

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Thoughts to Reflect Upon

**The Pope's Encyclical: *Caritas in Veritate*
(Charity in Truth)**

Let us reflect on the third Encyclical from Pope Benedict, published a year ago on June 29, 2009. His first was *Deus Caritas Est*, January 25, 2006, and his second was *Spe Salvi*, November 30, 2007.

First of all: What is a **Papal Encyclical**? It is the name typically given to a letter written by a Pope to a particular audience, usually Bishops. This audience of Bishops may be all of the Bishops in a specific country or all of the Bishops in all countries throughout the world. The encyclical is intended to guide the Bishops' relations with their flocks and offer teaching and insight on a particular subject or subjects of great importance to the contemporary Church or society. In the case of *Caritas in Veritate*, the specific audience is mentioned directly in the title:

"...To Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, the Lay Faithful, and all People of Good Will, on integral human development in charity and truth."

This third encyclical has as one of its topics a most contemporary and important focus: economic justice. The encyclical is extraordinary and bold because it offers a response to the global financial crisis. When many so-called experts are at a loss to offer solutions, and when this country is so bent on economic stimulus packages to reverse the financial meltdown, the Holy Father dares to offer this extraordinary document with its tough challenges and its remarkably radical solutions. The pontiff does what so few are willing or able to be courageous enough to do: he focuses on moral dimensions of markets, globalization, consumerism, and environmental protection, the role of technology, workers' rights and more. To call the document sweeping is an understatement.

Many of Benedict's teachings in this document are profound ethical and social statements and obviously come from a faith perspective which is why they will be ignored by the majority of world leaders. Here are a few examples that allow us to see Benedict's perspective:

- "Once profit becomes the exclusive goal, if it is produced by improper means and without the common good as its ultimate end, it risks destroying wealth and creating poverty."
- "... there is no doubt that foreign workers, despite any difficulties concerning integration, make a significant contribution to the economic development of the host country."
- "What is meant by the word 'decency' in regard to work? It means work that expresses the essential dignity of every man and woman in the context of their particular society: work that is freely chosen, effectively associating workers, both men and women, with the development of their community; work that enables the worker to be respected and free from any form of discrimination; work that makes it possible for families to meet their needs and provide schooling for their children. ..."
- "Financiers must rediscover the genuinely ethical foundation of their activity, so as not to abuse the sophisticated instruments which can serve to betray the interests of savers"

This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, August 7

9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*
No 4:00PM Confessions for Summer – By Request or Appointment
No 5:30PM Vigil Mass for Summer – Resumes Saturday, Sept. 4

The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 8

10:00AM Mass *Rose and Joseph Candeloro & Maryann DeMarco*
Catholic Forum meets today after 10:00 Mass in Newman Center.
11:30AM Mass *In Memory of Mrs. Daniel W. Dietrich II*
5:00PM Mass *Intentions of St. AJ Parishioners and Benefactors*
No 10:00PM Mass for Summer – Resumes Sunday, September 5

Monday, August 9

No 7:30 AM Mass for Summer – Resumes Tuesday, September 7
12:05PM Mass *Special Intentions*
1:00PM Mass Celebrated at Drexel Chapel Monday - Thursday

Tuesday, August 10

12:05PM Mass *In Memory of Joseph and Concetta*

Wednesday, August 11

12:05PM Mass *In Memory of Helen Mansfield*
12:30PM to 2:00PM Church open by request – ask at Newman

Thursday, August 12

12:05PM Mass *In Memory of Mildred Sanford*
1:00PM Mass *In Memory of Michael and Anna Mae*

Friday, August 13

12:05PM Mass *In Memory of Horst Stein*
No 1:00PM Mass at Drexel on Fridays during Summer term
6:00PM Wedding Rehearsal Avazier / Strittmatter – Fr. McGuinn

Saturday, August 14

9:00AM Mass *Pro-Life Liturgy and Vigil*
3:00PM Wedding Avazier / Strittmatter – Fr. McGuinn
No 4:00PM Confessions for Summer – By Request or Appointment
No 5:30PM Vigil Mass for Summer – Resumes Saturday, Sept. 4

***Caritas in Veritate* - continued**

Benedict's diagnoses of global economic ills, move him to call for nothing short of "a profoundly new way of understanding human enterprise."

Benedict would have economists and political leaders move toward markets geared to "redistribute" wealth from advanced to poorer countries and sees "urgent need of a true world political authority" to, among other tasks, "manage the global economy."

How Can I Arrange

For an Announced Mass for My Intention?

There are many opportunities for anyone interested in obtaining announced Masses during the fall season. Please call 215-386-9732 and leave your name and number. We will call you to arrange for Masses to remember beloved friends and family, deceased or living, or for any particular intentions, in gratitude for favors granted, or for any particular intention, such as for loved ones' health, or for a successful academic year or job hunt.

Engaged?

Take "5 Minutes for Marriage"

Visit www.youranswer matters.com & www.pa4marriage.org

