

Vince Lombardi

Vince Lombardi must be numbered among the rare breed of men who so excel in their particular field that their success overflows and becomes a lesson for all men in all pursuits.



Lombardi

It matters none that he chose a profession, football, which many regard as inconsequential; his dedication to excellence constitutes a guide for all men.

In an age of permissiveness, Vince Lombardi was demanding.

In an age of cynicism, Vince Lombardi believed.

In an age where adequate is enough, Vince Lombardi espoused perfection.

In an age where "do your own thing" is a byword, Vince Lombardi said you owe yourself more.

In an age where self-comfort is a goal, Vince Lombardi taught that to improve takes self-sacrifice.

John Donne wrote that "any man's death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind." If the virtues personified by Vince Lombardi die, mankind itself will be diminished.

Fighting for Life

The population control bill which the Senate passed recently in a voice vote serves as a dire reminder that the anti-life forces are active nationally as well as on the state level.

The bill, which would allocate \$1 billion to provide American women with birth control pills and contraceptives drew opposition from the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The bishops, through spokesman Father James T. McHugh, described the bill as a "negative approach" and said that very often such programs "are based on pragmatic decisions that overlook the dignity of the individual and that are questionable as to intent and expected results."

Father McHugh, director of the Family Life Division of the United States Catholic Conference, in calling for positive policies of family support such as included in the Family Assistance Plan, notes that current projections for population growth in the U.S. are down. Population distribution is a more serious problem.

The population control bill is only one of several death-serving measures in the works in Washington. There is a "Big Brother" plan which would aim to limit families to two children by erasing or reducing income tax deductions for any additional offspring.

And inevitably abortion is making the scene.

Depressing? Yes. Hopeless? No. If more people interested in moral right than in expediency make their voices heard these bills will be killed instead of people.

Write your representatives in Washington. Better yet send a telegram or telephone them. It may cost a little but we cannot afford to be silent.



"MATTHEW, HOW ABOUT JOINING MARK, LUKE, AND ME? WE'RE STARTING A WRITER'S SCHOOL."

Peace Talk Deceiving

Editor:

I am writing in regard to current Courier-Journal discussion of the so-called peace symbol, the broken cross. This symbol has been used for ages, always as a sign of evil. As far back as the year 450 B.C. this was the sign of the Phallus cult. In regard to this discussion, I would like to quote:

"The third Trojan Horse" has not yet been taken out of Moscow's stables, but its snortings can already be heard. This new one is called "Peace" and is the most dangerous of all. As anti-fascism ended in an alliance with fascism, as defender of democracy ended in the trampling under foot of 37 out of every hundred people in the world, so "Peace" will eventually mean war in the double talk of communism.

"Russia has seen that its anti-democratic moves have been matched by our military preparedness. Its wars made us prepare for war. There is only one way left to deceive us, and that is to talk "peace"; to put to sleep the free peoples of the world; to make it appear that we should melt our snowballs, for they no longer have forts;

to hide their knives in the Cossack boots and hold out empty hands pledging friendship and love. This method will undoubtedly be successful, as the other two were successful. Being a naturally and truly peaceful nation, we will begin beating swords into ploughshares, university professors will talk Communist "peace" in their classrooms, and the whole nation will let down its guard.

"Then some fine morning we will be suddenly startled by another Pearl Harbor. It may be Seattle or San Francisco that has been struck by the forces of 'Soviet peace'. The dove will turn into a vulture; 'peace' will mean 'war' as 'anti-fascism' meant 'pro-Nazism,' and as 'democracy' meant 'slavery'.

"America! Be Warned! Peace is not in words, but in the tranquillity of order — and order means giving to each free man his due under God, Who is also entitled to His due, which is our adoration, our service and our love.

The above was from a book, "Crisis in History," written in 1952 by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen. This was written 18 year ago; how true today.

John F. Kelly Sr.  
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God Lends Us Children

Editor:

I am writing in regard to abortion. As a nurse, I do not feel I can become involved in caring for patients having abortions. It would sicken my spirit. And this is how my spirit feels, written in the following sentences, with God's help:

Our children are not our children to reject, spoil or warp. All children belong to God. He has lent them to us. Our great privilege is being co-creators with God.

How can people let Satan convince them they own these little ones, these fetuses? Who are we to reject them? If one cannot love and care for this miracle of birth, there are other answers to the problem, namely adoption centers.

The whole process of creation is nothing compared with the longing of God for the soul of man.

Mrs. John Adams  
Hilton

Rat Race Not for Her

Editor:

Women's Lib advocates 24-hour-day centers! I wonder how many fathers in this country would sit back and allow their children to be brought up in these places which, to me, resemble the idea of foster homes — on a community basis! I wonder who would even be willing to run them with all the "worthwhile" women out working! Perhaps some of the "inferior" ones who don't mind children or menial jobs.

I wonder what Betty Friedan's own children think of her as a mother when they consider the fact that she would have preferred them to be brought up by someone else! (When I was a child, we were always proud of the fact that we could count on our mother to help with school or recreational activities and I sincerely hope I have brought up my children to feel the same way.)

Do I detect a note of atheism when Mrs. Friedan crusades for women to be the "masters of their own bodies"? I guess she never learned that our bodies are given to us by God as a loan for the purpose of housing our souls! When she complains that men have too much control over women's bodies, does she realize that, when she advocates abortion, she wants the same control over babies' bodies?

If the feminists want to join the rat race and misery of a man's world, let them! I thank God that as a mother I have the opportunity to use all of my abilities and interests. Happiness is what we make it! Fortunately, for me, being "fulfilled" does not depend on how much money I can earn!

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The Word for Sunday

Vertical and Horizontal

By Father Albert Shamon



Again the Church underscores last Sunday's theme, namely, that a living faith must express itself both actively and passively — actively in good works (Second Reading) and passively by bearing the crosses of life (First Reading and the Gospel).

We have one tongue in our head and two tongues in our shoes, and no matter what the tongue in our head is saying, the tongues in our shoes tell what we are doing and where we are going. And the awful truth is that the tongues in our shoes have the last word.

Dr. Alfred Adler wrote life happens at the level of actions, not words. What we say is neither here nor there unless it is in agreement with our actions. We are what we do. And what we do is the real answer to what we mean and intend.

We cannot be saved by words. But we cannot be saved without works any more than we can fall in love without showing it by what we say and do. Remember Eliza Doolittle's outburst in My Fair Lady: Words! Words! Words! I'm so sick of words; I get words all day through; Is that all you blighters can do? Don't talk of stars! Burning above; If you're in love, Show me!

Christ Himself said talk is not enough. "Not everyone who says, 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father." St. James puts it this way: "Faith without works is dead." Faith plus nothing else equals nothing. So says the Second Reading.

Life is an interweaving of action and passion. So besides doing, there must be enduring; besides acting, there must be accepting. The cross is still a scandal to some and a stumbling block to others. We expect the good to prosper and the wicked to suffer. We forget that God does not give His paychecks every Saturday night. We have only time, but He has all eternity to square accounts. So

Christ blessed the cross and asked His followers to trust Him as the parachutist his parachute — no matter the darkness.

That was His message in the First Reading. His servant said, "God opened my ear that I may hear." Hear what? That suffering is inevitably part of His servants' lives. And how ought the servant respond? "I have not rebelled, have not turned back."

In the Gospel Christ reveals He is the Servant par excellence. St. Luke portrays Christ as literally fulfilling the words of Isaiah: he pictures Christ having His "face like flint" toward Jerusalem where He was to suffer. When Christ tried to open the ears of His apostles to this doctrine of suffering, Peter rebelled. He took Christ aside and remonstrated. Christ's reaction was unbelievable. Wheeling furiously toward all the disciples, He called Peter a devil. Imagine "Get out of my sight, you satan!" (Gospel).

Vertical faith is talk only; horizontal works only are humanitarianism. Neither alone makes a cross. Christ without His cross is not Christ. And the Christian without the vertical thrust of trust in God during the sufferings of life and the horizontal thrust of works done from love of God does not have a cross. And the Christian too without his cross is not Christian.

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