



Catholics United for the Faith

Affirming Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee

St. Gregory VII Chapter
September, 2015

Dr. Duke Pesta to discuss "Dostoyevsky, God and the Devil" on Sept. 20

Dr. Duke Pesta is a professor of English at the University of Wisconsin in Oshkosh. He received his M.A. in Renaissance literature from John Carroll University, and his Ph.D. in Shakespeare and Renaissance literature from Purdue University. He has taught courses on Shakespeare, Renaissance literature, the Bible, Russian literature, Christian Apologetics, and C.S. Lewis. He was raised in Catholic schools, and also taught for some time in a Catholic high school.

Dr. Pesta has pointed out on occasion that he is the only English literature professor at UW-Oshkosh who teaches "Shakespeare and C. S. Lewis." According to a 4-13-14 *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* article, "Pesta is engaging and popular; his students at UW-Oshkosh say you can give him the opening line of any section of a Shakespeare play and he can recite the next 10 lines." The article also quotes a student from Stoughton who insists that Dr. Pesta is "easily in the top five professors I've had, and I've been here [UW-Oshkosh] five years...I think the way he teaches is quite brilliant." (emphasis added)

Dr. Pesta is also the academic director of Freedom Project Education, an online home school curriculum, rooted in Judeo-Christian values. Please come, and bring a friend to hear Dr. Duke Pesta discuss:

"Dostoyevsky, God and the Devil"

WHERE: St. John the Evangelist Church Hall

(Enter from north parking lot.)

WHEN: Sunday, September 20

TIME: 2:00 p.m. - Program 1:45 p.m. - Rosary

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Is your parish religious education/Confirmation program adequate?

As previously pointed out, if your parish is using either *The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth* (St. Mary's Press), or *Catholic Essentials* (Ave Maria Press), your students are **not** receiving an adequate Catholic education. (See editor's book reviews at www.cufmilwaukee.org) We have recently discovered an excellent high school (CCD) program that we can highly recommend - the "Parish Edition" of the popular "Didache Series." Midwest Theological Forum publishes this "Parish Edition" in a paperback that sells for \$14, a book specifically designed for a once-a-week high school format. In fact, the **Diocese of Lincoln** mandates the "Parish Edition" books for all diocesan, high school CCD programs. They are: - *Understanding the Scriptures*, (9) - *The Sacraments*, (10) - *Our Moral Life in Christ*, (11) and - *History of the Church*, (12). The **Diocese of Lincoln** also requires the Ignatius Press "Faith and Life" grade school series for all elementary schools, as does Bishop Robert Vasa in the **Diocese of Santa Rosa**, California. The "Faith and Life" books should also be mandated in this diocese.

The bishops in Lincoln and Santa Rosa, by requiring these catechetical programs, are acting according to the directives given by **Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB**, former **Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education**. In his 2006 publication, *The Holy See's Teaching on Catholic Schools*, he makes clear that "the bishop's pastoral leadership is pivotal in...ensuring the catholicity of the schools in his pastoral care...It is he who must judge whether the children in the Catholic schools in his diocese are receiving the fullness of the Church's faith in their catechetical and religious formation." If necessary, the bishop does so by exercising veto power "over texts, curricula, or teachers..." (pp. 34-35) In his 63 page directive, Archbishop Miller does not mention a "Director of Religious Education," or a "Superintendent of Schools."

The September, 2015, Prayer Intentions published by Pope Francis

During September, Pope Francis has asked that we pray for two intentions: 1) **Opportunities for the Young**. That opportunities for education and employment may increase for all young people, and 2) **Catechists**. That catechists may give witness by living in a way consistent with the faith they proclaim. For information regarding the **Apostleship of Prayer**, contact Fr. James Kubicki, S.J., or visit: apostleshipofprayer.org

Continued from page 3... "Archbishops at odds" (8-12-15 article from LifeSiteNews)

"But if you would be 'no less appalled' to learn that I had been chopped into pieces, and the parts sold to the highest bidder, I'm afraid I can't count you as my friend." In his column, Chaput pointed out the double standard often employed by social justice advocates with regard to approaches in fighting abortion. "A case is sometimes made that abortion is mainly a cultural and moral issue, and politics is a poor solution to the problem," he wrote. "The curious thing is that some of the same voices that argue against political action on the abortion issue seem quite comfortable urging vigorous political engagement on issues like health care, homelessness and the environment."

Calling Planned Parenthood's actions "repugnant," the Philadelphia archbishop said the Senate ought to have defunded the abortion giant in its recent vote. "The failure of that measure involves a public failure of character by every Catholic senator who voted against it," he added. Chaput also cited the "seamless garment" theory, saying it makes no sense to defend the cause of unborn children if one ignores their basic needs once they're born. But he was unambiguous in stating that protecting human life has to come first before other issues. "But of course," he wrote, "children need to *survive* the womb before they can have needs like food, shelter, immigration counseling and good health care."

Plan to attend the Msgr. Popek Award with Fr. Dennis Kleinmann on October 11

Please join us in welcoming Fr. Dennis Kleinmann back to Milwaukee to receive the 2015 Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek Award. Fr. Kleinmann grew up in the Milwaukee area and was **secretary-treasurer** of this **St. Gregory VII Chapter** from 1983 until 1986, when he left to enter the seminary in Arlington, VA. He was ordained in 1993 for the Diocese of Arlington. Of course, we were sorry to lose him, but the Church gained a faithful, dedicated priest. He is a dear friend, and we invite you to return the enclosed registration form and join us as we celebrate Fr. Kleinmann's well-deserved Msgr. Popek Award.

"Catechetical Corner" What are the Spiritual Works of Mercy?

According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "The spiritual works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities." (#2447) They are: 1) **admonishing the sinner**, 2) **instructing the ignorant**, 3) **counseling the doubtful**, 4) **comforting the sorrowful**, 5) **bearing wrongs patiently**, 6) **forgiving all injuries**, and 7) **praying for the living and the dead**.

Catholics United for the Faith

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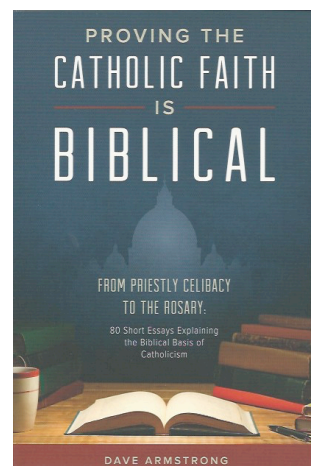
Book of the Month: *Proving the Catholic Faith is Biblical*

Author: By Dave Armstrong

Publisher: Sophia Institute Press, 2015

"If you want quick, substantive answers to the most common (and even several uncommon) claims that Catholic beliefs and practices aren't biblical, then *Proving the Catholic Faith Is Biblical* is the book for you. In these pages, veteran apologist Dave Armstrong carefully walks you through the key teachings of the Church, revealing how each is rooted in Scripture. He begins with several essays on tradition before moving into ecclesiology, explaining the basis of a single Church, why priests are called Father, and whether Church councils are more authoritative than the pope. Armstrong then justifies priestly celibacy before moving into the theology of salvation...Reading this book, you'll come to see that not only is the Catholic Faith thoroughly biblical, it is also the only Christian religion in full conformity with Scripture."

Contributors of \$12 or more per year to the Chapter receive discounts on books displayed at CUF meetings, and receive the Newsletter by First Class Mail.



“Archbishops at odds: Philly vs. Chicago on baby parts scandal”

LifeSiteNews

August 12, 2015

August 12, 2015 (LifeSiteNews) – Philadelphia Archbishop Charles Chaput penned a strong article Monday that, whether intentionally or not, is a clear corrective to a much-criticized response to the developing Planned Parenthood scandal by another major U.S. archbishop. Chicago Archbishop Blasé Cupich had condemned the abortion giant’s atrocities in an August 3 op-ed for the *Chicago Tribune*, but argued that “we should be no less appalled” by those who suffer unemployment or from bad immigration laws, among other concerns. According to Catholic World News editor Phil Lawler, in Cupich’s piece, “the ‘seamless garment’ jumps the shark.”

On the other hand, Chaput’s article was focused on making the case that suggesting a moral equivalence between the intentional killing of innocent human life and other issues defies common sense and a basic grasp of morals. “The deliberate killing of innocent life is a uniquely wicked act,” he wrote. “No amount of contextualizing or deflecting our attention to other issues can obscure that.” The *National Catholic Register* highlighted the archbishops’ diverging views in a Facebook post Tuesday.

Chaput opened his article with a plain and clear-cut illustration. “Here’s a simple exercise in basic reasoning. On a spectrum of bad things to do, theft is bad, assault is worse and murder is worst. There’s a similar texture of ill will connecting all three crimes, but only a very confused conscience would equate thieving and homicide. Both are serious matters. But there is no equivalence.” Titled “There is no equivalence,” Chaput’s column clearly states that the right to life is the foundation of all other rights. “Humanity’s *priority* right – the one that undergirds all other rights – is the right to life,” he wrote.

In his *Chicago Tribune* op-ed, Cupich invoked the “consistent ethic of life” or “seamless garment” concept to say Americans should be just as disgusted by health care access, the nation’s faulty immigration system, racism, hunger, unemployment, gun violence and capital punishment, as with Planned Parenthood’s killing unborn children and selling fetal tissue for profit. “This newest evidence about the disregard for the value of human life also offers the opportunity to reaffirm our commitment as a nation to a consistent ethic of life,” he wrote. “While commerce in the remains of defenseless children is particularly repul-

“Chaput’s column clearly states that the right to life is the foundation of all other rights. Humanity’s *priority* right...”

sive, we should be no less appalled by the indifference toward the thousands of people who die daily for lack of decent medical care; who are denied rights by a broken immigration system and by racism; who suffer in hunger, joblessness and want; who pay the price of violence in gun-saturated neighborhoods; or who are executed by the state in the name of justice.”

Archbishop Cupich’s comments have reinforced his reputation as a “progressive” bishop, an angle repeatedly covered in the press since his appointment last year in Chicago. Cupich has faced strong criticism from pro-life and pro-family activists. He has advocated allowing Holy Communion for pro-abortion Catholic politicians, and he reportedly forbade his priests from taking part in the semi-annual 40 Days for Life vigil when he was bishop of Spokane. He also faced scrutiny over his response to the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to re-define marriage, focusing primarily on decrying discrimination against homosexuals rather than criticizing the imposition of same-sex “marriage.” Cupich was named last fall as an alternate to the Vati-

can’s 2015 Ordinary Synod on the Family, but media reports this week, not yet completely confirmed, indicate that Pope Francis has chosen him as a delegate and not simply an alternate, a choice that would likely compound concerns already present over the Synod’s impact on life and family. Other U.S. bishops slated to attend the Synod include Archbishop Chaput, Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez, Louisville Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, and Galveston-Houston Cardinal Daniel DiNardo. The latter two are the president and vice president of the USCCB, respectively. San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone had been chosen last fall as an alternate along with Archbishop Cupich, but there is no word on whether Archbishop Cordileone, a strong life and family proponent, will be moved from alternate status to actual delegate along with Cupich.

While Chaput did not direct any overt criticism to Cupich, Phil Lawler clearly highlighted the problem with the Chicago archbishop’s approach. “If Archbishop Cupich means to compare the Planned Parenthood scandal with all the other horrors taking place around the world, it’s curious that he doesn’t mention the slaughter of Christians in the Middle East,” he wrote August 6. “If he’s restricting his focus to the U.S., then his claim that ‘thousands’ of people die ‘daily’ because they lack access to medical care is shameless hyperbole.” Lawler brought up Archbishop Cupich’s mention of the death penalty saying he opposes it as well. “But I can’t say that I am ‘no less appalled’ by the execution of a convicted serial killer than the destruction of an innocent child,” Lawler countered. “The two are not morally equivalent actions.” In concluding he drew a contrast between life and one of the many issues Cupich had presented as equivalent. “Joblessness? I’ve been unemployed. I’d like to think that upon reading this, you feel a pang of sympathy,” Lawler stated. (Continued on page 2...)

THE FALL-WINTER- SPRING SCHEDULE:

- September 20 **DOSTOYEVSKY, GOD AND THE DEVIL, by Dr. Duke Pesta**
- October 11 **MSGR. POPEK AWARD DINNER----Recipient: Rev. Fr. Dennis Kleinmann**
- November 22 **SYNOD ON THE FAMILY, THE AFTERMATH, by Phillip Gray (canon lawyer)**
- December 13 **MSGR. POPEK BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS DINNER**
- January 17 **TO BE ANNOUNCED**
- February 21 **AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION, by Fr. James Kubicki, S.J. (at Sacred Heart Church)**
- March 20 **TO BE ANNOUNCED**
- April 17 **TO BE ANNOUNCED**
- May 15 **TO BE ANNOUNCED**



Catholics United for the Faith

To Support, Defend and Advance the Efforts of the Teaching Church

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Join us October 11 as
Fr. Dennis Kleinmann receives the
Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek Award

Come and hear

Dr. Duke Pesta
Professor of English, UW Oshkosh
Academic Director, Freedom Project Education

discuss

“Dostoyevsky, God and the Devil”

Sunday, September 20
St. John the Evangelist Church Hall
8500 West Cold Spring Road