

Thank you very much for your thoughts on Clericalism. You are certainly touching some extremely important issues in our Catholic Faith/Tradition. Please keep sharing your perspectives and comments.

– Fr. Gerry

I have two examples of clericalism:

The first one was years ago when I was a member of a parish prayer group. Two of us visited a member of the parish who could not receive the sacraments because she had married a second time while her first husband was still alive. She offered an opinion about the Eucharist that was rather strange but seemed logical at the time. I asked her if she wanted to see a Priest and she said yes. The Associate pastor visited her and spoke to her. I defended her position and the prayer group was shut down. I was 19 at the time and said whatever came to mind. Afterwards, it dawned on me that I was not the one with training in theology and that the priest was probably right. It never occurred to me to go back and tell him he was right. He probably thought he had stopped a nest of heretics.

A few years later a theologian (I forgot his name) declared that Jesus was not divine. Pope John Paul II silenced him and forbade him from teaching in the Church. This is kind of a no brainer and the theologian got what he deserved.

The Church hierarchy makes every effort to protect the laity from making errors in teaching and this has led to control and a passive laity. If we go from maintenance to mission and on to evangelical pursuits then it will only be a matter of time before it scares the hierarchy and some action is taken. This could cause some to leave the Church. I do not have an answer for this except to trust the Holy Spirit. We had it really good when Bishop Sheen was doing the preaching. Maybe we need a more publicly active Apostolic. Then the laity can follow.

~ Anonymous

First of all, I am somewhat puzzled by your reason(s) for bringing up the issue. I think many (most?) Catholics accept that clericalism is part and parcel of the Catholic Church. It's probably one of the root causes of Protestantism. For my part, it's generally no more (or less) significant (or onerous) than the machinations of the hierarchy in any large organization. The only manifestations that give me pause are the exclusion of women and married men from the priesthood. I guess I am also bothered by specific instances, such as the actions of the Canon Law courts in granting some annulments (e.g., Newt Gingrich, et al). Beyond that, I don't give clericalism much thought.

More puzzling, though are the comments of Mirus regarding "clerics lite," and most puzzling of all was the emphasis you added to his "on the third hand" comments by underscoring that segment of his comments.

I think many of us think our personal spiritual life is not sufficient, and choose to express further our roles as Catholics by participating in the "ministries within the church building." I'm probably one of those "third hand" people. And so be it.

I'm probably misunderstanding this whole issue – but "so be it" to that, as well.

Cecil Harrison

June 11, 2017

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity



Mass Intentions

Week of June 12, 2017:

7:30 am Mon: Communion Service
7:30 am Tues.: Fr. Richard Somers (RIP)
6:00 pm Wed.: Fr. Patrick Noonan— sp. intent.
7:30 am Thurs.: Nolen Hughes (RIP)
7:30 am Fri.: HE & Roselyn & Jon Pickett (RIP)
5:30 pm Sat.: Celia Purser (RIP)
8:00 am Sun: Jane Corbitt (RIP)
10:30 am Sun.: Edna Mangialardi (RIP)

Prayer Intentions

Kent Bowen Eileen Balmes
Monica Allison, daughter of Winnie Browman
Susan Techlin, friend of Nath Roberts
Bowen Smith, grandson of Kent & Mary Bowen
Jimmy Roundtree, father of Amy Files

Adoration This Week:

Monday– Friday 8:00 am– 12:00 pm
Wednesday 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Sat 4:30-5:00pm or by appt.**

Pray for the Repose of the Souls

Don Eagle, father of Angela Lawrence
Halle Walker, friend of Colleen Welch

New Announcements

***St. Dominic's Ministry** will provide lunch and spiritual encouragement for the families of patients in ICU on Tuesday, June 27th. Sign up is in the back of church. They are in need of sandwiches, cookies, fruit, chips, and drinks. Please have all items in the kitchen before 10 am on the 27th.

* **The Knights of Columbus** will be cooking and distributing smoked Boston butts on July 2nd after both masses. Sign up begins this weekend! See a Knight after all masses .

***THE BIG DEAL** is taking a trip to Geyser Falls on June 24th. All upcoming 7th—12th graders are welcome!

Sign up is required in order to provide transportation. See Cory Head after all masses to sign up or send an email to youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com. Follow **THE BIG DEAL** on social media:

Facebook: *The Big Deal*; Instagram: *st_paul_brandon*; Twitter: *@st_paul_brandon*

* **Weekly offering for June 4, 2017: \$21,290**



Reminders

*** **40 Hours of Adoration— June 16th– 18th** in the Family Life Center. **See page 3 for more information** Sign up is now open on our website! (Due to Father's Day falling on this weekend, we will not be able to have our annual Father's Day Brunch because of limited space. We look forward to celebrating with you next year!)

*****Food Pantry:** Please consider that some families require greater food assistance during the summer months when children are not getting meals at school. The Food Pantry welcomes all nonperishable food in unbreakable containers. During the summer months, donations of quick-preparation food such as breakfast cereals, boxed juice, boxed rice and pasta dinners, canned and packaged soups, etc., are especially welcome. Gift cards, checks, and cash are also welcome. We will deliver your donations to the South Rankin Food Resource Center in Richland or the Stewpot Food Pantry in Jackson on an alternating basis. We also accommodate occasional direct requests for food assistance by members of the local community.

***Nursery and Children's Liturgy** available at the 10:30am mass. **The Nursery** is located in the Early Learning Center (enter through the cafeteria before mass). **Children ages 2-5** will be called up during the mass for **Children's Liturgy**.

***If you would like to honor a loved one or celebrate a special event, altar flowers and Blessed Mother flowers can be reserved through our website.** You can find it under to *Registration Forms* tab. (Sign up will close at the beginning of each month)

Saint Paul Catholic Church

5971 Highway 25

Flowood, MS 39232

www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:30PM

Sunday: 8:00AM, 10:30AM

Daily: 7:30AM except Wednesdays 6:00PM

First Fridays: Healing Mass 10:00 AM

~ 40 Hours of Adoration ~ June 16-18 ~

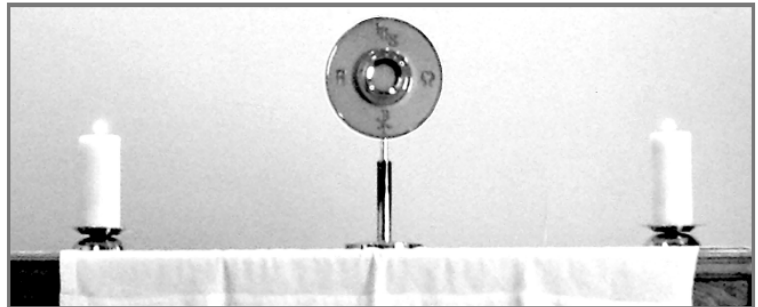
What? It is a special 40-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition. The number 40 signifies a sacred period of time: i.e. the rains during the time of Noah lasted 40 days and nights; the Jews wandered through the desert for 40 years, our Lord fasted and prayed for 40 days before beginning His public ministry.

Why? We sit in silent adoration affirming our belief in the real presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. We connect with Jesus in a special way. We spend time with the One we love. We feel His love, and He fills us with His love during this time. Those who make a regular Holy Hour say it is the most peaceful time of their week and they leave refreshed. Jesus invites each of us: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Mt11:28) Blessed Anne of St. Bartholomew said, "*Silence is precious; by keeping silence and knowing how to listen to God, the soul grows in wisdom and God teaches it what it cannot learn from men.*"

When? Friday, June 16th @ 6:30 pm through 10:30 am Sunday, June 18th
Many dioceses across the U.S. observe 40 Hours of Adoration in preparation for the Solemnity of The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ. (aka Corpus Christi) They "share" the 40 Hours among the parishes in their diocese. Years ago, we decided our Parish could keep watch for 40 Hours. What a blessing to have enough people sign up each year to cover all 40 Hours with at least three people per hour! We are confident we can achieve this once again.

How? Please go to our website and sign up for one Holy Hour. There are several open slots that we hope to have filled before Friday! We especially ask men to cover the wee hours of the morning for safety reasons. Go to www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com and sign up!

*What is
Eucharistic Adoration?*



It is sitting in silent communion with Our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament.

He is inviting you to sit, adore & listen. He will speak to your heart. Listening & loving is the most appropriate posture during Adoration. Some choose to do Spiritual reading or pray a rosary.

Begin kneeling before Him in prayer offering yourself to Him & asking for His Blessings & Graces.

Then, clear your mind. Sit in the silence and embrace this special time in His presence. Absorb the Blessings.

It may be necessary to re-empty your mind from the meanderings of "to-do lists, wayward thoughts, etc."

Turn your heart toward Jesus and choose to be in union with Him. Turn back to Him as often as needed.

If you have any questions or hesitations, please call the church office.

Every staff member and several parishioners participate in one Holy Hour of Adoration every week. We can offer you guidance & encouragement to begin! You can also find links for suggested prayers on our website.

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