

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY: TO GO WHERE GOD LEADS US

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When pursuing the work of science, technology, and mechanics, we must remain centered on who we are, where we come from and the moral guidelines written in our hearts.

That is why Catholics place tremendous value on each and every human person from conception until natural death. We believe that all life is sacred and must be protected; not created for experimentation or exploitation for another's benefit.

As Eucharistic people, our identity resonates through the partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ who forms us into a new creation, living in the fullness of God's love and purpose. Science alone cannot define our meaning in the created universe nor determine our potential.

“The blood of Christ, while it reveals the greater grandeur of the Father's love, shows how precious man is in God's eyes and how priceless the value of his life.”(Evangelium Vitae, no. 25)

Throughout history we have seen science and technology used to create more effective and torturous ways of killing people, destroying communities and experimenting on the weak and vulnerable. While at the same time we have seen advances that have extended the life of people across the globe and eradicated deadly diseases.

The greater man's power becomes as a result of scientific and technological progress the farther his individual and community responsibility extends and the more obligation there is to assure that it correspond, according to the design and will of God, to humanity's true good.

As Catholics we believe that science and technology must be at the service of humanity and used to benefit all consistent with the plan and will of God. Moral truth, discerned from the natural law by use of our ability to reason, helps us to see the value, dignity and sacred nature of each person and all creation.

The Christian faith demands and promotes the natural sciences. But science is not an end in and of itself; it is merely a tool that can be used to discover the wonderful beauty and mystery of the natural world. Modern, unbridled science has often times violated human dignity rather than respecting and protecting it.

Reproductive technologies that include contraception, surrogate motherhood, sex selection, human cloning, selective reduction of embryos, among others; are always morally wrong because they manipulate the natural and divine creative process and treat vulnerable new human life as a product.

Ours is a great calling and a great gift to be loved by a divine creator who freely gives life, knowledge, freedom and the ability to love and to appreciate all that we have received. We are even elevated to co-creators with God when we use our intellect and will to transform the world toward good and to realizing the kingdom of God on earth by our actions.