

Catholic Professional & Business Club of the Fresno Diocese

Volume 13 Number 2

Newsletter

Oct 2009

Fr. Leo Patalinghug Cooks for the CP&BC

By JoEllen Strait



known for his cooking. Fr. Leo feels that “signs” are very important (one of the most important and powerful one being the sign of the cross); and one sign that he feels is universal is food.



“down” with Bobby Flay (won by Fr. Leo by the way), and has PBS wanting to pick up his show.



sample his delicious pasta!

The CP&BC began its 2009/2010 season with a totally unique speaker. Introduced as the “Catholic, Cooking Cleric”, Fr. Leo Patalinghug prepared a delicious pasta dish while at the same time delivering his very insightful message. Fr. Leo is currently a member of the faculty at Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD, but is best

What began as an inside joke between Fr. Leo and a group of priests on retreat, eventually led to his writing the book “Grace Before Meals”, which is based on the concept of a priest feeding people in body, mind, and soul. Since that retreat, Fr. Leo has filmed a pilot which is on the web, has won a “People’s Choice Award” for his pod cast, had a “fajita throw-

Fr. Leo wanted to be a parish priest, but now finds himself at a seminary and competing against the Iron Chef! God took his hobby and turned it into a ministry. For Fr. Leo, food is a religious experience and through food he is able to win friends over for the Church. Feeding people in body, mind, and soul is a great act of love. Fr. Leo ended his presentation by inviting everyone to

October 9 – Mary Kay Hoal



Join the CP&BC in Fresno on Friday, October 9th, when Mary Kay Hoal will be the featured guest speaker. Ms. Hoal is the Founder, President, and COO of Yoursphere, the first social networking service for youth that puts safety first, and that parents can embrace. Yoursphere has been featured on CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox News and The National Catholic Register, among others. Be sure to make your reservations now for our October 9th breakfast!

“Food for Thought”

By CP&BC Spiritual Advisor – Msgr. Las Byrne



When one has the opportunity to visit places and enjoy a different environment, it can be a great opportunity for growth in maturity and growth in the spiritual life. We can become so set in our ways with closed minds that not even a good thought can enter. We are so locked into our ideas, whether conservative or liberal that neither reason nor faith can move us – this certainly prevents any kind of growth or maturity.

I had good reason to experience some of these feelings in Ireland & England this August. Governments coming to a stand still because partisan politics still seems to be preventing many good efforts to relieve the plight of the poor and those who are tested unfairly – the “*eye-opener*” is the obvious lack of *Love* in many – and the opposite evil of greed and “*look out for myself.*”

On the other hand we find the few who give evidence of understanding the basic commands of God’s Love – within my own relatives I detected a real zeal for helping others. They even thought the letter of the Law was not as important as the Spirit of the Law – an important concept for mature Christianity. I had a couple of nephews who on their own raised enough money to go to Africa and with 200 other volunteers built 200 homes for the needy people there in three weeks. To me that was much more important than reluctantly shaking hands at the Kiss of Peace. Get the message!! Love you all...*God bless.*

Book Review

By John Kasaian

A Refutation of Moral Relativism

By Peter Kreeft

Ignatius Press, paperbound

San Francisco 1999

ISBN 0-89870-731-5

The general public's attitude toward philosophy is often based on some ancient Greek treatise which is thought to have about as much bearing on modern life as the usefulness of medicinal leeches, snowshoes or buggy whips. The tragedy of this is that most of us tune out the importance of grasping what the current philosophical trends mean for our church, our faith and our culture. Right now, moral relativism is the default post-modern school of thought that is taught in (hmmm.... Perhaps more like the Jefferson Starship lyrics: "...creeping through your...") schools, celebrated in art, legislated in government (heck, even legislated by the courts---moral relativism supports the concept) and serves as the model for relationships personal, in business and even between nations. The history behind Moral Relativism as the law of the land is modern. No civilization before ours has had the ability to function without a universal concept of morality. While cultures may often differ on some issues, the most basic concepts remain common and universal (or *catholic*.) Our society therefore, has become a grand experiment and nobody appears to have warned us of the consequences. Moral relativism is also synonymous with the "culture of death" warned by both popes JPII and B XVI . This is why you should read this book.

Without assuming that the reader has a vocabulary consistent with a PhD in Philosophy or the mental gymnastics to memorize The Great Books verbatim, Peter Kreeft logically and near painlessly presents the arguments for and against (which would be "Absolutism") Moral Relativism through the classic vehicle of a discussion between an Absolutist and Moral Relativist. The reader is drawn into a debate between Isa (the Absolutist) and Libby (the Moral Relativist) The difference between this and the Plato you had to read in High School is that Isa and Libby aren't toga clad Greeks but former students of Kreeft's vacationing at Dr. Kreeft's surf shack on Martha's Vineyard (I wish I had such generous Profs! I should have picked my major more carefully!) The discourse is a series of interviews between Libby and Isa which are brief and to the point. Cool!

What really interested me in this book is what I could apply to what is going on today and how Moral Relativism has crept into nearly every element of society. As Isa points out to Libby, the freedoms promised by Moral Relativism are illusory while the intolerance with which Absolutism is painted is anything but intolerant. Consider moral issues of interest to Catholics (indeed, moral issues of interest to all citizens) such as abortion

and torture—ahem--- “enhanced interrogation techniques.” Now torture is absolutely (as in Absolutist) Evil in every case according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church as well as the Geneva Convention. The reasons given as to why “enhanced interrogation techniques” have been ordered is pure Moral Relativism---the ends justify the means and moral precepts (such as the Geneva Convention) don’t apply *in this case*. With the investigation by the Federal Attorney, comes the acceptance that torture has now been identified (or re-identified) as an absolute (as in Absolutist) Evil. The hypocrisy of Moral Relativism is evident because if there can be one evil, there can be others. The Moral Relativist denies the existence of Evil just as he denies the existence of an omnipotent Creator. If torture is Evil, so must abortion and homosexual marriage be Evil (because they violate natural law, a concept Moral Relativist refutes). Of course the Evils of abortion and homosexual marriage are now popularly considered to be “rights” by the executive, legislative and judicial branches of our federal government as well as being mandated by the United Nations.

It shouldn’t be a surprise that the political arena is rife with flip flopping and hypocrisy, but what about within Holy Mother Church? We Catholics tend to get confused about our Catholicism. Sadly a large number who identify themselves as Catholics are what is commonly referred to as “salad bar” Catholics, picking and choosing which precepts of the faith are do-able (or profitable) and which ones are inconvenient. This is a classic example of Moral Relativism as “Satan’s smoke having entered the Church.” If God is truly the one true God and the Catholic Church is the Mystical Body of Christ, then the Catholic gets a full plate---the Cross as well as the fluffy cloud and golden harp (while the Moral Relativist would grant that the notion of God is OK, if that’s what you personally need to ‘float your boat” the “salad bar” Catholic would simply take the cloud and the golden harp and pass on the Cross as being “inconvenient.” While one might expect such shenanigans from someone who has an early Sunday morning tee time to offer as an excuse for missing Mass, we all too often see priests (especially academics) and sadly even bishops and cardinals publicly acquiescing to the “easy way out” served up by Moral Relativism. The harm they do is immeasurable when a Prince of the Church demonstrates the lack of a spine on which to shoulder his cross. Thankfully such displays are rare and when they do happen are more likely met with a shower of prayers by the faithful for repentance.

Kreeft’s book will make you think about such things. If you are a parent, it should make you aware that Moral Relativism is what your children are exposed to on television, in movies and games and in school and that is in direct opposition to your Catholic faith, which is the greatest gift you’ll give to your children (if the seduction of Moral Relativism doesn’t get to them first.) Who’d think a philosophy book could be so useful? You can get your copy of [A Refutation of Moral Relativism](#) by Peter Kreeft from The Holy Child Book Store on the Northwest corner of Palm and Bullard.

Pastor Profile - Rev. Msgr. John Moreton

By Michael Lozano

Pastor – Our Lady of Victory Church, Fresno

2838 N. West Ave., Fresno, CA

(559) 226-1163

e-mail: olvchurch@hotmail.com

website: www.olvchurch-fresno.com

Weekend Masses: Vigil (Saturday): 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm (Spanish)
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon & 6:30pm
Weekday Masses: Weekdays: 6:30 am, 8:00 am



Msgr. Moreton was born in Los Angeles, California on October 14, 1937. His parents were James and Marcella Moreton. He is one of four siblings: Mary the oldest, Jim the second, and Bill was the fourth who died in February 2008. He attended Holy Spirit Grammar School and Loyola High School both located in Los Angeles. After high school he attended St. John's Seminary College in Camarillo, California.

He completed his theology studies at St. John's Theologate in Camarillo and was ordained a priest on April 30, 1964 at St. John's Cathedral in Fresno by Bishop Willinger. Msgr. Moreton has had several assignments. His first assignment was at St. Patrick's Church in Arroyo Grande. Then assignments at St. Therese Fresno, St. Mary's Visalia, Sacred Heart Exeter, Immaculate Heart Hanford, Sacred Heart Fresno, St. Francis Bakersfield, and is currently Pastor at Our Lady of Victory Fresno since 1997.

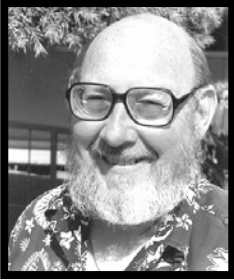
He was also Dean of the Fresno Metro Deanery twice. He was an altar server at his home parish of St. Agatha in Los Angeles and was attracted to the liturgical celebrations, particularly Holy Week, as a youngster. He was inspired by his parish priests and felt a calling to be a priest in late grammar school.

Msgr. likes to travel and goes to the coast for rest and relaxation. He is an avid reader, enjoys classical music, and also loves to teach. Besides teaching some RCIA classes, he has also taught in the New Wine program and the Permanent Diaconate Preparation program.

VISIT www.cpbcfresno.org FOR UPDATED INFORMATION
AND TO MAKE RESERVATIONS ON-LINE
BY CLICKING ON "RESERVATIONS"
AND THEN BY CLICKING ON "MAKE RESERVATIONS ON-LINE"

Personal Perspective - Apathy is a Four Letter Word + 2

By Lanny Larson



There's a pandemic in our nation that universal health care won't fix. There's no magic vaccine to fight it. Forcing fluids and bed rest won't help. I'm writing about apathy. Not exactly the kind that priests preach in their homilies, hoping to rouse believers in Jesus Christ beyond mere words to action reflecting our belief. Last time I checked, it was *Acts* – not *Apathy* – of the Apostles. This is apathetic citizenship. Recognize some symptoms?

- We believe our vote won't count or change anything, so why bother.
- We let term limits throw the rascals out.
- We blame lack of political will in Washington, Sacramento or our hometown for failing to resolve critical issues, but don't tell officials what we think.
- We fret over crime statistics, buy an alarm, give thanks we haven't been touched by crime and move on with life.
- We believe long prison terms or the death penalty deter crime.
- We stretch the truth about availability or exaggerate feelings in hopes of *not* being part of the 6th Amendment constitutional privilege of trial by jury.
- We don't follow news, saying, "It's always bad," then get surprised by issues we "never saw coming."
- We let rude extremists we don't even know tell us how to think and behave.

Most of us have been occasional apathetic citizens. Make apathy a habit, though, and kiss our aspirations as Americans – and those we have for our children and grandchildren – good-bye. I believe that as Catholics *and* U.S. citizens we must get apathy behind us, right there with Satan. We may not fully appreciate the impact of our action, just as we don't always understand unanswered prayers or challenges we don't "deserve," but act we must.

We can pledge to vote in every election; stay in contact with elected representatives; let people know we favor education, not incarceration as a crime deterrent; welcome jury duty; pay attention to credible media; and strive for objectivity over invective. Acting just on those would grab the attention of people with the power and the obligation to change things in our behalf. Apathy saps our ability to control our destiny.

Interesting when what we're told at Mass echoes the words of that great country-music philosopher Toby Keith: "... a little less talk and a lot more action."

Lanny Larson is editor of University Communications at California State University, Fresno. Comments are welcome at lannylarson@att.net.

49er Highlights – NEW Programming!

By Margarethe Herold



49/50 Fresno
38 Bakersfield

KNXT, your local Catholic TV station, has added several new shows to the monthly programming: **Real Food**, **Divine Intervention**, **Realfaith TV**, and **En Clave de Dios**.

Airing Mondays at 7:00 am and Saturdays at 2:00 pm, **Real Food** with Msgr. Jim Vlaun is a wonderful cooking program designed to help families recognize the value of gathering 'round the table with loved ones, nurturing their bodies with food and their souls with prayer.'

On Wednesdays at 11:30 am and Fridays at 10:00 pm, Fr. Joe DeGrocco hosts the exciting game show **Divine Intervention**. Viewers of all ages and backgrounds will enjoy this unique mix of Catholic life and pop culture as contestants use their knowledge of trivia and memory skills to win prizes.

Realfaith TV, a two-time Gabriel Award winning program for teenagers is airing on Thursdays at 10:30 pm and Saturdays at 6:00 pm. The show features teenagers speaking on issues or topics they face daily through discussions and interviews.

For our Spanish-speaking viewers, we have added a new program, **En Clave de Dios**, on Sundays at 2:00 pm. This is a wonderful live concert series airing just before the Sunday Pueblo de Dios.

FINAL WORDS

MEMBERSHIPS NEW & RENEWAL: If you haven't already renewed your membership, the October 9th breakfast is a great time. Annual dues are \$45.00 per person. For 9 breakfasts save \$2/breakfast and prepay your breakfasts for the entire year for just \$90.00. The total for membership and the pre-paid breakfasts is \$135.00.

THANKS TO SPONSORS: The CP&BC thanks our sponsors for the year: Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Mgt. Services; Big De Farms & Cattle/Dan Souza; DiBuduo & DeFendis Insurance; Dowling, Aaron & Keeler, Inc., Attorneys at Law; Electric Motor Shop; Frank A. Borges & Associates; Gary McKeighan Insurance; Jay Chapel/Wayne Gomes; Me-N-Ed's Pizzerias; Mike & Marybeth Hogan; Pardini's Catering & Banquets; QUALI-T-RUCK Services, Inc; Sheridan & Dorothy Loyd; Sierra West Warehouse, Inc; Tom McGowan/ Automated Office Systems; and, Whitehurst Sullivan Burns & Blair Funeral Home/Don Cardell. **Please consider becoming a sponsor now** to help pay the cost of printing and mailing nine issues to nearly 400 Catholics. If your interest and budget will allow we would appreciate a donation of up to \$200 since this helps defray the cost of one issue. Please contact Pat Ogle at 244-5609 to become a sponsor.

FUTURE CP&BC PROGRAMS

Pardini's – Van Ness Blvd. & Shaw – 7:00 to 8:30 a.m.
(Before Breakfast Is Served Enjoy Coffee & Networking)

Friday, October 9 – Mary Kay Hoal

A proud Catholic wife and mother of five children (both biological and adopted, ranging in age from 5-18 years old), Mary Kay faces the same challenges every parent does. While Mary Kay readily admits that she didn't "get" the whole online social networking phenomenon at first, she quickly recognized its importance in her kids' lives. After researching the disturbing landscape of social networking sites—including endless inappropriate content and thousands of predators targeting youth—Mary Kay's mission became clear: raise the bar. Conceived and founded by Mary Kay, Yoursphere is the first social networking service for youth that puts safety first, and that parents can embrace. Drawing on her corporate entrepreneurial experience, Mary Kay built the Yoursphere team. Yoursphere has been featured on CNN, Fox Business Network, ZENIT, The National Catholic Register, View From The Bay, Daytime TV, Fox News, ABC, NBC, CBS, is recommended by Reader's Digest and is approved by the Privacy Vaults Online Safe Harbor of the FTC. Mary Kay has been interviewed on over 60 major talk radio shows across the United States and UK. Mary Kay and husband Ted live in Davis, CA and are members of St. James Parish.

Future Speakers

November 13 – Enrico Hernandez, CFO, native San Franciscan
December 11 – Christmas Social

Meetings Scheduled

2nd Friday of the month except January, July & August
\$12 for Members / \$15 for Non-Members.

Reservations (434-2722) Deadline is Thursday Noon of Breakfast Week.

Reservations – Several Options

Deadline is Thursday Noon of Breakfast Week

Phone - 434-2722

Email – lorikrueger@att.net

Reservations Online – www.cpbcfresno.org
Click on “Reservations”/Can Pay with PayPal

Mail Reservations with Payments to: CP&BC
P.O. Box 9454, Fresno, CA 93792

Please note that CP&BC also requests that Pre-Paid members
call each month to confirm their attendance.

Membership & Renewal Application

JULY 1, 2009 TO JUNE 30, 2010

Breakfast Meetings are held on the second Friday of the month at 7:15 a.m., at Pardini's, Shaw & Van Ness in Fresno. Membership dues: **\$45.00 Per Person**. For 9 breakfasts save \$2/breakfast and prepay for the Year: **\$90.00. Total \$135.00** for membership and pre-paid breakfast plan. On-site monthly breakfasts are **\$12.00 Members - \$15.00 nonmembers**.

Mail Membership Dues To:

**CP&BC
P.O. Box 9454
FRESNO CA 93792**

CP&BC strives to obtain speakers in their professional field, men and women with a message to encourage and motivate members to live an ethical and exemplary Catholic lifestyle in their business and in their environment.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT STATES:

"FAITH - ETHICS - AND BUSINESS - NEED NOT BE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE"

Renewal (Only need your name unless there are corrections to last year's information)

New Member

NAME: _____

DATE: _____ PARISH: _____

NAME OF FIRM: _____

BUS.#: _____ FAX#: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE (Home): _____ FAX # (Home): _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

MAIL NEWSLETTER TO: (Circle one) HOME ADDRESS BUSINESS ADDRESS

OR

DO YOU PREFER PAPERLESS CORRESPONDENCE BY USING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS