



Anchor Family Faith Formation

11/13/2024



Welcome! Please take this time to check in with the people at the table. How was their week/day? How are they doing?

Talking Point!-Fun Fact in Church History- THE CHURCH FATHERS

Following the time of persecution, the Church raised up saintly men who through their writing "disciplined" the faithful. The heirs to the apostles, they wrote Scripture commentaries, theological works, and attacks against heresies. In order for an early Christian writer to be considered, he must display: orthodoxy, holiness of life, Church approval and antiquity. Some of the greatest are: Ambrose, Augustine, Athanasius and Jerome.

Announcements

- No class next week-11/20. Please plan to attend the Parish Mission.
- Parish Mission 11/18-11/20
 - Catholic Speaker: Jim Beckman
 - 10:00am and 7:00pm (Two options each day!)
- No class Thanksgiving week 11/27.

*Sin,
Reparation, &
Indulgences*





Colossians 1:24:

“I rejoice now in the sufferings I bear for your sake; and what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ I fill up in my flesh for his body which is the Church.”

Opening Prayer (“*Actiones nostras*”)-
Manual of Indulgences, Concession 26

Prompt our actions with your inspirations,
we pray, O Lord, and further them with
your constant help, that all we do may
always begin from you and by you be
brought to completion. Amen.

(*Roman Missal*, Thursday after Ash Wednesday, Collect)

Pope Benedict's *Spe Salvi*, no. 40:

“There used to be a form of devotion—perhaps less practiced today but quite widespread not long ago—that included the idea of “offering up” the minor daily hardships that continually strike at us like irritating ‘jabs’, thereby giving them a meaning.”

Pope Benedict's *Spe Salvi*, no. 40:

“What does it mean to offer something up? Those who did so were convinced that they could insert these little annoyances into Christ's great ‘com-passion’ so that they somehow became part of the treasury of compassion so greatly needed by the human race. In this way, even the small inconveniences of daily life could acquire meaning and contribute to the economy of good and of human love. Maybe we should consider whether it might be judicious to revive this practice ourselves.”

What Indulgences ARE:

- It assumes confession.
- For sins that are forgiven.
- Only for oneself and those that are dead.
- Uses the keys of the Kingdom given to St. Peter.
- The treasury of the merits of Christ and the saints.
- Similar to a penance, an extension of the Sacrament of the Penance.
- Avoiding misunderstandings of the punitive and transactional language of indulgences.
- Allows us to experience the *SWEETNESS* of God's mercy

Personal Story:

How to delight and grow in
a greater love for God

What Indulgences Are NOT:

1. They are NOT as effective the Sacraments.
2. NOT about forgiveness of sins but repairing of sins that have already been forgiven.
3. NOT just a box to check. It depends on our devout participation
4. It's NOT all or nothing. It's still worth doing even if not perfectly
5. The grace from indulgences is NOT in the power of my own action. It is in God's power.

Indulgences:

- What
- Why
- Who
- Where
- When
- How

Indulgences: What

- CCC 1471: The doctrine and practice of indulgences in the Church are closely linked to the effects of the sacrament of Penance.
- "An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints."
- "An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin." The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or apply them to the dead.

Indulgences: What cont...

- Remission: Something taken away
- before God: It is always the God who is the offended
- of the temporal punishment: as distinct from the eternal punishment as caused by mortal sin
- due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven: Sins that have been absolved either in the sacrament of confession or other ways.

Indulgences: Why

- “It is a divinely revealed truth that sins bring punishments inflicted by God’s sanctity and justice. These must be expiated either on this earth through the sorrows, miseries and calamities of this life and above all through death, or else in the life beyond through fire and torments or ‘purifying’ punishments... These punishments are imposed by the just and merciful judgment of God for the purification of souls, the defense of the sanctity of the moral order and the restoration of the glory of God to its full majesty” (*Pope St. Paul VI*)

Indulgences: Who

- which the faithful Christian: A Christian who is in good standing, have a practice of their faith (i.e., must be baptized)
- who is duly disposed: having to want an indulgence and be in the state of grace
- gains under certain prescribed conditions: Indulged acts with “usual conditions” (i.e., receiving sacramental communion, recently been to or soon to go to confession, prayers for the holy father, detachment from all sin)
- through the action of the Church, which as the minister of redemption dispenses and applies with authority: The Church is endowed with this authority to confer by virtue of the powers of the keys of St. Peter given by Christ.
- the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints: the extended application of the virtuous actions of Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints.

Indulgences: Where

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 1471-1479
- Part 2: [The Celebration of the Christian Mystery](#) (1066 - 1690)
- Section 2: [The Seven Sacraments of the Church](#) (1210 - 1690)
- Chapter 2: [The Sacraments of Healing](#) (1420 - 1532)
- Article 4: [The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation](#) (1422 - 1498)

Indulgences: When

- See handout...

Indulgences: How

- Virtual or habitual intention to receive the indulgence
- *Partial indulgence*: many acts are indulgences in the *Manual*, such as simple prayers and deeds
- *Plenary indulgence*: Specific acts, days, occasions; always includes the “four usual conditions” (see handout).

Discussion Questions:

1. What knowledge did you have about indulgences before today? In what ways did Fr. Adam's talk change or add to your perspective on indulgences?
2. How can you appreciate/utilize the Sacraments of the Church with more ardor and devotion in order to allow their effect in your life be greater?
3. Have you ever thought of offering an indulgence for a loved one who has passed away? Who would you pray for and why?
4. How can we teach and practice with our families to offer indulgences, in hopes that our children will pray for us when we die?

Resources:

- Indulgentiarum Doctrina: Apostolic Constitution by Pope St. Paul VI (January 1, 1967):
https://www.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/en/apost_constitutions/documents/hf_p-vi_apc_01011967_indulgentiarum-doctrina.html
- List of Plenary Indulgences:
<https://www.ourladyswarriors.org/indulge/plenary.htm>
- Catholic Answers: Primer on Indulgences:
<https://www.catholic.com/tract/primer-on-indulgences>



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created,
and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful
by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise
and ever rejoice in his consolation.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.