

Transcript of Oral History Interview with Father John

Interviewee: Father John

Interviewer: Nicolas Contreras

Date: 04/01/2020

Location (Interviewee): unknown

Location (Interviewer): unknown

Transcription Equipment: Otter.ai

Interview Technology: Zoom-recording

Abstract: Poor sound quality interview with Father John and how the pandemic has affected his ability to witness/help members of the Catholic Church and church services. Due to sound quality and background music a completely accurate transcript could not be formed.

Nicolas Contreras 00:00

So, Father, as you know, as currently right now, we have this Coronavirus, or better known as COVID-19 going around and it's causing states to shut down churches and congregations to be closed. And I wanted to give a perspective of somebody who has devoted their life to God, has given their life to the religious life, and become to fall in the vocation of the Catholic Church. And I wanted to give a perspective to the world as to like what has this disease this virus has caused, not just to the not just to the Catholic Church, but to you particularly as well. So, my first question to you is...

Father John 00:37

Okay.

Nicolas Contreras 00:37

How has COVID-19 affected your faith or beliefs?

Father John 00:42

Well, God speaks...God almighty, the Holy Spirit...especially (unintelligible due to background music)...

Father John 01:05

...when he became human in Christ. and I personally recall that Christ suffered, crucified died while prayerfully tossing itself because the father was raised by father major see by his disciples in about 40 days before they disappeared from their I see province so I believe it or not make the fight with everyone else because whatever something beats eventually, at the end of our lives, we'll be able to calm the door of death. And this guy with our vision Savior, doing our best to share it work on building out a new creative, loving by loving each other and caring environment. And what came to mind really stayed with me tonight to the other papers a person who suffers in the 14th century during the Black Death The name is Rita Norris and her papers words are often quoted all the time oh I can't be trusted division project it was appealed to her

you know how much time is limited understanding of its passion for open up recall the word como is the letter to the Romans chapter eight verse eight is not to turn all things it's good to go over my fate, not only exalted give me I take over the people struggling to reach out to help. The doctor nearby school here in Chandler is offering free meals in anything to eat the children under the age of 18. Robert occurred the perfect time and doctors and nurses around retirement to volunteer to help those who are affected by digital divide. I see people you know are concerned about the word Yes. I have not been left with it. Yeah.

Nicolas Contreras 03:40

Okay. So, you're saying your faith has strengthened you through these times? And has made you more prayerfully be able to pray more? for those in need, especially during these hardships? Yeah, yes. And so basically, we are to be like Christ, and to be able to give those and to be able to give those and need that do not have those abundantly just as food water money. Wow, that's fascinating. Father, that's so great to hear. My next question leads to how's your religious community? Are they still gathering or has COVID affecting COVID-19 affected your participation and your religious community?

Father John 04:29

Well, governor of new orders, we closed on this very fractious marriage and the portrait no longer counseling all together in our church building our global religious services to be on board in March. They think very much in order to communicate, but we're still streaming a database Read every day, so that they can hear the Word of God in Scripture to be encoded by the date of settlement. And they help to pray to the needs of the world. And God Christ is a gaping, shocked to find that everywhere declares that the response we're getting from PayPal to the emails and phone calls, that they do appreciate very much based on submissions provided by our media, industry technicians, YouTube and Facebook, they find it very helpful. However, it is still surprised about social distancing with sanitizing facilities. So we do encourage people to become afraid. Get quiet.

Nicolas Contreras 05:54

Okay, so So, that leads me to my next topic is where social media and all that and do you feel like that the word of God is spreading more across the globe? during these times since you know, not every all the congregations and churches, whether it's Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam are now able to gather together Do you feel like a gospel is spreading out more or as it stayed the same as far as like, you know, what social media

Father John 06:29

media gender is the word of God. Because this place at any time, he does not live in a size and as he stated, getting together nature as a reflection more comfortable, and so on and appreciated. And of course, if we don't just give more yesterday, people can figure out their trade, which was very difficult for them when they cannot gather together so they will dependent also on the social media. We are a community to get together helping people to appreciate the Word of God and what God has to tell them. Okay,

Nicolas Contreras 07:20

That's good father. So, my next question is, is your religious community supplying or engaged in any kind of community service in an attempt to help alleviate issues caused by the epidemic? If so, what are those efforts

Father John 07:43

relies on training or servicing, a contract is already available, available for managers ready to use the limited number of expressions and of course, we have more contact detail. And the goal for the contract is for counselors. However, three times a week, we still have political concessions and counseling, outside on shape, issues, decision and so on. And obviously, we were at EPA to protect ourselves so we have to go to the sick and help them especially those who are dying. For over on the left to Sunday, in the afternoon, we spent three to four hours for what we called a drive thru testing that people have published to date in their vehicles and take with them and help us which is very much appreciated. The drive

Nicolas Contreras 09:04

Okay, and you spoke a little bit about confession. So, I was just wondering, do you feel like people are coming to conventions more because they believe that this is a God's way of you know, obviously in Bibles it talks about there will be war against nation against nation kingdom against NATO kingdom? Do you feel like that God is a sort of like, warning us that this is now the end of the world? Or this the word it seems to be? Oh,

Father John 9:33

No, I don't think of it in fact. Okay. Many people are afraid of practice, across the legislature from out and so on up to larger public debates, all the big pile of books, they put on the grace of God. with the intention of the deck to the west, they get the opportunity to avoid the matrix control People are relying on God because they are afraid of either how they come into the session.

Nicolas Contreras 10:16

Okay. And Father, I'm kind of curious to know, and throughout your lifetime, because obviously, I know you from personal experience is that you are a missionary priest, and you've been a priest for how long? Exactly? Okay, so 53 years plus, obviously, you know, that including nine years of seminary and throughout your life of childhood and all that light, right, so you're obviously in your 70s and 80s. So my question to you is, has there any been anything like this throughout your lifetime throughout the decades of, you know, of you traveling around the world and spreading the gospel?

Father John 11:04

Yeah, I kept in touch with it. Now, here's the thing life before the destination, however, where the danger of the minority may not have something, to do whatever, but nothing like this will be strange. Yeah.

Nicolas Contreras 11:44

Yeah. Yes, cuz I was, I was kind of curious about that, too. Like, you know, obviously, you know, throughout my lifetime, I'm only 23 years old. So I was just curious as to, to see cuz in the history books only ever talks about like the brawny plague or the black plague. You know, and that was

Father John 12:05

read about? Like,

Nicolas Contreras 12:09

Yes. Yeah.

Father John 12:11

I never liked it.

Nicolas Contreras 12:18

Yeah, okay. Yeah. So I was just curious to see, you know, maybe had experienced before in this and was able to give guidance to not only to your mother, priestly brothers, but to the whole congregation in the Diocese of Phoenix as well. Um, and what do you think, um, with Easter already been passed? And you know, land already been passed as well and Divine Mercy Sunday. Do you want to call? Do you see like any hope after April 30, which is when you know, the, the stay at home orders supposed to end? Do you think everything will return back to normal word, people be more hesitant to be able to come to church more or be able to participate in church events and stuff like that?

Father John 13:03

For what we're hearing from people coming together in church and receiving Holy Communion, helping one another feature one another's been able to shake hands, to be their priests and so on. So, I think it's time by date that they were able to come back together. Great, great. Yeah. Not by fashion, is a very, very fish. Okay,

Nicolas Contreras 13:51

wow, that's really fascinating. Yes, I do. I do see your point as like, you know, people coming to hold a communion and seeking Jesus during these times. I believe that is all I have. Father, I thank you for your time. Thank you for doing this interview with me and getting getting your perspective. Oh, yes. Where is God in his father?

Father John 14:17

Oh, you know, moreover, you know, we have to recognize that we're dealing with God. We never fully understand God's way. You know, he's compared to a cloud about knowing the golden penetrates on the cloud without trusting and love to show the drone imagery drives trucks to dying on the cross. You say get your students over, you know, The river, you know, when you describe the government, which you find it sighs he says, Whatever you do, you know, great or sacred. Until you know, God is trying to get is the people who are living in. And you know, what the people are equal, you know, try to make any distinction between races for, for all the fans that are not interested in the doctors that you do that. And you know, when I decide to move on to the store and try to stick with the goal, before he walks in, the big boys woke you up with that word. Hear the Bible over three to five times asleep. Do not be afraid, you know, I'm going to do this up as well. I think people also in their home to wait, they are getting together to do it gather together reminding ourselves of sight words when two or more gathered in the name. So God is saying to us something in order to hold on modern technology may not solve our problems together as a molecule.

Nicolas Contreras 17:17

I don't know. Thank you, Father for your time. And thank you so much for being able to do this interview. And I hope everybody as us is able to learn a lot from this, especially with the Catholic Church and what they stand for and what they're doing as far as a what's it called as far as during this time on the pandemic? All right, Father, thank you so much. Yes, of course, they will keep everybody in our prayers. Have a good day, father. God bless you too. Bye, bye. All right, everybody. That was father, John Taylor, the priest at St. Mary's Catholic Church. He's been a priest for 53 years. And he has never seen anything like this before. So I have hoped that gain perspective as just to see what the Catholic Church is able to do as far as during this time in the epidemic. And we also get a great aspect of just like that God is with us all the time. And during this time, he's out pouring out his love for one another. I thank you for your time for watching this video. I hope you learned a lot from it and enjoyed it. Thank you Have a good day.