

CATHOLIC CALENDAR.

A page devoted to local Catholic interests

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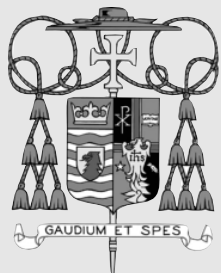
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus said to his apostles:

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. “Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is righteous will receive a righteous man’s reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because he is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.”

Matthew 10:37-42

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT



His Excellency, The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, makes the following appointment:

Pastoral Appointment

• The Reverend Eappen Joseph is reappointed Administrator of St. Lawrence Church, Jennings, La., effective July 1, 2002 until June 30, 2005.

By Order of The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, dated at The Pastoral Center, June 5, 2002.



Martin, right, and Philomene Goodly of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Oberlin were one of 93 couples honored by Bishop Edward K. Braxton for celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary in 2002. The couple, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year, are the parents of the Reverend Timothy Goodly, pastor of St. Henry Parish in Lake Charles. Fifty-two couples celebrating Golden Jubilees, 40 couples celebrating Silver Jubilees and one couple celebrating 75 years of marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Legnon, were honored with certificates commemorating their milestones. Bishop Braxton was the celebrant and homilist for the Festive Mass of Thanksgiving in Celebration of Life and Love last Sunday in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Bishop Timothy Dolan named Archbishop of Milwaukee

WASHINGTON — Pope John Paul II has named Auxiliary Bishop Timothy M. Dolan of St. Louis to be Archbishop of Milwaukee.

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, announced the appointment.

Archbishop-designate Dolan was named Auxiliary Bishop of St. Louis last year.

Previously he served as rector of the North American College in Rome from 1994 to 2001.

Timothy M. Dolan was born on February 6, 1950 in St. Louis, Missouri.

He attended St. Louis Preparatory Seminary and Cardinal Glennon College. He completed his studies for the priesthood at the North American College and the Pontifical University of St. Thomas (the Angelicum) in Rome. He was ordained a priest for the St. Louis Archdiocese on June 19, 1976.

After a parish assignment, Archbishop-designate Dolan was assigned to further studies at The Catholic University of America and, after further parish assignments, was appointed to the staff of the Apostolic Nunciature in Washington, D.C.

Before serving as rector of the North American College, Archbishop-elect Dolan served as vice rector of the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis.

He holds a licentiate in theology and a doctorate in church history.

Archbishop-designate Dolan was named a prelate of honor to the Pope in 1994 with the title of monsignor.

He succeeds Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, OSB, whose retirement was accepted last month and who served as archbishop of Milwaukee since 1977.

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is comprised of 10 counties in southeastern Wisconsin. It has a Catholic population of approximately 700,000 out of a total population of about 2.2 million.

The next issue of the Catholic Calendar will be published on September 13, 2002.

An interview with Bishop Braxton on his travels

(Editor’s Note: This is the second of two installments of an interview with Bishop Edward K. Braxton on his travels during the spring.)

Catholic Calendar: Wasn’t your next journey supposed to be for your retreat in the mountains of Colorado?

Yes, the plan was to ordain our two new priests, Fr. Marcus Johnson and Fr. Charles McMillin on May 18, to celebrate the last confirmation of the year on Pentecost Sunday at the Cathedral and then leave for my annual canonical retreat amid the silence of the Trappist Monks at their monastery amid the snow-covered mountains, just outside of Aspen, in Snowmass. My days each year in my hermitage at Snowmass or with the Trappists at Thomas Merton’s famed Abbey of Gethsemane have always been an essential time for renewal of my life and ministry, nurture for my soul-space.

However, I never went to Snowmass! Just days before the ordination and my departure for my retreat, I learned that Judge Michael J. Kelly, my seminary classmate and my closest friend in Chicago, who I have known since I was 15, died suddenly. The members of his family, his many Chicago friends and I were shocked, stunned and overwhelmed with grief. In the state of unbelief, we all kept asking why. Why this remarkable, good, generous, delightful and vital man? Why now? He was almost a second brother to me. I knew all of his family, he knew all of mine. His friendship was such that I could trust him not only with my secrets but also with my self. We were the custodians of the major truths of each other’s soul-space. We spoke by phone at least weekly. I had rushed to Chicago just fourteen months earlier, before my mission to the Sudan, to bury his dear mother, Mary. I was intimately involved with his family in planning every detail of his funeral, which we knew would be attended by a great number of people. He was one of the most respected and admired lawyers and judges in Chicago. I was also asked to deliver the homily and to celebrate his Liturgy of Christian Burial. There were sleepless nights and numerous phone calls from dear ones in the old neighborhoods of my life expressing their disbelief and bewilderment.

Though I thought and prayed about what to say throughout the week, I was unable to write the homily until three in the morning of the day of the funeral. Looking upon dear Michael’s lifeless face, celebrating his funeral, giving the homily and taking his imminently gentle remains to their burial, was one of the most difficult and painful things I have ever had to do. He was among the dearest of the dear in my life. There shall be no other friend like him. This sor-

row, like the sorrow at the death of my beloved brother, Lawrence, is a part of the great suffering of my life. Our faith in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and our hope in the life of the world to come, sustains us in the midst of such sorrow. But as I have told our people when I call them after a death in their families, our faith does indeed sustain us, but it does not insulate us from the human experience of great grief.

Catholic Calendar: Is this a good time for your retreat?

No. I think I would benefit from it more at a later date.

Meanwhile, I have recently returned from the June 12-15 spring meeting of the United States Catholic Bishops’ Conference in Dallas. This was an extremely important meeting during which we addressed the turmoil in the Church caused by the sexual misconduct of clergy. We began to develop appropriate, fair and just policies that will begin the slow process of healing of all who have been affected by these very unfortunate events in the Church.

We voted to approve a Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People as well as Essential Norms to implement this charter in every diocese. These documents state that any priest who has sexually abused a minor in the past or who does so in the future will be banned from serving as a priest and most of them will be laicized.

We took this action with an awareness that some priests who have offended only once and in the distant past would be affected by these norms. As bishops we want to remain close to our priests, to acknowledge their sorrow and to forgive them. At the same time it was difficult to see how they could remain in ministry. These norms will be implemented here in Lake Charles even though they must be approved by the Holy See before they can become part of the Particular Law of the Church in the United States.

We also listened to the voices of some of those who have been harmed and attempted to convey to our people our profound sorrow for the harm that has come to children and for the decisions of the past that have proven unsound. I ask everyone to continue to pray for the bishops and for all who are struggling with the consequences of this tragedy. Pray often that the Church will emerge stronger and purified.

Catholic Calendar: Thank you Bishop Braxton, for giving our readers a fascinating glimpse of your life outside the diocese. It is good to be reminded that your role as shepherd extends beyond the five civil parishes under your pastoral care.

Where is genetics leading us?

WASHINGTON, D.C., — As the U.S. Senate continues to deliberate over the question of cloning humans, doubts grow over where genetic experiments will lead society.

Feeding a media debate over genetics is Francis Fukuyama’s new book, “Our Posthuman Future: Consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution.” In an interview published June 13 in the International Herald Tribune, Fukuyama explained, “Biotechnology potentially gives you a set of new tools for manipulating and controlling social behavior.” Such technology could lead to a revival of social engineering, reminiscent of the 20th-century attempts at creating utopian societies, he warned.

Pointing to the wide use of Prozac and Ritalin, Fukuyama noted how pharmaceuticals are already used to as a substitute in children for the socializing influence of parents and teachers. “You have a medical shortcut,” he contended, “which undercuts the traditional understanding of how you build character, and the degree to which you’re responsible for your own character.”

We will soon have the possibility of changing our genetic structure. Already in the 1920s and 1930s there were theories of “scientific racism,” observed Fukuyama. “So if you have a technology that could actually reinsert these kinds of differences into the human species, then you’re setting yourself up for some real problems.”

Eugenics has its defenders, of course. Richard Lynn, professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Ulster, has written a book in which he says it is time to rethink the matter, BBC reported April 26.

Lynn argues that the condemnation of eugenics went too far. Although the concept got a bad name because of the Nazis’ “master race” pro-

gram, he says, advances in medical technology, such as the prenatal diagnosis of pregnant women for genetically disordered fetuses, mean that in a sense eugenics is already being practiced.

“The general principle of eugenics, that we could improve the genetic quality of the population, needs taking seriously,” insists Lynn.

Commentary

“Parents would like to have children who are free of genetic diseases, and potentially in the future they will want to have children who are intelligent. This is serving people’s needs and wishes. As the technology comes online to allow them to do this, people will take it up.”

Of mouse and man
Another area of concern is human and animal gene codes. Should they be mixed and then patented? A New York medical school professor, Stuart Newman, is in the process of seeing if he can patent a “humouse,” the Los Angeles Times reported May 12.

In past years the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has granted patents for some human genes and human cells. Patents have also been given for animals made with bits of human DNA so scientists can study cancer and other diseases. So far the patent office has refused attempts to patent human embryos and human beings.

Now, explains the Los Angeles Times, the “humouse” is forcing the patent office to defend its position. During five years of sparring over Newman’s application, “the office appears to concede that it has little or no legal authority to stop what would clearly be a controversial development: the patenting of human embryos.”

Newman said that he has never made a humouse and

probably never would.

Both he and his patent partner, biotechnology critic Jeremy Rifkin, object to manipulating human life. They believe, however, that federal law does not sufficiently limit scientific work with human embryos and human life, and their patent application is intended to force legislators to change that.

Companies could be interested in patenting humans in cases where embryos could be used to generate cells for therapeutic use, explained Elizabeth Howard, a patent lawyer with the firm Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe. In particular, Howard said, scientists will try to modify human embryos to produce stem cells that can be transplanted into patients without resulting in tissue rejection, a common problem in transplants today.

In fact, attempts to mix humans and animals are under way. Researchers in Korea last summer launched a project to create cross-species embryos combining human DNA with cow ova, the Wall Street Journal reported March 19. The experiments, suspended last December due to protests, were led by embryologist Park Se Pill at Maria Bio Tech, a spinoff of Maria Infertility Hospital, the nation’s largest fertility clinic.

The Journal explained that researchers for a U.S. company, Advanced Cell Technology Inc., were the first to admit putting human DNA into a cow egg in 1998. Because of protests, research in this area has largely shifted outside the United States.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office already has received an application from Advanced Cell Technology based on the work it was doing. The office also has received applications on human embryos cloned using cow eggs from a separate South Korean team.

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