

# ENCOUNTERING JESUS. QUIPPING DISCIPLES, LIVING MERO

Francis Humphrey

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Friends,

I must say that my passion for sports has dissipated dramatically over the past several years. This is partially because Nebraska football has been so disappointing recently, but there are other factors as well. I'm increasingly aggravated by the amount of money involved in athletics, which is a sign that sports has become our god. Additionally, the increasing politicization of sports is difficult to stomach.

Take, for instance, the phenomenon of kneeling during the national anthem. As troubling as such behavior is to me, it is completely understandable. After all, I suspect the players that protest this had very different upbringings than I did. I was raised in a family where, after Christmas, the biggest holiday of the year was the 4th of July. I was raised to appreciate the flag as a symbol of the sacrifices made to protect my freedom. As such, it demanded proportionate respect. I wonder if, for those that protest during the anthem, it was the same.

I know the educational system wasn't. I was taught that the United States of America was the greatest country in the world, that Christopher Columbus was a hero, the pioneers were to be admired for the courage and perseverance, that hundreds of thousands of Americans (predominantly white) fought and died in the Civil War to free slaves, that the United States saved the world from both Nazi Germany and Soviet Communism.

Today many are taught almost the exact opposite. Many are taught that the United States is the biggest pillager of the Earth, Christopher Columbus was a symbol of imperialism and oppression, that the United States was founded on the precept of racism because of slavery. In fact, this racism had been systematized to the extent that its effects are damaging the well-being of certain communities, particularly communities of color. Had I been raised like that, would I have the courage to protest the anthem or the flag? The answer, sadly, is no.

But, Father, you may ask, what systematic injustice have you suffered? The answer is infinitely more horrific than the idea of institutionalized racism. That injustice is abortion. After all, regardless if police actually are systematically executing African Americans, it would still pale in comparison to the systematic pressure our society puts on mothers to abort their children...to the tune of 3,000/day in our country alone. Yet have I ever done something as stigmatizing as protesting to raise awareness of this systematic injustice? Perhaps these young athletes are way more courageous for their cause than I am for mine.

Nevertheless, the actions of these athletes are completely and totally misguided. In fact, just as I would say it was completely and totally misguided for Catholics to protest during the National Anthem to raise awareness of the injustice of abortion, so too, is it completely and totally misguided for athletes to do so to raise awareness of institutionalized racism. Why?

The answer comes from the virtue of piety, which is also a gift of the Holy Spirit. Piety allows us, principally, to show reverence to God as the ultimate authority. Secondarily, however, piety extends to other authorities, even very flawed ones. It is the virtue of piety that is empowering Jesus to submit to the flawed authority of Pontius Pilate. This virtue is the root of the virtue of patriotism, which recognizes that our country is a kind of mother.

To be patriotic, however, means to expose injustice. True patriotic Germans were the ones opposing the nationalist Nazis, not tolerating them. We, as Catholics, have the obligation to expose the injustice of abortion. I'm sure those that protest the anthem think they have the obligation to expose injustice as well.

However, there is a time and place for everything. The National Anthem is neither the time nor the place for protest. Rather, it is the time and the place to focus on the good that unites us, rather than the evil that divides us. In fact, it is most fitting to begin secular events, and even religious ones, with the National Anthem. Even though our country is very flawed (e.g. abortion), she is still a "mother" that needs to be appreciated, even if she is also a mother that sometimes needs to be corrected.

Blessings,

# GENERAL INFORMATION MASS SCHEDULES & INTENTIONS

# SACRAMENT PREP

#### **CONFESSIONS:**

DAILY: 7:30 AM-7:50 AM (Before All Daily Masses)

SATURDAYS: Lindsay: 4:00 PM-4:45 PM

Humphrey: 4:30 PM-5:15 PM

SUNDAYS: Lindsay: 7:30 AM-8:15 AM

Leigh: 8:00 AM-8:20 AM Tarnov: After 10:30 AM Mass

**BAPTISMS:** To schedule, please contact Rev. Eric Olsen at

(402) 923-0913.

MARRIAGE: Please contact the priest six months before wedding in order to fulfill required wedding prep classes.

# CONTACTS

### Pastor:

Rev. Eric Olsen	402-923-0913
esc	olsen@archomaha.org
Rev. Wayne Pavela	402-923-0913

#### To Submit Bulletin Information:

St. Francis Parishioners	- kmorfeld@hsfschool.org
Holy Family Parishioners	lhfp@lhf.esu7.org
St. Mary Parishioners	
St. Michael Parishionersstr	nichaelstarnov@gmail.com
(For other parish contacts, plea	se see the following nages I

# PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER.

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Mark Podliska, Julie (Werner) Frauendorfer

#### **KEEP IN PRAYER AS THEY SERVE OUR COUNTRY:**

John Babl, Patrick Washburn, Craig Prather, Mitchell Preister, Cody Ramaekers, Eric and Michelle Oberhauser, Ben Borer, Nicole Thompson, Aaron Wallin, Steve Bender, Jacob Williams, SFC Van Dyke, Codi Rose Fehringer, Fr. Curt Dwyer, Bryce Bartholomew, Calvin Wiese, Jared Wiehn, Doc Schumacher, Dylan Preister (Please call your parish office to add a name.)



### ST. FRANCIS CHURCH, HUMPHREY:

### Sat, 10/05:

5:30 PM-For the People of Our Cluster Parishes

10:00 AM-L/D +Wilfred & +Romana Hemmer Family

#### Mon, 10/07:

8:00 AM-Joyce Keller-CDA

#### Tues, 10/08:

8:00 AM-+Mary Kuchar

#### Wed, 10/09:

8:00 AM-+Bob Olmer

#### Thurs, 10/10:

8:00 AM-+Larry Laska Family

#### Fri, 10/11:

NO MASS

#### Sat. 10/12:

5:30 PM-+Emmert & +Rita Wegener

#### Sun, 10/13 - Confirmation Mass:

10:00 AM-+Luke & +Arlene Weidner

(WA): Wedding Anniversary

(A): Anniversary of Death

(B): Birthday

### **HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, LINDSAY:**

#### Sat. 10/05:

5:00 PM-L/D Maynard Geilenkirchen Family

#### Sun, 10/06:

8:30 AM-L/D Adam Jarecki Family, Susie Korth

#### Mon, 10/07:

8:00 AM-Don Borer

#### Tues, 10/08:

8:00 AM-L/D Jim Hegemann Family

Wed, 10/09: 6:30 AM-Irene Gasper

8:00 AM-L/D Dwayne Lindhorst Family

#### Thurs, 10/10:

8:00 AM-L/D Bud & Lori Bender Family

8:00 AM-L/D Chris & Louise Ramaekers Family

#### Sat, 10/12:

5:00 PM-L/D Novotny Family

#### Sun, 10/13:

8:30 AM-Holy Family Parishioners

### ST. MARY, LEIGH:

#### Sun, 10/13:

8:00 AM-Meyer Urban & Family

### ST. MICHAEL, TARNOV:

#### Sun, 10/13:

8:00 AM-Ferd Dohmen

# ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday - 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

### CONTACTS

I AILIOIT IVIII III I EILO.		
Deacon Dennis Anderson	(402) 920-1380	
Deacon Kent Sachau	(402) 369-1750	
Deacon Tim Howard	(402) 841-3434	
Parish Council: Dave Krings	(402) 992-1376	
Ken Classen		
Finance Board: Bryan Reichmuth	(402) 340-6429	
School Board: Brandon Morfeld		
Lindsey Kosch	(402) 910-3303	
Home & School Association: Suzanne Beltz	(402) 640-7360	
Sarah Classen	(402) 923-0131	
Religious Ed Director: Lori Classen	(402) 923-0987	
Daycare Director: Brandi Eisenmenger		
Server Coordinator: Georgia Hunsley	(402) 920-0108	
Bulletin Submissions: Katie Morfeld		
kmor	feld@hsfschool.org	
Finance Office: Lisa Krings	(402) 923-0913	
Parish Office Secretary: Karen Wieser	(402) 923-0913	
Alumni Relations Coordinator: Missy Braun	(402) 923-0818	
Prayer Line: During Office Hours - Parish Offi	ice (402) 923-0913	
After Office Hours - Connie Foltz		
Pastoral Minister: Diane Zach		
Gift Shop: Julie Krings		
ST. FRANCIS SCHOOLS:		

Principal: Jennifer Dunn......jdunn@hsfschool.org 

## PARISH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sun, 10/06:

\*Parish Bazaar

\*12 PM-4 PM-Bazaar Meal Served

Mon, 10/07: \*Feast Day of the Holy Rosary

Wed, 10/09:

\*6:30 PM-PRE

\*7 PM-Athletic Board Meeting

\*7 PM-Blue & White Night Meeting

Thurs, 10/10: \*7:30 PM-Knights of Columbus Meeting

Sun, 10/13:

\*10 AM-Confirmation Mass

\*7 PM-"Rosary for Peace" in Church

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS OCT. 12-13

Sat. 5:30 PM

Lector-Kaydie Brandl

Servers-Gavin Geilenkirchen, Mason Geilenkirchen

**EMHCs-Deacon Tim Howard, Lynn Teply** 

Greeters-JoJo & Jennifer Dunn

Gift Bearers-Alan & Julie Huettner

### Sun, 10:00 AM

Lector-Rita Keller

Servers-Lexi Morfeld, Camille Keller

EMHCs-Deacon Dennis Anderson, Stan Wemhoff

Greeters-Mike & Carmen Foltz

Gift Bearers-Rich Fleischer, Schuyler Wegener

## LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION REPORT

Church/School 19/20 Fiscal Year Budget..... \$1,979,168.63

Fiscal YTD Church/School Total Income ......\$ 494,281.90 Fiscal YTD Church/School Total Expenses .... \$ 365,666.92

Surplus/(Deficit).....\$ 128,614.98

#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

R&B Fund - \$10, Youth - \$16.20, Loose - \$533.60, School Support - \$1,225, Church Support - \$4,064.21

SPECIAL MONEY WINDOW 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION: \$354.30

**2nd COLLECTION:** Next weekend the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection will go toward our Restoration & Building Fund.

### CHURCH CLEANING

#### **WEEKLY CHURCH CLEANING CHAIRMEN:**

Todd & Maria Preister - 402-454-1302

Michael & Kelly Brandl - 402-923-0340

Tony & Lynn Teply - 402-920-1992

Dale & Joan Boesch - 402-923-0715

Brandon & Jenny Weidner - 402-920-0640

Jeremy & Brooke Hemmer - 402-841-4907

Gary & Kris Bender - 402-923-1674

#### **SACRISTY & FLOWERS CHAIRMEN:**

Ralph & LeeAnn Adams - 402-923-0325

Randy & Krista Hooker - 402-923-9132

Larry & Sharlene Hamling - 402-285-0453

Ron & Chris Greisen - 402-246-5015

Rvan & Sheila Goetsch - 402-920-0320

Laura Brandl - 402-923-0836

Steve & Amy Brockhaus - 402-923-0168

VACUUMERS: Tim & Connie Foltz, Loran & Carol Wemhoff

### SERVING QUILTERS

It's Your Turn To Bring A Dessert: 3:30 PM in parish hall.

Friday, October 11: Ken & Sarah Classen

Monday, October 14: Glen & Tammy Weidner