

The Remnant

(Est. in 1967)



“... At the present time there is a remnant left, selected out of grace.” - Romans 11:5

A National Catholic Bi-Weekly based in St. Paul, Minnesota USA

November 15, AD 2020
Volume 53, Number 19

From the Editor's Desk...

by Michael J. Matt

Democracy in Chaos

OVER THE PAST couple of years, we here at The Remnant have been stressing the idea of “Christ or chaos”, an idea ably defended by the great Hilaire Belloc—that if a given society turns its back on Christ, societal chaos is inevitable.

We are seeing this play out in dramatic fashion here in the aftermath of the 2020 U.S. presidential election. Are the Democrats cheating their way into the White House? It looks that way, and at the very least, we know the Party of Death concocted a mail-in ballot scheme that turned the election in Joe ‘the Catholic’ Biden’s favor.

Imagine if things were reversed, and Donald Trump had devised an eleventh-hour ballot harvesting scheme that put him in the lead. I suspect CNN wouldn’t be quite so eager to “heal the nation” by calling for us all to blithely accept the “choice of the people”.

The Democrats *are* the party of death, having campaigned on our “fundamental right” to terminate the lives of our unborn babies. Would such a motley crew also cheat their way into the White House if they could get away with it? Of course! They have no moral code, and they have branded as intolerant and hateful the moral code by which we live our lives.

After legislating the right to break the Fifth Commandment, infractions against the Seventh and the Eighth are merely par for the course.

And, of course, there is so much more!

~ See Editor's Desk/Page 2

The Castle of Falsehoods Viganò vs Biden, American Bishops



+ Carlo Maria Viganò

THE WORLD IN which we find ourselves living is, to use an expression from the Gospel, “*in se divisum*” (Mt 12:25). This division, it seems to me, consists of a split between reality and fiction: objective reality on one side and the fiction of the media on the other. This certainly applies to the pandemic, which has been used as a tool of social engineering that is instrumental to the *Great Reset*, but it applies even more to the surreal American political situation, in which the evidence of a colossal electoral fraud is being censored by the

media, which now proclaims Joe Biden’s victory as an accomplished fact.

The reality of Covid is blatantly in contrast with what the mainstream media wants us to believe, but this is not enough to dismantle the grotesque castle of falsehoods to which the majority of the population conforms with resignation. In a similar way, the reality of electoral fraud, of blatant violations of the rules and of the systematic falsification of the results contrasts with the narrative given to us by the information giants, who say that Joe Biden is the new President

of the United States, period. And so *it must be*: there are no alternatives, either to the supposedly devastating fury of a seasonal flu that caused the same number of deaths as last year, or to the inevitability of the election of a candidate who is corrupt and subservient to the *deep state*. In fact, Biden has already promised [to restore the lockdown](#).

Reality no longer matters: it is absolutely irrelevant when it stands between the conceived plan and its realization. Covid and Biden are two holograms, two

~ See Viganò/Page 5

CIC, a Smashing Success

Ralph A. Capone

MY WIFE AND I attended the Catholic Identity Conference in Pittsburgh, PA. This was the first time we attended but surely will not be the last. It was hosted by Michael Matt and sponsored by the Remnant Newspaper under the explicit theme of “Uniting the Clans”. It attracted a variety of Catholic ‘groups’: orthodox, tradition-minded and traditionalists. More than 600 attendees were enthusiastically present (and many others for the first time via live feed). All faithful Catholics daily encounter two broad and significant challenges. First,

a modernist Church and clergy that has disaffected and disenfranchised many; next, a revolutionary culture under the twin influences of secular utopian-humanism and cultural Marxism (effeminate individualism) attacks the Christian faith, the faithful and, most especially, the Bride of Christ, the Roman Catholic Church. Those present were encouraged by an impressive array of inspiring presenters to persevere in the face of current and coming afflictions. Salvation history is replete with tales of insignificant numbers of faithful servants used to further

~ See Catholic Identity Conference/Page 8



Fr. James Altman speaks at the CIC 2020

Editor's Desk, Continued...

These demonic humans have banished God from public schools, have torn down the Ten Commandments monuments outside of their court houses and have taught young people how to break the moral law at every level.

And now they want to defund the police because they don't accept even a civil code of behavior. They want to let criminals out of jail and reject all regulations on immigration.

Their credo is simple: "Do whatever you want' shall become the whole of the law" — the very essence of Satanism.

After all this, it would be big news indeed if these people did NOT cheat in the election.

So, with all of our technology and

and love of half the country, with even the Catholic vote going for Donald Trump this time around, suggesting that the Trump phenomenon has turned even Francis into a lame duck.

In other words, this united movement of pro-God, pro-life and pro-America patriots is more powerful and more conservative and more Godly now than ever before, certainly more than under the insufferable war hawks and the neocon jackals who followed President Bush into insane and endless wars in the Mideast.

It is true, Donald Trump is not one of us. The Catholic nevertrumpers never ceased pointing that out. He's married three times and is certainly no saint. But as we pointed out so often over the last four years, Trump is not the Second Coming of Jesus Christ; he's neither Charlemagne nor Garcia

The mere fact that these demons want to build a second Tower of Babel doesn't mean they'll actually succeed, especially when they have no stories, no creed, no culture to sustain their anti-civilization. All they have is hate and rebellion against the God history itself teaches us always wins in the end.

The Vendean lost the battle but won the war by keeping the Faith, as did the Cristeros, the Catholics of the Western Uprising, the martyrs of the Colosseum. And so will we.

The enemy is already beginning to babble incoherently (quite literally in Joe Biden's case). Millions of Americans are rejecting the Christ-less chaos in our streets at this very moment. As Tradition comes roaring back in the Church, God Himself is making a comeback in America right

Preparing for Battle

As you know, we've been planning for this Christ-less chaos for decades. The biggest short-term challenge we face at the moment is to establish a communications network. Big Tech are tightening the noose, but this is no surprise, which is why for more than ten years we have remained committed to keeping the newsprint Remnant alive at all costs.

Facebook, Twitter, YouTube can do nothing to shadow ban or censor this newspaper. So The Remnant is in a better position to fight over the next four years than one might think. And you can help me unite the clans all over the world by doing two things:

- 1) Subscribe to The Remnant, print and e-edition. Give subscriptions to friends and family right now but especially before the new regime is installed.
- 2) Go to RemnantNewspaper.com and click the "Free Remnant Updates" button on our homepage, which will allow us to keep in touch with you regardless of what happens in January.

If we're going to win this thing, we've got to stay in touch. We have already built a new and independent platform for Remnant TV (www.Remnant-TV.com), and now we're working on an independent social media platform. With these new additions to our apostolate, along with The Remnant website (also built on an independent and pro-Christian delivery network), newspaper and e-edition, I'm confident we'll be combat ready by January 20, 2021.

But I need your help to get the word out. Please don't delay and be of good cheer. If God is with us, what does it matter who is against us!

Long Live Christ the King!



I'm so proud to stand with the remnant of deplorables and their God.

computer models and sophisticated "wokeness," we've lost the most basic sense of decency and moral integrity, without which a given society has no hope of even remaining civilized much less conducting honest elections. And, as such, they have no future. They burn their cities, euthanize their parents, kill their unborn and contracept their future out of existence.

And so, we must not lose sight of the big picture. We may have lost this battle, but we did not lose the war. The so-called "blue wave" became nothing more than Nancy "the Catholic" Pelosi's wishful thinking.

Even despite all the cheating and dirty tricks, twelve pro-life women won seats in the U.S. House of Representatives while so many good things happened at the state level, promising to positively impact this nation for the next ten years.

The Supreme Court is in a better place now than it was four years ago, as are district and state courts all across the country. Will Creepy Uncle Joe have the political will to stand against most of the country in "packing the court"? We'll see, but I doubt it.

In other words, something pretty amazing is happening right now: all the demons in Hell and on earth stood against Trump's reelection—from the UN to the Vatican to the swamp creatures, mainstream media, a thousand Jimmy Martins and a million RINOs all the way down to the mob in the streets—and yet his party made major advances that not one of the pundits or pollsters ever saw coming.

After four years of Russiagate and the impeachment hoax and 24-7 propaganda on the TV—Trump's a xenophobe, a liar, a moron—Trump the "RACIST" won over the Hispanics and blacks in record numbers and, in the end, he could only be defeated at the polls (if he was) through fraud and dirty tricks. He won the loyalty

Moreno. But he bought us time to unite and prepare for war.

In some ways, he reminds me of Constantine, in that he's the flawed man of the world, who looked out over our ragtag army and saw a cross in the sky with the words: *In Hoc Signo Vincas*. And he crossed the Milvian Bridge, shook our hands and joined our cause, recognizing the awesome potential of a Godly coalition of united Christian clans.

Trump was was not afraid to stand with us, and that's why his presidency put the whole New World Order into a panic attack.

For four years, we set the world on fire not because Trump is one of us but because he decided to ally with us and, in so doing, agreed to take the slings and arrows we've been taking all of our lives.

Maybe we're going to lose this election because of treachery, but that will not change the fact that the world was put on notice that God is not dead...that God lives in a hundred million "deplorables" and their families, and their unborn children. And that message alone rocked the New World Order.

Demons disguised as Democrats have been forced to reveal their horns and cloven hooves. Frauds posing as conservatives were exposed, and wolves dressed as Catholic shepherds from here to the Vatican are no longer fooling anyone.

For that, let us thank God for this imperfect and flawed champion of the deplorables—Donald J. Trump.

And this is not over. Joe Biden is a broken old man with half the nation united against him. Kamala Harris is an untested and unlikeable hack, whom the nation will vomit out of its mouth in short order. Can this non-dynamic, demonic duo really hand us over to the New World Order?

now as the sleeping giant of pro-life, pro-family, pro-country Americans awakens and prepares for battle.

Biden, Pelosi, Francis, Soros, Gates—they have no sway over us anymore. To have any chance of conquering us, they must first cheat their way into power. Why? Because love is stronger than hate and God is stronger than Satan.

At this moment, I'm so proud to stand with the remnant of deplorables and their God and their guns and their Bibles. Keep the faith, unite the clans, proclaim the Kingship of Christ and thank God for the past four years, which have offered the best indication of "morning in America" most of us have ever seen.



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The Remnant Speaks

Letters to the Editor: The Remnant Speaks P.O. Box 1117, Forest Lake, MN 55025 ~ Editor@RemnantNewspaper.com

It's Darkest before Dawn

Editor, The Remnant: As I drove back to Minnesota from the CIC I carelessly inserted a CD into the player in my truck. The CD was entitled The Gospel of St. John as explained by Fr. John Echert. I'm sure many of your readers are thinking "what a great way to take advantage of a long road trip. Unfortunately, the CD had an adhesive label on it and the player has instructions to NEVER insert a CD with an adhesive label. So, there I am with hundreds of miles to travel and a nonfunctioning CD player. This left me ruminating on the wonderful and various presentations I had heard at the CIC and I noticed how frequently the virtues of Faith and Charity were mentioned but that Hope was not mentioned so much. This in turn reminded me of one of my mother's favorite tunes and one that uncle Tom would sing whenever he and aunt Loretta came to visit. Uncle Tom and aunt Loretta were much older than my parents and had married late in life and were without children so when they came to visit Dad and Mother we children did not have to entertain any cousins. Invariably one of my sisters would be called upon to play the piano and uncle Tom, in his quavering old man voice would please us all with a rendition of Whispering Hope and other good old songs. As I travelled along I also remembered that mother had an LP record of Jim Reeves singing this song. When I got to my hotel somewhere in Illinois I searched for the tune on my phone, played it and was reminded of why my mother so loved this song. I'm no expert on the history of Whispering Hope but as I recall this song won stacks of awards when it

was first heard in the 1930s. The first verse is nice but it's the second verse that brings me much consolation as we struggle through civilizations twilight and approach the dark midnight of a Biden/Harris presidency.

Verse One:

Soft as the voice of an angel
Breathing a lesson unheard
Hope, with its gentle persuasion
Whispers her comforting word
Wait 'til the darkness is over
Wait 'til the tempest is done
Hope for the sunshine tomorrow
After the darkness is gone

Refrain:

Whispering hope
Oh, how welcome Thy voice
Making my heart
In its sorrow rejoice

Second Verse:

If in the dusk of the twilight
Dim be the regions afar
Will not the gathering darkness
Brighten the glimmering star
Then when the night is upon us
Why should the heart fade away
When the dark midnight is over
Watch for the breaking of day
Refrain again –

So what is the glimmering star?

Let me tell you a story. I've been in this fight since I was a teenager, and remember a day as a young man on a trip home from the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico with three other young men. We planned to return from the shrine and travel up the west coast seeing the missions, Disneyland, the Rocky Mountains and the great national parks in the West. On the day that we arrived in California from Mexico we got word that your Dad had talked Archbishop Lefebvre into coming to the US for a visit and perhaps raise some funds for his relatively new seminary. Well, this was too exciting to miss so we cut our trip short and hustled back to St. Paul to assist with this momentous opportunity. The first night back we sat in your folks dining room (to this day I still wonder

why so many of these planning sessions took place in the dining room and not in the more comfortable living room) and discussed the obstacles that would need to be overcome. Yes Mike, you were there for that meeting although you were only eight years old at the time and probably had other adventures on your mind. I don't remember the specifics but I do know that we were concerned that the local Archbishop would be adamantly opposed to having Archbishop Lefebvre in his diocese because the Vatican and the French bishops were making such a stink over the burgeoning success of Lefebvre's seminary and his questioning of the value of Vatican II. At this meeting John Laskey and I were given the task of locating a venue for the public reception that your Dad wanted to provide for the great occasion. But we were also warned that we were not to mention who we were planning the event for due to concerns that either the public or ecclesiastical authorities might interfere. To be sure that we kept things "close to the vest" as they say, we told the various hotel and other venue providers that we were planning a welcoming party for a clerical friend from overseas. When they insisted on a name we gave them "Marshall" as that could easily morph into Marcel on the day of arrival. We located a nice hotel and the event was a huge success. This all took place in 1973.

Now compare the conditions that we operated under in 1973 to the recent event when a bishop writes a book (CHRISTUS VINCIT) that questions almost every aspect of the church's conduct since Vatican II and yet when he presents the book IN ROME there are friendly guys wearing red beanies in the front row! If the traditional movement was a glimmering star in 1973, then the "gathering darkness" since then has certainly brightened it. In short, this is no time for the heart to "fade away" but rather to continue to HOPE, pray and work through the "dark midnight" and "watch for the breaking of day".

Please forgive an old man for insisting on another story. I grew up on a farm in west central Minnesota. We raised a hundred thousand turkeys every year and the best time to catch turkeys and load them into trucks to send them to market is at night.



Three times a year we would work all night long catching turkeys and loading them into trucks. Often we finished up just before dawn and I can tell you from experience that the darkest part of the night is just before the dawn.

Please God, make the most recent news of greater darkness (Biden's stealth of the election) be the darkness that comes just before the dawn and that the glimmering star soon bursts into a brightness to rival the sun.

By the way, after I got home, I was able to extract the CD from the player and it is now available in the video lending library at St. Augustine's in South St. Paul.

Colin Cain
St. Paul, MN

CIC Testimonials

Editor, The Remnant: Congratulations on the Catholic Identity Conference

Vigano's video message, "How the Revolution of Vatican II Serves the New World Order," is absolutely tremendous!

Archbishop Vigano stated, and I quote "I especially wish to thank Michael Matt, who kindly invited me with holly perseverance to speak to you."

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The Remnant

Est. in 1967

A Catholic Fortnightly
Published 22 times per year

Editor/Publisher

Michael J. Matt

The Remnant (ISSN # 0274-9726. U.S.P.S.# 606840) is published semi-monthly (monthly in January and July) 22 times per year by The Remnant, Inc. Periodicals Postage paid at Forest Lake, MN and additional entry offices. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The Remnant at P.O. Box 1117, Forest Lake, MN 55025.

Subscription Pricing

Standard U.S.: **Print \$40**

Canada: **Print Edition \$50**

Foreign (Outside US & Canada): **\$60**

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Single Copy Price: **\$1.50**

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The Remnant Speaks, Continued...

Well done, Michael. Holy Perseverance, what a virtue! God Bless You.

Thank you for all that you do at the Remnant. My wife and I enjoy viewing your excellent youtube videos Exposéés with your beautiful cinematography, classical music soundtracks and straight forward to the point presentations in clear understandable terms and clarity of thought. We will keep you in our prayers.

“Be strong, and let us fight bravely for our people and the cities of our God. The Lord will do what is good in his sight.” (1 Chronicles 19:13)

Philip & Cheryl Nelson
Forest Lake, MN

Editor, The Remnant: Hello! I was in attendance at this year’s Catholic Identity Conference. It was my first time attending and it was amazing! Now I know I’m not crazy because there were about 600 people in the room who think the same way I do.

I can’t imagine any better speakers to get the message out about what is happening in our Church and in the world. I feel so much better equipped to fight for my Church. The hotel was very nice and the staff did a great job. I very much enjoyed the seating arrangement and the fact that we could sit at the same tables every day. I have made lifelong friends because of that.

Thank you for all you do you fight for our beautiful Catholic faith and for teaching us to do the same. I’m looking forward to next year!! God Bless,

Lisa Klingensmith

Editor, The Remnant: More thanks than I can express for the superb CIC Conference! I have so far watched only the opening remarks and the two talks

by Chris Ferrara and Elizabeth Yore, but I could not be more impressed with the quality and spiritual value of this conference.

This conference really represents the lighting of a giant candle in the dark of the Church today. I feel so privileged to be able to view it online, and hope to attend in person some year.

Thank you so much for expending all the time, effort, and money it must have required to put on this conference—or should I say, “superspreader”—especially during a year when every conceivable type of gathering has been cancelled out of concerns for “health and safety.”

Is there a link for the rollicking “Won’t Back Down” video at the end of Ms. Yore’s talk? I would like to be able to share this video with so many people who would enjoy it. Thank you if you can point me to a link! God bless all involved,

Diana Meeker

Editor, The Remnant: I just caught Saturday and Sunday of the CIC.

I’m so glad my son brought it to my attention. It’s comforting to know that I am not alone in my confusion with the way our Pope is leading his flock. I felt heretical in my thoughts until I heard the wonderful speakers expound on truth and doctrine and how we must rely on our own judgement when we feel our faith is being sorely abused. I now feel scared, angry and uplifted. I’ve always known we are all in God’s hands. Now I cannot be afraid of what may come about in the world and in this country. I am not praying alone!

God bless you and your family.

Geraldine Gazzara

Non-Catholic Remnant Reader

Editor, The Remnant: I just logged into the e-edition and it worked. Thank you.

I want you to know that I am not a Roman Catholic, and never have been, although I have studied a great deal on the faith.

Your writings and your mission and your passion goes beyond the ranks of adherents, and you have important information to share with all citizens.

You are a remarkable organization and I am grateful to have found you. God bless!

James Arnold
Traverse City, MI

Feedback on RTV

Editor, The Remnant: I just watched Mr. Matt’s most recent video Hope & Faith. Please thank him from a Louisiana Catholic for his inspiring video as well as all of his videos and his Clarion call.

From the bottom of my heart I appreciate his steadfast excellence in journalism. He’s one of the real ones not the counterfeits who parade around with that name.

I have protestant friends who have recently emailed me asking for Mr. Matt’s link and I have gladly sent it to them. May God Bless Mr. Matt, his family, and every dedicated colleague at the Remnant.

In Louisiana, Our Lady of Prompt Succor is our advocate because of the frequent threats we face from hurricanes. I invoke her on behalf of the Remnant who is standing tall in the diabolic hurricane hitting the faithful now.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor Pray For Us! God Bless and Thanks,

Wally Fauchoux

Editor, The Remnant: Thank you for your Remnant TV videos. My Protestant friends and I appreciate and enjoy them. In Him, gratefully,

Penny Santa Rita

Editor, The Remnant: Thank you so much for your encouraging words Mr. Matt. My heart is at a low spot right now watching these evil globalist trying to take us from GOD. Your words today have lifted my spirits tremendously.

I am a lapsed Catholic and now a born again Christian, but you give me faith in Catholicism again. God Bless you and God Bless President Trump, the greatest president we’ve ever had, sent by God to awaken our army. I’m remembering the evil globalist ploy 20 years ago when the sent us George Bush and the neocons, and tried to confuse and convince us that they

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were followers of God, but they were a ruse all along, and all they did was divide us.

Rachael on YouTube

Editor, The Remnant: I am a Protestant but find your words uplifting and rooted in Jesus Christ. Thank you for all the hard work, research, and helping keep people of faith together and united. One doesn’t have to be Catholic to understand the fight we are in. Just wanted to offer up encouragement for you and the Remnant newspaper. Again thank you and God bless you!!!

David Wolfe
Indianapolis, IN

Editor, The Remnant: I take it you are probably aware that youtube doesn’t send your videos to our email addresses anymore?

It stopped about a month ago.

The only way to know when you have a video is through the ‘notifications’ and most of what I used to follow is not included in those.

Hope this helps if you didn’t know this. God love you and keep you strong. Praying for your country from Canada.

Janice Glover

Editor’s Response: Sign up for our free Remnant E-Blast Updates at: <https://remnantnewspaper.com/web/index.php/subscribe-today/free-remnant-updates> We’ll alert you when a new video is posted. God bless, **MJM**

Editor, The Remnant: I wanted to send a thank you email for your newspaper and video publications. In a good way you have opened my eyes to the realities of the political truths regarding what is really going on in our world today.

At first when I watched your videos a couple months ago, I thought that this was just another conspiracy being thrown out there. But over time I have seen the actions of the democratic party and other key players in the political arenas conforming to the news that you publish. It definitely feels like the end days are upon us. Thank you for your news. It sheds lights on the dark influences.

My wife and I have been republicans since the Obama administration. We are shocked and dismayed over the false Covid-19 news. We hear of rumors from several sources and friends that the hospitals are artificially inflating Covid-19 cases and deaths. It is scary that this is being used as a fear tactic against us as a nation.

Thank you again. I look forward to your video publications. Keep the faith. We are not alone.

Jim and Carmela Geissinger
Canoga Park, Ca

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The Castle of Falsehoods

Viganò/Continued from Page 1...

artificial creations, ready to be adapted time and time again to contingent needs or respectively replaced when necessary with Covid-21 and Kamala Harris. The accusations of irresponsibility thrown at Trump supporters for holding rallies vanish as soon as Biden's supporters gather in the streets, as has already happened for BLM demonstrations. What is criminal for some people is permitted for others: without explanations, without logic, without rationality. The mere fact of being on the left, of voting for Biden, of putting on the mask is a pass to do anything, while simply being on the right, voting for Trump or questioning the effectiveness of masks is sufficient reason for condemnation and an execution that does not require any evidence or a trial; they are *ipso facto* labeled as fascists, sovereignists, populists, deniers—and those labeled with these social stigmas are supposed to simply silently withdraw.

We thus return to that division between good people and evil people, which is ridiculed when it is used by one side—ours—and conversely held up as an incontestable postulate when used by our adversaries. We have seen this with the contemptuous comments responding to my words about the “*children of Light*” and the “*children of darkness*,” as if my “*apocalyptic tones*” were the fruit of a ravingly mad mind and not the simple observation of reality. But by disdainfully rejecting this Biblical division of humanity, they have actually confirmed it, restricting to themselves alone the right to give the stamp of social, political and religious legitimacy.

They are the good ones, even if they support the killing of the innocent—and we are supposed to get over it. They are the ones supporting democracy, even if in order to win elections, they must always resort to deception and fraud—even fraud that is blatantly evident. They are the defenders of freedom, even if they deprive us of it day after day. They are objective and honest, even if their corruption and their crimes are now obvious even to the blind. The dogma that they despise and deride in others is indisputable and incontrovertible when it is *they* who promote it. But as I have said previously, they are forgetting a small detail, a particular that they cannot understand: the Truth exists in itself. It exists regardless of whether there is someone who believes it, because the Truth possesses in itself, ontologically, its own reason for validity. The Truth cannot be denied,

because it is an attribute of God; it is God Himself. And everything that is true participates in this primacy over lies. We can thus be theologically and philosophically certain that these deceptions' hours are numbered, because it will be enough to shine light on them to make them collapse. Light and darkness, precisely. So let us allow light to be shed on the deceptions of Biden and the Democrats, without taking even one step back. The fraud that they have plotted against President Trump and against America will not remain standing for long, nor will the worldwide fraud of Covid, the responsibility of the Chinese dictatorship, the complicity of the corrupt and traitors, and the enslavement of the *deep Church*.

“
We have
read, not
without
retching,
the posts
of James
Martin, S.J.,
and all those
courtiers who
are pawing
to get on
Biden's
chariot.”

Tout se tient [Everything fits together].

In this panorama of systematically constructed lies, spread by the media with a disturbing impudence, the election of Joe Biden is not only desired, but is considered indispensable and therefore true and therefore definitive—even though the vote counts are not completed; even though the vote verifications and recounts are only just beginning; even though the lawsuits alleging fraud have only just been filed. Biden *must* become President, because *they* have already decided it: the vote of the American people is valid *only* if it ratifies this narrative—otherwise, it is “reinterpreted,” dismissed as plebiscite drift, populism and fascism.

It is therefore not surprising that the Democrats have such coarse and violent enthusiasm for their candidate *in pectore*, nor that the media and the official commentators have such uncontainable satisfaction, nor that political leaders from around the world are expressing their support and sycophantic subjection to the *deep state*. We are watching a race to see who can arrive first, elbowing and sprawling to show off, so that they can be seen to have always believed in the crushing victory of the Democratic puppet.

But if we understand that the sycophancy of world heads of state and party secretaries is simply a part of the trite script of the global Left, we are frankly left quite disturbed by the declarations of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, immediately republished by *Vatican News*, that with disturbing cross-eyedness credits itself with having supported “the second Catholic President in the history of the United States,” apparently forgetting the not-

negligible detail that [Biden is avidly pro-abortion](#), a supporter of LGBT ideology and of anti-Catholic globalism. The Archbishop of Los Angeles, José H. Gomez, profaning the memory of the *Cristeros* martyrs of his native country, says bluntly: “*The American people have spoken.*” The frauds that have been denounced and widely proven matter little. The annoying formality of the vote of the people, albeit adulterated in a thousand ways, must now be considered to be concluded in favor of the standard-bearer of aligned, mainstream thought. We have read, not without retching, the posts of James Martin, S.J., and all those courtiers who are pawing to get on Biden's chariot in order to share in his ephemeral triumph. Those who disagree, those who ask for clarity, those who have recourse to the law to see their rights protected do not have any legitimacy and must be silent, resign themselves and disappear. Or rather: they must be “united” with the exultant choir, applaud and smile. Those who do not accept are threatening democracy and must be ostracized. As may be seen, there are still two sides, but this time they are legitimate and indisputable because it is *they* who impose them.

It is indicative that the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Planned Parenthood are both expressing their satisfaction for the presumed electoral victory of the same person. This unanimity of consensus recalls the enthusiastic support of the Masonic Lodges on the occasion of the election of Jorge Mario Bergoglio, which was also not free from the shadow of fraud within the conclave and was equally desired by the *deep state*, as we know clearly from the emails of John Podesta and the ties of Theodore McCarrick and his colleagues with the Democrats and with Biden himself. A very nice little group of cronies, no doubt about it.

With these words of the USCCB, the *pactum sceleris* [plot to commit a crime] between the *deep state* and the *deep church* is confirmed and sealed, the enslavement of the highest levels of the Catholic hierarchy to the New World Order, denying the teaching of Christ and the doctrine of the Church. Taking note of this is the first, imperative step to understanding the complexity of the present events and consider them in a supernatural, eschatological perspective. We know, indeed we firmly believe, that Christ, the one true Light of the world, has already conquered the darkness that obscures it.

American Catholics must multiply their prayers and beg the Lord for a special protection for the President of the United States. I ask priests, especially during these days, to recite the Exorcism against Satan and the apostate angels, and to celebrate the Votive Mass *Pro Defensione ab hostibus*. Let us confidently ask for the intervention of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to whose Immaculate Heart we consecrate the United States of America and the entire world.

+ Carlo Maria Viganò, *Archbishop*

November 8, 2020

Dominica XXIII Post Pentecosten



The Ballots' Blue Glare

Greg Maresca

ALTHOUGH THE PRESIDENTIAL campaign was long and all-consuming, the nation remains at a crossroads. While 2020 has been a tumultuous year with zealous partisanship driving both sides of the political spectrum, it came as no revelation that Election Day would not see a clear winner.

This most contentious of presidential elections and its ensuing legal challenges will test the foundation of our American constitutional republic to its core.

Once again, Donald Trump outperformed the pollsters' predictions of a Biden landslide, making them appear more like partisan hacks than political scientists.

Some polling spots did not have enough ballots, or had too many ballots cast for the number of voters registered, some had names spelled incorrectly; the list of infractions resembled a Central American banana republic. For the most technologically advanced nation on the planet, I was given a paper ballot (first time that ever occurred) to be fed into a pristine electronic machine that resembled more of an ATM, where the irony was almost laughable.

The bipartisan expectation and perhaps the only thing both sides of the aisle agree on is continued rioting and long, drawn-out legal battles, which only underscores there is no real winner.

Regrettably, politics has become the most dominant attribute of our culture – an unhealthy condition for any society. A protracted legal challenge has the proclivity to generate a lack of conviction in an orderly, and traditional constitutional outcome.

We have arrived at this historical juncture through the unceasing implementation of identity politics where everything is predicated on race, national

The historic voter turnout and its ensuing political engagement from coast to coast only underscores how the Electoral College was a stroke of genius by the Founding Fathers and should no longer be a point of contention.

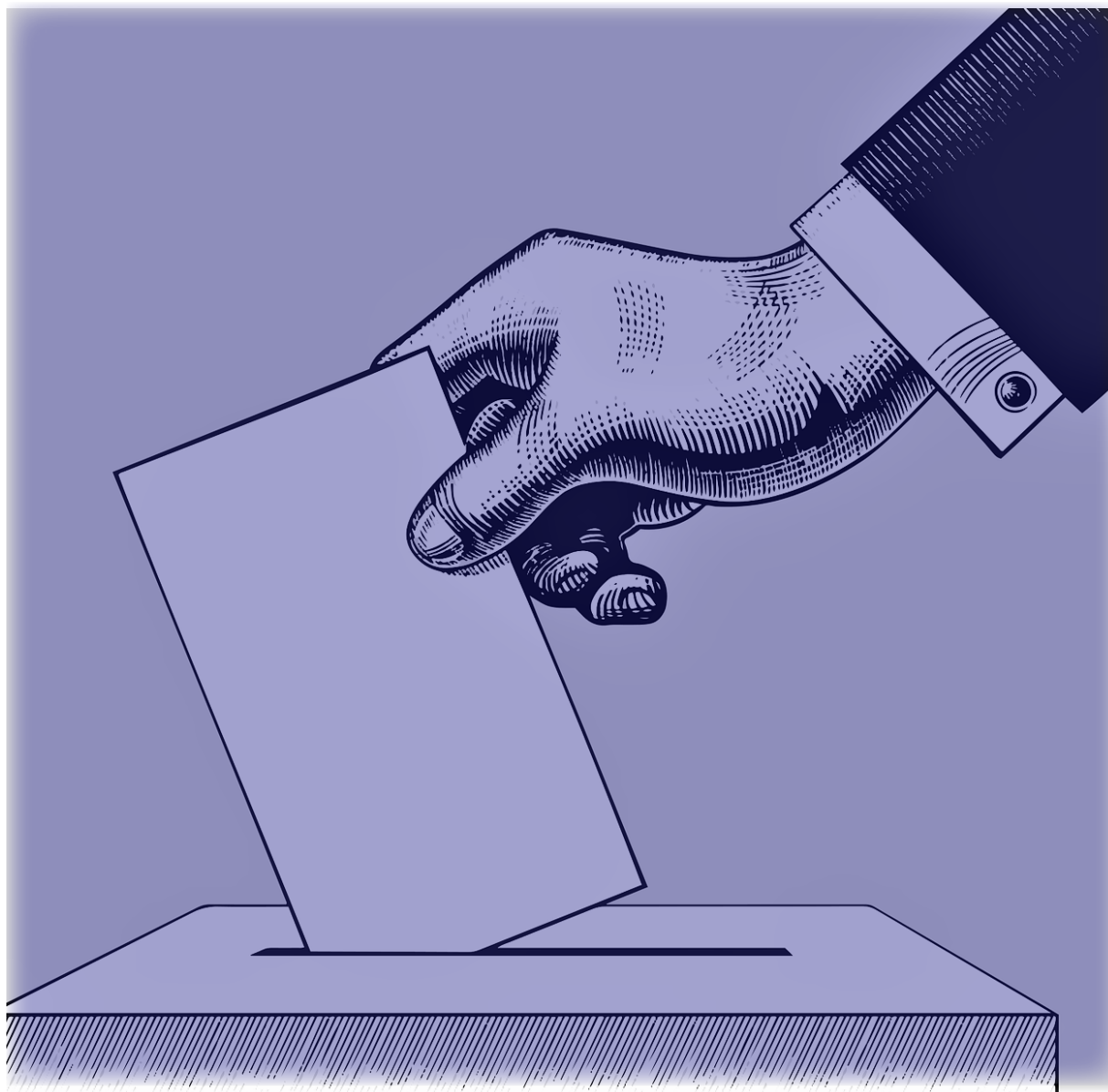
Street Journal and USA Today. Earlier this year, three battleground states—Wisconsin, Michigan, and Pennsylvania—rejected around 60,000 primary ballots. In addition, states have varying deadlines with absentee and overseas ballots. Some have until December 12

the same election guidelines without exception.

The plywood business is booming as storefronts, especially those in the nation's urban areas, have boarded up their windows, bracing for the worst, but

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Regrettably, politics has become the most dominant attribute of our culture – an unhealthy condition for any society.



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In the balance are our nation's longstanding traditional values, and economy that is at risk of falling the way of socialism.

not from Trump supporters.

The divisions created and exposed throughout this presidential campaign will continue, provided we allow the political class to retain the status quo and no one highlights the status quo more than Joe Biden, with nearly a half century of wading through the D.C. swamp.

In the balance are our nation's longstanding traditional values and an economy that is at risk of falling the way of socialism because our problems are more cultural than they are economic.

As the culture declines, so will its economic fortunes.

The Christian, however, understands that his life, and most especially his eternal destiny, is not beholden to whoever holds political office. If our pursuit of happiness is reliant upon a political outcome, we will never find it.

No matter who sits in the Oval Office, the federal budget will not shrink—nor will the debt that next year will surpass the volume

of our entire economy. This should give everyone reason to pause, but it won't, as it wasn't even an issue during the campaign. Moreover, the Federal Reserve will not stop their printing presses as fiat dollars are everyone's solution in Washington D.C. to stimulate economic growth.

The peaceful transfer of political power that has existed since our nation's founding over two centuries ago has always been a defining characteristic of our nation.

It must continue. ■

origin and sexual orientation. All of this has been carefully orchestrated by the national media that has resisted a legally elected American president even before he took the oath of office.

The chaotic trajectory that mass voting by mail produced should never be undertaken again, except for absentee ballots. Over a million mail-in votes are likely to be disqualified and discarded, as reported by The Wall

to certify election results, which means that there would be weeks of chicanery and legal disputes over discarded ballots.

The Congress needs to pass legislation where every state of the union follows

ELECTION 2020:

America's Referendum on God

Robert Morrison

IT SHOULD HAVE been relatively easy to vote President Trump out of office. His supporters (and honest detractors) know he has had many tremendous successes during his first term, yet he has been relentlessly opposed by those who never accepted his undeniably legitimate victory over Hillary Clinton. Against this backdrop of continuous struggle, the Democrats and their allies in the media could have fielded a candidate who would have had captured virtually all of Clinton's 2016 voters, a significant portion of Trump's 2016 voters and many new voters who simply wanted a return to "normalcy." Imagine, for instance, a Democratic candidate who was reasonably likable, intelligent, experienced and free from scandals. Such a candidate would have been the presumptive favorite in an election that was simply a referendum on Donald Trump.

What happened instead? The Democrats nominated a candidate who every rational voter knows would not serve longer than necessary to transition power to his vice president. So, despite dedicating the past four years to handcuffing and hounding President Trump based on the fable that he somehow undermined the 2016 election integrity by encouraging others to expose the *real* misdeeds of his opponents, the Democrats' most fundamental decision of the election cycle was to undermine the very concept of a fair election by asking us to vote for a pretend candidate. They spent four years looking for a mote in President Trump's eye and then voluntarily stuck their beams in their own eyes.

And what a striking

pretend candidate they chose! All sentient voters know his obvious shortcomings, but Catholics have good reason to focus on the mismatch between his professed religion and his words and actions. There is no crime in not being Catholic. But it is stunning for a professed Catholic to take public positions that are so fundamentally opposed to Catholicism. If such a man gratuitously betrays the faith that should be the most important part of his life, what will he not betray? Who would be fool enough to trust him?

activities they opposed (churches, schools and business activities that would contribute to "Trump's economy") while permitting activities they favored (rioting)

- Openly disrespecting symbols of America and its values, replacing them with BLM and socialist symbols and values

How did that work out? We learned how much the Democrats hate America.

to have been. We know this because the thief has broken into the house — we are indeed watching the thief attempt to steal the election from the American people. But the thief has not *yet* subdued us. If Jesus spoke about the common sense of preventing the house from being broken into, how much more would He counsel us to resist the thief once we realize he wishes to destroy the home and the family? Do we realize that once this is stolen we will be in the hands of those who are stealing it? Do we expect that they would show any restraint as they

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Donald Trump loves America. That is his great crime.

Democrats thus faced an uphill battle with their nominee. So what did they do? They made the 2020 election into a referendum on America by, among other things:

- Using the George Floyd death as an excuse to terrorize cities and attack the men and women who put their lives at stake to protect our safety
- Tearing down and defacing monuments to American heroes
- Censoring and distorting conservative viewpoints on social media
- Politicizing a global pandemic by selectively shutting down the

More importantly we all saw how much Donald Trump loves America. That is his great crime. And despite the egregiously false polling designed to suppress Republican voter turnout, Americans turned out in record numbers to give President Trump a second term as president of the United States of America.

Whereas the Democrats' "insurance plan" for the unlikely Trump victory in 2016 was the Russia Hoax, the "insurance plan" for this election appears to have been an extensive voter fraud operation comprised of media, pollsters, poll workers and vote counters. In the wake of the ostensible success of the voter fraud operation, liberal pundits have scrambled to point out that Biden was simply engaging in a Biden-gaffe when he recently said his team had put together "the most extensive and inclusive voter fraud organization" in history. Of course that is possible, but the mainstream media has apparently not yet discovered that no serious person will trust them again after this election. In any case, God allowed Biden to momentarily speak truth, just as the devils themselves are sometimes compelled to tell the truth against their nefarious interests. We should not hold our breaths waiting for Biden (or the media) to do that again.

So where are we now? The current situation brings to mind the words of Jesus Christ about the homeowner and the thief:

"But this know ye, if the goodman of the house knew at what hour the thief would come, he would certainly watch, and not suffer his house to be broken open" (Matthew 24.43)

We knew the hour and were not as watchful as we ought

prevent us from ever again opposing them?

God tells us to judge a tree by its fruits. We all know the story of Eve's encounter with the serpent. God had commanded Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree. She was deceived by the serpent and took the fruit, thereby setting in motion the fall of mankind that leads us to this fateful moment. In hindsight, we should now realize that we, as a nation, should have done more to prevent the election from being close enough for Biden's handlers to steal it by fraud. But God has been merciful to us and is, at this moment, allowing us to see more clearly how deadly a Biden presidency would be to America. It is as if God had caused the tree to sprout thorns and emit a nauseating odor as Eve approached. Surely Eve would have turned away.

What will we do? Will we follow the cacophonous demands of those who have been showing us by their words and deeds that they want to destroy America? If we do that, will we tell ourselves we are being "good Americans" in allowing our enemies to manipulate the laws to destroy America? Or will we turn to God?

We need to pray and be ready to accept God's grace to act according to His will. If more people do not get on their knees now to petition God to save our country, we will all be on our knees when Biden hands America over to our enemies.

We are told to render unto Caesar what is Caesar's but if we allow them to steal this election, we will be rendering to the enemy of mankind what is God's. We cannot do that, and people of good will in this country will not do that.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us! ■



Catholic Identity Conference, *Continued from Page 1...*

the kingdom. The Midianites, once a scourge of the chosen people and with an army “as numerous as locusts” (Judges 7:12) were defeated by Gideon’s three hundred men by the power of God. In 1683, a much smaller Catholic army under Poland’s King Jan Sobieski decisively defeated the Mohammedans, ending their plans of advancing deeper into western Europe. At the conclusion of the battle, paraphrasing Julius Caesar, Sobieski reportedly declared “[veni, vidi, Deus vincit](#)” – *I came, I saw, God conquered*. These stories remind us that even today a small remnant of orthodox Catholics, nourished by their rich patrimony and revered tradition of the Church triumphant, may yet succeed in recapturing a toehold in our fallen world and begin restoring the faith and moral sanity. Filled with filial fear of God, such a small group of 21st century Church militants, through personal sanctity and courage, could become a channel of grace that reestablishes good-ness to God’s creation.

A second theme emerged in these proceedings – restoring the Social Reign of Christ the King. It was not coincidental, surely, that the final day of the conference was held on the Feast of Christ the King. This marks the literal return of Christendom, where Christ reigns supreme in the hearts of men, in the family and in society. It reestablishes the absolute right of God over the laws and government of men. Today, far

from extending God’s Kingdom on earth, we continue to experience diabolical chaos, disorder and accelerated aggression against the faith in the culture and society. Many presentations addressed these attacks, now openly perpetrated on God and His Church. Only Christ, the Word, Who ordained all things, can restore order and peace. One speaker remarked that perhaps we are entering the “[fullness of time](#)” spoken of by St. Paul and that the battle of the forces of good and evil, no longer hidden, is visibly and boldly hostile and “in the face” of all believers. An important weapon in this battle is prayer and most especially after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Most Holy Rosary. The Church militant, certainly present at this conference and like so many of its predecessors, are likely to be forced to defend their faith, their families and the Church enduring violence and martyrdom. Tellingly, some in the defaced modernist Church deny that prayer is powerful as a weapon. During the conference, the pre-Vatican II liturgy of the Tridentine Mass was expertly discussed and compared to the Conciliar (new) liturgy. The Roman Martyrology inspired the faithful in the past with muscular saints whose military exploits protected or extended the faith. Their Mass Propers extolled their courage and militancy used in the defense of the faith. Since 1969, the new liturgy expunged most of these saints and their liturgical prayers. Resultingly, such an omission led to faulty catechesis

about prayer (*lex orandi, lex credendi, lex vivendi*) and denies prayer this essential role in the battle of the spiritual life. Perhaps it is why so many Catholics consider virtue as consisting solely of mercy, timidity and non-judgmentalism rather than courage and love that seek the good and refuse to cower from difficulties, and justice. Sadly, the scandal is that many faithful ones, who would otherwise be part of the clans, are victims of ill-advised liturgical modifications.

Bishop Athanasius Schneider spoke via live feed from Kazakhstan on what became, for me, the third final theme of this conference, that is the great gift of hope. It is the hope borne out of our total reliance on God at all times but especially when the mystery of inequities is a deluge and everywhere surrounding His people. He encouraged listeners to persevere and to stay near to the Lord Who, in this era marked by an abyss of sin, always produces holy and “beautiful persons”.

This hope is profoundly greater than any secular optimism. It is the theological gift that sustains and reassures us in the midst of these disordered and deeply unnatural days. Whether it is the Israelites routing the Midianites or countless Catholic armies repeatedly defeating vastly larger foes, God continues to show His power and might. This hope enkindles in the faithful a holy zeal for this alliance drawing on the omnipotence

of God and rejecting dependence on our own feeble strength. At the conclusion of this spiritually vivifying conference, the three themes discussed also suggested a conformity to the three theological virtues. *Faith* unites the clans, *love* propels the work of restoring the Social Reign of Christ the King, and *hope* sustains and fortifies those loyal to Christ in their afflictions—present and future.

Salvation history is filled with examples of the remnants of faithful servants who, by God’s grace, continuously advance His Kingdom. Isaiah (1:9) praises God for keeping safe for His Kingdom those few survivors of Sodom and Gomorrah. Thus, there remains today great hope even in adversity and against overwhelming odds. I think all the participants and speakers departing the conference to return to their lives were brimming with optimism. There is much to be done and there will be challenges ahead but what better way to be militant than in, with and through the One, Holy, Apostolic Church – of Jesus Christ, Our King!

Paraphrasing St. Augustine, God’s will shall be done if the clans united in faith, hope and love pray as though everything depended upon God, but work and fight the battles, spiritual and physical, as though everything depended upon them. For, surely, we can do all things in Him Who strengthens us. ■

Catholic Identity Conference 2020

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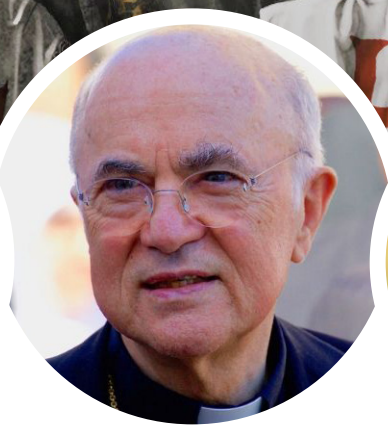
THEME

CHRIST OR
CHAOS:

*Challenging
the New World
Order*



BISHOP ATHANASIOS SCHNEIDER
LIVE SKYPE MESSAGE (DUE TO COVID
RESTRICTIONS)



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CatholicIdentityConference.org*

A CIC Transcript...

The Queen of Heaven: Our Lady's Essential Role in Uniting the Clans

Chorbishop Anthony Spinosa



Editor's Note: The following is a transcript of the excellent talk given by Chorbishop Spinosa at this year's Catholic Identity Conference in Pittsburgh. **MJM**

DURING THIS CONFERENCE which, once again, stresses unity among the clergy and Faithful, we cannot emphasize strongly enough the need for unity.

There is so much talk in all spheres of life about unity, but little exists. The social, political, cultural and religious disunity clearly demonstrates what is lacking in our lives. There is so much talk and little concrete action to facilitate unity. Everything including our beloved church is in disarray.

If we search the blogs, websites, Facebook pages of many Catholic groups we will see that there is something of a positive image projected. Dioceses, religious communities, parishes show smiling, faithful men, women, children in ecstatic photos rejoicing in their Catholic faith. One would think there is very little wrong and so much that is right. Smiles abound.

BALONEY!!!! The only one smiling is Satan, and he is laughing at us. It is merely smoke and mirrors to disguise the immense difficulties holy Mother Church faces in a world that is drifting away from God as never known in the history of Christianity.

Some will point to "official" figures for Catholics in the USA. A record number are declared. But the question must be asked: "Do they truly know their professed Catholic faith? Do they practice it with devotion, zeal, commitment? Are they willing to share it with those who do not believe? Are they willing to suffer for it?" These are the crucial questions to be asked.

The "official" statistics come from the OCD, Official Catholic Directory.

OCD also stands for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.

I do not say this to criticize the Official Directory. They only print what is submitted to them.

I cannot know what is in the hearts and minds of others, but I truly believe, as many others do, that what is reported as "official" is not always what is "accurate".

It is all part of a campaign of giving a "positive" image as the foundation of the Church trembles and the Faithful are about to drown in a sea of lukewarm faith, lack of zeal, choking in ignorance of the One True God and very unfortunately, "disunity". Regrettably, the once proud banner of faith is now a tattered flag of surrender.

Shamefully, the Church is surrendering to disunity, disbelief, contempt for Almighty God. The saints would be appalled at the lack of zeal, the sometimes corrupt and arrogant leadership, the lukewarm attitude, the surrender to a mindset and culture which has no need for God.

Man has made himself God and God is not necessary. He is a hindrance in our lives.

Our Sanctuaries have been desecrated. Priests are censured for speaking the truth. The Sacred Scriptures are altered and distorted to promote radical ideologies. Sacred Tradition is scoffed at as ignorant pious superstition. Dogma is deemed as ever-evolving and adapting to the will of man, the current culture, made relevant. The world has said, "God be damned." May God have mercy on us.

Over the centuries, the faithful would turn to the Church for guidance, teaching, truth. The faithful knew the Church would be the compass on a difficult earthly journey guiding them to the Harbor of Safety.

But it now seems the compass is off course, and the Church is lost in a fog of doctrinal ambiguity. Until the fog of dogmatic/doctrinal ambiguity lifts, the Church will continue to flounder in rough seas.

True dogma and sound doctrine are necessary if the Church is to continue and be the steady Barque of Peter.

Truth is truth—not changeable—and to insert personal preferences or interpretations of the truth into the Catechism of the Catholic Church is unacceptable. It will only cause the deposit of faith to be in jeopardy because of ambiguity, polemics, humanistic relativism, modernism and hierarchical gibberish to create a tsunami of instability and loss of faith. Souls are being lost.

There is lamenting over the loss of faith and over those who have abandoned the true Church, but so many of the shepherds do not acknowledge that they themselves have fallen to the temptations of Satan and have caused souls to be lost. The corruption of doctrinal integrity and Christian morals has led souls to Hell. And yet, the websites and Facebook pages continue to show smiling faces.

We must acknowledge that there is a great effort on the part of the Church leaders and faithful to assist others and to rectify the wrongs in society. This is a basic Christian duty. But we have done this at the expense of Our Lord. We use Him indiscriminately to accomplish man centered goals rather than to ultimately lead souls to Him and

the truth. Our efforts originate in God's Divine Will. We serve His will and strive to accomplish it on earth. His Grace allows us to do so.

DOCTRINE and DOGMA

The Church embraced what was taught by the Lord and given to the Apostles. The Church teaches as She receives.

Sometimes there is a confusion and misunderstanding regarding these two terms of doctrine and dogma.

DOCTRINE is all Church teaching in matters of faith and morals. The latin term *Vdoctrina* means "teaching" —a teaching of theology.

Theology is a word that also means teaching the study of God, but it is not doctrine. It can lead to doctrine, but as we see, much theology is far from doctrine except in the minds of corruptors of authentic doctrine. Theologians do not proclaim doctrine.

A theologian may represent a Catholic, or sometimes not-so-Catholic thought, but that does not make it doctrine.

Therefore, the intervention of the Church and the Magisterium is necessary, to ensure that what is being proposed, what is being taught, is authentic. This has not been the case in recent decades, when theologians became their own magisterium, ignoring the authentic teaching authority of the Church mandated by Christ Himself.

Some will maintain that Magisterium is a verb = a process = a development = something to be discussed and changed as necessary. NOT SO! The Magisterium is

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*The Church
is being led
by insanity,
total
disregard
for Christ
and His
Church. The
shepherd
has become
the one who
leads the
lambs to the
slaughter. Is
he mad?!*

-Chorbishop
Spinosa

the teaching authority of the Church given to Peter by the Lord.

Unfortunately a distorted and corrupted meaning was tolerated and even encouraged by the wolves disguised as shepherds.

Doctrine is not necessarily infallibly defined. Most doctrine is not defined in such a manner.

The Magisterium gives us doctrine that defines for us our faith and morals without an infallible declaration. It is the legitimate duty of the Church to teach doctrine even without a solemn and formal declaration.

DOGMA is a Greek word for "opinion", but certainly defined by the Church as more than mere opinion. We have centuries of numerous pronouncements of doctrine, but not so with dogma.

The term Dogma is of more recent usage, as recent as the 17th century. The Medieval fathers and even St. Thomas Aquinas, used the term in a broader sense, but never in a manner that would compromise the faith.

From Apostolic time up to the present day, dogma is defined as "divinely inspired truth" proclaimed, as such, by the deliberate infallible teaching authority of the Church, and hence, binding on all the faithful, without exception, now and forever.

The elements which are necessary for Dogma must be divinely revealed. They must be found explicitly or implicitly in the deposit of faith that Christ gave to His Church. It must be found in Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition—in one of those places or in both.

Dogma must be infallibly taught by the Magisterium as divinely revealed and proclaimed in such a manner. It must be specific, without ambiguity or doubt. It must be declared solemnly. It is binding on all Catholics. Peter has spoken.

The Magisterium declares and defines infallibly that

Continued on Page 10

The Queen of Heaven, Continued from Page 9...

which is divinely revealed and all the truths that are part of that solemn declaration, so that they may be properly explained, understood and believed.

Doctrine may be declared under certain circumstances with varying degrees of authority.

Dogma is most specific, *no levels, no variance, from the highest source, God Himself, coming from the Holy Apostles.* Apostolic belief and practice, full and total assent is necessary for the Catholic faith.

The present day requires heavenly and earthly assistance. We need a heavenly and earthly battle plan.

These plans cannot be pursued with any degree of success unless there is unity among the clans.

The present day requires the full authority of Holy Mother Church to defend the rights of God and the Faithful who profess faith in the One Triune God.

From whence shall this come?

Hierarchy? Oh, well not always.

Clergy and religious? Oh, well not always.

There are so many clergy and religious who have lost their zeal for the faith. It would seem they are of a mind that there is nothing to do but wait for the end. Hence the plummeting number of vocations to the priesthood and religious life and the many empty pews in our churches. If the official directory reports a record number of Catholics in the USA, why are our churches and parochial schools closing at an alarming rate? Why are the seminaries being sold as



Over 600 turned up for this year's Catholic Identity Conference

faith is rare today. The ignorance on the part of the faithful is tragic, and the apathy that accompanies that ignorance is of epic proportions.

The words of the Prophet Isaias echo in our ears: "Behold, they that see shall cry: the angels of peace shall weep bitterly. The ways are made desolate, no one passes by the road, the covenant is made void. He has rejected the cities and has not regarded man. The land mourns and languishes: Libanus is confounded and has become foul, Saron is become as a desert: and Basam and Carmel

very much aware that Catholics would follow the direction of the hierarchy and the Church and that Catholic moral teaching was taken seriously and not a matter of personal interpretation, or in constant flux, but part of revealed truth whose duty to defend and teach was part of the duty of the hierarchy, clergy and religious. The faithful laity would participate closely in the moral and spiritual preservation.

Tragically, far too many Catholics have forsaken biblical and moral norms for the Utilitarian ethics of Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill that have come to dominate our society, even though most are unaware of them or their ethics. These ethics are embraced in daily American lives and most are completely unaware of this occurrence.

The late 19th century thinker, Vladimir Solovyov, warned that if Catholicism and Orthodoxy did not unite the church of action and the church of prayer, as he characterized it: Christianity would be reduced to a remnant that would be unable to influence society for the good. It appears his words have come true.

There is hope, as this conference demonstrates. There is a groundswell from the faithful to demand from the shepherds protection, guidance and true teaching.

But powerful heavenly assistance is needed, and that assistance will come from the Mother of God, who is the Mother of the Redeemer, the Mother of the Apostles, the Mother of saints, the Mother of mankind, the one to whom the Almighty has given a role in the Divine Plan that no other earthly person can share. She is the chosen one of God and she is the battle plan and the weapon for victory because this is the will of her Son, Who is God.

These plans cannot be pursued with any hope of success unless there is a unity among the clans. This unity, so necessary, can be achieved with the help of Our Lady.

But why do we, as traditional Catholics, need to unite under the protection of Our Lady to protect what has been given to us? Why is her role essential? The answer is

logical, natural and not complicated.

We look back centuries to the very early Church, which set the course of our devotion to Mary as the one who unifies the Church of God.

It begins with the very Council of Ephesus that confirmed and declared as dogma that which would be the entire basis of our devotion to Her.

Obviously, it originally began with the Apostolic Tradition of the Twelve Apostles, who held Mary in the greatest of esteem; but because of human conflicts and dissention, not unlike those of today, it was the Council of Ephesus in 431, that began the journey of the declaration of the four Marian Dogmas.

A. The Divine Motherhood of Mary

was proclaimed at this Council, as the various names used to describe Her all came to the one and undeniable conclusion: that Mary is the Mother of God, the Theotokos, the Birthgiver of God. As Ephesus declared: "Begotten from the Father before the ages as regards His Godhead, and in the last days, the same, because of us and because of our salvation begotten of the Virgin Mary, the Theotokos, as regards His manhood: one and the same Christ, the Son the only begotten." This was not an exclusive declaration of Mary, but one that is embedded in defining the person and nature of Jesus Christ. The dogma of the Mother of God is an integral part of Christological dogma. The dogma of Mary, the Mother of God, serves the dogma that Jesus is true God and true Man. The Marian dogma points to Christ.

B. Mary's Perpetual Virginity

The expression of the perpetual virginity, ever virgin, refers primarily to the conception and birth of Jesus. From the very first formulations of faith, including Baptism, the Church professed that Jesus was conceived without human seed, by the power of the Holy Spirit. The very early



Students made time between midterms to attend the conference and meet Michael Matt

valuable real estate? I would like an answer!

Recently I was discussing this very topic with a priest friend. I said to him, "It is so difficult to encourage vocations with all this turmoil." His response was: "I tell them they are idiots if they pursue a vocation." It is a TRAGEDY when those who should gather are the ones who scatter.

Lay faithful? In the past we learned our faith from our parents, grandparents, relatives and friends who were great examples of simple Christian faith. That simplicity of

are shaken" (Isaias 33:7-9).

The words and prophecies of Isaias of centuries ago describe the Church of today. The Garden of the Lord God has become a withered wasteland.

I think, "WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY AND THEY ARE US."

There was a time, not long ago, when the political and social classes respected and sought out the religious approval of the Catholic Hierarchy, most especially in predominantly Catholic areas. They were

Continued...

Baptismal formulas from the 3rd century attest to this. It was later in 649 AD that the Lateran Council declared that Mary, without any detriment to her virginity, remained inviolate even after His birth.”

This dogma declares the power of the Incarnation and the incredible and exclusive dedication to her mission as mother of her Son. Christ’s birth did not diminish Mary’s virginal integrity; rather it sanctified it. Even to this day, the Catechism of the Catholic Church maintains that Jesus Christ was Mary’s only child. The so-called “brothers and sisters” are close relations of the Holy Family—very common in Semitic culture.

C. The Immaculate Conception

This solemn declaration of Mary’s Immaculate Conception is very much linked to the previous declarations of Divine Motherhood and Perpetual Virginity as part of the Christological dogma, but it was defined and declared as an independent dogma by Pope Pius IX.

In the Apostolic Constitution *Ineffabilis Deus* December 8, 1854, the Holy Father highlights the privilege of Mary by explaining the dignity and holiness required to become the Mother of God: “The most Blessed Virgin Mary, from moment of her conception, and by a singular grace and privilege from Almighty God and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, was kept free from every stain of original sin.”

In this dogma, the Church acknowledges in Mary the one who never denied God the least sign of love. Thus, the dogma declares that from Her beginning, Mary

was exceptionally holy and in constant union with the sanctifying grace of the Holy Spirit.

D. The Assumption of Mary

The last Marian dogma was proclaimed by the Venerable Pope Pius XII on November 1, 1950, in the Encyclical *Munificentissimus Deus*.

This Dogma states that: “Mary, Immaculate Mother of God ever Virgin, after finishing the course of Her earthly life, was taken up in body and soul to heavenly glory.”

This definition, as well as that of the Immaculate Conception, not only makes reference to the universal, certain and firm consent of the Magisterium, but also makes allusion to the concordant belief of the faithful. The Assumption had been a part of the spiritual and doctrinal patrimony of the Church for centuries. It had been part of theological reflection, but also of the liturgy and was part of the sense of the faithful. It was of Apostolic belief.

This dogma has no direct basis in Sacred Scripture, except in apocryphal writing, but was none the less declared “divinely revealed” as the logical conclusion of Mary’s vocation on earth and the way She lived her life in union with the Almighty. It is the consequence of Divine Motherhood.

This dogma tell us that Mary is indissolubly linked to her Son on earth and in Heaven.

Her active participation in the Divine plan continues in history and will until the end of the age. Once in heaven, she did not lay aside her salvific duty.... By her maternal love she cares for the faithful of her Son



Michael Matt greets an old friend and WWII vet, Thaddeus Jadwisiak

who still journey on earth.

In Mary we contemplate our own end of times. Glorified in body and soul, Mary is already in the state that will be ours after the resurrection of the dead.

The importance of the Blessed Virgin in the battle for the faith and Holy Mother Church is evident in the infallible dogmas given to us. This is not to be refuted, not to be disbelieved, not to be scoffed at as ancient piety, but rather acknowledged to be the voice of the Almighty speaking through the voice of Peter for all the faithful.

In ancient times, as in our own, there are those who would seek to diminish the

Divine plan demonstrated in the Blessed Virgin.

A letter of Cyril of Alexandria to John of Antioch shows that question of the Blessed Virgin addressed by the early Fathers of the Church for the benefit of the faithful. Cyril writes:

O fools, whose only competence is in slander. How did you become so perverted in thought and fall into such a sickness of idiocy? For you must surely know that almost all our fight for the faith arose in connection with our insistence that the holy virgin is the mother of God. But if we claim that the holy body of our

Continued on Page 14

Two very important speakers were Skyped in to address the CIC 2020: Stephen K. Bannon and Bishop Athanasius Schneider



THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL: An Unwritten Story

by Roberto de Mattei

Vincent Chiarello

THE RECENT CATHOLIC Identity Conference was, once again, an informative and enjoyable event, and the more than 600 attendees could easily have been mistaken for those at a Trump campaign rally. There was, however, one disappointment: the inability of Roberto de Mattei to speak to the group due to his inability to leave Italy. Roberto de Mattei is an Italian Catholic historian and the president of the Lepanto Foundation, an international organization based in Rome that seeks to defend Christian civilization. Anyone who has had the pleasure of meeting de Mattei, “a gentleman of the old school,” is immediately impressed by his command of facts, and the quiet and unassuming way in which he will correct someone who is inaccurate or wrong about them. I do hope that in the future, De Mattei’s presence will become a regular part of the conference’s agenda.

“It is harsh to say it. Yet the factual evidence points, in this sense, to Vatican Council II as one of the greatest calamities, if not the greatest, in the history of the Church.” - Plinio Correa de Oliveira (1976)

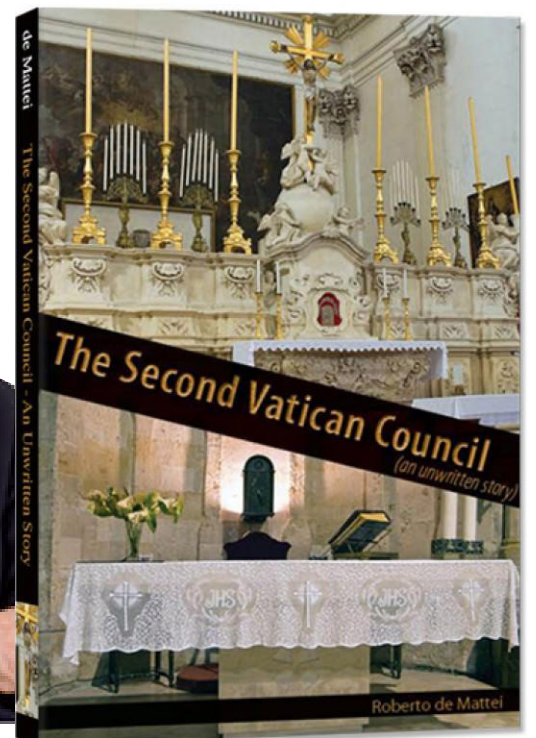
“Curiously, the “progressive” Catholic Lite Brigade and the ultra-traditionalist Forget Vatican II Platoon promote the same answer: Vatican II was indeed a Council of discontinuity. But that is the wrong answer. It is a mistaken reading of John XXIII’s intention for Vatican II.” - George Weigel, *First Things* July 2020

A lot of ink has been spilled in describing the pros and cons of the Second Vatican Council, but in my opinion and those of Pope

In 1967, two years after the last session of the Council, the late Fr. Ralph Wiltgen, a Divine Word Congregation priest who attended many of the council’s sessions, published his well-received history of the council: *The Rhine Flows into the Tiber*. According to de Mattei, although “of first-rate importance,” Fr. Wiltgen could not have known of the documents that were not made public, or easily accessed, but he had been so aware of the poor performance of the Vatican Press Service during the council that he set up his own office, the “Divine World News Service,” to report on what was happening among the participants.

De Mattei adds: “The official documents, although indispensable, are not sufficient to understand what happened in Rome from October 1962, to December 1965.” As diaries of “the most authoritative members of the council were made public,” they added both tone and texture to what was known. As de Mattei saw it, his task was not to claim his book was “the story” of Vatican II, which must wait until all the archives have been explored,” but to bring the historian’s methodology to evaluate what happened in those three tumultuous years. Did he succeed?

Two competing interpretations encapsulate the three years of the council: “The hermeneutic of ‘continuity’ between the council and the preceding tradition, and the hermeneutic of ‘discontinuity’ or ‘rupture’ with the Church’s past.” Clearly, if the theological approach to answer that question is used, then the sixteen documents of varying doctrinal value produced may not give a credible answer. Yet, since the closing of the council, these documents, according to most of the Church’s hierarchy today,



approach is considered, then it was “an undeniable discontinuity with the past: it raised hopes, started polemics and debates, and in the final analysis inaugurated a new era.” What was the specific discontinuity? In large part, because of “the almost wholesale rejection of the views and formulations prearranged by the preparatory bodies; the elaboration by the assembly of the general guidelines and of the texts themselves.” The greater criticism was not the flaws within the doctrinal documents or canonical norms the council followed, “but above all by the actual unfolding of the assembly and by the reception of the event by the community of the faithful.” It should be noted that among those clearly responsible for explaining the council’s objectives to “the faithful”

changed his judgment of the council, proposing that it be interpreted in the wake of tradition.” In addition, the Second Vatican council differed from all previous Councils: never had two (or more) contrary hermeneutics found themselves in conflict, and to use the word of Pope Benedict, “quarreled” with each other. Was that a primary cause of the “crisis” that has enveloped the Church since the closing of Vatican II? The future pope would elaborate this “decidedly unfavorable” criticism of the council in his *The Ratzinger Report*.

Another evaluation of Vatican II must consider its origins as a “pastoral council,” and, one might add, “a teaching council” as well. De Mattei and others agree the sixteen documents “express an organic unity of the event and implicitly convey a coherent doctrine, which to some members and observers was tantamount to a historical turning point, signaling the end of the counter-reformation or the Tridentine era.” According to an author of a sociological study of the council, “Vatican II represented the most significant example of institutionalized religious change since the reformation.”

How much—or little—of that conclusion was based on the council’s depiction by the media is another story. The council met amidst the growing societal problems of the 1960’s, and the growing intellectual influence of Marxism in Catholic circles. When Pope John XXIII used the term “aggiornamento” as the leitmotif for opening “the windows of the Church,” he was reversing the axiom that was

“The Second Vatican Council, was, indeed, an event that did not conclude with its final solemn session but was settled with its implementation and historical reception.” - Roberto de Mattei

Benedict and Bishop Fellay of SSPX, no other book has as successfully recreated the setting, discussions and personalities of the council as the book under review. It should be noted that, in the Italian edition, the translated subtitle reads: *A History Never Written*.

express “a non-infallible yet authentic magisterium,” which must be read “in light of tradition.” A distinction with or without a difference?

If an historical, rather than theological,

was a council “periti” or expert, the then-Father Joseph Ratzinger.

But times and people change. Fr. Ratzinger, later Pope Benedict XVI, “is the most renowned representative of those who, in view of the self-destructive reality of the post conciliar period,

Continued Next Page

Book Review Continued...

established five centuries earlier during the Fifth Lateran Council: “it is lawful to change men by means of sacred things, not sacred things by men.”

De Mattei: “The Second Vatican Council, was, indeed, an event that did not conclude with its final solemn session but was settled with its implementation and historical reception.” Thus, “this [book under review] is not a work of theological reflection but rather of historical narration.”

To begin at the beginning: It is both naive and ill-informed to believe that during the 1950’s pontificate of Pope Pius XII, modernism had been eliminated from the Church, for it remained in various pockets of Church life. It was St. Pius X who gave the word “Modernism” its historical significance: both in the decree *Lamentabili*, and in his 1907 encyclical *Pascendi*, he sought to define the nature of the errors which had been spreading within the Catholic Church. To address that issue further, in August 1950, Pope Pius XII’s encyclical *Humani generis* criticized what he called the “deadly fruit” brought on by novelties, which now included relativism and modernism. As Papal Nuncio to Bavaria, the later Pope Pius XII had worked closely with Msgr. Begnini, (not Bugnini) an indefatigable opponent of modernism. It should be noted that, even during this period, “modern Progressives,” described “as modernists with a new coat of varnish,” sought to continue to make their mark in two specific areas of the Church—in the liturgy and exegesis—even before the opening of Vatican II. The effort to eliminate modernism by Pope Pius XII, however, did not receive the support that was expected from the Vatican’s Secretary of State, Msgr. Giovanni B. Montini. He soft-pedaled the encyclical saying, “it condemned no errors, but only recommended caution about those living and vital cultural trends, which would be able to develop in the Church in an unhurried, prudent manner.” That mindset would continue when Montini became Pope Paul VI.

It is both untrue and inaccurate to assume that there existed a “tabula rasa,” or blank page, regarding what would be discussed at the opening of the first session. In response to a request by the Vatican’s Secretary of State, Cardinal Tardini, who asked for recommendations about the subjects to be considered, three thousand letters from bishops, religious Orders and Catholic universities arrived, and presented a picture of the interests of each of these groups. De Mattei: “The requests of the future council fathers, considered as a whole, do not express the desire for a radical turn, much less for a “revolution” within the Church.” There was, however, another topic that was on the minds of thousands of the laity who also wrote to Rome from all over the world, seeking “first and foremost,” the Church’s outright condemnation of communism.

From June of 1960, through all of 1961, ten papally appointed commissions were charged with organizing the discussion of the topics by the participants. In July of 1961, Pope John ordered the first seven subject schemas (preliminary texts) to be distributed, but a week later, the death of Cardinal Tardini created a

potential problem in the direction of the council. To Vatican insiders, Tardini’s death was described as the “second death of Pius XII;” further, Tardini had been Pope John’s closest adviser and ran his interference in dealing with the growing pressure of the Central European and French hierarchies to make changes in the Church. It was they who “wanted to seize the opportunity during this conciliar event to bring about a radical transformation of the ecclesiastical structures,” the thesis of the German theologian, Hans Kung, to bring the Church into the modern world. Tardini’s role would now be carried out by the new Secretary of State, Cardinal Montini. But no introduction to the opening of the Second Vatican Council can be considered complete without an examination of the role of Pope John XXIII.

Following the death of Pope Pius XII, the conclave opened in October 1958, with fifty-one cardinals in attendance. Two, Mindszenty and Stepinac, both symbols of the Church’s resistance to communism, could not attend: the former, taking refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Budapest; the latter, under house arrest in Tito’s Yugoslavia. On October 28, four days after the opening of the conclave, the seventy-six-year-old patriarch of Venice, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, supported by French cardinals seeking his assistance in resolving the growing trend of “worker-priests,” was elected to the Chair of Peter. Among theologians, including Kung, a prevailing mindset was that the new pope was “jovial, pious, and not at all that intelligent.” That analysis of the easy malleability of the new pope was erroneous, but another aspect of the new pontificate, prophesized by a Benedictine abbot regarding the future Council, was not: “He will hold a council and will do so in an ecumenical perspective.”

After a modestly successful career in the Vatican’s diplomatic service, the new pope had been created a cardinal in 1953, and appointed patriarch of Venice, a title St. Pius X held prior to becoming pope. His “pastoral style” set the tone of his reign in Venice. De Mattei: “His mindset and his religious sensibilities made him a ‘conservative,’ but his ‘humanity’ impelled him to make gestures that broke with tradition and to embrace ‘novelties’ of a pastoral sort.” In January 1959, that “humanity” became evident when the pope told the group of cardinals and the world that he intended to convoke an ecumenical council. The news stunned the cardinals, but the lingering belief that the more conservative cardinals could control the council by controlling the pope, remained. In that line of thought, they, too, were mistaken.

Although the official opening of the council is dated October 11, 1962, three years earlier the recently elected pope described what he considered the agenda for his pontificate: the growth of the faith and the renewal of morality in the lives of Christian people, traditional objectives of every Church council. In addition, the new papacy sought to inject a spirit of optimism into his pontificate, despite learning of the pessimism regarding the meaning of the Third Secret of the Virgin’s appearance at Fatima. “This does not concern the years of my

pontificate,” he wrote. De Mattei: “The reason why Pope Roncalli decided to postpone the publication of the Third Secret was the shrill contrast between the “prophecy of doom” of the Fatima message...and the optimistic outlook on the future by the new pontiff...”

Prior to delving into what happened at the council, there are two other aspects in the preparation of the schema at those meetings that should be mentioned. The first centers around the desire by members of the papally appointed Liturgical Commission who questioned the use of Latin as the only language used in the Church liturgy. It was here that the now infamous Archbishop Annibale Bugnini would secretly gather ten *periti* to speed up the revision of the schema to include the use of the vernacular, despite the pope’s insistence that Latin was “the living language of the church.”

For his willful violation of the pope’s intentions, Bugnini was dismissed from his professorial chair in Liturgical Studies at the Lateran University and was the only secretary of the preparatory commissions who was not reappointed when the council began. It is, therefore, beyond cavil that Pope John XXIII sought no change in the language of the liturgy.

The other major issue can be seen today, fifty-five years after the council ended: the major importance the Church affords to ecumenism. Here de Mattei is quite clear: that emphasis came about mainly through the efforts of Cardinal Augustin Bea, with the helpful hand of the pope, who “was in perfect agreement” with Bea’s goal. It was Bea, more than anyone else, who sought the promotion of Christian unity, and it was he who worked around the papal system to achieve that end, virtually shredding along the way any traditions to the contrary. The German Jesuit began his effort when he met secretly with the secretary-general of the World Council of Churches.

When Bea presented his schema to the preparatory commission, which included the term, “aggiornamento,” (updating) which had been used by the pope, a major and unprecedented step had been taken: the effort by Bea, “was a genuine turning point because it took away from the Holy Office the responsibility for relations between Catholics and other Christians, and above all it turned on its head the traditional Roman attitude towards heretics and schismatics.” One

dubious member of the commission was Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, who noted that Cardinal Bea did not seek or reach agreement with the other cardinals on his schema. In short, the battle lines were being drawn, and, as we shall see, this clamorous disagreement among the participants in the council would reap consequences that exist today.

On October 11, 1962, the opening of the twenty-first ecumenical council in Church history, three thousand dignitaries of the Church walked in a procession that measured about two and one-half miles in length. What made this gathering different from the earlier ones was, thanks to Italian television, the world was watching.

TO BE CONTINUED



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The Queen of Heaven: Our Lady's Essential Role in Uniting the Clans

Chorbishop Spinosa/Continued from Page 11

common Savior Jesus Christ is born from heaven and was not of her, why should she still be considered God-bearer? For whom indeed did she bear, if it is untrue that she bore Emmanuel according to the flesh? It is rather they who speak such nonsense who deserved to be ridiculed. For the holy Prophet Isaiah does not lie when he says, "Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and his name shall be called Emmanuel, God with us!" Again, the holy angel Gabriel speaks total truth when he says to the blessed virgin: "Do not fear O Mary. You have found favor with God and behold you will conceive in your womb and bear a son and you will call his name Jesus, for He will save many from their sins.

This letter of Cyril of Alexandria leads us to the undeniable conclusion, as we have known for a very long time, that our hope is in the Mother of God, not as the Divine Savior but as the one chosen by the Almighty to be the unifier and guide during our troubled earthly lives. The role of the Blessed Virgin in the Divine Plan is known to us. We have been taught and nurtured in knowing how she became the "chosen one", and we honor her in many devotions. This conference is to bolster our faith, to regain our identity as Catholics, to renew our commitment to Christ and His Church, to help us better understand the difficulties all of us face in professing the one true faith.

The words we hear this weekend will help us in our battle, but words are not enough. For all that is said will come down to one incredibly important point. Are we willing to practice what we profess in Christian charity? Simply stated, are we willing to practice what we preach? Are we willing to do it with Christian charity?

Sometimes this is where we see a dividing line that has been created by clergy and faithful alike, and this dividing line is created because we are imperfect and subject to the inadequacies which are forever present in us. The effects of Original Sin remain with us and are a constant reminder that the battle will not be won until Christ returns in all His glory to judge the world. The sheep will be placed on his right and the goats on His left.

How do we, imperfect creatures, attain perfection here on earth to be made worthy to be placed at the right of the Savior?

We are reminded by St. Paul that the great virtues of faith, hope and charity are the very foundation of Christian Faith. But he also reminds us that charity is paramount and that without it, we can accomplish nothing.

St. Paul struggled with the early Church as many regarded themselves as important, knowledgeable, chosen and better suited to instruct the faithful. With all the charisms and graces given to the leaders, he reminded leaders and followers alike that without charity their efforts would not be pleasing to God.

This is also echoed in the Epistle of St. James, who reminds us that faith without good works is empty. Without charity, good will, good works, humility, all efforts are lacking and will not bring victory to us or to Mother Church.

If we are to assist in stabilizing the Barque of Peter, if we are to bring lost souls back to the true faith, if we are to help intensify the lukewarm souls, we must do it with charity as so clearly seen in the miracles of Our Lord which were done from His loving divine mercy.

Many times, we speak of kindness and charity and yet we fail to truly understand what it means to put these great virtues into practice. We use our tongues and actions to negate what Our Lord instructed us to do. We act contrary to the instructions of St. Paul and St. James. Sometimes we contribute to the sorrows of the Church as much as her enemies do.

We are here this weekend to learn, to be strengthened and encouraged as we fight a great battle for Holy Mother Church. That which is negative must be removed. We cannot be as St. Paul says, one for Paul, one for Apollos, one for Cephas. We must be one for Christ and His Church.

Difference will always be present, but differences can be addressed with kindness and charity and not with inflated personal ego. This only causes the church to suffer even more.

St. Alphonsus Liguori spoke beautifully on the charity of Mary toward God, a charity that must be an example for all of us who love the Church and seek peace and stability within her. St. Alphonsus quotes St. Anselm by saying: "Where there is the greatest purity, there is the greatest charity. The purer and more emptied of self is the heart, the more it will be filled with charity towards God."

If we are filled with this purity and charity of which Alphonsus and Anselm speak, we cannot but be filled with the same for our brothers and sisters, even should we disagree with them. During this conference, we must look to the humility, kindness of heart, the love of Our Lady for her Son to bring us the peace we seek for Holy Mother Church and for ourselves.

Put aside differences, preferences, rancor, criticism. When tempted to complain or criticize, BE SILENT! If you don't like the priest or those around us SO WHAT! Better to have a priest you do not like than to be without a priest. Who will administer God's sacraments? Who will baptize your children, absolve your sins, offer you Holy Unction as you breathe your last breath? Think of your end and how you will stand before God, rather than thinking about the priest who irritates you or fellow parishioners who do not agree with you. Those things are not important. Only God is important. There is a time to speak and a time to be silent. Discern the proper moment for each.

Are we at the Divine Sacrifice because of those around us, or are we there because of our desire to love and please the Lord? Personal difference and concerns cannot be allowed to distract us from the Most Holy Sacrifice. The Divine Liturgy is that which unifies every Catholic person regardless of personal opinions and therefore facing "ad orientem" is so very important in the east and in the west. It is because we are mystically and physically placing our focus upon that most perfect sacrifice which deserves every ounce of our attention. Our orient is the Kingdom of God.

Communion in the hand also distracts us from the sacredness of what we receive. Not one of us is worthy to hold Divinity in our hands. Not one of us!

Our Blessed Lady is the greatest model for us and the one who totally committed to her Son and who was empty of self. She is the perfect example of "ad orientem".

The history, tradition and dogmatic declarations of the Church all point us to the one who will assist us in this great battle to make right what has gone wrong. We cannot do it alone, we cannot do it as a conference of tradition, we must do it with the assistance of the chosen one of God, the Theotokos.

Every infallible dogma proclaimed by Holy Mother Church is a solemn and universal declaration that we are to look to the Mother of God as the one who grasps our hand and allows our foot not to slip into the turbulent sea. As St. Catherine of Siena called Mary, "The bearer of the flame of Divine Love."

If we wish to be successful in this battle for Holy Mother Church and our faith, we must have a desire to burn with this blessed flame. Lets always endeavor to draw near to our mother with prayers and affections.

Finally, in Christian charity, we must pray for those who cause the turmoil we face and the contributors are many. From the very ones to whom we look for guidance and stability, we see confusion, contradiction, theological shallowness, humanistic and even socialistic and Marxist thoughts which permeate hierarchy, clergy, religious and laity alike. No one has been spared. Collaboration with detractors of the Church, of God Himself, are welcomed and embraced as friends by the highest of

church authorities. How can those who seek the destruction of the Church, who seek to reduce her to a socialistic puppet, be regarded as good? And yet, we hear of how good they are. It is nonsense, stupidity. I am beyond saying it is ignorance or naiveté. It is a willful and deliberate cooperation with that which is detrimental to the salvation of souls. Evil abounds in every aspect of our earthly lives even into the Church.

Paul VI said, "The smoke of Satan has entered the Church." It is beyond that; the smoke has become a wildfire and is almost beyond control. Could Paul VI ever have imagined that the smoke would become a blaze to consume the Church? Could he have imagined that his successor would mint a coin to honor the Pachamama? Can you even imagine such a thing?

The Church is being led by insanity, total disregard for Christ and His Church. The shepherd has become the one who leads the lambs to the slaughter. Is he mad?!

It is very easy for many to believe that Satan has conquered. But we know that is not true, for Christ promised never to abandon His Church. He did not promise an easy journey, but for those who are faithful, the arduous journey will end in Christ's victory.

Our Lord repeatedly told his Apostles and followers, to "have no fear," to "be at peace." The peace promised by the Divine Savior will come in time, maybe long after we have left this earthly life, but it will come.

His Mother is our Mother and she will be the one who make certain the souls of her Son's faithful are not lost. ■

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Voices in Defense of the Church's Greatest Treasure

Amanda Evinger

IN 1996, THE Most Reverend Bishop Juan Rodolfo Laise was faced with a solemn choice. It was an earthly decision he had to make, but he was a saintly man, and thus he realized that all earthly choices have eternal consequences. He found himself confronted with the possibility of resorting to an indult to allow Holy Communion to be given in the hand in his diocese – a way that mocks the doctrines of the Real Presence and the Eternal Priesthood of Jesus Christ – and that furthermore was obtained through a frontal disobedience to the pope.

In the end, he decided not to avail himself of the indult, and persevered in not allowing the abuse of Communion in the hand to take place in his diocese during his episcopal tenure from 1971-2001. By doing so, Bishop Laise gave Christ the Crucified Lord of Glory the honor and homage due to Him, making a preeminent impression on the Catholic world for decades to come.

His courage has served as a blazing torch for Traditional Catholics; and his voice a militant drum in defense of Holy Mother the Church's most valuable treasure – the Eucharistic Lord.

Not surprisingly, his decision was highly controversial with some ecclesiastical sectors who voiced their opposition through the media. Therefore, he published a marvelous book titled *Communion in the Hand*, in order to defend his decision and to encourage other bishops to examine this important matter more carefully.

In it, he expounds upon his prayerful process of discernment and studious analysis of the proposed indult and its cataclysmic implications for his diocese, as well as for the universal Church. He writes: “[I] clearly realized that the final decision to introduce it or not was incumbent on me and my conscience, I concluded that it was necessary to have an in-depth study of the question, and more concretely, of the canonical instrument that regulated the indult, and of the historical context in which it was written.”

Throughout the book, Bishop Laise quotes official Vatican documents to show that no legal permission actually exists in the *Novus Ordo* for the practice of Communion in the hand. He relates how crucial it is to revere each particle of the Sacred Host, because doing so positively communicates dogmatic truths, while failing to do perilously communicates the opposite.

Bishop Laise explains that “the lack of concern for the particles does harm the doctrine,” and that, “Communion on the tongue, on the other hand, is a sign of the real and substantial presence of the Lord and of the essential distinction between the common priesthood of the faithful and the ministerial priesthood.”

The dauntless bishop also makes the

conclusion that, “With the Communion in the hand a miracle would be needed so that in each Communion some particle not fall or remain in the hand of the faithful.”

Furthermore, he demonstrates why Communion in the hand is not genuinely willed by Holy Mother the Church, and that it is simply a tolerated abuse.

It became rampant when representatives of episcopal conferences did not

today is merely the revival of an ancient tradition. In disproving this theory, Bishop Laise provides a profoundly attentive analysis of what constitutes authentic tradition within the Church and how the Church utilizes the principles of natural law and canon law in governing the faithful, while simultaneously preserving the Church's doctrinal, moral and liturgical traditions.

His case is entirely compelling, and the good news is that the insight he savored

Hand, His Excellency Most Rev. Juan Rodolfo Laise, Bishop Emeritus of San Luis (Argentina), has for several years raised his voice in defense of the Eucharistic Lord, showing with convincing argumentation the inconsistency of the modern practice of Communion in the hand from a historical, liturgical and pastoral perspective.

Impressively, Bishop Laise concludes his work by proclaiming:

All that has been elaborated on until now permits us to realize that the history of the reintroduction of communion in the hand is nothing other than the triumph of an act of disobedience.

The consideration of the details of this history makes evident to us the gravity of this disobedience: in fact, it is very serious above all because of the very matter which it concerns; very serious because it implies the open resistance to a clear, explicit and solidly founded directive of the pope; most serious by its universal extension; most serious because those who did not obey were not only the faithful or priests, but in many cases bishops and entire episcopal conferences; most serious, because not only did they remain unpunished but they obtained a resounding success; most serious, in short, because it has succeeded in having the state of disobedience remain hidden, making it such that one might believe, on the contrary, that they were adopting a proposal that came from Rome.

While far too many ignorant Catholics relish in accusing Traditional Catholics of being “disobedient” to the Faith because they do not comply with disobedient acts of the current hierarchy, Bishop Laise is not afraid to explain where true obedience and disobedience actually lie.

While we fight to keep our Catholic heads above water during this time of worldwide, leech-like Communistic control due to Covid-19, we must trust that if we honor Our Lord in His most vulnerable state in the Blessed Eucharist, He will take care of His poor creatures in return.

As Bishop Schneider continues in the preface: “What is needed is a renewed and ardent preferential option for what is the poorest and the most helpless in the world: Jesus in the Eucharist in the moment of the distribution of Communion.”

We must ask ourselves: Are we ready to help the One who is truly in need of our help?

Will we use our voice to defend Him or to deny Him?

Will we use our hands to abuse Him and stand back as others do the same? ■

“““

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Bishop Juan Rodolfo Laise

examine the official legislative texts on the subject carefully, and began to introduce the practice on a widespread basis, overlooking the strict requirements imposed by the Holy See for the purpose of limiting its use. As a result this practice became almost universal, which is the very situation that Rome emphatically wanted to prevent.

It was an abuse that the hierarchical Church never genuinely approved, but merely tolerated in an attempt to avoid widespread rebellion against the authority of the Church. Secondly, Bishop Laise also disproves the mistaken idea that Communion in the hand is a longstanding tradition in the Church, having its origins in the early Church, and that the reintroduction of it

still resounds through the voices of holy bishops who are still with us today. Their voices may be few, but they resonate with the Law of God that is inscribed on every human heart.

As the Most Reverend Bishop Athanasius Schneider writes in the preface to Bishop Laise's book:

The Church in our times has the urgent need of courageous voices in defense of her greatest treasure, which is the mystery of the Eucharist. Often today there arise voices in defense of the many human and temporal needs, but rare are the voices that defend the Eucharistic Jesus.

With his book, *Communion in the*

Cursed Coins

Fr. Celatus

MANY YEARS AGO, a man unknown to me came into the sacristy after morning Mass and handed me a copper coin, saying, "Please take this from me; I think it is evil." The man left quickly with no more explanation. I glanced at the coin and noted that it bore strange markings on it. I put it in my pocket, planning to examine it later. But before I could even make my way into the rectory, I was overtaken by vertigo. I collapsed on the ground and was unable to rise until my vicar finally crushed the coin in a vice.

I had not thought of this frightening incident for some time until recently, when I read that the Vatican City State has minted a new coin. It is a 10-euro silver coin that depicts a very obviously pregnant woman with the globe of the earth in her womb and corn stalks in her hair. The release of this scandalous silver coin coincides with the anniversary of the Pachamama sacrilege, both in the month of Mary, our Mother.

The timing of this cannot be coincidence, and the release of this coin cannot be without the full knowledge and consent of Bergoglio. Clearly rather than backing down from the idolatry of the Pachamama scandal this odious fraud has determined to double-down instead. One year ago, *The Last Word* wrote an article citing biblical examples of the consequences of idolatry committed by the covenant people and leaders. We would do well to review these biblical examples, in the wake of this most recent idolatrous scandal.

Let's begin with the idolatry of the ancient Israelites, which occurred shortly after the great Exodus event. Despite all that God had done for them, to include ten plagues against the Egyptians and the Red Sea crossing, within weeks following the Exodus, the Israelites fashioned a golden calf idol while Moses was on Mount Sinai. The Lord declared that He would destroy the people and start a new covenant with Moses and his offspring but Moses acted as a mediator on behalf of the Israelites, thereby saving them.

Even so, there was a stiff price to pay for the terrible sin of idolatry. Thousands of Israelites were slain for this crime and the priesthood was stripped from the heads of households and entrusted to the tribe of Levi.

Moses said: If any man be on the Lord's side let him join with me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him: Moses said to them: Thus saith the Lord God of Israel: Put every man his sword upon his thigh: go, and return from gate to gate through the midst of the camp, and let every man kill his brother, and friend, and neighbour. And the sons of Levi did according to the words of Moses, and there were slain that day about three and twenty thousand men.

Next, we consider the idolatry of King Solomon, the punishment for which was the splitting of the one covenant people into two kingdoms for nearly 1,000 years, until the coming of Christ. Solomon, who started out as the wisest ruler on the face of the earth, ended his reign as a fool. He became a man with a divided heart, having taken to himself

“*The Vatican City State has minted a coin bearing the image of a mother goddess.*”

1,000 wives and adopting their gods as his own in order to please them. He led his people into idolatry, for which reason the Lord was angry and imposed a heavy sentence:

The Lord said to Solomon: Because thou hast done this, and hast not kept my covenant, and my precepts, which I have commanded thee, I will divide and rend thy kingdom, and will give it to thy servant. Nevertheless, in thy days I will not do it, for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Neither will I take away the whole kingdom, but I will give one tribe to thy son for the sake of David my servant, and Jerusalem which I have chosen.

Our last biblical example is that of the Jewish leaders in the time of Christ. As religiously corrupt as they were, even the Jewish high priests, chief priests and others associated with worship would have nothing to do with

idolatrous coins. It was for this reason that there were money-changers at the temple, whose tables were overturned by Jesus. Roman coins bore the images of the Caesars, who claimed divinity for themselves. As such they were unsuitable for temple offerings and had to be exchanged for Jewish coins.

Still, the Jewish leaders did lead their people into apostasy and a form of idolatry, when they declared before Pontius Pilate, "We have no king but Caesar!" Upon hearing this declaration of apostasy, Pilate handed Christ over to be crucified. The consequence for this apostasy was the loss of the covenant and also the destruction of the Jewish Temple, the City of Jerusalem, and more than one million Jewish lives.

Jumping now two millennia, we come to the idolatry of Bergoglio and a complicit Vatican. One year ago, in the month dedicated to the Blessed Mother, Francis of Rome honored an image of a naked Pachamama goddess in a ceremony in the Vatican. Then days later this same idolater placed a bowl of Pachamama dirt and weeds as an offering upon the altar of Saint Peter, during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

And now, on the anniversary of that act of desecration, the Vatican City State has minted a coin bearing the image of a mother goddess, without doubt at the initiative of Bergoglio—or at the very least with his full consent. Regardless of whatever spin the Vatican may put out about this image, it is nothing short of idolatry. Based upon historical biblical precedent, just imagine what the divine consequences might be.

Then again, we may already know the first of the dire consequences for sins of idolatry. Not long after the Pachamama idolatry, the entire world was locked down and churches were closed to the faithful. One thing is sure: as long as Jorge Bergoglio remains in power, the counterfeit church will continue to mislead the faithful and incur divine wrath. God save us from this heretical idolater who sits on the Chair of Peter! ■

