

LIVING THE CREED SESSION 10

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: PROTECTING THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON



SCRIPTURE QUOTE FOR THE WEEK



"When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

—Matthew 25:31-46



OPENING PRAYER

Father and Maker of all, You adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in Your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of Your hands, and renew among Your people a readiness to nurture and sustain Your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

—from *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers* at usccb.org



COMMIT

- » Since the first century, the Catholic Church has taught that abortion is a moral evil and is an act of violence against an unborn child and the mother. Why is it important to view a pregnant mother as two lives with equal dignity?

(The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: “Every human life, from the moment of conception until death, is sacred because the human person has been willed for its own sake in the image and likeness of the living and holy God” [CCC 2319]. The life of the unborn child and the life of the mother are sacred. Abortion rights activists often criticize pro-life activists of being anti-woman. However, it is illogical to think that those who recognize the sacredness of human life in the unborn child would fail to recognize the sacredness of human life in the mother. In reality, abortion exploits and harms women.)

Your commitment this week is to schedule an hour to pray peacefully outside of an abortion clinic. Prayer works and saves lives! If you are not near an abortion clinic, pray a holy hour before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for an end to abortion.



CLOSING PRAYER

Psalm 139:1-4, 13-16

Lord, you have probed me, you know me: you know when I sit and stand; you understand my thoughts from afar. You sift through my travels and my rest; with all my ways you are familiar. Even before a word is on my tongue, Lord, you know it all... You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I praise you, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are your works! My very self you know. My bones are not hidden from you. When I was being made in secret, fashioned in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw me unformed; in your book all are written down; my days were shaped, before one came to be.



TIP FOR THE WEEK

To understand this topic more deeply, consider purchasing “The New Conversation: Changing Hearts and Minds on Abortion” by Stephanie Gray through Lighthouse Catholic Media.

lighthousecatholicmedia.org/store/title/the-new-conversation-changing-hearts-minds-on-abortion