Homily for the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Springfield Mass  
Monday of the First Week of Lent  
February 18, 2013  

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
Springfield, Illinois  

+ Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois  

S.S.P.: We are called to put words of love into action.  

   A. Article said, “Roe was one of a series of cultural, social, political and legal upheavals during the 1960’s and early 1970’s that left him deeply disillusioned with his native land and alienated from a country that he said once offered unparalleled openness to the proclamation of the Gospel.”  
   B. Stafford quote: “I don’t really feel as at home now in the United States as I did prior to the 60’s. . . . I weep for the United States . . . as Jesus wept for Jerusalem.”  
   C. I share his feelings.  

II. How to resolve dilemma between these feelings and desire to be patriotic:  
   A. Distinguish between our country as a sovereign state and our government, which can be changed  
   B. Remember that our lasting city is not in this world  

III. The late American psychiatrist and author, M. Scott Peck, wrote, “Love is not a feeling; it is an action, an activity. . . . it is correct to say, ‘love is as love does.’”  
   A. Today’s readings make this connection between words of love and actions of love.  
   B. Leviticus: “You shall not act dishonestly in rendering judgment. Show neither partiality to the weak not deference to the mighty, but judge your fellow men justly.”  
   C. Jesus’ description of the last judgment: we will be judged by our actions.