

Correcting Others

Jesus has some practical advice in this passage from the Gospel of Matthew. We need to bring any serious grievance we have against a brother or sister to him or her first. In particular, Jesus is talking about conduct by a Christian that could discredit the whole Church, such as adultery or a dishonest way of life. This does not mean, however, we should spread tales about this person.

However, if such a brother or sister will not give us a hearing or is insincere in correcting his or her life, we should verify with several other people what have said. The offender may have thought we were speaking only our own members of the Church are brought forward and agree to what we have said, our hearer must give more consideration to our concerns.

If this does not work, then the matter must be brought before the whole community. The community has a right to know when the conduct of one member will reflect badly on the whole group. If pressure from the whole community is not enough to make the evil-doer change his or her ways, then the only choice left is excommunication.

People are easily scandalized by the actions of members of the Church. Jesus has given the Church a way of dealing with these problems. But Jesus also reminds us that the prayer of the Church, even just two or three members, is a powerful help in changing lives. Ez. 33: 7-9; Rom. 13:8-10; Mt. 18:15-20





El corregir a los demás

Jesús tiene unos consejos prácticos en este pasaje del Evangelio de Mateo. Necesitamos discutir cualquier queja que tengamos contra un hermano o una hermana con él o con ella primero. En especial, Jesús está hablando de la conducta de una persona cristiana que podría afectar a la Iglesia, como el adulterio o una vida deshonesta. Sin embargo, esto no significa que debemos contar chismes de esta persona.

Sin embargo, si tal hermano o hermana no nos escucha o no expresa sinceridad al cambiar su manera de vivir, debemos verificar lo que hemos dicho con otras personas. Puede que la persona que ofende haya creído que sólo expresábamos nuestra propia opinión. Pero si otras personas respetables de la Iglesia expresan nuestra misma opinión, ese hermano o esa hermana tiene que prestarle más atención a lo que nos preocupa.

Si esto no da resultado, entonces hay que presentarle el caso a la comunidad entera. La comunidad tiene el derecho de saber cuando la conducta de una de sus miembros afecta al grupo de manera negativa.

Si la presión de toda la comunidad no es suficiente para que la persona que ha hecho mal cambie, entonces lo único que queda por hacer es excomulgar a esa persona.

Las personas se escandalizan muy fácilmente por las acciones de los miembros de la Iglesia. Jesús le ha dado a la Iglesia una manera de tratar estos problemas. Pero Jesús también nos recuerda que la oración de la Iglesia, aunque solo oren dos o tres de sus miembros, es una ayuda muy poderosa para cambiar nuestras vidas. Ez. 33, 7-9; Rom. 13, 8-10; Mt. 18, 15-20 This weekend we celebrate the 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time. Kind of ordinary, I guess. <u>Monday, Labor Day, is the kind of "official" end of & last fling of summer</u>. Those end of summer rains are drifting in. School's cranking up well. Football is exciting everybody. Whitewing weekend is here with the 2100 gun salutes down by the river and the sweet dove family feasts around the table. We pray to remember in the midst of it all what makes it all so "wonder-full"—God and His work through Christ in our lives. We're already (always, I guess) dreaming and planning our efforts to grow and develop as a hearty, healthy, parish this year. Today's readings speak of love as the energy source and foundation of our lives and relationship with God, each other and our own selves, through Christ, with Him, and in Him. We take a good Labor Day, three day weekend and catch our breath as we march bravely on into the 11-12 school/pastoral year. It's been a fine summer.

LAST	HAVE A
OFFICIAL	REAL
FLING OF	GOOD
SUMMER	ONE!

Sat., Sept. 3, el dia de San Gregorio Magno, is the 26th Anniversary of the day +Magna and Fr. Roy discovered each other in the Riverview parking lot in Roma. iQue cosas! What a great dog and what great descendants! (Right, Chunkly, Girly & Valentine?!)

Speaking of the long line of love, Everyone knows the story behind Shary Road, Conway Avenue, and Tom Landry Street, but many of the streets in Mission have less obvious, but equally interesting historical ties. Streets such as Dunlap, Magna, Holland (no it's not named after the country in Europe), and Fulgencio Velasco III all came by their names in fascinating ways that relate to important people and themes in the history of our community. Please join us to celebrate the opening of the Mission Historical Museum's new exhibit, "Streets of Mission." Exhibit designer Maria Hurtado will be available to answer questions about the exhibit, and light refreshments will be served. Mission Historical Museum: 900 Doherty Ave. Thanks to Mrs. Hurtado and the project and the Texas Animal Hall of Fame, we got a new medal for Magna's statue! It's there in Museum now! You may remember that her old medal was stolen from her statue in the church by some scoundre!!

Time to register for religious education! Bring their baptism certificate to the convent or church office to register them. It is eternally important for all children from four years old through high school to attend religious education classes. You can register at the CCD office, Parish office or school office. K-6th grade Doctrina starts on Sat., Sept. 24th. 7th-12th grade Youth groups form up at a Youth Rally on Wed., Oct.5th! See y'all there!

So, you're all grown up and never made your 1st Communion, Confirmation, or maybe never even got baptized? Well...we can sure help you out! The class for adults preparing to celebrate and to receive those Sacraments begins on Monday, September 12, 7 P.M.-8 P.M. (by the Parish Hall) and meets twice a month. Pretty good deal! Check it out! You'll be glad you did!

Our old friend and pastor and mentor, <u>FR. GERRY BARRETT</u>, former pastor of Port Isabel, has retired this Summer. He just seemed to get younger every year until the last year or two. Who knows? Maybe he'll come live with us at Guadalupe! For now, he is at the Oblate Madonna House 5722 Blanco Road, San Antonio, Texas 78216-6615.

YOU WANTA STRAIGHTEN 'EM ALL OUT?



There is a basic difference between punishment and discipline. Punishment takes away pleasure or inflicts pain with little impact on personality development, except for superficial and temporary behavioral modification. Punishment is not always a learning experience. It maintains order and keeps the person in line, but it does not internalize good personality traits and ethical qualities. Anger, flight, desperate decisions, rebellious behaviors are a few of the reactions to the pain of punishment. Discipline, like almost everything that is done right, takes time and meticulous attention to details. Abraham Lincoln suggests: "A person has the right to criticize who

has the heart to help." Discipline calls for time-consuming teaching with consistent reinforcements. It calls for reasonable and responsible restrictions for personality gain, not pain, to insure the freedom that implies order and propriety, rather that chaotic license and carelessness. Discipline is the product of love, not revenge or restitution.

The teaching of discipline calls for positive thinking and patient listening, but not preaching and nagging. It demands that you explain the reasons for your restrictions: the dividends to their health and happiness. Teenagers might disagree with the limitations, but they will come to respect your motives. Parents should not expect agreement, but in most cases your "jovenes" will grow in trust toward you and respect your decisiveness. (J.C. Tormey)

BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE, I WALK THE LINE!





Here's one for the ice box, or prayer book, or bible! And it's from a T.V. personality! (and from last Sunday's sermon!) "We have actually convinced ourselves that slogans will save us. Shoot up if you must, but use a clean needle. Enjoy sex whenever and with whomever, but wear a condom. NO! THE ANSWER IS NO! not because it isn't cool or smart or because you might end up in jail or dying in an AIDS ward, but NO BECAUSE IT'S WRONG because we have spent 5,000 years as a race of rational human beings, trying to drag ourselves out of the primeval slime by searching for truth and moral absolutes. Its purest form, truth is not a polite tap on the shoulder. It's a howling reproach. WHAT MOSES BROUGHT DOWN FROM MOUNT SINAI WERE NOT THE TEN SUGGESTIONS." (Ted Koppel)

Last week's Collection: \$13,038.38

We will tenderly and lovingly remember all our sick friends and parishioners at all our weekend masses. Our young hero, Andy Guajardo, is up at M.D. Anderson with Leukemia fighting valiantly and related heartaches and attacks on his young body. Please pray fervently with us and with him that he will come through this "Valley of Death" with flying colors. I said mass up there with him and +Mike Allen almost exactly two years ago. Also, please remember in your prayers, <u>+Josefa Partida Sanchez, +Genoveva "Geno" Avila, & +Humberto "Bert" Lozano, Jr. (From Channel 5 news, Funeral Monday,</u> <u>9/5 @ 10 AM)</u>, who died last week, and their families in their great sorrow. Que brille para ellos la luz perpetua.

Johnny Cash's great old song of fidelity is a great one for reflecting on the theme of this Sunday's mass! We're striving to be faithful to God and true to ourselves and each other in this great quest. BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE, I WALK THE LINE!

"I Walk the Line"—Johnny Cash

I keep a close watch on this heart of mine
I keep my eyes wide open all the time.
I keep the ends out for the tie that binds
Because you're mine,
I walk the line

I find it very, very easy to be true

I find myself alone when each day is through Yes, I'll admit I'm a fool for you Because you're mine, I walk the line I keep you on my mind both day and night And happiness I've known proves that it's right Because you're mine, I walk the line

You've got a way to keep me on your side

You give me cause for love that I can't hide For you I know I'd even try to turn the tide Because you're mine, I walk the line



As sure as night is dark and day is light