

July/August 2010

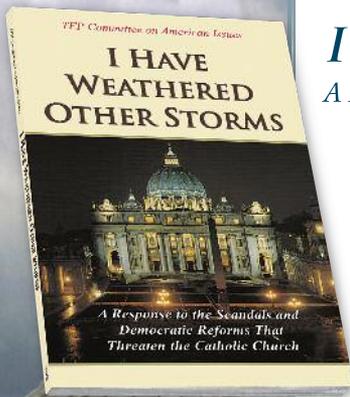
CRUSADE[®]

MAGAZINE



TRADITION
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GABRIEL GARCIA MORENO—
Faith, Order and Progress



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I HAVE WEATHERED OTHER STORMS

A Response to the Scandals and Democratic Reforms That Threaten the Catholic Church

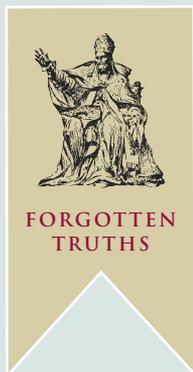
Scandals and complicity have left the Catholic Church vulnerable to attacks by reformists. Sexual-abuse victim/survivor groups and progressivist organizations target the Church. They seek an end to the Church's divinely instituted hierarchical form of government and clamor for an egalitarian, desecralized and "democratic" Church governed by the laity.

I Have Weathered Other Storms aims to dispel some of the confusion and the climate of intense emotion warping the debate. It states succinctly the Catholic principles and points of doctrine most challenged in the current fracas, including:

- Why Our Lord permits crises in the Church
- Why the presence of sinners among the faithful, even among the clergy, does not taint the Church's holiness

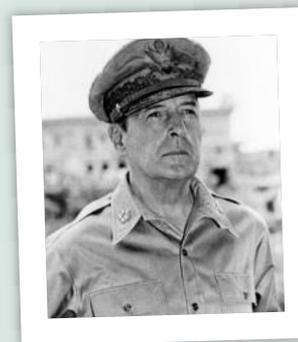
- Why the Church is monarchical and hierarchical, and not a democracy
- The origins and reasons for clerical celibacy
- The office of bishop
- How the sexual-abuse victim/survivor groups advance an agenda
- A theological-historical analysis showing the impossibility of the ordination of women
- The media's role in the present crisis and the shoddy theology of newspaper reporters
- Reformists' misuse of the principle of subsidiarity in assailing the principle of authority in the Church
- How the Church has survived other attempts to "democratize" its governing structures

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We Grow Old by Deserting Our Ideals*

BY SAMUEL ULLMAN



General Douglas MacArthur

Youth is not a time of life.
It's a state of mind.

It's a test of the will, a quality of imagination, a vigor of emotions, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over love of ease.

Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years.
People grow old only by deserting their ideals.
Years wrinkle the skin but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.

Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair . . . these are the quick equivalents of the long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whether 70 or 16, there is, in every being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement of the stars, and the star-like things and thoughts, the undaunted challenge of events, the unflinching childlike appetite for "What Next?"

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt, as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear, as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

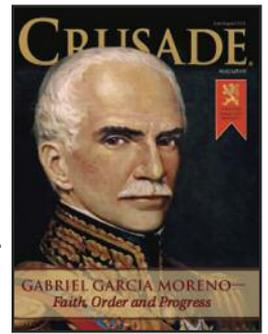
So long as your heart receives messages of beauty, cheer, courage, grandeur and power from the earth, from man and from the Infinite, so long are you young.

When all the wires are down, and all the central places of your heart are covered with the snows of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then, and only then, are you grown old indeed, and may God have mercy on your soul. ■

*General Douglas MacArthur was so inspired by Samuel Ullman's poem that he popularized it and kept a framed copy in his office while Supreme Allied Commander in Japan. He quoted it so often in his speeches that it became known as "MacArthur's Credo."

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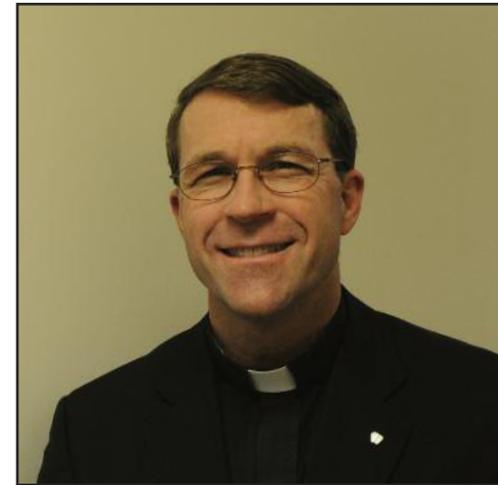
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Crusade Magazine is a publication of The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP). Direct all requests and inquiries to: *Crusade Magazine*, P.O. Box 341, Hanover, PA 17331 or e-mail to: crusade@TFP.org. Web: www.TFP.org. Tel.: 888-317-5571, Fax: (570) 450-6352. © 2010 by The Foundation for a Christian Civilization, Inc. This publication may include images from iStockphoto™ which are protected by copyright laws of the U.S. and elsewhere. ISSN 1096-3782 LCCN 98-641433 M-106

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 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

Nobody Came to this Homosexual “Marriage” Rally

According to the Associated Press, a march protesting the rejection of homosexual “marriage” by popular vote in Maine has been postponed indefinitely. The “Maine Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Civil Rights March” was to begin on May 28. However, on the march’s Web site, a notice stated there was not “enough participation from grassroots organizers on the ground within Maine itself to give it a life of its own.”

Abortion-on-Demand Leader Fears for the Future

Nancy Keenan, the president of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, told *Newsweek* in April that she considers herself part of the “postmenopausal militia,” the aging baby-boomer activists who grew up fighting passionately for abortion on demand. In contrast, she remarked, “There are so many of them, and they are so young,” referring to the approximately 300,000 attendees of 2010’s March for Life and in regard to the pro-lifers she met personally that day.



Euphemisms Make a Difference

Two CBS polls, conducted earlier this year, show that almost a quarter of Americans are more accepting of homosexual behavior when using the word “gay.” The first CBS poll asked, “Do you favor or oppose homosexuals serving in the military?” to which 34 percent said they “strongly favor” and 19 percent said they “strongly oppose.” The second CBS poll asked, “Do you favor or oppose gay men and lesbians serving in the military?” to which 51 percent “strongly favor” and 12 percent “strongly oppose,” an increase in favor by 17 percent and a decrease in opposition by 7 percent.

What Fidel Castro Thinks of Obamacare

According to an Associated Press report released in March, Castro hailed the passage of Obama’s healthcare package as “a miracle,” and saw it as “an important battle and a success of government” that will strengthen the president’s hand against lobbyists and “mercenaries.”



Agencia Brasil

“Honor Killing” in the Religion of Peace

Faleh Hassan Almaleki has confessed to the premeditated murder of his daughter, Noor Almaleki, in October 2009. Originally from Iraq, Faleh Hassan claims he had to carry out the “honor killing” because his daughter had disgraced the family by not following traditional Muslim values. According to a report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, an estimated annual 5,000 “honor killings” occur globally, most of which are carried out by family members.

Homosexual “Marriage” Course in Catholic University

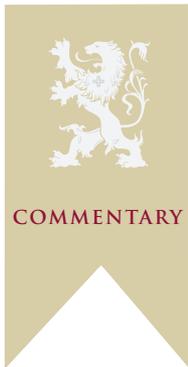
According to an article published by *The Setonian* on April 15, a course on homosexual “marriage” will be offered next semester at Seton Hall University, a Catholic university in New Jersey with approximately 10,000 students. The course will be taught by Professor King Mott, a pro-homosexual activist whose biography, posted on Seton Hall’s Web site, mentions his affiliation with Lambda Legal, Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies, and Human Rights Campaign—groups that promote ideas contrary to Catholic moral teaching. Although the article in *The Setonian* affirms that the planned classes will not be used as an advocacy tool, many find the assertion very hard to believe.

Bill to Bankrupt the Church Fails

On April 30, Democratic Senator Mary Ann Handley withdrew a Connecticut bill that would retroactively lift the statute of limitations in civil child sexual-abuse cases, because the bill lacked support. According to Connecticut’s bishops, the bill would have had a devastating financial effect on the Church and parishes around the state. As part of the effort to defeat the bill, the American TFP published a full-page ad, “Is it Fair That the Innocent Pay for the Guilty?” in *Newtown Register* and *The Hartford Courant* explaining its profound concerns with the nationwide effort by liberal Catholics to retroactively lift the statute of limitations.



For more news stories, visit www.tfp.org/news-commentary.



Global Warming Advocates Can't Take the Heat

BY JOHN HORVAT

Times are not too kind to global warming advocates. Besieged by reports of data falsification and shoddy academic work, they are facing a crisis of credibility that, to use their rhetoric, might well be of “apocalyptic” proportions.

One case in point is Phil Jones, head of the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England. Until recently, Mr. Jones basked in the limelight for sounding the alarm about the rise in temperature owing to anthropological global warming coming from First World industrialized countries. He was hailed as the environmental “savior.”

A Convenient Truth

Today, the limelight may be a little too bright for Mr. Jones. He is at the epicenter of the Climategate scandal that started after CRU e-mails were hacked and published all over the world. The result was a global meltdown of CRU's position as blatant falsification of data and cover-ups were exposed. The world now knows the truth.

Those close to Mr. Jones say he needs medication to get through the day or to fall asleep. He has considered suicide, shakes often and is noticeably paler than normal. There is no doubt he has aged considerably since this whole affair went public. He is the object of online cutting remarks, provocative insults and even death threats. He spends most of his time sitting in on hearings held by an investigative commission at the University of East Anglia, and in British Parliament that is now scrutinizing his work.

This is the man who only a short while ago went on record as saying, “I am 100 percent confident that the climate has warmed.

I did not manipulate or fabricate any data.” He further claims that the “average temperature on earth rose by 0.166 degrees Celsius per decade between 1975 and 1998.”

Now, no one trusts him anymore. Having fed the world shoddy data based on his agenda, he feels the wrath of a public that has suspiciously viewed “global warming” as the junk science they always suspected it was.

Shoddy Work and Intentional Spin

Mr. Jones is not alone. Behind the efforts of his CRU is the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a U.N. sanctioned organization that does not carry out original research, monitor climate or related phenomena itself. The organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize along with former Vice President Gore in 2007.

IPCC Chairman Rajendra Pachauri has long echoed the alarmist declarations of the global warming crowd. He warns, for example, of the risk of not taking action, “Every

The result was a global meltdown of the Climate Research Unit position as blatant falsification of data and cover-ups were exposed.

year of delay implies a commitment to greater climate change in the future.”

However, the methodology and assessments of the IPCC have long been questioned. The organization has admitted, for example, that it falsely asserted that all the Himalayan glaciers would be completely melted by 2035. Yet another report found that IPCC's panel wrongly said that more than half of the Netherlands would be below sea level. Still others complain that the agency frequently uses “gray literature” data that has



A paralyzed Washington, D.C., near DuPont Circle during the second of three American blizzards in 2010.



Cute polar bears, once the poster cubs of global warming activists, are now more numerous than 30 years ago.

not been scientifically verified. While the panel has brushed off such glacier meltdown errors as minor, there is a growing consensus that the climate research establishment has been corrupted by politicization. Remarks by Chairman Pachauri, calling scientific evidence criticizing the IPCC as “voodoo science,” have not set well with the public in general, and have given the skeptics exactly what they are looking for.

It is no wonder that the United Nations

foundation. All too frequently, the industrialized nations come out badly in these studies while less developed nations will definitely profit. There are certainly incentives beyond scientific research for reaching the “right” conclusions.

Cap-and-trade policy is now big business. Nations like the Maldives, for example, could gain much aid from an alarmist perspective of a dramatic rising of sea levels. Perhaps that is why President Mo-

has appointed a council comprising a coalition of 15 national academies of science that will review IPCC’s shoddy work. But, one might ask, who will watch the watchdogs?

The charges of politicization are not without

hamed Nasheed has accused the United States of engaging in intrigue to make climatology appear ridiculous, even calling such criticism “a diabolical plan.”

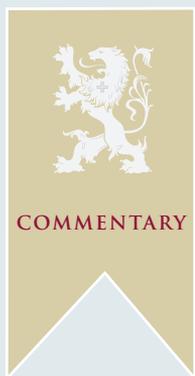
Junk Science in Need of Recycling

Climategate could not have come at a more inconvenient time for the green agenda. Like the freezing winter storm that marked the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December 2009, the scandal has put a chilling damper on the global warming advocacy. The discrediting of the IPCC and similar groups has even led to the abandoning of their “global warming” mantra for a more generic “climate change.” It is evident what was once regarded as scientific research has now become junk science in need of recycling. ■

It is evident what was once regarded as scientific research has now become junk science in need of recycling.

Reflections on the Sexual-Abuse Scandals in Europe

BY LUIZ SÉRGIO SOLIMEO



We should begin by stating outright that there is nothing so heinous than the sexual abuse of a child. No one has been more severe against this than Our Lord Jesus Christ, “But he that shall scandalize one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea” (Matthew 18:6).

Thus no one should have more indignation and severity against this kind of abuse than Catholics. This indignation is compounded if the perpetrator is someone who, by his Holy Orders or religious vows, established a special relationship with the Savior and assumed a special commitment whereby he symbolizes the teachings and morals of the Di-

vine Master. For this reason, devout Catholics consider these scandals not only as a criminal offense but also a heinous sin.

We must not also forget these acts were tolerated by some ecclesiastical authorities or covered up by them. Some of the criminal priests were transferred from one parish to another, sometimes committing the same odious acts again. In light of these facts, all parties concerned must be censured and punished, but not the institution itself, which is holy, hierarchical and instituted by its Founder.

Act Two of the Same Play?

The similarity of the present uproar with the American crisis in 2002 leads us to ask if the present ef-

forts, and especially those attempting to involve the pope, do not also point to some de facto association among liberal journalists and dissident Catholics in an attempt to change the Church to a democratic type of ecclesiastical government. The similarities of the tactics used appear to be acts from the same play.

This possible association does not diminish either the gravity of the sins committed or the holy indignation merited by the scandals. However, it does explain some aspects of the worldwide campaign circulating the same suggestions and pressures to change the Church.

The principal media organ that is leading the latest uproar in Europe is the German weekly magazine *Der Spiegel*. In its online English edition, there are articles titled, "Shame and Fear: Inside Germany's Catholic Sexual Abuse Scandal,"¹ which is signed by the "Spiegel Staff."

The article describes several abuse cases in shocking graphic details while the article's anti-Catholic and anti-clerical approach is also clear. It presents the Church as an outdated institution with repressive morals. It cites the Church's position on homosexuality, celibacy and its hierarchical structure as the cause of the pedophile scandals. They quote dissident theologians such as Hans Küng and Eugen Drewermann as "experts" and refer to fringe groups like We Are Church to opine about the type of Church that needs to be established.

The article criticizes the "Catholic Church's claim to being a superior moral authority."² For *Der Spiegel*, the sexual scandals are the fruit of the Church's "repressed



Much of the media uproar has been wrongly directed against Pope Benedict XVI personally.

sexual morality that is dictated from above."³ Former Catholic theologian Hans Küng gives his opinion, "If you are forced, by virtue of your profession, to live a life without a wife and children, there is a great risk that healthy integration of sexuality will fail, which can lead to pedophile acts, for example."⁴ The opinion of ex-priest Eugen Drewermann finds fault with a "church structure that is repressive in emotional areas and on questions of love."⁵

Another "expert" is Wunibald Müller, presented as a theologian and psychotherapist, and who defends homosexuality and "mystical eroticism." He claims, "[t]he experience of pain and suffering can lead us to God, but so can eroticism and sexual passion."⁶ He sees

no problem with sexual relationships, but only with "an 'immature homosexuality' that makes some priests 'susceptible' in their interactions with young people."⁷

Finally, the dissident movement, We Are Church, cites "a structural problem, in which strict sexual morality and an authoritarian system combine to form a dangerous mix."⁸

Echoes All Over Europe

The *Der Spiegel* article is echoed all over Europe. We find the same arguments attacking Church morals and governing structures as those circulated in the United States in 2002 and in some cases by the same "experts."

Following *Der Spiegel's* example, Peter Popham, a religious writer for the English newspaper *The Independent*, wrote on March 15, 2010 a long chronicle of the clerical sexual scandals tinged with progressivist jargon, defending a "modernized" Church and even going so far as to call the pope a "former Nazi."

The Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* had an article on March 16, 2010, which noted "the [Catholic] progressivist movement 'Initiative Kirche von Unten' (Church from Below Initiative) asked directly for Benedict XVI's resignation. . . ." The paper also cited the dissident movement We Are Church.

Simon Sturdee of Agence France-Press on March 16, 2010 claims "[s]enior Church figures in Germany . . . called for priestly celibacy to be reviewed. . . ."⁹

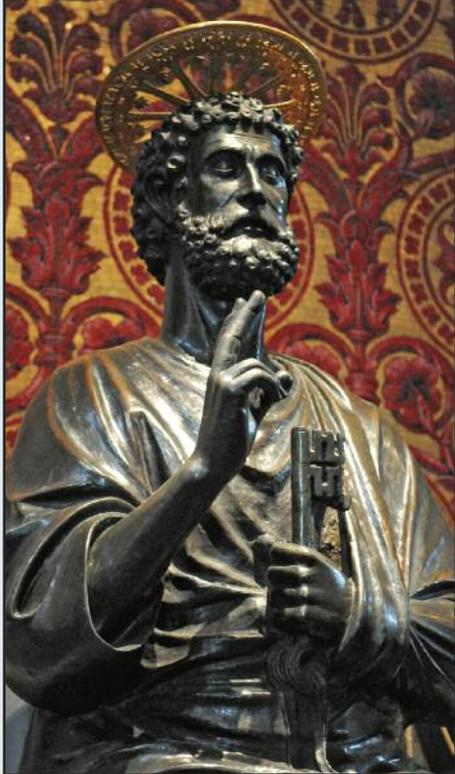
A very well-read English religious blogger who uses the pseudonym "Archbishop Cranmer" on March 16, 2010 reviewed the extent of the world media uproar and asked, "Is Pope Benedict XVI about to Resign?"¹⁰ He adds, "Well, he is under a little pressure[]" before introducing hyperlinks to his long list of articles.

Scandalous Coverage

Such coverage does not address the central issues. Instead of citing how the heinous crimes were committed and their cover-up go against Church teachings and structures, these self-proclaimed theologians and journalists allege that Church teachings and structures are the causes of the crimes! Instead of showing how unrestrained sexuality is part of the problem, these commentators



A westward view of the welcoming arms of Saint Peter's Basilica.



Our Lord promised Saint Peter that the gates of hell would not prevail against the Church.

It is not by breaking with the Church or dreaming up a different Church that we can come out of the crisis.

transform the Church's structure into something that is contrary to its traditions and the wishes of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

We note that Pope Benedict XVI in his Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Ireland,¹² without mentioning liberal media or dissident Catholics, deals with the issue in a serene and supernatural manner that is so contrary to the "scandal-mongering" tone of the media and dissidents. God is not found in sensationalism and agitation.

To Chastise but to Give Hope

The pope's letter chastises those priests and bishops responsible for the scandals. It uses powerful language to qualify their actions, and supports canonical and civil sanctions against them. At the same time, he does not abandon them, and insists on the power of repentance and penitence united with the sufferings of Christ since there is no sin without pardon.

The letter emphasizes the need to return to the Faith, a true life of piety, devotion to the Blessed Mother and Blessed Sacrament, and a greater love for the Church. It is not by breaking with the Church or dreaming up a different Church that we can come out of the crisis.

He counsels all Catholics everywhere that, "[a]s you take up the challenges of this hour, I ask you to remember 'the rock from which you were hewn' (Is 51:1)." Catholics should remember the Faith of our fathers and all that the Church has done: converting the pagans and barbarians, creating the institutions like hospitals and universities, and reaching out to the poor.

suggest ending the "sexual repression" as part of the solution.

Moreover, we ask why *Der Spiegel* and so many other publications only talk about clerical sexual scandals as if the clergy was the only cause of the sexual abuse of minors.¹¹ With such inconsistencies, we ask if the international media uproar over the clerical sexual scandals is being done for the good of the Church and the faithful.

The Spirit of God Is Not in Sensationalism

In the book *I Have Weathered Other Storms—A Response to the Scandals and Democratic Reforms That Threaten the Catholic Church*, the TFP Committee on American Issues had already denounced in 2002 the liaison of liberal media with dissident Catholics who take advantage of the tragedy of sexual abuses and attempt to

The Church Has "Weathered Other Storms"

Yes, the Church has "weathered other storms." In the midst of the present crisis, we must follow Saint Paul's counsel, "Put you on the armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the snares of the devil." (Eph. 6:11). ■

Notes:

1. "Shame and Fear: Inside Germany's Catholic Sexual Abuse Scandal," *Der Spiegel*, February 8, 2010, www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,676497_00.html.

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. *Ibid.*

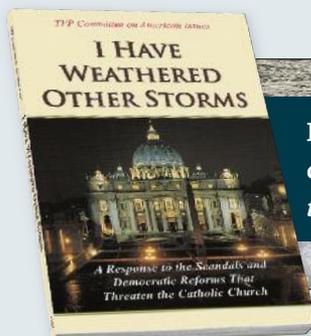
8. *Ibid.*

9. Simon Sturdee, "Under-fire pope urges youth to follow 'the call,'" Agence France-Press, March 16, 2010, www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5g_ICbQc_NQN7nCXilfXdGNBaH8JQ.

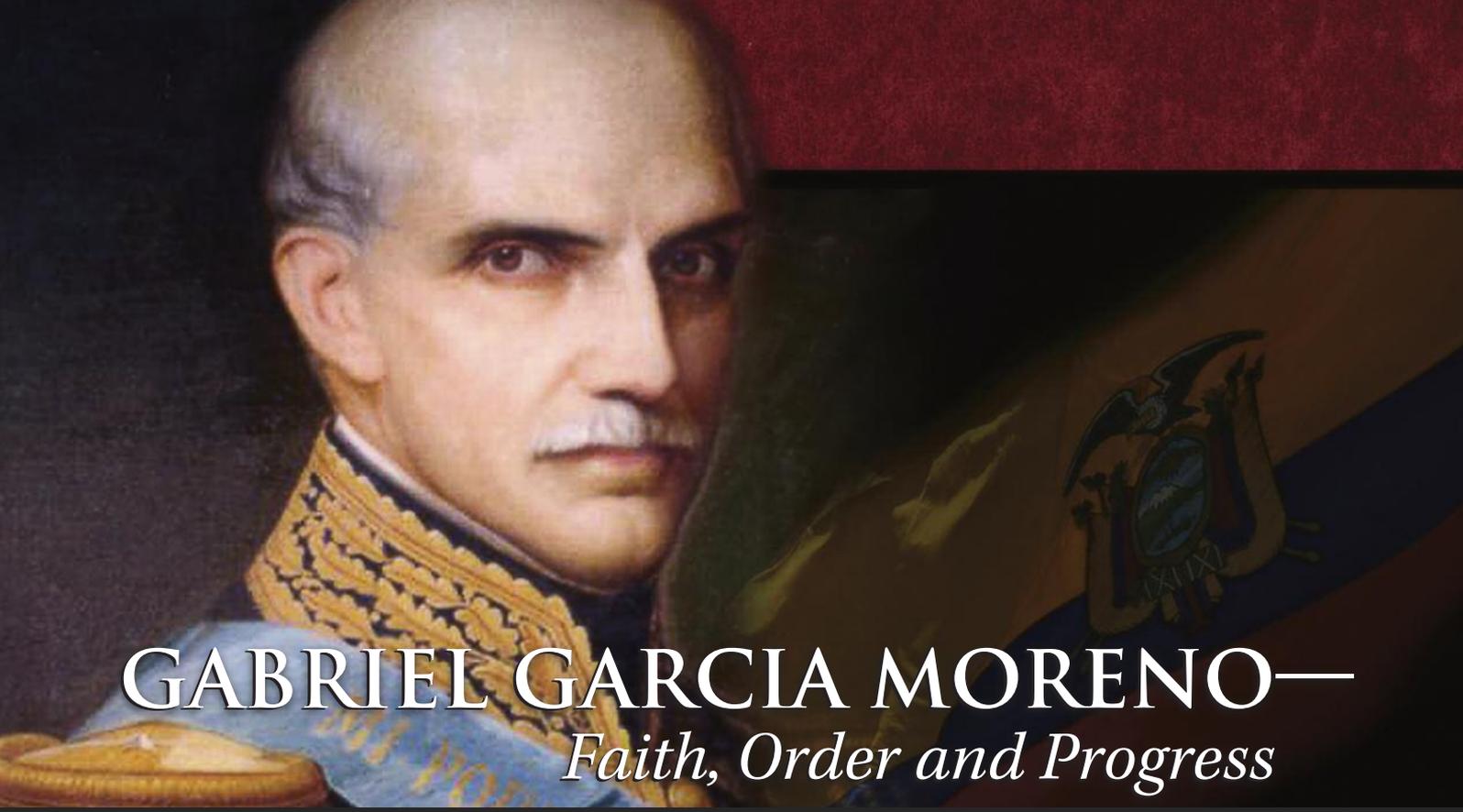
10. Archbishop Cranmer, "Is Pope Benedict XVI about to Resign?," <http://archbishop-cranmer.blogspot.com/2010/03/is-pope-benedict-xvi-about-to-resign.html>.

11. Luigi Accattoli, "Perché solo la Chiesa ammette i propri peccati?" *Panorama*, March 9, 2010, 9, http://www.liberal.it/media/340307/09_03_liberal_10.pdf; "Admirable operación—limpieza de Benedicto XVI," *La Iglesia en la Prensa* [On Catholic Church, journalism and more], <http://www.laiglesiaenlaprensa.com/2010/03/operaci%C3%B3nlimpieza-de-benecito-xvi.html>.

12. Pastoral Letter of the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI to the Catholics of Ireland, March 19, 2010, www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/letters/2010/documents/hf_ben-xvi_let_20100319_church-ireland_en.html.



Please visit <http://store.tfp.org/products/I-Have-Weathered-Other-Storms.html> or call (888) 317-5571 to purchase a copy of *I Have Weathered Other Storms—A Response to the Scandals and Democratic Reforms That Threaten the Catholic Church*.



GABRIEL GARCIA MORENO— *Faith, Order and Progress*

BY MICHAEL CHAD SHIBLER

There is an entirely false idea that is often repeated and promoted by modern secularists that the Catholic Church is and has always been contrary to progress. The Catholic Church, with its incomparable doctrines and immutable moral positions, is portrayed consistently as an old-fashioned institution incapable of coping with the tremendous changes of the modern era. This has even led false Catholics to challenge the Church's view regarding anything that does not deal with faith. These misled people forget that the Church's confident stance on complicated moral issues has been developed over the last 2,000 years with divine help and its decisions have all been subjected to the vigorous and unforgiving test of time.

A quick perusal of any modern history book gives an impression that when the Church became involved in the moral guidance of nations the result was misery for the poor, gross corruption by the clergy and industrial stagnation. These same history books are sure to contain lurid tales about crimes committed by the Spanish Inquisition yet they gloss over the horrific crimes of the French Revolution, Stalin's purges or Pol Pot's reeducation camps. The truth about history is that whenever the Church's guidance was replaced in civil society by the "will of the people" chaos was the rule of the day. Ecuador's history is a good example of the radical contrast between the Catholic and so-called liberal rule.

In the Midst of Turmoil . . .

Ecuador, in the middle of the nineteenth century, was a piteous country with bloody civil wars and public corruption being the order of the day. Ecuador was coming apart at the seams as one unelected president after the other made himself and his cronies rich at the expense of the national treasury. Things went from bad to worse under anti-clerical dictators like Juan José Flores and José María Urbina, and there was no end to the rampant atrocities. Rich and poor alike were robbed regularly and sometimes killed by marauding bands of irregular soldiers, religion was brutally repressed and the press was completely silenced. Such were the bitter fruits resulting from the actions of men who boasted loudly that liberty and equality were their supreme goals.

Then in 1859, at the height of the misery and chaos, there came a ray of hope for Ecuador. A young man with a profound faith and tremendous willpower appeared on the political scene wishing to bring the bandits to task. Gabriel Garcia Moreno had long been involved in Ecuador's politics without actually entering government. His early activism was limited to attacking the governing party's corruption in the press, which resulted in his being exiled twice. However, events forced him to lay his pen aside and defend his high ideals with the sword. Although untrained in war, he clearly understood that armies win battles not by using brute force alone but by extraordinary valor and good leadership.





The Battle of Guayaquil was the final and pivotal battle of the Ecuadorian Civil War.

After gaining an unlikely military victory in the uprising against the dictator Urbina, he was voted to head a triumvirate charged with reforming the constitution and voting procedure. Upon completion of this task, he stepped down, only to be elected unanimously by the people as their new president despite his protests. The next fifteen years were a period of remarkable progress. Although Garcia Moreno did not remain in office for the entire time, his contributions to Ecuador's peace and development were manifest.

Bringing Order Out of Chaos

Garcia Moreno's first agenda was to put down the rebellions crippling Ecuador. This he did with such tact and forceful energy that soon his mere presence without troops in any part of Ecuador was enough to put the rebels into a panic. The military was reformed gradually to become a small but well-trained force of dedicated men instead of a ruthless band of poorly paid rogues. Military discipline was imposed with severe penalties for misconduct and disrespect of authority. Under these conditions the tiny army finally became an asset rather than a liability to Ecuador.

Next, Garcia Moreno cracked down on corrupt judges who had long abused their power, and then reformed the system for governmental appointments. Positions of power were given to competent men of proven honesty rather than to the highest bidder, and the rampant practice of nepotism was limited severely. Garcia Moreno led the fiscal reform in government by refusing any payment for his services during his first term. His response when pressed by his friends to take a salary was, "I am president, not to enrich myself but

to serve my country."¹ Finally, several unjust taxes were repealed and the massive foreign debts of his unethical predecessors were repaid, thereby restoring foreign trust in the Ecuadorian economy.

Garcia Moreno ruled with a compassionate iron hand. He was inflexible and his judgments were swift toward those found guilty of brigandage, murder and rebellion. However, he was forgiving to a fault the minute he sensed remorse. For example, having captured the chief of a notorious band of bandits, he had the wretch brought in chains to the presidential palace. The man was shaking when Garcia Moreno approached but instead of a severe sentence, the bandit was offered a reprieve. Garcia Moreno promised the bandit total amnesty on the condition he would return to his band and convince them to give themselves up. If they did, all their crimes would be pardoned and every effort would be made to reintegrate them into society. Soon the threat hanging over travelers for so long had dissolved. So effective were his methods of reforming criminals that by 1875 there were only 50 convicted prisoners remaining in Quito's jail.

Uniting the Country

The common people, so long used to political instability and strife, understood they had a paladin in Garcia Moreno and began to work the land again. Therefore, to take full advantage of the fruits of this era of peace and prosperity, Garcia Moreno set an audacious goal to connect Guayaquil and Quito with a highway. Facing criticism and opposition from his friends and enemies,

Garcia Moreno not only completed the highway in ten years but opened four other major roads to the rest of the country at the same time. Father Berthe in his biography of Garcia Moreno wrote, "Agriculture and commerce, finding these openings for their produce, at once devoted themselves to production and Ecuador woke up from a sleep [that] had lasted a thousand years."²

Garcia Moreno cracked down on corrupt judges who had long abused their power, and then reformed the system for governmental appointments.

Presidential Charity

As a good Catholic, Garcia Moreno was solicitous to the poor, the sick and his enemies. Having been given a large sum of money to entertain the diplomats and senators by his wife, Garcia Moreno proceeded to the poorest hospital in Quito and bought a delicious meal for all the patients. On another occasion he arrived unannounced at a hospital that was notorious for its tasteless food. Finding the food indeed unpalatable he promptly had the problem corrected to the point it rivaled the food on his own table. It is a matter of his-

Garcia Moreno's secret to success can be found in this simple phrase of Christ, "Seek ye first the kingdom of Heaven and all other things will be given to thee."

torical record that his entire presidential salary was given over to charities, and after his death it was discovered he had arranged for the upkeep of the aged mother of his worst political enemy.

A National Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Garcia Moreno's secret to success can be found in this simple phrase of Christ, "Seek ye first the kingdom of Heaven and all other things will be given to thee."³ He achieved his audacious goals by ordering all things according to the will of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He believed, as does the Church, that any civil society that does not acknowledge the King of Heaven cannot truly progress. Thus in 1874, in an official ceremony attended by the ecclesiastical and civil authorities, Ecuador was consecrated officially to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The liberals protested that this act was a step backward and would ruin Ecuador. However, Ecuador did not regress and from that point on all undertakings seemed to flourish in an incredible way.

Because of the constant upheavals during his predecessors' reign, the state of public education was at a nadir when Garcia Moreno began to tackle the problem. He first started with primary education, making it mandatory for all children older than eight years to attend school. To alleviate the pressure upon the various religious orders caused by this expansion, he opened a college to train laity for the teaching profession. Then he sent for teaching orders from Europe, like the Christian Brothers, to work in secondary schools. He finally focused his attentions on the college level by inviting the Jesuits to open a university in Quito and later colleges in the other major cities. His zeal was infectious, and the nation finally began to shake off its liberal

coma and take a serious attitude toward public education.

A quick look at the numbers is illuminating. In 1873, there were approximately 8,000 children in the primary schools but just two years later, thanks to Garcia Moreno's efforts, there were over 32,000 children attending school. After six years of intensive schooling, there was more real progress in Ecuador than had occurred in the previous 50 years of revolutionary rule. Sadly, after Garcia Moreno's death, Ecuador returned to a primitive state of schooling by expelling most religious orders from their schools and replacing them with revolutionary teachers. The poor and the Indians, who had gained the most from the dedication of the religious orders, were relegated again to second-class citizenship without the benefit of public education.

Economic Development

The national finances under Garcia Moreno improved dramatically since trustworthy individuals were placed in positions of authority. Whereas previous liberal regimes had thrived upon rampant corruption, under Garcia Moreno's firm hand, public officials soon realized that such infractions were not tolerated. Thus the treasury was filled for the first time in Ecuador's history and the lot of the common people improved dramatically. Again, some numbers may help. "Between 1852 and 1890, Ecuador's exports grew in value from slightly more than US\$1 million to nearly US\$10 million. Production of cacao, the most important export product in the late nineteenth century, grew from 6.5 million kilograms to 18 million kilograms during the same period."⁴ Under no other ruler in its entire history has Ecuador developed economically at the pace it did during the administration of its truly Catholic president.

The Leftists React

So what was the response of the high-minded liberals in face of such obvious



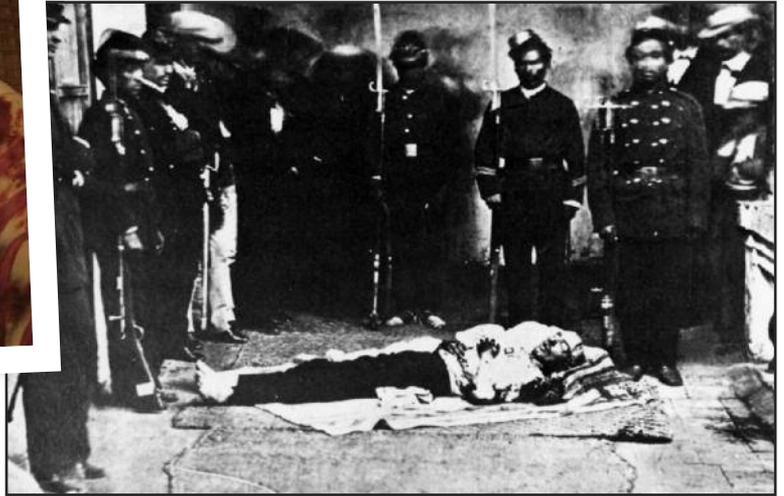
The Basilica of the National Vow was built overlooking Quito to commemorate the Consecration of Ecuador to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Directly on the other side of the valley is a statue of Our Lady of Apocalypse.



The Presidential Palace in the center square of Quito.



Above: A painting illustrating Garcia Moreno's painful death. **Right:** A photo of Garcia Moreno, who was murdered on his way to the Cathedral to adore the Blessed Sacrament.



progress? Was it to put aside prejudice and admit that a truly Catholic state could indeed bring a nation forward? Of course not. Modern liberals will never admit that anything good can exist outside of their twisted and perverse parameters of absolute equality and liberty. When faced with proof of evident progress by a Catholic society, the liberals' response to all the benefits Garcia Moreno had bestowed upon Ecuador was to plot his ruin. But Garcia Moreno was not afraid, for he had learned long ago from Our Lord's divine example that true glory cannot be attained in this world, and so he prepared himself for the blow.

On August 4, 1875, Garcia Moreno sent an acquaintance a letter in which was written these prophetic words, "¡Adios! We shall never meet again on earth . . . I am about to be assassinated but I am happy to die for my Faith."⁵ Two days later, Garcia Moreno returned home before going to the presidential palace. Sinister men shadowed Garcia Moreno's every move and arranged themselves throughout the main plaza facing the Palace. Leaving home unattended, Garcia Moreno then made his way to the Cathedral to adore the Blessed Sacrament. The assassins, noting that he was spending a long time in prayer, sent a messenger into the church to call him out. Seemingly oblivious to the mortal danger, Garcia Moreno had only one aide-de-camp with him.

"God Does Not Die!"

With savage cruelty, a man named Faustino Rayo attacked Garcia Moreno with a machete and struck a terrible blow on the head. Reeling and blinded by his own blood, Garcia Moreno tried vainly to draw his pistol while the other assassins shot him. After striking Garcia Moreno twice more, severing his left arm and right hand, Rayo and his vile band again leveled their pistols. Garcia Moreno was knocked into the street motionless. Rayo, however, was not satisfied, for he attacked Garcia Moreno once again shouting, "Die, destroyer of liberty!"⁶ Garcia Moreno's dying words for all to hear were, "God does not die!"⁷

Garcia Moreno's Story

Modern liberals clamor loudly for social justice, harmony and peace. Garcia Moreno brought all these to Ecuador. His reward was a cruel death at their hands. He did not believe in absolute liberty, rather he believed that freedom was necessary for good to flourish. One of his most memorable quotes says it all, "Liberty for everyone and for everything, except for evil and evil-doers."⁸ In a truly Christian civilization, evil has no rights and those who practice evil are brought to justice. In our modern neo-pagan society it would seem that not only does evil have rights but people who practice evil do so with impunity. However, though modern society looks with benevolence upon every type of sin, the God of justice is neither blind nor deaf to the cries of the innocent.

The story of Garcia Moreno's heroic life, so full of Catholic spirit and charity, does not grace the pages of any American history book. Ecuadorians may forget his deeds one day. Liberalism has influenced us to such a degree that some may even think him to have been too anachronistic and backwards for the modern era, and therefore deserving of his fate. But even liberals cannot deny that Garcia Moreno strove mightily to bring to fruition that prayer of Our Lord in the Our Father, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." In these dark days, it is a consolation to remember the faith professed in his last words, "God does not die!" ■

Notes:

1. Father Augustine Berthe, *Garcia Moreno* (London: Burns and Oates, 1889), 278.
2. *Ibid.*, 276.
3. *Ibid.*, 278.
4. "The Era of Conservatism, 1860-1895," <http://www.hipecuador.net/ecuador/history/the-era-of-conservatism.html>.
5. Father Augustine Berthe, *Garcia Moreno* (London: Burns and Oates, 1889), 320.
6. *Ibid.*, 322.
7. *Ibid.*
8. Gary Potter, "Gabriel Garcia Moreno—Catholic Statesman and Martyr," <http://www.acla-inc.org/moreno.htm> (excerpts from an article that originally appeared in *From the Housetops* magazine).



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA®

July/August 2010

PROGRESS REPORT

Sparking Interest in Our Lady of Lourdes

BY ROBERT RITCHIE

A new type of mailing by America Needs Fatima is sending pouches of Lourdes water to 90,000 members. This holy water was brought from the miraculous spring at the Lourdes grotto where Our Lady appeared 18 times to Saint Bernadette in 1858. The mailing takes the opportunity to tell the story of the ninth apparition when Our Blessed Lady worked the miracle of opening the spring in the ground, which produces 15,000 gallons daily.

The water has cured thousands of people, but John Traynor's story, also recounted in the mailing, is one of 67 accounts accepted officially as miracles by the Church. No better story could have been sent to Americans in search for an encouraging story that will boost faith and increase devotion to Our Lady.

Mr. Traynor was a World War I soldier

from Liverpool, England, who suffered from epilepsy and life-threatening wounds from combat. He was helpless. He had to be lifted from his bed to his wheelchair in the morning and back into bed at night.

He heard that the Liverpool diocese was organizing a pilgrimage to Lourdes. He had always had a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin and was determined to join the pilgrimage. Although his wife, friends, his doctor and even a priest in charge of the pilgrimage told him the trip would be suicide, Mr. Traynor had made up his mind.

While in Lourdes he suffered several hemorrhages and several epileptic fits. His wife was notified there was no hope for him surviving and he would be buried in Lourdes. And yet, Mr. Traynor managed to bathe in the water from the grotto nine times.

One afternoon while he was in the bath, his paralyzed legs became suddenly agitated. He tried to get to his feet, but the attendants held him down. They dressed him, returned him to his wheelchair and hurried him to Rosary Square for the Blessing of the Sick where he recounts, "the Archbishop of Rheims, carrying the Blessed Sacrament . . . blessed the two ahead of me, came to me, made the Sign of the Cross with the monstrance and moved on to the next. He had just passed by when I realized that a great change had taken place in me. My right arm, which had been dead for many years,



One of the 90,000 pouches of water from the miraculous spring in Lourdes, France.

was violently agitated. I burst my bandages and blessed myself for the first time in years. I simply realized that something momentous had happened. I attempted to rise from my stretcher, but a doctor held me down and gave me a hypo."

Back in the hospital, the effect of the hypo wore off, and he jumped out of bed, ran to the grotto and knelt down, still in his nightclothes, praying to Our Lady and thanking her. When he got back to Liverpool, a huge crowd of people met him, along with his wife because the news had traveled that he no longer was in a wheelchair.

Later, he went into the coal-and-hauling business and had no trouble lifting 200-pound sacks of coal! He returned to Lourdes every summer and died peacefully in 1943. ■



America Needs Fatima volunteers filled these jugs, which were then brought to the America Needs Fatima headquarters for the mailing.

To read more stories like this one, please visit www.AmericaNeedsFatima.org/articles.html.



Anti-Catholic Cartoon Targets the Pope

BY KENNETH MURPHY

In April, the French magazine *Le Monde* published a vile cartoon showing the pope sodomizing a little boy in its Holy Week issue. In response, America Needs Fatima launched an e-mail to 120,000 members asking them to send a protest e-mail directly to *Le Monde*. But this most recent cartoon against the pope is not an isolated case. In fact, the cartoonist, Jean Plantu, is known for his blasphemous depictions against the Church and the pope.

Last year, *Le Monde* published a Plantu cartoon showing Our Lord handing out contraceptives from a boat to the excited

masses. The cartoon read, “The multiplication of the condoms followed the multiplication of the loaves.” Inside the boat, the pope, depicted as a decrepit old man, saying, “Anything goes!”

America Needs Fatima protested that cartoon as well, which resulted in the newspaper publishing an article stating the “lambs of God can bite!” “The word outcry is weak,” wrote the paper’s ombudsman Véronique Maurus. “This was a real storm, nay, a hurricane, a tsunami of protests . . . demanding that the newspaper apologize.” ■



A screenshot of America Needs Fatima’s protest page on its Web site.

To send your protest to *Le Monde*, write to courrier-lemondemag@lemonde.fr.

For more information about the American Needs Fatima’s protests against blasphemy, please visit www.AmericaNeedsFatima.org/current-campaigns-anti-blasphemy.html.

Protest Achieves Victory as University Cancels *Corpus Christi* Blasphemy

BY JOHN RITCHIE

America Needs Fatima is glad to announce that Tarleton State University finally pulled the plug on the play *Corpus Christi*. Thanks be to God, our prayers were answered!

The blasphemous play, which portrays Our Lord and the Apostles as homosexuals, was scheduled to perform on March 27. However, the university issued a news release on March 26 confirming the cancellation, adding that the offensive play will not be rescheduled.

How It Happened

TFP Student Action’s online protest joined the growing wave of peaceful outrage. A flood of phone calls and e-mails ensued. “Staggering” is how one press report described the sheer amount of e-mails overflowing key university inboxes. The message was simple: “Blasphemy is not free speech. Cancel the play.”

Countless people, including local residents in Stephenville,

Texas, where the university is located, registered their rejection of the outrageous play.

Lieutenant Governor Condemns Play

Adding to the crescendo of peaceful protest, David Dewhurst, the lieutenant governor of Texas, condemned the play pointing out how freedom of speech does not give one the right to use government funds or universities to portray acts that are morally reprehensible. “Texans don’t deserve to see their hard-earned tax money used to debase their religion,” he said. “This lewd display runs completely contrary to the standards of scholastic excellence and common decency that we demand in our publicly funded institutions for higher learning.”

We Acted but God Won

TFP Student Action is grateful to everyone who participated in this impressive anti-blasphemy effort. It is so encouraging to see what can be achieved with persistent prayer and peaceful action. Let us now thank Our Lord and His Blessed Mother for answering so many prayers and blessing this protest with success.

For more information regarding this protest please go to www.tfpstudentaction.org. If you’d like to share your thoughts with us or report similar scandals at other Catholic colleges, please write to mail@tfpstudentaction.org. If you wish to thank Tarleton State University for canceling the play, write to President Dr. Dominic Dottavio at president@tarleton.edu. ■



Send a Red Rose to Fatima by Becoming a Rally Captain

Now's the time to sign up as a Rally Captain in the October 16, 2010 Public Square Rosary Crusade and get a complimentary red rose sent to Fatima in your name. All you need is a banner and a few friends to hold the banner in a public place. It's that simple. Our coordination center in Rossville, Kansas, is there to help you through each step of the process. But the sooner you start organizing your rally, the better it will be.

Our goal with this year's rallies is to counter the advance of the destructive secular agenda—abortion, homosexuality, immorality and so forth—and ask God to guide every aspect of our society. “As human efforts fail to solve America's key problems, we turn to God, through His Holy Mother, asking His urgent help,” is the message on banners currently being shipped to Rosary Rally Captains. God will hear our prayers, especially if we pray the Rosary of His Blessed Mother. Without prayer, and specifically the Rosary, we will not find



Last year 4,323 red roses were brought to Fatima, one in honor of each Rosary Rally Captain.

solutions to our nation's many problems.

Last year, America Needs Fatima organized over 4,000 Rosary Rallies. In 2010, we are planning 5,000 Rosary Rallies for October 16, which is the Saturday closest to October 13, the day God worked the miracle of the sun at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. America needs a monumental miracle of conversion and with your help it can happen! ■

Please get started today as a Rally Captain by calling the Public Square Rosary Rally hotline at (866) 584-6012 or by signing up online at www.ANF.org.

GUSTODIAN'S

CRUSADER

Our Lady Visits a 110-Year-Old Mother

BY REX TEODOSIO

Last April, I took the Fatima statue to the home of Emelie Weil who was born in 1899, which made her 110 years old at the time of the Our Lady's apparition at Fatima. She is now 110 years old.

She wore a blue dress in honor of the Blessed Mother. I see this custom from time to time. Many attend the visit of Our Lady with so much deference and respect. They wear their best outfit as if to receive an honored guest in their home. Mrs. Weil was a prime example of this custom. From her combed hair to her blue shoes, she obviously spent time making herself dignified and beautiful, not just for a mundane reason, like prom night, but to be most presentable to a highly honored guest, the

Queen of Heaven and Earth.

The people at the visit represented four generations of their family, with three of her great-grandsons in attendance. The Weil family has refused to commit her into a nursing home and I had the impression that God has blessed the family for doing that. The family enjoyed a certain unity, mutual respect and peace that is absent from many homes.

What impressed me the most was her love for the Blessed Mother. As expected, she was not able to hear my talk well but she was so excited to receive Our Lady. One family member mentioned that the last time they remember her being this excited was some 20 years ago, when she was around 90



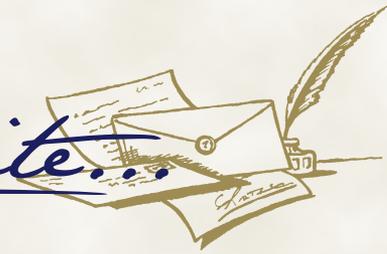
Participants of the visit including Emelie Weil and her grandsons (left to right) Chad Meinders, Heath Meinders and Devon Cook.

years old! She crowned Our Lady and she looked into Our Lady's eyes with childlike innocence and joy, and with God's grace, she will one day gaze with glorious joy into the eyes of the same Queen in Heaven. ■

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



Our Readers Write...



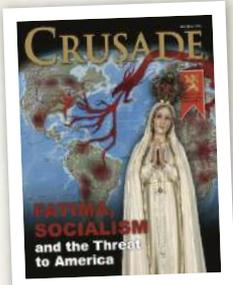
Crusade Magazine

Please continue sending me your wonderful magazine that continues courageously to speak the truth in our censored world. Your dedication to the traditional Catholic moral code in analyzing events acts as a guide and compass to me, my wife and my two school-age daughters.

P.W., Framingham, Mass.

The May/June issue of *Crusade Magazine* was extremely good. Most Catholics for example don't realize that homosexuality is wrong and that they have such a high rate of HIV/AIDS. Also your treatment of socialism is excellent, e.g., Obama's determination to take over America's medical system. I will send 10 or 20 names of people who will likely subscribe to *Crusade Magazine*.

D.L., Bloomsbury, N.J.



The *Crusade Magazine* with "An American Knight" was the first copy of *Crusade* that I have ever seen. It was in an adoration chapel, I read it and felt it was in the right place because we all need to pray for our military.

VM., La Place, La.

TFP Student Action

God bless you in Student Action for what you are doing and for the courage that you are showing. I can just picture Jesus standing with you. It is not an easy thing that you are doing, but with the love of God behind you, you will never fail.

B.K., via e-mail

It amazes me that Sister Margaret Farley is allowed to be on a Board of Trustees at Detroit Mercy, a Catholic college, with her sinful views. These views are contrary to

the teachings of our Church. How can Catholic parents send their children to this college or any other Catholic college like it, and feel they are getting a "Catholic" education?

N.W., Cocoa Beach, Fla.

I do not consider [Sister Farley to be] a nun. She is not a real Catholic, and if she supports abortion, homosexual "marriage," ordination of women, then she is a heretic and should be removed from the religious order. However, I will say a prayer for her. She needs it.

J.B., via e-mail



I just watched the video of the Student Action team at George Washington University. It is at the same time inspiring to see young men standing up for truth in the pit of relativism that we call our university, and it is also depressing and disturbing to see the deep confusion of the young university students.

J.T., via e-mail

Newspaper Ad: "Is It Fair That the Innocent Pay for the Guilty?"

Go get them! Many thanks for putting your ad in the *Hartford Courant* against HB 5473. It seems that the only way to get anything pro-Catholic in this paper is the way you did, with an ad!

R.K., Cheshire, Conn.

I read with great interest your alert about HB 5473. It was an excellent article. You

covered everything beautifully without exception.

W.M., Glastonbury, Conn.

ANF e-Newsletter

These e-mails are awesome! Thank you so much, especially for the Eucharistic Video from Argentina. How can people not believe in the Real Presence when they view this? I will pass this on to as many people as possible.

J.L., via e-mail

I have always believed that Christ is, Body and Blood, in the Eucharist. This video is amazing and will stay in my heart forever. Thank you for sending this to me. I am in awe of this and love Our Lord Jesus Christ.

B.J., via e-mail

I just want to say that your e-mails are great! I love the different stories you have been sending and the various articles that come along with them. I am a Catholic priest and pastor in a small parish that has Eucharistic Adoration. I make copies of some of the very interesting stories and articles, and place them around for adorers to read while making their holy hours.

J.M., via e-mail



To get your letter published in *Crusade*, write us an e-mail at crusade@TFP.org.

OUR LADY OF LAS LAJAS: *A Continuous Miracle*

BY THOMAS CAMPBELL



The Mother of God rewarded the heroic faith that the Iberian Peninsula showed during the 800 years' struggle against the invading Moors by placing in Latin Americans' souls her merciful predilection.

From Mexico to Tierra del Fuego, no nation has failed to receive Our Lady's special favors. However, her interventions did not occur haphazardly. She presented herself with unheard of magnificence and splendor, making it clear that she came to preside over Latin America from on high.

The History of a Predilection

As an example of this magnificence, consider how the Most Holy Virgin stamped her image on the imposing cliffs of the Guaitara Canyon in Colombia, thereby becoming Queen of the souls in that region and in all surrounding lands.

In 1754, Maria Mueses de Quiñones, was going from her hometown of Potosi to the village of Ipiales when she was caught in a great storm. At Las Lajas, she sought refuge in a grotto.

However, she was anxious because, according to popular legend, the devil lived in the grotto. With trepidation, she entered the grotto's darkness, invoking the Virgin of the Rosary. Suddenly, she felt someone tapping her back. Frightened, she fled back into the storm.

A few days later, returning by the same route, she once again reached the cliffs of Las Lajas, carrying her little daughter Rosa, who was deaf-mute since birth, on her back. Maria Mueses de Quiñones sat down timidly to rest on a stone near the grotto.

Then the first miracle occurred. Her deaf-mute daughter spoke! "Mommy, look at the *mestiza* who has detached herself from the rock with a little boy in her arms and two little *mestizos* at her side!" With this, Rosa slid off her mother's back to climb up the grotto's stones. Terrorized, Maria took her daughter and fled from the mysterious place.

There was general bewilderment among Maria's friends and acquaintances in Potosi when she told them what had happened. They asked her many questions about the event, but took no further action.

In the meantime, Rosa disappeared, causing her



MARIOLOGY

mother great concern. Maria searched to no avail, until she remembered the episode at the grotto, and returned there to look for Rosa. She found her daughter kneeling before a splendid woman and playing affectionately with a child. Maria fell to her knees before this beautiful spectacle, for she knew she beheld the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Son Jesus, and she was no longer afraid.

... for she knew she beheld the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Son Jesus, and she was no longer afraid.

Shortly thereafter, Our Lady performed a miracle that prompted the news of the marvelous presence to spread throughout the lands near the Guaitara River.

Unexpectedly, Rosa sickened and died. Maria carried Rosa's body in her arms to the

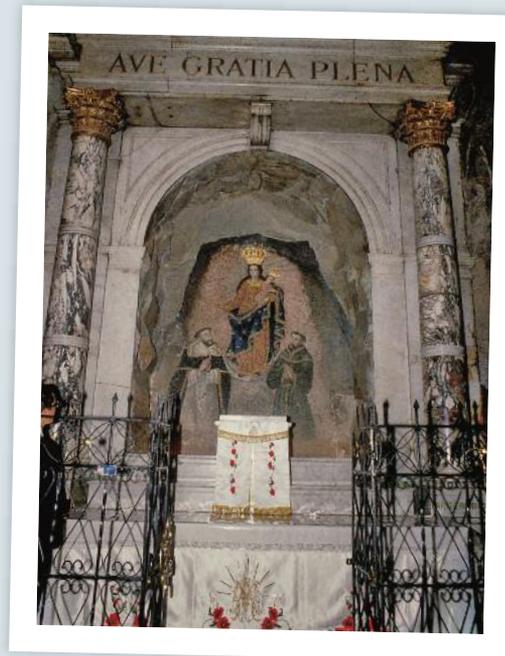
grotto and begged Our Lady to bring Rosa back to life. In answer to Maria's prayers, Our Lady performed the miracle of the child's resurrection. Maria told her employers in Ipiales about the extraordinary event. Moved by the news, they went with priests, distinguished persons and many locals to the apparition's site.

It was then they saw, stamped on the rock, a magnificent image of the Blessed Virgin Mary, holding her Infant Son, with Saints Dominic de Guzmán and Francis of Assisi kneeling at their feet. The image has the Virgin extending a Rosary to Saint Dominic and the Infant extending a Franciscan cord to Saint Francis.

Today, an enormous quantity of mementos and tokens of thanksgiving attest to the Colombian people's devotion and gratitude since the time of the apparition.

Historical and Scientific Aspects of the Image of Las Lajas

The image of Our Lady of Las Lajas, as that of Our Lady of Guadalupe, has spanned the centuries without losing its brilliance. In the case of Las Lajas, German geologists bored core samples from several spots in the image



The image of Our Lady of Las Lajas with the Child Jesus was miraculously stamped on the rock along with the images of Saint Dominic, left, and Saint Francis of Assisi, right.

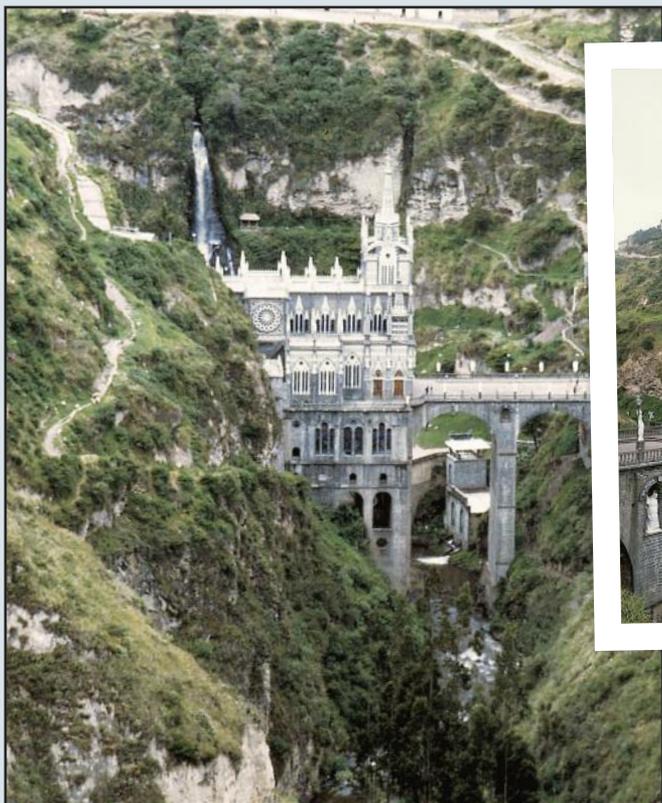
and they determined there was no paint or pigment on the rock's surface. In fact, they discovered that the image penetrated evenly into the rock for several feet!

An interesting aspect of the image is the presence of Saints Dominic and Francis, the founders of the two orders that first evangelized Colombia and to whom Colombians have always had a special devotion.

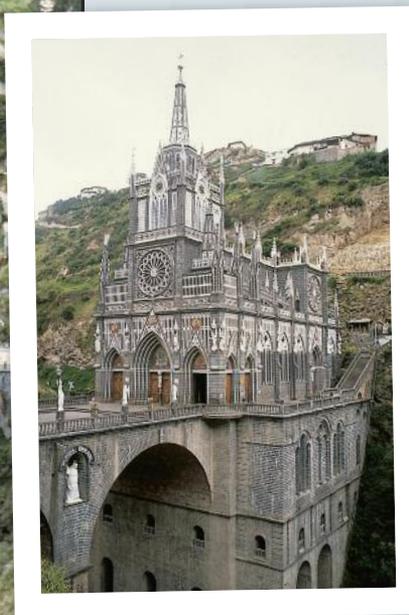
Furthermore, it is curious to note within the image the relationship between Mother and Son, for other images present them gazing at each other, but not in Las Lajas. They are so accustomed to being together they have no need to look at each other to sustain their mutual attention.

In addition, she directs her eyes toward Latin Americans, heeding their supplications, orienting and commanding them. Meanwhile, the Child Jesus enters the intimacy of those who arrive at the Queen's feet, a Queen who displays in her gaze a kindness so exalted that she moves us to trust her entirely.

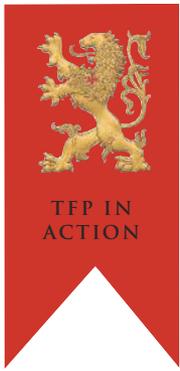
In 1952, Pope Pius XII granted a canonical crowning of Our Lady of Las Lajas, and in 1954, the gothic church erected to house the image was dedicated as a minor basilica. ■



Like a flower, the sanctuary of Las Lajas springs up from the Guaitara Canyon in Colombia.



The steep cliffs did not stop Our Lady's devotees from erecting the intricate shrine in front of the grotto where she appeared.



Abort Children, But Spare Bin Laden?!

BY CESAR FRANCO

It takes courage to defend the truth on a liberal campus such as George Washington University. Nevertheless, TFP Student Action volunteers welcomed the challenge and visited the university earlier this year. Their mission was simple: Defend innocent life and challenge abortion and its culture of death, which includes opposing homosexual “marriage.”

As TFP bagpipers announced their arrival, hundreds of students who were walking to class received a hard-hitting flier, “10 Reasons Why Abortion is Wrong.” “There are a million reasons to be against abortion!” remarked one woman happy to see us.

Rampant Relativism

Yet years of moral relativism in academia produced a shipwrecked generation unable to distinguish right from wrong. Even the mental capacity to acknowledge the right to life is waning in their minds.

For example, TFP volunteers met students who favored the killing of the unborn by means of abortion while, in the very same breath, thought bin Laden should not receive the death penalty.

Mind boggling, isn't?

By now several pro-abortion students formed a disorganized counter-demonstration. A male student stood in front of our banner holding a sign bearing the feminist slogan, “My Body, My Choice.” Before long a number of lively debates erupted on the sidewalk.

Winning the Abortion Debate

Rather than discuss the issue civilly, some abortion advocates resorted to yelling hysterically, interrupting arguments in favor of the unborn or insulting TFP volunteers. Their rudeness, which bystanders noticed, ultimately worked in TFP Student Action's



TFP Student Action volunteer James Slobodnik distributing the flier “10 Reasons Why Abortion is Wrong.”

favor. “I’m not with [TFP], but anytime you try to answer a question, [the pro-abortion students] cut you off,” observed one student. “I don’t agree with you, but you have a lot of guts coming out here to do this,” he said. “Great job! Keep doing what you are doing!”

Thomas Ponelli, a student at St. Louis de Montfort Academy, was sprinkled with the shreds of a TFP flier ripped up by a female student. Another student said, “This [TFP campaign] should be against the law!”

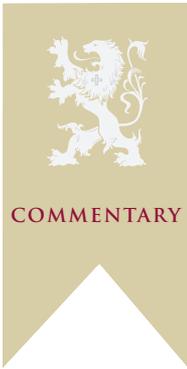
After *The GW Hatchet* published an article about the TFP campaign, a student contacted the TFP with the following message:

I am a student [at GWU] and I unfortunately missed the demonstration because I am studying abroad this semester, but I read about the courageous young men who stood up for what they believe in by publicly declaring our truth. I am sure that at a very liberal school, they did not have the easiest time, but their presence was important and appreciated by at least some of us. I also really respect that the group was all young men speaking about abortion.



Top: Several Pro-abortion students protesting the TFP presence on campus. Center: The campaign provoked lively debates. Bottom: Some discussions seemed to include every moral question from gun control to divorce.

The fight for life is more than just a side issue in the political debate. It takes center stage in the greater fight for our Christian civilization. With renewed enthusiasm, TFP Student Action will continue visiting college campuses next semester and do its part to defeat the horror of abortion and the Culture of Death. ■



The Afflictions of the Third Family

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

We live in complete chaos. This sensation of chaos assails us everywhere in our daily lives. We see people at every moment whose actions today contradict those of yesterday, and will also contradict those of tomorrow. At times, in a single conversation, our interlocutors express convictions that are logically at odds with one another. It is increasingly rare to find persons whose thoughts, words and actions consistently follow several fundamental principles.

Evaluating this scenario, people can be classified into three principal families of souls:

1) People of the first family understand, admire and praise coherence. Because of this, they abhor this illogical atmosphere and impute to it the worst fruits of the present and the future.

2) People of the second family close their eyes to the fact, but when it confronts them they find a way to justify it. Such contradic-

tions, according to them, act as necessary breaches in the ideological equilibrium from other times. They are the normal effect of turmoil that ferments in periods of transition. Since they are normal, they do not cause disasters except on the surface layer of reality and should be viewed, in the final analysis, with a benign and amused indulgence. This family of souls was even more numerous some years ago, but, seeing that the so-called turmoil teeming with contradictions is taking on the mark of a dance with a devilish tone and sinister consequences, those who continue to maintain this smiling and benign unconcern are diminishing in number.

3) Even more numerous are those persons who make up the third group or family of souls. They subsist on the chaotic contradiction of our days, dazed and confused. What is more, to live any differently is impossible to them. If the contradiction does at times frighten them, it is because it clashes in the

depths of their souls with coherence. They would like to prolong their agonizing world resulting from the “equilibrium” of contradictory ideas, which “regulate” themselves in an amazing coexistence. For this family of souls, ideas are formulated to float in the air, lacking any relationship with reality. In their opinion, not the least risk exists that this

It is increasingly rare to find persons whose thoughts, words and actions consistently follow several fundamental principles.

“balance” of contradictions will someday explode to the detriment of the serene and good order of the facts.

This family of souls considers this intrinsically unbalanced situation to be the quintessence of balance. And as experience plainly proves the non-viability of this equilibrium, a member from this family finds himself facing an option that terrorizes him: on one hand, chaos that tears like a hurricane through his house and life; on the other, a coherence that seems to function on a logical plane, but that is unyielding, uncaring, rigid and, in a word, inhuman.

Dismayed before such an option, the people of this family of souls come to a standstill. And so they remain, their arms crossed, in the obstinate hope that something will stop the chaos without implanting the reign of coherence.



People can be classified into three principle families of souls.

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Let us now look at some examples in this third family of souls.

Many are the homes wherein immoral television shows and sensual books paint with fascinating colors a most promiscuous image of life. In such a home, the certainty is nourished that these images have only platonic effects. Later, if a son or daughter goes astray, everyone pleads that "they don't understand why" and that "the world today is in chaos."

Many a proprietor proclaims the most radically egalitarian ideals before his children or employees, professing that all class superiority is an insult to human dignity. Yet if his son or daughter becomes a communist, he is astonished. If his well-paid employee begins to cause trouble, he is disconcerted. He does not understand that he is reaping the bitter fruits of the chaos and disorder he planted.

However, in this same family where the television programs and immoral books

have found acceptance, the father and mother at times preach some Christian principles of morality or order. They might, for example, speak about the legitimacy of property, denounce communism or uphold respect for certain moral traditions. In the same factory where the owner proclaims himself to be in the socialist vanguard, anti-communist propaganda may abound.

But if a son or a worker suddenly raises the standard of Tradition, Family and Property, the surprise and, later, the ill will would be enormous. Who would imagine that this "equilibrium" could allow for a coherent option? That these principles of order could renounce the platonic world of ideals to engender militants who want to introduce them into the concrete order of the facts? How can everyday living accept the presence of coherent, logical persons who take seriously what was taught to them about the foundations of social order and of Chris-

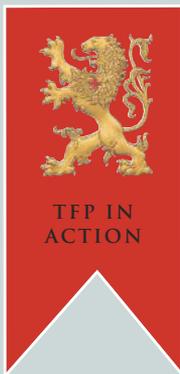
tian civilization?

Thus, in short, this family of souls professes a comfortable and affable disorder in ideals. It is a disorder that stems from living on a totally platonic sphere, between fragments of both good and bad, of error and truth. Some, within this ambience, opt for the integrity of disorder, others, for that of order. Because of this, this family of souls is sinking in lamentations and fear.

* * *

This family of soul's situation rouses problems of the highest level. Doesn't the destruction of this equilibrium of contradictions figure importantly in a march toward a one-sided and exaggerated situation, in short, toward radicalization?

If the answer is affirmative, isn't incoherence the opposite of radicalization? In these questions the third family of souls is writhing and fretting today. ■



Jesuit University Deletes Two Abortion Hyperlinks

BY JAMES BASCOM

After weeks of peaceful protest, the Catholic University of Detroit Mercy has removed from its Web site two hyperlinks to the abortion provider Planned Parenthood.

"I'm very happy to verify that the hyperlinks to Planned Parenthood were deleted," said TFP Student Action Director John Ritchie. "Over 11,500 students, parents and pro-life advocates participated in this prayerful protest, calling for the removal of these scandalous links. TFP Student Action is grateful to everyone who made this victory for moral values happen. Their prayers and peaceful action was vital and their participation will continue to play a central role in the future as the spiritual crusade on college campuses continues."

Although the hyperlinks to Planned Parenthood were removed, links to the pro-abortion group Na-



TFP Student Action is asking that Sister Margaret A. Farley be removed from the Board of Trustees at Detroit Mercy.

tional Organization for Women were not taken down as the TFP protest petition requested politely.

Wolf in Nun's Clothing?

Even more troubling is the discovery that a pro-abortion nun, Sister Margaret A. Farley, RSM, is a member of the Board of Trustees at Detroit Mercy. Over the years, she has taken positions favorable to abortion, homosexual "marriage," sterilization of women, divorce and the ordination of women to the priesthood. "Is she a wolf in nun's clothing?" Mr. Ritchie asked. "She should be removed from the board."

For more information regarding this protest please go to www.tfpstudentaction.org.

If you'd like to share your thoughts with us or report similar scandals at other Catholic colleges, please write to mail@tfpstudentaction.org. ■



INTERVIEW

The Church Militant Against Abortion and the Devil

An Interview with Father Thomas J. Euteneuer

Father Thomas J. Euteneuer is president of Human Life International, the world's first and largest international pro-life organization. He is also a trained exorcist, authorized to perform the ancient rite in several U.S. dioceses. Father Euteneuer's book, Exorcism and the Church Militant, was recently released in May 2010. To order a copy, visit www.exorcismandthechurchmilitant.com.

Crusade: It is very interesting and fitting that the president of HLI is also an exorcist. Could you tell us how or if being an exorcist has helped you in your fight against abortion?

Father Euteneuer: I actually came to the deliverance ministry by way of my work in fighting abortion. It is clear that there is a demonic intelligence, if you will, "inspiring" the widespread and powerful promotion of abortion. No human person could pull off this kind of massive destruction with such evil efficiency. Also, I came to realize that those who have had abortions opened themselves to the demonic. I have actually done deliverance prayers and, in one case, an exorcism on several women who were afflicted with demons by direct contact with abortion or abortion providers. It is one of an increasing number of ways people open themselves to evil daily, and in our deliverance

Christians seem to have forgotten that we are required by our Faith to categorically reject the devil and his works at every turn.

work we unfortunately see this quite a bit. Confronting the devil through deliverance ministry gives one insights into the intelligence that is "inspiring" the culture of death.

Crusade: You say the opportunities for people to "open themselves to evil" are increasing. Are there more people being possessed now than in the past and if so why?

Father Euteneuer: There's no question that the number of cases of legitimate demonic activity in persons is increasing, as is therefore the need for trained exorcists. I have been authorized to do exorcisms in several dioceses across the country, and there is no way I can possibly keep up with the number of inquiries. There are many reasons for this, but the primary reason is that the occult is becoming considered "normal" in Western society and people don't realize the harm they can do by pursuing such fascinations. For example, Harry Potter books and movies won't open one to possession, but they certainly do normalize "magic" and get many young people interested in the occult. Consider that J.K. Rowling has sold over 400 million books! The same goes for demonic movies and video games that often help create an obsession in those who are poorly formed or emotionally vulnerable. None of this is helped by the weakened state of Catholic catechesis, as well as the lack of awareness of evil. Christians seem to have forgotten that we are required by our Faith to categorically reject the devil and his works at every turn.

Crusade: As you mentioned before, we see the demonic entering the entertainment industry through things like the Harry Potter series and Ouija boards, which are unfortunately



President of Human Life International, Father Thomas Euteneuer, at his main office in Front Royal, Virginia, with TFP member Elias Bartell.



Father Thomas Euteneuer in front a map of the world showing the outreach of HLI's apostolate.

even available at Toys “R” Us. How dangerous do you think this is?

Father Euteneuer: In general, we Christians have become blind to the idea of being seduced by evil, which always happens in stages, beginning with the most innocent-looking and sounding things, all the way to explicitly choosing evil. It is hard to blame children for their fascination for the occult when their parents are buying them these things! Then the parents naïvely muse, “Well, at least she’s reading!” as if it doesn’t matter what a child reads! They defend their decision by saying that no one has ever been possessed by reading a book or watching a movie. Perhaps that is true, but I’ve definitely worked with many who have opened themselves spiritually through books and movies, and in at least one case, I worked with a young man who actually had become possessed through the addictive playing of Satanic video games.

Even to defend the books because they haven’t heard of anyone becoming possessed as a result of reading them is to miss the point: parents fail their children by not forming them in the Faith and not teaching them the clear difference between good and evil. Lacking good Christian formation is laying the groundwork for an opening to the occult. All pagan societies tell us as much. Christianity is always an antidote to paganism in society. Despite what people say, children do listen to their parents, and if a parent endorses a bad thing, the child be-

comes vulnerable to its evil. The use of Ouija boards is most frightening given that it is so common and so few people see the real danger of them. These are demonic, spiritual dynamite that no child should be playing with.

Crusade: In your talks you like to insist on the idea of the Church Militant. Could you explain some of the reasons why?

Lacking good Christian formation is laying the groundwork for an opening to the occult.

Father Euteneuer: The days are gone when one could let a Christian culture do the work of keeping us close to the sacraments, helping us recognize the difference between good and evil, and so on. These days, we are forced to oppose every new breeze that the zeitgeist sends our way. We can’t do this simply by thinking that our basic faith is “good enough.” This is spiritual apathy, which becomes spiritual death in an aggressive occult-obsessed culture. It is clear that we now need a radical, militant devotion to our Faith and an ability to defend our families with the zeal of soldiers who are passionate for Christ. It is no longer possible to trust the intentions of our teach-

ers, political leaders, role models or, unfortunately, many of our clergy. We need a more militant stance against a militantly secular age. We need more prayer, fasting, the sacraments, solid formation in the Faith and a commitment to defend all vulnerable ones against the evil that pervades society like poison. The term “Church Militant” has never been more appropriate of how we need to see our role as Catholics in society.

Crusade: Last but not least, is there something pro-lifers should better understand or focus more on?

Father Euteneuer: Just this last point: only a more radical devotion to our Faith will provide us with the tools to oppose the culture of death and be victorious in the battle for life. In this Year for Priests, we ought to pray that the priests and bishops will understand and take upon themselves a more serious role for leading the Church Militant into battle. God will hear and answer our prayers. The Catholic Church has the spiritual resources to oppose the onslaught of evil unleashed in our society, and the Church Militant must take its fight for souls seriously. The line is being drawn between true and false Catholics, and many other serious Christians are realizing that the One True Church is the only option left to forcefully oppose the evils of our age. It is a difficult time in history to be alive, but it is a great time to be a Catholic! ■

In this valley of tears, the hummingbird aptly represents our hope and desire for Heaven.



AMBIENCES,
CUSTOMS AND
CIVILIZATIONS

The HUMMINGBIRD*

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

Once as I was sitting in the small porch of a farm, a hummingbird suddenly stopped in the air and began drawing nectar from the climbing ivy flowers. The hummingbird's flight was similar to an arrow's trajectory—so inflexible and straight—but as it drew nectar with its small pointed beak, it would shake. It would begin with a series of small movements, then flying around the flower draw all its nectar. As it flapped its wings, every vibration seemed to be new. One would say it was like a musical instrument playing different music as a characteristic of the hummingbird's style. I pondered that it has rules of its own, unknown to me, and wondered when it would interrupt that movement. Then suddenly the hummingbird would leave that flower with such complete abandonment that it would seem as if it had never existed, and without the slightest hesitation move on to another. The hummingbird is the very image of decisiveness: when it is time to choose, it does not hesitate. The bird abandons the flower without any nostalgia, but also without bitterness. One has the impression that, having extracted the last drop of nectar, the hummingbird flies somewhere else like a rocket. All this is done with such lightness, delicacy and distinction that it could be called



a dance. In fact, it is much more than a dance: it is flight.

Possibly the next time each one sees a hummingbird fly, this description will serve as a sort of slow-motion film. It is enchanting to observe two very beautiful examples of movement in the animal world: a walking lion and a flying hummingbird.

How different they are! How many beings God created to entertain us! The blue and green hummingbird is a precious jewel that God created for man to look at, though never to hold, and to feel the charm of a fleeting thing that passes quickly by. In this valley of tears, the hummingbird aptly represents our hope and desire for Heaven. Divine Providence created in this land of exile several fleeting beings. They are excellent beings that would cease to be excellent if they were not fleeting, for that is how they show us some beautiful aspects of

Heaven. Being a place of exile, this Earth cannot offer us heavenly impressions in a stable manner. However, God had mercy on us and sent fireflies from celestial paradise that, with their flickering light, give us glimpses of heavenly bliss. ■

*Excerpted from a talk given by Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira.

You can read more articles by Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira at www.TFP.org.