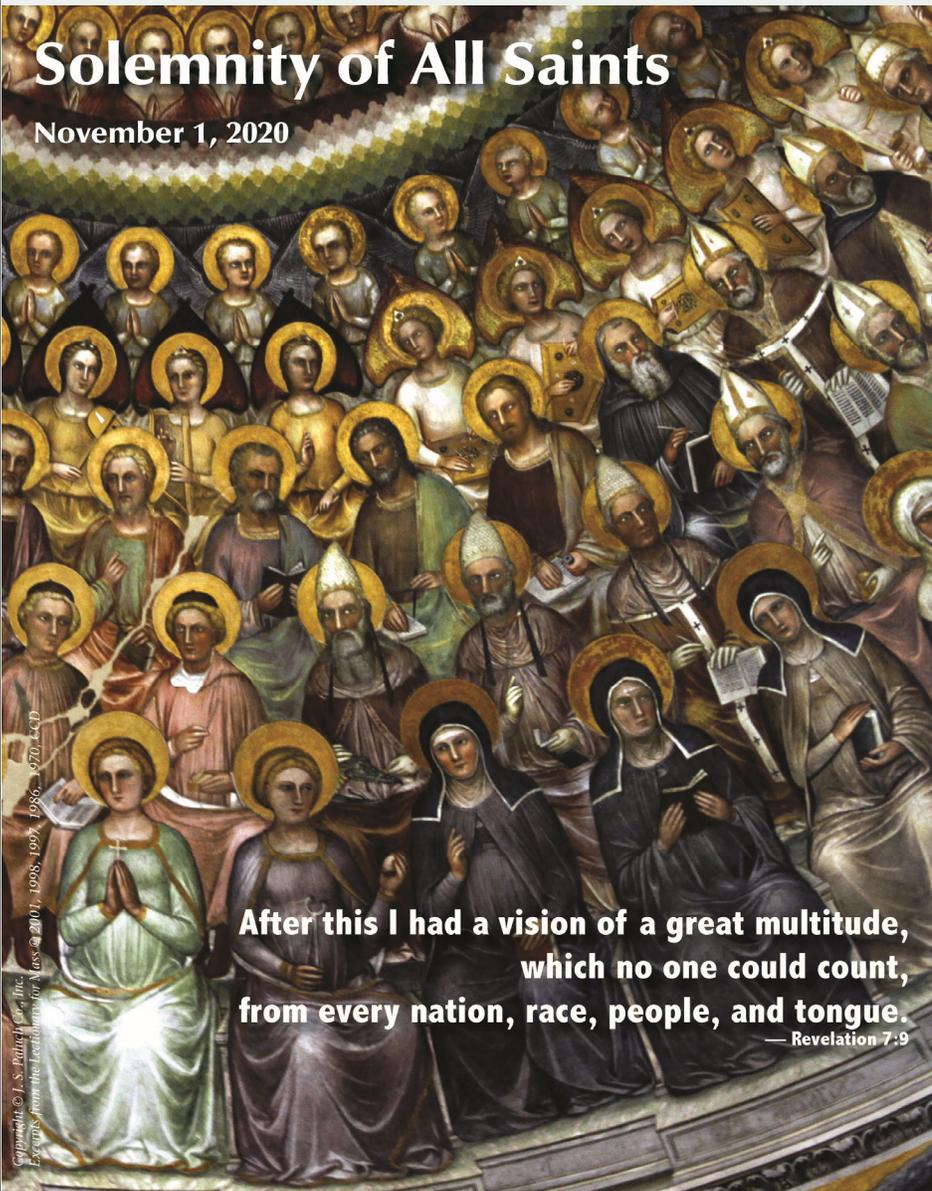
TUESDAY: 8:00AM-6:00PM

FRIDAY: 8:30AM-9:30 AM  
(DEVOTION TO SACRED HEART)

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00 AM-12:30 PM

Laura E. Rhode, Secretary



## Solemnity of All Saints

November 1, 2020

After this I had a vision of a great multitude,  
which no one could count,  
from every nation, race, people, and tongue.

— Revelation 7:9

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## What did Pope Francis say about civil unions?

“Francesco,” a newly released film on the life and ministry of Pope Francis contains a scene in which Pope Francis calls for the passage of civil union laws for same-sex couples. Some of the activists and media persons have suggested that Pope Francis has changed Catholic teaching by his remarks. So, let us to reflect on what pope Francis said and the Catholic Church teaches about civil union and marriage.

Three points have come up in the documentary- “Francesco” as words of Pope Francis. They are:

1. “Gay people are children of God.”
2. “Gay people have the right to be part of the family” and
3. “Civil union laws may be made to protect the legal rights of such Persons”

The first question “gay people are children of God” has come up in 1975, December 25 in the “Declaration on Certain Questions Concerning Sexual Ethics” by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. This document speaks about the responsibility to understand homosexual activities and evaluate it in a prudent manner. It clearly spells out the difference between homosexual condition or tendency and individual homo- sexual acts.

The “Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual persons” (October 1, 1986) speaks that homosexual tendency is not a sin but it may lead to sin. It is like birds flying over our heads. We may not be able prevent them from flying but we can prevent them from making nests upon our heads. Therefore, the homosexual tendency is there but it is an indiscipline. When this tendency leads to homosexual acts, it is a sin. It has to be stopped.

“The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) describes that homosexual inclinations are “objectively disordered,” homosexual acts are “contrary to the natural law,” and those who identify as lesbian and gay, like all people, are called to the virtue of chastity.” -Catholic News Agency (CNA)

Second point of discussion is “Gay people have the right to be part of the family”. The Church accepts this concept. “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance” (Luke 5:32). “The LGBT people should take efforts to have heterosexual life. It is not necessary that everybody be successful but they have the right to be part of the family and society because they are created in the image of God and born to human parents.

The Church teaches that only a man and a woman can form a family and not the union of LGBT members. “God who created man out of love also calls him to love the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being. For man is created in the image and likeness of God who is himself love.<sup>90</sup> Since God created him man and woman, their mutual love becomes an image of the absolute and unfailing love with which God loves man. It is good, very good, in the Creator's eyes. And this love which God blesses is intended to be fruitful and to be realized in the common work of watching over creation: "And God blessed them, and God said to them: 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it.'"(Gen 1:28) (CCC 1604)

Pope Francis has always affirmed the doctrinal teaching of the Catholic Church that the marriage is a lifelong partnership between a man and a woman. Marriage is always between a man and a woman in the Catholic Church. He has never spoken nor approved and discussed about gay marriage in the documentary but spoken about civil union. Civil union is not a marriage.

“The marriage covenant, by which a man and a woman form with each other an intimate communion of life and love, has been founded and endowed with its own special laws by the creator. By its very nature it is ordered to the good of the couple, as well as the generation and education of children. Christ the Lord raised the marriage between the baptized to the dignity of a sacrament.” “For this reason, a man shall leave [his] father and [his] mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” (Eph 5:31)

The third point of discussion is ““Civil union laws may be made to protect the legal rights of such Persons”

“In 2003, in a document approved by Pope John Paul II and written by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who became Pope Benedict XVI, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith taught that “respect for homosexual persons cannot lead in any way to approval of homosexual behavior or to legal recognition of homosexual unions.””(CAN)

“Even if civil unions might be chosen by people other than same-sex couples, like siblings or committed friends, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith said that homosexual relationships would be “foreseen and approved by the law,” and that civil unions “would obscure certain basic moral values and cause a devaluation of the institution of marriage.” (CAN)

“Legal recognition of homosexual unions or placing them on the same level as marriage would mean not only the approval of deviant behavior, with the consequence of making it a model in present-day society, but would also obscure basic values which belong to the common inheritance of humanity,” the document concluded.’ (CAN)

“The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith’s document said that civil union laws give tacit consent to homosexual behavior; while the pope expressed support for civil unions, he has also spoken in his pontificate about the immorality of homosexual acts.’ (CAN)

“It is also important to note that a documentary interview is not a forum for official papal teaching. The pope’s remarks were not presented in their fullness, and no transcript has been presented, so unless the Vatican offers additional clarity, they need to be taken in light of the limited information available about them.” (CAN)

**First Reading** (*Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14*)

I, John, saw another angel come up from the East, holding the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were given power to damage the land and the sea, "Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand marked from every tribe of the children of Israel.

After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb."

All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They prostrated themselves before the throne, worshiped God, and exclaimed: "Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen." Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me, "Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?" I said to him, "My lord, you are the one who knows." He said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb."

**Responsorial Psalm** (*Psalms 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6*)

**R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it. For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

**R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD? or who may stand in his holy place? One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain.

**R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

**R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

**Second Reading** (*1 John 3:1-3*)

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

**Gospel** (*Matthew 5:1-12a*)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

ALL SOULS' DAY TIME TABLE
Blessings of Bayou Coco Cemetery <u>Sunday 2pm</u>
Blessings of St. Joseph Cemetery <u>Sunday 3pm</u>
Vigil mass at St. Joseph Cemetery <u>Sunday 4pm</u>
All Souls' Day Mass Nov 2nd, <u>Monday 8am</u> (Chapel)

**Catholic Sharing Appeal 2020**

If you have not fulfilled the pledge, please do it now. Our total pledge is not met even 57%

MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday, October 31 4pm - Wade Koennn †
Sunday, November 1 8:00am - Parishioners 10:30am - John & Mabel Rhode † & Family
Monday, November 2 8:00 am - All Souls
Tuesday, November 3 8:00am - All Souls
Wednesday, November 4 8:00am - All Souls
Thursday, November 5 8:00am - All Souls
Friday, November 6 8:00am - All Souls

Financial News	
Insurance	\$38,245.00
Diocesan Support Tax	\$14,509.92
School Supplement	\$23,536.83
Salaries, Utilities, & Other Operational Expenses (approximate)	\$140,879.28
Total Yearly Financial Obligations	\$217,171.03
Amount needed each week	\$4,176.36
Last Sunday Collection	\$3227.00
Shortfall	\$949.36

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

**200 Bulletins**