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St. Louis de Montfort Academy admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin.

The Importance of Chastity

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

In the midst of today’s moral decay, Holy Mother Church presents Saint Maria Goretti as a model of the battle against immorality. A role model of heroic purity, Maria Goretti invites us to be faithful to the traditional doctrine of the Catholic Church by fighting for purity, and opposing the liberal, permissive tendencies of our contemporary world.

The Church has always instilled this form of bravery in defense of virtue. That is why a faithful Catholic should prefer death to losing his or her purity. Unfortunately, today the very mention of the virtue of purity fills men and women with human respect, “what will people think?” But the Church teaches that purity is a virtue that must be practiced bravely and to perfection, a virtue which must be honored as a value in and of itself.

Much has been said about a truly Christian social order, but there can be no true social order without the family and there can be no true family without purity.

Few dare to talk about another aspect of the practice of the virtue of purity: chastity according to one’s state in life, be it perfect chastity or married chastity. Purity must be practiced and defended in these two holy forms.

The political and social order will inevitably crumble in ambiances where the virtue of purity is disregarded. Thus, there can be no preservation of the social and political order, nor the serious building of Christian civilization without a foundation based on purity—among other virtues.
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IN BRIEF

When One Girl Stood Up
Anne-Marie Dust applied for the nurse residency program at Vanderbilt University in 2010 but was shocked to discover that Vanderbilt required her to certify in writing that she would agree to participate in providing abortions. With the help of the Alliance Defense Fund (ADF), she filed a federal complaint to the Department of Health and Human Services in early January 2011 objecting to the university’s “illegal discrimination” and forcing pro-life students to violate their “federal rights of conscience.”

Anne Marie told LifeSiteNews.com, “You have to stand up for what is most important.”

Within twenty-six hours of ADF’s letters, the university rescinded its policy and notified all of the program’s participants that “no health care provider is required to participate in a procedure terminating a pregnancy if such participation would be contrary to an individual’s religious beliefs or moral convictions.”

The Younger, the Better
In contrast to the middle-aged conglomeration of anarchists and libertarians at New York’s “Occupy Wall Street” gathering, the majority of America’s youth want the government to protect traditional values. Two months before the election of Obama in 2008 only 38 percent responded “yes” to this Gallup question. This increased to 41 percent in 2009, 47 percent in 2010; and, 53 percent in 2011.

Eucharistic Miracle Confirmed
In 2008, several Polish news sources reported that a Eucharistic miracle happened in a church in Sokolka, Poland. A Host was accidentally dropped, and then turned red. The priest, following standard procedure, placed the Host in water for several days but It did not dissolve. Doctors have since examined the red Host and determined that it is human heart tissue from the center of the heart. In October 2011, the local ordinary, Białystok Archbishop Edward Ozorowski, announced the confirmation of the miracle saying that “the substance of Christ’s Body and Blood has become available to the human senses.”

Outcry Stops Immoral Show
In October, a TV reality show glorifying the promiscuous lifestyle of Playboy prostitutes was cancelled after only four weeks of viewer outrage and a successful advertiser boycott by morality and parenting advocates.

According to Morality in Media (MIM), the show, called the ‘The Playboy Club’, glorified the Playboy philosophy that women are to be used, abused and then discarded. MIM helped to send 20,000 e-mails to key NBC advertisers, who pulled their ads from the show.

More Guns, Less Crime
When the Supreme Court shot down Washington, D.C.’s Firearms Control Regulations Act in 2008, many politicians and media outlets predicted a bloodbath of crime and murder. Mayor Adrian Fenty foretold that, “More handguns in the District of Columbia will only lead to more handgun violence.”

Instead the District’s murder rates fell two-and-a-half times faster than the rest of the country. Robberies with guns fell by 25 percent, while robberies without guns fell by eight percent. Assaults with guns fell by 37 percent, while assaults without guns fell by 12 percent.

Officials Admit Census’ 160% Exaggeration
In 2010, as if to prove that same-sex “marriage” is needed, the US Census Bureau began counting the number of homosexuals living together in order to estimate the number of homosexual “households.” In October they admitted they had inflated that number by over 160%. According to the corrected numbers, less than six-tenths of one percent (0.6%) of households are homosexual “households.”

It’s the Culture, Stupid
Louisiana’s Pro-Life Republican Governor Bobby Jindal gave a moving speech at the 2011 Values Voter Summit. Some excerpts:

“As America’s culture goes, so goes America. I’m going to make the case that even issues such as unemployment, insane levels of debt, irrational government spending, runaway deficits, absurd bailout programs—all important issues—all of them are details and byproducts of a much larger cultural concern...it’s the culture, stupid!”

“We see a coarsening of our culture in the arts, music, television, on the big screen, on the Internet, even on the cell phone...try to find the family hour on network TV. Try to take your children to a movie without having to cover their eyes or cover their ears because of the language or what they might see.”

“We all need to take responsibility for the culture of our nation...democracy only works as long as the people share our common commitment to doing what is right, to respect core values, doing unto others as you have them do unto you, to selflessness, to peace, patience, kindness, and self-control.”
Spiritual education does not mean education in piety. In Christian families, education in piety is how to pray, how to go to Confession, how to prepare for Holy Communion, how to assist at Holy Mass and how to say the Rosary. All this is fine, but it is only part of spiritual education!

It is essential that the child must be taught who he is, who God is, and how God wants to mingle His life with his by coming to dwell in him, consecrating him thereby as a living tabernacle of the Most High. When the child knows all this not merely as bookish knowledge, but as knowledge lived out and often recalled, exercised by his faith and his young good will, then and only then will there be a solid foundation on which to build religious instruction, to justify and demand exercises of piety. It is absolutely essential that, before all else, the child be informed of the divine riches which his baptism brought him. It must be explained to him that the day he was carried as a little baby to be received into the Church, God came to take possession of his soul.

He should be taught that when people come into the world they do not possess this divine life. God gave it to Adam and Eve in the beginning, but they lost it. Right here is a splendid opportunity to explain the greatness and goodness of God, the marvel of our supernatural life, how God created man greater than nature, how He wanted to make all of us His children. The little one knows well what a father is. Explain to him that God is our Father in order to give him what is essential in all true piety, a filial spirit and an understanding of how true it is to call God, Good.

Religious instruction is not sufficiently centered; it is not centered about the central mystery of Catholicism. Even the catechism, with its divisions of Dogma, Morals and the Sacraments—divisions that are perfectly logical and understandable but more adapted to theological authors than to the souls of children—can, if we are not careful, make one forget the beautiful wholeness of Christianity which is superbly majestic in its architectural lines; clear, and pulsing with life.


It is absolutely essential that, before all else, the child be informed of the divine riches which his baptism brought him.
It is in man’s nature to be happy. But man has never attained perfect happiness here on earth. Not even successful people, with their material wealth, fame and power, are finding happiness. This prompted “success intelligence” guru Dr. Robert Holden, to ponder: “Why do millionaires take Prozac? Why do CEOs have heart attacks? Why do film actors need rehab? Why do rock stars commit suicide? Why do politicians cover up scandals? Why do sports champions self-destruct? Why isn’t their success enough?”

Nobody is spared when it comes to unhappiness in this world. Poor or rich, sick or healthy, virtuous or evil, success or failure, man will always suffer the effects of Original Sin. But for men of good will, there is one consoling thought: the idea of heaven. Josef Pieper, a Catholic philosopher, quoting Saint Thomas Aquinas writes: “In the present life, perfect happiness cannot be,” and “To God alone may perfect beatitude be attributed, by virtue of His nature.”

Yet generations of people have been robbed of the true meaning of happiness and have been under constant bombardment by the forces of evil with empty promises of material, physical and psychological “happiness,” which are nothing more than distractions to the practice of true virtue—a key element in gaining true happiness in heaven. By rejecting God and the supernatural and embracing the materialism of the world, man is essentially denying his own nature: “Materialism denies anything metaphysical or supernatural. It acknowledges a material order addressing the ordinary pleasures and bodily comforts of everyday life. It may even promote physical or mental development. However, it does not deal with those specific spiritual desires that are a part of our human nature.”

To think of heaven is not only a consolation amidst the suffering and unhappiness in this world, but more importantly, it is an aid to one’s salvation, since knowing our final destination is indispensable in knowing how to arrive there. Most Americans know the right end of life, as evidenced by polls which show that a majority still believe in the afterlife. Atheists, however, put the end of life at death. In an interview with The Guardian, cosmologist Stephen Hawking said: “I regard the brain as a computer which will stop working when its components fail. There is no heaven or afterlife for broken down computers; that is a fairy story for people afraid of the dark.”

What people know of heaven and how to get there is as varied as their religious backgrounds or beliefs. Outside the Catholic Church, the idea of heaven has been vague, uninspiring, and worse yet, full of errors and misconceptions. For many centuries heaven has been described as nothing more than a place of harps, hymns,
crowns of gold, streets of jasper—symbols to impress an idea of endless happiness. Good for the imagination perhaps, but short on intellectual meaning. Without mentioning the relationship between the nature of God and the nature of man, this idea of heaven is incomplete and unattractive. Other religions have far worse views on the afterlife which do not deserve to be mentioned in this article. But the fact remains that man has a deep longing for heaven and it is a worthwhile endeavor to promote the true idea of the eternal life.

The Truth About Heaven
There are countless books written about heaven, but one in particular captures very well the Catholic teaching on heaven in a simple and very understandable way. *The Happiness of Heaven*, by Father J. Boudreau, S.J., was originally published in 1872. In this jewel of a book, Father Boudreau uses simple examples to explain what theologians have written about in complex, technical language.

Father Boudreau defines heaven as “the possession and enjoyment of God Himself in the Beatific Vision, as well as the perfect satisfaction of every rational craving of our nature in the glorious resurrection of the body.”

From this simple definition, Father Boudreau proceeds to explain the meaning of each word or phrase in the above definition to paint a theologically sound picture of heaven to the reader.

**“The Possession and Enjoyment of God Himself in the Beatific Vision”**
The Beatific Vision is the essential part of eternal happiness. Without Beatific Vision, the additional pleasures or joys of heaven, called accidental, are not possible. Father Boudreau explains this point with the following illustration: “A man who is gifted with a perfect body and mind not only enjoys life itself, but he likewise receives pleasure from the beauties of nature—from literature, amusements, and society. Now, suppose he loses his health, and is laid on a bed of sickness. He is no longer able to enjoy either life itself or its pleasures. What is all the beauty of earthly or heavenly objects to him now? What are amusements, and all the joys of sense, which formerly delighted him so much? All these things are now unable to give him any pleasure because he has lost his health, which afforded him the power of appropriating the pleasures of life. Therefore we say that health is essentially necessary, not only to enjoy life itself, but also to relish its pleasures. So too, in heaven. The Beatific Vision is necessary not only to enjoy the very life of heaven, but likewise to enjoy the accidental glory wherewith God perfects the happiness of His elect.”

**Seeing God “Face-to-Face”**
Now that we know the importance of the Beatific Vision, the next question is—what is it? Father Boudreau explains that there are three acts in the Beatific Vision. Although distinct from one another, they are inseparable, and if one is absent, the Beatific Vision no longer exists.

The first act is the sight or vision of God; the second is the love of God; the third is the enjoyment of God. The first act, the vision of God, is the root or fountainhead of the other acts which makes the Beatific Vision complete. It means that our intellect, which is the noblest faculty of our soul, “is suddenly elevated by the Light of Glory, and enabled to see God as He is, by a clear and unclouded perception of His divine essence. It is therefore, a vision in which the soul sees God face-to-face; not indeed with the eyes of the body, but with the intellect. For God is a spirit, and cannot be seen with material eyes.” To illustrate this point, Father Boudreau uses the analogy of the sun, which is the source of light and heat and therefore of life and beauty of the world. With its absence, the world would be left dark and become a silent grave of every living creature. In like manner, the vision of the divine essence is the root or source of the Beatific Vision. Without it, darkness and sadness would seize upon the blessed. To complete the Beatific Vision, the soul must also love and enjoy God because knowledge alone cannot satisfy it completely.

**Impossible to See God Face-to-Face and Not Want to Love and Enjoy Him**
To see and know God in His divine beauty and goodness necessarily makes us want to love Him with all the power in our being. Here, Father Boudreau illustrates this point.
We will no longer need nourishment in heaven but indescribably delicious food will nevertheless be available.

by picturing an immense fire. The closer you are to it, the more you feel the heat. Seeing God in His divine essence inflames us with divine love spontaneously, intensely and supremely. The third element of the Beatific Vision is the act of enjoying God. This act proceeds spontaneously from both the vision and the love of God. This joy necessarily includes the possession of God because without possessing God, the Beatific Vision would not be complete. To make this point clear, Father Boudreau uses the following illustration: “A beggar, for instance, gazes upon a magnificent palace, filled with untold wealth, and all that can gratify sense. Does the mere sight of it make him happy? It certainly does not, because it is not and never can be his. He may admire its grand architecture and exquisite workmanship, and thus receive some trifling pleasure, but as he can never call that palace or its wealth his own, the mere gazing upon it, and even loving its beauty, can never render him happy. For this, the possession of it is essential.”

The Parable of the Blind Orphan
In summarizing the idea of the Beatific Vision, Father Boudreau tells a beautiful story which illustrates clearly all three acts of the Beatific Vision: “A kind-hearted king, while hunting in a forest, finds a blind orphan boy totally destitute of all that can make life comfortable, takes him to his palace, adopts him as his own, and orders him to be cared for and educated in all that a blind person can learn. It is almost needless to say that the boy is unseparably grateful, and does all he can to please the king. When he has reached his twentieth year, a surgeon performs an operation upon his eyes by which his sight is restored. Then the king, surrounded by his nobles and amid all the pomp and magnificence of the court, proclaims him one of his sons, and commands all to honor and love him as such. And thus the once friendless orphan becomes a prince, and therefore a partaker of the royal dignity, of the happiness and glory which are to be found in the palace of kings.”

In the story, the sight of the good king in all his glory and magnificence represents the first act; the intense love which is produced by the sight of the king represents the second act and the enjoyment of the king’s society; and all the happiness as a result represents the third act. The king, of course, is God Himself, and the orphan boy represents us, who are lost in the wilderness of this world.

The second part of Father Boudreau’s definition of heaven pertains to the fact that by nature, man is composed of body and soul. As such, man’s eternal happiness will not be complete without being reunited with his own body, glorified like the glorious body of Our Lord Jesus Christ when He resurrected from the dead. To have a faint idea of this glorious transformation, Father Boudreau invites the reader to take a look at some transformations that occur in the mineral and plant kingdoms: “What is the diamond? It is nothing more than a crystallized carbon or charcoal... yet, how great a difference, in appearance and value, between that precious gem and a thimbleful of coal dust!” “Of what are plants composed? They are all composed of four elements of matter, which have no remarkable beauty of their own... by the power and laws of life these are transformed into that endless variety of beauty and color, odor and taste,
so striking in the vegetable world... now if, in the natural order, God can and does transform coarse and shapeless matter into forms so beautiful and so glorious, what shall we say of the beauty and perfection into which He will change our vile bodies?" 12

**Attributes of Our Glorified Bodies in Heaven**

One of the supernatural gifts God bestows on our glorified bodies is the fact that we will no longer need food, drink, and sleep for sustenance and strength. However, all of our senses will still be gratified to the fullest. Here, Father Boudreau offers the following analogy: "When the butterfly was a caterpillar, it devoured green leaves with pleasure and avidity. They were its very life. But now that it is changed to a beautiful butterfly, it lives on honey and exquisite perfume of flowers. If you offer it those same leaves that it loved so much while a caterpillar, it scorns them; for the leaves are now unable to give the butterfly, in its new transformed state, any pleasure. So shall it be with us after the resurrection. Our tastes shall be so refined that we shall scorn the low animal pleasures which are fit only for our present corruptible bodies." 13

Aside from being free from the necessities of nature, our bodies will be totally subject to the spirit, thereby making us free of our inordinate passions and concupiscence, which we struggle against constantly in our earthly life. Agility, which is the power of transporting ourselves from place to place with the rapidity of thought, and Subtlety, which means that our risen bodies will be endowed with the power of penetrating all things, even the hardest of substances, shall also be part of the powers of our risen bodies. The gifts of Impassibility, which is the total loss of the power of suffering, and Immortality, which is the incorruptibility of the glorified body, considered by Father Boudreau as the crowning glory of all the supernatural attributes, completes some of the supernatural gifts God will bestow on the bodies of the just.

**Life in Heaven**

After seeing God face to face with all the acts of the Beatific Vision and now with the glorious gifts of the risen body which perfect all the operations of the soul and glorify all the senses, man begins a life in a new world of beauty and perfection with peace, rest, intellectual pleasure, love, and perfect enjoyment. Since man is a social being, he will also enjoy a life of pure and perfect social pleasure, derived from each other’s virtue, learning, beauty, refinement, mutual love, and ties of kindred. The degree of happiness each one will have in heaven will be according to his merits acquired in this life. Thus, our happiness in heaven will be directly proportional to the degree we achieve virtue while in this world.

**The Road to Heaven**

Saint Robert Bellarmine says that, in general, “all who walk along the right path are sure to arrive at the place of their destination, while, on the contrary, they who wander from the right path will never arrive at their journey’s end.” 14 But is heaven just a reward for a life well-lived? Or is it a result of a life well-lived? The twentieth century apologist, Frank Sheed wrote: “this life is not only a test which men must pass in order to obtain the reward of heaven, it is a preparation which man must successfully undergo in order to live a life in heaven.” 15 Another great Catholic thinker and author, Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira wrote: “The kingdom of God will attain its fulfillment in the next world. But for all of us, it starts to exist germinally in this one—just as in a novitiate, the religious life is already put into practice, though as a preparation, and in a military school, a young man trains for the army by living a military life.” 16 With the aid of God’s supernatural grace, through the help of His Blessed Mother and His saints, we continue to keep our greatest hope alive till we reach our final destination—heaven!

**Notes:**

3. Ibid., p.28
5. USA Today, “Many beliefs, many paths to heaven?” Dec. 18, 2008
6. Stephen Hawking: ‘There is no heaven; it’s a fairy story’ (http://www.guardian.co.uk)
8. Ibid., pp.5-6.
9. Ibid., pp. 7-8.
10. Ibid., p. 12.
11. Ibid., pp. 15-17.
12. Ibid., pp. 63-64.
13. Ibid., p. 79.
“T he basic constitutional question initially is whether or not the unborn fetus is a person. That’s critical to this case, is it not?” said Supreme Court Chief Justice Burger during the Roe v. Wade court proceedings. “Could Texas, constitutionally, in your view, declare, by statute, that a fetus is a person for all constitutional purposes?” he asked.

“The state could obviously adopt that kind of statute, and then it would have to be adjudicated,” replied pro-abortion Attorney Sarah Weddington.

This short exchange of words has brought the pro-life movement to push for “personhood” legislation in many states. If the pro-life initiative passes, unborn children will finally have their God-given, inherent right to life recognized from the moment of conception. Innocent life will be protected, not killed.

Mississippi’s Amendment 26
During October and early November, TFP Student Action travelled to Mississippi’s ten largest cities to help push that state’s Personhood Amendment 26.

With big signs soliciting drivers to “Honk against abortion” and “Honk for life,” the average honks per minute hovered at around 25. At every campaign site, approximately 1,500 honks per hour rippled across the intersection. What a good stir it created! Many cars and trucks stopped to pick up pro-life literature. Other drivers clapped, waved, or gave double thumbs up.

In addition to holding signs and waving to passersby at busy intersections, other creative methods were employed to get the message out. Pro-life literature was placed on the windshields of thousands of parked cars at numerous shopping centers. TFP volunteers canvassed neighborhoods, going door to door. The bagpipes helped. “I don’t agree with the issue,” said a lady, surprised to hear bagpipes. “I ran into my living room to see where the music was coming from. The way you present your ideas trumps everything. It’s the best I’ve ever seen.”

Many hours were also spent at Mississippi’s Jackson State University to talk to those who were most likely to be swayed by argumentation and logic.

A Win-Win Campaign
Pro-abortion forces, desperate to derail the pro-life
Amendment 26, spent tens of millions of dollars to fund TV ads, radio commercials, billboards and phone campaigns. Mississippi residents were receiving long distance phone calls from a center in far away Maine, pressuring them not to vote for the amendment that would protect innocent life. When visiting Jackson State University, many college students were confused on how to vote after seeing billboards claiming the amendment would be the same as giving personhood to chicken eggs or hearing the false idea that it would prosecute mothers who have miscarriages.

Although the amendment did not pass, the vote did achieve the goal of promoting the personhood cause. “These amendments are win-win campaigns,” said TFP Student Action director John Ritchie. “They force people to ask if an unborn child is a person or not. We can never lose by bringing up this question.”

Let us continue to work and pray that the sin of abortion is completely eradicated from America.

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To learn more about this campaign and see videos, please visit [www.TFPStudentAction.org/Personhood](http://www.TFPStudentAction.org/Personhood)

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Pro-Abortion Speaker **CANCELLED** at Siena College

Siena College, a Catholic Franciscan institution in Loudonville, New York, has cancelled a scheduled presentation by pro-abortion, anti-Catholic speaker Widney Brown.

Siena College Adjunct Professor, Ken Jubie, sent out an email on Friday afternoon, stating: “The Globalization Program has cancelled the lecture scheduled for Monday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. Some previous statements made by the planned speaker were contrary to the spirit and mission of Siena College.”

The talk was nixed less than 12-hours after TFP Student Action launched its online protest. In a few hours, over 3,000 emails and personal phone calls were logged, respectfully urging the president of Siena College, Fr. Kevin Mullen, O.F.M., to reconsider the event.

The title of Widney Brown’s talk would have been, “The Prognosis for Human Rights in a Politically Changed World.”

“It’s hard to imagine how a vocal pro-abortion speaker was invited to speak about human rights on a Catholic campus,” said TFP Student Action Director John Ritchie. “Abortion has got to be the single, most egregious and widespread denial of human rights in history. So, I’m glad and thankful that Siena College pulled the plug on this speaker who denies children their right to life. I’m also grateful to everyone who took the time to contact the college and voice their concern.”
The following is an excerpt from Cardinal Raymond Burke’s pastoral letter “On the Dignity of Human Life and Civic Responsibility” which he wrote while bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Catholics cannot legitimately believe that, if they support programs for the poor and marginalized, this “makes up” for not being consistently pro-life. “Any politics of human dignity must seriously address issues of racism, poverty, hunger, employment, education, housing and health care. . . . But being ‘right’ in such matters can never excuse a wrong choice regarding direct attacks on innocent human life.”

“Indeed, the failure to protect and defend life in its most vulnerable stages renders suspect any claims to the ‘rightness’ of positions in other matters affecting the poorest and least powerful of the human community” (Living the Gospel of Life, n. 23).

“Concern for the plight of the poor must be accompanied by a profound respect for the dignity of all human life. Otherwise, it can be corrupted and all too easily embrace procured abortion and euthanasia as acts of compassion toward the suffering. But it is a false compassion which seeks to lessen human suffering by eliminating those who suffer. When we allow the killing of those most in need, we do not love the poor as Jesus did, Who gave His life as a ransom for many (cf. Matt 20:28; Mark 10:45; and 1 Tim 2:6).

The responsibility to defend human life in all its stages falls upon all Catholic citizens. It falls, with particular weight, upon Catholic politicians. A year ago, on the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith of our Holy Father Pope John Paul II published a document, Doctrinal Note On Some Questions Regarding the Participation of Catholics in Political Life (November 24, 2002), which clarifies for Catholic politicians their most serious responsibility for the defense of human life. The document explains: “John Paul II, continuing the constant teaching of the Church, has reiterated many times that those who are directly involved in lawmakers have a ‘grave and clear obligation to oppose’ any law that attacks human life. For them, as for every Catholic, it is impossible to promote such laws or to vote for them” (n.4a).

Renewing Enthusiasm for Moral Values

BY ALEXANDER MCKAY

A coalition of energetic conservative organizations and individuals from across America gathered on the weekend of October 7-9 for the sixth annual Values Voter Summit in Washington, D.C. Over 3,400 people attended the three-day event that included talks by presidential candidates, pro-family leaders, and breakout sessions, making it the largest Values Voter Summit to date. The influential conference gave like-minded Americans the opportunity to hear presentations opposing abortion, socialist healthcare, same-sex “marriage,” and the repeal of “don’t ask, don’t tell,” among other topics.

TFP Student Action volunteers manned a booth at the event, showcasing TFP campaigns for moral values on college campuses. Draped behind our table was an eye-catching, eight-foot banner: “God’s Marriage = 1 man + 1 woman.”

Video footage of TFP’s campaigns on campuses elicited many comments: “Y’all are the front lines” or just “Wow!” A selection of TFP publications and books also sparked interest from conference goers. The booth was bubbling with activity, discussions, media interviews, and even a few debates with libertarians who confuse liberty with license.

The dynamic conference demonstrates how the movement for moral values in America is at the forefront of our nation’s concern. With renewed commitment and enthusiasm, social conservatives will continue to play a pivotal role in the future of our nation.
F atima, Portugal—For the fifth year in a row, America Needs Fatima representatives made the pilgrimage to offer the Virgin of Fatima what is believed to be the largest bouquet of roses ever presented at the exact location where she appeared in 1917.

October 13, 2011. As the sun rose over the cloudless horizon, it promised to be a bright and clear day and we set to our task with energy and hope that the fair weather would hold. In this landlocked Portuguese plain, known to the locals as Cova da Iria, Our Lady appeared one last time to three little shepherds exactly 94 years ago today. In this great, natural amphitheatre, in the presence of a crowd of approximately 70,000, “the Lady of the Rosary” fulfilled her promise to Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta to perform a miracle “that all might believe.” Amid the fearful cries of those present, the sun catapulted itself from the sky and “danced” in the firmament above. The thought of these events was as overwhelming as the sight which now surrounded us: nearly 13,000 roses—and a growing crowd of onlookers.

They literally marveled at the huge quantity of roses and were even more astonished on learning that each of the red blooms represented a group of devotees of Our Lady, headed by a Rosary Rally Captain, who would be praying the rosary in a public location in America on the coming Saturday, October 15, 2011, at twelve noon. Further exclamations of admiration ensued as their attention was drawn to a banner with the individual names of these captains—7,515 in all. Questions flew fast as the full impact of what these roses represented began to sink in. When told of the average attendance at each Public Square Rosary Rally, we could almost see them doing the math in their heads and knew, when their eyes opened wide with surprise or filled with tears, that they had arrived at the right answer. Yet the questions continued: “How about the white roses, what do they mean? How many of them are there? They look like thousands, too!” “Yes, in fact, four thousand, seven hundred and twenty,” we responded. “And this banner over here bears the corresponding names of those individuals across our nation who generously supported this effort.” The amazement was total, profound and palpable. Some, eager to somehow be connected with all these thousands of Americans whom they instantly adopted in their hearts, offered their help. We willingly accepted.

This multitude of roses being offered to the Queen of Heaven represented a multitude of hearts in the United States of America from whence would rise a collective cry to the Immaculate Heart of Mary just two days later on October 15. Banners emblazoned with the message, “As human efforts fail to solve America’s key problems, we turn to God, through His Holy Mother, asking His urgent help,” would invite anyone walking the streets to join them. United in public prayers of reparation and filial supplication, the voices of an estimated 170,000-200,000 prayer warriors across our country and beyond would be rising to heaven.

From the steps of state capitols, city halls and local memorials; near busy shopping malls, abortion clinics and movie theatres; in city parks and public squares, a tsunami of prayers would progress from one American coast to the other and be echoed in 22 other countries around the world.

Mother Mary, please heed the prayers of your children in this hour of need and convert us all to your Son.
“This was our first Rosary Rally in Westfield, MA. A mother and child were inspired to come and join us. They had not said the Rosary before. Praise God! We had 52 people. What a wonderful experience! We’re looking forward to next year’s Rosary Rally.”

“Aloha! More than 100 people joined the Rosary in Kauai, Hawaii. Each of the five parishes on our island community were represented.”

“I had some difficulty at the 2011 Rosary Rally, but felt like our Blessed Mother was there to console and help us triumph all the way to the end of the Rosary! I would love to do this again. It’s something I always wanted to do for Our Lady and Our Lord.”

“Our world is filled with doubters and unbelievers so it’s left to individuals like us to share the story of the miracle of Fatima with everyone. In Los Angeles, California the holy Rosary was prayed in eight different languages by our priest who gave an opening prayer and a reflection on Our Lady of Fatima. We had 86 people in attendance.”

Recite your Rosary with faith, with humility, with confidence, and with perseverance.

—Saint Louis de Montfort
One day, through the Rosary and the Scapular, Our Lady will SAVE THE WORLD.

—Saint Dominic

“People were telling me how encouraged and inspired they felt to offer the true alternative to occupy Wall Street and their ‘Errors of Russia’ which Our Lady warned us about.”

—Our Lady of Fatima to Sister Lucia

“This is our 4th year here in Woodside, Queens New York. Our priest gave a talk about the importance of the Rosary and we gave away rosaries and Rosary guides to everyone. We ended the Rosary Rally with ‘God Bless America.’

“I participated in my first Rally and it was very powerful! Even though there were only eight of us and an unrelenting wind (which we likened to the Holy Spirit), we surely got people’s attention. We were in a very busy shopping center in Baltimore, MD in an area which really needs the Rosary and so many people slowed down or stopped to read the banner. I now realize just how important and effective these Rallies really are.”

To view more images of the Rosary Rallies, go to www.ANF.org.
Will America Needs Fatima be there for our grandchildren?

Like Mr. and Mrs. Jay Duncan of Conyngham, PA, many want America Needs Fatima to be around for their grandchildren... and beyond. So, please consider making a charitable bequest to America Needs Fatima when you write or amend your will.

You will be deeply satisfied to know that your generosity will help future generations to know, love and practice a message of such importance, that God sent His Holy Mother to deliver it personally to us at Fatima in 1917.

Pass on Devotion to the Next Generation

To pass on devotion to Our Lady to the next generation, ask your attorney to include in your will either of the following phrases:

**OPTION 1**

“I give and bequeath the sum of $______ dollars to be used for the general purposes of America Needs Fatima, a special campaign of The Foundation for a Christian Civilization, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt charity located at 1358 Jefferson Rd., Spring Grove, PA 17362.”

**OPTION 2**

“I give, devise and bequeath to America Needs Fatima, a special campaign of The Foundation for a Christian Civilization, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt charity located at 1358 Jefferson Rd., Spring Grove, PA 17362, for its general purposes all or you can state fraction or percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, whether real or personal.”

**YOUR HELP WILL MAKE SUCH APOSTOLATES POSSIBLE:**

- Home visitations with the Pilgrim Virgin statues of Our Lady of Fatima, reaching tens of thousands of families annually
- Acts of reparation and protests nationwide to stop blasphemous attacks against the Sacred Persons of Jesus and Mary
- Massive promotion of religious literature, books, medals and especially Rosaries
- Hold thousands of Public Square Rosary Rallies annually
- Family Pilgrimages to Marian Shrines
- Outreach programs for high-school and college students

For more information, please call Louisa at (888) 317-5571.

**CUSTODIAN’S CORNER**

“Be Careful—You’re Becoming a Catholic.”

**BY KENNETH MURPHY**

Since April 2011, I have had the honor of bringing a statue of Our Lady of Fatima to the families of East and South Baltimore. This area is always under the sound of airplanes flying in and out of Baltimore’s busy international airport or within a stone’s throw of Chesapeake Bay.

One of our greatest joys in this particular area of the city is the struggle to bring souls to the Church by teaching them two important first steps: the role of Our Lady and the recitation of the Rosary. For many Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Jews or Atheists we meet, this first step brings them graces crucial to understanding Catholic teaching. And Our Lady never fails to give that special grace.

**Non-Catholics and the Rosary**

So far most have been open to learning about the role of Our Lady and they join the Rosary with the help of our “how to” Rosary booklets and a free Rosary.

After reciting the Rosary at one such visit, a Jewish lady asked, “May I keep the booklet?” “Be careful—you’re becoming a Catholic,” joked her Lutheran friend who had also attended and prayed the Rosary. “Don’t worry, I won’t,” she replied. “But... I might pray the Rosary.” The same Lutheran lady and her husband also went home with the Rosary and their free Rosary booklets.

**Understanding Our Lady**

At another time I visited the Ejimkonye family. They attended with wide-eyed interest as I explained the proofs of the miracle of the sun. Only when the mother asked me to explain why Catholics use holy water did I realize that she and her children were Baptist, not Catholic. She then questioned, “Why ask the Mother [of God] for help when we can go straight to Jesus?”

I turned to her children and asked if they knew the story of the wedding feast at Cana, which they did not. I told them how Our Lord’s first miracle was to turn water into wine after Our Lady perceived the servants’ predicament and asked her Son to help them because they had run out of wine.

Several months later I contacted the Ejimkonye family to ask them how they were doing. They have been saying the Rosary each day and are now receiving Catechetical instruction.

To schedule a Fatima visit in your home, call (888) 460-7371.
It was supposed to be a “normal” TFP National Conference with a roster of speakers, packed into the last weekend of October. However, it was anything but a “normal” weekend for the nearly 250 TFP members, supporters and friends who gathered at the TFP’s national headquarters in Spring Grove, Penn., this year.

As soon as most participants had arrived, the weather changed and the autumn leaves which usually provide a pleasing backdrop to the conference were soon covered with five inches of snow. All sorts of obstacles had to be overcome. However, these efforts were rewarded by a marvelous winter wonderland, which keynote speaker Prince Bertrand of Orleans-Braganza called “a smile of Our Lady upon us all.”

The entire event was under Our Lady’s maternal gaze as all sensed the graces and determination to carry on the Counter-revolutionary struggle so that she and, ultimately, her divine Son may reign upon the earth.

Fighting for Our Culture
Talks centered on the need for Catholics to unite and fight, always legally and peacefully, against the cultural assault upon what remains of Christian civilization. TFP Vice President John Horvat defined the fight by contrasting the individualist mentality that destroys tradition, family and property with the Catholic mentality that promotes these three values. Mr. Michael Whitcraft masterfully outlined the reasons why Catholics must fight in addition to praying. Mr. Luis Solimeo spoke of the need for a “crusader spirit” in face of the Islamist threat.

TFP Washington Bureau head Mario Navarro da Costa spoke on “Fatima: Leadership in Times of Upheaval,” an historical perspective on how leadership can arise in the present-day crisis. Mr. Gustavo Solimeo’s highly encouraging talk was titled, “If We Fight, God Will Provide the Victory.” Mr. Norman Fulkerson took a rather psychological approach by showing how true happiness can be found in the Counter-revolutionary struggle. For his part, Mr. Ruben Quezada of St. Joseph Communications and the Catholic Resource Center gave a presentation on the Cristero movement in Mexico in the twenties.

A Call to Activism
Practical examples of how Catholics can react were presented. TFP member Michael Shibler invited participants to engage in the struggle for traditional marriage in their communities. America Needs Fatima director Robert Ritchie issued a call to activism in face of the rash of what he called blasphemy terrorism. In addition

Nearly 250 attended the conference.
Rosary Rallies “Occupy” 7,515 Public Squares

BY JOHN HORVAT II

As many as 200,000 Americans took to the streets on October 15 and “occupied” thousands of public squares nationwide to voice their concerns about the nation’s future. Such an outpouring of public sentiment should have been enough to attract the attention of any decent media.

However, that was not the case. These Americans were not the angry squatters at Zuccotti Park near Wall Street in New York City. Rather, they were Americans proudly praying in 7,515 public squares all across America asking God’s assistance in resolving the nation’s grave moral problems.

Peaceful and Legal Rally

As a participant in the rosary rally on Fifth Avenue, I could not help being struck by the contrast between two opposing camps—the Public Square Rosary Rallies and the Occupy Wall Street Movement. I was hardly shocked by the corresponding media coverage.

Our rally peacefully and legally “occupied” to blasphemous movies, plays and “art,” Mr. Ritchie also listed the horrific defacing and smashing of Catholic statues and other sacrileges that are becoming ever more frequent.

The conference took place after the October 15 public square rosary rallies held in 7,515 locations throughout America and served as an occasion to contemplate further actions, especially in defense of traditional marriage.

Special Graces

The evening candlelight Rosary procession was especially touching as the American TFP’s life-size replica of Seville’s Our Lady of Hope, Macarena was carried on a large litter by strong supporters to reign majestically over all.

Prince Bertrand’s keynote address at the final dinner stressed that Our Lady wants Christ to reign once again. Using the example of the Catholic leadership of Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, he exhorted participants to continue their efforts, confiding in the promise of victory given at Fatima. The final farewell lingered long into the night as all gave thanks to Christ the King and the Blessed Mother for a weekend full of blessings.
entire event. The bagpipes echoed up and down the concrete canyon to the strains of while others even joined the crowd for the gone to local rallies. The idea of local organization was so strong that one local rally within earshot of our own. lies within the New York metropolitan area. Fifth Avenue told me that all her friends had gone to local rallies all over the country. One participant at our symbolic rally on the sidewalk in front of Rockefeller Center across from St. Patrick’s Cathedral. There is probably no more conspicuous place in all America as tens of thousands daily walk down those busy sidewalks.

Our demonstration of faith was extremely edifying as those present were comforted by the fact that they were joined by so many other rallies all over the country. Actually, there were well over a hundred rallies within the New York metropolitan area. There were forty-eight in the Bronx alone. One participant at our symbolic rally on Fifth Avenue told me that all her friends had gone to local rallies. The idea of local organization was so strong that one local rally captain insisted on holding a separate rally within earshot of our own.

Joy and Faith
Participants were from all walks of life: strong in their faith and determined to give public witness that human solutions are not enough. I was impressed by how they almost shouted out their Hail Marys over the din of the busy street and knelt on the sidewalk without human respect. A few passersby would pray a Hail Mary or two while others even joined the crowd for the entire event. The bagpipes echoed up and down the concrete canyon to the strains of “Hail, Holy Queen Enthroned Above.” The effect was electrifying as one felt as if Our Lady was actually queen of the public square for at least a short time.

What impressed me most was the calm and joy of the participants, who sensed the importance of what they were doing. They were publicly appealing to a higher authority, asking our Blessed Mother to come to our aid. As a result, a palpable blessing came over the rally.

At times the wind would blow intensely, making it difficult to hold the American flag and the four TFP standards. At other times, the wind calmed down and the sun would illuminate the crowd almost as if Our Lady was smiling upon our efforts.

Everything about the rally reflected beauty, calm and order. Everyone left with the impression that our prayers were heard. We felt a new resolve to continue fighting in the public square against an anti-Christian culture.

Anti-Rosary Rally
On the other side of the city, in Zuccotti Park, ‘Occupy Wall Street’ protesters raged. In fact, after our public square Rosary, I went to see what it was all about. The contrast to our public square Rosary could not have been greater. I found an anti-Rosary rally.

The climate was one of deliberate chaos and agitation. Tribal drums beat out their message as the protesters sat and stood around the perimeter of the small park with primitive cardboard signs championing every leftist, ecological or sexual cause imaginable and unimaginable. A Woodstock atmosphere pervaded amid the tarps and sleeping bags that littered the once clean sidewalks and well-kept lawns of the privately owned park.

A Spirit of Revolt
What impressed me was not so much the uncleanliness of the place (although it was aggressive); it was not even the wildly contradictory messages that the different protesters presented. Rather it was the agitated spirit of revolt that permeated the whole area. This spirit would manifest itself in displays of resentment, bitterness or even a veiled politeness on the part of those there. It would erupt into outright hatred, as in the case I saw of a street preacher upon whom the protesters heaped abuse and insults. Earlier it had erupted in violent clashes with the police.

I could not help but think how different these people—united in revolt—were from those who had just been united in prayer.

Throughout it all, the media, that could not see 7,500 “invisible” public square rosary rallies, flocked to Zuccotti Park seemingly eager to turn this motley assembly into revolutionaries of a pseudo-class struggle using a script straight out of Marx’s Communist Manifesto.

Prayers Not in Vain
It was a relief to leave the park and head back home. I was comforted by thinking of all the rosary rallies that had taken place. Our peaceful and legal ‘occupation’ of 7,515 public squares dwarfed the efforts of these wannabe revolutionaries who have unsuccessfully tried to build enthusiasm by holding gatherings in places outside New York City.

Judging from media reports about the numbers of Wall Street Occupiers around the globe, I calculated that the nearly 200,000 Americans who turned to God in the public square probably outnumbered these poor partisans of the left by over three to one. The media did not take note of our efforts, but millions of American passersby did. Above all, God took note.

I was also comforted by the conviction that these prayers were not in vain. Our Lady at Fatima predicted her triumph over communism in all of its many forms. If we continue to pray, fight for our culture and oppose socialism, she will not fail to come to our aid.
Soon after entering the protest perimeter at Zuccotti Park, a piece of communist propaganda was thrust into my hand. The flier begins: “It’s not just Wall Street... capitalism must be destroyed.”

As I continued reading, other lines jumped off the page: “Only communism can live up to the aspirations the Occupy Wall Street movement has tapped into.” Then the tag line calls readers to “join the revolutionary communist Progressive Labor Party.”

I kept walking, tiptoeing around a maze of sleeping bags and clutter. The next sight that caught my attention was a large, dirty flag stamped with the figure of communist terrorist Che Guevara held by a disheveled protester. I approached and saw “Smash the State” printed on it. “I don’t think this is going to remain peaceful,” said the fellow holding the communist Che flag. Meanwhile, a group of agitated anarchists dressed in dark, dirty clothes yelled, “What does democracy look like? This is what democracy looks like.”

Beside the Che flag was a gray-bearded man hawking buttons. “I’m an anarchist,” he offered. Pointing to his buttons, he explained: “These are anti-war, these are racial, these are gender [pro-homosexual], and these are anti-authoritarian.” Other crude signs were displayed amid the eclectic conglomeration of hundreds of disgruntled protesters. “Eat the rich,” said one. Others promoted socialism or environmental “rights.”

Then I stumbled into a discussion circle dedicated to “breaking the gender binary,” which is another way of saying they want to dismantle the differences between male and female. The very idea of manhood and womanhood was offensive to them. How interesting. Seemingly separate movements all converged for a common revolt. Protesters shared a common contempt for authority, our military, morality, law, order, private property and inequality in general. By chance, I looked up and saw a man holding a megaphone emblazoned with the word “revolt.”

Churchill put it well: “Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy. Its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery.”

“I continued strolling around.

The odor was aggressive, very unpleasant. Almost every conversation I overheard was heavily laden with profanity. I was even cursed out by a woman who did not like my video camera.

The protesters fancy that they represent 99% of America. But do they? Do people waving communist flags stamped with an image of Che Guevara, peddling anarchy and socialism really represent 99% of America? No. Not even 1%.
Student Vindicated After Wrongful Suspension

BY ZACHARY LONG

The Fort Worth Independent School District has issued a letter to Liberty Counsel fully vindicating high school freshman Dakota Ary. Dakota was given in-school suspension for telling another student that he believes homosexuality is wrong because of his Christian faith. The letter is in response to a request by Liberty Counsel for a full vindication and retraction of the suspension. The district’s letter will be placed in Dakota’s permanent file to further clear his record.

Shortly after the incident, TFP Student Action launched a petition urging Western Hills High School to completely clear Dakota Ary’s record. Very soon, over 7,500 people contacted the school to express their protest and concern.

The District’s letter apologized for the delay in returning the student back to the classroom, and stated that “Dakota has the right to express an opinion in a manner consistent with law and policy.”

Dakota was in German language class at Western Hills High School when the topic of homosexuality arose. He said to one of his classmates, “I’m a Christian and, to me, being homosexual is wrong.” School teacher Kristopher Franks overheard the comment, wrote Dakota an infraction, and sent him to the principal’s office.

The discipline referral form says the comment was out of context for the class, even though the lesson for the day was on religious beliefs. Franks charged Dakota with “possible bullying” and indicated, “It is wrong to make such a statement in public school.”

Two weeks prior to this event, Franks displayed a picture of two men kissing on a “World Wall” and told his students that homosexuality is becoming more prevalent in the world and that they should just accept it. Many of the students were offended by Franks’ actions and his continually bringing up the topic of homosexuality in German language class.

Mathew D. Staver, Founder and Chairman of Liberty Counsel, commented: “We are pleased that the school district vindicated Dakota Ary. No public school teacher should use the position of authority to bully students to accept homosexuality. That is what this teacher did, and he got his hand caught in the cookie jar. We want to make sure this never again happens to any student.”

Franks was temporarily placed on administrative leave with pay, but more importantly, the School District must now protect students from being bullied into accepting homosexuality.

TFP VOLUNTEERS REFUTE SOCIALISM

BY JOSEPH JORDAN

TFP Student Action volunteers frequently travel to crowded university campuses to defend moral values. On September 26, we visited George Washington University in downtown Washington, D.C. We spoke with students who had been attracted to our bagpipes and slogans, and we distributed “10 Reasons to Reject Socialism” on the busy campus. Some of us held four big signs, reading: “Socialism = Communism: Keep America Free!” “May God protect America from socialism!” “Socialism denies property rights, moral values, freedom and God’s rights;” and “Socialism: Spreading your wealth to make everybody poor.”

“You’re doing the right thing! Keep it up! Our country is on the edge of socialism and we need to steer clear of it,” said a student after taking a TFP flyer.

Self-described socialists, however, were not so happy. “Communism failed because it was never fully applied,” insisted one pro-communist student. “That’s why it hasn’t worked yet.”

“Yes, it’s a utopia that will never work,” responded TFP member John Miller. “If communism were fully implemented, it would destroy the very controls that keep the despotic regime in power because it hates all forms of authority.”

Using foul language and nonsensical assertions, one socialist student affirmed that “Nazism was not socialist.” After he was informed that the Nazi party defined itself as the National Socialist Workers’ Party, he acknowledged his blunder, “you got me.”

Another furiously uttered: “If you young people succeed and stay conservative, this country will become more conservative as you get older.” He was replied to with a smile, “Yes, and that is a good thing.”

Socialism, consistently condemned by many Catholic encyclicals, denies private property, legitimate inequality, personal freedom and, worst of all, the rights of God. In short, much more than an economic program, it promotes a worldview in complete discordance with natural and Divine law. TFP Student Action will continue to defend morality in the public square and help keep students aware of the dangers that socialism increasingly poses in America.
Modern science used to pride itself on its insistence on doubting everything and establishing the truth of things based on empirical data. Often the lone scientist would work hard against the common assumptions and make great breakthroughs and discoveries.

It seems such ideas about science are becoming old-fashioned and romantic. Today’s scientists are part of university establishments that must worry about their bottom line and prestige. Sometimes it is simply too controversial to doubt. Scientists are treated no different from other academics and are encouraged to tow the politically—or ecologically-correct party line to ensure their future careers.

The most evident example of such anti-science pressure is the growing debate around the issue of man-made global warming. The politically-correct “consensus” is that such global warming is a fact that cannot be contested. In fact, the highly respected American Physical Society (APS) has gone so far as to declare global warming a dogma that is “incontrovertible.” One may not doubt or even express misgivings.

Such statements were too much for some academics who value their freedom to think independently. One such academic is Norwegian-born American Prof. Ivar Giaever. He has just resigned from APS.

Prof. Giaever is no lightweight among physicists. He was elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society because of his fine work. He also shared the 1973 Nobel Prize in Physics and has worked for leading institutions of higher research.

However, the aged professor recently told The Sunday Telegraph, “Incontrovertible is not a scientific word. Nothing is incontrovertible in science.” He insists that not only is the warming theory subject to doubt but added, “Global warming has become the new religion.”

Nor is he alone. Prof. Giaever joined with more than 100 scientists in a March 30, 2009 open letter to President Obama declaring, “We maintain that the case for alarm regarding climate change is grossly overstated.” He believes measurement instruments are not accurate and that the world climate has actually been “amazingly stable” for 150 years.

The American Physical Society’s policy statement could not be more Gore-compliant. It reads: “Emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities are changing the atmosphere in ways that affect the Earth’s climate. They are emitted from fossil fuel combustion and a range of industrial and agricultural processes. The evidence is incontrovertible: global warming is occurring. If no mitigating actions are taken, significant disruptions in the Earth’s physical and ecological systems, social systems, security and human health are likely to occur. We must reduce emissions of greenhouse gases beginning now.”

Such statements have led many prominent scientists like Prof. Giaever to speak out—some at great price to their reputations. These consensus-breaking dissenters are an increasing embarrassment for the scientific establishment that is claiming an overwhelming consensus to global warming dogma.

However, in the light of the “Climate-gate” scandals at the Climatic Research Unit at the University of East Anglia, more scientists are expressing doubts about the “evidence” that cannot be doubted. Prof. Hal Lewis from the University of California, for example, also left the APS denouncing global warming as a “scam” and a “pseudo-scientific fraud.”

It seems that the more prominent scientists protest and leave the scientific society, the more the APS insists that “virtually all reputable scientists” agree that carbon dioxide is increasing in the atmosphere due to human activity. Apparently, all those who leave the consensus, including Nobel laureates, join the ranks of disreputable scientists that dare to doubt.

There was a time when science welcomed different views and hypotheses as part of the scientific method. What is particularly disturbing about the present developments is that the dissenting opinions are summarily discarded by the science establishment and media. It seems there are some sacrosanct topics that cannot be challenged; some opinions that must be suppressed and some politically correct dogmas that must be imposed upon all without exception. Meanwhile, the cold chill of global warming politics is being felt throughout the scientific community.
The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) has just announced that it will be discouraging the use of Christian dating references in its programming. Anno Domini (A.D.—the year of Our Lord) and Before Christ (B.C.) should now be replaced with the “religiously neutral” Common Era (CE) and Before Common Era (BCE).

The reason given for the broadcaster’s partiality toward the new terms is the BBC’s “commitment to impartiality” and a desire not “to offend or alienate non-Christians.”

The new policy is a sad commentary on our modern world’s offensive against Christ. Christophobia has now reached such a point that even the remote reference to Christ of our dating system must be discouraged. The desire not to offend is so great that the BBC feels it necessary to offend one billion Christians worldwide. Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who came into this world to redeem mankind, is now spurned once again by the world with the desire to erase from public memory any reference to His existence.

However, such efforts are exercises in futility. For 2,000 years, men have at least had the intellectual honesty to admit that a great event marked history, which was the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Hence, we have the designation B.C. and A.D. There is no way to deny this.

Even the cynical promoters of the new date designations are forced to admit that some unnamed great event divides history which corresponds to the time of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. They are forced to admit it was so extraordinary that all else becomes common. After Christ, they designate as the Common Era. Before Christ, it appears there was another common era, which is only distinguished by the fact that it came before the present Common Era. The center of this distorted designation is still Christ, albeit not identified.

However, if the BBC and so many others were honest, we would hope that they would at least have the originality and imagination to find a simple designation of their own. Maybe they could find something that would not be offensive to anyone.

Alas, perhaps the egalitarian “common” is the best designation, since by leveling everyone to the level of common, no one can claim to be more than any other. Yet by offending no one, they offend everyone. We must all accept the ignoble “common” as a testimony to our own insignificance. Our history (or “evolution” in their terms) is thereby reduced to a confused jumble of random events where nothing should stand out.

If a simple designation is not possible, perhaps they could choose some extraordinary event or person before and after which all is divided. Here again, we run into problems. We must automatically exclude all religious and ancient calendars for the same reason that the Christian calendar is being excluded.

In this case, we should hold the BBC and its politically correct allies to the standard of finding a calendar based on their own secular non-offending events or people. Perhaps we might suggest B.B.C. (Before Being Challenged) or perhaps A.D. (After Diversity). Even A.D. (after Darwin) or B.F. (Before Freud) might be suggested.

However, this would be yet another exercise in futility. Political correctness is hopelessly unpopular beyond academia and government bureaucracies. No other calendar so conquered the world than that of Christ. Christianity, like the calendar, spread all over the earth to bring the Good News of the Gospel to all peoples. Indeed, He conquered the world and His kingdom shall have no end.

In fact, the whole debate is pointless. One day when the history of our era will be written, historians will refer to our confused times and mention these little incidents in their footnotes referring to our neo-pagan times and the preceding Christian era—maybe with B.B.B.C.—Before the BBC.
AS HUMAN EFFORTS FAIL

to solve our growing economic, social, moral and spiritual troubles, more people are turning to the supernatural for solutions. That’s why the idea of holding a Rosary in a public place is becoming increasingly popular. We are following the Fatima message of prayer, penance, and saying the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.


In 2011, there were 7,515 Public Square Rosary Rallies held across the United States as well as in 22 other countries across the globe.

To see more pictures of the 2011 Public Square Rosary Rallies, turn to page 14.

When you say your Rosary, the angels rejoice, the Blessed Trinity delights in it, my Son finds joy in it too, and I myself am happier than you can possibly guess. After the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, there is nothing in the Church that I love as much as the Rosary.

—Our Lady to Blessed Alan de la Roche

To learn more about becoming a Rosary Rally Captain in 2012, go to www.ANF.org/2012Captain