

The Catholic Church of the
Immaculate Conception

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

May 22, 2016

Rev. Richard L. Perozich, Pastor

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Deacon Robert H. Fitzmorris

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Marsha Long, Music

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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: 8:30 AM, 10:00AM, 11:30 AM, 5:15 P.M.

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

Penance: For daily Mass goes 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@sdcatholic.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 Saint Junípero 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

23	8 AM	Weekday †Virginia Moraga Saracho	RP
24	8AM	Weekday †Laurence Lerma	RE
25	8 AM	St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII; St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi †Miguela Mora Rubio	RP
26	8 AM	St. Philip Neri †Martin Morris	RP
27	8 AM	St. Augustine of Canterbury †Louis Perozich	RP
28	8 AM	Weekday, BVM Jeff Ostrin, SI	RP
29	5:15 PM	†John O'Connor	RP
	8:30 AM	†Martin Morris	RE
	10:00 AM	April Heim, SI	RP
	11:30 AM	†William Kennedy	RP
	5:15 PM	Frank & Geri Quattrocchi, SI	RP

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

MAY: Intentions of the Holy Father

Universal: That, rejecting the culture of indifference, we may care for our neighbors who suffer, specially the sick and the poor.

Evangelization: That Mary's intercession may help Christians in secularized cultures be ready to proclaim Jesus.

PRAY: SEMINARIANS IN THEOLOGY

1st	Manuel Del Rio, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo
4th	David Exner, North American College, Rome
4th	Brian Frice, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
2nd	Oscar Lopez, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo
3rd	Nathan McWeeney, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
1st	Raymond Napuli, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
1st	Michael O'Connor, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
2nd	Eric Tamayo, North American College, Rome
4th	Corey Tufford, North American College, Rome
4th	Derek Twilliger, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
3rd	Billy Zondler, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS


23	Rev. Ben Bachmeier
24	Rev. James Bahash
25	Rev. Jay Bananal
26	Rev. Karl Bauer
27	Rev. Efraom Baitosta
28	Rev. Thomas Behan, OSA
29	Rev. Eduardo Bernardino

PRAY THE SCRIPTURES

Monday: 1 Pt 1:3-9; Ps 111:1-10c; Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday: 1 Pt 1:10-16; Ps 98:1-4; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday: 1 Pt 1:18-25; Ps 147:12-20; Mk 10:32-45
Thursday: 1 Pt 2:2-12; Ps 100:2-5; Mk 10:46-52
Friday: 1 Pt 4:7-13; Ps 96:10-13; Mk 11:11-26
Saturday: Jude 17-25; Ps 63:2-6; Mk 11:27-33
Sunday: Gn 14:18-20; Ps 110:1-4; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Lk 9:11b-17

PRAY FOR HEALING

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

Patricia Kennedy Dorothy Kleint Dena Mendoza Jean Miller Patricia O'Grady Mary Jane Tiernan Marguerite Vorst Martha Zamudio Carlos Amaya Mike Rodriguez Maguire Fitzpatrick Tony Jenkins Peter Nalwalker Bob & Robby Witt Frank Garay Frances Garcia Socorro Pacheco Linda Lee Amparo Valenzuela Phyllis Altomare Alicia Ambrose Inez Bull		Cosmo & Joan Busalacchi Maria Casanova Steve Stone Mark Brandon. Jeanne Pontius Esther Salazar Joane Anderson Janet Meyers Yolanda Garcia Susan Rykowski Elias Barajas Shirley Ilog Olivia Ingram Grace Mulvanity Angelica Ortega Barbara Driscoll Lucille Miller Reginald Custodio Victoria Cardenas Joanne Daleo Linda Hastings Dominic Castagnola
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PRAY FOR OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY

Jesus protect all who serve our country.

Sgt. Ahmed John Alexander Natalie Augustine Major Jerry 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 1Lt. Cortez Fabia Juan Carlos Galazza SSGT. Vincent Charles Lucario	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 Ricky Thibeault Tony Tulloss PFC Travis Vliet; & 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. SCPO Desiree S. Hayes, USN Gil Perez, US Navy
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† PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED †

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

Alvin Weaver William Bethel Lillian Sinclair Olga Hritz Alice Perry Joseph Moreno Louie Serrano Gustavo Sosa Floyd Watson Iola Torre Emilie Graham Angela Cordova Ramiro Moreno Alexander Toczko Jeannette Toczko José Teofilo Solorio	Ray & Betty Jackson Denise Cooney Joanne Mangiameli Edna Moore Paul Ramirez Maude Laracy Helen Peña Lydia Castillo Herrera Bertha Lockwood Salvador Rivera John Cervantes Daniel Don Florence Messina Arthur Wilbur Martinez Jesse Benitez Margaret Kelly
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TWO KINDS OF LIFE

— *Saint Augustine, bishop*

FROM THE PASTOR

The Church recognizes two kinds of life as having been commended to her by God. One is a life of faith, the other a life of vision; one is a life passed on pilgrimage in time, the other in a dwelling place in eternity; one is a life of toil, the other of repose; one is spent on the road, the other in our homeland; one is active, involving labor, the other contemplative, the reward of labor.

The first kind of life is symbolized by the apostle Peter, the second by John. All of the first life is lived in this world, and it will come to an end with this world. The second life will be imperfect till the end of this world, but it will have no end in the next world. And so Christ says to Peter: Follow me; but of John he says: If I wish him to remain until I come, what is that to you? Your duty is to follow me.

You are to follow me by imitating my endurance of transient evils; John is to remain until my coming, when I will bring eternal blessings. A way of saying this more clearly might be: Your active life will be perfect if you follow the example of my passion, but to attain its full perfection John's life of contemplation must wait until I come.

Perfect patience is to follow Christ faithfully, even to death, but for perfect knowledge we must await his coming. Here, in the land of the dying, the sufferings of the world must be endured; there, in the land of the living, shall be seen the good things of the Lord.

Christ's words, I wish him to remain until I come, should not be taken to imply that John was to remain on earth until Christ's coming, but rather that he was to wait because it is not now but only when Christ comes that the life he symbolizes will find fulfillment. On the other hand, Christ says to Peter: Your duty is to follow me, because the life Peter symbolizes can attain its goal only by action here and now.

Yet we should make no mental separation between these great apostles. Both lived the life symbolized by Peter; both were to attain the life symbolized by John. Symbolically, one followed, the other remained, but living by faith they both endured the sufferings of this present life of sorrow and they both longed for the joys of the future life of happiness.

Nor were they alone in this. They were one with the whole Church, the bride of Christ, which will in time be delivered from the trials of this life and live for ever in the joy of the next. These two kinds of life were represented respectively by Peter and John, yet both apostles lived by faith in this present, passing life and in eternal life both have the joy of vision.

And so for the sake of all the saints inseparably united to the body of Christ, to guide them through the storms of this life, Peter, the chief of the apostles, received the keys of the kingdom of heaven with the power to bind and loose sins; and for the sake of those same saints, to plumb the depths of that other, hidden life, John the evangelist reclined on the breast of Christ.

For it is not only Peter but the whole Church that binds and looses from sin; and as for the sublime teaching of John about the Word, who in the beginning was God with God, and everything else he told us about Christ's divinity, and about the trinity and unity of the Godhead, which now, until the Lord comes, is all like a faint reflection in a mirror, but which will be seen face to face in the kingdom of heaven - it was not only John who drank in this teaching that came forth from the Lord's breast as from a fountain. All who belong to the Lord are to drink it in, each according to his capacity, and this is why the Lord himself has spread John's gospel throughout the world.

THE LAMB THAT WAS SLAIN HAS DELIVERED US FROM DEATH AND GIVEN US LIFE

— *Melito of Sardis, bishop*

There was much proclaimed by the prophets about the mystery of the Passover: that mystery is Christ, and to him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

For the sake of suffering humanity he came down from heaven to earth, clothed himself in that humanity in the Virgin's womb, and was born a man. Having then a body capable of suffering, he took the pain of fallen man upon himself; he triumphed over the diseases of soul and body that were its cause, and by his Spirit, which was incapable of dying, he dealt man's destroyer, death, a fatal blow.

He was led forth like a lamb; he was slaughtered like a sheep. He ransomed us from our servitude to the world, as he had ransomed Israel from the hand of Egypt; he freed us from our slavery to the devil, as he had freed Israel from the hand of Pharaoh. He sealed our souls with his own Spirit, and the members of our body with his own blood.

He is the One who covered death with shame and cast the devil into mourning, as Moses cast Pharaoh into mourning. He is the One that smote sin and robbed iniquity of offspring, as Moses robbed the Egyptians of their offspring. He is the One who brought us out of slavery into freedom, out of darkness into light, out of death into life, out of tyranny into an eternal kingdom; who made us a new priesthood, a people chosen to be his own for ever. He is the Passover that is our salvation.

It is he who endured every kind of suffering in all those who foreshadowed him. In Abel he was slain, in Isaac bound, in Jacob exiled, in Joseph sold, in Moses exposed to die. He was sacrificed in the Passover lamb, persecuted in David, dishonored in the prophets.

It is he who was made man of the Virgin, he who was hung on the tree; it is he who was buried in the earth, raised from the dead, and taken up to the heights of heaven. He is the mute lamb, the slain lamb born of Mary, the fair ewe. He was seized from the flock, dragged off to be slaughtered, sacrificed in the evening, and buried at night. On the tree no bone of his was broken; in the earth his body knew no decay. He is the One who rose from the dead, and who raised man from the depths of the tomb

AROUND THE PARISH

PICTURES AND STAIRS

The pictures of St. Junípero Serra and Our Lady of Guadalupe are in restoration to remove the grime of smoke and mold, and for gilding of the frames.

After Memorial Day, the front steps of the church will be rebuilt with new hand rails added as well. The project should last 3 weeks.

24 May ... New Parishioners Welcome

If you registered in our parish within the last year, you're invited to join fellow new parishioners at the Welcome Reception, Tuesday, May 24th, at 6:30 p.m. in Serra Hall. Come meet and greet our pastor and parish leadership and get to know other new parishioners.

WHISPERING WINDS MILITARY FAMILY CAMP (Only \$100)

Thanks to a generous donation, Family Camp for military families at Whispering Winds Catholic Camp is just \$100. Military scholarships are limited and based on a first-come, first-serve basis. Family Camps will be held June 17-19, 24-26 and July 8-10, 15-17 in the beautiful mountains of Julian! Please register online at www.whisperingwinds.org.



Pray the Rosary

The Rosary, though clearly Marian in character, is at heart a Christocentric prayer. In the sobriety of its elements, it has all the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety, of which it can be said to be a compendium. It is an echo of the prayer of Mary, her perennial Magnificat for the work of the redemptive Incarnation which began in her virginal womb. With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty on the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love. Through the Rosary the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the **very** hands of the Mother of the Redeemer.

—From On the Most Holy Rosary. . .
(Rosarium Virginis Mariae)

I.C. ROSARY GROUP ...

Prays the rosary Monday thru Saturday immediately following the 8 a.m. Mass as long as two or more persons are present to recite the prayers. All are welcome to join.



2016 Baptism Schedule

June 7 **Class**
June 12 **Baptism**

Schedule is available on the parish website (ic-sandiego.org).

01 June ... Ask the Pastor

On Wednesday, June 1, at 9am, Father Rich invites all parishioners to participate in a "Ask the Pastor" meeting in Serra Hall. Questions of a religious or spiritual nature may be submitted in writing in advance of the meeting. Email: pastor@ic-sandiego.org. All are welcome. Coffee and donuts will be served.

05 June ... San Diego Rock 'n Roll Marathon

Street closures include Taylor Street and Morena Blvd. from 6 a.m. - 12 noon.

San Diego Avenue and Juan Street will not be affected.

Marathon route and list of street closures are posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and on our website: www.ic-sandiego.org

06 JUNE...Cognitive Skills Workshop

St. Mary Magdalene Church
Conference Room
1945 Illion St., San Diego
June 6 thru August 8 (excl. July 4)

Techniques for managing stress, tension, anxiety, helplessness and hopelessness. Manage difficult situations and enhance personal growth.

For information & to pre-register,
contact Rita 619-276-6805.

Father's Day Novena ...

June 19-27

Mass intention envelopes for the Father's Day Novena are available in the pews and in the vestibule

Remember your father and other men who were father figures in your life with the gift of a novena.

AROUND THE PARISH

Gifts of Treasure

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

May 15, 2016

Total Collection: \$5,172.02
Envelopes: \$3,365.00 Plate: \$1,807.02
Total contributing households: 77

5:15 Sat	\$ 742.26
8:30 Sun	\$1039.32
10:00 Sun	\$1293.60
11:30 Sun	\$ 935.44
5:15 Sun	\$ 667.40
Mailed	\$ 494.00

EXPENSES

May 9-13, 2016

Maintenance Supplies	\$210.78
Music	\$850.00
Payroll (incl. tax)	\$3,206.51
Payroll Service	\$46.45
Pension	\$377.60
Pest Control	\$110.00

Total: \$ 4,801.34

Annual Catholic Appeal
Goal: \$24,000

Pledged: \$27,553.50--Paid: \$19,443.50

Serra Gifts...

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



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

FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 19

Remember your father with a special gift. Rosaries, religious medals, prayer books, and religious items are available in the gift shop.

Do you have a Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, or Wedding to attend? If so, consider visiting the Serra Gifts for that special gift.

See our online catalog at:
<http://www.ic-sandiego.org/gift-shop>

AMORIS LAETITIA
ON LOVE IN THE FAMILY
OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS

11. The couple that loves and begets life is a true, living icon – not an idol like those of stone or gold prohibited by the Decalogue – capable of revealing God the Creator and Savior. For this reason, fruitful love becomes a symbol of God’s inner life. This is why the Genesis account, following the “priestly tradition”, is interwoven with various genealogical accounts. The ability of human couples to beget life is the path along which the history of salvation progresses. Seen this way, the couple’s fruitful relationship becomes an image for understanding and describing the mystery of God himself, for in the Christian vision of the Trinity, God is contemplated as Father, Son and Spirit of love. The triune God is a communion of love, and the family is its living reflection. Saint John Paul II shed light on this when he said, “Our God in his deepest mystery is not solitude, but a family, for he has within himself fatherhood, sonship and the essence of the family, which is love. That love, in the divine family, is the Holy Spirit”. The family is thus not unrelated to God’s very being. This Trinitarian dimension finds expression in the theology of Saint Paul, who relates the couple to the “mystery” of the union of Christ and the Church

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 _____

PARISH & COMMUNITY

Parish Calendar

MAY

- 22 Building Fund Collection
- 25 Choir Practice 6:00 PM
- 28 Quilting Group 9:30 AM
- 30 Memorial Day
Parish Office Closed - Serra Gifts Open

JUNE

- 01 Ask the Pastor 9:00 AM
- 01 Choir Practice 6:00 PM
- 04 Quilting Group 9:30 AM
- 06 I.C. Seniors Luncheon 11:00 AM
- 07 Election Day
Baptism Class 7:00 PM
- 08 Choir Practice 6:00 PM
- 11 Quilting Group 9:30 AM
- 12 Parish Breakfast 8:30 AM
Baptisms 2:00 PM
- 15 Choir Practice 6:00 PM
- 18 Quilting Group 9:30 AM

FROM MISERICORDIAE VULTUS - Pope Francis

BULL OF INDICTION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY FRANCIS BISHOP OF ROME SERVANT OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD TO ALL WHO READ THIS LETTER, GRACE MERCY, AND PEACE

...22. The Church lives within the communion of the saints. In the Eucharist, this communion, which is a gift from God, becomes a spiritual union binding us to the saints and blessed ones whose number is beyond counting (cf. Rev 7:4). Their holiness comes to the aid of our weakness in a way that enables the Church, with her maternal prayers and her way of life, to fortify the weakness of some with the strength of others. Hence, to live the indulgence of the Holy Year means to approach the Father's mercy with the certainty that his forgiveness extends to the entire life of the believer. To gain an indulgence is to experience the holiness of the Church, who bestows upon all the fruits of Christ's redemption, so that God's love and forgiveness may extend everywhere. Let us live this Jubilee intensely, begging the Father to forgive our sins and to bathe us in His merciful "indulgence."

Courtyard Bricks ...

Bricks in honor or in memory of loved ones are available for purchase using the form on the website (*IC-SanDiego.com*) or in the Gift Shop.

"We must not be surprised when we hear of murders, of killings, of wars, of hatred. If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other."

— *Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta*

People who want to redistribute wealth often misunderstand the nature and causes of wealth. Tangible wealth can be confiscated, but you cannot confiscate the knowledge which produced that wealth. Countries that confiscated the wealth of some groups and expelled them, destitute, have often seen the economy collapse, while the expelled people became prosperous again elsewhere.

— *Thomas Sowell*

JOINT DECLARATION OF POPE FRANCIS AND PATRIARCH KIRILL OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA 2/12/16

14. In affirming the foremost value of religious freedom, we give thanks to God for the current unprecedented renewal of the Christian faith in Russia, as well as in many other countries of Eastern Europe, formerly dominated for decades by atheist regimes. Today, the chains of militant atheism have been broken and in many places Christians can now freely confess their faith. Thousands of new churches have been built over the last quarter of a century, as well as hundreds of monasteries and theological institutions. Christian communities undertake notable works in the fields of charitable aid and social development, providing diversified forms of assistance to the needy. Orthodox and Catholics often work side by side. Giving witness to the values of the Gospel they attest to the existence of the shared spiritual foundations of human co-existence.

A ROME CHARMED WITH DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM?

— Robert Royal

An odd event is underway in the Vatican yesterday and today – odd even in this odd time for the papacy and Church. The Pontifical Council for the Social Sciences is running a conference, celebrating – perhaps – the twenty-fifth anniversary of St. John Paul II's encyclical *Centesimus Annus* (1991). In that rich text, he reviewed the 100 years (hence the title) since Leo XIII inaugurated “modern” Catholic Social Teaching (CST) with a great encyclical of his own, *Rerum Novarum* (1891). But JPII not only looked backward; he looked forward, analyzing how – after the fall of Communism – the nations of the world should make proper use of freedom.

You might expect that the Pontifical Council would have invited people in tune with JPII, who had seen Nazism and Communism (and the vices of unfreedom) first-hand. Instead, they've organized something quite distressing – and perhaps telling. Our American media are buzzing because presidential candidate and self-proclaimed socialist Bernie Sanders was invited, or in some tellings, invited himself. Either way, there was some door that he opened. (In a charming dust-up, emblematic of much in the Vatican these days, Bishop Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo and Margaret S. Archer, who head the Pontifical Council, have been disputing one another's accounts.)

[Morning update: Though spokesmen said it would not happen, Pope Francis met briefly with Sanders – perhaps an unusual thing to do given that we are in a bitterly contested election season – before flying to the Greek island of Lesbos this morning. They discussed refugees and a “moral economy.”]

But all that's just for starters. If you wanted to invite political figures, there are people like the electrician, Solidarity leader, and later Polish president Lech Walesa who helped bring down Marxism in the *annus mirabilis*, 1989. He's still alive and – I can personally attest – kicking. Many in that generation have gone to their rewards; many others might have been present, living links to a proud tradition.

Instead, the Vatican invited what can only be called ideological cronies – parochial ones at that: Evo Morales, the Bolivian president who gave Pope Francis the crucifix of Christ on a Communist hammer-and-sickle cross; Ecuadorean president Rafael Correa, another “democratic socialist,” like our Senator from Vermont.

And Jeffrey Sachs, head of the Earth Institute and fervent promoter of population control and abortion. Some Catholics believe that the closest approximation to CST among modern political parties is democratic socialism. This is a dangerous error. Socialism as such has been the target of CST ever since Leo XIII.

Most people think the Church opposed socialism because of ties to the *ancien régime*. In fact, Leo had carefully worked out positions that draw deeply on the natural-law tradition:

- “The socialists, therefore, in setting aside the parent and setting up a State supervision, act against natural justice, and destroy the structure of the home.” [14]
- “[T]he main tenet of socialism, community of goods, must be utterly rejected, since it only injures those whom it would seem meant to benefit, is directly contrary to the natural rights of mankind, and would introduce confusion and disorder into the commonweal. The first and most fundamental

principle, therefore, if one would undertake to alleviate the condition of the masses, must be the inviolability of private property.”[15]

- “It is impossible to reduce civil society to one dead level. . . . There naturally exist among mankind manifold differences of the most important kind; people differ in capacity, skill, health, strength; and unequal fortune is a necessary result of unequal condition. Such inequality is far from being disadvantageous either to individuals or to the community. Social and public life can only be maintained by means of various kinds of capacity for business and the playing of many parts.[17]
- “The socialists, working on the poor man's envy of the rich, are striving to do away with private property, and contend that individual possessions should become the common property of all, to be administered by the State or by municipal bodies. . . . But their contentions are so clearly powerless to end the controversy that were they carried into effect the working man himself would be among the first to suffer. They are, moreover, emphatically unjust, for they would rob the lawful possessor, distort the functions of the State, and create utter confusion in the community.” [4]

There's more, but you see the general tenor. Socialism and socialists tend to supplant family, property, even spiritual authority by misguided appeals to equality, collectivism, and above all state power.

But what of more recent incarnations of “democratic” socialism? Have they moved beyond those drawbacks? We'd have to see the full program of a specific socialist regime to judge. But generally speaking, socialism still has great, blind faith in the state, which virtually everywhere damages civil society, from the family to economics to religion. We probably don't much notice this because our own, allegedly non-socialist, democracies are engaged in much the same sort of things.

John Paul II quoted passages like these from *Rerum Novarum*, and added an insight all his own: “the fundamental error of socialism is anthropological in nature. Socialism considers the individual person simply as an element, a molecule within the social organism, so that the good of the individual is completely subordinated to the functioning of the socio-economic mechanism. Socialism likewise maintains that the good of the individual can be realized without reference to his free choice, to the unique and exclusive responsibility which he exercises in the face of good or evil.”

Leo and JPII were also critical, though not systemically, of “liberalism” and “capitalism,” particularly if they ignore moral and spiritual values. Some of the academics speaking at this weekend's conference – Rocco Buttiglione (a close collaborator of Wojtyla's) and Russell Hittinger in particular – are faithful interpreters of JPII's vision.

But the world doesn't much notice academics. It takes cues from leaders and celebrities. The conference program talks a great deal about a “changed world” since 1991, and seems to forget both Catholic tradition and recent history. What many will take away from this event is that American socialists – North and South – have been asked to rethink the Church's social witness and practical success against an evil system that killed 100 million people, and counting.

And that their vision of politics, economics, as well as environment and development, are the blueprint for the Catholic Church and the world in the twenty-first century