

March/April 2015

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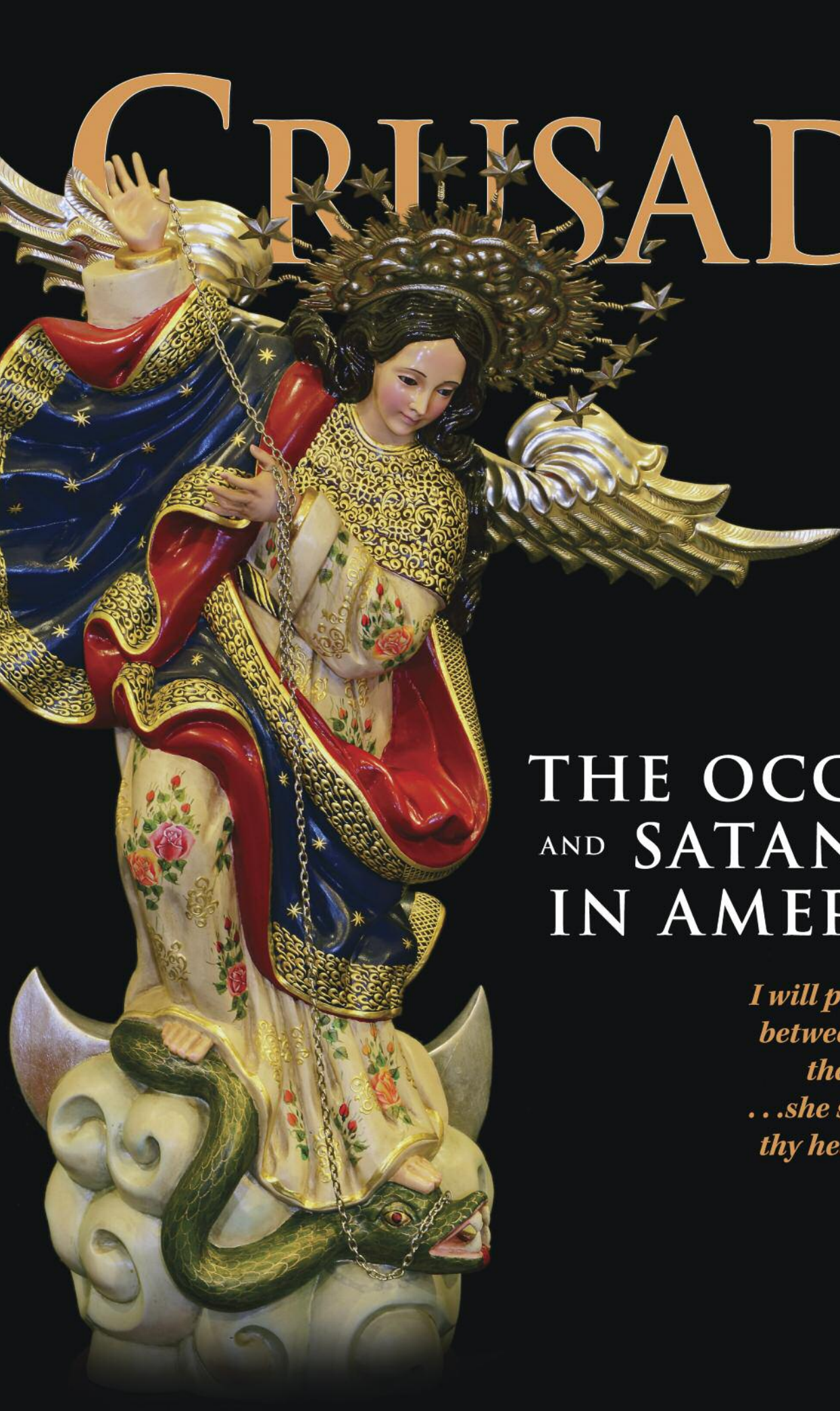
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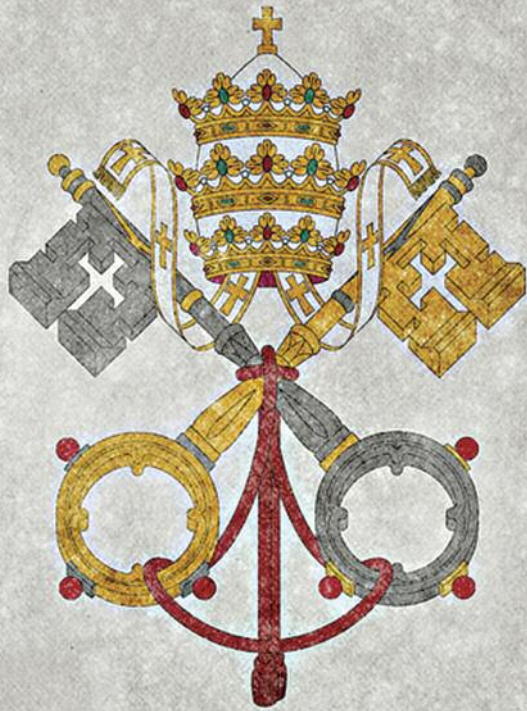


TRADITION
FAMILY AND
PROPERTY[®]

THE OCCULT AND SATANISM IN AMERICA

*I will put enmities
between thee and
the woman. . .
. . .she shall crush
thy head. GEN. 3:15*





Appeal to His Holiness POPE FRANCIS ON THE FUTURE OF THE FAMILY

The American TFP and its sister organizations around the world are promoting a petition drive to Pope Francis regarding the upcoming Synod on the family. The text on the petition can be read in the right-hand column.

We encourage you to join us in the collection of signatures.

To print petition forms, go to
www.TFP.org/filialpetition.pdf
or call (888) 460-7371



Mail petitions to:
The American TFP
P. O. Box 341
Hanover, PA 17331



TFP volunteers collect signatures at the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 22, 2015.

Holy Father,

In view of the Synod on the family to be held in October 2015, **we filially address Your Holiness to express our fears and hopes regarding the future of the family.**

Our fears arise from witnessing a decades-long **sexual revolution** promoted by an alliance of powerful organizations, political forces and the mass media that consistently work against the very existence of the family as the basic unit of society. Ever since the so-called May 1968 Sorbonne Revolution, a morality opposed to both divine and natural law has been gradually and systematically imposed on us so implacably as to make it possible, for example, to teach the abhorrent “gender theory” to young children in many countries.

Catholic teaching on the Sixth Commandment of the Law of God shines like a beacon in face of this ominous ideological objective. This beacon attracts many people—overwhelmed by hedonistic propaganda—to the chaste and fecund family model taught by the Gospel and in accordance with natural law.

Your Holiness, in light of information published on the last Synod, we note with anguish that, for millions of faithful Catholics, the beacon seems to have dimmed in face of the onslaught of lifestyles spread by anti-Christian lobbies. In fact **we see widespread confusion arising from the possibility that a breach has opened within the Church that would accept adultery—by permitting divorced and then civilly remarried Catholics to receive Holy Communion—and would virtually accept even homosexual unions when such practices are categorically condemned as being contrary to divine and natural law.**

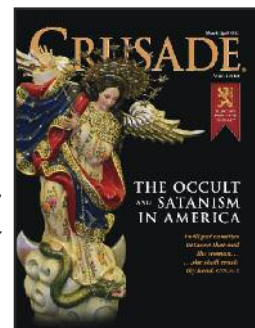
Paradoxically, our hope stems from this confusion. Truly, in these circumstances, **a word from Your Holiness is the only way to clarify the growing confusion** amongst the faithful. It would prevent the very teaching of Jesus Christ from being watered down and would dispel the darkness looming over our children’s future should that beacon no longer light their way.

Holy Father, we implore You to say this word. We do so with a heart devoted to all that You are and represent. We do so with the certainty that Your word will never disassociate pastoral practice from the teaching bequeathed by Jesus Christ and His vicars—as this would only add to the confusion. Indeed **Jesus taught us very clearly that there must be coherence between life and truth** (cf. John 14:6-7); and **He also warned us that the only way not to fall is to practice His doctrine** (cf. Matt. 7:24-27).

Asking for Your apostolic blessing, we assure You of our prayers to the Holy Family—**Jesus, Mary and Joseph**—to enlighten Your Holiness in these crucially important circumstances.

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Statue of Our Lady of the Apocalypse, Quito, Ecuador.

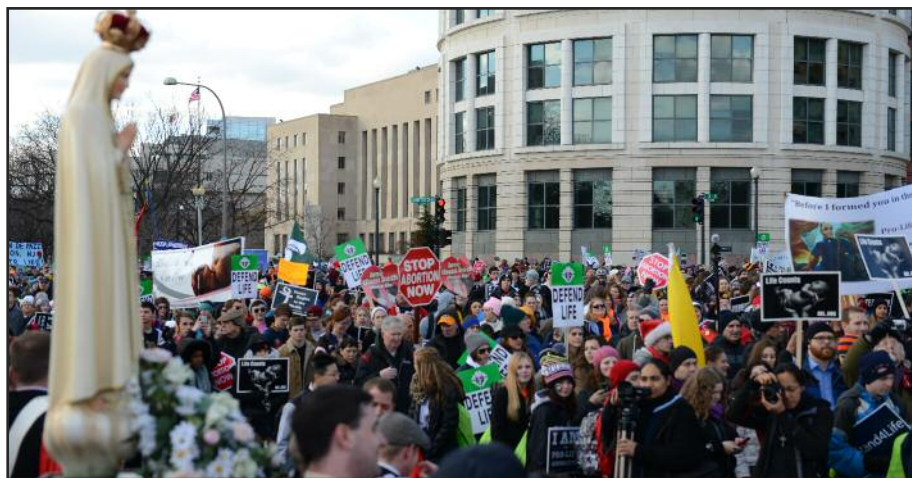
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CRUSADE

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THE AMERICAN TFP

The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) is an organization of lay Catholic Americans concerned about the moral crisis shaking the remnants of Christian civilization. Its earliest origins date back to January 1971, when the first TFP members started to group around the publication *Crusade for a Christian Civilization*. It is a civic, cultural and nonpartisan organization which, inspired by the traditional teachings of the Supreme Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church, works in a legal and peaceful manner in the realm of ideas to

defend and promote the principles of private ownership, family and perennial Christian values with their twofold function: individual and social. The TFP's words and efforts have always been faithfully at the service of Christian civilization. The first TFP was founded in Brazil by the famous intellectual and Catholic leader Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira in 1960. His work inspired the formation of other autonomous TFP sister organizations across the globe, thus constituting the world's largest anticommunist and antisocialist network of Catholic inspiration.



IN BRIEF

Ottawa Archbishop Speaks on Anti-marriage Ideologies

Archbishop Terrence Prendergast of Ottawa recently denounced movements within the Church to change her teachings on sexual morality for people who are living in the objective state of sin. Speaking before conference participants at the Dominican College in Ottawa, Archbishop Prendergast described these movements' motivation as a "false sensitivity or tolerance which suggests it's good to allow people to continue down a dangerous path... as if misleading people is somehow more loving."



Traditional Marriage Wins Big in 2014 Elections

The National Organization for Marriage (NOM) reported that in the recent November elections, senatorial candidates

who supported traditional marriage won in the states of North Carolina, Arkansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas. Many congressional candidates in districts where the redefinition of marriage was a key issue also won their seats. One New York incumbent state senator who was responsible for redefining marriage in the state was driven out of office, reported Brian Brown, NOM president.

Six North Carolina Judges Resign Over Same-Sex "Marriage"

Since the state of North Carolina legalized homosexual "marriage" on October 10, 2014, a total of six judges have stepped down from their posts because they refuse to perform same-sex "wedding" ceremonies. Judge Bill Stevenson, one of the judges, told NBC's Charlotte affiliate that, "It was something I had to do out of conscience. I felt that to perform same-sex unions would be a violation of the Lord's commands.... I hate to wax so biblical but it says, 'what good is it for a man to gain the whole world but lose his own soul?'" Another judge, Gayle Myric, told the *Christian Examiner*, "I believe that marriage was ordained by God to be between a man and a woman... I want to honor what the Word says."

Religious Persecution in America

Lawsuits are being filed against two public schools for First Amendment violations. Pine Creek High School in Colorado forbade a group of students to informally meet to pray and discuss religious topics during their free time. School officials claimed

"separation of church and state" required the "religious speech" ban during recess. An eighth grader at Sam Houston Middle School in Texas was allegedly slammed to the ground by police then arrested and detained overnight for wearing a rosary in memory of his deceased brother to a school football game.

Christianity Rising in China

A report in the *Financial Times* indicated that within fifteen years, China will be home to the world's largest Christian population. Fenggang Yang, director of the Centre on Religion and Chinese Society at Purdue University, commented that "by 2030, China will almost certainly have more Christians than any country, and the Communist Party is very alarmed." He further said that "Chinese officials often cite the experience of Poland, where they believe the Catholic Church helped destroy communism and, although the two situations are not really comparable, the party still sees Christianity as a very serious threat that it needs to suppress."

Abortion in Utah Is at Its Lowest Rate Ever

From a high of 11.1 abortions per 1,000 women in 1980 to 4.6 abortions in 2013, the state of Utah's abortion rate dropped to its lowest since statistics were recorded by the Utah Department of Health. The sharp decrease is attributed to the state's restrictive abortion laws, which require a 72 hour waiting period. Planned Parenthood, however, cited increased use of contraception and greater family planning as major factors for the decrease.

Children of Married Parents Wealthier and More Educated

A new study by the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), among today's men and women, shows that children raised by two married parents (an intact family) are "strongly associated with more education, work and income." The AEI report concluded that family structure is one of the most important factors in determining whether a person will be educated, wealthy, and married. The study offered several policy recommendations, all geared toward promoting the importance of marriage to strengthen families.



UNITED BY STRIVING FOR SANCTITY

BY FATHER RAOUL PLUS, S.J.



CHRIST IN
THE HOME

A beautiful work which husband and wife can pursue together is the mutual effort to correct their faults. Maurice Retour, an industrialist and one of the youngest captains of World War I of which he was a victim, suggested this to the woman he loved even during their engagement. He wrote to her, "I must confess something to you. . . I became aware of your imperfections and I thought how pained I should have been if I had not been able to see clearly into your soul. . . You see how frank I want to be with you. We are just engaged and yet instead of paying you compliments, I do not fear to speak to you of your imperfections which my love for you cannot hide. . . Tell me you will pardon me."

Another time he wrote, "In general, engaged persons strive to shine in each other's eyes. We, on the contrary, began by showing each other all our faults. . . You have acknowledged all your faults to me; I confessed to you all my weakness. . . Thank you for your great confidence in me. But never forget that if I permit myself to give you advice which seems good to me, I can always be mistaken and you ought to discuss it with me. Otherwise I shall never dare to give you my opinions."

In a later letter he said to her, "I have already abused the liberty you gave me. I have told you frankly all I thought about you, nor was I afraid to recognize before you what you call your great faults. It was, I must confess, most difficult for me to tell you because I love you so much that I dread causing you the least pain." He added, "The interior life is what we need to correct our failings

and we shall work from now on, if you wish, to grow in it."

This mutual effort of husband and wife to correct themselves of their faults may be much, but it is not enough. Something more beautiful remains—to strive positively for sanctity through mutual instruction, loving encouragement and a united and confiding zeal for each other's perfection.

"Why should we not live a saintly life?" asked Maurice Retour of his bride-to-be. And they decided upon some very definite principles for themselves. "Let us put no faith in fortune, in pleasures, even in our self-love which always increases and makes us run the risk of becoming blind. . . The one who receives the most grace will make the other profit by it. What do we care what the world says! It will say what it pleases, but it never will be able to say that we are not true Catholics. . . Our life will be holy and simple."

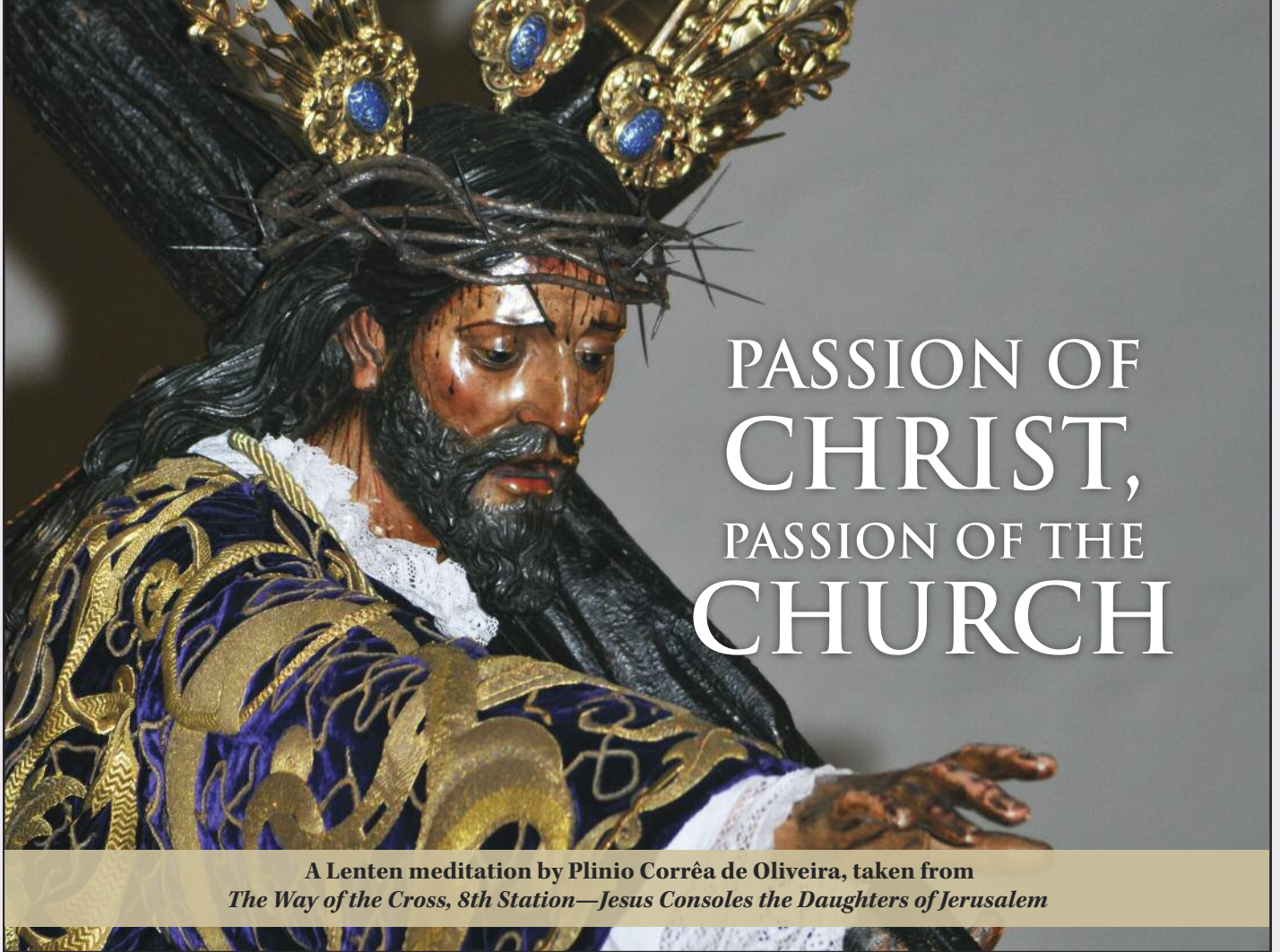
"As far as jewels are concerned," commented Maurice, "I understand you perfectly. If you had loved them, I should never have opposed your tastes, but I tell you frankly, I should have suffered. We shall not fail by excesses on this score. We can do so much good with money that it would be wrong, in spite of my desire to spoil you, to spend it only on you. We shall save all we can to enable us to give more to charity. We shall always go straight to our goal and make no concessions to worldliness."

There is however, nothing admirable in a gloomy life. "Our interior life must be so intense that it remains alive in all our exterior actions, our pleasures, our work, our joys and our sorrows. I do not mean an interior life which makes us withdraw into ourselves and become bores for other people. On the contrary, we ought to spread our gaiety generously about us and spend all the activity of our youth to attract those who meet us. But, in order to be saints, we must be able to conserve in the midst of the most captivating pleasures and the most intense activity an interior calm which enables us to remain self-possessed always. . ."

A saint who is sad is sadly in need of sanctity! ■



True love never loses sight of eternity and the eternal well-being of the beloved, while sensual love is selfish. (Painting: *The Final Judgment* by Blessed Fra Angelico, 1395)



PASSION OF CHRIST, PASSION OF THE CHURCH

A Lenten meditation by Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, taken from
The Way of the Cross, 8th Station—Jesus Consoles the Daughters of Jerusalem



COMMENTARY

At that time there were good souls who, realizing the enormity of the sin being committed, feared divine justice.

Don't I witness similar sins? Is it not true that today Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Church are being disobeyed, abandoned, betrayed? Is it not true that the laws, institutions, morals, and ways of people are more and more hostile to Jesus Christ? Is it not true that Our Lady spoke at Fatima, pointing out all of these sins and asking for penance?

But where is that penance? How many are there who really see these sins and who try to point them out, denounce them, fight them, dispute every inch of their progress, raise up against them a whole crusade of ideas, of acts, of force if it be necessary? And how many are there who are capable of unfurling the standard of absolute and flawless orthodoxy in the very places where impiety or false

piety struts? How many are they who live in union with the Church during this moment that is tragic, as the Passion was tragic, this crucial moment of history when all mankind is choosing for Christ or against Christ?

Oh, my God, how many are so short-sighted as to prefer neither to see nor to foresee the reality which lies plainly before their eyes! How much false peacefulness, how much trifling well-being, how many petty routine pleasures! How many tasty dishes to be eaten!

Grant us, Jesus, the grace not to be of that number. Grant us the grace to follow Thy counsel, that is, to weep for ourselves and for our own. Give us not just a few sterile tears, but grant us a flood of tears, which, poured out at Thy feet and made fertile by Thee, may become for us forgiveness, strength for the apostolate, for the fight and for acts of courage. ■

Oh, my God, how many are so short-sighted as to prefer neither to see nor to foresee the reality which lies plainly before their eyes!

Synod on the Family? Or Synod of Confusion?

BY LUIZ SERGIO SOLIMEO

The truth opposes confusion just as light opposes darkness.

When the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, He made shine the light of truth which dissipated the darkness of paganism and the confusion involving the numerous sects roughly following Judaism.

The “Prince of This World”

But the world—this moral entity that lives for the pleasures of the flesh, concupiscence and pride—rejected Him. And by rejecting Christ the world chose as its own prince the devil, the father of lies which sows confusion in minds.¹

There is no dialogue between good and evil as Saint Paul tells us: “And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath the faithful with the unbeliever?”²

When He rose to the Father, Jesus left on this earth the Church, His Spouse without stain or blemish³ whose authentic Magisterium cannot be ambiguous or confused but must have the apostolic clarity of “yea, yea; no, no,” because “that which is over and above these, is of evil.”⁴

The Synod Sought

Reconciliation With the World

This is why the Extraordinary Synod on the Family held in October 2014 resulted in confusion: it sought to “dialogue” with the world and to reconcile mundane “morals” based on the triple concupiscence with the morals of the Decalogue, whose support is the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Synod went so far as to issue a document recognizing “positive elements” and even “elements of sanctification and of truth” in certain sinful situations.

Although still a provisional document, unsupported by a majority of the Synodal Fathers, it was delivered to the media, which spread it throughout the earth as a harbinger of the Church’s “new position.”

The World Rejoiced

With the Synod’s Document

The world welcomed the *Relatio post disceptationem*—as the document was called—as a proof that the Church is finally changing her morals and forsaking the fundamental principles of natural and divine law. The following headlines, all from October 13, 2014, are quite meaningful:



COMMENTARY

The New York Times: “At the Vatican, a Shift in Tone Toward Gays and Divorce”

The Washington Post: “Church Must Show More Compassion, Respect for Same-sex Couples, Vatican Document Says”

ABC News: “Bishops Say Gays Have Gifts to Offer Church”

USA Today: “Catholic Bishops Show New Tolerance Toward Gays”

The Daily Beast: “Pope Francis Pushes the Church Another Step Further on Gays”

BBC News Europe: “Vatican Synod: Victory for Pope Francis on Gay Issues”

The Telegraph (UK): “Vatican Calls for Catholic Church to Welcome Gays”

Elements of Sanctification in Sin?

The document’s argumentation goes along this line: just as Vatican II affirmed that there are “elements of sanctification and of truth” outside the visible structures of the Church, as well as different “levels of communion,” so also one can find elements of sanctification and communion outside a “nuptial situation.” Accordingly, cohabitation, civil unions and divorcees’ new marriages have elements of sanctification as such and could even develop until they attain a sacramental situation (cf. nos. 17, 18, 22).

Taking principles such as the “hermeneutics” which the document explains (no. 17), the *Relatio post disceptationem* goes so far as to claim that “homosexuals have gifts and qual-

Editor’s Note: The American TFP opposes all evils that subvert Christian culture and civilization. While many of these arise in the temporal order, some surface in the spiritual one. In last October’s Extraordinary Synod on the Family, perennial Church doctrine on marriage, the family, and homosexual sin came under attack from leftist Synod fathers, to the consternation of millions of Catholics around the world. Hoping to dispel confusion, we offer this article which reiterates the Church’s unchangeable teaching.

ities to offer to the Christian community” (no. 50) and that in homosexual unions “there are cases in which mutual aid to the point of sacrifice constitutes a precious support in the life of the partners” (no. 52).

Charity Is Inseparable from the State of Grace

This argumentation fails to explain that the “elements of sanctification and of truth” that may exist outside the Church’s visible structures are salvific only for people who find themselves outside those structures through no fault of their own, in a state of invincible ignorance. Conversely, people who not only refuse to join the Church but also adhere to error and heresy do not benefit from those elements.⁵ For, as Fr. Garrigou-Lagrange explains, “as the Council of Trent says. . . ‘faith is the principle of salvation, the foundation and reason of justification,’ for without it there can be neither hope nor charity, which is inseparable from the state of grace.”⁶

Likewise, to speak about elements of “sanctification” or “positive” elements in objective situations of mortal sin, such as illegitimate marital unions or homosexual acts and partnerships, runs counter to the constant teaching of the Church.

Persons in the state of mortal sin lose sanctifying grace and with it the capacity to do anything with supernatural merit. In that state, the good deeds they practice are only natural good works without supernatural merit for heaven.⁷

For his actions to have supernatural merit, the sinner must leave the state of sin and recover sanctifying grace through repentance, confession, and a firm resolution to amend.

Also, it is necessary to consider the intention with which the natural good is performed. For, “an added bad intention. . . makes an act evil that, in and of itself, can be good (cf. Matt. 6:24).”⁸ Thus, if good natural acts—such as mutual care—are motivated by a sinful passion, then the goodness of such acts is corrupted by the intention that animates them.

Do Good and Evil Differ Only by Degrees?

Subjacent to the argumentation of the provisory document of the Synod is the concept that between good and evil, truth and error, virtue and sin there are only differences of degrees, of fullness. Therefore, good, truth and virtue are supposedly already contained in evil, error and sin, though in an embryonic state.

Now, this concept destroys not only logic, but even the foundations of morals.

In an interview on October 30, 2014, Raymond Cardinal Burke, former Prefect of the Apostolic Signature, said that to tell people in the state of mortal sin “that there are positive elements in the way they’re living, this is simply, it’s a contradiction. It doesn’t make any sense. It’s either gravely sinful or it’s not. I mean, this is the principle of non-contradiction. It’s fundamental logic.”⁹

For his part, Archbishop Stanisław Gądecki, the president of the Polish Bishops’ Conference, in an interview with Vatican Radio on October 13, 2014, said:

“The application of certain criteria in the discussion of the marriage and the family raises some doubts. An example

would be the criterion of gradualness. Can you really see cohabitation as gradualness, as a path to holiness?”¹⁰

The Final Document Fails to Correct Errors

Someone could say that this provisional document is not important because it is not final. But it happens to represent the thinking of the bishops and cardinals who, during the Synod, defended its dissonant statements in all liberty.

Furthermore, the final document, *Relatio Synod*, did not correct any of the above-mentioned errors. It left out praise of homosexuality but maintained confusion about persons living in concubinage, remarried divorcees, and other equally aberrant points. Although paragraphs 52 and 53 failed to muster two-thirds of the votes required for approval, they were still included in the final text by order of the Pope.

No. 52 in the final document reads:

“The synod fathers also considered the possibility of giving the divorced and remarried access to the Sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist. . . . Access to the sacraments might take place if preceded by a penitential practice, determined by the diocesan bishop. The subject needs to be thoroughly examined, bearing in mind the distinction between an objective sinful situation and extenuating circumstances, given that ‘imputability and responsibility for an action can be diminished or even nullified by ignorance, inadvertence, duress, fear, habit, inordinate attachments, and other psychological or social factors’ (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1735).”

Now then, it is useless to do penance without leaving the state of sin. In order for sins to be forgiven one needs to have true contrition, which implies detesting and abandoning sin. The Council of Trent teaches: “Contrition. . . is a sorrow of the soul and a detestation of sin committed, with a determination of not sinning in the future. This feeling of contrition is, moreover, necessary at all times to obtain the forgiveness of sins. . . The holy Synod, therefore, declares that this contrition includes not only cessation from sin and a resolution and a beginning of a new life, but also hatred of the old...”¹¹

Paragraph no. 53 reads:

“Some synod fathers maintained that divorced and remarried persons or those living together can have fruitful recourse to a spiritual communion. Others raised the question as to why, then, they cannot have access ‘sacramentally.’ As a result, the synod fathers requested that further theological study in the matter might point out the specifics of the two forms and their association with the theology of marriage.”

At the Extraordinary Consistory on the Family held on February 20th and 22nd, Cardinal Walter Kasper raised the thesis that, since persons in the state of mortal sin can receive spiritual communion, nothing should prevent them from receiving sacramental communion. Let us briefly deal with this sophism.

Spiritual Communion

To better understand what spiritual communion is, and why it is necessary to be in the state of grace to make it, it is helpful to recall some principles of sacramental theology.



Raymond Cardinal Burke gave several interviews showing his concern for the documents published during the Synod.

Some sacraments, such as baptism and penance, are called “sacraments of the dead,” because they restore the grace lost by sin (original or actual sin). The other sacraments, especially the Eucharist, are called “sacraments of the living” because they increase the grace already acquired, as they augment sanctifying grace.

Therefore, for people who are in the state of actual sin, the appropriate sacrament is penance, and not Eucharist.

Also, we have to distinguish the reception of the sacrament itself from the grace or fruit it produces. Someone who physically receives the Eucharist, no matter what his spiritual dispositions are, receives the body, blood, soul and divinity of Our Lord present in the sacrament. But, he who receives the Eucharist in the state of grace will receive the graces or fruits of this sacrament. Otherwise, if he receives It without the required dispositions (for instance, in mortal sin), he will receive the sacrament alone, but not the graces proper to It; worse, he will commit a sacrilege. Thus, being in the state of grace is necessary for receiving the graces proper to the sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

Now, suppose a person is in the state of grace, well disposed to receive Our Lord in the sacrament, but because of a circumstantial reason, such as lack of opportunity or not being able to make the Eucharistic fast, he cannot receive Holy Communion. If he ardently desires to receive It at least in a spiritual manner, this intense spiritual union with the sacrament enables him to receive the fruits or graces of the sacrament although not physically receiving It, similar to one who participates in baptism by desire.¹²

Since spiritual communion results in the reception of the fruits of the Holy Eucharist, and since it is necessary to be in the state of grace to receive the fruits of this holy sacrament, it is clear that the state of grace is necessary to make the spiritual communion. Otherwise it would be unfruitful and not efficacious.¹³

Thus, spiritual communion is not only a mere desire to someday receive Holy Communion or a mere act of love for Our Lord, but it is a concrete and immediate desire to participate in the fruits of Holy Communion.¹⁴

Therefore, the reasoning in the Synod’s final document that a person in the state of sin can spiritually communicate and therefore could also sacramentally communicate is groundless, for spiritual communion requires the state of grace.¹⁵

Carry on the Fight Even When Facing Setbacks

The Synod on the Family created a huge confusion in people’s consciences and favored the forces of moral dissolution and especially the homosexual movement.

But we must not become discouraged.

What is being imposed is the kingdom of lies, in which evil is called good and good is called evil, as the prophet Isaiah warned: “Woe to you that call evil good, and good evil: that put darkness for light, and light for darkness: that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter” (Isa. 5:20).

We have the truth, divine protection, and the intercession of Mary Most Holy. Even if the struggle is arduous and we suffer defeats, with the help of grace we will continue to fight. ■

Notes:

1. Cf. John 1:4,10; 8:44; 12:31; 1 John 2:16.
2. 2 Cor. 6:15.
3. Cf. Eph. 5:27.
4. Matt 5:37.
5. “Among those things which the Church has always preached and will never cease to preach is contained also the infallible statement by which we are taught that there is no salvation outside the Church.” Letter of the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office, August 8, 1949, to the Archbishop of Boston. Cf. Pope Pius IX Allocution *Singulari quaedam*, of December 9, 1854.
6. Pe. R. Garrigou-Lagrange O.P., *Fede*, “*Enciclopedia Cattolica*,” Città del Vaticano, 1950, col. 1081.
7. Cf. Msgr. Joseph Pohle, Ph.D., D.D., *Grace Actual and Habitual; A Dogmatic Treatise*, Third Revised Edition, W. E. Blake & Son, Limited, Toronto, Canada, 1919, p. 57.
8. CCC, n. 1753.
9. Cardinal Burke: “I’m Praying Very Fervently That This Coming Year This Confusion Will Stop,” : <http://cnsnews.com/news/article/terence-jeffrey/cardinal-burke-i-m-praying-very-fervently-coming-year-confusion-will>.
10. Archbishop Gadecki: Document of the Synod of Bishops Unacceptable

For Many, <http://rorate-caeli.blogspot.com/2014/10/the-great-division-wojtya-nation-to.html>.

11. Denzinger, n. 897.

12. Cf. Saint Thomas, *Summa Theologica*, III, q. 80, a.1, ad 3.; Council of Trent, Decree of the Most Holy Eucharist, Chap. 8, (Denzinger 881).

13. Cf. Felix Capello, S.J., *Tractatus Canonico-Moralis De Sacramentis*, Vol. I, n. 524; Aertnys-Damen C.S.S.R., *Theologia Moralis, Tomus II*, n. 135, Scholion; Francis D. Costa, S.S.S., “Nature and Effects of Spiritual Communion,” Lecture at the Thirteenth Annual Convention of The Catholic Theological Society of America, June 23-26, 1958, at <http://ejournals.bc.edu/ojs/index.php/ctsa/article/viewFile/2463/2092>, accessed Mar. 12, 2014.

14. Some modern theologians and even some magisterial documents use “spiritual communion” in a broad and non-technical sense of a mere aspiration to receive Holy Communion, different from the precise traditional meaning of an effective participation in the sacrament itself in a spiritual manner. Cf. IS SPIRITUAL COMMUNION FOR EVERYONE? by Paul Jerome Keller O.P., <http://chiesa.espresso.repubblica.it/articolo/1350958?eng=y>.

15. Cf. Luiz Sérgio Solimeo, Can Someone in Mortal Sin Receive Communion?, <http://www.tfp.org/TFP-home/catholic-perspective/can-someone-in-mortal-sin-receive-communion.html>.

THE OCCULT AND SATANISM IN AMERICA

BY REX TEODOSIO



This article-report is based on studies by the author as well as an interview with ex-satanist Zachary King. It is meant to raise awareness regarding the growing popularity of the occult and satanism in America, its threat to our children and how society is being transformed to be more accepting of the devil.

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Few Americans took notice that in the last U.S. census of 2010, witchcraft had become the fourth largest religion in the United States. As shocking as that may be, satanism has become just as popular. So says Zachary King, one of the most renowned former satanists who converted to the Catholic Church, in an interview he gave to *Crusade Magazine*.

Does the Devil Exist?

When we speak of the occult and satanism, many readers may have the impression that we are talking about the fabled bogeyman. The bogeyman is in everyone's nightmares, but it doesn't really exist. According to a Gallup poll in 2003, only 70% of Catholics believe in the existence of the devil, which is only 2% higher than the average American.¹

Most Catholics do believe that the devil exists, but is largely absent from their lives. Or perhaps, for our peace of mind, we would like to think he is only distantly involved. Some would rather not talk about it. After all, one of the maxims of the American way of life is "Live and let live." Let the devil be and hopefully, with a wing but no prayer, he will leave us be.

In a four-hour interview with former

satanist Zachary King, a lot was revealed about the activities and growing popularity of satanism in America. The interview also showed that children are at a high risk of getting involved in the occult and how much the world is becoming more accepting of the devil. Far from sleeping, the devil has been awake and quite active.

A Former Satanist Converts

Zachary King converted to the Catholic Church in 2008. His conversion story, which involves the miraculous medal, is a fantastic story in itself, but it is not the focus of this article. He was a former sa-



Zachary King was a high wizard before his conversion to Catholicism in 2008.

tanist who reached the degree of high wizard in the World Church of Satan. A high wizard is hand selected by the top leaders. If a satanic high priest is more or less equivalent to a Catholic priest, a high wizard is more or less equivalent to a mystic saint. In this position, he traveled extensively to perform satanic rituals for politicians, CEOs, TV producers and artists. His more than twenty-six years of deep involvement in satanism has given him insight into this secretive world.

A Blurry Line

The occult and satanism are nothing new. Many times the distinction between the two is blurred even by authorities who have studied both, since, by their very nature, both deal with the devil, though occultists may not always perceive it as such. This is evident in the book written by Mr. Luis Solimeo and Mr. Gustavo Solimeo, *Angels and Demons*. Mr. King himself first dabbled in the occult before being recruited into satanism.

Defining the Occult

The occult is as old as the first temptation in the Garden of Eden when the serpent tempted Eve to become like God by

A symptom of the dechristianization of society can be seen in the multiple controversies and lawsuits against the erection of monuments to the Ten Commandments which occur in cities all across America.



Ever since the fallen angels were expelled from heaven, they seek to destroy God's creation by turning man away from God to the point of worshipping Satan himself, the ultimate enemy of God. (Illustration by Gustave Doré.)

merely eating a fruit. Mr. James R. Lewis, the second most prolific writer on the occult, has a long list of occult movements which includes Wicca, Druids, Voodoo, Brujeria/Santeria, the garden variety of New Age religions, astrologers, psychic readers, spirit mediums, among other less known sects. The terms “witchcraft” and the “occult” are synonymous. Occultism can be defined as the movement of people who believe in harnessing the power of spirits or nature through the use of herbs, crystals, amulets, incantations, symbols and spells for either “good” or “bad” effect.

The practice of the occult has always been popular and public throughout history. We see the practice in different forms like the priests of the Pharaoh whom Moses fought, Simon the Magus whom Saint Peter confronted, or the druids Saint Patrick challenged. Occultism was universally prevalent in pre-Christian times.

Defining Satanism

Satanism can be considered as ancient as the revolt of Lucifer and his angels against God. The former light bearer, as the name Lucifer signifies, deceived a third of the heavenly host and led a revolt against God. There are many variations of satanism according to Alfred E. Waite, the most published authority on the occult and satanism. In his book, *Devil Worship in France*, he defines satanism as the movement of people who imitate the fallen angels and declare allegiance to Lucifer as a form of defiance to God.

Whereas the occult is an indirect, albeit sometimes unsuspecting, worship of the devil, satanism is its unabashed counterpart. As Mr. King noted, “the occult dabbles with the power of the devil

many times not knowing it.” “Satanists, on the other hand,” he continues, “embrace it fully and openly.”

The presence of satanism has not been as obvious as that of the occult throughout history. “All the gods of the gentiles are devils (Ps. 96:5),” say the Scriptures. However, satanism, per se, is the open worship of the devil, and, as such, if it did exist as a movement, was completely secretive in the past.

The Shift in the Soul of Western and Christian Man

The practice of the occult began to diminish markedly as Christianity spread, especially in the lands where it took root. Superstitions were replaced by the true Faith. Pagan rituals were replaced by prayers and the sacraments. The paranormal activities worked by invoking spirits were replaced by miracles wrought by novenas, prayers and devotion to Mary, the angels and the saints. Miracles abounded during the Middle Ages, a period when saints, imbued by a true Christian spirit, walked the land.

Something changed in the lands where Christianity once flourished. Today, the influence of the Christian faith is much diminished in society. The appeal of witchcraft and, consequently, devil worship returned.

Bishop Fulton Sheen made the saying popular that the greatest trick the devil played on mankind was to make us believe he doesn't exist. The trick seems to have changed. The devil is now playing a new and improved trick on mankind.

The Resurgence of the Occult and Satanism

According to the above-mentioned 2010 census, there are more people involved in the occult in America than there are Muslims or Jehovah's Witness. Compare this to polls in 1980 when the people who affiliated themselves with the occult were so statistically small, no specific data was assigned to them. They were grouped with Muslims, Buddhists, Unitarians, and others, which altogether was only 2% of Americans.²

The tally of the number of satanists is harder to come by. According to Zachary King, his conservative estimate is about 4 million in the United States and about 10 million worldwide.

One reason why it's impossible to have hard figures on the number of sa-

tanists in America is because of the secrecy. The Church of Satan, founded by Anton La Vey, was the first of its kind to officially establish itself as a non-profit religious organization with the U.S. government on September 20, 1971 in California.

The Church of Satan ironically professes to be atheistic. In their belief system, the only god is oneself. The only sacraments are to pleasure oneself in any way imaginable. The only commandment is to do whatever makes you happy. Curiously, however, in their private rituals, they constantly invoke Satan's name.³

The Black "Mass"

Perhaps another mark of their increased popularity is the controversy they have generated in the news lately. The satanists especially have been demanding public acceptance by trying to distribute books about the devil to school kids, putting up a public monument of Satan in Oklahoma City or setting up a "holiday" satanic display next to a nativity scene in the Florida state capitol.

The greatest controversy in 2014 was regarding the satanic black "mass." On May 12, 2014, Harvard University scheduled a "reenactment" of a black mass. It was canceled by the school due to overwhelming protests. It would have been the first black mass offered to the public in the world.

In September of 2014, a satanic black mass was performed in Oklahoma City's Civic Center where the admission was opened to the general public. In that sense, it was the first public satanic black mass celebrated in history. It was a public act in a public venue offered to the general public. It was the first time in history that Satan could be worshipped in broad daylight before the whole world. Previously, all satanic activities were done as privately as possi-

ble, in basements or in rooms with covered windows, and in the middle of the night.

Shockingly, Zachary King notes that a black mass is much more common than people think. Many high priests will perform it every night starting at midnight, the witching hour, and conclude at 3:00 a.m., the inverse time of Our Lord Jesus Christ's death on the cross.

What is a satanic black mass? Mr. Alfred E. Waite, author of *Devil Worship in France* (1886), described it as a ritual based on the Catholic Mass. It is not based on Jewish or Muslim services, nor Buddhist or Hindu rituals, not even Protestant services.

The following is a list of rituals done in a satanic black mass compiled from the writings of Mr. Waite and confirmed by Mr. King.

Just as the Holy Mass is celebrated on top of an altar containing a relic of a martyr, satanists perform theirs on top of an undressed woman of ill repute. Just as we humble ourselves repeatedly invoking God's mercy, they offer their acts of constant revolt in imitation of the devil. Just as Jesus is offered as a sacrifice, they offer human or animal sacrifices. Just as we lift our hearts and minds to God asking His presence, satanists repeatedly implore and demand the presence of demons. Just as we fill our naves with sacred music and chants, they fill theirs with weird music, a gong sounding every time the name of Satan is invoked. Just as we direct our prayers to God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the angels and saints, they direct theirs to Satan,

the demons in hell and the damned souls in hell, especially those who committed particularly heinous sins on earth, like Cain and Judas. In addition, Mr. King added that he even witnessed some satanists pray the rosary completely in reverse, starting from the last word, "Amen," and ending with "Hail."

Litmus Test: the Sacrilege with Consecrated Hosts

Here is the worst part and what seems to be the main point of their ritual. Just as we receive Holy Communion, believing the consecrated host to be the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ and are encouraged to offer acts of faith, adoration, love, thanksgiving, reparation and petition, the satanists, too, receive "communion." Real satanists insist on using a real consecrated host. They then spit Our Lord on the ground, trample all over Him, all the while screaming blasphemies and profanities at Him.

In his book, Alfred E. Waite writes that in order to form a partnership with the "lost angels" one must please Satan. Since Christ is the enemy of Satan, the sorcerer must outrage Christ, especially in His sacraments. Because of this they insist on using a consecrated host and they obtain this by stealing It.

A priest in France wrote last year about a former satanist who claimed he could tell a consecrated host from an unconsecrated one. This convert claimed that if you put a consecrated host on a table along with ten unconsecrated ones, he could pick out the consecrated one without hesitation. When

Although not all pro-abortionists are satanists, the connection between abortion and satanism is not surprising. During satanic rituals, aborted babies are offered as human sacrifices to the devil.





PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. *Amen.*

Saint Michael is called the Prince of the Heavenly Host and Protector of the Universal Church.

the priest asked how that was possible since there is no physical difference, the former satanist said he could do this because of the intense hatred he felt towards that one species.⁴

Satanism and Abortion

Another shocking aspect of a black mass is the use of abortion. A common image used to portray abortion is that of the false god Moloch whose statue's mouth is shaped like a burning furnace where babies are thrown in as a sacrifice.

Done completely under the protection of the law, satanic high priests today will assist in an abortion and offer the killing of the baby to the devil. Lawyers are consulted to make sure everything is done according to the law. In addition, many high priests dedicate all the abortions in the world to the devil every night during the witching hour.

Explaining the Shift in the Soul of Western and Christian Man

How did this shift happen? How can society today accept or be indifferent to such heinous acts?

In his masterful book, *Revolution and Counter-Revolution*, Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira analyzes the modern-day cri-

sis and explains the changes in the soul of Western and Christian man.⁵

Prof. Corrêa de Oliveira explains how society was transformed in five stages. The historical reference point of his analysis is the High Medieval Ages when the Gospel of Christ pervaded all of culture and society. During this time, the practice of the occult existed, but it was extremely unpopular and it was never public.

The first changes started with humanism and Protestantism in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. We see during that time the resurgence of the Greek and Roman deities. As Prof. Corrêa de Oliveira says, "The thirst for earthly pleasures became a burning desire. Diversions became more and more frequent and sumptuous, increasingly engrossing men. . . Hearts began to shy away from the love of sacrifice, from true devotion to the Cross, and from the aspiration to sanctity and eternal life." He called this the First Revolution.

The Second Revolution is the French Revolution. In this period we see the

proclamation of the goddess of reason. Mr. Waite noted the growth of popularity of the occult and devil worship during this period.

The Third Revolution is the Communist Revolution. Though communism never promoted witchcraft and devil worship, it tried to abolish religion and establish materialism. In all the nations where the errors of communism spread, as predicted by Our Lady at Fatima, the role of God diminished and the role of atheistic materialism increased.

The Fourth Revolution, as defined by Prof. Corrêa de Oliveira, is the Cultural Revolution. During this phase we begin to see the rise of New Age religions and the occult.

All the previous four stages progressed towards one finality: the end of Western and Christian civilization.

What shifted in the soul of Western and Christian man is the influence of Jesus Christ and His cross in the hearts of modern men. The whole revolutionary process attempts to reverse the fruit of Our Lord's death on the cross which inspired and is the foundation for Christian civilization. We now live in a civilization where more and more Christian values are being eroded and persecuted, and anti-Christian values are being promoted.

Before the author of *Revolution and Counter-Revolution* died in 1995, he prognosticated that the Fifth Revolution would be the Satanic Revolution.

Hope in Face of the Advancing Satanic Revolution

Within the context of the struggle with the devil, sometimes we are tempted to think that God is an "equal opportunity employer." God set an enmity between the woman and the serpent in the book of Genesis. There is a "competition" between the two factions. Sometimes we have the impression that God abides by

Something changed in the lands where Christianity once flourished. Today, the influence of the Christian faith is much diminished in society. The appeal of witchcraft and, consequently, devil worship returned.

the rule of fair play. There are rules in this “competition” and both sides are given equal opportunity to make their play. Or, so, some may think.

This is not the case. There is no parity between the devil and Our Lady. She was given a super abundance of graces, supernatural gifts and spiritual qualities. She is superior in every spiritual sense to the devil. She has proven this to us again and again.

This is one of the reasons why the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property always makes the effort to spread devotion to her Immaculate Heart through our America Needs Fatima campaign. It is also one of the main reasons why we promote the Public Square Rosary Rallies every year. Even as the occult and satanism grow in popularity and Christianity is increasingly being persecuted, we are confident in the fulfillment of her prophecy at Fatima that her Immaculate Heart will triumph.

Where is the hope in face of the resurgence of the occult and the coming Fifth Revolution, the Satanic Revolution? Even though the media and Hollywood do not give it much notice, the signs of Our Lady’s actions are out there.

A big sign is the 12,269 Public Square Rosary Rallies held in 2014. Crowds from 10 to 500 gathered in public squares all across the country praying the rosary for the conversion of America. This movement has grown from 2,000 rallies to over 12,000 within less than ten years. This is a big sign that Our Lady is active.

Another sign is the increasingly warm reception given to America Needs Fatima Custodians who take replicas of the most famous statue of Our Lady of Fatima to homes around the country. About 2,000 talks were scheduled in 2014. America Needs Fatima members host the statue in their homes, inviting family, friends, neighbors, parishioners and, sometimes, complete strangers for a presentation about the prophecies of

Our Lady of Fatima and how to pray a rosary. Here, too, we see the Blessed Virgin Mary very active.

Other signs of hope are the conversions. Zachary King converted in 2008 by an extraordinary grace from Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. He and his wife now spend their time giving talks about the dangers of the occult and satanism. His main devotions now are to the Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady.

Another prominent convert is Blessed Bartolo Longo (1841-1926) who became a model of piety. At his conversion from satanism, he dedicated the rest of his life to expiating for his sins. At one point, he was tormented by doubts that the devil still owned his soul and that nothing he could do would save him from that. At the height of this temptation, he heard in his ear a promise that said, “One who propagates my rosary shall be saved.” From then on, his mission became clear: to spread devotion to the Holy Rosary. He restored a painting of *The Virgin of the Rosary* which became the focus of this devotion in the region of Pompei. The church that houses this painting was raised to a minor basilica.⁶

My Hope with This Article

I pray that this article acts as a warning siren to America. It is not meant to be sensational. It is meant to warn America that the storm is here. The Satanic Revolution, the fifth and final stage of the process of the Revolution, is here and attracting a following. We need to be aware of its dangers. We need to be



Our Lady of the Apocalypse, who hurls the chained serpent into the abyss, is the patroness of Quito, Ecuador.

spiritually prepared for it as best we can.

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

I pray that America does not forget the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this onslaught. As Mary said at Fatima, to convert the world, “God wants to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart.” ■

Notes:

1. <http://www.gallup.com/poll/7858/Devil-Demographic-Details.aspx>.
2. <http://www.gallup.com/poll/1690/religion.aspx>.
3. http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Satanism:_An_interview_with_Church_of_Satan_High_Priest_Peter_Gilmore.
4. <http://saintfactory.com/satanism-the-eucharist>.
5. <http://www.tfp.org/books/rcr.pdf>.
6. <http://www.santuario.it/fondatore/bioafia.html>.

Mr. Zachary King dedicates himself to a ministry warning people of the dangers of the occult and satanism. He is available for talks or consultation. Contact him at **mysticforGod@yahoo.com** or **(802) 578-6554**. Visit his website at **www.allsaintsministry.org**



One in Spirit with the 2015 Pro-Life Marchers!

For those who could not make the trip to Washington, D.C. for this year's March for Life, America Needs Fatima made it possible for them to be there—at least in spirit. A special banner with their printed names was carried in solidarity with the hundreds of thousands of pro-lifers marching down Constitution Avenue on January 22, 2015.

The annual march up to the steps of the US Supreme Court affords the growing number of pro-life Americans the opportunity to remember the more than 56 million babies so far who never saw the light of day. Their lives were cut short through the legalization of abortion on demand made possible by the infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision handed down on January 22, 1973.

Through their persistent efforts, pro-lifers across America have achieved significant victories in the struggle against abortion thus far. Public opinion has seen a favorable shift; laws have been passed to prevent abortions in several states; a young generation of pro-life Americans continues to grow, promising a bright future for a culture where every child is welcomed and protected.

But the excitement and privilege of marching with the thousands of pro-lifers in Washington, D.C. on a usually cold winter day are not always available to many Americans prevented from going due to the distance or other factors. An ingenious idea from America Needs Fatima made it possible for them to



America Needs Fatima volunteers carried a banner with the names of over 9,500 ANF members and supporters who could not be present at the March for Life.

”participate” by having their names printed on a large banner which was carried along with the thousands of similar banners and signs proclaiming the sanctity of human life. In a way, this spiritual solidarity facilitated their unity with those who were physically present that day, along with their common hopes and prayers for a cause so dear to their hearts. ■



A Special Ornament for a Special Christmas Tree

In this age of commercialized Christmas, a simple gesture made with the right intention makes the celebration of the birth of the Savior more meaningful and appropriate. Such was the case when America Needs Fatima members and supporters mailed in their specially designed Christmas tree ornaments to be hung on a giant Christmas tree at ANF headquarters in Spring Grove, Pa.

There are many kinds of Christmas ornaments usually hung to symbolize people's wishes, hopes and dreams. But an ornament to symbolize one's love for the Mother of God and her Divine Infant Son is, of course, the most fitting. This year, the Christmas tree at ANF headquarters was dedicated to all of America Needs Fatima's custodians who tirelessly travel the country to spread Our Lady's message of hope and love. Their dedication and sacrifices made to reach as many homes as possible are key to achieving ANF's mission: to capture the heart and soul of America with the message of Our Lady of Fatima.



Hundreds of ornaments decorated the special tree at the ANF headquarters honoring Our Lady's holy maternity and Our Savior's birth.

And so as symbols of gratitude to all the custodians and also for their own personal intentions, these unique Christmas ornaments hung on this year's Christmas tree at ANF headquarters. They also served as symbols of ANF's commitment to each member and supporter of the America Needs Fatima campaign to continue the fight against evils that confront us, such as blasphemy, attacks on marriage and other sins that threaten to corrupt our children. ANF director Robert E. Ritchie expressed his deep appreciation to all those who participated in this special project. ■

PRAY A PUBLIC ROSARY

SAVE THE FAMILY

Rally Captains Needed to Lead a Public Rosary for God's Marriage



The traditional family and the very notion of God's marriage as the union of one man and one woman is being confused, attacked and undermined.

America Needs Fatima is spiritually fighting back by organizing 500 rosary rallies on **Saturday, March 21, 2015**. Our goal is to ask God and the Blessed Mother to strengthen and save our families.

Please join this spiritual offensive by becoming a Rally Captain and leading a public rosary for God's marriage in your town.

For more information on how to conduct your rally, please contact Mr. Francis Slobodnik at our rosary rally central office at (866) 584-6012.



CUSTODIAN'S CORNER

Converted by the Rosary

BY KENNETH MURPHY

The great promoter of the rosary, Saint Dominic, promises that Our Lady will give signal graces to anyone who faithfully recites the rosary each day. After mentioning this at a Fatima home presentation my gracious host, Mr. Gregory Kenna, interrupted me to share a personal experience to prove the saint's claim.

He began by saying that when he was a young man he attended a seminary to determine if he had a vocation to the priesthood. While there he met Alan, a fellow seminarian but also a convert to the Faith. Alan had been an atheist with atheist parents and siblings who especially misunderstood devotion to Our Lady and the rosary.

One day while debating the value of the rosary, a neighbor challenged Alan to stand by his words: "If the rosary really is as useless and ineffective as you think, then you shouldn't be afraid to try it for a month." Eager to prove that the rosary could have no effect, Alan accepted the challenge and prayed the rosary each day for a full month. To his amazement answers



Fatima Custodian Kenneth Murphy.

to his objections to Catholicism came to his mind. His anti-Marian bias faded and he willingly continued to pray after the month was over.

Before long instead of repeating objections, Alan was asking questions. Thanks to the preparedness of his

Catholic friends to answer those questions and his daily rosary, Alan was eventually welcomed into the fold of the One, True Church. He not only became Catholic, but became an Oblate at the seminary.

Saint Dominic was right and the rosary can guide us all if we recite it each day. ■

To schedule a Fatima visit in your home, call (888) 460-7371.



When writing your WILL...

Please consider including America Needs Fatima. Your generosity will help win the future generations for Mary.

Call Louisa today at (888) 317-5571 to find out more!



Our Readers Write...



Testament of Mary

I am happy to see the pictures of the rally. I was there, but the first and last pictures show less of the participants because some have already left not knowing of the picture taking. I was behind the big banner. Sad to say, most of those who saw the blasphemous play were elderly and elderly couples.

I always pray and wish I could help in my own little way, and hope the TFP and ANF success in this Godly effort you and your brother John are doing for the salvation of lots of souls.

A. V.

My wife, granddaughter and I attended this protest event with Rosary



and prayers. I had a chance to talk to several ladies who came out after the play ended. They felt it was not a threatening play against the Blessed Mother. However, I indicated to them that this play distorts the Biblical facts, causes erroneous thinking and demeans the position of Our Blessed Mother. The play indicates that Our Blessed Mother had all these doubts

about her Son and that she ran away from the crucifixion, in addition to other errors in biblical history. This play obviously puts Our Blessed Lady in an improper light.

R. E.

Thank you for the feedback. . . I am happy to be a part of the America Needs Fatima campaign and the pictures are fabulous. Keep up the work of the Lord, my friends.

D. B.

Thank you for what you did representing our spiritual beliefs in Jesus and Mama Maria. Thank you for the pictures, and keeping us posted.

May God and Our Virgin Mary bless you! Thanks again!

E. A.

Reading the report from the on-site "Testament" Reparation, I was inspired by the enthusiasm and boldness of the protesters. I am deeply saddened by the response and animosity of the citizens of San Francisco.

R. Y.

I am bursting with pride in your defense of Our Blessed Mother's honor. I may not have been with you in person but I felt transported as I watched the video. Thank you and may the good Lord continue to shine upon all of your work and Our Lady of the Rosary watch over you.

J. D., Brisbane, Australia

This was an outstanding show of support for the Blessed Mother. God bless all of the protesters.

C. W., Via Email

Rosary Rallies

Thank you, Robert, for all your efforts. The Holy Rosary will save the world—keep up the good work! It has saved my life many times and I still trust that it will continue to protect me and my loved ones.

P. G., Via Email



Absolutely amazing! I was unable to participate, but I DID pray a rosary in public at that time. I am surprised, and thrilled, that there were TWELVE THOUSAND rallies. Whoa!! Awesome.

I. A., Via Email

I join you in prayer from Diemen, the Netherlands, where I live. I love our Mother profoundly and I have dedicated my soul to her Son and Herself. God bless you all!

S. M., Via Email

I have already been a captain of the rosary crusade for four years. It has been a wonderful experience and our blessed Mother Mary has blessed us in many ways. Thank you for all you do for our blessed mother Mary.

L. M., Via Email

Send us your feedback by writing to us at
Crusade@TFP.org



Christmas Open House 2014: POINTING *to the* SUBLIME

Hundreds gathered at the national headquarters of the TFP in Spring Grove, Pennsylvania, for the annual Christmas Party and Open House on December 14, 2014. Given the ongoing crisis in the modern world, more than one guest contrasted this with the truly sublime atmosphere present in every room of the main house, built in 1911, appropriately arrayed to give honor to the Christ Child.

The roaring fireplaces greeted guests as they entered, and festive carols filled the air, while enthusiastic Christmas greetings could be heard in every conversation. The impressive gingerbread houses and enticing Christmas treats enchanted young and old alike. New for this year was a tour of the old gardener's cottage, followed by the customary informative



walks through the rest of the estate.

Many return year after year to witness the true story of Saint Nicholas, a far cry from the caricature portrayed on television. Afterward, students from Saint Louis de Montfort Academy put on a play portraying Saint Francis before the sultan. The well-known saint took on a new light in the eyes of the audience as his bold defense of the divinity of Christ took center stage.

As the evening arrived and guests made their way back home, one gentleman put it very well as he leaned from his car saying, "There was no going-through-the-motions with this celebration. Christ was truly at the center of it all!" May all of us have the grace to truly keep Christ at the center of all we do throughout the year, so that His sublime grandeur can transform our fallen world. ■



A skit performed by the Saint Louis de Montfort Academy accompanied by caroling, music, and even a visit from Saint Nicholas were just some of the events that took place at the TFP headquarters.



Abortion Caused by Warped CULTURE OF UNRESTRAINT

How to Build a Pro-life Friendly America

If there is an image that corresponds to the state of the nation, it would be that of a cruise ship on a never-ending cruise. On each of its multiple decks, we find every modern comfort and entertainment. The bands are playing, the theaters are full, the restaurants crowded, and the boutiques well stocked.

Cruises are normally celebrations for special occasions, but this party cruise is different. Over the decades, many have come to see the cruise not as a holiday, but as an entitlement; it is no longer an exceptional event, but the norm. Rather than leave the ship, many seek instead to prolong the party on board without worrying about a final destination, or who will pay the bill.

* * *

Thus read the introductory paragraphs of the book, *Return to Order: From a Frenzied Economy to an Organic Christian Society—Where We've Been, How We Got Here and Where We Need to Go*. This image is a fitting way to explain the present moral crisis. We can see abortion and other moral evils as major consequences of a culture of unrestraint like that found in the cruise ship's party atmosphere.

Rejecting a Culture of Unrestraint

On the occasion of the 42nd annual March for Life, the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) first and foremost joins with Americans nationwide as we stand up and repudiate the sin of abortion. However, we also invite all to consider the future of our cruise ship society and reject our culture of unrestraint that so facilitates the slaughter of innocents. If we are to turn the tide (as we must), we need to have the passion



An enormous amount of young and enthusiastic college and high school students marched in defense of life.

and courage to defy our cruise ship culture, and say "Enough!" We must be willing to declare the party is over.

Returning to Order

The pro-life call must be a call to return to order. It would only make sense given that order involves the arranging of things according to their nature. Thus, this social order that comes from our human nature itself is valid for all times and all peoples. This Christian order is not something new but is a return to our distant roots. It involves returning not to an historical past but a return to a core of ordering principles that brought us so many of the institutions that are now fading—rule of law, representative government, the traditional family and Christian charity.

Pro-life Americans have won stunning victories by shutting down innumerable clinics and raising a new pro-life generation to guarantee our future. We need to take these efforts one step further by rejecting the culture of unrestraint in all of its manifestations.

Above all, we must be convinced that any return to order involves a return to God. With this conviction, we can be confident that God and His Blessed Mother will come to the aid of those who rally to their cause. In the end, we have the certainty confirmed by Our Lady herself at Fatima that the final result will be the triumph of her Immaculate Heart. ■

*The American Society for the Defense of
Tradition, Family and Property (TFP)
January 22, 2015*

An estimated 500,000 pro-lifers
attended the March for Life.

March for Life in
Washington, D.C.,
January 22, 2015.



Boys Who Want *the* Highest Ideals

BY JOHN RITCHIE



TFP IN
ACTION

Few places rival the rugged, yet majestic, beauty of the Ozarks where TFP-Louisiana held its latest Call to Chivalry Fall Camp for young men and their dads. The location of the camp, perched on the edge of the Buffalo River in the heart of the Arkansan Ozarks, was perfect for the five-day adventure.

Unencumbered by the distractions of the Wi-Fi culture, everyone was able to enjoy conversation without being tethered to smart phones or other electronic gadgets. What freedom! Like the majestic flight of the bald eagle which so aptly represents the most noble traits of the American soul, Catholic boys and dads gathered not for a vacation, but to soar higher and learn more about Catholic history and those saintly role models who have the enduring ability to inspire men to embrace heroism.

Daily Adventure

For five brisk autumn days, the camp schedule followed a manly routine. Bagpipes sounded morning reveille. Shortly after, bedrooms were meticulously inspected. The occupants of each log cabin cooked their own breakfast. Next, everyone formed outside for the raising of the flags. Before the papal, American and TFP flags, the Creed was sung in gregorian chant. Talks, presentations, the recitation of the rosary, games and outdoor activities followed.

Meanwhile, between activities and talks, the dads were busy at the river despite a cold, driving rain. But thanks to Saint Peter, patron of fishermen, seventy-five trout were soon reeled in and reserved for the special banquet.

Keynote Talk:

The Siege of Vienna, 1683

As TFP-Louisiana president Mr. Thomas Drake remarked, “we live in increasingly dangerous times for the Faith. We hear about the sufferings and persecutions of Christians in many parts of the world. Through social media we can even witness the death of Christians killed by groups like the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). The glossy cover of the October issue of ISIS magazine shows the black Islamic flag flying over St. Peter’s Square in Rome; inside are continuous statements of ‘we will take Rome.’”

In 1683, the same challenge to Christendom rang throughout the Islamic Ottoman empire. The sultan ordered his commander-in-chief to bring the pope back to Istanbul in chains. The pope at the time was Blessed Innocent XI. An enormous invading force of 150,000 jihadists besieged Vienna, the gateway to the rest of Europe.

“The Pope sent a Capuchin friar, Blessed Marco d’Aviano, to preach throughout Europe for a Christian de-

fense force,” explained Mr. Drake. “Many did not listen, but others did. And just as Vienna was about to collapse, a relief force lead by the King of Poland, the Duke of Lorraine and Blessed Marco d’Aviano arrived on. . . September 11.”

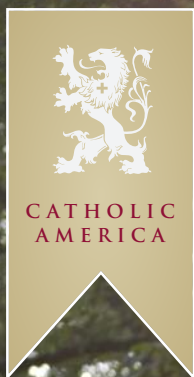
Vienna was the high-water mark of Islamic conquest of Christian lands. A holy pope, a holy Capuchin friar, and “a few good men” held back what the liberal media today would proclaim as the “unstoppable march of history.”

Modern-Day Call to Chivalry

May God continue to inspire young Catholic men to answer the Call to Chivalry. Like the knights of old, let us turn to Our Lady, Queen of Crusaders, and ask her to grant us all the necessary graces to defend the values of Christian civilization at a time when the forces of darkness conspire to destroy it. ■

Fall camp 2014 was marked by its challenging games, adventurous hikes, captivating talks and solemn rosary processions putting into practice Saint John Bosco’s words, “Work hard, play hard, pray hard and sleep hard.”





A MEDAL, A VISION, A CONVERSION

BY ANDREA F. PHILLIPS

Claude Newman was a twenty-year-old African American who, in 1943, awaited execution in a prison in Mississippi. His crime was that of ambushing and shooting a man named Sid Cook, his beloved grandmother's abusive second husband.

One day, noticing a medal hanging around the neck of a fellow prisoner, Claude asked the young man what it was. The latter responded by casting the medal to the ground with a curse saying, "Take it."

The medal was a Miraculous Medal of Our Lady of Graces, and though knowing nothing about it or who it represented, Claude picked up the oval trinket and hung it around his neck.

A Vision

During the night, Claude was awakened by a touch on his wrist to behold a glowing vision whom he later described as "the most beautiful woman that God ever created."

The lady calmed the frightened man and said, "If you would like me to be your mother, and you my child, send for a priest of the Catholic Church." And she disappeared.

"A ghost, a ghost!" screamed Claude, at the same time clamoring for a Catholic priest.

The next morning Father Robert O'Leary, SVD, (who later wrote the story) was summoned.

After listening to the extraordinary account, he found that Claude was illiterate, and knew nearly nothing about religion. So he proceeded to carefully catechize not only him but four other inmates who were deeply impressed by Claude's account. Occasion-

ally, two sisters from Father O'Leary's church joined the catechetical team.

Heavenly Insights on the Sacrament of Confession

Several weeks later, when Father introduced the sacrament of confession, Claude volunteered, "Oh, I know about that! The Lady told me that when we go to confession we are kneeling down not before a priest, but before the cross of her Son. And that when we are truly sorry for our sins, and we confess our sins, the Blood He shed flows down over us and washes us free from all sins."

The priest and nuns were stunned at this new revelation. Seeing their surprise, Claude heartily apologized, "O, don't be angry, don't be angry. I didn't mean to blurt it out!"

But assuring him that he was far from angry, Father O'Leary asked Claude if he had seen the Lady again.

Taking the priest aside, the young man said, "She told me that if you doubted me or showed hesitancy, I was to remind you that lying in a ditch in Holland in 1940, you made a vow to her which she's still waiting for you to keep."

This revelation convinced Father of Claude's claim. In fact, during the war, O'Leary had promised to build a church in honor of the Immaculate Conception, a promise he fulfilled in 1947. This church stands to this day in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

As Father and Claude returned to the class on confession, Claude told his classmates, "You should not be afraid of confession. You're really telling God your sins, not the priest. You know, the



Before his execution, when asked by the sheriff if he had any final request, Claude asked to have a party.



Lady said that confession is something like a telephone. We talk through the priest to God, and God talks back to us through the priest."

On the Holy Eucharist

When about a week later Father O'Leary and the sisters were preparing to teach on the Blessed Sacrament, Claude asked if he could share what the Lady had told him about the Eucharist. The catechist joyfully acquiesced, and Claude related, "The Lady told me that in Communion, I will only see what looks like a piece of bread. But she told me that It is really and truly her Son, and that He will be with me just as He was with her before He was born in Bethlehem. She told me that I should spend my time like she did during her lifetime with Him, in loving Him, adoring Him, thanking Him, praising Him, and asking Him for blessings. I shouldn't be distracted or bothered by anybody else or anything else, but I should spend those few minutes in my thoughts alone with Him."

Baptism and a Party Before Execution

Finally, the catechumens were received into the Church. The baptismal records of St. Mary's parish (Vicksburg) record Claude's baptismal day as January 16, 1944. He was scheduled for execution on January 20th.

As Sheriff Williamson asked Claude if he had a last request, he couldn't believe the answer:

"Well, all my friends are all shook up. The jailer is all shook up. But you don't understand. I'm not going to die; only this body is. I'm going to be with her. So, then, I would like to have a party."

And so, he had his party with cake and ice cream and his fellow inmates were allowed to attend.

Execution

On the morning of execution, Claude was full of joy. As he prepared with Father O'Leary, Sheriff Williamson rushed in shouting that the governor had granted a two-week reprieve. To his amazement, Claude broke down in sobs, inconsolable, crying:

"But you don't understand! If you ever saw her face, and looked into her eyes, you wouldn't want to live another day! What have I done wrong these past weeks that God would refuse me my going home? Why, Father? Why must I still remain here for two weeks?"

Then Father O'Leary had an inspiration.

There was a prisoner, James Hughs, who, despite having been raised Catholic, had led a horribly immoral life, and was also on death row for murder. James had a particular hatred for Claude, and all priests as well.

Father O'Leary then proposed that Claude offer his disappointment on not being executed that day for Hughs' conversion, which Claude did, generously offering his prayers and last two weeks for the salvation of his fellow inmate.

Finally, Claude was executed on February 4, 1944.

Father O'Leary testified: "I've never seen anyone go to his death as joyfully and as happily. Even the official witnesses and the newspaper reporters were amazed. They said they couldn't understand how anyone could sit in the electric chair beaming with happiness."

To Heaven, But Not Alone

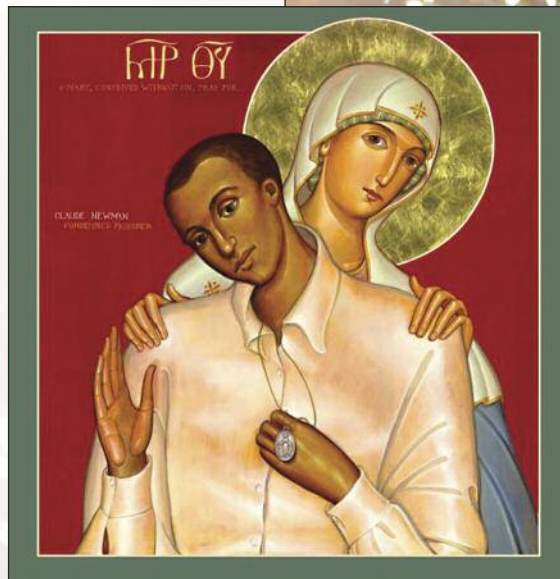
When the time came for James Hughs to be executed, he violently refused all spiritual assistance, cursing and blaspheming even while seated on the electric chair. He was asked if he had a last word.

Suddenly, looking to a corner of the room, there was a surprised, then horrified, look on his face, and he shouted, "Get me a priest!"

Father O'Leary, who was in the room, approached and heard the man's full confession.

Then Sheriff Williamson, who could not bear his curiosity, asked the condemned man what was in the corner. James explained that he had seen Claude Newman and the Blessed Virgin behind him, her hands on his shoulders. Then, Claude had obtained from Our Lady that he, James, have a glimpse of his place in hell. That's when, filled with horror, he demanded a priest.

Once again the simple wearing of the Miraculous Medal of Our Lady of Graces called down Our Lady's maternal gaze, and saved not only one, but many souls in that Mississippi prison. ■



An icon depicting Our Lady and Claude Newman with the Miraculous Medal by Brother Claude Lane, OSB.



STAT CRUX DUM VOLVITUR ORBIS

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer. Behold, the devil will cast some of you into prison that you may be tried: and you shall have tribulation. . . Be thou faithful until death: and I will give thee the crown of life. —Rev 2:10

BY MICHAEL SANTANA

Times are tough, and I don't mean the economy. I mean that our mother, the One, Holy, Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church, suffers. Tossed by outward and inward storms, the sacred bark of Peter traverses the dark, convulsed waters of an age that scorns truth and abolishes morality. The Church was born of the pierced side of her crucified Founder, and from the start she has faced fierce persecution, as well as unrelenting heresies that did their utmost to sink her throughout her entire history. When Our Lord made Peter the captain of His holy bark, and promised that "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt 16:18), He later made an important addendum: "...and behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world." (Matt 28:20) This was His personal guaranty.

* * *

On this page we print two drastically different photos: one of the catacombs when the young Church was hunted to the death, and so met in the underground cemeteries of Rome; and another of St. Peter's Basilica rising majestically over the same pagan Rome that swore to stamp out the name "Christian." It was on a soil drenched with the blood of martyrs that the Church rose triumphant as a queen, and has inspired the most beautiful civilization of all: Christendom.

While walking through the catacombs, one senses a spiritual link to those brothers and sisters who, inebriated with the blood of the Lamb, shed their own blood so that you and I could profess today the same pristine, unadulterated Faith. We pray to those same faithful souls, who endured so much persecution, to strengthen our

Faith through what may be called so far, the Church's darkest hour.

Our Divine Lord did not promise His bride a smooth ride: "If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you." (John 15:20) The modern age persecutes the Church and her perennial doctrine because, being the bride of Truth Himself, she cannot make room for any error.

No matter what the Church goes through, we must remember that our fidelity is above all to Christ and His divine bride, to her tradition and perennial teachings. As the storm rages and thickens, let us not doubt. It is easier for the ocean to drain, than for the bark in which Christ sleeps to sink.

In the center of St. Peter's Square an obelisk stands several feet high, topped by a cross. At the bottom, the observant tourist can read the following inscription: *Stat crux dum volvitur orbis*, or, "the cross stands while the world is turning." ■



Santa Priscilla catacomb, Rome, Italy.