24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Last time I talked with you I used the concept of matter and anti-matter from quantum physics as an analogy for good energy versus bad energy. When every bit of matter comes in contact with anti-matter there is a conflict that causes a reaction. This reaction cancels out each part and releases other articles of energy like the PET Scan. I also mentioned the ‘Big Bang Theory’ which left some bits of matter left over after the collision of matter and anti-matter.

I used the analogy to refer to good energy (God) meeting up with bad energy (evil). When they meet there is a reaction but there is always some good left over. Good energy is more powerful than bad energy.

So what do you think? What about the opioid epidemic within our families? Are opioid drugs bad energy (evil)?

I want to confess that last month I used Versed which is a benzodiazepine and Fentanyl, an opioid. It was great. No anxiety. No fear. All was mellow. I was in a fine place. Anybody could do anything to me and I would be fine. So Albert shoved something down my throat and up my rectum and I was just fine.

Well Albert is Doctor Albert Diaz-Ordaz and I went over to the Sterling Surgical Center on two occasions for an endoscope of my esophagus, stomach, and duodenum and then later a colonoscopy. All is good. Thanks for asking.

But what of this epidemic of benzodiazepine and compounds of its like and opioids like Fentanyl? I heard that they are very addictive and Fentanyl can kill you. Is this not evil energy?

The bad energy is not in the drugs themselves. The evil is in their addiction and the evil is in those who push these drugs on people to make money off of those who become addicted. That is bad energy. A bad energy that can overcome anybody at any time no matter who, no matter when. Good people can become addicted – overcome by evil.

So what happens when matter (any person) and anti-matter (opioids) collide? There is a reaction and destruction. In my case the drugs got into my system and I wasn’t Larry for a time. My liver battled the invasive drugs and my energy. Though weakened, I survived the battle. I was warned that I couldn’t drive for 24 hours because I would be under the influence. (My brother drove me home.) I couldn’t sign anything important because the drugs weakened my sense of right judgement. That’s how powerful these drugs were.

But what if I was hooked on these drugs? What if someone said I could have them whenever I wanted (if I had enough money to pay for them)? Bad energy. Evil people.

And what if I were addicted to the effects of these drugs? Is there no hope?

There is always hope. Even with the Big Bang there was always matter left over. There was always matter to be found. Good energy can never be completely lost.

With addiction, there is always hope to rediscover the good in the person that always remains in the person no matter what. This good energy can re-energize the person to battle against the evil addiction and the people with the bad energy that make that addiction possible.

Here at BMT parish, we reserve Friday nights for people who were once addicted and now need to re-energize that good that always remains. Narcotics Anonymous meets here every Friday night of the year at 7:00 P.M. The facilitator is one of our valued, church-going parishioners. He heard my recent sermons and told me that when NA meets, the energy in the room is palpable – you can almost touch it. It is good energy. Powerful energy. God energy. This higher power encourages people to resist addiction and also to resist those who foster addiction. Bad energy or evil has no chance to overcome the good energy generated at those meetings. People who meet on Friday nights and their facilitator are valuable and good and energetic and want to give themselves to their higher power.

It would do us well to add our energy to theirs by keeping them in our prayers especially on Friday nights.

Now what about other anti-matter, bad energy, evil that there can be that we have to watch out for? Be aware and beware. That’s for next time.