

# St. Francis de Sales Parish

All glory comes from daring to begin.

*St. Francis de Sales*



## Meanderings...

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BY REV. ROY ROBERTS

**POLITICALLY**, I would be branded a pessimist.

When the pundits begin to discuss why many electors don't vote, I recognize that it is rooted in a disenfranchisement with the political system and the politicians themselves. A couple of the editorial cartoons summed up my sentiments when they portrayed a ballot which included a box for 'none of the above, start over". I would vote for that.

However distressing that may seem, what I found absolutely horrifying were some of the proclamations about the death of Osama Bin Laden.

I feel no satisfaction knowing that he has died, in fact I think I am somewhat ambivalent, but hearing the president of the most powerful country in the world describe it as "Justice has been served," made me cringe. Then to witness people dancing in the streets in front of the White House and at Ground Zero is a sad commentary on our Christian notions of the dignity of each and every human being, friend or fiend.

Obama could have named it many things; a global act of self-defense an attempt to preserve the security of the world; even an act of vengeance. But to call it justice does a grave harm to the concept of what justice is all about. It is indicative of what we have done in our society: disguised retribution and even maybe revenge, in the cloak of justice.

Capital punishment itself, no matter how many Bibles they thump in the States that celebrate executions, is still an eye-for-an-eye and a tooth-for-a-tooth. When we cater to the lowest common denominator with definitions of morality, we always fall into the trap of undermining our own human dignity. This is true not just for large, obvious cases like capital punishment, but it spills over into the lesser issues in our lives, euthanasia, immigration, world food distributions.

When the dominos begin to fall with the big picture, the small picture gets blurred.

When we profess our principles that all life is sacred, from conception to death, that also means for those perverse, disturbed, and deficient characters in the world who challenge our notions of right and wrong.

The death of Osama may make the world a safer place, but the lack of recognition of humanity hasn't made it a better world.

We are called to be better.

-SR