

POLITICS, RELIGION AND MONEY: THREE THINGS NEVER TO DISCUSS...WELL NOT REALLY

Did you ever grow up hearing certain things to be true but later on realized how erroneous it was?

Around 1974 our family was given a puppy. We were told to discipline the animal by putting it in a dark room for long periods of time. Ah, a very bad idea.

Remember this one: if you drop a penny from the Empire building it could kill you. Not true.

Lastly, lightning never hits the same place twice. Also incorrect.

Some of the convention wisdom or ideas we were told growing up are false.

Enter politics. For some reason, maybe from the idea of separation of Church and State, many Americans believe Christians shouldn't dabble in politics.

Let's look at Bishop DeGrood. On All Saints Day, he gave a homily about voting. He didn't do an in depth dive of both political parties. He laid the data in front of us and asked, is this of God? This is something every good bishop would do. Thank You Bishop for giving us direction.

The day after his homily, I heard our Bishop was getting attacked. If true, it's not surprising. So I watched the entire homily on youtube, and all he did was lay out a few positions from each party. He didn't tell us how to vote, but did point out some positions not of God. He did his job.

One YouTuber opined "Politics does not belong in the pulpit!".

Another said [the Bishop was] "very judgmental".

Two weeks ago I wrote an article called “Undignified”. The point of the article is to look at the Covid-19 tragedy from another angle. What I pointed out is the undignified behavior (some think necessary) going on in light of the data. It wasn’t adding up.

If you look at the data from the CDC, and please do, something seems amiss.

So, let’s compare Covid-19 with the Spanish Flu. Here are the reported world wide deaths:

Spanish Flu deaths = 50 million.
Covid-19 deaths to date = 1.23 million

Granted, it hasn’t been a year, but do those two numbers seem close?

So, what is a pandemic? A pandemic can be defined as

“an epidemic occurring worldwide, or over a very wide area, crossing international boundaries and usually affecting a large number of people.”

With 1.23 worldwide deaths, is this considered a pandemic? Maybe???....

Why is it that people think we shouldn’t talk about politics? Or money. Or Religion. Of course we should talk about these things. It is in ‘discussion’ that we learn, go back and rethink our positions. Even change our minds. Yes, even family members should have discourse.

Everyone should be involved in politics. Archbishop Chaput’s wrote a great book called “Render Under Caesar” in which he encourages all christians to get involved.

In 1996, Dr. Alan Keyes gave the commencement address at Franciscan University. I was there. He challenged everyone to get into politics because it can be defined as “matters of the family”. He went on to say, politics touches every person in the country whether we like it or not. So get involved!!

That changed my mind.

I want to be forthright with you. I am not a Republican or Democrat. In 1988 when I turned 18, I had to pick a political party. My aunt was running for a state seat, and I thought she was a Republican, so I chose the Republican Party. Turns out she was a Democrat.

I am not an ideologue. Yes, I am pro-life. That doesn't make me a Republican. I am also for the those people that cannot help themselves. That doesn't make me a Democrat either.

People that know me personally will say that I have an open mind. I often say to people, if you convince me, I'll change my mind.

Politically, I am an independent. but first and foremost, I am a Christian.

Christianity will always trump (no pun here) politics. Our family looks at ideas through the lens of Christ and His teachings supported by the bible.

I will be writing more articles. My only hope is that you think, and try to see what I am saying. You certainly don't have to agree.

I love dialogue, but I will do everything in my power to avoid argument. There is little to no fruit in argument.

This Election

Whether you are for Trump or Biden, let us join together and pray that God will unite this country whomever is elected, and the election process is fair. Please pray 10 Hail Mary's or 10 Our Father's for God's will.

Peace in Christ,
Glen

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