

An Exhortation Against “Circus Horrificus”

As a Father and Pastor who loves his people, I beg all people not to attend the “Circus Horrificus,” scheduled to be in Grand Lake from October 31 to November 3. Our minds and hearts should be on Christ. During the period of time the “circus” is here, we should remember All Saints and All Souls, and the grace they received from God. We don’t want to fill our minds with activities that go against our Savior.

Think about these three things. First, the advertising (as of 17 Oct) starts off by saying: “A **circus of the damned** is taking over the small Rocky Mountain town of Grand Lake.” No, they are not. Jesus Christ is our King and the town (and Grand and Jackson counties) belongs to Him. The enemy is desensitizing us regarding hell and making light of it. Secondly, the “circus” advertises that there will be fortune tellers available. God’s word condemns fortune tellers. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 states: “Let there not be found among you anyone who causes their son or daughter to pass through the fire, or practices divination, or is a soothsayer, augur, or sorcerer, or who casts spells, consults ghosts and spirits, or seeks oracles from the dead. Anyone who does such things is an abomination to the LORD....” Those who go to fortune tellers open themselves to the demonic realm and put themselves at risk for a curse. Finally, the “circus” advertises that there will be burlesque shows. Jesus warns us not to lust after women, or else we have committed a mortal sin and put ourselves at risk of losing salvation. Matthew 5:28 says: “But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” People might object: “We just want to have fun and we aren’t going to the fortune tellers or the burlesque shows.” Response: If you give money to the Circus Horrificus, you are putting money in the devil’s pocket to promote evil in our territory and in the future.

In response to this evil trying to enter our territory, **St. Anne Church will be open on Thursday, October 31. We will have 6 hours of Eucharistic Adoration available (6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.).** Please call El Pacifico, The White Buffalo, and the Lariat Bar and Grill and ask them to cancel the burlesque shows!

What Does Jesus’ Church Teach about Socialism?

In **Matthew 28:18-20**, Jesus states:

“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

We see from this that we have a duty to teach what Jesus teaches through His Church so as to create an environment so that people can follow Jesus. You, as

part of the Church, have a duty to learn the truth and charitably correct ideologies that are disordered. This is not political, but a moral mandate from God Himself. We are to live the virtue of fortitude, and not fall into the vices of cowardice and sloth.

Below is most of a 2016 article written by David Deavel, a Catholic scholar. Enjoy.

The Catholic Church on the Seven Deadly Sins of Socialism: However well-intended, socialism is a virus that drains human energy and degrades us.

What Is Socialism?

Numerous [news reports](#) this year indicated that “millennials” have embraced socialism as a choice, while at the same time those same people also support free markets, oppose government ownership of the means of production, and oppose a government-directed economy. What such people seem to mean by socialism is simply a large welfare state by which income is redistributed.

But perhaps we should take socialism to mean what its advocates and practitioners have really, [historically meant](#) by the word: a society in which “the major part of the means of production of goods and services is in some sense socially owned and operated, by state, socialized or cooperative enterprises”; where rights of private property and economic initiative are not acknowledged; where free markets are suppressed; and where the state usurps the God-given rights and duties of families and the Church. In these and other areas, the Catholic Church [has firmly warned us](#) that socialism exerts a de-Christianizing, even a dehumanizing influence.

Socialism’s Seven Deadly Sins

1. Socialism truncates the human person. Catholic teaching has at its heart a focus on the inviolable dignity and wholeness of every human person, as well as the need for personal transformation to transform society. While not all socialists have been atheists, the questions that socialists ask tend to focus on the care of the body instead of the soul — and the answers that they tend to give focus on systems, not people. In his landmark encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (“Concerning New Things”), Pope Leo XIII taught that even the satisfaction of bodily and material needs was dependent upon the care of the whole person: “And since religion alone, as We said in the beginning, can remove the evil, root and branch, let all reflect upon this: First and foremost Christian morals must be reestablished, without which even the weapons of prudence, which are considered especially effective, will be of no avail, to secure well-being.” (82).

2. Socialism denies the rights of the family. Christian morals and natural virtues are taught and indeed “caught” most often in the family, which the Church has taught is the center of human society. *The Compendium of Catholic Social Teaching* affirms the “priority of the family over society and over the state.” (214) While socialists classically think in only two categories — the individual and the state — Catholic teaching emphasizes that “society and the State exist for the family” (ibid.). The omni-competent socialist state supplants the functions of families and shatters society into tiny atoms whirling around a single nucleus: the federal government.

3. Socialism crushes civil society. The Church teaches that the state exists to protect and empower families and other parts of *civil society* — those “little platoons” of professional, local, cultural, artistic, religious and other associations that fulfill people’s material, social, and spiritual needs. (This key principle is called [subsidiarity](#).) While prudence may dictate that in certain limit situations the state must step in and fulfill some needs that civil society or even a family or families cannot provide for, the *Compendium of Social Doctrine* observes that such “intervention” should always be seen as “*exceptional*” (no. 188). If someone outside the government *can* accomplish something without using coercion, it’s at best a dangerous lack of prudence and quite often simply a serious violation of justice to get the government involved.

4. Socialism tramples on the sacred human right to private property. Socialists assert that private property essentially belongs to the state to be used for the common good. While Catholics have always believed that the goods of this earth belong to the whole human race and are to be used by all, this does not mean that the state should control all of them. In *Rerum Novarum* Leo XIII defended not only the practical benefits of private property, but argued that those benefits came from the fact that private property was according to natural law: “The human race, he said, has found in the law of nature itself the basis of the distribution of goods, and, by the practice of all ages, has consecrated private possession as something best adapted to man’s nature and to peaceful and tranquil living together.” (11)

This right is of course accompanied by the duties to use private property to provide for the needs of one’s family and those in need. But it is still a right even if it’s sometimes abused.

5. Socialism promotes class warfare. Because of its Marxist origins, socialism goads workers into the unrelenting “class warfare” which Marx himself saw as

the engine driving human history. Instead of partners in productivity and human cooperation, owners and investors are seen as workers’ enemies — as if all wealth were a fixed, unchanging pie over which citizens should fight for their limited share. Pope Pius XI condemned this view of society, urged socialists to renounce the very concept of class warfare, and warned Catholics of the dangers of cooperating with socialists under any circumstances: “Whether considered as a doctrine, or an historical fact, or a movement, Socialism, if it remains truly Socialism, even after it has yielded to truth and justice on the points which we have mentioned, cannot be reconciled with the teachings of the Catholic Church because its concept of society itself is utterly foreign to Christian truth.” (*Quadrogesimo Anno*, 117)

6. Socialism thwarts our right to take economic initiative. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states bluntly, “Everyone has the *right to economic initiative*; everyone should make legitimate use of his talents to contribute to the abundance that will benefit all, and to harvest the just fruits of his labor.” (2429) The abundance created by economic activity is clearly designed for the good of all, but this in no way negates the justice of entrepreneurs and inventors “harvesting” profits. Prevent them from doing that, and soon there will be no economic initiative at all — and perhaps no economy, as the unfortunate citizens of Venezuela are discovering.

7. Socialism replaces love with bureaucracy and class conflict. This right to economic initiative is also connected to the benefit of the human person. St. John Paul II observed in his encyclical *Sollicitudo rei socialis* that to deny the right of economic initiative in the name of an “alleged ‘equality’” would be a violation of “the creative subjectivity of the citizen” (no. 15). Again, human persons don’t just have material needs, but spiritual ones that creativity and economic initiative help fulfill.

Socialism focuses on justice, but Catholic teaching emphasizes that for a good society, something much deeper is needed: love. Yes, justice is the main goal of politics, but political life is not all there is, because human persons are more than just material beings. Pope Benedict XVI wrote that even the most just society would require love, something that cannot be given by the state: The State which would provide everything, absorbing everything into itself, would ultimately become a mere bureaucracy incapable of guaranteeing the very thing which the suffering person — every person — needs: namely, loving personal concern. (*Deus Caritas Est*, 28).

Mass Schedule for All Saints: Holy Day of Obligation

-Thursday, October 31

St. Ignatius, 5:30 p.m.

-Friday, November 1

St. Bernard, 8:30 a.m.

St. Anne, 5 p.m.

Our Lady, 6:45 p.m.

St. Peter, 6:30 p.m.

Seminary Appeal

We tentatively have a seminarian coming either the first or second weekend of November to take up a collection for the seminary operations.

Reminder about Mass at St. Bernard

Saturday vigil Mass schedule is seasonal:

5:30 p.m., from November 23 to March 28

4 p.m., from December 21 to March 28

Thank You for Your Financial Generosity

You gave \$1,712 in the second collection last weekend to help support retired and infirm priests.

St. Faustina Movie in Denver, October 28 (Monday)

Annette Charnecki will be driving to the movie (*Love and Mercy*) at the Regal Colorado Mills 16 Theater in Lakewood. If anyone is interested in joining her, you can reach her at 970-281-2011.

Outstanding Summary of the Faith in Pictures

See: <https://manifestooffaith.com/> This video is only 22 minutes in length.

Religious Education (RE) at Our Lady of the Snow on Thursday, October 31, is Cancelled

All Souls Envelopes; All Souls Day is November 2

If you receive collection envelopes, you have an All Souls envelope in your box. Please think about your beloved deceased and put your envelope with a donation in the collection no later than October 27 so we can place envelopes on the altar and pray for your beloved by name—seven Masses in November.

If you don't receive envelopes, you can create your own and be sure to place names and a donation inside.

All money received goes to pay for *Totus Tuus* Vacation Bible School.

Wisdom of The Dialogue of St. Catherine

Summary of Chapter 35. People that desire power fall into false judgment. God the Father says, "They are constantly scandalized (shocked) at My ways, which are always just and truly spring from love and mercy."

"These wicked people are set in their way of selfishness, indecency, pride, and avarice, envy that is grounded in their perverse lack of discernment, their impatience, and many other sins. Yet they are forever taking scandal at Me and My servants, judging their virtue to be hypocritical. Because they are rotten to the

core and have spoiled their sense of taste, good things seem evil to them and evil...seems good."

"O blind humanity, to have so lost sight of your dignity! You who were so great have become so small!" The world was reprov'd (reprimanded) of injustice and false judgment when the Father with the Son sent the Holy Spirit.

Christmas Family Collection: Nov 30-Dec 1

Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to sponsor at least five poor, local families each year. This year we encourage you to go directly to Mountain Family Center and sponsor a family. However, if you wish, you could give cash or make a check out check to "Mountain Family Center" and put it in the collection on Thanksgiving weekend. We will deliver the money.

Calendar of Events

-Nov 1 (Fri). All Saints Day: Holy Day of Obligation.

-Nov 2 (Sat). All Souls Mass, OLS, 9:30 a.m.

-Dec 12 (Thu). OL of Guadalupe Mass, StP, 6:30 p.m.

Mass Collections, October 12 – 13

St. Anne	\$ 1916
St. Bernard	3346
Our Lady of the Snow	4041
St. Peter	985
St. Ignatius	274
Total	\$10562

Vocations Prayer Calendar

Please pray for our seminarians every day.

Sat—Manuel Salinas & John Paul Almeida

Sun—Daniele Arienzo & Hernaldo Rojas

Mon—Peter Brancale & Blaise Buches

Tue—Daniele Arienzo & Joseph Bui

Wed—Phuoc Joe Bui & Sean Conroy

Thu—Patricio Pucjui & Felipe Colombo

Fri—Increase in vocations to priesthood/religious life

Mass Intentions and Schedule for StA, StB, and OLS

KEY: StA = St. Anne; StB = St. Bernard;

OLS = Our Lady of the Snow

-Sat, Oct 19, StA, 5 p.m., Peter and Kathleen Brownell

-Sun, Oct 20, StB, 7 a.m., People in our region/visitors

-Sun, Oct 20, OLS, 9:30 a.m., +Tom Luby

Weekday Masses

-Mon, Oct 21, StA, 8:30 a.m., Steve McGinn

-Tue, Oct 22, OLS, 7:30 a.m., Gilbert/Lorraine Maloney

-Wed, Oct 23, StB, 8:30 a.m., Margaret Ledezma

-Thu, Oct 24, OLS, 10:30 a.m., Traditional Latin Mass

-Fri, Oct 25, OLS, 8:30 a.m., Steve and Jan Robar

Mass Intentions and Schedule for StP and StI

KEY: StP = St. Peter; StI = St. Ignatius (Walden)

-Sun, Oct 20, StP, 10 a.m., Benedict Kullman

-Sun, Oct 20, StI, 1 p.m., People in our region/visitors