



STORYTELLING

OUR WORDS TO TELL OF THE WORD

WELCOME & DIGITAL ETIQUETTE

- Thank you for joining us this evening.
- Your microphone is muted until you are ready to speak.
- There is a chat box to use for questions or for sharing your reflections. This will be monitored.
 - Let's try out chat by writing hello and share with us what parish and town where you attend.
- Regarding the video camera, if there is a glare behind you, you may want to close the blinds or adjust your angle so your face is not washed out.
- This session will be recorded.

WORDS

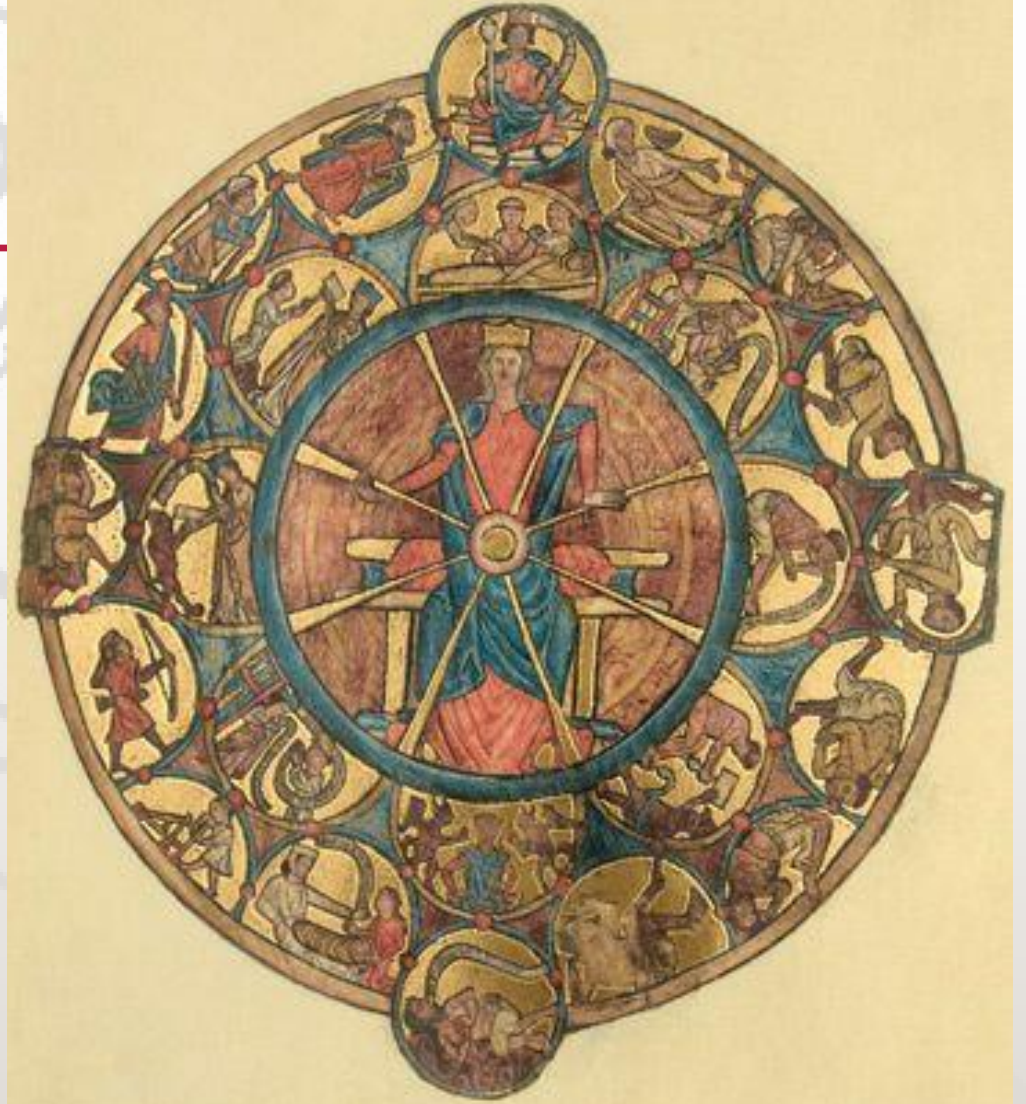
- I love words – seduced by them because they are so fascinating
- Words possess a kind of inherent power that communicate both an objective reality and subjective reception
 - Think dog
 - Think of books/stories you've read – how did the movies compare?
- Words also have the power to posit the reality of the speaker
 - Anyone who speaks reveals him/herself through it

THE STORYTELLING WORD

- Communicate a context of events that either make sense of the past or of the present – or how both are related
- Storytelling makes sense of the world –they speak to a hunger
 - Explaining order from chaos – consider legends and myths
 - Stories tend to satisfy a deep hunger for meaning
- The storytelling word moves from word to imagination – from logic to love (even if there is a logic to love)
 - Again, think of the movies made of books you read before – did the movies do it right?

THE STORYTELLING WORD IS COMPELLING

- A story is good because we see elements of the human journey in it – from birth to death.
- Aquinas: “Nothing is in the intellect that was not first in the senses”
 - Our ideas are built upon sense experience = the more powerful the sense experience the deeper the idea will take hold
 - Consider explain the six millions killed vs. bring someone to the Holocaust museum; to be told “I love you” vs. experiencing that love daily; to explain war is bad vs. to experience war.
- Stories from my mother convicted me




THE CATHOLIC STORYTELLER

- The Catholic storyteller must be a translator to link faith and life.
- Dogmas and doctrines must be translated into deeds of the day
 - Consider the story of Fr. Andre Duperat's *Savage Papua*
- “Love” must be translated to know conditions
- “Bread of Life” means little if we do not offer bread for life.
- Telling the story of our Catholic faith is an instrument for great evangelization – it evangelizes both the listener and the storyteller



- **I See His Blood Upon The Rose**

- *I see his blood upon the rose
And in the stars the glory of his eyes,
His body gleams amid eternal snows,
His tears fall from the skies.*
 - *I see his face in every flower;
The thunder and the singing of the birds
Are but his voice-and carven by his power
Rocks are his written words.*
 - *All pathways by his feet are worn,
His strong heart stirs the ever-beating sea,
His crown of thorns is twined with every thorn,
His cross is every tree.*
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STORIES & SCRIPTURE

- Stories can articulate truths we otherwise don't have experience to understand
 - Job
- Peter's "story-telling" in Acts 2
- I Peter 3:15



KNOWING YOUR STORY

- Faith is dynamic, not static
- Trust—Curiosity—Openness—Seeking
- Beginning—Growing—Commissioned—Maker—Multiplier
- Notice how sharing faith changes when it can be articulated in these stages (but not necessarily using these names/titles)

TELLING YOUR STORY

- “Hey, can I tell you my life story?” isn’t usually how it works
- Sometimes your story is told without many words at all (unlike this bullet-point)
- Prayer
- Welcome/Challenge
- Accept that not everyone will get it
- Be a Reflective Story-Teller/Evangelist