

Bishop Burbidge (00:00):

This is Bishop Michael Burbidge, and you are listening to the Walk Humbly podcast.

Billy Atwell (00:08):

Podcasting from the St. Clare Studios here in the Diocese of Arlington, welcome to the Walk Humbly podcast. I'm Billy Atwell, Chief Communications Officer for the Diocese and your co-host. If you haven't yet, please rate this podcast or write a review wherever you're listening. We're on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher and so on. And if you're listening on YouTube, please subscribe and ring the bell so you can get notifications for all the many videos that we post and updates. Sign up for our e-newsletter at [arlingtondiocese.org](http://arlingtondiocese.org). And you could follow Bishop Burbidge on Twitter @bishopburbidge, where every day he provides a short Gospel reflection for that particular day. You can also follow the Diocese on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. If you have a question for Bishop Burbidge, send it to [info@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:info@arlingtondiocese.org) or send us a message on social media.

(00:53):

Before we get started here, just a couple plugs. You can join Bishop Burbidge for Mass on Ash Wednesday, that's February 22nd, at St. Thomas More Cathedral at 12:05. The Multicultural Cookbook, I've mentioned this before, but for our Jubilee celebration, we're putting together a cookbook of recipes from parishioners throughout the Diocese. If you'd like to submit a family recipe and maybe even a story to go along with it, go to [jubilee.arlingtondiocese.org](http://jubilee.arlingtondiocese.org). We're still accepting them for right now. We've relaunched the Searching for More podcasts - you can get great educational videos about our faith along with stories from parishioners in our diocese. We've relaunched that, so just search for "Searching for More" on YouTube or wherever you listen to podcasts. The men's and women's conferences are still accepting registrations, if you'd like to attend. For the men's conference, Tim Staples and Dominican Father Thomas Petri will be speaking. And for the women's conference, Nikki Kingsley. She is a convert from Islam and has a great, really powerful testimony.

(01:51):

Today's topics with Bishop Burbidge: We're going to be discussing the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, a devil worship performance at the Grammys, Pope Francis celebrates 10 years as our Holy Father and President Biden vows a federal abortion legislation. I welcome your host, Bishop Burbidge. Bishop, how are you doing?

Bishop Burbidge (02:08):

Billy, I'm doing well and hope you and all our listeners are doing well and just wondering what your recipe's going to be for that multicultural cookbook.

Billy Atwell (02:16):

You don't want my recipe. I can do a bean chicken cutlet, but that's about as far as it goes.

Bishop Burbidge (02:21):

Where is your wife? We'll ask Katie to do that.

Billy Atwell (02:22):

Katie, she's got a whole slew I'm sure she could offer up. Bishop, we've got a action packed podcast here, but I want to ask you a couple things. I love looking at your calendar and seeing where you're

going and who you're visiting. I know that's your favorite part of your work here. But you recently celebrated Mass for women religious in this diocese, particularly those who are celebrating Jubilee anniversaries. How was your time with the sisters?

Bishop Burbidge ([02:47](#)):

We're so blessed, first of all, to have so many women, religious sisters, serving in our diocese and their congregations and communities represented. What a beautiful, faithful witness we have. Twice a year, we have a special celebration for the sisters in the fall. It's to welcome the new sisters who've been sent or assigned to serve in our diocese. And after the first of the year, we have another celebration to celebrate the Jubilee of sisters. And this year we had 185 years of faithful witness - service - with four sisters.

Billy Atwell ([03:18](#)):

That's amazing.

Bishop Burbidge ([03:19](#)):

Isn't that incredible? And let me tell you, their joy, their zeal, their energy are still so very evident. And so, it was an opportunity to thank them, our jubilarians, but to thank all of the sisters for their witness, their "yes" to the Lord, their generous service. I also use the occasion to thank the sisters. The sisters serving our diocese, as our listeners may know, produced a wonderful booklet offering meditations, insights, on the Holy Rosary. And I told them, I said, "That booklet has been distributed far and wide throughout our diocese. And so many times people have come up to me saying, please thank the sisters." This is a great spiritual resource. And I think, Billy, our listeners know that's available.

Billy Atwell ([04:03](#)):

Yeah, they've produced wonderful reflections on the Rosary that are at [jubilee.arlingtondiocese.org](http://jubilee.arlingtondiocese.org). They also produced last year, in year one of our Jubilee's preparatory period, a reflection for preparing for Adoration, as well as to guide someone through the Mass. Those are both great resources. You can download them, so you can have them on your phone. Show to your kids. You can print them out, whatever you like. It's [jubilee.arlingtondiocese.org](http://jubilee.arlingtondiocese.org). I noticed also that we had five BLA events around the Diocese thanking donors who've contributed. What was some of the feedback you've received? Not just about the BLA, but in general, because those are almost like mini listening sessions sometimes.

Bishop Burbidge ([04:39](#)):

Sure, yeah, nice receptions. First of all, it's the opportunity to thank those who gathered who are supporters of the Bishop's Lenten Appeal, and allow us to carry out over 40-plus ministries in our diocese, to thank them, to ask them to be ambassadors, maybe to tell others why they support the BLA, maybe bring someone new. We're coming off the most successful BLA in our diocese in history. So, I'm so grateful to all who support that. And we share, at these receptions, how we are good stewards of the generous gifts that come our way and support of BLA, how those resources are being used as the people intend them to be used, for ministry, to evangelize, to support Catholic Charities, to help our brothers and sisters in most need. And we had two beautiful speakers at each event talking about some of the ministries that support mother and child in need, especially as a mother and father are getting ready to welcome a child into the world. So, it's a great opportunity for me to express thanks and to show the great works of the many ministries.

[\(05:43\)](#):

But like you said, part of the highlight, Billy, is that we stay. I have so many members of our wonderful team there of the ministries. We all stand in front of the ministries that we represent, and we invite the people at the reception - please come talk to us. Maybe you have a suggestion of how we could do things better. Or maybe you have a new idea, share that with us. And then, after all these receptions as a team, we will debrief and say, "Hey, listen, what did we learn?"

Billy Atwell [\(06:10\)](#):

And we do.

Bishop Burbidge [\(06:10\)](#):

And we learn.

Billy Atwell [\(06:10\)](#):

I do think about that.

Bishop Burbidge [\(06:10\)](#):

People come up with great, great suggestions.

Billy Atwell [\(06:14\)](#):

Really do.

Bishop Burbidge [\(06:14\)](#):

So, we really welcome that opportunity to hear from the faithful. And so, it's always a great experience.

Billy Atwell [\(06:19\)](#):

I have to say, being a staff member here at the Chancery, everyone here is keenly aware that when we spend money on whatever it is that we have to spend money on to carry out these ministries, that we're really not spending money, we're spending gifts. And behind every gift is a donor. And so, I have really been blessed to see that witness from our staff as well.

[\(06:38\)](#):

All right, so we've got a number of big topics here. Bishop, you issued a statement earlier this week following the devastating earthquake that took place on the Syrian Turkish border. I looked at it this morning, more than 17,500 people, to date, have passed away, one of which was a priest. And there was actually three US citizens that died so far as well, with many buildings still collapsing. Pope Francis responded saying that he was deeply saddened at the huge loss of life. When we see these things, we feel powerless. It's in a land far away, but it's impacting our faith. It's impacting fellow citizens, and our brothers and sisters. As Catholics, how do we process something like this? It's a grave tragedy.

Bishop Burbidge [\(07:14\)](#):

Yeah, it is, Billy. It is devastating. It's devastating to learn of the loss of life. And it is very devastating. But we're not helpless. We are certainly united in prayer, and we have to know the power of that prayer, that we're praying for brothers and sisters. These are our brothers and sisters, those who died, and their families, and all who have to start the rebuilding and the healing process. And we have to stay vigilant

with our prayer, because right now, it's in the front of the news, it's the top story. But this time next week, it probably won't be. But that doesn't mean our prayers are not needed more than ever. So, we have to stay vigilant and keep continuing to pray.

(07:56):

Also, we will have the opportunity to assist. We'll be hearing more in our parishes, through the Conference of Bishops or Catholic Relief Services, but there will be an opportunity to contribute funds to help in the rebuilding. And our people in our diocese are always so generous when such an appeal is made. So yeah, we're united in prayer, but we're not helpless. Our prayer, our assistance, our generosity are all ways that God's using us as his instruments of healing.

Billy Atwell (08:27):

Absolutely. Absolutely. Bishop, God willing, you're not going to know the reference I'm about to make, but the Grammys, I don't see you as an earnest watcher of the Grammys, setting your alarm to it or anything. But there was something really disturbing at the most recent Grammys, and it's been circulated on social media. It was basically a depiction of devil worship. And it went way beyond something kind of a demonically themed, which sadly is becoming even more popular in art and entertainment, which would be bad enough. But this actually glorified evil, and the devil. Very few people have not seen it at this point, because of how it's circulated on social media. I'd just like your thoughts on this.

Bishop Burbidge (09:10):

Yeah, you're right. I did not watch the Grammy Awards. But as you said, it has received a great deal of coverage. And so, I saw the clips, the highlights from the award ceremony itself. And as you noted, many are saying accurately, it was a performance really of devil worship. At one point they, apparently, mimicked the sign of the cross. So, this is very disturbing. There has been a growing trend over the years to see the devil as a figure of speech. Well, that almost like it's an idea. That's not true. This is a reality. This is a reality that the Lord himself warned us about. And so, mocking the devil or diminishing belief in his reality is a calming tactic of the Evil One. The Evil One wants us to think, "Oh, this is not real." In the meantime, really creates great damage in the lives of our world and in our own lives personally.

(10:11):

He's very real and he wants us to deny God. But he also knows that if we don't believe in him, so we don't-

Billy Atwell (10:19):

And the devil [inaudible 00:10:20].

Bishop Burbidge (10:19):

... we don't take that seriously, if we don't believe in the devil, then we will not take his tactics seriously. So, if you allow the enemy into your home, you won't be observant of what he is doing to you and your family.

Billy Atwell (10:31):

That's right.

Bishop Burbidge ([10:32](#)):

And so, that's why it's so important to pray, that prayer of St. Michael the Archangel, I think, in our homes. There's a beautiful prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours once a week that the priests pray for the Church, and it actually prays to God, "Please, Lord, banish evil from this house." And I say that every night, banish evil. Because, we're frail humans and the devil knows where we're the weakest. And if we open the door or the window, he will enter.

([11:03](#)):

And so, I think these kinds of displays that we saw in the entertainment world there should be a reminder for us to pray that we have to have the fortitude to recognize the work of the devil and rebuke him. Because, the Lord's power is stronger. We have power over temptation and evil. And the devil has no power on his own. He actually requires our failure and sin to accomplish anything, because we know Christ has won the victory. So, no temptation, no evil, stronger.

([11:36](#)):

If I could, Billy just, I'm not a parent, but in a pastoral way, just a word to our parents - I think talking about the devil and talking about evil, they're hard lessons to teach your children. But I highly encourage our parents not to allow your children to watch these devil displays. Even little things like, not little things, but significant things dressing up as demons for Halloween. And certainly not to play with the tools of the occult, such as those Ouija boards and things like that. Don't take those things lightly. None of them should be taken lightly. And we should use this as an opportunity to teach our children. And we certainly want to always, as your pastors, as your priests, to always help you to teach the triumph of good, but the wickedness of evil.

Billy Atwell ([12:28](#)):

Absolutely. Thank you for that. Your Excellency, Pope Francis, who appointed you bishop here in Arlington, so you owe him a debt of gratitude.

Bishop Burbidge ([12:36](#)):

I sure do. Absolutely.

Billy Atwell ([12:39](#)):

He's celebrating his 10th anniversary - it's hard to believe - his 10th anniversary of being elected to the Chair of St. Peter as our Holy Father. It's pretty amazing. I was wondering if you had any thoughts or reflections on this. It's a big milestone.

Bishop Burbidge ([12:50](#)):

Yeah, well, first of all, it's been 10 years. That's hard to believe.

Billy Atwell ([12:53](#)):

It is.

Bishop Burbidge ([12:54](#)):

And we know that, as he went into the conclave, he was already putting his letter in to retire.

Billy Atwell ([13:00](#)):

I know. That's the way God works, isn't it?

Bishop Burbidge ([13:01](#)):

And God says, "You really want to retire? No, I got a different job for you." And he did what he has done throughout his pontificate and his priesthood. He said "yes" to God's plan, to God's will, in which we know that always brings freedom. It always brings our joy. Billy, you put together a list for me of all the places he has visited in his 10 years -

Billy Atwell ([13:23](#)):

It's hard to believe.

Bishop Burbidge ([13:25](#)):

... throughout the world. And when you look at the list, anyone can call that up. It is just absolutely incredible how blessed we were that - the United States - we had a great privilege of hosting him. If you look up Pope Francis' encyclicals and exhortations, so many beautiful writings - on the Joy of the Gospel, the Light of Faith, on Care for our Common Home, and the list continues. We know that Pope Francis is a staunch, staunch defender of the sacredness of life and protection of the unborn.

Billy Atwell ([13:59](#)):

Absolutely.

Bishop Burbidge ([13:59](#)):

And speaks often. He speaks often of the evil of abortion and how we have to continue to love mother and child and to walk with them in need. I think about his 10 years, I guess if I think of some of the things that stand out, he also often uses the words "accompany" and "encounter" reminding us that we are meant to be in communion with one another. We certainly saw that through the times of COVID when we were not - how much we missed that - so how we accompany, encounter one another as brothers and sisters.

([14:33](#)):

Pope Francis has often talked to us about the need to go to the outskirts, to go to the margins, to where people need us the most, and not to wait till they come to us. So, we do that in a beautiful way in our diocese as we help the poor and the needy. I think we can even do more as we try to go out, as we have learned through our recent October count, to people who are not actively engaged and coming to church every week. What are we doing as a parish? What are we doing as a diocese? Go out! Don't wait until they come to us. How can we evangelize? How can we go out two by two and invite and welcome them back?

([15:12](#)):

I think the Pope has taught us the importance of being stewards of creation, about the witness of joy. He often says, if we want to attract others to Jesus and if we want to attract others to live the Gospel, then they have to see our joy. Joy is attractive. If they don't see our joy, he often teases, if we're grumpy and they say, "Well, why do I want to do that?"

Billy Atwell ([15:36](#)):

This is amazing. You echoed many times on your own, I know [inaudible 00:15:37].

Bishop Burbidge ([15:37](#)):

Exactly. But if they see our joy, it's probably one of the most effective tools of evangelizing. Because, people say, "I want what you have. Where do you get that?" And we say, "I get it in relationship with Christ in living in his Gospel." And then, another great lesson, and this is important, I know in my own spiritual life, I like hearing him when he reminds me and us: Don't be afraid of the Holy Spirit. When we pray to the Holy Spirit, "come enlighten us, lead us, guide us", we have to know what we're praying for. We're very vulnerable at that point. Because, it may be radically different than what we were anticipating in our own life, or as a church, or as a diocese. But the Holy Spirit's at work. And he's saying, "Don't be afraid." Don't be afraid to accept the new ways that he may be leading you, not just that we keep doing the same old thing. He may have new plans for us. So many, many lessons the Holy Father teaches us. And as he celebrates his 10th anniversary, I ask all in the Diocese to continue to pray for his health and wellbeing, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Billy Atwell ([16:41](#)):

Absolutely. Beautiful reflection. Thank you for that. Before we step off that topic, his latest apostolic visit is to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. And on his second day there, he celebrated a Mass for one million people. Now, you've celebrated big Masses, 20,000 people in George Mason's arena for Life is Very Good. Can you imagine what it would be like standing, and celebrating, and consecrating the Eucharist in front of a million people?

Bishop Burbidge ([17:07](#)):

I know. Isn't that incredible? But I'm sure, as he looked out, he was just so touched and moved to see such solidarity with our Holy Father, successor of St. Peter. And all those, the million people, represent all of us standing in solidarity with the successor of St. Peter.

Billy Atwell ([17:25](#)):

Yeah, and his reflection of the growth of the Church in Africa too, which is just burgeoning. Bishop, in his State of the Union address, President Biden spoke of children a few times. He said they shouldn't be treated like baggage by the airline industry. And he spoke of the tragedy of children getting ill and not having health insurance. However, he then called, shortly thereafter, for national legislation that would enshrine abortion into our federal system, basically doing what has been attempted through Roe v. Wade. Well, now that they don't have that, then there's an attempt to federalize it through legislation, which would be an enormous tragedy. What are your reactions to the president's statements?

Bishop Burbidge ([18:03](#)):

Wow. It's very disappointing. And certainly there's no consistency. There's no consistency. The child, the Lord's child, is sacred, is to be protected, cherished, defended from the moment of conception, at every stage of life. And so, you can't say, "Well, we'll protect, the child, we'll defend the child. The child deserves respect at this stage of his or her life." No, it's at every stage.

Billy Atwell ([18:33](#)):

Absolutely.

Bishop Burbidge ([18:34](#)):

And so, very disturbing to hear that contradiction, that lack of consistency, especially someone trained and formed and educated in the Catholic faith. And so, very disappointed. Even more disturbing to me, we're seeing some people, instead of sometimes they wear the American flag on their lapel or whatever, there were actually people in that chamber wearing abortion on their lapel with a heart, like, "We love abortion."

Billy Atwell ([19:10](#)):

It's like pledging allegiance to abortion of sorts.

Bishop Burbidge ([19:11](#)):

Billy-

Billy Atwell ([19:12](#)):

That is unbelievable. I did not realize that.

Bishop Burbidge ([19:12](#)):

How can anyone say they love abortion? The taking of a human life, the great horrific damage it does, of course, the taking of a life, but also to a mother. And I'm thinking out there, how many people saw that who know that their mother was encouraged to have an abortion but chose not to? And now, they are blessed with the gift of life. Or how many mothers and fathers are mourning the loss of life, because they chose abortion? And they see elected officials saying, "We love abortion." This is how extreme the position is getting. Can you imagine, the bills, the laws, that people wearing signs of that want to bring forth into our country? So, we have to be so vigilant in prayer and advocacy and witness. People have heard me say this many times, but as we listened to the State of The Union, as we saw those kind of antics, we have a lot of work to do. And this work is just beginning. And we need to be united ourselves, and in prayer, and in our courageous witness to life.

Billy Atwell ([20:27](#)):

Well, as you said, in front of that large crowd at the Basilica Shrine for the Vigil Mass for Life, this is the beginning. The end of Roe v. Wade was the beginning of our movement forward. And that really, I think, sent the signal to a lot of people that, yeah, we need to be prepared. It's going to be a tough road ahead.

Bishop Burbidge ([20:45](#)):

But we have the truth.

Billy Atwell ([20:46](#)):

That's right.

Bishop Burbidge ([20:47](#)):

We have the truth. Life is sacred, and Jesus is victorious, his victory is ours. So, we stay confident, we stay peaceful, we stay courageous.

Billy Atwell ([20:57](#)):



Speaking of confidence and peace, I have a question that, if I don't ask you this, I feel like I would be looking for work. The Super Bowl's coming up, as you know.

Bishop Burbidge ([21:05](#)):

I know, I know. Yeah.

Billy Atwell ([21:08](#)):

So faith transcends borders, but I know so does football. I hear that you have a friendly wager going on with a brother Bishop in the Kansas City area. Do you want to tell us a little bit about that?

Bishop Burbidge ([21:18](#)):

Yeah, sure. Sure, sure. As our listeners know, as a former season ticket holder, my dad, for many years to the Eagles, and having lived there almost the first 50 years of my life and having all my family still there, I am a big Eagles fan. I'm so excited that they've reached the Super Bowl, second year with the coach.

Billy Atwell ([21:41](#)):

That's pretty amazing.

Bishop Burbidge ([21:41](#)):

His second year, he brings them to the Super Bowl. So, it's really exciting. Yeah. I'll start pacing Sunday morning, but it's really exciting now to watch this. And a good friend of mine, Archbishop Joseph Naumann, is the Archbishop of Kansas in Kansas City. So yeah, we made a bet. So, if Kansas Chiefs win the game, then I owe him some of Virginia's best baked hams.

Billy Atwell ([22:07](#)):

All right.

Bishop Burbidge ([22:07](#)):

And if the Eagles, as likely, will win, then I get treated to Kansas City Barbecue.

Billy Atwell ([22:14](#)):

All right. Very good.

Bishop Burbidge ([22:15](#)):

So, yeah.

Billy Atwell ([22:16](#)):

We'll plan on barbecue the day after the Super Bowl.

Bishop Burbidge ([22:17](#)):

Yeah. So Billy, I'll share some with you.

Billy Atwell ([22:17](#)):

All right, sounds good.

Bishop Burbidge ([22:17](#)):

I'll share some with you, yeah.

Billy Atwell ([22:21](#)):

That's wonderful. Well, we had some questions. We get questions from all over the Diocese, but we got a couple questions from third graders at St. Thomas More Elementary School.

Bishop Burbidge ([22:32](#)):

Okay.

Billy Atwell ([22:34](#)):

So, I thought you would appreciate this.

Bishop Burbidge ([22:34](#)):

Sure.

Billy Atwell ([22:34](#)):

The first one, you've spoken about the process for being chosen as a bishop. You don't even know that you're involved. But his question is: Can you explain in a simple way how we pick a new pope?

Bishop Burbidge ([22:43](#)):

Sure. We pick a new pope under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. So, all the cardinals of the world gather. And before they start voting for a new pope, there's days and days of prayer. There's almost like a retreat before they actually go into the voting of the new pope. So, it's rooted in prayer, trusting in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. And then, the cardinals actually vote, fill in ballots. And then, once that number is reached, then we announce the new pope.

Billy Atwell ([23:16](#)):

Very good.

Bishop Burbidge ([23:17](#)):

So, every cardinal goes in there. One of them's going to come out wearing white instead of red.

Billy Atwell ([23:21](#)):

Yeah, right. That's very good. Yeah, because, with the bishop, you don't know who's part of the process. There, you know exactly who's part of the process. The whole world knows that. All right, the next one, when a priest is giving a homily, do they prepare beforehand and write it down or just "wing it"? Their words, not mine.

Bishop Burbidge ([23:38](#)):

Okay. I'm a little concerned about that question, because I preach at St. Thomas More a lot. So I hope they're not referring to me. I'll say what I do, and I can't speak for all the priests, but I'm sure it's what

most of our priests do, we have so many good homilists in our diocese. You begin, you're preaching the Word of God. So, the first thing you do is you do the readings. All right? So, you're not preaching your message, you're preaching the Word of God. And so, you do the readings, and then you put them aside, and you pray over them. You pray over the readings and ask God's heart to be your heart, God's words to be your words.

[\(24:23\)](#):

And then it does take preparation. It takes maybe some study on the verse itself, or maybe translations of some of the words and what their meaning is. Maybe help people to understand the setting in which that Scripture took place. And then, hopefully offer a pastoral message of how you can take what the readings are saying to you this Sunday into the week that will follow. So, maybe a word of consolation, encouragement, or challenge. But yeah, it really does take preparation.

[\(24:58\)](#):

For myself, I do write it down. So, I do type out my homily, because it gives me a sense of how long it is. I know if it's like a page and a half or whatever, I know that's going to be seven or eight minutes. And so, it gives you a better idea of length. And when you write it down, you catch yourself repeating. It's like, "Oh, I already said that. I don't need that to say that again." But what I try to do is then make it my own. So, I do write it out, but I don't usually bring the text to the ambo. At that point, I've already hopefully, not memorized, but really become very familiar with the homily, where I can just preach a little bit more like myself rather than reading a text or something like that. So yeah, please, I know preparing homilies, especially when you have so many in one week.

Billy Atwell [\(25:47\)](#):

Well, especially you, because you have confirmations and all these other Masses that are not in a typical priest's schedule. That's pretty unreal.

Bishop Burbidge [\(25:53\)](#):

Right. So, you have to allow time for that. Yeah, so I ask the faithful here, pray that our priests and myself are always enlightened and guided by the Holy Spirit. So, his words are spoken to you through us.

Billy Atwell [\(26:08\)](#):

Very good. Bishop, that's all I've got for you. Any final thoughts on this?

Bishop Burbidge [\(26:11\)](#):

No, that was great, Billy. Thank you so much. We're recording this podcast shortly before the World Day of Prayer for the Sick, the celebration of our Lady of Lourdes, we know that many of the miracles of Jesus curing the sick, people were brought to him, sometimes on mats or sometimes in other ways. And he, because of the faith of the people, healed them physically or emotionally. And I think the World Day of the Sick is reminding all of us that we have the sacred duty to bring others who are sick, suffering physically or emotionally, to Jesus. And how do we do so? Most especially through our prayer. So, it's a beautiful day to remember all those who are suffering and to entrust them to Mary's intercession and to the healing love of her son.

[\(27:03\)](#):

And I thank all of our listeners. And as we also are getting ready to celebrate Valentine's Day in our society, I want to thank all of our married couples. Thank you for your beautiful vocation of living as

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husband and wife, the beautiful vocation that God has entrusted to you, a sign of the love he has for his Church and his people. And we ask God to bless the love you share, so that it grows stronger with the passing of each new day, and pray for all of us that we may continue to walk humbly with our God.

[\(27:33\)](#):

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