

December 18, 2011 – Homily Notes

“Lord, sanctify us in Your Truth. Your Word is Truth. Amen.”

Today’s homily is pretty straight-forward.

What was the value of the tiny fertilized Cell planted by the Holy Spirit in Mary’s womb?

Did the value of that Cell have anything to do with its small size?

What was the value of the six-month-old child in Elizabeth’s womb?

Was he worth any less because he was still three months away from his birthday?

And when, a few days later, Elizabeth greeted Mary and baby John leapt in her womb, did she say, “How is it that the mother of my **future** Lord should come to me?”

Or did she say, “How is it that the mother **of my Lord** should come to me?”

The bottom line is this:

Life in the womb is a creation of God in which He involves a man and a woman; but to the uniting of their egg and their sperm, which in itself would create no more than an animal, He infuses an immortal soul.

If you see that, you understand perfectly why life in the womb is holy.

If you don’t see that, you may conclude that life in the womb is human **without** concluding that it is holy.

That would make you a “Peter Singer”, the American philosopher who was forced by logic to acknowledge that life in the womb is in fact human; but his response to this acknowledgement is “**So what?**”

It is true that many people **have** been shocked and converted by the discovery that life in the womb is truly human, not just a random glob of cells.

But for people who have lost **all** sense of the worth of an ADULT human life, who see ADULTS as no more than hairless apes, who see themselves as an accidental result of a blind evolutionary process, why would such people regard a human baby **in** the womb as having great value when they do NOT regard a human adult **outside** the womb as having any real value? Aren’t we all just animals?

And that, friends, is exactly where a society that has decided to build a civilization without God has ended up.

The Holy Father calls it the collapse of Western Civilization into sheer meaninglessness.

Our Blessed Mother Mary simply says “You have created hell on earth”.

It is the destruction of our ability to recognize and appreciate the very thing that **MAKES** human life worthwhile and unique: its **HOLINESS**.

So we can argue on the basis of reason and clear thinking that life in the womb is human – and some people who have a residual sense of God, whether they acknowledge it or not, will be affected by this.

But without that sense of God, we are wasting our breath.

That’s why you have been given a reproduction of the powerful painting by American artist Lee Tidwell in your bulletin for today.

You may want to frame it. It says it all....

We will close with two quotes, one from our Mother Mary from 1988 and one from Medjugorje visionary Vicka from 1996.

Here they are:

“Tell everyone that the little baby is not a bloody lump, but has a life (a soul) flowing in it from the moment of conception in the mother’s womb. I am overcome with sorrows because these innocent lives, precious lives given by God, are cruelly trampled, brutally kneaded, crushed, torn, and killed by their ignorant parents who just don’t care.”

And:

“Once, Our Lady told me that persons who perform an abortion commit a grave sin. The children killed that way are little angels for whose death the persons who have done it are responsible. There is no difference between those killed in war and those killed in a mother’s womb. The responsibility is equal. But those who fall in battle are mourned, those slain in the womb are simply discarded. The human conscience seems to have failed completely.”

How do you revive a failed conscience?

Scripture says that every human being confronted by God, whether in midst of this life or at the moment of death, will either be conscience-**stricken** and salvageable or conscience-dead and unsalvageable.

The Church’s job as God’s sacrament for world is to bring this about for people sooner rather than later, and by the grace of the Holy Spirit, to find the most effective ways of confronting people with the truth of God precisely when what they most **need** is the last thing they **want**.