



MOTHER LOVE

A NEWSLETTER TO THE CHRISTIAN MOTHER

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Peace be with you!

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The Three Rings of Marriage:

- The engagement ring
- The wedding ring
- Suffering

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Whom Shall I Marry? – No More Important Decision!

God made marriage; and Jesus Christ made marriage a sacrament: a visible sign of His love for His Church, the only gift not forfeited by the fall of our first parents, Adam and Eve.

Saint Thomas Aquinas defines marriage as a bi-lateral contract whereby a man and a woman give to each other the mutual and exclusive rights to each other's bodies for acts which are suitable for the procreation of children.

Homosexual activity, homosexual "marriage" is a contradiction in terms. Sacred Scripture calls it an abomination! Its only fruit is the aids virus. Such unions in some of our public schools are taught as an "alternative lifestyle." Just one more manifestation of the culture of death in our world today!

Remember: God always forgives, if we are sorry. Man sometimes forgives. Nature never forgives. Thwart nature and nature rebels, often with a vengeance.

The greatest evil in the world is not sin. The greatest evil in the world is the denial of sin. Compunction, contrition resolution get rid of sin but the denial of sin perpetuates the sin and we are the losers in the process.

The ultimate in sin is to call evil good. Killing babies before they are born is called "pro choice" as though these murderers are in favor of the exercise of free will. Their opponents, the pro-life people, are called "anti-choice" as though we are not in favor of the exercise of free will.

Killing us old people off is called "euthanasia" (good and beautiful death). Death with dignity! Who would not want to die without a pamper or a diaper on? Our God created human life at its conception and He determines when it should end in death.

Pornography is another destroyer of the family. It is the ruination of the nation. It comes from two Greek words: poine = prostitute and graphein = to depict. Pornography depicts the antics of the prostitute. No spouse can compete with such antics. If a man finds his satisfaction with these images on the Internet he has no desire left for his wife. He has been spent elsewhere!

Ours is a culture of contraception. At the local pharmacy, the damnable condoms are on display right where you pick up your prescription as though they are some sort of remedy to find happiness in marriage. In reality contraception in marriage is no more than mutual masturbation, like trying to take a bath in a space suit. Our God never intended marital intimacy to be so unnatural.

I have heard of all sorts of reasons for divorce: some legitimate, some not so. The latest was a new one for me: "She is too holy!" What he should have said: "I am a slave of pornography and I have lost all desire for intimacy with my wife." Or how often I hear this one – "I'm tired of marriage. I don't want to be married to you any longer."
(Continued on back page)



Mother, Love Yourself!

Legitimate self-love is altogether different from selfishness. When you take care of your own needs reasonably: physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually you are fulfilling the command of the Lord: “Love your neighbor as you love yourself!” You must love yourself! To neglect to love yourself is a sin. It is only when you go to extremes and violate the rights of others that you move into the realm of selfishness and sin. If you do not take care of yourself, you are not going to be able to take care of the needs of your husband or your children. This is part of the fifth commandment.

To love yourself physically you must eat sensibly to maintain your strength, to get the rest and sleep to carry you through the day, and to get the proper recreation and exercise to stay healthy and balanced.

To love yourself mentally you permit yourself the intellectual stimulation of conversation, good reading, and the best on the internet and TV.

To love yourself emotionally you are open to sharing your deepest feelings with a trusted friend, preferably with your spouse, if he/she is your best friend.

To love yourself spiritually give yourself the time and the space to pray. Teach your children to pray and pray with them. You are worth your own time. Do not neglect God!

Prayer is allowing God, watching God, love you. God is love. Exposure to God is exposure to love. To love and to be loved is our greatest need. If I burn out in my love for myself or for my spouse or my children, might it be I have not allowed myself sufficiently to be loved by God. I am neglecting my fundamental reason for being in this world.

Jesus said: “Pray always!” Live in the state of grace with no unrepentant grave sin on your soul; do everything too with the intention of pleasing God. Then everything turns into the gold of merit for heaven.

Before and after meals would be a good time to start praying with your family. A little night prayer and a morning offering is a beautiful, practical way to frame your day.

Jesus encourages us to take one step higher in love. “Love your neighbor as I have loved you.” Humanly speaking we are not capable of this kind of love. It is always a gift given only to the humble heart.

The only thing Jesus ever explicitly asks us to learn is to be meek and humble of heart: meek, kind, gentle, courteous with other people and very humble in adoration and prostration before Him because He is God and you and I are not God. He did say: “Without Me, you can do nothing.” But listen to Saint Paul: “I can do all things in Him who strengthens me.” With God all things are possible.

This is the way to reach happiness in marriage. Learn to truly love yourself.

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“If you believe in the Gospel what you like, and reject what you don't like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself.”

– St. Augustine

Without Trust There Is No True Love

We must learn to forgive. We sinners cannot expect the forgiveness of God unless we in turn are willing to forgive those who have injured us.

I may never be able to trust such people again my entire life. Knowing the weakness and temptations of our hearts, I must receive a very special grace from God to trust culprits in the future. Fidelity in marriage is vitally important to establish the atmosphere of trust and love. Adultery is very difficult to forgive because trust has been destroyed. Remember you promised under vow to be faithful to one embrace.

To be lasting and true this trust begins in courtship. If God's law and His expectations are not honored by those preparing for marriage, what is to prevent the married man or woman from rationalizing their guilt away when they are apart from each other after marriage? It takes a miracle to reconcile after adultery. You cannot trust the adulterous any farther than you can throw them. The sixth commandment still makes good sense!

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Your Faith Will Save You And Your Children

Wouldn't it be great if the first conception our children ever heard about or read about was the Conception of the Son of God under the heart of the Virgin Mother of God? That would put all other conceptions into proper perspective to teach the sacredness of the beginning of human life. Teach your children to pray The Angelus and the first joyful mystery of the Rosary thoughtfully.

Our Catholic Faith can save us from all the distortions and aberrations of this culture of death.

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Saint Anne Bless My Family

My family is the heart of my life. It is my little Church. Saint Anne guard the members of my family against all spiritual and physical danger. You lived in the presence of your husband Joachim and your little daughter, Mary. Later, you welcomed your son-in-law, Saint Joseph, and above all your beloved Grandson, Jesus, our Savior. May your family inspire our families. May we remain united in deep mutual love. If my family is broken by separation or divorce, remain for us the Saint of tenderness and lead us to God. Saint Anne, you were a spouse, a mother, and a grandmother. Bless all the members of my family. Keep us faithful to the Lord. May we remain attentive to the needs of other families. Protect all families. Amen.

That Damnable Pornography

56% of divorce cases involve one party having an obsessive interest in pornographic websites.

One out of six women visit pornographic websites in the U.S.A.

2.5 billion pornographic e-mails are sent daily.

"Abortion and euthanasia are crimes which no human law can claim to legitimize."

- John Paul II

After the priest of God there is no one who exercises so wholesome an influence in religion and in the world as a truly Christian Mother.

"A country that permits the killing of babies before they are born cannot expect to be blessed by God."

- Father Angelus Shaughnessy

Whom Shall I Marry? – No More Important Decision! *(Continued from page 1)*

I have been counseling couples in marriage for more than fifty years - - in both hemispheres. One learns a lot about human nature during that time frame. Yes, "marriage is an adventure, like going to war." (Chesterton) One Christian mother told me she has the scars to prove it.

Some married people have made bad choices. How true! Others are so self-absorbed, self-centered and selfish. They will never be able to find happiness anywhere, especially in a vocation that calls for total unselfishness, living unconditionally for your spouse and your children.

Marriage is a school of Christian perfection where the call to love is constant and relentless. I have seen this love in some marriages so I know it is possible but only for those who live a life of union with God. Jesus did say, "Without me, you can do nothing." But listen to Saint Paul: "I can do all things in Him who strengthens me." With God all things are possible!

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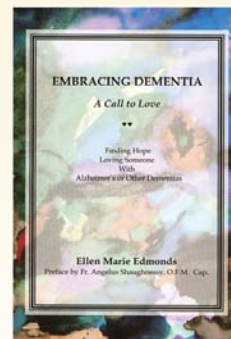
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Christian Mother's new website links



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Every Christian Mother in the world should have and be using the **"Mother Love" prayer book**. Therein is the relationship with God and others that we expect our Mother to live by day-by-day.

"Embracing Dementia" A Call to Love. This is a book to find hope loving someone with Alzheimer's and other Dementias written by Ellen Marie Edmonds with preface by Father Angelus Shaughnessy, O.F.M. Capuchin. "This thing called dementia is an experience of the darkest night. And yet we know that light is brighter when darkness is darker. Could it be that God has allowed the dark plague of dementia to help us see the light of His love? The author's love for God and for her husband, combined with her strong faith and hope enabled her to fully embrace her husband's illness and to companion him in the commitment of compassionate love. It is a story of faith, hope, and unconditional love." Father Angelus Shaughnessy



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