

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Friday, June 5, 2020
St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr



Readings: 2 Tim 3:10-17; Psalm 119:157, 160-161, 165-166, 168; Mk 12:35-37

Dear Parishioners:

St. Boniface was Anglo-Saxon Benedictine Monk who was sent from Britain to Germany to preach the gospel. Upon his arrival there he encountered the foundations of the Church but which were in a shambles. Many of the clergy were lax and immoral, there was little contact with Rome, and the old pagan religions were predominant. In fact, some of the Christian faithful had mixed pagan religious beliefs and practices with Christian belief. St. Boniface worked tirelessly to reform the clergy, re-establish a healthy, working relationship with Rome, establish churches and monasteries throughout Southern Germany. He took an axe to an oak tree that was “sacred” to the pagans and when it came down and the pagan gods in whom the locals had put their trust didn’t strike Boniface dead the realized the error of their ways. Many of them converted to Christianity and Boniface used the wood of the tree to build a chapel. Ultimately, though, St. Boniface ran afoul of the pagans in the area and he was martyred along with thirty of his companions. His body was buried at the monastery in Fulda, which he had founded. He is known as the “Apostle of Germany.”

Sometimes it’s easier just to keep quiet. We see something is wrong, Catholics holding ideas that are contrary to the faith, moral ethics on a fatal slide and a society spinning out of control. It’s easier just to go along with the crowd and think “Well, I don’t go along with that but, to each his own” than it is to oppose falsehood. This is exactly what the devil has wanted us to do since it first slithered into the Garden of Eden. Life is no less dangerous today than it ever has been, but it seems that faithful Christians today are more hesitant than ever to confront error. Sadly, many who consider themselves “good Catholics” go along with particular points of view or political opinions or moral practices or doctrinal teachings that are contrary to those taught by the Church. They become like the pagans encountered by St. Boniface who would prefer to kill the messenger than pay attention to the message.

Consider the countless men and women throughout the centuries who have given their lives for the sake of the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the teachings of His Church. Dare we break faith with them? Be open to the Holy Spirit and let the light of His truth enlighten your hearts.

A Little Humor

A CCD teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class: “If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded, cut up and bleeding, what would you do?” A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence and said: “I’d probably throw up.”

A teacher was giving a lesson the circulation of blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said: “Now, class, If I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face.” “Yes,” the class said. “Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn’t run into my feet?” One boy shouted: “Because your feet aren’t empty.”

Riddle Me This

Yesterday’s Riddle: How many six cent stamps are in two dozen? (Answer) 24. There are always 24 in two dozen.

Where is the first baseball game in the Bible? (Answer) In the big inning. Eve stole first, Adam stole second, and Cain struck out Abel.

Today’s Riddle: You are on a horse, galloping at a constant speed. On your right side is a sharp drop off. On your left side is an elephant traveling at the same speed as you. Directly in front of you is a galloping kangaroo and your horse is unable to overtake it. Behind you is a lion running at the same speed as you and the kangaroo. What must you do to get out of this highly dangerous situation? (Answer tomorrow)

Who was the greatest financier in the Bible? (Answer Tomorrow)

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