

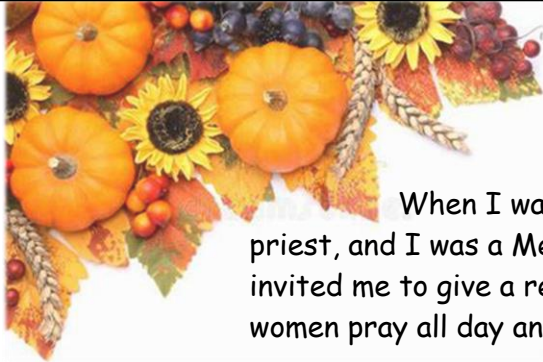
Of Seeds and Flowers

Volume 42 Issue 12 – Founded in 1982

November 2024

William R. Pfeiffer – Director

Mary's Field, Ltd. - PO Box 99 - Hebron, CT 06248 - 860.424.1912 - wisdom@marysfield.org



30 WORDS THAT REVOLUTIONIZED MY LIFE: by Allen Hunt.

When I was in Graduate School, I met Father Steven. Even though he was a Catholic priest, and I was a Methodist pastor, we became lifelong friends. One day, Father Steven invited me to give a retreat to a group of cloistered Dominican nuns. After explaining that these women pray all day and never leave their monastery walls, I told him, *"I've got to see this."*

As soon as we got there, I knew something was different about the place. Sister Diane opened the door, and my first thought was, *"you may be the most attractive person I've ever met"*. She had this light emanating from her eyes a radiance leaping off of her face. There was almost a glow about her. It was otherworldly. Holiness is attractive. It draws people to you

Sister Diane led us back behind the cloister wall to the community room where all 50 nuns were gathered. When it came time for my talk, Father Steven introduced me and I got up in front of the nuns. I had to take a step back because as I looked at their faces, I realized that almost all of them had that same radiance sister Diane had. It took me a moment to get my composure back, but I managed to give my first talk. And then Father Steven gave his talk. And we did that for six straight Wednesdays.

On the last day of the retreat Sister Rose got up and asked me a question: *"Allen, You are the first Methodist pastor that most of us have ever met. And I also want to tell you after listening to you for these past six weeks, you sound really Catholic. So, I have to ask you why aren't you a part of the Church?"*

I thought to myself, That's a strange question. I am part of the church. I mean it says right here on my card: Allen, Pastor united Methodist Church, C-H-U-R-C H, Church. I told her, *"I don't understand the question"*.

And she said, *"Well, let me ask you again. Why aren't you a part of the Church?"* Same question said the exact same way. I said *"I guess what you are asking me is why am I not Catholic?"*

She said, *"No. What I'm asking you is why aren't you are part of the church?"* Same words. Gentle smile. Persistent, but gentle and loving. Three times in a row. At this point all I could say was, *"Sister Rose, I don't really understand your question, so I'm just going to tell you why I'm not Catholic. If I had to answer, I'd probably say that I'm not Catholic because I don't understand what you believe about Communion. For me, it's just obvious that the bread and wine are symbols. They're special. They're important. They're holy. But to somehow believe that they are miraculously transformed into the body and blood of Jesus literally that just doesn't make sense to me."*



"The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you.' 1 Cor. 11:24-26.

"One Communion, well received, can make you a saint." St. Theresa of Avila



I'll never forget Sister Rose's next response. She asked if I had my Bible and told me to open it to 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. So, I did.

"These are the words from Saint Paul as he wrote to the church in Corinth" she said. Then she started to read, "For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus on the night he was betrayed took bread and when He had given thanks, he broke it and said **"This IS my body which is for you: do this in remembrance of me."**

Sister rose closed her Bible and she said, "Allen, what don't you understand?"

All the nuns and sisters giggled. We had a little bit of a laugh, and I wish I could say that at that moment the heavens opened, and God called me into the Catholic Church. But that's not what happened. That encounter with Sister Rose was just the very first seed planted in the back of my soul.

Over time, God's led me home to the Catholic Church, but it was a long and difficult journey. The Eucharist was the central and greatest treasure that captivated my mind and heart. I began to experience an aching longing to receive Jesus, body, blood, soul, and divinity, in the Eucharist. I yearned to know Him in the most intimate of ways.

This led to a crisis of conscience for me as a Methodist pastor, until I could no longer maintain my position. I stepped aside from leading 15,000 people each week because I could no longer deny the genius of the Catholic Church and the absolute beauty of the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. I never looked back.

I love so many things about being Catholic but what I love most is the privilege and joy of receiving Jesus in the Eucharist. But I also know how easy it is to take things for granted. We do that a lot in life and as Catholics; we do that a lot with the extraordinary faith we have been gifted.

So here is my challenge for you and me. Let us never take for granted the extraordinary treasure of the Eucharist. Let us never become numb to the fact that Jesus wants to give himself fully to you and me at every Mass. He really is there, waiting to transform our lives. That is the greatest treasure we could ever hope to have.

St. Paul writes in his letter to Corinth "This IS my body which is for you: do this in remembrance of me." - the Greek verb Paul uses for "to be" is "estin". "Estin" is in the indicative mood which makes it a verb of FACT. Paul deliberately chose the word "estin" to make clear that the consecrated bread is actually Jesus and not just a symbol. The word "Eucharist" is from 2 Greek words: "EU" which means well and "charisthai" which means to show forth. TO SHOW FAVOR OR THANKS, A THANKSGIVING.

DID YOU KNOW?



St. Theresa of Lisieux writes of her first communion in 'Story of a Soul': "Ah,! How sweet was that first kiss of Jesus! It was a kiss of love; I felt that I was loved, and I said: **"I love You, and I give myself to You forever!"** There were no demands made, no struggles, no sacrifices; for a long time now Jesus and poor little Therese looked at and understood each other. That day, it was no longer simply a look, it was a **FUSION**; there were no longer two. Therese had vanished as a drop of water is lost in the immensity of the ocean. Jesus alone remained; He was the Master, the King." After the Bible, "The Story of a Soul" was the most read book in the 20th century. Take time to be holy!!!



The Governor of Michigan just mocked the Eucharist – Gretchen Whitmer uploaded a video to social media where she ridicules the reception of the Eucharist by replacing the Body of Jesus with a Dorito Chip. Would this be a hate crime?



3 QUESTIONS to ask yourself:

1. Do you think that Jesus would have allowed the 12 Apostles to misinterpret or not know the truth about His real presence in the Eucharist and teach this UNTRUTH (actually, to worship bread is idolatry) for 15 centuries until Martin Luther and other reformers corrected this incredible, egregious heresy? Really, it is for 2000 years!
2. Why is it that some very courageous scientist in testing the Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist found that it is AB positive?
3. Does it make sense that God would have, through Moses and Abraham and Isaac and MANY PROPHETS protected the Jewish nation against other gods (IDOLOTRY) for 2000 years and then sent His Son who would then lead His Christian people astray (into idolatry) for 2000 years about the Eucharist, His Last Supper? In John's Gospel, at the Last Supper Jesus used the words truth, true or truly, 19 times. Truth matter to Him!!

"Well, if it's a symbol, to hell with it." Flannery O'Connor on The Eucharist

Someone, I don't know who, recently sent me a newsletter that said within the last few years over 1200 Protestant pastors, at great personal sacrifice, have joined the Catholic Church.

The newsletter, entitled "The Coming Home Network International" detailed the experience, of Marcus Grodi. In preparing his Sunday sermon, he realized that within a 30-mile radius there were dozens of other Protestant pastors who were doing the same passage and might be preaching a completely different interpretation of the same passage.

Over 100 Episcopal priests have become Catholic priests.

There are, according to those who do such statistics, now 45,000 different Christian churches. I don't really ink Martin Luther or Henry the VII intended this. *"May they be one"*... Jesus prayed at the Last Supper"

On the other hand, I remember in 1960, preparing for Vatican II, one of my seminary professors, almost having a nervous breakdown in quoting someone (can't remember who) saying that the Catholic Church is "SEMPER REFORMANDA", that is "ALWAYS TO BE REFORMED". ALL, ALL institutions are "SEMPER REFORMANDA" – BECAUSE ALL SYSTEMS ARE FILLED WITH THE SINFUL NEEDS OF THE HUMAN CONDITION FOR CONTROL, POWER, AND ESTEEM. The 15th century Catholic Church certainly needed reformation as did the 1960 church and the present Catholic Church as well. -AND OTHER CHURCHES!



Pope Francis has continually criticized America for not being more welcoming to immigrants. Immigration is not only a political and social issue but a religious and spiritual matter as well. When it comes to immigration in the United States, what is the loving thing to do? In Springfield Ohio, a town of 50,000 people, 20,000 Haitian refugees were permanently resettled there causing incredible problems for the small town. Martha's Vineyard, MA, an enormously wealthy area, had to call the military to remove just 50 migrants who showed up on their doorstep in 2022, with the town claiming they couldn't handle .25% of what the people of Springfield were forced to accept. Approximately 70 percent of all illegal immigrants to this country are now on some form of welfare as the United States is 36 trillion dollars in debt that children not even born yet will be forced to pay off.



The Episcopal Church – the Church of England, currently, contrary to its own church teaching, has as its head, King Charles III, living in an adulterous union, called the 'Defensor Fidei' (defender of the faith) a title handed down from Henry VIII, granted by the Pope, and the king doesn't go to church. Things are a mess!!! As a result, almost no one goes to church in England. BUT APPARENTLY, "LOVE CONQUERS ALL" But we all know that love is only LOVE when it is doing the TRUTH. Pope

Francis did the same thing to Catholics, when he refused to reprimand Biden and Pelosi for their embarrassing involvement with abortion.

HARD TIMES CREATE STRONG MEN

STRONG MEN CREATE GOOD TIMES

GOOD TIMES CREATE WEAK MEN

WEAK MEN CREATE HARD TIMES

"We thank God constantly that in receiving His message from us you took it, no as the word of men, but as it truly is, the word of God, at work within you who believe" 1

Thess 2:11.

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is valuable for teaching and for showing the way to holiness, so that the man of God might become fully qualified and equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3; 16-17

WHAT'S THE POINT?

"VOTE FOR THE POLICIES, NOT THE PARTY"!! A declarative statement of fact: Babies in Minnesota born live are being left to die on the table.. To my knowledge so far 24 babies. - through botched abortions! Never, in the history of the world, by policy, have babies been treated thus!!!!!!

THANK YOU

To those that helped support our lunches for the Sisters of Mercy and the homeless in Hartford. Mary's Field has relied solely on donations and is only able to continue our ministry with your support.

Morning Prayer

1357

Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you! You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for you. In my unloveliness I plunged into the lovely things which you created. You were with me, but I was not with you. Created things kept me from you; yet if they had not been in you they would not have been at all. You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shone, and you dispelled my blindness. You breathed your fragrance on me; I drew in breath and now I pant for you. I have tasted you, now I hunger and thirst for more. You touched me, and I burned for your peace.

RESPONSORY

Saint Augustine

O Truth, you are the light of my heart.

My wife's grandfather, after manning the polling stations for 50 years, told her to "Always vote for the policies and not the person or the Party."

EMERGENCY



The Satanic Temple, with its headquarters in Salem, Ma. has decided to open another abortion clinic in Virginia with the aim to offer what it calls a "*destructive ritual*" for those seeking an abortion.



NONPROFIT ORG.
U S POSTAGE PAID
WILLMANTIC, CT
PERMIT NO. 430

Return Service
Requested.

Mary's Field, LTD
P.O. Box 99
Hebron, CT 06248