



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised Be Jesus Christ! A heartfelt thanks to all who attended and assisted with our OKTOBERFEST last Sunday. It was a terrific day, enjoyed by all. If you were not able to attend or missed it, be sure to remember for next year. This is one of our few parish socials and it's well worth the price of admission!

45 Years Ago this month, Pope John Paul II visited Philadelphia. It was October 1979 and his first visit as Pope to the United States, his third international trip in his young papacy. Over the course of what would be a long papacy, he would travel more than all previous popes combined! By some estimates, he logged more than 725,000 miles. This Tuesday, we celebrate his Feast Day and with that in mind, on this WORLD MISSION SUNDAY, I share some quotes from His homily at the MASS AT LOGAN CIRCLE.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

**HOLY MASS AT THE LOGAN CIRCLE HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS JOHN PAUL II 3 October 1979**

*Dear brothers and sisters of the Church in Philadelphia,* It is a great joy for me to celebrate the Eucharist with you today. All of us are gathered together as one community, one people in the grace and peace of God our Father and of the Lord Jesus Christ; we are gathered in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. We have come together to proclaim the Gospel in all its power, for the Eucharistic Sacrifice is the summit and enactment of our proclamation : Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

Philadelphia is the city of the Declaration of Independence, that remarkable document, containing a solemn attestation of the equality of all human beings, endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights : life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, expressing a "firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence". These are the sound moral principles formulated by your Founding Fathers and enshrined forever in your history. In the human and civil values that are contained in the spirit of this Declaration there are easily recognized strong connections with basic religious and Christian values. A sense of religion itself is part of this heritage. The Liberty Bell which I visited on another occasion proudly bears the words of the Bible: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land" (*Lev 25 :10*). This tradition poses for all future generations of America a noble challenge: "One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all".

3. As citizens, you must strive to preserve these human values, to understand them better and to define their consequences for the whole community, and as a worthy contribution to the world. As Christians, you must strengthen these human values and complement them by confronting them with the Gospel message, so that you may discover their deeper meaning, and thus assume more fully your duties and obligations toward your fellow human beings, with whom you are bound in a common destiny. In a way, for us, who know Jesus Christ, human and Christian values are but two aspects of the same reality : the reality of man, redeemed by Christ and called to the fullness of eternal life.

**FOR THE REST OF THIS HOMILY OR ANY OF THE TALKS THAT THE POPE DELIVERED ON THAT TRIP, SEE THE VATICAN WEBSITE.**

**ROSARY RALLY 2024**

A word of thanks to everyone who prayed with us at the Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 12 to commemorate the 107th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima "Miracle of the Sun" apparition. We gave witness to the power of the Rosary along Cypress Street and joined our prayers together with more than 20,000 Rosary Rally groups throughout the United States. Our prayers were heartfelt, powerful, and heard by Our Lady as we prayed for PEACE in our world. We hope that you will join us again next year. For now, keep praying the Rosary every day. Our Lady of Fatima, Pray for us!

