3 B

MDP of God

Awhile ago I received my semi-annual car insurance bill- I don’t know about you, but I find it a hard check to write – but I had to write it because you can’t drive without insurance

As Americans, we're really kind of big on insurance

 If you're going to drive, you must have insurance

If you own a home, especially if you have a mortgage, you have to have insurance.

If you've had health problems, you better have insurance or you could easily lose everything you ever worked for.

And what I'd like to talk about today, is the National Insurance policy

that our nation has, *to protect us in the pursuit of sin.*

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

That insurance policy is called abortion - and it's an insurance policy to protect people from the consequences of sexual sin.

I speak on that topic today because tomorrow is the 51st anniversary of the United States Supreme Court’s infamous ruling on abortion—[that decision really was at the heart of the decline of our nation – so I think it’s really important to reflect on the consequences of indifference to innocent human life—thank God it was overturned recently—but its left an indelible mark on our culture as the recent vote in Ohio demonstrated]

But I'd like to tie this in with last Sunday's second reading

Last week in our second reading St. Paul said, "The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord…Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him….Do you not know that your body is a Temple of the Holy Spirit…and that you are not your own? **Therefore glorify God in your body**."

St. Paul in that passage of God's Word, is calling us to live chaste lives - to keep our bodies pure

And that is a message that our culture very much needs to be reminded of

When it comes to the Church's teaching on sexuality - a lot of people choose to ignore what the Church - what God's Word says - And they dismiss it with it saying, "Ah the Church is hung up on that stuff"

-------------------------------------------------------------------------

They'll say, sex isn't bad, sex is good.

Well I have news for you, sex isn't good. Golf is good. If you remember the commercial from years ago - Campbell's soup is good - "Mm Mm good."

They'll say sex is great!

Again, sex isn't great. Chocolate is great. Tony the Tiger used to say that Frosted Flakes are greeeeeaaaatttt!

 Sex isn't great

Sex is holy. Sex is sacred. Sex is so holy it makes a sacrament come about.

[Wedding, when priest says I now present ….- they are not fully married yet]

[They actually enter fully into the covenant of marriage - the sacrament -//// *when after having sworn their vows they share their bodies fully with one another*]

That's when they become truly married. *Sex is so holy*; **it makes a sacrament happen.**

---------------------------------------------------------------------

It would be similar to this -[If I had a party - all of you are invited - wine - pop- potato chips- Doritoes- dip - salsa - cheese - crackers - pepperoni ]

And then I came over and got a ciborium of hosts from the tabernacle

 Put the hosts right between the cheese and pepperoni

 And you came and said, "Father, what are you doing?"

And I said, “Don't worry, it's the Eucharist. The Eucharist is good. In fact have it with salsa, it's **great** with salsa”

It's only a party right -The Eucharist is good isn't it? The Eucharist is great isn't it?

Would I be sinning?

Of course I'd be sinning - *damnable sin! Mortal sin!* **Rot in hell for all eternity sin**--I would have desecrated the sacred. That would be the height of profanity [profane means literally "out of the Temple" - take what is holy and use it for a common purpose]

Sexual sins are **so** seriously sinful, because they are profane sins - take the holy temple of our bodies and use them as if it's something recreational.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

That’s what St. Paul was saying last week.

To understand the full ramifications of this - you have to understand something about the Temple in Jerusalem.

 It was divided into several courts

 [First - court of the nations - anyone]

 [Second- court of Israel -….]

 [Third court - only Israelite men could enter]

 [Next court - only men of the tribe of Levi

 [Next - only those serving as priests that year]

[Finally, the inner most court - the Holy of holies

 *Only one person - the high priest could enter the Holy of holies*]

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Now the bible tells us, that our bodies are Temples

 And like the Jerusalem Temple there are different courts - in essence

You can shake hands with anybody - might give a hug to some people (relationships)

 You might give a hug and a peck on the cheek to another

 Hug and kiss on the lips

Cuddle on the couch with someone with whom there's a deeper relationship with

But the fact is, the Temple of our bodies has a holy of holies

And the holy of holies of our bodies are those parts where we **in the expression of love** can cooperate with God in the ongoing work of creation - and can co-create with God and our beloved - *new life made in the very image and likeness of God*

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------

That's a co-operation with God, but also an imitation of Him - God created the world as an expression of love

And He shares His creative power with us - So that when a man and woman share their love - they can create new life.

That is a sacred - holy action, *and is meant* **only to take place** within a sacred setting - *within the setting of the sacrament of matrimony*

And my friends our young people need to hear about this- because they are bombarded by messages from our culture that encourages them to reject the teaching of God

We of course live in a culture that has rejected the sacred - a culture that sees sex not as holy - not as sacred, but merely recreational.

 We live in a culture that profanes the sacred

*But if people are going to desecrate the Temple of their bodies* - **they need an insurance policy called abortion.**

 The premiums are pretty high - roughly 2550 babies every day

 Over 63 million since the Roe Vs Wade decision.

The fact is my friends, 80% of abortions are performed on unmarried women

Of the 20% performed on married women, *half of them have conceived by someone other than their husbands*

So 90% of all abortions are performed as a result of sinful behavior - In other words, if as a nation we *chose to obey* God's commands **on chastity,** we wouldn't have abortion.

You see, when we choose to desecrate the Temple of our bodies in fornication or adultery – new life is no longer seen as a sacred cooperation in God's creative power - *it becomes an unfortunate side effect of satisfying lust*

These tiny innocent little babies are no longer seen as a precious gift of God, but as a curse that can "ruin my life - I'm not ready to be a parent"

And so sex, which God intends to be a total giving of self in love to your spouse, becomes a totally ***selfish action***

Selfish in that the person is using another rather than a total giving of themselves

Selfish in that if new life is created, it has to be killed because "it's going to get in the way of **my** doing what I want - it's going to get in the way of **my** being happy"

--------------------------------------------------

You see sex, which God intends to be about love and life - becomes a matter of death - selfishness - indifference and hate

 The guy, who says to his girlfriend, "Take care of it" - hates that baby

The woman who pays her child's executioner - hates that baby

The grandparents who say, "a baby will destroy my son or daughters life - will embarrass our family -/// they hate that baby

You see, when we desecrate the sacred, *we kill love*. **We destroy love**

+++++++++++++++++++++++++

Now, before I go on - I just want to say if there are any men or women who have in the past been involved in the decision of abortion - and have repented and been absolved - this homily is not meant to give you guilt

I know you've had unspeakable pain-and having been reconciled to God - He wants you to put it behind and go forward grateful for His mercy.

You need not worry about your salvation on that - when God forgives He really forgives

Of course if there's anyone here who has been involved in the decision of abortion and hasn't repented - Do so now.

 Listen to the voice of Jesus, "Repent and believe the Gospel."

---------------------------------------------------------------------------

But who this homily is most directed too, is anyone who identifies themselves as "Pro-choice" when it comes to abortion

It's your salvation I fear for. A few months ago Ohio had a vote on abortion---*and I really fear for the salvation of those who voted for the slaughter of innocent babies*

The pro-choice position is what I like to refer to as the Pontius Pilate approach to abortion

[You remember Pilate - Jesus is before him and he says, "I find nothing against this man, but if you want to kill Him, go ahead. I won't stop you- I wash my hands of His death]

[I'm sure it gave Jesus real comfort as He hung on the cross that Pilate was personally opposed to His being crucified, but then He was killed all the same - and Pilate did have the power to stop it-REFUSED]

------------------------------------------------------------------------

Who here thinks Pontius Pilate was virtuous in allowing Jesus to die?

 Anyone here think he made a courageous decision?

Anyone here want to grow up - or want your children or grandchildren to grow up to be just like Pontius Pilate? If you or they are pro-choice **you have become Pontius Pilate**

People will say, "I can't force my morality on someone else."

 The fact is we do it all the time

There are people in our culture who want to have sexual relations with little kids - anyone here have the attitude of, "Well I wouldn't do it myself, but I can't force my morality on someone else? Anyone pro-choice when it come to pedophilia? [**No,** you'll force your morality on those people?]

There are people who want to get falling down, three sheets to the wind, stinking drunk and than get behind the wheel of a car and drive home- anyone here have the attitude of, "Well I wouldn't do it myself, but I can't force my morality on someone else?

Anyone pro-choice when it comes to drunk driving? [**No,** *you'll force your morality on those people?*]

There are people who are in the Klu Klux Klan - if they own a restaurant of gas station - they don't want blacks, or Hispanics, or Catholics to come to their establishment - anyone here have the attitude of, "Well I wouldn't do it myself, but I can't force my morality on someone else? Anyone pro-choice when it comes to racism? [**No**, *you'll force your morality on those people*?]

------------------------------------------------------------------------

Why is it, when it comes to the killing of little babies, people act like being pro-choice is virtuous? - That it's courageous? That it's sophisticated?

 My dear friends, the pro-choice position is the position of cowards!

It's the position of people who don't have the courage of their convictions

It is position of people indifferent to the destruction of innocent human life.

The people of Nineveh repented in today’s first reading

As a nation we have to repent first of our desecration of the Temple of our bodies -/ to giving free reign to lust

^^^We need to repent of our national insurance policy for lust. - abortion on demand

----------------------------------------------------------------

How much longer will we continue to sacrifice 2550 children a day to the false god of lust?

 The disciples left everything to follow Jesus.

As a nation we need to obey God's laws about chastity and about the sacredness of human life - if we don't we may view first hand what would have happened to the people of Nineveh if they hadn't repented.