

SEQUITUR SYNOPSIS

November 2023

By Lee Chemin



CURRENT AND FUTURE EVENTS

- THE HOUSE OF CHRYSOSTOM WAS THE WINNER OF THE HOUSE FOOD DRIVE. CONGRATULATIONS TO HOC, WHO HAVE EARNED THEMSELVES A PIZZA PARTY AND POINTS TOWARD THE HOUSE CUP PRESENTED AT THE END OF THE YEAR
- SCHOOL PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE—[HTTPS://MELISSATHORNTON1.SPROUTSTUDIO.COM/GALLERY/SEQUITUR-2324-6533B4EE8BD98](https://melissathornton1.sproutstudio.com/gallery/sequitur-2324-6533b4ee8bd98)
- **DECEMBER 20TH FROM 9-11 AM** OUR CHRISTMAS CHAPEL WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH OF THE KING MAIN SANCTUARY. PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO DROP THEIR STUDENTS OFF AND STAY FOR AN 8 AM PARENT FELLOWSHIP GATHERING IN THE SANCTUARY
- **NOVEMBER 30 FROM 1-2:30 PM** WE HAVE A SCHOOL WIDE SERVICE PROJECT ON THURSDAY. LOGIC AND RHETORIC SCHOOL STUDENTS CAN ENJOY SOME PIZZA AND THEN STAY TO HELP US DEEP CLEAN THE BUILDING. IF YOU HAVE GRAMMAR SCHOOL STUDENTS AND WANT TO HELP US CLEAN WITH YOUR LITTLES, WE JUST ASK THAT YOU STAY TO SUPERVISE THOSE YOUNGER STUDENTS DURING THE HOUR AND A HALF CLEAN UP TIME
- **DECEMBER 1 AT 6:30** THERE IS A SCHOOL DANCE ON FRIDAY EVENING FEATURING THE RETURN OF THE GREAT KEVIN LINDHOLM TO TEACH SWING DANCING. WE HOPE TO SEE ALL LOGIC AND RHETORIC SCHOOL STUDENTS THERE!
- **DECEMBER 1** REGISTRATIONS FOR FIRST THROUGH TWELFTH GRADES OPEN UP TO NEW FAMILIES

WATCHING WHAT WE'RE LISTENING TO

A few students asked me this week to come up with a list of my favorite movies, so in lieu of what we're listening to, here is a list of favorite advent movies. Keep in mind that these are advent movies, not necessarily Christmas movies. An advent movie is any film that, in my definition, prepares the watcher's heart for an advent - that is, for an arrival of some kind. So though some of these movies have Christmas motifs and/or explicitly reference Jesus, not all of them do. And, not all of them are appropriate for students of all ages, though all of them are worth watching.

- Children of Men
- Tree of Life
- Joe vs. the Volcano
- The Priest's Wife
- The Fantastic Mr. Fox
- The Bishop's Wife
- Midnight Special
- The Robe
- Charlie Brown Christmas



WHAT WE'RE READING

The faculty have just embarked on a project to read Josh Gibbs' Something They Will Not Forget and to come up with a faculty catechism to be used for years to come! If you're interested in school liturgies and catechisms, we are currently reading chapter one, and we encourage you to pick up a copy for yourself and read along with us.



INDIVIDUAL AND CLASS PHOTOS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FROM QUIBBY-MADE PHOTOGRAPHY

Conferences:

ACCS REPAIRING THE RUINS

June 19-22, 2024 | Atlanta, GA

repairingtheruins.org

CIRCE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

July 17-20, 2024 | Charleston, SC

circeinstitute.org/events/a-contemplation-of-prudence/

We are looking into hosting a remote viewing of this conference

CONTINUING SERIES ABOUT CLASSICAL MEETING CHRISTIAN:

“STRENGTHENING OUR REGARD FOR THE BETTER”

IN SEPTEMBER’S SYNOPSIS, I WROTE A BRIEF ARTICLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTION “WHAT HATH ATHENS TO DO WITH JERUSALEM?” ANOTHER WAY OF STATING THIS QUESTION IS: “DO CHRISTIANS NEED TO STUDY THE PAGANS?” THE ANSWER I GAVE IN THE LAST ARTICLE COULD BE SUMMARIZED AS ‘THE CONSENSUS OF CHRISTIANS OVER TIME HAS BEEN YES, CHRISTIANS DO NEED TO STUDY THE PAGANS. AND IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE STUDYING IN A CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, THEY WILL BE STUDYING THE PAGANS.’ THIS WILL BE A CONTINUING SERIES OF ARTICLES TO EXPLORE THE REASONS THAT THE CHRISTIAN CONSENSUS OVER TIME HAS BEEN THAT STUDYING PAGAN LITERATURE IS NECESSARY FOR AND BENEFICIAL TO CHRISTIANS.

THIS WEEK’S ARTICLE IS ENTITLED “STRENGTHENING OUR REGARD FOR THE BETTER” IN REFERENCE TO A LETTER WRITTEN BY THE 4TH CENTURY CAPPADOCIAN CHURCH FATHER ST. BASIL THE GREAT. SPECIFICALLY, THE TITULAR NAME COMES FROM THIS QUOTE WITHIN ST. BASIL’S LETTER:

“IF, THEN, THERE IS ANY AFFINITY BETWEEN THE TWO LITERATURES [THE PAGAN AND THE CHRISTIAN], A KNOWLEDGE OF THEM SHOULD BE USEFUL TO US IN OUR SEARCH FOR TRUTH; IF NOT, THE COMPARISON, BY EMPHASIZING THE CONTRAST, WILL BE OF NO SMALL SERVICE IN STRENGTHENING OUR REGARD FOR THE BETTER ONE.”

WHEN ST. PAUL VISITED THE AREOPAGUS IN THE BOOK OF ACTS, HE SPOKE TO THE GATHERED GREEKS ABOUT AN EXTANT ALTAR TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. HE DESCRIBED THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB, AND PREACHED THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST’S DEATH AND RESURRECTION. ACTS TELLS US THAT “NOW WHEN THEY HEARD OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD, SOME MOCKED. BUT OTHERS SAID, “WE WILL HEAR YOU AGAIN ABOUT THIS” (ACTS 17:23). WHY DID SOME GREEKS REGARD ST. PAUL’S CLAIM ABOUT THE BETTER – THAT IS, THE RESURRECTION?

ST. PAUL WAS A SCHOLAR OF GREEK PHILOSOPHY, AND WE KNOW THAT HE COULD WRITE AND ARTICULATE HIMSELF IN KOINE GREEK. BUT THAT ALONE WOULDN’T NECESSARILY CONVINCING A GREEK SCHOLAR TO LISTEN TO PREACHING ABOUT RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD. FROM ACTS, WE ALSO KNOW THAT IN HIS SERMON TO THE GREEKS, PAUL QUOTES FROM CERTAIN GREEK PHILOSOPHERS AND POETS, NAMELY IN VERSE 17:28. PAUL SAID, “IN HIM WE LIVE AND MOVE AND HAVE OUR BEING”; AS EVEN SOME OF YOUR OWN POETS HAVE SAID, ‘FOR WE ARE INDEED HIS OFFSPRING.’ THIS ALLUDES TO PASSAGES FROM EPIMENIDES AND FROM EITHER ARATUS OR CLEANTHES. BY SPEAKING IN THE VERNACULAR, ST. PAUL WAS ABLE TO SPEAK TO THE GREEKS. BUT BY QUOTING THE GREEK PHILOSOPHERS, ST. PAUL WAS ABLE TO STRENGTHEN WITHIN HIS AUDIENCE A REGARD FOR THE BETTER.

THAT STILL DOESN’T ANSWER THE NEXT QUESTION: WHY DO WE MODERN CHRISTIANS NEED TO LEARN THE GREEKS? WE MIGHT ENCOUNTER A GREEK MAN OR WOMAN AT THE LOCAL CC’S, BUT WILL WE NEED TO SPEAK TO THEM IN GREEK? WE MAY NEED TO EXEGETE A BIBLICAL PASSAGE, BUT WILL WE REALLY NEED TO UNDERSTAND SOPHOCLES? AS CHRISTIANS, THE BIBLE IS OUR CONTEXT. AND THE BIBLE – AT LEAST, THE NEW TESTAMENT – WAS WRITTEN IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE IN THE GREEK LANGUAGE. TO INCREASE OUR REGARD FOR WHAT WE ALREADY KNOW TO BE GOOD, WE CAN DO SO THROUGH THE TRUTH AND CONTRASTS EVIDENT WITHIN THE BIBLE’S ORIGINAL CONTEXT.