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Class: 8-1-G **Date:** 3.20.15

Saint of the Day: Blessed John of Parma

***Worth 15 points**

INSTRUCTIONS: Every other month (starting in September) you are asked to undertake a Christian examination of something from popular culture (examples listed below). Your goal is to highlight the deeper messages (good or bad) within the example from pop culture you chose and figure out what kind of action a trying-to-be-a-saint Christian should take.

***Important Note:** This does **NOT** give you free license to do anything your parents would not normally want you doing (Examples: watching bad TV shows, buying bad magazines/songs/music videos, etc.). For this assignment you should not have to go looking in deep and dark places. Rather, just keep your eyes and ears open as you go about your daily life.

THE BASICS

A. What kind of example from pop culture did you choose? (1 pt.)

***Example answers:** Advertisement, book, celebrity, fashion trend, magazine, movie, music video, news story, phone app, song, Internet trend, video game, etc.

I chose a t.v. show.

B. Give the specifics of the example of pop culture that you chose. (1 pt.)

***Example answer 1:** The song “Bang Bang” by Jessie J, Ariana Grande, and Nicki Minaj. This song is currently the #4 song (and #4 music video) in the world according to iTunes.

***Example answer 2:** I chose a billboard advertising beer. The billboard showed a picture of a woman not wearing many clothes drinking a beer and saying, “Let’s drink til’ the sun comes up.”

I chose the very famous show called the bachelor. This is where a man (the bachelor) has a competition between around 20 women to see who he will possibly marry.

C. How morally good/bad would you consider your example? (1 pt.)

***Example answer 1:** 75% good, 25% bad. / ***Example answer 2:** 10% good, 90% bad.

10% good, 90% bad.

CHRISTIAN EXAMINATION

Put your Catholic goggles on and examine the example you chose.

What are its main messages? (3 pts)

The main messages of this show is for a man to find a wife. Although this does not seem like a bad show, it is filled with a lot of drama, kissing, and not very good morals. The bachelor is dating all the women at the same time. He is practically cheating on all of the women. The women just let this slide. I don't think anyone should date anyone or marry them if they are cheating on them. The women in the house have a lot of drama. They do swear a lot in this show when the women are fighting. The women do lie and act fake

around the bachelor sometimes. Occasionally, the bachelor or women do have good, holy, and kind moments. On this past season of the bachelor, I believe the bachelor, Chris, does genuinely want to get married. On past seasons the bachelor did not end up even proposing at the end of the season. The past few relationships that have come from the bachelor have not worked out.

What would Jesus think about it? Why? (3 pts)

I do not think Jesus would like this show. In this show many feelings are hurt. I do not believe any of the women in this show use redemptive suffering when they are hurt. Instead, they just cry about it. In this show the bachelor kisses a lot of the women. Jesus believes that every kiss is a promise. Many of the women that get kissed end up getting kicked off the show. This means that their kiss was not a promise. I also do not think Jesus likes all the fighting, drama, and lies in this show. I can tell some of the people are lost from Jesus. Another sad part of this show is that so many people watch it. People like watching all the bad things that happen in this show.

What kind of good and/or bad effects could this have on a person, community, or culture? (3 pts)

Some bad effects the bachelor could have on a person, community, or culture would be that people may believe it is okay to cheat on others. On this show the bachelor dates many people at the same time. Although the women knew this when they signed up, it is still not okay. Because this happens on the show, people may think it is okay to do this in real life. The women in this show are very pretty, but they sometimes do not act very nice. People may also think to be pretty like them they have to act badly like some of them do. People also may think it is okay to just go around kissing everyone like they do on this show. This is not okay though because every kiss is a promise. A good thing this show may do to the community is help people realize they should not take love for granted. Many women on this show love the bachelor, but then get it all taken away from them when they get eliminated.

ACTION STEP (3 pts)

Based on my examination of this item from pop culture I, a trying-to-be-a-saint Christian, believe that I should... stop watching this show. This show can be a bad influence for people. I hope that if I stop watching the show my friends will follow my example as well. Another action I could do would be to pray for the bachelor and all the women on the bachelor. I would pray that they can make right decisions and have God with them if they had a bad break up with the bachelor. I could also pray for all the relationships on the bachelor that they stay strong and are faithful. Although the Bachelor isn't morally the best I can do my best to help the show and it's participants get closer to God.