



Priestly People

SERVANTS OF THE PARACLETE

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Signs of the Time!

Noticing life messages

“in old familiar signs or those born in 2020”

wherever they are to be found can be helpful in discovering the sometimes-hidden keys to the life to which God calls us.



Life Signs

We live in an age when messages are forced upon us with ever greater intensity and seductiveness. We are bombarded by volumes of high-powered advertising, such that few of us can be aware of the ways in which we are influenced. We risk the possibility of losing touch with either the presence or the meaning of important life signs. Sometimes it is only in looking back that we notice that we have changed.

Driving along many major thoroughfares in this country, we are often literally walled in by myriads of billboards, each of which reflects the attempt to persuade the consumer to believe whatever the sign says about a product, place, convenience, site, or even rest!

There are many signs that we encounter each day! Whether it is a visible sign or a “gut feeling” sign – signs are everywhere in our life.

Awareness of your own personal signs – those by which we live and to which we instinctively respond!

A brief look at some common street and road signs together with a hint of whose primary sign it may be, might prove helpful in making these reflections more practical.

YIELD

The sign of the conflict avoider

ONE WAY ONLY

The sign of the rigid person

WRONG WAY

The sign of the protective person who wishes to help others avoid mistakes

DEAD END

The sign of the cynic in describing life

NO STOPPING-NO STANDING

The sign of the always busy person

OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY

The sign of the compulsive giver

DANGER

The ever-present sign of the habitual risk taker

WRONG WAY

The sign of the moralist

PRIVATE – NO TRESPASSING

The sign of the introvert



These signs are not to be taken more seriously than they deserve. They are offered with the hope that you may grow more aware of the life signs by which you live.

In today's world, we see signs that have become part of our daily life with heightened awareness! A whole new vocabulary of signage and seriousness.

SOCIAL DISTANCING * MASKS REQUIRED ***
WASH YOUR HANDS *** CURB SIDE PICK UP**

Noticing life messages wherever they are to be found, can be helpful in discovering the sometimes-hidden keys to the life to which God calls us.

Once we have identified some of the signs by which we have lived and live today, we can make choices that will give new meaning and direction to the present and to the future.

There is evidence that each person's past does affect both the present and the future. Dealing with a personal past may be like removing scar tissue that threatens personal prospects for a happier and hope-filled present and future.

Cultural signs which influence us...

Pain is, of itself, evil and ought to be removed as quickly as possible

This message plagues both the health care industry and counseling services. With all our sophisticated technology, there is not a certain way to remove every form of physical pain instantly. Certainly, the hurts of the heart are not reducible to simple and solvable formulas.

The expectation that suffering can be removed frustrates the hurting person and obscures exploration of the meaning that suffering has in human life. Suffering has its own unique power-filled way to call

the hurting person to reach beyond the comfortable places of life and to reach into undiscovered possibilities.

New is better

To walk through life with the belief that nothing lasts and that replacing is better than keeping has brought us to the crisis of the environment which is all too apparent today. It has also brought us to a casual approach to relationships that devalue the sacredness of persons and the connectedness of all life on the planet.

There is an answer for every human question: every form of information is readily available in this age of technology and instantaneousness

This approach to life leads some of us to believe that if we can find the right guru, software or psychiatrist, we will never have to live with uncertainty. Yet, uncertainty is inseparable from the human journey to the experience of wisdom. Uncertainties begin to reveal glimpses of possible new directions.

Power is measured by the degree of control we have over things and persons around us

It is becoming increasingly evident to large segments of the human family that the true power in the universe lies not outside the human person in possessions and wealth, but inside the human person. It is a power that is discovered in times of prayer and self-reflection. It is the kind of power of which Jesus spoke when he said, "the Kingdom is within you".

Noticing life messages wherever they are to be found, can be helpful in discovering the sometimes hidden keys in the life to which God has called us.

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The Servants of the Paraclete Development Office will acknowledge all donations for 2021 with end of the year tax letters. We are looking to save funds wherever possible while remaining grateful and filled with gratitude for your support. If you need an acknowledgement prior to the end of the year tax letter, please contact the Development Office at 636-748-1943. Thank You!



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 Newsletter

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MASS STIPENDS

We appreciate the many mass stipends that we receive. We thank you for supporting that part of our ministry. The Servants of the Paraclete receive mass stipends from our donors and they look forward to celebrating liturgy with those who offer masses for loved ones, friends and family members.

Thank you for supporting our Mass Stipend Ministry!

Name of the person to be remembered in a mass celebrated by a Servant of the Paraclete

living deceased

Please send an acknowledgement card on my behalf to:

Name:

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You will receive acknowledgement of the mass stipend donation in your donor thank you letter. No need to send an acknowledgement card to yourself if you are the donor.

Please complete the mass stipend form and return to the Servants of the Paraclete Development Office.

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