The Catholic Church of the

Immaculate Conception

2540 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110 619 295-4141 FA 619 295-4142 e-mail: parish@ic-sandiego.org Website: www.ic-sandiego.org

February 01, 2015

Rev. Richard L. Perozich, Pastor pastor@ic-sandiego.org

Rev. Msgr. Robert Ecker, Weekend Associate

Deacon Robert H. Fitzmorris

rfitzmor@diocese-sdiego.org; 858 490-8332

Liz Fielder, Manager, Serra Gifts fielder@ic-sandiego.org

Connie Rodriquez, Parish Secretary parish@ic-sandiego.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday: Noon to 4:00 pm

Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday at 8:00 am **First Friday Mass & Devotion:** 8:00 am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:15 P.M.

Sunday Morning: 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.

Sunday Evening: 5:15 P.M.

Holy Day Masses: 8 A.M., 7:00 P.M.

Penance: For daily Mass goers 7:30 AM, For Parish on

Saturday: 4:30 to 5:00 P.M., and by appointment

Baptisms & RCIA: *By appointment only*. Please email Deacon Fitzmorris at rfitzmor@diocese-sdiego.org.

Weddings: By appointment only. Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance. Please contact the

office

Funerals: For arrangements, please call the parish office.



History of Immaculate Conception Parish

It was here in Old Town that Father Junipero Serra celebrated his First Holy Mass in California on July 2, 1769, near the site of the present Immaculate Conception Church, and it was on the hill overlooking Old Town that he planted the cross which marked the site of the Mission and the Presidio.

In 1849, the first parish church was established in Old Town with the name of Immaculate Conception and was dedicated in 1858. It still stands and is known as the Old Adobe Chapel on Conde Street. The cornerstone to the present Immaculate Conception Church was laid in 1868 under the direction of Father Antonio Ubach. With the population swing toward the south, it was not until July 6, 1919, that the church was dedicated by Archbishop John J. Cantwell of Los Angeles.

WE PRAY

MASS INTENTIONS				
2	8AM	The Presentation of the Lord Priest's Intentions	RP	
3	8AM	St. Blaise, St. Ansgar	RE	
4	8AM	†Robert McMahon <i>Weekdays</i>	RP	
5	8AM	Donna & Fred Levine, SI St. Agatha	RP	
6	8 AM	Priest's Intentions St. Paul Miki & Companions	R P	
_		Rev. Msgr. Robert Ecker, SI		
7	8AM	Weekday, BVM Rev. Richard Perozich, SI	RP	
8	5:15PM 8:30 AM	†Rosa Balistreri Priest's Intentions	R P R P	
	10:00 AM	Priest's Intentions	RE	
	11:30 AM 5:15 PM	†William Kennedy People of Immaculate Conception	R P R P	

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

February: Intentions of the Holy Father *Universal*:: That prisoners, especially the young, may be able to rebuild lives of dignity.

be able to rebuild lives of dignity.

Evangelization: That married people who are separated may find welcome and support in the Christian community.

PRAY: SEMINARIANS IN THEOLOGY			
3rd	David Exner North American College Rome,		
3rd	Brian Frice Mt. Angel Seminary OR		
4th	Bernardo Lara Mt. Angel Seminary, OR		
1st	Oscar Lopez, Mt. Angel Seminary OR		
2nd	Nathan McWeeney Mt. Angel Seminary OR		
1st	Eric Tamayo North American College Rome		
3rd	Corey Tufford North American College Rome,		
3rd	Derek Twilliger Mt. Angel Seminary OR		
3rd	Billy Zondler, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR		

	PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS				
2 3	Bishop Robert Brom Bishop Gilbert Chavez				
5	Rev. Dennis O'Connor Rev. Raymond O'Donnell Rev. Msgr. Patrick O'Neill				
7 8	Rev. Agustin Opalalic Very Rev. Bruce Orsborn				

PRAY THE SCRIPTURES

Monday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26-32; Mk 5:21-43 Wednesday: Heb 12:4-15; Ps 103:1-18; Mk 6:1-6 Thursday: Heb 12:18-24; Ps 48:2-11; Mk 6:7-13 Friday: Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1-9; Mk 6:14-29 Saturday: Heb 13:15-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jesus, we ask you to bring your peace and healing touch to those who are ill, afraid or worried. Amen

Bob Curry Floyd Watson. Joanne Daleo, Marie Whitman, Albina Farrie. Martha Zamudio, Julie Fish Carlos Amaya, Esther Fitch Fred Levine, Lydia Castillo Herrera Ed Oleata, Mike Rodriguez, Margaret Kelly, Patricia Kennedy, Lisa Becerra, Dorothy Kleint, Maguire Fitzpatrick Deena Marchiano. Tony Jenkins Dena Mendoza, Peter Nalwalker **Bob Witt** Jean Miller. Patricia O'Grady. Frank Garay Connor Domsitz Lupe Riccio. Mary Jane Tiernan, Gustavo Sosa Marguerite Vorst, Frances Garcia

PRAY FOR OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY

Jesus, protect all who serve our country.

Sgt. Ahmed John Alexander,
Natalie Augustine,
Major Jeny Bloomquist,
Col. Mike Bodkin,
Danny Carpenter, USMC,
LTJG Joseph Colangelo, USN;
Cpl. Samuel James Comer,
Daniel Dinglebeck, USN, PFC
David Eley, USMC,
Micah Emery,
Sgt. Christopher Escalona,
Capt. Pedro Esquivel,
1Lt. Cortez Fabia,
Juan Carlos Galazza;

SSGT. Vincent Charles Lucario:

William Kennedy

Robert Clinton Long, MC2; Sgt. Adriana Matizel; Wendell Miculob, LTJG Joe F. Moralez, USN; LCPL Matthew A. Pena; Sgt.Richard Pierce; Sgt. William Paul Powers and Cinco, CPL Wilson Santiago; Alfred Tello;

Tony Tulloss; PFC Travis Vliet; & 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.

Ricky Thibeault;

Joseph Moreno

†PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED †

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace Amen.

Robert McMahon,
David Diaz
Margie Gautier
Patrick Piggot
Rodney Serrano
Concepción Garza
Richard Solís Moreno
Laura Marks
Alvin Weaver
William Bethel
Lillian Sinclair
Olga Hritz
Imelda Hoeckelmann
Angelina Olivarez
Alice Perry

CHRIST IS PRESENT TO HIS CHURCH

-Second Vatican Council Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

Christ is always present to his Church, especially in

FROM THE PASTOR

the actions of the liturgy. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, in the person of the minister (it is the same Christ who formerly offered himself

on the cross that now offers by the ministry of priests) and most of all under the eucharistic species. He is present in the sacraments by his power, in such a way that when someone baptizes, Christ himself baptizes. He is present in his word, for it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the Church. Finally, he is present when the Church prays and sings, for he himself promised: Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there in their midst.

Indeed, in this great work which gives perfect glory to God and brings holiness to men, Christ is always joining in partnership with himself his beloved Bride, the Church, which calls upon its Lord and through him gives worship to the eternal Father.

It is therefore right to see the liturgy as an exercise of the priestly office of Jesus Christ, in which through signs addressed to the senses man's sanctification is signified and, in a way proper to each of these signs, made effective, and in which public worship is celebrated in its fullness by the mystical body of Jesus Christ, that is, by the head and by his members.

Accordingly, every liturgical celebration, as an activity of Christ the priest and of his body, which is the Church, is a sacred action of a pre-eminent kind. No other action of the Church equals its title to power or its degree of effectiveness.

In the liturgy on earth we are given a foretaste and share in the liturgy of heaven, celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem, the goal of our pilgrimage, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God, as minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle. With the whole company of heaven we sing a hymn of praise to the Lord; as we reverence the memory of the saints, we hope to have some part with them, and to share in their fellowship; we wait for the Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, until he, who is our life, appears, and we appear with him in glory.

By an apostolic tradition taking its origin from the very day of Christ's resurrection, the Church celebrates the paschal mystery every eighth day, the day that is rightly called the Lord's day. On Sunday the Christian faithful ought to gather together, so that by listening to the word of God and sharing in the Eucharist they may recall the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus and give thanks to God who has given them a new birth with a lively hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The Lord's day is therefore the first and greatest festival, one to be set before the loving devotion of the faithful and impressed upon it, so that it may be also a day of joy and of freedom from work. Other celebrations must

not take precedence over it, unless they are truly of the greatest importance, since it is the foundation and the kernel of the whole liturgical year.

WHERE SIN ABOUNDED GRACE HAS OVERFLOWED

- Saint Bernard, abbot

Where can the weak find a place of firm security and peace, except in the wounds of the Savior? Indeed, the more secure is my place there the more he can do to help me. The world rages, the flesh is heavy, and the devil lays his snares, but I do not fall, for my feet are planted on firm rock. I may have sinned gravely. My conscience would be distressed, but it would not be in turmoil, for I would recall the wounds of the Lord: he was wounded for our iniquities. What sin is there so deadly that it cannot be pardoned by the death of Christ? And so if I bear in mind this strong, effective remedy, I can never again be terrified by the malignancy of sin.

Surely the man who said: My sin is too great to merit pardon, was wrong. He was speaking as though he were not a member of Christ and had no share in his merits, so that he could claim them as his own, as a member of the body can claim what belongs to the head. As for me, what can I appropriate that I lack from the heart of the Lord who abounds in mercy? They pierced his hands and feet and opened his side with a spear. Through the openings of these wounds I may drink honey from the rock and oil from the hardest stone: that is, I may taste and see that the Lord is sweet.

He was thinking thoughts of peace, and I did not know it, for who knows the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor? But the piercing nail has become a key to unlock the door, that I may see the good will of the Lord. And what can I see as I look through the hole? Both the nail and the wound cry out that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself. The sword pierced his soul and came close to his heart, so that he might be able to feel compassion for me in my weaknesses.

Through these sacred wounds we can see the secret of his heart, the great mystery of love, the sincerity of his mercy with which he visited us from on high.

Where have your love, your mercy, your compassion shone out more luminously that in your wounds, sweet, gentle Lord of mercy? More mercy than this no one has than that he lay down his life for those who are doomed to death.

My merit comes from his mercy; for I do not lack merit so long as he does not lack pity. And if the Lord's mercies are many, then I am rich in merits. For even if I am aware of many sins, what does it matter? Where sin abounded grace has overflowed. And if the Lord's mercies are from all ages for ever, I too will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever. Will I not sing of my own righteousness? No, Lord, I shall be mindful only of your justice. Yet that too is my own; for God has made you my righteousness.

AROUND THE PARISH

Gifts of Treasure

With gratitude for the gifts we have received, parishioners and visitors made a joyful return to the Lord.

January 25, 2015

Total Collection: \$4,940.66

Parishioners: \$3001.69.00 Visitors: \$1,938.07 Total contributing households: 91

5:15 Sat	\$790.97
8:30 Sun	\$878.32
10:00 Sun	\$1320.69
11:30 Sun	\$ 816.68
5:15 Sun	\$ 584.00
Mailed	\$ 550.00

EXPENSES

January 19-23, 2015

Music Ministry
Office supplies
Payroll
Gas & Electric
Total: \$8.697.32

Getting to Know More About...

Series presented by James Harris Feb. 5--7 pm --See bulletin insert for details.

FAMILY CATECHESIS

Continues on February 8 from 9:45 - 10:45. Immaculate Conception offers Family Catechesis in the brides' room of the hall to prepare children and parents the faith. Classes meet every two weeks

Centering Prayer

The Immaculate Conception Centering Prayer Group welcomes newcomers to attend and learn the method of Christian contemplative prayer.

Thursday Evening-February 12 Immaculate Conception—Serra Hall 7:00-8:30 pm

WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION!

To register at the parish, please fill out the form below, and drop it in the basket or call the office at 295-4141.

NAME	
STREET	
CITY/ ZIP	
PHONE	

2015 Calendars are now available. Parishioners are invited to pick up calendars in Serra Hall after Mass.

Ash Wednesday, February 18

Mass--8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Distribution of Ashes Liturgy of Word: 12 Noon

Support Group for Separated/Divorced (Available at in Coronado and Solana Beach)

Sacred Heart Parish offers a free 13-week healing support group for the separated and divorced beginning Tuesday, February 10, and ending May 5. It is held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Church Ministry Center, 655 C Avenue, Coronado. For information, call Martha, 619.435.6136 or Tom, 619.437.6689, or go online: http://www.sacredheartcor.org/content/new-paths-separated-and-divorced

Support for anyone suffering from the pain and loss associated with a separation or divorce. We meet Sundays at 10:15 a.m. at **St. James Catholic Church** – Ministry Center in Solana Beach. For more information contact Frank Grant at (760) 533–1520, fwgrant@gmail.com or Jan Nadler PhD at (760) 814–8604.



2015 Baptism Schedule

Feb 2 Class Feb 8 Baptisms (see ic-sandiego.org for more dates)

A MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN, FRANCE & PORTUGAL:

You are invited to join us on a once-in-a-lifetime 'Pilgrimage to Spain, France & Portugal,' 14-days, September 28 to October 11, 2015. Includes visits to Barcelona, Zaragoza, Lourdes, Santiago, Porto, Fatima, Lisbon & more! Only \$3,599 from San Diego (SAN), plus \$680 in airport taxes and \$165 in tips. Under the Spiritual Direction of Fr. Richard Perozich. To download the free color brochure and registration form, visit www.GoCatholicTravel.com/Perozich, or for more information, please contact Fr. Richard Perozich at (619) 295-4141 x11 or send an email to pastor@ic-sandiego.org. Space is limited. Register today. Info at parish office or on main page of IC's website: http://www.ic-sandiego.org.

AROUND THE PARISH

Parish Calendar						
February						
02	11:00 a.m.					
03	Gentle Stretch Class Pastoral Council (members)	5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.				
04	Finance Council (members) Choir Practice RCIA	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.				
05	Getting to KnowProgram	6:30 p.m.				
08	Parish Registration Sunday Parish Breakfast Family Catechesis	9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m.				
10	Gentle Stretch Class	5:00 p.m				
11	Choir Practice RCIA	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.				
12	Centering Prayer	7:00 p.m.				
16	Presidents Day Parish office will be closed.					
17	Gentle Stretch Class	5:00 p.m.				
18	Ash Wednesday Choir Practice RCIA	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.				
20	Soup Supper Stations of the Cross	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.				
22	Quarters & Cans Sunday Family Catechesis	9:45 a.m.				
24	RECOSS conference Gentle Stretch Class EMSD	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.				
25	RECOSS conference Choir Practice RCIA	8:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.				
26	Centering Prayer	7:00 p.m.				
27	Soup Supper Stations of the Cross	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.				

WE ARE CATHOLIC. WELCOME HOME.

Visit www.catholicscomehome.org

LOVE OUR PRIESTS Prayer Group

Save the date: Saturday, February 28 Special Mass honoring our pastor, Fr. Richard Perozich

Ascension Parish, 10 a.m 11292 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego

FAITH FROM THE CATECHISM

172 Through the centuries, in so many languages, cultures, peoples and nations, the Church has constantly confessed this one faith, received from the one Lord, transmitted by one Baptism, and grounded in the conviction that all people have only one God and Father. St. Irenaeus of Lyons, a witness of this faith, declared:

173 "Indeed, the Church, though scattered throughout the whole world, even to the ends of the earth, having received the faith from the apostles and their disciples. . . guards [this preaching and faith] with care, as dwelling in but a single house, and similarly believes as if having but one soul and a single heart, and preaches, teaches and hands on this faith with a unanimous voice, as if possessing only one mouth."

174 "For though languages differ throughout the world, the content of the Tradition is one and the same. The Churches established in Germany have no other faith or Tradition, nor do those of the Iberians, nor those of the Celts, nor those of the East, of Egypt, of Libya, nor those established at the center of the world. . ." The Church's message "is true and solid, in which one and the same way of salvation appears throughout the whole world."

175 "We guard with care the faith that we have received from the Church, for without ceasing, under the action of God's Spirit, this deposit of great price, as if in an excellent vessel, is constantly being renewed and causes the very vessel that contains it to be renewed."

176 Faith is a personal adherence of the whole man to God who reveals himself. It involves an assent of the intellect and will to the self-revelation God has made through his deeds and words.

177 "To believe" has thus a twofold reference: to the person, and to the truth: to the truth, by trust in the person who bears witness to it.

178 We must believe in no one but God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

179 Faith is a supernatural gift from God. In order to believe, man needs the interior helps of the Holy Spirit.

180 "Believing" is a human act, conscious and free, corresponding to the dignity of the human person.

181 "Believing" is an ecclesial act. The Church's faith precedes, engenders, supports and nourishes our faith. The Church is the mother of all believers. "No one can have God as Father who does not have the Church as Mother" (St. Cyprian, *De unit*. 6: PL 4, 519).

182 We believe all "that which is contained in the word of God, written or handed down, and which the Church proposes for belief as divinely revealed" (Paul VI, CPG § 20)

PARISH & COMMUNITY

2014 Contribution Letter

If you wish to receive a letter for your 2014 donations, please contact the parish office to request one. Call 619-295-4141 or email parish@ic-sandiego.org. If you call, please provide your phone number for a callback.

SHOP IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS!!

The Gift Shop volunteers act as liaison for Immaculate Conception Church by giving out general information of the area to all visitors.

Whether you want to volunteer once a week, once a month or more, and enjoy meeting people and making new friends...**This is for you!**

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Liz Fielder, Gift Shop Manager at 619.295.4141, ext. 13, or email lfielder@ic-sandiego.org for more information.

Natural Family Planning

Sympto-thermal method. 2015

Classes 1 to 4 are needed. Instructors: Dave & Cheryl Ross

Class 1 is February 11 at the Pastoral Center at 6:30 pm

Class 2 is **February 25**;

Class 3 is March 25

Class 4 is April 22.

All are Wednesday evenings.

To register: contact <u>davidandcherylross@gmail.com</u>

or call/text (619)-279-3735

NFP is safe, effective (99.6%) and inexpensive (\$100/couple)

Holy Heroes! Called to Be Saints, Sent Forth as Heroes---A Day Retreat for Young Adults

Sat, February 28th at 9:30AM-3:30PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Center - 3888 Paducah Dr. Come join fellow young adults (Ages 18-39) for a day retreat as we reflect on living our faith in today's world! Loving God and actively sharing the faith is how San Pedro Calungsod, a recently canonized young Filipino missionary, lived and died. May we follow his example of being truly a holy hero. Eucharistic Celebration 4:00PM. *Free event with lunch provided. RSVP to Roland at rrs2605@yahoo.com Facebook.com/SPCRetreat

EVANGELII GAUDIUM- Pope Francis

40. The Church is herself a missionary disciple; she needs to grow in her interpretation of the revealed word and in her understanding of truth. It is the task of exegetes and theologians to help "the judgment of the Church to mature". The other sciences also help to accomplish this, each in its own way. With reference to the social sciences, for example, John Paul II said that the Church values their research, which helps her "to derive concrete indications helpful for her magisterial mission". Within the Church countless issues are being studied and reflected upon with great freedom. Differing currents of thought in philosophy, theology and pastoral practice, if open to being reconciled by the Spirit in respect and love, can enable the Church to grow, since all of them help to express more clearly the immense riches of God's word. For those who long for a monolithic body of doctrine guarded by all and leaving no room for nuance, this might appear as undesirable and leading to confusion. But in fact such variety serves to bring out and develop different facets of the inexhaustible riches of the Gospel.

Serra Gifts...

Street Level of Fr. Serra Hall 619-297-3426



Open 7 days a week Monday - Friday 9:00 -4:00 Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 Sunday 9:30 to 3:00

Serra Gifts offers a beautiful assortment of religious items for your home, for your family and friends, and for the holiday season.

Remember, your purchases help to support our parish.

Re-usable shopping bags with Immaculate Conception logo,

Check out new items that arrive weekly.

THANK YOU

WHO WILL DEFEND FREE SPEECH IN AMERICA?

Cliff Kincaid

In a story about Bret Baier's withdrawal from a Catholic conference, where he was planning to speak about his Catholic faith, the website known as Mediaite noted that Republican Governor Bobby Jindal (LA) was going to go through with his appearance at the event. But the website warned him about the consequences of offending the homosexual lobby. "Given the controversy that follows House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA) more than a decade after he allegedly spoke before a group connected to white supremacists, Jindal, who has presidential ambitions of his own, must be giving his appearance some serious thought right about now," it said.

Hence, the philosophy of white supremacism associated with the Ku Klux Klan and the Nazis is compared to Catholicism. That's the message this so-called "respectable" source of news and information is sending. Jindal rejected that. The governor's spokesman said, "Governor Jindal looks forward to addressing the summit and speaking about what faith means to him."

The summit is sponsored by <u>Legatus</u>, a group that upholds the teachings of the Catholic Church on human sexuality and other matters.

If Baier was speaking at or attending a fundraiser for the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA), that would have been perfectly okay. After all, many Fox media stars, including Megyn Kelly, have done so in the past. In addition, Fox pours money directly into this important lobby in the homosexual movement, and it's not even a controversy.

What's fascinating in this case is that the attacks which forced Baier and actor Gary Sinise out of the Legatus conference do not involve opening fire on anybody's editorial offices and murdering the offenders. These things are mostly done differently in America. I say "mostly" because of the terrorist attack on the Washington, D.C., offices of the Family Research Council (FRC) in 2012. That was inspired by a "hate map" posted by the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) pinpointing the location of the FRC. A security guard was injured as he stopped a homosexual militant from trying to carry out a massacre in the FRC offices.

In most cases, however, the weapons of character assassination, distortion, and anti-Christian bigotry will suffice. The purpose is to intimidate and ostracize those who dare to associate with groups affirming traditional standards of morality. One of the new tactics, as used by Mediaite, is to associate Catholics with racial extremists. This is a smear that is beneath contempt, but the gay lobby and its fellow travelers will stop at nothing.

The message that the site was sending to Jindal is that he risks his political future by associating with a notorious hate group called the Catholic Church. It was a threat disguised as news.

The leftists have no quarrel with the views of the pope on economic matters. And they certainly won't quibble with his encyclical on climate change when he issues that in March. But challenging the morality of the lifestyle of so many in Hollywood and the media is something else. Questioning the homosexual lifestyle simply cannot be tolerated.

Jindal, who is a Catholic, didn't succumb to the pressure. He had the intestinal fortitude to remain true to his beliefs. He understood that the attacks on Legatus were an attack upon his own faith. He couldn't back down and maintain his own principles. Jindal's decision to stand up to the modern totalitarians in the gay rights movement has to be seen as courageous.

Backing out is especially troubling in the case of Bret Baier, since his speaking appearance at the Legatus summit was for the purpose of talking about his own Catholic faith expressed in his book *Special Heart: A Journey of Faith, Hope, Courage and Love.* He wasn't there to talk about gay rights. Neither was Sinise, for that matter.

Baier, or his corporate bosses, have to take the blame for giving in to the pressure. We would have thought that the Fox News Channel would have stood firmly for freedom of expression and freedom of conscience. It sets a terrible precedent that a "conservative" news channel, which became successful by speaking for many without a traditional voice in the liberal media, should bow at the altar of political correctness. Why they buckled to the pressure is a story in itself.

As we have pointed out, Fox News anchor Shepard Smith is allowed to pontificate on the air, including on behalf of the gay rights cause. But a Bret Baier speech about his book at a Catholic event is supposed to be offensive. This is the state of our media today.

The tactics used by the homosexual lobby have been perfected by such groups as the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Council on American-Islamic Relations against their enemies. What's new is that the official Catholic Church teachings on human sexuality are now labeled as so offensive that people can't even be associated with a group that promotes them. This is the kind of religious discrimination we have seen in countries like France against the Jews.

Some in the media called the summit "anti-gay," which is a complete lie. As Legatus Executive Director John Hunt said in a statement, "Legatus embraces all that the Catholic Church teaches – nothing more, nothing less. Of course, at the core of all that the Church teaches is Christ's unconditional love for every man and woman. While the Church has and always will teach about the morality of certain behaviors, these teachings are always to be understood in the context of the value of and respect for every human person."

Turning Christian love into "hate" is an indication of how a situation can be twisted into something it's not. This is how political correctness, a form of cultural Marxism, works in practice. The homosexual lobby has perfected this tactic of intimidation.

Hunt said the group's members are only asking for the freedom to exercise their religious beliefs, "which includes the ability to gather together and discuss their faith." That such a meeting has become controversial, to the point where major figures in the media and Hollywood can be forced to back out, is a terrible reflection on the condition of the First Amendment right to free speech in America today. The news organizations that are involved in this silencing of freedom of expression have shown they have no understanding of what "I am Charlie" is all about.