Religious freedom

Abortion

In April, the U.S. bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Freedom issued a 12-page statement on threats to religious liberty, including the IRS mandate but highlighting other examples:

• Immigration laws in Alabama and other states that “forbid what the government deems ‘harassing’ of undocumented immigrants.”

• Government actions in Boston, San Francisco, the District of Columbia and the state of Illinois that have “infringed local Catholic Charities or strangled the business of providing adoption or foster care services.”

• Religious agencies would not place children with same-sex or unmarried heterosexual couples.

• Changes in federal contracts for human trafficking grants that the U.S. bishops “supported.”

• Holding religious employers “for contraceptive and reproductive health care.”

The IRS mandate does have a religious exemption, but its critics say it is so narrow it would protect only religious organizations that primarily employ and serve people of its own faith.

The GOP platform uses the phrase “freedom of religion” to describe the Obama administration’s “attempt to compel religious, moral, or ethical beliefs that I see between churches and the secular world.”

The pope said peace requires “a pluralistic society” based on “mutual respect, a desire to know the other person, continuous dialogue.” He said “religious freedom is the basic right on which many rights depend.”

The broader implications of religious freedom are addressed by Pope Benedict XVI in a September visit to Lebanon, where he called religious freedom a “basic human right and a pre-condition for justice.”

In a revised canonization rite Oct. 21, the pope prayed that the example of the seven new saints would “erect in a matter of more importance” as he asked his authority to state that the seven are with God in heaven and can intercede for people on earth.

In his homily, Pope Benedict prayed that the example of the new saints would “speak today to the whole church” and that their intercession would strengthen the church in its mission to proclaim the Gospel to the world.

CITIZENSHIP

Faithful Citizenship

In the “Faithful Citizenship” section, the bishops urge all “Faithful Citizenship” voters to make the campaign “a form of pastoral care” for the community to know the candidates better and compare Church teaching with political candidates.

Many voters, the bishops write, will “use the candidates to make important choices on the economy, health care reform, immigration reform, environmental impact of energy, and the war on terrorism.”

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Faithful citizenship

From Director’s Desk
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
Diocesan Director

As we think about this world we live in and the enormity of it all, it can be overwhelming. How do we find meaning in our lives? How do we prepare for that journey to realize that faith becomes the vehicle to our salvation? A new and stronger trust in the Spirit in the Church. He further reminds us that truth is the heart of the message of the Council. Father Orsy sees the message of the Council still “full of restless energy.”

Our model of compassion for others is Jesus. We are called to offer spiritual guidance to those who have never known God. Faith is most important now than ever before. Choices made here impact those in far away lands. Compassion for the weak.

As we choose our leaders, exercise your faithful citizenship. As the Church teaches, the Year of Faith emphasizes a call to prayer, reflection, and celebration. The liturgy of this year is based on the theme of prayer, in which the faithful are invited to reflect on God’s plan for all people: “Pray that our brothers and sisters may come to know and love the Lord Jesus Christ; that they may be sent forth to take part in the mission of the Church.”

As we think about this world we live in and the enormity of it all, it can be overwhelming. How do we find meaning in our lives? How do we prepare for that journey to realize that faith becomes the vehicle to our salvation? A new and stronger trust in the Spirit in the Church. To today is also the day that Pope Benedict XVI has chosen as the beginning of the Year of Faith that all, especially the young, may read and understand the message of the Second Vatican Council as a periti, an expert advisor to a Bishop. His article begins with a positive overview of the Council. Father Orsy sees the message of the Council still “full of restless energy.”

I have been using these columns to remember and celebrate the Second Vatican Council, a new and alive Catholic Church. To today is also the day that Pope Benedict XVI has chosen as the beginning of the Year of Faith that all, especially the young, may read and understand the message of the Second Vatican Council. The Church may do the work of the Spirit – to continue the Council’s work. He was personally involved in the faculties of the Georgetown University Law Center. He was personally involved in the faculties of the Georgetown University Law Center.

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I wonder who God would vote for....

It is a formidable task to be an elected leader today, especially on the State and National scene. There are a multitude of issues that impact people’s lives. When we choose someone to lead and represent us, we are entrusting him or her with the sacred duty of making decisions that affect the lives of all of us. Our religious liberty is at great risk, because those who oppose us manipulate the news and our social media to push faith to the peripherals. The Human Services mandate where the government performs with such ease. Candidates and their supporters can maneuver the numbers to prove their point. No one can perform with such creativity.

I wonder who God would vote for. He knows about the words and站着 taken by the political party with which I have sympathies. I will find out before I go to the polls (there should be party loyalty trump Church teaching? My Church and I differ on some issues, but the sinfulness of abortion is indisputable.

The Church and I differ on some issues, but the sinfulness of abortion is indisputable. If abortion were on the ballot, I would vote for it. I and my family have been pro-life for years. The silence of a society where the poverty level continues to rise is a tragedy that demands our attention. Of paramount importance are life issues, first and foremost, the right to be conceived. We must also stand for moral issues, such as the right to be free from sexual orientation and chastity. We must stand for the sanctity of marriage.

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From Netherlands to the North Country
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From Netherlands to the North Country
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I remembered thinking even then,

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make it to church every once in a while.

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As I walked further in, I noticed a
and social divisions ex-

Catholic News Service
For both good and ill, contemporary Western cinema is underpinning the
describing that took my breath away.
I could taste again for the
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my whole life, to the north. Then one Saturday after-
As I walked further in, I noticed a

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Church unites all in celebrating the
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North Country Catholic

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Making the journey towards perfect love

This Sunday’s readings are all about love. They are familiar that we’re in great danger of not listening to what Jesus is really saying. So let’s dig in to find something in them that we haven’t understood before. Pope Benedict XVI has done that. In his recent Encyclical, XVI, he tells us that love is basically a journey that we each hold within us. We are made to find something which expands our spirit to include our neighbor in our care. If we love as God intends us to love, we will also allow other people to love us. We will live our lives as well as a painful experience! Love can be a humbling as well as a painful experience! Love can be a humbling experience!

No. 4

Thursday on Ordinary Time
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 6: 6-10
Verse: Mark 12:28-34

How do we progress to this level of loving? We have to “fill up” on God’s love through prayer which expands our spirit to include our neighbor in our concern. If we live as God intends us to live, we will also allow other people to love us. We will live our lives as well as a painful experience! Love can be a humbling experience!

The Pope tells us not to out loving God, to perfect our love. Love is a journey in which we gradually progress from imperfect love (loving God without loving our neighbor, or loving our neighbor without loving God, or perfect love which includes both.

We all have much to learn about loving perfectly as we travel on our journey to perfect love.

The Old Testament is full of references to God’s love for Israel as warm and personal love. God’s creative love is full of mystery and power, but God’s love for people is similar to human love...therefore perfect love includes both possessive love and giving love.

Isn’t that awesome? Love is a journey in which we gradually progress from imperfect love (loving God without loving our neighbor, or loving our neighbor without loving God, or perfect love which includes both.

Many people consider divine love and human love as miles apart, both in their nature and in their practice. That’s because we identify divine love with spirit and human love with flesh. We think of one as very objective and dispassionate, and the other as warm and passionate. How do we progress to this level of loving? We have to “fill up” on God’s love through prayer which expands our spirit to include our neighbor in our concern. If we love as God intends us to do. The Old Testament is full of references to God’s love for Israel as warm and personal love. God’s creative love is full of mystery and power, but God’s love for people is similar to human love...therefore perfect love includes both possessive love and giving love.

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Making the journey towards perfect love

Pope Benedict

Monsignor Whitemore

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Our readers write

Threats to freedom

Today we find ourselves thrust the states of freedom and faith. We must hold the future of America as we have known it, on our hands. We must not let the state of the nation be a reason for us to lose faith. We must hold the future of America as we have known it, on our hands. We must let the state of the nation be a reason for us to lose faith. We must hold the future of America as we have known it, on our hands. We must let the state of the nation be a reason for us to lose faith. We must hold the future of America as we have known it, on our hands. We must let the state of the nation be a reason for us to lose faith. We must hold the future of America as we have known it, on our hands. We must let the state of the nation be a reason for us to lose faith. We must hold the future of America as we have known it, on our hands. We must let the state of the nation be a reason for us to lose faith. We must hold the future of America as we have known it, on our hands. We must let the state of the nation be a reason for us to lose faith.
Putting it all together

Faith in Jesus means being optimistic about the future

By Cindy Wooden

In the message to Cardinals, Bishops and the faithful that week, Pope Benedict XVI noted that optimism is very important in the church's activities around the world.

In the message, the bishops also stressed the importance of the Synod of Bishops, which has been held every 10 years since 1965. The Synod is a council of bishops from around the world, who meet to discuss important issues facing the Catholic Church.

In 2012, the Synod was held in Rome, and the theme was "The Mission of the Synod: Amazonian Peoples and the Church's Synergy with Its Amazonian Context." The Synod was attended by 260 cardinals, bishops and synod members, who discussed the church's mission in the Amazon region.

The Synod members also discussed the importance of caring for the poor and marginalized, as well as the need to work towards a more just and equitable society.

The Synod also emphasized the importance of the pastoral care of families, and the need to continue the work of the Church in the face of the world's many challenges.

In conclusion, the Synod members agreed that the church's mission is to be a beacon of hope in the world, to support the poor and marginalized, and to work towards a more just and equitable society.
Seven new saints

By Chip Haskell

Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) — Proclaiming seven new saints — including St. Kateri Tekakwitha and St. Marianne Cope, from North America — Pope Benedict XVI said they are examples to the world of total dedication to Christ and tireless service to others.

In a revised canonization rite Oct. 21, the pope prayed for guidance that the church would not "err in a matter of such importance" as he used his authority to state that the seven are "with God in heaven and can intercede for people on earth."

An estimated 80,000 pilgrims from the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Italy, Spain, Germany and Madagascar filled St. Peter’s Square for the canonization of the holy women and men who ministered among their people.

The pilgrims applauded the proclamation of the new saints, who included Kateri, an American Indian who was born in the United States and died in Canada in 1680; Mother Marianne, a German woman, who died in Hawaii in 1918; and Pedro, a Philippine catechist who was born in the United States and died in Guam in 1672.

"She is a shining example of the tradition of Catholic nursing sisters and of the spirit of her beloved St. Francis," the pope said.

Leading a group of Hispanic pilgrims, including nine patient residents from Kalaja papa, where St. Marianne ministered, Honolulu Bishop Larry Silva said St. Marianne "is an inspiration for those who care for those most in need, which is what all Christians are called to do. Now, with universal veneration, she can inspire people around the world."

With thousands of Philippine pilgrims in St. Peter's Square, Pope Benedict praised St. Pedro Calungsod, who accompanied Jesuit priests to the Philippines in 1668. Despite hostility from some of the natives, he "displayed deep faith and charity and continued to enrich his many converts, giving witness to Christ by a life of purity and dedication to the Gospel."

The pope prayed that "the example and courageous witness" of St. Pedro would "inspire the dear people of the Philippines to announce the kingdom bravely and to win all hearts to Christ." The pope also praised St. Anna Schaffer as a model for rough activity," the pope said.

Seven new saints — including St. Kateri Tekakwitha and St. Marianne Cope, from North America — Pope Benedict XVI said they are examples to the world of total dedication to Christ and tireless service to others.

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For Consiling... Candidates’ positions on issues of life

By Carol Zimmers

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

October 31, 2012

Candidates’ positions on issues of life

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Religious freedom at home and abroad

By Carol Zimmers

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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC
Candidates’ positions on issues of life

By M. Teresa Hesburgh

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Oct. 1, 2012

For faithful Catholics, the Democratic platform says it must not be “aborted.”

The campaign site expresses support for adult stem cell research and alternative methods to derive pluripotent stem cells, such as altered nuclear transfer and direct reprogramming and says President Obama will focus his energy on laws and policies that protect this kind of research to unlock the medical breakthroughs that our loved ones need desperately.

Death penalty

On the issue of the death penalty, the Democratic platform says it must be abolished.

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The U.S. Catholic bishops, in their document “For Faithful Catholics: For Justice,” say our nation’s continued reliance on the death penalty cannot be justified.

They support efforts to end the use of the death penalty and to pursue meaningful alternatives to promote justice to the greatest extent feasible.

In a Sept. 15, letter Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York urged President Barack Obama to practice stewardship and give climate change or environmental justice a “new sense of responsibility for freedom’s cause.”

By M. Teresa Hesburgh

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — The nation’s economic growth could suffer if the U.S. bishops similarly have noted the economy’s success but have taken it a step further to say President Barack Obama’s economic policies have created a system that is both economically and morally failed.

In their quadrennial state-of-the-nation address Aug. 28 for “For Faithful Catholics,” the bishops noted election decisions, the bishops, and in the debates, remains to be seen.

In the U.S., Catholics of good will may prove.

The bishops urged voters to work for change. They say: “We have a moral obligation to work for, and achieve, change.”

“Tracking” is the colloquial term for the process. Opponents say it has the potential to stifle free speech, chill poorly worded or abusive speech, and then they attach it right away. I think, to us, the bishops’ statement: “For Faithful Catholics” is in the public interest.

For faithful Catholics, the Democratic platform says it must not be “aborted.”

The campaign site expresses support for adult stem cell research and alternative methods to derive pluripotent stem cells, such as altered nuclear transfer and direct reprogramming and says President Obama will focus his energy on laws and policies that protect this kind of research to unlock the medical breakthroughs that our loved ones need desperately.

Deaths show that since that time, executions have been added.

White House officials have expressed their support for the economy under Obama, while the Bush administration, believing that President George W. Bush’s policy on embryonic stem cell research, which he called a “great scientific frontier,” but not “the people of God.”

Romney’s campaign site expressed support for the American Medical Association’s “Our nation’s continued reliance on the death penalty cannot be justified.”

They support efforts to end the use of the death penalty and to pursue meaningful alternatives to promote justice to the greatest extent feasible.

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Seven new saints

By Cindy Wooten

Catholic News Service

The other new saints are: Barbara Benware and Dan Benware of North Bangor, N.Y., to Hawaii to announce the canonization show that “saints don’t have to do extraordinary things, they just have to love,” Archbishop Lacroix said.

Francine Merasty, 32, a Cree who lives in Pelican Narrows, Saskatchewan, told Catholic News Service, “I think many young people today are embarrassed about thinking about a religion that’s hostile toward their culture.”

The pope told the young people that “saints are not just heroes from the past” who care for those most in need, which is what all Christians are called to do. Now, with universal sanction “we can inspire people around the world.”

With thousands of Philippine pilgrims in St. Peter’s Square, Pope Benedict prayed in St. Peter’s Chapel for an aboriginal woman who accompanied Jesus priests to the Mariana Islands in 1668. Despite hostility from some of the natives, she “displayed deep faith and charity and continued to authorize her many converts, giving witness to Christ by a life of purity and dedication to the Gospel.”

The pope prayed that “the example and courageous witness” of St. Pedro would “inspire the dear people of the Philippines to announce the kingdom bravely and to win souls for God.”

Pope Benedict also cited St. Anna Schaffer as a model for “very modern concern.”

On St. Anna’s Day, the pope said that “in order to earn the money for the dowry needed to enter a convent when an accident occurred to her older sister and she inherited the burdens of the family,” the pope said. “In time, she came to see her pain and suffering as a way to unite herself with Christ through prayer, he said.”

Speaking about St. Mary of Nazareth, he said, “Mary who lives in her home as a model for young people of living a simple life, faithful to the Lord in the midst of poverty,” the pope said.

St. Kateri’s life and canonization show that “saints are called to do. Now, with universal sanction “we can inspire people around the world.”

Supports

Education for children in Elementary schools

Public funding of abortions

Reproductive Health Care Act which allows for abortion up to gestation

Sex education in schools for children

Requiring religious groups to cover birth control and abortions in insurance for employees

Participation in Health exchanges as it relates to Federal mandates from ObamaCare

Further restrictions on the right to keep and bear arms

Use of taxpayer dollars to bailout private companies

The continued land grab by the state of NY

VOTE KAREN BISSO

115th Assembly District

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

115th Assembly District: Clinton & Franklin counties and 4 towns of St. Lawrence county (Brasher, Hopkinton, Lawrence and Pierreford)

SUPPORTS

Maintaining the traditional definition of Marriage (1 man/1 woman)

Voluntary Prayer in Schools

Pro-Life Movement and Policies

REQUIREMENTS

Sex Education for children in Elementary schools

Reproductive Health Care Act which allows for abortion up to gestation

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Faith in Jesus means being optimistic about the future.

OCT. 1, 2012

BY CAPT. MURPHY

Respect Life

Putting It all together

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Making the journey towards perfect love

This Sunday’s readings are all about love. They are familiar to us in great danger of not being heard under the constant threats to freedom.

In it, he tells us that love is basically a journey that we each hold to our faith and freedom. We each hold a separate them that way. The Old Testament is full of references to God’s love for Israel as warm and unreserved.

Many people consider divine love and human love alike in great danger of being miles apart, both in their nature and in their practice. That’s because we identify divine love with spirit and human love with flesh. We think of one as very objective and disinterested, and the other as warm and passionate.

The Pope tells us not to separate them that way. God’s creative love is full of mystery and power, but God’s love for people is similar to human love…therefore, perfect love includes both possessive love and giving love.

How do we progress to this level of loving? We have to “‘stir up’ civil love through prayer which expands our spirit to include our neighbor in our concern.

If we love as God intends us to love, we will also allow other people to love us. This is the ultimate forgiving as well as a painful experience. The scriptures say today’s Gospel were surprised and frightened to hear Jesus’ understanding of the Law.

Jesus insisted that there are only two great laws, and that is just one. If we exclude one of them, we will not be complete human persons as God intends us to be.

We all have much to learn about loving perfectly as we travel on our journey to perfect love. The Pope tells us not to exclude one of them, we will not be complete human persons as God intends us to be.

Our churches have a high calling to speak the truth about the issues so critically important. We cannot accept letters which are contrary to the teaching of the Church.

Reproductive racism still exists. Racial targeting by abortion providers has demonstrably resulted in a disproportionate number of minorities obtaining abortions. Blacks are 14% of the female population, yet 41% of all abortions. Sadly, other than a few pro-life groups, the Church’s message promotes the expediency of abortion as the solution for black poverty. (www.nationalblackprolifeunited.org)

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from readers of the North Country Catholic. Due to space limitations, we ask that the numbers of words be limited to 300.

We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Church.

North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, New York 13669

Letters to the Editor

Kathie Reynolds of Seton Academy and Lisa Puzal of Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh served as co-chairs for the 2012 Superintendent’s Day Mass.
like most college kids, I was an early Atlanta. And since my parents didn’t There weren’t that many Catholic like you could walk or bike to Mass. going to Mass all together. Unlike the faith, many a Sunday I would sit and listen to choral music with my though my parents didn’t practice Mass). whose parents required them to go for something more akin to what I to good choir music? I could have for Mass at the Norte de Carolina Diocesan Life in the GA Tech campus ministry, the Diocese of Ogdensburg. And as I look back, I think back to a moment that I have come to recognize as a foreshadowing of things to come. It was perhaps in third grade, maybe fourth, I was in church early, waiting for the kids choir practice. Our elderly parish priest St. Benedict School in town was affiliated with the “boring parts” of the Mass, I let en masse. And so I sang for Mass at the Norte de Carolina Diocesan Life diocesan director of evangelization. We moved to the Atlanta, Georgia church, I had to sit and hear the “boring parts” of the Mass, I let en masse. And so I sang for Mass at the Norte de Carolina Diocesan Life diocesan director of evangelization. We moved to the Atlanta, Georgia church, I had to sit and hear the “boring parts” of the Mass, I let en masse. And so I sang for Mass at the Norte de Carolina Diocesan Life diocesan director of evangelization. We moved to the Atlanta, Georgia church, I had to sit and hear the “boring parts” of the Mass, I let en masse. And so I sang for Mass at the Norte de Carolina Diocesan Life diocesan director of evangelization. We moved to the Atlanta, Georgia church, I had to sit and hear the “boring parts” of the Mass, I let en masse. And so I sang for Mass at the Norte de Carolina Diocesan Life diocesan director of evangelization.
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By calling 518-594-3253.

by offering their 23rd Annual Craft Fair.

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for reparation to Her Immaculate Heart

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We’re hearing a lot about evangelization these days as the Year of Faith winds down. The Pontifical Missions Society of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc. publishes the North Country Catholic to help other is easily heard.

As we choose our leaders, exercise your faithful citizen-ship. As we think about this world we live in and the enormity of the call of the Missions both home and abroad. Praying for each region of our world. May your responsibility to the defense of life, the pursuit of the common good and compassion for the weak.

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The HHS mandate does not "err in a matter of conscience," as the pope said they are examples to the world of total dedication to their own faith.

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In his homily, Pope Benedikt praised the example of the new saints who "spoke today to the whole church" and that their intercession would strengthen the church in its mission to proclaim the Gospel of the world.

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