



# The Bellowing Ox

The Winter Solstice Issue 2023 A.D.  
A publication of Aquinas Communications, Inc.



**Defenders of The One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Faith since 2013**

## THE CONSECRATION PRAYER TO THE DIVINE WILL

O adorable and Divine Will, here I am, before the immensity of Your Light, that Your Eternal Goodness may open to me the doors, and make me enter into It, to form my life all in You, Divine Will.

Therefore, prostrate before Your Light, I, the littlest among all creatures, come, O adorable Will, into the little group of the first children of Your Supreme Fiat. Prostrate in my nothingness, I beseech and implore Your endless Light, that It may want to invest me and eclipse everything that does not belong to You, in such a way that I may do nothing other than look, comprehend and live in You, Divine Will.

It will be my life, the center of my intelligence, the enrapturer of my heart and of my whole being. In this heart the human will will no longer have life; I will banish it forever, and will form the new Eden of peace, of happiness and of love. With It I shall always be happy, I shall have a unique strength, and a sanctity that sanctifies everything and brings everything to God.

Here prostrate, I invoke the help of the Sacrosanct Trinity, that They admit me to live in the cloister of the Divine Will, so as to restore in me the original order of Creation, just as the creature was created.

Celestial Mother, Sovereign Queen of the Divine Fiat, take me by the hand and enclose me in the Light of the Divine Will. You will be my guide, my tender Mother; You will guard your child, and will teach me to live and to maintain myself in the order and in the bounds of the Divine Will. Celestial Sovereign, to your Heart I entrust my whole being; I will be the tiny little child of the Divine Will. You will teach me the Divine Will, and I will be attentive in listening to You. You will lay your blue mantle over me, so that the infernal serpent may not dare to penetrate into this Sacred Eden to entice me and make me fall into the maze of the human will.

Heart of my highest Good, Jesus, You will give me Your flames, that they may burn me, consume me and nourish me, to form in me the life of the Supreme Will.

Saint Joseph, You will be my Protector, the Custodian of my heart, and will keep the keys of my will in Your hands. You will keep my heart jealously, and will never give it to me again, that I may be sure never to go out of the Will of God.

Guardian Angel, guard me, defend me, help me in everything, so that my Eden may grow flourishing, and be the call of the whole world into the Will of God. Celestial Court, come to my help, and I promise You to live always in the Divine Will. Amen. †



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More than a hundred years ago, St. Pius X announced the worst heresy in history — modernism — whose principal doctrine was “evolution.” St. Pius X saw that if the modernists took control, they would destroy everything because they would say that “the liturgy, marriage laws, and moral doctrines” of the past must be changed —since we have “evolved” into a new situation.

This madness has spread everywhere because it has claimed a “scientific” foundation.

Brilliant intellectuals like Fr. Zahm at Notre Dame University at the beginning of the 20th century defied the Congregation of the Index, which in 1878 had forbidden theologians from attempting to reconcile evolution with the Catholic Faith by



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## WELCOME TO The Bellowing Ox

### BREAKING NEWS!!!!

#### The "world" *will* be coming to an end!

Ironically, this is true. Still, at least half of the population on Earth don't know and/or don't care.

As individual humans, most are well aware that *our* own personal time on Earth is finite. Yet, it is somewhat amazing how little time and effort most people spend contemplating this reality.

How many people will die each day in 2023? The World Death Rate is 166,324 deaths per day. Around the world, 6,930 people die every hour - including an average of 332 per day in United States.<sup>1</sup>

I don't know about you, but it seems like it would be more than 332 folks in the USA just by the number of obituaries in local newspapers every day. Alas, the Internet gave me these numbers, so it must be true.

But I digress; as individuals, most of us know *our* time on Earth will come to an end. We just don't want to think about it, or acknowledge it...or even care.

#### So, how about the entire world? Is it going to end?

Well, if we "follow the science" - a phrase that now has virtually no true meaning - the Earth has continuously changed over many millenia. My science books in school showed dinosaurs. They all disappeared when the Earth became both too hot and too cold over a period of thousands of years. Apparently, they just didn't have the skillset to build enough windmills or solar panels to affect climate change either.

Now, here we are, in the 21st Century. Some people still believe that us mere humans can substantially impact the climate - yet we cannot even change the direction of

the wind, make it rain, stop it from snowing, extinguish wild fires, or re-direct hurricanes and tornadoes. Silly people.

Sooo many folks will spend a lifetime (pun intended) trying to fix or solve climate "problems" and save the Earth. Why? What is the goal?

Many of these same people are also in favor of ordering individual items from anywhere in the world and have it shipped right to their doorstep...every day of every week of every month.

To make it even more disgusting, apparently about 50% of the population completely approve of killing babies and senior citizens. And, they are not even having families or children of their own.

Why would they have families? It's really too confusing for the young folks these days: They/them/he/she/him/her/me/pronoun/hetero/homo/queer/trans/binary/gay/non-binary/it just don't know who they are! Most importantly, THEY DON'T HAVE A PURPOSE!

But we all really do have a purpose. How do we know? The answer is faith and truth...which is not discussed, taught, or sought anymore. Faith is focused on both God and truth; it is the friend of wisdom.

As societies, faith and truth are no longer sought or taught. Truth is open to interpretation. Wisdom is just a perspective.

How many truly realize that *THIS world - as we know it - will end* and their final and permanent destination will be either Heaven or Hell? This is **the Truth**.

The grading system will not be on a curve and the criteria to pass through the narrow gate is not negotiable.

Greg Yoko, Publisher

<sup>1</sup> [www.worldpopulationreview.com](http://www.worldpopulationreview.com)

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*No souls were lost as a result of the publication of this magazine.*

#### Staff:

Tom Oglesby, President  
Colleen Pasnik, Vice President  
Greg Yoko, Publisher  
Chris Ehlers, Web Editor  
Bill Pasnik, Copy Editor  
Mark Hoeger, Dave Schmitz, Acct Mgrs

#### Contributors:

Fr. Anthony Brankin, Monica Daly,  
Tim Duggan, Art Gilloon,  
Mark Hoeger, Mary Jane Keppler Cole,  
Brad Markham, Rick Merfeld,  
Brad Miller, Chuck Olson, Hugh Owen,  
Colleen Pasnik, Matthew Plese,  
David Rodriguez, Elizabeth Weber,  
Kaleh Williams, Emma Woelfel

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announcement for inclusion in  
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or on FM 98.3 KCRD, go to  
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P. O. Box 3306  
Dubuque, Iowa 52004  
563-231-3545

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## LAUGHING IN THE FACE OF SOCIETY'S IGNORANCE



Dr. Ray Guarendi, the keynote speaker at KCRD's 10th anniversary celebration, didn't dismiss the reality of the direction that most of society is going. In fact, the clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker, national radio and television host acknowledged - with humor - that there is very little common sense or science that substantiates the current beliefs and direction that the culture has adopted.

He asked and answered the curious transition that has occurred over the past generation that has the children

exhibiting the control over the operation of the family...or the disfunction of the family. As he spoke, heads nodded with affirmation.

"The adults have withdrawn their authority over their children" he exclaimed. "It's amazing, and very sad, of course, to see a 4-year old boy or 13-year girl telling their parents what needs to be done and setting the rules. Can you imagine YOUR parents letting this happen?!"

Dr. Ray's shared stories of he and his wife raising their 10 adopted children.

His training as a comedian certainly made him an enjoyable speaker as there was almost continuous laughter throughout the evening.

You can listen to his presentation by going to the KCRD-FM website: <https://kcrd-fm.org/2023-autumn-evangelization-conference>

Of course, Dr. Ray's radio show, "The Dr. Is In" can be heard on 500



stations and Sirius XM channel 130. The program airs on FM 98.3 KCRD in Dubuque at Noon, Monday-Friday.

His TV show, "Living Right With Dr. Ray" can be seen on EWTN Global Catholic Network.

As outlined in our cover story: **BUILDING THE HOME FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF EVANGELISTS**, Dr. Ray's appearance in Dubuque in support of Aquinas Communications was the start of a campaign to raise

A promotional advertisement for Anderson-Weber. It features a man in a red vest working on a car tire. The text includes the Anderson-Weber logo, the slogan "WHEN YOU'RE READY.", the date "OCTOBER 2023", and the offer "BUY 3 TIRES, GET THE FOURTH FOR \$1". A note at the bottom specifies "(Toyota and Scion vehicles only)".

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funds that are needed to continue the successful evangelization into the next generation.

Please help Aquinas Communications prepare the way for the next generation to lead the evangelization effort with the physical tools that are needed. †

*St. Thomas Aquinas, pray for us!*



*A rendition of a sample 10,000 s.f. building needed to maintain the future of Aquinas Communications.*

### AQUINAS COMMUNICATIONS MISSION STATEMENT

Aquinas Communications is an apostolate of the Catholic Laity. Our mission is to educate people on the Truth of Jesus Christ; to be loyal to the Catholic Church's Magisterial Authority, to The Catholic Church's Sacred Tradition, and to Holy Scripture.



*Emperor of Evolution continued from page 1*

pointing to the alleged “fact,” — exemplified in the drawings of the German anatomist Ernst Haeckel — that the human embryo recapitulates all the stages of evolution in his mother’s womb.

In 1950, Pius XII published the encyclical *Humani generis* and reminded the Bishops of their duty to teach that all of Genesis is true history and that every word in the Bible is true — not only when it speaks of faith or morals but when it speaks of history, natural science or anything else.

The only permission he gave was for scholars to examine the evidence for and against the evolutionary hypothesis. Nine years later, on the 100th anniversary of the publication of *Origin of Species*, the leading evolutionist scientist in the world, Sir Julian Huxley, announced that embryology, as exemplified in Haeckel’s drawings, gave the best proof that a one-celled organism had turned into a human being through a material process of evolution — and the great majority of Catholic intellectuals meekly assented to his claim.

In 1970, Fr. Karl Rahner went into print asserting that human embryos went through all the stages of evolution — a fish stage when they had gills, an amphibian stage, a reptilian stage when they had a vestigial tail, before finally reaching the human stage. This was the moment when my father, Sir David Owen, retired from the U.N. to become the first Secretary General of International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), as IPPF changed its public position on abortion and began its campaign for abortion on demand.

Catholic intellectuals like Fr. Rahner had made IPPF’s job easy, as the abortion lobbyists could now say, “Your finest theologians recognize that evolution is a fact. How can you be so stupid as to think that something at the fish stage deserves all the rights of a fully developed human being?”

**Of course, when photographs of the human embryo and the embryos of the other kinds of organisms were eventually available and published in comparison to Haeckel’s drawings, they proved that the human embryo was quite distinct from all of the other kinds of creatures at the same stage of development — and that the other kinds of organisms were equally distinct from each other — flatly contradicting the predictions of the leading evolutionists.**

Yet every element of the anti-culture of death continues to derive its respectability from the so-called “science” of evolution. There would be no rational justification for contraception, abortion, transgenderism, or homosexuality if evolution were exposed as the pseudo-science that it is. **But to this day, most Catholic intellectuals ignore Pope Pius XII’s exhortation to examine its claims.**

When I was an undergraduate at Princeton University, the consensus view in biology held that 98% of human DNA was “junk” left over from the millions of years of human evolution. Richard Dawkins went all over the world winning converts to atheism with this bogus claim, while most Catholic intellectuals remained silent or concurred.

Yet when Project Encode studied the so-called “non-coding” DNA, scientists discovered that it’s not junk. It operates at a higher level of functioning than the DNA that codes for protein, often switching on and off genetic programs that enable plants and animals to adapt to changing environments.

We now know that the DNA sequences in the cells of all living things can be:

- Read in one direction to give a meaningful set of instructions
- Read in the opposite direction to give a different meaningful set of instructions
- That there is a pattern whereby every so many letters can be read to give a third set of meaningful instructions
- And the sequence can be translated into another language to give a fourth set of meaningful instructions.

No human being can create information at this level of density and complexity — and, as renowned plant geneticist Dr. Sanford has demonstrated, information this dense and complex cannot be improved by mutations. It can only degenerate. **Thus, we know for certain that we are not evolving into Superman. We are devolving from an original state of perfection, just as God revealed in the sacred history of Genesis.**

Indeed, God’s Revelation tells us that He created everything in the universe for us out of love. When we destroyed the harmony of the first created world with our sin, God came down into the misery that we made, took it upon Himself, suffered and died for us, rose again, and founded the Catholic Church so that we could become new creations in Him; and cooperate with Him in restoring everything back to the beauty that it had in the beginning; and to bring it to an even more wonderful perfection at the end of time.

That understanding gives meaning to every human life — a meaning that the evolutionary account of origins destroys, thus paving the way for the global anti-culture of death. **It is high time for the Catholic faithful to proclaim that the Emperor of Evolution has no clothes — and to restore the traditional doctrine of creation as the foundation of our Faith and the only firm foundation for a culture of life.**

By Hugh Owen, Director, Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation  
[www.kolbecenter.org](http://www.kolbecenter.org) and [wwwFOUNDATIONSRESTORED.COM](http://wwwFOUNDATIONSRESTORED.COM)

The Roman Catechism summed up the dogma of creation as it had been handed down from the Apostles and Church Fathers by teaching that “The Divinity created all things in the beginning. He spoke and they were made.”

Like the Roman Catechism, all of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church taught that God supernaturally created:

- All of the different kinds of creatures (*Ecclesiasticus* 18:1, *Judith* 16:17)
- by His Word (*Psalms* 32:9, *Psalms* 148:5, *Wisdom* 9:1)
- out of nothing, (*2 Machabees* 7:28)
- in six days, (*Exodus* 20:11, *Exodus* 31:17, see also “*St. Augustine Rediscovered*”)
- including the slime from which Adam was supernaturally created, (*Genesis* 1:9,10, *Tobias* 8:7,8)
- and Eve who was created from his side, (*1 Corinthians* 11:8,9, *1 Timothy* 2:13)

Taken from the article, *The Character of God Refutes Theistic Evolution* By: Dr. Kevin Mark. [www.KolbeCenter.org](http://www.KolbeCenter.org)

**Pray for Catholic Educators and Students  
Catholic Schools Week  
January 28 - February 3**

#### AQUINAS COMMUNICATIONS VISION STATEMENT

Aquinas Communications vision is a world culture grounded in Catholic Tradition making a better life for people, and for them to become saints with an everlasting life in Heaven.



Of Mary there is Never Enough

## MARY'S VIRGINITY BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER CHRIST'S BIRTH

by Brad Markham

**And when they came to the floor of Nachon, Oza put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it: because the oxen kicked and made it lean aside. And the indignation of the Lord was enkindled against Oza, and he struck him for his rashness: and he died there before the ark of God. (2 Kings 6: 6-7)**

God warned mankind ahead of the Virgin, that should anyone touch the Ark of the New Covenant, they would surely die. Oza touched the ark in incidental fashion and the Lord was so indignant that he struck him dead immediately. What worse fate would befall any man who dared touch the New Ark? One would expect the second death!

St. Alphonsus relates that Mary was indeed the most beautiful creature ever made, but that men's lusts were quieted in her presence by her radiant and divine beauty. No man dared, nor desired her in such a way! Indeed, it is why Joseph sought to divorce her quietly, as he felt himself unworthy to be her spouse or to raise the divine child.

St. John Henry Newman once wrote that, "The glories of Mary are for the sake of Jesus." We see this as Mary's perpetual virginity announces to us the two natures of Christ in one person. A child conceived without the male seed; a human woman, of flesh, overshadowed by the Holy Spirit, purely immaterial, the union of a human nature and the divine nature. Mary's perpetual virginity is a signpost of the divinity of Christ, most especially since

it was announced ahead of time that the birth of the Savior would be a holy birth.

The evidence for her virginity *ante partum* (before birth), *in partu* (in birth), and *post partum* (after birth) is both implicit and explicit within scripture.

For instance, Genesis 3:15 states, "*I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shall lie in wait for her heel.*" This, St. Justin and St. Irenaeus suggest, is a reference to Mary, the New Eve.

Immediately following this prophecy, the Lord pivots in Genesis 3:16 to, "*To the woman also he said, I will multiply thy sorrows, and thy conceptions: in sorrow shalt thou bring forth children...*"

The Church fathers as well as modern scholars agree, it is difficult to assume that God is referencing the same woman, since one is given a glorious triumph, while the other suffers punishment for the fall.

**Mary, in her victory, and being without sin, would not experience the pangs of childbirth until the Crucifixion of her Son.**

At the Annunciation, in Luke 1:34, Mary responds to Gabriel after he promises she will give birth to the Messiah, "*How shall this be done, because I know not man?*"

Her use of the present tense in the verb "know," implies her intent to NEVER know a man. While there is some consternation in the fact of her betrothal to Joseph with this interpretation, the church has understood that their marriage was to be a celibate marriage, which was known in some Jewish sects of the time.



*The Annunciation (1644)  
by Philippe de Champaigne (1602-1674)*

Modernist scholarship in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s in some circles tried to call into question the Tradition of the Catholic Church that said Mary gave birth to Jesus while maintaining her virginity. In downplaying the miraculous, as Modernist scholars always attempt to do, their biggest issue was with the *in partu*.

Scripture itself attests to the miraculous birth of our Savior. Saint Augustine relates that Our Lord came into this world as light passing through a window. Aquinas gives three reasons that Our Lord would not have tarnished His mother's virginity in birth:

1. It is most fitting that the Incarnation would imitate the most perfect eternal conception of the Word of God, the Son, from the Father. Since a word is conceived in an intellect and proceeds without corruption, so too would God the Son enter the world.

2. Since Christ came to take away our corruption, it would be unfitting if he corrupted his mother by birth.

3. Since Christ commanded us to honor our father and mother, it would be unfitting for Him to dishonor His mother through birth.

**We have evidence of Christ's resurrected body having the subtlety to pass through doors and walls. Why would we question His ability to come into the world with the same miraculous subtlety?**

There are many references to the miraculous nature of Jesus' birth and Mary's perpetual virginity throughout scripture. In Isaiah 7:14 we read, "*Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.*"

Is not the addition of "bear a son" a reference to a miraculous birth? We also read in Ezekiel 44:2, about the gate of the Temple of God, "*And the Lord said to me: This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall pass through it: because the Lord the God of Israel hath entered in by it, and it shall be shut.*"

This has traditionally been held to be an allegory of Mary. Another commonly cited passage is the burning bush that is not consumed in Exodus 3:2.

**The Council of Constantinople ratified Mary's perpetual virginity in 381. We have plenty of scriptural witness**



to the fact that she was a virgin before, during, and after the birth of Jesus.

A brief survey of church Fathers that taught the same doctrine include Ignatius of Antioch (d. 110), Justin Martyr (d.165), Irenaeus (d. 202), Clement of Alexandria (d. 215), Gregory Nazianzus (d. 390), Gregory of Nyssa (d. 395), Ambrose (d. 397), Jerome (d. 420), Augustine (d. 430), and Leo the Great (449). Pope's Hormisdas, Pelagius I, and Gregory the Great all affirmed her virginity *in partu* along with the Council of Chalcedon (451); the Council of Constantinople II (553); the Lateran Council (not ecumenical, 649); the Council of Trent (1555); and the Council of Vatican II. The hammer of Catholic Tradition clanging through the centuries!

We don't have space in a short article like this to espouse the great virtue that is virginity. Indeed, Aquinas relates that in heaven there are special crowns for two classes of people, virgins and martyrs. There is no virgin more pure, more untouched by sin, and never under the dominion of the devil or the love of the flesh as Mary. The strength and purity of celibacy is indeed a glorious grace that Our Lord bestows upon those He loves; never was it bestowed with more vehemence or more effectually than it was on Mary. Mary's perpetual virginity teaches us about Christ and points to His divinity. Mary always points to her Son and as we saw, the "glories of Mary are for the sake of Jesus."

**Virgin of virgins, pray for us! †**

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## NIGHTTIME PRAYERS

As our first grandchild is about to be born, I cannot help but reflect on those happy moments of my childhood that led me to start traditions with my own children and now my heart swoons to see my daughter's desire to share those things with her children.

When I was small my mother would kneel with me beside my bed and pray, "Angel of God," blessings for my family members, "Hail Mary," "Our Father," and the "Act of Contrition."

Then Momma would pull me into her lap and rock me in my great grandfather's creaky old chair as she sang, "My Blue Heaven," "Too Rah Loo Rah Loo Rah," "Embraceable You," "Three Little Fishies," "For Me and My Gal," "You are my Sunshine" and more. Eventually, I got too big, and Momma would kneel or sit beside my bed and rub my forehead as she sang these songs. These are the happiest moments of my childhood. Of course, I wanted to give my own children that same happiness.

I have a precious video of my oldest child at the age of two saying her nighttime prayers, all the above prayers with so many additions. We prayed for all our priest friends by name, until the list grew so long, we had to lump them all together to save time. Every Lent we learned a new prayer and our once brief nighttime prayers grew to twenty or thirty minutes long and we had not yet begun our daily Rosary.

When religious sisters would spend weeks in the summer with us, they taught us their nighttime prayer which we have learned and included in ours.

When my daughter and I went to the March for Life, we decided to pray as many millions of the Memorare as there were lives lost to abortion, every night. The kids were so happy to add 8 more (one for each of us) to that list in hopes that one day our prayers would bring an end to abortion.

One Lent we learned the Rosary in Latin, it was such a fun thing for the whole family, a challenge for Momma and Daddy, and the kids were so proud when they mastered the prayers before their parents. Another year we learned the prayer to St. Gertrude the Great to free 1,000 souls from Purgatory each time it was said, imagine how happy everyone was to count 8,000 new souls in heaven. Some nights the kids would ask to say two or three of these.

One by one the kids grew up, moved away, and smaller and smaller our family has become (we are now down to 3 or 4 of us, depending on the nights. I asked my husband recently if we would still pray when it is just him and I and he said, "Duh."

When my oldest daughter brought home a boy, they walked up the stairs while the rest of us were praying nighttime prayers, the young man asked, "What are they doing?" Mary-Therese said, "Saying nighttime prayers." Dylan asked if we did that every night, and she said, "Yes, and someday my family will, too."

So here we are weeks away from that couple welcoming their first child into the world and my daughter asked for all the books she was raised with, she wanted all the precious TV shows like Little Bear and Franklin on DVD, and movies (far too many favorites to list).

My heart is warm knowing that our children look upon those moments of nighttime traditions as treasures.

When you are tired after a long day, frustrated with the children or your spouse, worried about money or the state of the world, never go to bed without spending this time with your family. No matter how burdensome it may be at times, pray together. Rub their foreheads and sing to them. Read them a book. Kiss their cheeks and tell them how much you love them. These are the seeds of love for your children's children. †

By Kalah Williams

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## MIRACLE HEALINGS INSPIRE EXPANSION IN DUBUQUE ARCHDIOCESE

At first, the statement that “The Holy Spirit has been active in the Dubuque Diocese over the past three years” should not surprise anyone. The Holy Spirit is active every minute of every day throughout the universe!

However, with trust and belief, the real presence has become more noticable since 2021 when several parish priests hosted Fr. Greg Bramlage and the Missionaries of the New Evangelization (MNE) to conduct individual parish healing missions.

Fr. Andy Upah, pastor of Nativity Church in Dubuque, invited them to hold a mission in his parish in 2021. Many priests attended.

Soon thereafter, Fr. Andrew Marr invited Fr. Bramlage to come to St. Boniface Church in Garner; Fr. Robert Gross also invited him to come to his parish of St. Francis de Sales in Ossian.

Many recently ordained priests of the Dubuque Archdiocese attended the various missions, each experiencing the love of God and a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Noticing a significant number of priests in attendance, Fr. Greg suggested they put together their own mission.

Unlike the usual parish missions offered by a single priest from a religious order, a professed sister, or a lay Catholic man or woman, this one is refreshingly different as it is by a whole group of presenters – all of them parish priests.

The dynamic behind this is the claim by each to have recently experienced the love of God in a powerful way, accompanied by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which deepened their faith and filled them with a passion to tell everyone “Jesus heals.”

### The seed was planted.

The Holy Spirit was at work to bring this about. In addition to Father's Bullock, Gross, and Upah, other priests inspired to begin this new initiative were Fr. Ben Valentine, Fr. Michael McAndrew, Fr. Martin Coolidge, Fr. Andrew Marr, and Fr. Kevin Earlywine.

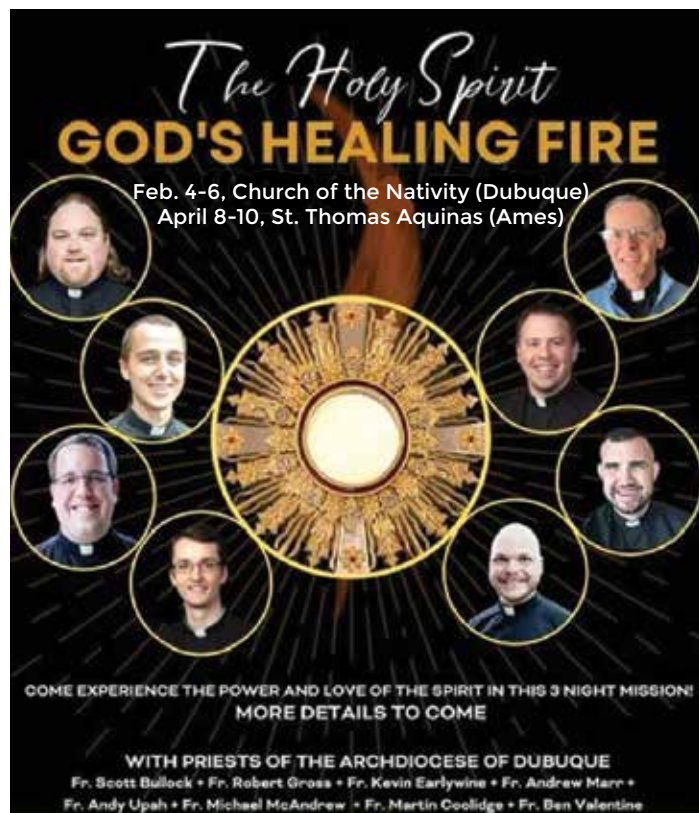
After several months of planning, the first “**The Holy Spirit – God's Healing Fire**” parish mission took place in March at St. Joseph Church in Bellevue in the pastorate of Fr. Robert Gross.

In June, Fr. Michael McAndrew's Circle of Saints Pastorate at the Church of St. Patrick in Tama, Iowa hosted the mission.

Their third parish mission took place in October at Fr. Scott Bullock's parish, St. Edwards in Waterloo.

Each night of the three-day mission included Praise and Worship, talks by two of the priests and an opportunity for prayer with the laying of hands by the priests and a laity Prayer Team.

On the first night, Fr. Ben Valentine and Fr. Michael McAndrew spoke on the theme “God's Love and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.”



Individual prayer for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit followed.

On the second night, Fr. Martin Coolidge and Fr. Robert Gross spoke on the theme “The Healing Fire of the Holy Spirit.” Individual prayer for physical healing followed.

The theme for the final night of the was “Empowering Us with the Gifts to Bring Healing and Life to Others” with talks by Fr. Andy Upah and Fr. Andrew Marr. Individual prayer followed for an outpouring of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**Looking forward to 2024, the next dates on their schedule are: February 4th – 6th at the Church of the Nativity in Dubuque, followed by April 8th – 10th at St. Thomas Aquinas in Ames.**

May the Holy Spirit touch your hearts and bring you hope and healing through this ministry by these priests of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. †

*By Mary Jane Keppler Cole*

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF FASTING FOR 40 DAYS IN LENT

By Matthew Plese

### Fasting Began in the Garden of Eden

From the very beginning of creation, fasting held a significant role in the lives of mankind. In the Book of Genesis, God's command to Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil signified the importance of fasting. Their failure to obey this command brought sin and disorder into the world. Throughout history, fasting has been intertwined with human spirituality and repentance.

In the Old Testament, figures like Elijah and Moses fasted for forty days before encountering God. Before the Great Flood, humanity abstained from consuming the flesh of animals. St. John the Baptist and Jesus Himself fasted in the New Testament, setting examples for believers. Jesus emphasized the necessity of penance and fasting as a means of spiritual growth.

### The Value of Fasting

The Church has embraced and promoted fasting throughout its history. St. Thomas Aquinas identified three primary purposes of fasting: to control the desires of the flesh, to focus the mind on spiritual matters, and to atone for sins. Fasting was believed to purify the soul, elevate the mind, and strengthen self-discipline. St. Basil the Great even considered fasting as a shield against demonic forces, emphasizing its spiritual significance.

The Baltimore Catechism stressed that fasting and abstinence were intended to help individuals control their passions and make amends for their sins. Pope St. Leo the Great encouraged fasting, emphasizing that what was not consumed through fasting should be given to the poor. Even health-related concerns did not excuse individuals from the obligation of doing penance.

### Lent As the Preeminent Time of Fasting

Lent, the season of fasting and penance before Easter, can be traced back to the apostolic era. The Catechism of the Liturgy affirmed that the Lenten fast originated with the Apostles themselves. Early Christians, including catechumens

preparing for baptism, practiced fasting as a part of their spiritual journey. By the third and fourth centuries, Lent had evolved into a forty-day period of fasting observed by Christians worldwide.

Historically, Lenten fasting included complete abstinence from meat and often even fish (until the time of St. Gregory the Great) and all dairy products. Water and small meals of bread and vegetables were the mainstays of the fast. The fast was so strict that even water was prohibited during certain periods in the very Early Church. Some would not eat anything at all on Ash Wednesday or Good Friday.

In the Middle Ages, fasting was observed on all weekdays of Lent, and no meat was allowed for all of Lent. Complete abstinence included not only meat but also milk products. However, the fasting traditions began to relax, allowing for some concessions with began in earnest around the time of the Renaissance and which accelerated thereafter.

### Change to the Immemorial Lenten Fast

On May 31, 1741, Pope Benedict XIV issued *Non Ambiguus* which granted permission to eat meat on fasting days while explicitly forbidding the consumption of both fish and flesh meat at the same meal on all fasting days during the year in addition to the Sundays during Lent. Beforehand, the forty days of Lent were held as days of complete abstinence from meat. The concept of partial abstinence was born even though the term would not appear until the 1917 Code of Canon Law. Yet even with these changes, Pope Benedict XIV implored the faithful to return to the devotion of earlier eras:

"The observance of Lent is the very badge of the Christian warfare. By it we prove ourselves not to be enemies of the cross of Christ. By it we avert the scourges of divine justice. By it we gain strength against the princes of darkness, for it shields us with heavenly help. Should mankind grow remiss in their observance of Lent, it would be a detriment to God's glory, a disgrace to the Catholic religion, and a danger to Christian souls. Neither can it be doubted that such negligence would

become the source of misery to the world, of public calamity, and of private woe."

Dozens of changes would occur to slowly erode fasting and abstinence not only in Lent but in other seasons over the ensuing centuries. By the time of the Second Vatican Council, fasting and abstinence practices had been significantly altered already. In 1983, the revised Code of Canon Law maintained most of the changes introduced in previous decades. Only Ash Wednesday and Good Friday were obligatory fasting days, and abstinence from meat on Fridays was recommended but not required, except during Lent.

As Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen once remarked, "It is a long-established principle of the Church never to completely drop from her public worship any ceremony, object or prayer which once occupied a place in that worship." The same may be said for matters concerning either Holy Days of Obligation or fast days. What our forefathers held sacred should remain sacred to us in an effort to preserve our catholicity not only with ourselves but with our ancestors who see God now in Heaven.

### Lenten Fasting Plan

In light of this historical perspective on fasting, Catholics may choose to embrace a more rigorous Lenten fasting plan modeled after what our ancestors practiced under obligation. Here are some suggestions:

- Fasting applies for those age 18 or older (but not obligatory for those 60 years of age or older). Those over or under 18 may choose to fast if they wish.
- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: No solid food. Only black coffee, tea, or water.
- Mondays through Saturdays: Only one meal, preferably after sunset. A morning frustulum (2 ounces) and evening collation (8 ounces) are permitted but not required. No meat

*Importance of Fasting continued on page 13*



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## ST. GABRIEL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

There are numerous beautiful examples of holiness in the vast history of our Church. While we often acquaint ourselves with popular saints, there is an entire realm of lesser-known saints. These individuals can continue to inspire us to be like them, as conduits of God's grace and fortifying us on our own journeys toward sainthood through their example and intercession. One such figure is Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, a Passionist whose brief life demonstrates that heroic virtue can be attained through the pursuit of ordinary actions.

Born in 1838 in Assisi, Italy, and baptized Francis Possenti, he was the eleventh of thirteen children in a devout household. His father was a prominent lawyer for the Papal States. During his youth, Francis was known for his love of parties, entertainment, and dancing.

Amidst the allure of worldly pleasures, God patiently pursued Francis' heart. He fell ill several times and promised God he would enter religious life, but once cured, he quickly forgot about and deferred this promise. His life permanently changed when he saw a Marian procession and heard the voice of the Blessed Mother, urging him to keep his vow to God because he was not made to live in the world.

With newfound dedication, Francis committed himself to his religious vocation and was drawn to the Passionist

order. His father found his decision controversial because he knew the worldly success his bright son could attain. The Passionists, known for their severe way of life, didn't seem to suit the pleasure-seeking Francis. Francis' father told him that if he was set on being a priest, to at least join an order with an easier rule, like the Jesuits, who educated Francis and were well-respected in the area. Despite his father's opposition and the attempts of several family members to dissuade him, Francis remained steadfast in his desire to follow God and pursue sanctity. This had eclipsed any of his prior desires, including pleasing his family and indulging in the entertainment he once enjoyed so much.

In 1856, Francis entered the Passionist order and was given the name Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows. His new lifestyle contrasted starkly with his previous one, now characterized by simplicity, routine, and prayer. Once worldly, Gabriel now joyfully and faithfully obeyed this strict order of the Passionists, setting practices for himself so that he could follow the rule exactly. He intentionally followed the commands of his superiors without needing an explanation, was often too eager to inflict harsh penances on himself, and humbly accepted punishments for transgressions he had not committed.

Notably, Gabriel was not known for any extraordinary preaching, visions, or gifts. His path to sanctity lay in the diligent pursuit of perfection in his vocation by carrying out even the simplest tasks with excellence, driven by his deep love for God. He embodied his own words that "our perfection does not consist of doing extraordinary things but of doing the ordinary well."

A prominent aspect of Gabriel's life was his ardent devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He perpetually meditated on her sorrows and sought her company at the foot of the Cross. Cardinal Parocchi remarked to the pope at the time that "Mary was the soul of Gabriel's life, the source and model of the sanctity to which he had attained." Gabriel's unceasing praises and conversations with Mary, as well as his efforts to spread devotion to her, exemplified his deep connection to the Mother of Christ.

Only a few years after entering the order, Gabriel began to show early signs of tuberculosis. Despite the pain of the disease, Gabriel maintained his piety

and cheerfulness without asking for exceptions. Before he could be ordained a priest, he died in 1962 from tuberculosis at the young age of 24. Many fellow Passionists were amazed by the amount of virtue and closeness to God he was able to attain in such a short life.



St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows (Painting in the parish hall of Völs am Schlern)

**Saint Gabriel's feast day is February 27, the day of His earthly death and heavenly birthday. His feast is remembered in the 1962 Missal, but it is often superseded by days of Lent and was not included in the new Roman Missal.**

Saint Gabriel is recognized as the patron of youth, students, and clergy, but his profound faith and holiness can inspire us all to be enthusiastic disciples, no matter our age or vocation. His life teaches us that when we overcome the fear of saying "yes" to God and allow the desire to follow His will to influence our everyday actions, we can become saints.

Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us! †

by Emma Woelfel

To learn more:

**The life of Ven. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows**, Rev. Hyacinth Hage

[www.passionist.org/st-gabriel-possenti](http://www.passionist.org/st-gabriel-possenti)

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Jan. 17	St. Antony the Abbot
Jan. 19	Sts. Marius, Martha, Audifax, & Abachum
Jan. 24	St. Timothy
Jan. 31	St. John Bosco
Feb. 7	St. Richard of Lucca
Feb. 23	St. Peter Damian
Feb. 29	St. Oswald
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Mar. 14	St. Matilda



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*"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."*

Matthew 6:21

## *ST. BONIFACE AND THE CHRISTMAS TREE*

by Steve Weidenkopf

St. Boniface (680–754), known in Church history as the Apostle to the Germans, is regarded as “probably the greatest missionary since St. Paul” for his extensive travels and successful evangelization efforts in modern-day Germany.[1]

While he is well known as a great bishop and evangelizer, Catholic legend, based on actual historical events, also holds that Boniface is the founder of the use of a Christmas tree to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child.

The story of the Christmas tree begins in England, where the very young Winfrid decided to enter a Benedictine monastery over the objections of his parents. Winfrid grew in holiness and piety but yearned to leave the monastery and bring the light of Christ to the pagan Germans just as the monks had brought the Faith to England a century earlier. Winfrid heard reports that Pope Gregory II (r. 715-731) had sent missionaries to Bavaria in 716 and decided to travel to Rome to become a missionary to the Germans. Pope Gregory was delighted at the arrival of the eager Winfrid and after a period of time commissioned him to preach the Gospel in the regions of Thuringia, Bavaria, Franconia, and Hesse.

**In recognition of his special missionary commission the pope also changed Winfrid's name to Boniface.**

The newly named monk travelled to Hesse (central Germany) in 721 and “with his tireless activity, his gift for organization, and his adaptable, friendly, yet firm character” achieved great success, including the conversion of the twin chieftains Dettic and Deorulf.[2] Boniface also established Benedictine monasteries throughout his area of evangelization, including the great monastery of Fulda in 744.[3]

News of his great achievements reached Rome, where he was recalled by Pope Gregory to provide a status report. Impressed and pleased with Boniface's efforts, Gregory consecrated him archbishop for all Germany east of the Rhine (without a specific episcopal seat) and placed his territory under the pope's jurisdiction. Imbued with this new authority and pontifical mandate, Boniface returned to Germany in 723.

**Boniface spent the rest of his life evangelizing the areas of modern Germany and parts of the Netherlands.** He also became a friend of the Frankish court and helped reform and reorganized the Church in that area.

From his missionary travels, Boniface knew that in winter the inhabitants of the village of Geismar gathered around a huge old oak tree (known as the “Thunder Oak”) dedicated to the god Thor. This annual event of worship centered on sacrificing a human, usually a small child, to the pagan god.

**Boniface desired to convert the village by destroying the Thunder Oak, which the pagans had previously boasted the God of Boniface could not destroy, so he gathered a few companions and journeyed to Geismar.**

His fellow missionaries were scared and fearful that the Germans might kill them, so they balked when they reached the outskirts of the village on Christmas Eve. Boniface steadied the nerves of his friends and as they approached the pagan gathering he said, “Here is the Thunder Oak; and here the cross of Christ shall break the hammer of the false god Thor.”[4] Boniface and his friends arrived at the time of the sacrifice, which was interrupted by their presence.



*St. Boniface chopping down the mighty Thunder Oak.*

**In a show of great trust in God and born from a desire to enkindle the fire of Christ in the German pagans, Boniface grabbed an axe and chopped down the Thunder Oak of mighty Thor.**

The Germans were astounded. The holy bishop preached the Gospel to the people and used a little fir tree that was behind the now felled oak tree as a tool of evangelization. Pointing to it he said,

“This little tree, a young child of the forest, shall be your holy tree tonight. It is the wood of peace... It is the sign of an endless life, for its leaves are ever green. See how it points upward to heaven. Let this be called the tree of the Christ-child; gather about it, not in the wild wood, but in your own homes; there it will shelter no deeds of blood, but loving gifts and rites of kindness.”[5]

**Awed by the destruction of the oak tree and Boniface's preaching, the Germans were baptized.**

Boniface continued his missionary efforts into old age when in 754, he left for a trip to Frisia with fifty monks. Their work was successful and many pagans agreed to receive baptism. When the appointed time came to celebrate the sacrament, a large armed crowd of pagans approached the missionaries. Knowing his time to die was at hand, Boniface discouraged his followers from fighting and said, “Cease my sons, from fighting, give up warfare for the witness of Scripture recommends that we do not give an eye for an eye but rather good for evil. Here is the long awaited day; the time of our end has now come; courage in the Lord!”[6] The ferocious pagan attack left Boniface and his fellow companions dead and celebrated as martyrs for the Faith.

His later biographer, Othlo, recalled Boniface's deep love for the people who he endeavored for so long to bring to Christ:

The holy bishop Boniface can call himself father of all the inhabitants of Germany, for it was he who first brought them forth in Christ with the words of his holy preaching; he strengthened them with his example; and lastly, he gave his life for them; no greater love than this can be shown.”[7]

In the centuries that followed, the Catholic tradition of using an evergreen tree to celebrate the birth of Jesus spread throughout

*St. Boniface and the Christmas Tree continues next page*



*St. Boniface and the Christmas Tree continued*

Germany, and German immigrants in the eighteenth century brought the custom to the New World.

Although there are many stories, legends, and myths surrounding the founding of the Christmas tree, including the claim that the custom originated with Martin Luther, **there is only one story rooted in a real person and a real event: Boniface, converter of the Germans, who destroyed Thor's mighty oak.** †

*Reprinted with permission. Originally published at [www.Catholic.com](http://www.Catholic.com) (2014).*

[1] John Vidmar, OP, *The Catholic Church Through the Ages* (New York/Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2005), 83.

[2] Pope Benedict XVI Wednesday Catechesis on "Saint Boniface, the Apostle of the Germans", on March 11, 2009 in *Church Fathers and Teachers – From Saint Leo the Great to Peter Lombard* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2010), 80.

[3] Boniface placed Fulda under the jurisdiction of the papacy, which was a novel concept at the time. This was the same arrangement for the more well-known monastery at Cluny in the early tenth century.

[4] Fr. William P. Saunders "The Christmas Tree", *Straight Answers* article in the *Arlington Catholic Herald*, available at [www.holyspiritinteractive.net/columns/williamsaunders/straightanswers/68.asp](http://www.holyspiritinteractive.net/columns/williamsaunders/straightanswers/68.asp).

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] Willibald, Vita S. Bonifatii, ed. cit., 46. Quoted in, Pope Benedict XVI, Wednesday Catechesis on "Saint Boniface", March 11, 2009.

[7] Othlo, Vita S. Bonifatii, ed. cit., lib. I, 158. Quoted in, Pope Benedict XVI, Wednesday Catechesis on "Saint Boniface", March 11, 2009.

[8] *The Washington Post – The Mini Page*, "O Tannenbaum\*!", December 6, 2009, SC5. For Boniface chopping the oak tree see Fr. John Laux, *Church History – A Complete History of the Catholic Church to the Present Day* (Rockford, IL: TAN Books and Publishers, Inc., 1989), 221 & Warren H. Carroll, *The Building of Christendom* (Front Royal, VA: Christendom College Press, 1987), 276.

*Importance of Fasting continued from page 9*

or animal products are allowed for anyone, regardless of age - that includes fish. No olive oil.

- Sundays: No meat or animal products allowed except on Laetare Sunday. Exceptions for Palm Sunday are mentioned below.
- Annunciation Day (March 25) and Palm Sunday: Fish and olive oil permitted.
- Holy Week (except Good Friday): Only Bread, Salt, and Herbs are permitted for the main meal. Frustulum and collation permitted (of bread, herbs, and salt) but omitted if possible.
- Holy Saturday: No food until Noon. Abstinence including from all animal products continues until Easter begins.

By adhering to this more traditional approach to fasting during Lent, Catholics can recapture the depth of spiritual discipline and self-denial that characterized earlier periods in Church history. For more information on this entirely forgotten history, see the book "The Definitive Guide to Catholic Fasting and Abstinence." †

*Matthew Plese is the author of "The Definitive Guide to Catholic Fasting and Abstinence" and is a writer and catechist for many publications. His works and articles can be found at <https://linktr.ee/acatholiclife>*

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# Get the Lowdown, Download the App Keyword: KCRD America's Catholic Radio Download



Central Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Central Time	
6:00 am	The World Over™						EWTN News In Depth	6:00 am	
7:00 am	Holy Mass from the EWTN Chapel							7:00 am	
8:00 am	Stories from the Heart						The Fathers of Mercy Hour™	8:00 am	
8:30 am	Light of the East						The Spirit World		
9:00 am	Sermons for Everyday Living							Quo Vadis	
10:00 am	Angelus & St. Michael's Chaplet								
11:00 am	Beyond Damascus	Holy Rosary with the Keith Nester Rosary Crew					Forming Faithful Families	11:00 am	
		Stations of the Cross Meditation					Light of the East		
12:00 pm	Scripture & Tradition™					Quo Vadis	The Miracle Hunter	12:00 pm	
12:30 pm							The Chatter	The Chatter	
1:00 pm	Mother Angelica: Answering the Call								
	The Catholic Sphere								
2:00 pm	Christ is the Answer™ with Fr. John Riccardo						EWTN Live (encore)	2:00 pm	
3:00 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet	The Chaplet of Divine Mercy with Drew Mariani - Live					Divine Mercy Chaplet	3:00 pm	
3:30 pm	Rosary in Latin w/ Pope St. JP II						Children's Rosary	3:30 pm	
4:00 pm	Bishop Strickland Hour						Conversations w/ Consequences	4:00 pm	
4:30 pm									
5:00 pm	Quo Vadis					The Simple Truth	The World Over™	5:00 pm	
6:00 pm	The Chatter	Fr. Simon Says™ encore with Fr. Richard Simon						6:00 pm	
7:00 pm		The Journey Home™	Mother Angelica Live Classics	EWTN Live™	The World Over™	EWTN News In Depth		7:00 pm	
8:00 pm		EWTN News Nightly™						8:00 pm	
8:30 pm		The Chaplet of Saint Michael, with Mother Angelica						8:30 pm	
9:00 pm	Fathers of Mercy Hour		The CALE CLARKE Show					The Bear Wozniak Adventure	9:00 pm
10:00 pm	The Angry Catholic Show							Bishop Strickland Hour	10:00 pm
11:00 pm	Patrick Coffin Show	Christ Is The Answer with Fr. John Riccardo						Fr Spitzer's Universe™	11:00 pm
12:00 am	Fathers of Mercy Hour	OPEN LINE - Encore						Wisdom - Fr. Groeshel	12:00 am
1:00 am		Mother Angelica Live Classics™					EWTN Bookmark™	12:30 am	
2:00 am	The Journey Home™ encore	More 2 Life™ encore						Fathers of Mercy Hour	2:00 am
3:00 am	Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fathers Know Best™ encore						Divine Mercy Chaplet	3:00 am
3:30 am	Rosary - Latin							Rosary - Latin	3:30 am
4:00 am								with Paul Sadek	4:00 am
4:30 am									4:30 am
5:00 am	Vatican Insider™						Scripture & Tradition™	5:00 am	
5:30 am	Divine Intimacy Radio™								



## PREPARATION FOR AN EARLY DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

As we turn the page to a new year, 2024, we continue to give praise to God for sending His Beloved Son to us at Christmas. And, while we are still celebrating Advent, the calendar requires us to almost simultaneously prepare for an early Easter and Divine Mercy Sunday.

Easter is early on March 31st with Divine Mercy Sunday on April 7th. It's hard to believe that it has been 24 years since Pope John Paul II announced Divine Mercy Sunday would follow the Sunday after Easter.

**In preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday, we are asked by Our Lord, to pray the Novena to Divine Mercy, from Good Friday to Divine Mercy Sunday, including praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

It is important to meditate, treasure, and proclaim God's abundant love and mercy to all people, which is given freely and generously. In addition, Jesus asks us to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet unceasingly:

*"Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if here were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire that the whole world know My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust My Mercy."* (687)

Divine Mercy Sunday started with St. Faustina receiving visions from Jesus Himself, and Jesus asking her to have an image of His Divine Mercy painted, and the words, "Jesus, I trust in You" placed under the picture.

There are two rays coming from the side of Jesus; rays of red and white.

Jesus told St Faustina, *"The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from*

*the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross."* (299)

We venerate this image of Our Lord, with grace flowing from His mercy. In addition, we honor Jesus' mercy with a Prayer given to St. Faustina *"O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a Fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You."* (309) Consider this prayer an act of offering and trust as St. Faustina describes.

Take into your heart the words given by Jesus to St. Faustina.

*"My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the First Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy."* (699)

It is difficult for us to truly understand the depth of the power of Divine Mercy as we enter into Jesus' unending and abundant mercy. However, Our Lord gives us simple instructions as we meditate on the tremendous graces given to us:

- 1. Pray the Novena of Divine Mercy, including the Divine Mercy Chaplet**
- 2. Go to Confession, and**
- 3. Receive Holy Communion.**

An explanation by Canon Ignacy Rozyccki, Doctor of Dogmatic Theology, helps us understand of this mystery as he connects Divine Mercy to Baptism.

When a baby or an adult is Baptized, not only is original sin is removed but also all personal sin is forgiven and any punishment of sin.

On the Feast of Divine Mercy, the soul is cleansed just like a newly baptized

person. Think of this as a second Baptism. Meditate on this gift from Jesus, Himself.

*"On that day the very depths of My tender Mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened."* (699)

Moreover, according to Canon Ignacy Rozyccki, Jesus invites all people to participate in all the graces of the Feast of Divine Mercy; a refuge for all people, we who are sinners.

In addition, Jesus wishes to pour out temporal blessings on people for this life and saving graces for eternal life.

Jesus tells St. Faustina, *"I thirst. I thirst for the salvation of souls."* (1032)

Finally, trust is most important here; Jesus asks us to trust in these graces and benefits on the Feast of Divine Mercy.

*"How very much I desire the salvation of souls ... The greatest sinners would achieve great sanctity, if only they would trust in My mercy..."* (1784)

**You are cordially invited to receive the graces and benefits promised by Jesus on the:**

**Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday**

**3 o'clock hour**

**Church of the Nativity**

**April 7th, with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions. †**

*by Monica Daly*

*Diary, Divine Mercy in My Soul,*

*by St. Faustina Kowalski*

Canon Ignacy Rozyccki, Doctor of Dogmatic Theology was approved by John Paul II and the Sacred Congregation for the faith.

[www.divinemercy.org](http://www.divinemercy.org)



**Life is short and death is sure,  
The hour of death remains obscure.  
A soul you have, and only one --  
If that is lost, all hope is gone.**



Every Sunday  
of the month is  
**breakfast with  
Christ the King**

Support your eternal salvation.

**Mark your calendar**  
**December 17, 24, 31**  
**January 7, 14, 21, 28**  
**February 4, 11, 18, 25**  
**March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

*at any Catholic Church  
locations worldwide*

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**March 4**

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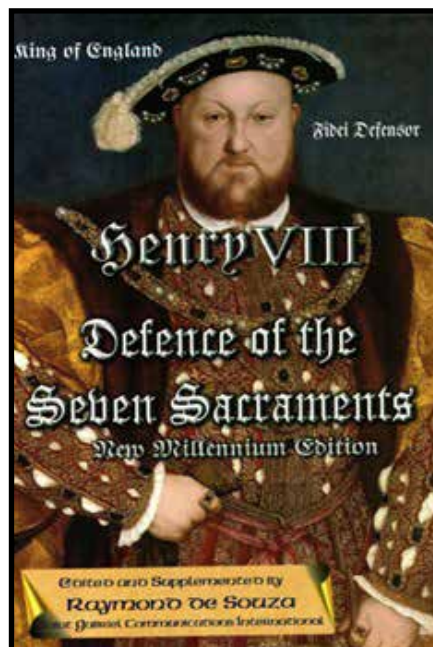
## The Greatest Irony in Church History: The Royal Book of Catholic Apologetics

Available while supplies last  
[www.RaymonddeSouza.com](http://www.RaymonddeSouza.com)

Helped by the great Saint Thomas More, King Henry VIII of England wrote the "Defense of the Seven Sacraments Against Martin Luther" refuting in chapter and in verse the Lutheran heresies on the Sacraments.

It was and remains the  
Greatest Irony in Church History:

**The Founder of the Church of England  
fiercely defending the  
teachings of the Catholic Church  
against Luther,  
the Founder of Protestantism!**



This book is an effort to promote true and authentic ecumenism, which aims to unite all peoples around the same faith, following Jesus' great commission (Matt. 28:18-20); against false ecumenism, which aims to unite all faiths around the same people, as we see it happening today.

**It will strengthen the Faith of Catholics.** Hopefully, a great many Anglicans and Protestants – especially Lutherans - will read this treatise and realize how the founder of the Church of England refuted the novel teachings on the Sacraments of the founder of Protestantism, and consider an authentic reunification in the true Church founded by Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life: Coming home to Rome.

**Raymond de Souza is available to speak  
on Pro-Life and Apologetics topics at  
conferences anywhere in the free world.**  
**507-450-4196**





The 2nd Tuesday  
of the month is  
**Pancheros night**

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**Mark your calendar**  
**December 12**  
**January 9**  
**February 13**  
**March 12**

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The 3rd Monday  
of the month is  
**Papa Murphy's night.**

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**Mark your calendar**  
**December 18**  
**January 15**  
**February 19**  
**March 18**

**1555 John F Kennedy Road**  
**Dubuque, IA 52002**  
**(563) 582-1234**



The 4th Tuesday  
of the month is  
**Pizza Hut night**

Support Aquinas Communications  
& mention Fundraiser Code **SF**  
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**Mark your calendar**  
**December 26**  
**January 23**  
**February 27**  
**March 26**

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## ***Salvation Awaits Those Who Spread the True Faith*** **Donate to our Winter Solstice Pledge Drive**

<b>Donate stock shares!</b>	<b>The Michael Oglesby Heritage Society</b>	<b>Real Estate donation</b>
<i>Receive full market value deduction if you itemize at the time of transfer!</i>	<i>Include Aquinas Communications in your estate plan. Ensure your legacy.</i>	<i>Donate your real estate property for OUR new home!</i>

### **Join the St. Thomas Aquinas Recurring Gift Society**

Members of The St. Thomas Recurring Gift Society are a blessing to Aquinas Communications. They provide a stable source of income that allows us to reduce the time and effort dedicated to fundraising so that we can focus on our mission of education and evangelization to win souls for Jesus Christ and His Church!

**Pledge drive donations on the KCRD mobile App or**  
**[www.KCRD-FM.org](http://www.KCRD-FM.org) or 563-599-2159**

**All gifts are tax deductible as provided by law.**  
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## PRO-LIFE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dear Pro Life Friends:

**What a difference a new Iowa Attorney General makes!**

You may recall that former Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller would not defend Iowa's heartbeat law. In a wonderful contrast, Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird has not only appealed the Iowa District court's suppression of the Heartbeat Law, but has now filed her first brief (i.e. written argument) as Attorney General with the Iowa Supreme Court. Upon filing her brief with the court, Attorney General Bird commented:

"No right is more valuable than the right to life. We know that every moment counts when it comes to protecting the unborn and are working diligently to ensure the Heartbeat Law is upheld. I'm confident the law is on our side, and we will continue fighting to defend the right to life in court."

(If you would like to read Attorney General Bird's brief, click on this link [www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/search?q=](http://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/search?q=) and then enter the search words, "Planned Parenthood")

On another front, Attorney General Bird joined 19 other states' Attorneys General in a legal brief filed with the U.S.

Supreme Court asking it to uphold an April 5, 2023 ruling from the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals that halted mail-order abortions that put women's lives at risk, condemned the improper FDA approval process for the drug, and restored strict limits on chemical abortions.

Again, it makes a BIG difference that Iowa now has a pro-life Attorney General.

**In some sad news, a majority of Ohioans recently voted to insert abortion rights into their state constitution.** While this is bad news, perhaps pro-lifers in Ohio can follow the model being set in Michigan.

There, Michigan pro-life forces have sued to overturn Michigan's pro-abortion amendment to its state constitution. You may recall that in November, 2022, Michigan voters approved pro-abortion language, amending the state constitution of Michigan. The pro-life lawsuit seeks to annul the amendment, and rightfully claims that it illegally overrides parental rights regarding their minor children, endangers the medical practice of pro-life physicians who refuse to perform abortions, and wrongfully denies the Michigan legislature's right to make appropriate laws regarding abortion as Michigan's elected representatives. To read more about this lawsuit, go to [www.liveaction.org](http://www.liveaction.org) on the internet.

**Also, be aware our neighbors to the West are threatened by Planned Parenthood.** The ACLU of Nebraska, the Women's Fund, and other pro-abortion groups, have filed a petition proposal that seeks to insert unlimited abortion through all nine months of pregnancy in the Nebraska state constitution.

Nebraska law currently protects unborn children after 12 weeks gestation, prohibits mail-order abortion death pills, has a 24

hour waiting period, and parental consent provisions. Under the proposed pro-abortion amendment all these protective prolife laws would be negated. **Spread the word that the fight is on to protect the unborn and women in Nebraska.**

Note, that in Iowa, a constitutional amendment may only be put to a vote after being passed in 2 successive legislative sessions, so Iowa is protected (at least for now) by a Republican controlled prolife senate and house in Des Moines. It is very important to know who the pro-life candidates are in every election. Currently in Iowa, the Republican candidates do not support a pro-abortion amendment, but Democrats would.

Here's some news regarding pro-lifers fighting back against wrongful prosecutions. Pennsylvania Pro-life activist Mark Houck, was found not guilty in less than 90-minutes of the FACE Act, a federal law that makes it a crime to injure, intimidate, or interfere with anyone providing abortion services.

Houck had pushed an abortion harasser away from his 12-year-old son. He has now sued the Department of Justice for wrongfully charging him. The Department of Justice used 20 heavily-armed federal agents to storm his home at dawn on September 23, 2022. Even after Houck offered to voluntarily appear on an arrest warrant, 20 federal agents raided his home and terrorized his family. They needlessly aimed rifles and handguns at his wife as her children cowered in fear behind her. For more on this lawsuit, which seeks \$4.3 million in damages, check out [www.Lifenews.com](http://www.Lifenews.com)

Thanks for reading and staying informed. †

- Arthur F. Gilloon, Attorney at Law, and  
Board Member, Dubuque Right to Life



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in crisis pregnancies.*


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Dubuque County  
**Right To Life, Inc.**

2205 Carter Road \* Dubuque  
M-F 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
563-556-5960 \* [dcrtl@dcrtl.org](mailto:dcrtl@dcrtl.org)

**Did You Know?**  
There is a Mass at 2:15 pm  
every Wednesday for the  
pro-life movement!  
**Power of Prayer  
Adoration Chapel**  
1860 St. Ambrose Street, Dubuque  
(space is limited)



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**

Council #15813 - St. Columbkille  
[www.kc15813.com](http://www.kc15813.com)

**Change a Life,  
Become a Knight Today!**  
**Call Mark Hoeger: 563-213-0477**





### Equipped for Life Course

The Equipped for Life Course provides a fresh approach to the dialogue about abortion. Equal Rights Institute developed this method from thousands of conversations with pro-choice people.

We want to continue to introduce this approach to our members. The seminar will help you have charitable dialogues with anyone regardless of their religious or political beliefs.

Each meeting will include learning the topic of the day, time for discussion, and practicing with fellow pro-lifers. If you can't attend a certain day during the course, we have a plan for you.

The topics we will cover are: Habits of Highly Ineffective Pro-Lifers, Practical Dialogue Tips, Trot Out a Toddler, The Biological Case for the Unborn, The Philosophical Case for the Unborn, The Question of Rape, and Bodily Rights Arguments.

#### Two program options:

**Tuesday mornings from January 9th to February 20th at 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**  
or

**Saturdays (March 2nd and 9th)  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch is included.**

### Holy Hour For Respect of Life

Join us in

praying for the most vulnerable

**St. John the Baptist Church, Peosta**

**Thursday, Jan 26th @ 7:00 p.m.**

(Held on the 4th Thursday of the month)



Birthright of Dubuque  
221 West 9th Street  
563-556-1991

[www.birthright.org/dubuque](http://www.birthright.org/dubuque)



We are looking for women who are talented and passionate about helping mothers make a better life for themselves and their baby.

Mary's Inn Maternity Home is hiring for the current positions:

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[www.marysinmaternityhome.org](http://www.marysinmaternityhome.org)

### BIRTHRIGHT OF DUBUQUE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Birthright of Dubuque is looking for volunteers who are willing to give 6-9 hours a month to help ensure that "every mother has a right to give birth and every child has a right to be born."

Our volunteers welcome and assist women who call or come in for free pregnancy testing or who need other support throughout their pregnancy.

We are also looking for men or women to serve on our board, which is a commitment of 8 meetings a year.

This is a great opportunity for those with limited time to volunteer but who have a desire to help with our cause and support our mission. We will train you for this volunteer service.

Please email us at

[dubuque@birthright.org](mailto:dubuque@birthright.org)

or call our office at 563-556-1991 for more information.

Reserve your spot at our  
Dubuque office

**Volunteer Orientation  
Saturday, February 10th, 2024  
9:00 a.m.**

**Birthright Office  
221 West 9th St. - Dubuque**

### PRO-LIFE EVENT SAVE THE DATES

**Friday, April 5**

Life Dinner

hosted by

Dubuque County Right to Life

**Thursday, July 11**

Clatity Clinic

6th Annual Golf Outing

Eagle Ridge - North Course

### CLARITY CLINIC BANQUET SUCCESS



→ Secured for Clarity Clinic:

**\$240,465**

→ Diapers Collected:

**8,222**

→ Baby Wipe Packages Collected:

**376**

→ Guests attended:

**375**

→ People/Couples pledged  
to Partner with Clarity:

**163**

### KEEP UP WITH US!



# Adoration

## SIGN UP FOR AN ADORATION HOUR!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Unscheduled Adoration  
Visitors ALWAYS Welcome**

### The Power of Prayer Chapel

next to St. Anthony Church  
1860 St. Ambrose Street  
Dubuque, IA 52001  
Call Melissa at 563-564-6365

### St. Joseph's Chapel

next to St. Mary Church  
170 Montgomery Avenue  
East Dubuque, IL 61025  
Call Kathy at 563-580-1334

**Your time in adoration  
will be forever  
remembered in heaven.**

## MIRACLES STILL HAPPEN EVERY DAY

*by Mark Hoeger*

The Power of Prayer Chapel next to St. Anthony's Church here in Dubuque, has Eucharistic Adoration 24/7 every day of the year. Adorers go there to pray for their needs and the needs of others in front of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, which is held in the Monstrance.

Last spring, one of our adorers, David Pardoe was asked by his sister to pray for her friend Jim McGee who was battling stage four metastatic lung cancer. David made weekly visits to the Chapel praying to Jesus, through the intercession of Blessed Solanas Casey for his cause for sainthood.

Each visit to the Chapel, David would write and date his notes, and place them in the prayer intention urn. Upon Jim's return to see his doctor, the doctor was astounded as to how well Jim was doing. Jim is still taking treatments and his cancer is in remission.

The survival rate for stage four metastatic cancer is very low but through prayers and the intercession of Blessed Solanus Casey, Jim is doing very well. David asked if his notes might still be at the Chapel and fortunately, they were. All the notes were still in the urn and we were able to retrieve them and return them to David so they could be used in promoting the cause for Blessed Solanus Casey's cause for sainthood.

### Cause for Canonization

Blessed Solanus Casey, beatified in 2017, is on the path to sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church. If canonized, Blessed Solanus would be the first American-born priest to become a saint.

Many favors have been reported due to the intercession of Blessed Solanus, both in his lifetime and following his death in 1957. The Vice-Postulator of the Cause for Canonization collects and tracks these favor reports. We invite the public to report any favors received to us.

## TEAM AQUINAS 2024 TRI-STATE AREA HOLY ROSARY RALLIES

### January 6 (First Saturday)

**St. Francis Church**  
468 Balltown Rd, Balltown, Iowa  
Rosary Intention: Honor for the Holy Name of Jesus  
Captain: John Lukasik

### February 3 (First Saturday)

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
518 S. 2nd Street, Guttenberg, Iowa  
Rosary Intention: Model Our Lives on the Holy Family  
Captain: Dennis Schmidt

### March 2 (First Saturday)

**St John the Baptist Catholic Church**  
241 Peosta Street, Peosta, Iowa  
Rosary Intention: Growing closer to Jesus through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving  
Captain: Chuck Spielman

### April 6 (First Saturday)

**St. Joseph's Church**  
202 2nd Avenue SE, Farley, Iowa  
Rosary Intention: For all who have no one to pray for them  
Captain: Dick Bergeson

### May 4 (First Saturday)

**Twogood Park Pavilion**  
Hwy 64 & Anna St., Preston, Iowa  
Rosary Intention: TBD  
Captain: Heidi Kelly

### May 11 (Second Saturday)

**Dickeyville Grotto**  
305 West Main Street, Dickeyville, WI  
Rosary Intention: For the intentions of Our Lady of Fatima  
Captain: Chris Ehlers

### June 1 (First Saturday)

**Power of Prayer**  
1860 St. Ambrose St., Dubuque, Iowa  
Rosary Intention: Reverence for the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Captain: Mark Hoeger



**Change a Life.  
Become a Knight Today!**

[kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join)

or call Mark Hoeger @ 563-213-0477

Council #15813  
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[www.kc15813.org](http://www.kc15813.org)

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**Call NOW to schedule your  
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[contact@powerofprayerdbq.com](mailto:contact@powerofprayerdbq.com)

1860 St. Ambrose St.  
Dubuque 52001





## New Theology, Modernism, and the New Mass

By Brad Markham

*“Truth is no more immutable than man himself, since it evolved with him, in him, and through him.”*

In July 1907 the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office issued the decree “*Lamentabili*,” which condemned sixty-five distinctive Modernist doctrines. One of the Modernist propositions that Pope St. Pius X would pointedly declare, “pervert the eternal concept of truth.” (*Garrigou-Lagrange OP, Reginald, “Where is the New Theology Headed?” in The Thomistic Response to the Nouvelle Theologie, ed. Jon Kirwan and Matthew MinerD 287-304 (Washington D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2023).*

A debate erupted in the post WWII era about the nature of theology and of human interaction with the truth. Garrigou-Lagrange, the most known of the interlocutors, famously wrote the article quoted above, *Where is the New Theology Headed?*

In the article he defines where he saw the new theology leading and locates it within what is called the philosophy of action.

In the new theology, truth is defined in the following way: *the conformity of the mind and life*. The traditional definition of truth is *the commensuration of the thing and the intellect or the adequation (making*

*equal) of the external object to the intellect.*

In short, the traditional conception of truth states that there are objects outside our intellects, things “out there,” which our senses grasp and our intellect abstracts the universality of what they are. When what is in our head “matches” what is outside of our head, we have truth.

For instance, if I see a variety of chairs and abstract the concept of chair, if I then see a chair in reality, and point and say, “That is a chair,” I have stated a truth because my intellectual concept matches what is really out there.

The Modernists instead state that truth shifts with our varying perceptions of reality, dependent upon an evolving experience of truth. So, if I see a multiplicity of chairs, and also tables and develop a concept of both, but then life changes to where people start sitting on tables instead of eating off of them, I can then understand that the concept of table has changed, so then start naming tables as chairs.

In other words, there is no fixed concept of chair or table, but they are relative to our experience of them. This is the conformity of the mind with life.

This actually destroys the notion of truth because there are then no fixed concepts, only ever evolving and changing understandings of concepts with our experience, which then makes

those concepts susceptible to being both what they are and what they are not. Once our concepts say that an object is both a chair and a table, we end up in a state of contradiction, where a chair is both a chair and not a chair. At that point, it is both everything and nothing. In other words, everything becomes meaningless when our concepts (and reality) can both be and not be what they are at the same time and in the same way. Within the conceptual range of chair and not chair, there is everything and nothing. That is, there is no truth.

The Holy Office, in 1924, listed one of the propositions which it condemned as follows:

*Truth is not found in any particular act of the intellect wherein which there would be had conformity with the object, as the Scholastics have said, but rather truth is always in a state of becoming, and consists in a progressive adequation of the understanding with life, namely, a certain perpetual process by which the intellect strives to develop and explain that which experience presents or action requires. However, it is a law that in all progression there is at no time anything which is determined or fixed. (Ibid)*

Again:

*Even after having grasped matters*

*New Theology, Modernism continues on page 22*

### Mission Statement

To refine your knowledge, fortify your conviction in the Roman Catholic Faith, and give you militancy and fervor for the Christian virtues through the Traditional Roman Rite. We desire your sanctity and the sanctity of all people. We pray for your children and grandchildren into the Barque of Peter, the Holy Roman Catholic faith. And we desire your militant support through the most excellent means of grace, the Traditional Roman Rite Liturgy. *Salus animarum suprema lex!*

# TRADITIONALIS MISSÆ

TMSL Section, pg 2

New Theology, Modernism continued from page 21



# SOCIETAS LATINORUM

*of faith, man must not take up his rest regarding religious dogmas, adhering to them in a fixed and immobile manner. Rather, he must forever remain anxious to progress onward to some further truth, namely, by developing a new meaning for what he believes, nay, also by correcting it. (Ibid)*

It is obvious to the casual observer that both of these officially condemned propositions represent a condemnation of relativism.

Truth is no longer fixed, but ever changing with the experiences of life.

We see a number of these principles at work in the modern church, with ambiguities coming out of Rome regarding communion for the divorced and remarried, homosexual relations, religious indifferentism, and the death penalty. When there are no longer fixed terms, the ambiguity itself creates room for continuous new interpretations.

These new interpretations are seemingly now contradicting the perennial teachings of the Catholic Church. We have the contradiction cited above, where there is no longer fixed meaning to anything.

Many have claimed that the Modernist coming-out party happened at Vatican II. The weaponized ambiguity of some of the texts, along

with the interpretive license and liberties with its implementation that took place, it's hard NOT to see the Modernist principles at play.

The Novus Ordo Mass itself seems to follow the pattern of the conformity of the mind with the ever-changing experiences of life. As Father Reginald-Marie Rivoire, recently noted:

Although the Second Vatican Council emphasized that “*regulation of the sacred liturgy depends solely on the authority of the Church*,” and “*therefore no other person, even if he be a priest, may add, remove, or change anything in the liturgy on his own authority*,” (SC 22), the new Missal — which does not precisely regulate the gestures, attitudes, or often even the words of the priest — rather constantly invites him to be creative, by means of a purely indicative or optional rubrics such as: *Sacerdos dicit sic vel simili modo...* or: *Hic sacerdos potest dicere*, or again: *pro opportunitate...*, *sic placet...*, *expedit ut...vel...vel...vel...*

Many studies have shown that this is one of the fundamental marks of the new liturgy: it is by its very nature multiform and evolving.

Such variations according to the will of the celebrant are therefore in no way “abuses:” they are prescribed by what must be called, despite the oxymoron, a “protean rite.” (Rivoire, Reginald-Marie, *F.S.F.V., Does Traditiones Custodes Pass the Juridical Rationality Test*, (Lincoln, NE: Os Justi Press, 2022).

The Latin cited in the above passage highlights the changeability, the unfixed nature of the new mass. It can change with life. Truth moves with the

evolution of our perception of things. “The priest says thus or in a similar way, here the priest is able to say, if it pleases, for the opportunity, or, or or.”

Does not this reflect a philosophy of change; the conformity of the mind with life? We even see in the above passage, the exact contradiction that leads to meaninglessness. The church says, “*no person shall change the liturgy*,” but then turns around and allows for it!

*Lex orandi, lex credendi* - the way we pray is the way we believe. As a liturgical creature, how we pray is how we believe and how we live. The new rite, in placing all these options, has relativized the liturgical practice of the church. By its very optionality, it introduces the habit of “progressing onward to some further truth,” and even to “correcting it.”

As we’ve seen, though, the admission of contradiction leads to meaninglessness and as Garrigou-Lagrange argued ad nauseam, nihilism.

Does our liturgical practice lead to this nihilism? With the mass exodus from the Catholic Church since Vatican II, is there any question that this meaninglessness has infected the faithful?

The changeability gives the priest and the faithful the habitual practice of relativism. Truth in liturgy is no longer a fixed term, a truth, but rather ambiguous and changing. It’s hard not to see the New Theology of change in the New World order of the mass. The philosophy of change is hiding in plain site and its nihilistic effects are obvious. †

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## Challenging the Status Quo in "Science" Education

*by Hugh Owen*

One of the challenges we have faced since the very beginning of the establishment of The Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation is the difficulty in finding opportunities to debate the champions of theistic evolution and progressive creation in an open forum.

One of the few members of our leadership team who has succeeded in organizing a debate for us is Dr. Robert Houston, who is a professor of Economics at Eastern Kentucky University.

Dr. Houston and Dr. Stephen Gedney, at that time a professor of electrical engineering at the University of Kentucky, received permission from their local chancery to organize a debate in the hall of the diocesan Cathedral in Lexington, Kentucky, between Dr. Thomas Seiler and myself and two theistic evolutionists, a local diocesan priest and a former provost and professor of biology at the University of Kentucky.

I would like to share a letter that Dr. Houston wrote about the debate in case any of our readers might be able to use it to organize a similar debate at another Catholic venue.

### ***To Whom It May Concern:***

My name is Bob Houston and I am a Professor of Economics at Eastern Kentucky University and a member of Regina Pacis Parish in the Catholic Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky.

I am writing this letter in support of the Kolbe Center for

the Study of Creation and to encourage chancery officials, university administrators, principals, and others who hold positions of responsibility in Catholic educational institutions to utilize the Kolbe Center to educate Catholics in the historical, scriptural and magisterial teaching on creation.

I first attended a Kolbe Center seminar at my parish church a few years ago with the encouragement of my pastor. I was overwhelmed by the quality of the presentation and the clarity with which the topic was presented.

I attended a second seminar a year later at the University of Kentucky that was sponsored by the pro-life group on campus. It was after these seminars that I began to fully understand the connection between the evolutionary hypothesis and the culture of death.

**As a parent and educator, I have observed that most Catholic young people are simply indoctrinated into the view that God used hundreds of millions of years of death and mutation to evolve the bodies of the first human beings.**

Moreover, many of these young people are taught this "fact" by Catholic teachers in Catholic schools. They are taught that Genesis is a "myth," that Adam and Eve were not historical individuals,

and that the events recounted in Genesis 1-3 regarding the creation of man and the Fall are not to be taken literally. It seems that most Catholic students rarely have an opportunity to hear a coherent critique of the evolutionary hypothesis, or to hear any other account of origins besides theistic evolution.

### **The Angelic Doctor**

In the spring of 2012, I invited Mr. Hugh Owen to give a lecture at Eastern Kentucky University entitled, "*The Negative Impact of the Evolutionary Hypothesis on Scientific and Medical Research: A Retrospective Assessment.*"

*Challenging the Status Quo continues on page 24*

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The lecture was very well received and generated much thoughtful discussion on the topic. Although it is good that this type of discussion can take place on a secular campus, how much more important is it that our Catholic institutions do the same?

In fact, the Church has asked this very thing of Catholic scholars and educators. The last authoritative Magisterial teaching on evolution, the encyclical *Humani Generis* of Pope Pius XII, asked that Catholic scholars examine the evidence for and against the evolutionary hypothesis **and did NOT give permission for human evolution to be taught by Catholics.**

It is apparent to me that this serious request by the Pope has largely not been obeyed.

Our young people (and their parents) are being cheated of the opportunity to hear both sides of the controversy with regard to the Catholic doctrine of creation. The faithful have not been given the opportunity to attend presentations by Catholic experts in theology and natural science who defend the traditional Catholic doctrine of special creation while offering a detailed critique of the claims of the evolutionary hypothesis in its theistic as well as its atheistic forms.

In May of 2014, inspired by the request of Pius XII, I helped to organize a debate on the Catholic doctrine of origins at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Lexington.

I obtained permission from the local Church authorities to hold the public debate at our Catholic Cathedral. The formal debate proposition was as follows:

*Be it resolved that the traditional Catholic doctrine of special creation—the fiat creation of all of the different kinds of creatures by God for man less than ten thousand years ago—is a much better explanation of all of the facts of Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, Magisterial teaching, and natural science than theistic evolution—the view that God used hundreds of millions of years of evolutionary processes to evolve the bodies of the first human beings.*

### The Creation of Light and the Angels

The speakers defending the traditional doctrine of creation hailed from the Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation. The theological speaker was Hugh Owen, Director of the Kolbe Center; the natural science speaker was Dr. Thomas Seiler, who has a Ph.D. in Physics from the Technical University of Munich in Germany.

The speakers defending theistic evolution were a local diocesan priest and a former provost and professor of biology at the University of Kentucky.

The event was attended by over two hundred people and covered by the diocesan newspaper. Judging from the audience's response, the debate succeeded in

generating a singularly open and thorough exchange of views on this fundamental topic, which enabled many to make a more clearly informed judgment in the matter.

In Christ,  
Robert G. Houston  
Professor  
Department of Economics  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Richmond, KY 40475  
(859) 622-2160  
[bob.houston@eku.edu](mailto:bob.houston@eku.edu)

Please feel free to share this letter with any university administrator, pastor, Newman Club coordinator, or other Catholic leader who might be in a position to organize a debate for us along similar lines.

Please also take note of the fact that it was Dr. Houston's attendance at a Kolbe seminar in his Traditional Latin Mass Parish that opened his eyes to the truth of the traditional doctrine of creation.

If you would like to organize a Kolbe talk or seminar in a parish or in another venue in 2024, please contact me at [howen@shentel.net](mailto:howen@shentel.net) as soon as possible. †

About: The Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation is a Roman Catholic lay apostolate dedicated to glorifying the Most Holy Trinity by proclaiming the truth about the origins of man and the universe. The Kolbe Center seeks to educate the public, particularly within the Catholic Church, in the truth of creation as revealed in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition and as confirmed by the findings of modern science. [www.kolbecenter.org](http://www.kolbecenter.org)



# COALITION FOR CANCELED PRIESTS

## *Una Voce Clamantes in Deserto*

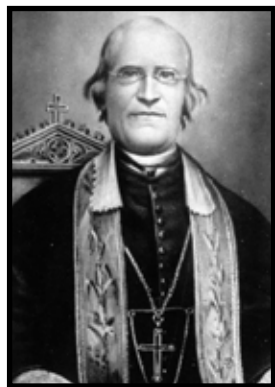


### Iowa's First Canceled Priest?

by Denise Dexter

Two years before Pope Gregory XVI formally created the Dubuque Diocese on July 28, 1837, Rev. Samuel Mazzuchelli, a Dominican priest, laid the foundation for a stone church, in the City of Dubuque, that was dedicated to Raphael, the Archangel.

Soon thereafter, The Very Reverend Mathias Loras, then Vicar-General of Mobile, Alabama was assigned by Pope Gregory XVI as the Bishop of Dubuque. When Bishop Loras arrived in 1839 after traveling throughout Europe seeking priests and money, there were only three churches: St. Raphael in Dubuque, St. Anthony in Davenport (both begun by Mazzuchelli), and St. James in Sugar Creek, in Lee County.



Bishop Mathias Loras

In addition to Dubuque, Bishop Loras was asked by Bishop Rosati to take on northwestern Illinois as part of his new responsibility, and Father Mazzuchelli transferred his spiritual authority over

Wisconsin portions (as given by Bishop Rese of Detroit), to Bishop Loras as Apostolic Administrator.

At this time, the American Catholic Church was growing and trending westward as German and Irish immigrants followed the frontier beyond the Mississippi River. The area was then known as the **Territory of Wisconsin - stretching from the west bank of the Mississippi River to the east bank of the Missouri, and upwards into what is present-day North and South Dakota.**

In this vast wilderness, Loras believed his work would be mostly among Indians, but with the influx of German and Irish immigrants, he was soon shepherding them on to unclaimed property.

In 1849, Bishop Loras of Dubuque returned to his native France. He traveled to visit his friend, John Vianney - the saintly Cure' of Ars, to make a report on the condition of the diocese, and to find new recruits for the pioneer country.

One of the five men willing to leave his family, friends, and French homeland was convert to the Faith and subdeacon, Frederic Cyrille Jean.

*Jean responded to Bishop Loras' call for missionaries, and arrived in New York on May 13, 1850, with Bishop Loras and four other seminarians. Because Mt. St. Bernard at Table Mound was not yet open, his seminary studies were completed at St. Mary, the Barrens, Missouri. November 8, 1851, was the date of ordination by Bishop Loras, and he was at once sent to St. Andrew, Bellevue, as its first pastor. (Otting, 388)*

As a pioneer priest, Father Jean would also travel and say Holy Mass in homes and cabins, serving the faithful in eastern Clinton and Jackson counties before being assigned to Lyons (which was annexed into the city of Clinton years later) where he would be the first resident pastor in Clinton county.

In 1864, work commenced to build the fourth church in the area, St. Irenaeus, a limestone giant that would tower above the town. Bishop Clement Smyth traveled from Dubuque to set the cornerstone of Saint Irenaeus on May 1, 1864. At near completion, the church construction totaled \$45,000. Of that, at least a third came from Father's own family funds. It would be just smaller than the St. Raphael's Cathedral in Dubuque, dedicated in 1861.

(right) A recent photo of St. Irenaeus.

**This was occurring at a unique time in history. Pope Pius IX was head of the Catholic Church and Abraham Lincoln was President of the United States where a civil war was raging.**

Father Jean was a child from a wealthier, land-owning family in France, and had benefited from access to higher education. Father Jean was articulate and determined; he believed the truth must be known and justice upheld.

**There was a lot of momentum for Catholics in Lyons, but opposition, too. The anti-Catholic societies were also strong. In this new country there was much suspicion of Catholics by groups called Nativists, Know-Nothings, and Freemasons.**

Thus, as the population was booming in Lyons, Catholic adversaries were growing too. There was an active rivalry of Church progress versus Freemasonic efforts. For example, on May 6, 1869, the Freemasons "communicat(ed) the rites from fourth to thirty-second, inclusive, to a sufficient number of Master Masons" locally, in order to establish a new lodge, council and chapter.

On the 27th of the following month, Bishop Hennessey was present to baptize the bell before St. Irenaeus' feast day.



Bishop Hennessey, the third Bishop and first Archbishop of Dubuque.





# COALITION FOR CANCELED PRIESTS

## *Una Voce Clamantes in Deserto*

Then, as the cornerstone of the Lyons Masonic temple was laid at 94 Main Street, Father Jean began publicly defending his parochial school system. As explained by an acquaintance of the author, "Freemasons were originally Protestant rebels who revolted against kings and queens who were with the Pope because at that time the Church and state were not separated...They're for democracy and public education."

Such groups were politically motivated to keep Catholics out of leadership, and the fear of Catholic influence was advanced by the predominately Protestant press. An excerpt from the *Portrait and Biographical Album of Clinton County* (1886) proclaims the strength of the organized Freemasons in Lyons:

*From the time that Lyons was anything of a town, she has taken the lead in Masonic matters, and, through the zeal of the fraternity here, a grand Masonic Temple was established. The cornerstone laid on Aug. 15, 1871, with imposing ceremonies.*



*The Temple is a four-story structure, built of brick, with terra cotta ornamentation, and surmounted with a dome. It is a fine building and marked feature of the city. The Oriental Chapter*

*was instituted here in 1867, and in 1869 the Scottish Rites, the first instituted in the State, were established.*

Hence, they opposed Father's new Catholic school system in the basement of St. Irenaeus.

Freemasons and the like were aggressive advocates for the state school systems and against parochial schools. The need to establish Catholic schools to bring up young parishioners in the Faith was a priority shared by each of Father Jean's bishops – Loras, Smyth and Hennessey, or at least initially.

Father Jean's personal efforts took 100 students out of public education and he was willing to defend his success at community meetings.

In addition to the education issue, though perhaps unlabeled at that time, was the concern by Catholic leaders that Catholics assimilating into America might relax their convictions – putting free speech and individual opinion before doctrine of the Church, valuing civic opportunities above religious vows, or making concessions in their Faith in attempt to gain neighbors.

**This heresy was later termed Americanism by Pope Leo XIII, and in 1899, as he addressed in the encyclical, *Testem Benevolentiae Nostrae*.**

If being a zealous cleric and unwavering in the Faith was a thorn in the side of those around him, the gesture was returned. There were sad and aggressive accusations of relations with a housekeeper; a classic entrapment by three female Know-Nothings in the church sanctuary; legal trials regarding land purchases for new parishes; and even complaints regarding church wine, sermons, inconsistency on the temperance cause, misappropriation of church funds, and cattle wandering in the cemetery.

And sadly, somehow, the support of Father Jean's bishop was undermined. **Without having a personal meeting with the bishop to know what caused the change, a letter was sent on March 22, 1872, declaring:**

***On receipt, your charge of St. Irenaeus's Church ceases.***

***John Hennessey, Bishop of Dubuque***

The *Lyons Mirror* reported to the community the turn of events:

**CHURCH TROUBLES** – *Some time since complaints were filed against Rev. F. C. Jean, Catholic priest of this city, by parties here, before the Bishop of Dubuque. He was cited to appear before Rev. Mr. Weiland, of the other Church; at first refused, but we are told finally did so, and a trial was had.*

*Of the charges we hear different rumors, but know nothing positive. The result was an order of removal from the parish, but the incumbent refused to deliver up the keys, or to recognize the order. Yesterday afternoon a committee were to call on him and demand the keys; and meanwhile Rev. P.V. McLaughlin, of Clinton, is announced to celebrate [M]ass tomorrow morning. The end is probably not yet.*

Then on April 26, 1872, Father Jean received another note:

***On receipt, your permission to say Mass in the Diocese of Dubuque ceases.***

***John Hennessey, Bishop of Dubuque***

While Father Jean had 300 petitions signed in his defense, it was useless. By the end of May, Father embarked on a trip to Europe to take his issues to Pope Pius IX to clear his charges and report similar complaints from other religious regarding the treatment from Bishop Hennessey.

**He won his case in Rome**, and on October 5, 1874, an exeat was required to be sent (releasing Father Jean of his obligations to the diocese) but refused. The battle between bishop and priest continued.

Five years later, with his own words he defended himself, published in the *Clinton Daily Herald* on November 20, 1879, his retaliation was still fiery, per this excerpt:

***Again, allow me to state through your paper for the benefit of my would-be antagonist, that I have no quarrel with him or anybody else, but only with John Hennessey, the so-called Bishop of Dubuque.***

***F.C. Jean***

***Lyons, Nov. 19, 1879***

As a (canceled) priest without a parish, Father Jean was determined to remain in the proximity of St. Irenaeus.

It is believed that Father Jean was tasked by Rome to root out the anti-Catholic infiltration in the new land, particularly from his vantage point to the concentrated hostile efforts in Clinton, where the American Protective Association was



# COALITION FOR CANCELED PRIESTS

*Una Voce Clamantes in Deserto*



about to launch. Hence, Father's quiet work and continued presence there was perhaps bigger than what could be proclaimed publicly. One is encouraged to read *Journey: The Biography of a Pastorate* by M.E. Eckelberg:

## **May He Rest in Peace**

Reverend F.C. Jean died in his home in Lyons on Saturday, April 12, 1890. As a priest without the support of his bishop, he was unable to be buried outside of the church he built up with his own family funds. Instead, he was quietly intured by the priest of the German parish near his boarding house.

More scandal was written regarding his body after burial, but **his tombstone in St. Boniface Cemetery reads:** Rev. Frederic Cyrille Jean - Born at Bains, Haute Loire, France - July 19, 1827 - First Catholic Priest of Lyons, Iowa - Where After Building Up St. Irenaeus Church -By Many Years of Labor He Died - April 12, 1890 - PRAY FOR HIM

*By Denise Dexter*

*Denise Dexter, of Lost Nation, Iowa, is the author of **Maximilian's Story**, a book to be released in 2024 detailing the life and death of Maximilian Gabbard and the rebirth and restoration of St. Irenaeus Catholic Church in Clinton, Iowa. This article is comprised of excerpts from her book, including the following bibliography.*

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## **What exactly is a canceled priest?**

A Canceled Priest is a man validly ordained in the Catholic Church who has been unjustly removed from ministry by his bishop, without a delict (crime) against canon law, civil law, or the Decalogue.

This priest would apply to the Coalition for Canceled Priests (CFCP) for assistance to pay to file Canonical proceedings to fight for his good name and his return to active ministry.

The Due Diligence Team of the CFCP investigates the priest, making sure he is orthodox in his teachings, that he holds to the teachings of Holy Mother Church, and that he is faithful in his interactions with the faithful through any social media posts.

**A Canceled Priest is a man of God, a father to the people of God, an Alter Christus, and a son of Mary.**

**The Coalition for Canceled Priests  
is pleased to announce its  
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# COALITION FOR CANCELED PRIESTS

## *Una Voce Clamantes in Deserto*

### The Story of Our Lady and the Birth of Jesus

by Kalah Williams

**The following account is based on the revelations to Spain's Venerable Mary of Agreda.**

As much as Christmas has become sentimental with Bing Crosby playing in the background, this Advent, let us increase our contemplation of those things that led to the birth of Our Savior in Bethlehem more than 2,000 years ago.

Mary was born to the tribe of Judah through the lineage of David. When Mary was just three years old, her father and mother, St. Joachim and St. Anne, took their precious child to the Temple, presenting her there for the service of God. Mary was raised in the Temple. St. Joachim died shortly after taking Mary to the Temple. St. Anne died when Mary was twelve years old. When her father died, Mary sent her legion of angels to accompany him to his temporary resting place of limbo.

In these years spent in the Temple, Mary exercised great humility. Even when jealous girls were unkind to Mary, she eagerly forgave them, offering genuine remorse for anything she may have done to provoke their anger.

When Mary was thirteen and a half years old, she learned of God's desire for her to marry. Mary was distressed by this will for her life, as she had professed to God her chastity and espousal to Him, planning to spend her life in this sacred Temple. God had other plans for Mary, and out of love for God, she was obedient and humble to His Holy Will, accepting Divine Providence with a heavy heart but unwavering acceptance. Six months passed while Mary prayerfully waited.

St. Joseph, too, was of the tribe of Judah through the lineage of David. At the age of twelve, Joseph promised his chastity and life-long service to God. When Joseph was 33 years old, he, together with the other men of the lineage of David, was called to the Temple so the spouse of Mary may be chosen.

While the other men were eager to be selected, Joseph renewed in his heart his desire to serve God through his continued chastity. Each man was given a wooden staff, and the high priest prayed for the Will of God to be made manifest as to who would be selected. Joseph's staff began to bloom; a dove appeared and rested upon his head. At this time Mary was called in and espoused to Joseph. Together, Joseph and Mary left the Temple for the home Mary inherited from her parents in Nazareth.

When Joseph and Mary were first alone in their home, they acknowledged to one another their professed chastity and their desire to place God above all. What joy they each felt in knowing they were of one mind and agreed to live as brother and sister and obey God however He called them. Joseph and Mary generously served one another.

Just over six months after their espousal, God permitted a novena of days for Mary to receive private revelations of the entire creation, the fall of man, and the planned redemption of the whole human race. Mary slept little and prayed much, beginning each day prostrate on the floor, as the angels taught her, fixing her heart on the Lord. Finally, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary, as we know from Luke 1:26-38. Mary was fourteen years, six months, and seventeen days at the time of the Incarnation.

The Sacred Infant, fully Divine and All-Knowing, designed His lowering to the image of His creature to suffer and die for the redemption of mankind. Mary understood this plan and had willed for her part to embrace this suffering in order to be one with God. The modern blasphemous song, "Mary Did You Know" is an insult to God because, of course, Mary knew.

As requested by God, Joseph and Mary left their home in Nazareth to visit the house of Zacharias, 78 miles away, traveling by foot through rough and mountainous terrain for four days. Joseph





# COALITION FOR CANCELED PRIESTS

*Una Voce Clamantes in Deserto*



*Vatican officials are collecting evidence to document the case for the canonization of an incorruptible and bilocating Spanish nun, Maria of Jesus of Agreda, responsible for evangelizing Native Americans in the 1600s.*

provided Mary with a donkey to ride; Mary being humble and unpretentious, would dismount the donkey and ask Joseph to take his turn. Joseph never rode but permitted her to walk beside him until he insisted she return to rest on the beast. A thousand angels, only visible to Mary, accompanied them.

Upon Joseph and Mary's arrival, the infant's soul within the womb of Elizabeth was purified by the Divine Infant within the womb of Mary. Joseph stayed only three days in the house of Zacharias, and with Mary's blessing, he returned alone to Nazareth, while Mary remained with Zacharias and Elizabeth for three months until the birth of St. John the Baptist. Mary assisted Elizabeth with all necessary preparations, and Mary was present to serve Elizabeth in the delivery of John. Joseph then returned to accompany Mary back to their home in Nazareth.

Mary was five months with child, when Joseph realized, and knowing he had nothing to do with this condition, was pained to consider any dishonor for Mary, whom he had the utmost respect for. As a faithful Jew, Joseph was further devastated by his obligation to turn Mary over to the authorities for apparent impurity (Lev.20:10). Tormented by his

considerations, Joseph turned to God in prayer for a significant amount of time. Mary was fully aware of the pain Joseph was experiencing and the grieving he was conveying to God, but she remained silent. Mary prayed to God, Whom she bore in her womb, to help Joseph in his agony. Joseph resolved to leave Mary instead of having her stoned to death. Mary could not stand for this thought, as leaving Mary would bring dishonor to Joseph. God finally spoke to Mary, assuring her He would console Joseph in a dream. Imagine the extreme joy both Joseph and Mary had after things were made clear by God. Joseph threw himself at the feet of Mary and the Infant King, begging her pardon for his fault in accusing her. Mary lifted Joseph to his feet and knelt before him, apologizing for not being able to share information all the while he suffered so greatly.

As foretold (Mich 5:2), the Savior would be born in Bethlehem, so bringing this to fruition, a decree went out by Caesar Augustus for the whole Roman Empire, everyone must go to their native city to register, pay a tax to the emperor, and declare themselves his subjects. Upon hearing this, Joseph was deeply pained. Mary consoled Joseph and reassured him that God would only permit this to bring about His plan. Joseph and Mary prepared for their journey to Bethlehem, which would take five days. Because there were so many travelers, it was difficult, but Joseph finally found a humble creature to carry the Queen of creation and King of kings. Mary packed those necessary linens

needed for the birth of her child as her time was near.

Because of their poverty and humility of attire, Joseph and Mary were treated most unkindly by many along the journey. They were subject to the most undesirable people and places to sleep. Joseph was comforted by the presence of ten thousand angels who guarded the holy family; for this reason, they could rest in peace when necessary. Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem at sunset, on a Saturday, at the time of the winter solstice. There were many travelers in the city. God made it known to Mary that there were no vacancies; in humility, Mary never complained or disagreed with her spouse in his desire to find lodging in town. Patiently, Mary went from house to house with Joseph, bearing the insults of countless people. Upon passing the office of the public register, they inscribed their names and paid the fee, fulfilling the order of the emperor. After five hours of searching, they found a place to rest outside the city gate. Mary consoled Joseph encouraging him to embrace poverty which is a treasure to the Savior within her womb.

Upon entering this poor cave, Mary cried tears of joy; Joseph and Mary fell to their knees in thanksgiving to the Lord for providing this shelter. Mary immediately asked God to bestow blessings upon all those who refused housing and made the possibility of this humble abode for animals, their place of rest.

*continued next page*



*The incorrupt Venerable Mary of Agreda.*



# COALITION FOR CANCELED PRIESTS

## *Una Voce Clamantes in Deserto*

Knowing the time was drawing near, Mary set out to clean the cave and Joseph assisted her in this work. The holy couple ate their meager food rations, giving thanks to the Lord. Mary felt the time was at hand, so she urged Joseph to rest at the cave entrance. Joseph entered into prayer and was wrapt in ecstasy, leaving him unaware of what was taking place with Mary.

The veil being lifted, Mary enjoyed the beatific vision for an hour. The cave was illuminated, and Mary issued forth her

child without the suffering other women endure. Jesus was delivered, more radiant than at the Transfiguration, into the hands of St. Michael and St. Gabriel (who appeared in human form to assist Our Lady in her need). Mary was kneeling at His birth and remained kneeling to adore Him. The princes of heaven placed the Infant King into His mother's arms, and all the angels of heaven entered this lowly cave, bowing down to worship Him.

St. Joseph was now called out of his ecstasy and saw the Christ Child in His mother's arms; Joseph kissed His feet,

adoring Him and shedding tears of great joy. Our Lady laid Our Lord in the manger and arranged the animals, including an ox who ran in from the neighboring field, to bow down in adoration of the newborn Savior. Our Lady commanded the animals to warm her child with their breath.

St. Michael was now dispatched to limbo, to pronounce the birth of the foretold Savior to the Patriarchs and Prophets, and to congratulate St. Joachim and St. Anne that the promised Redeemer was resting peacefully in His mother's arms, His mother being their child. †

### **Are canceled priests being punished for a criminal or canon law offense?**

No. Priests who have been removed from ministry for a serious offense under criminal or canon law are receiving just punishment and do not meet the definition of canceled priests.

**CFCP would never support a priest proven to have committed serious crimes such as murder, assault, theft, sodomy or any other sexual offense - especially those involving minors.**

Further, a priest who has denied or failed to defend traditional Catholic teachings on Faith and morals, or has abdicated an essential function of their calling, are not worthy to be supported as a canceled priest.

CFCP would never support or affiliate with a priest who denied the Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Perpetual

Virginity of Mary, or moral teachings such as the family as the fundamental unit of a healthy society, the sinfulness of abortion, sodomy, divorce and remarriage, artificial birth control, and the existence of two and only two God-ordained and immutable sexes.

### **What is the mission of the Coalition for Canceled Priests?**

Established in 2021, the Coalition for Canceled Priests exists to provide material and spiritual aid to faithful Catholic priests who have been unjustly removed from ministry by their bishops or other superiors. Our mission is part of a larger struggle between two camps that have become distinct in recent decades.

On the one hand, there are members of the priesthood and the hierarchy who insist on fealty to eternal Catholic

teachings on faith, morals, and worship. On the other hand, there are priests and members of the hierarchy who are willing — in some cases eager — to compromise or abolish these teachings.

### **How can supporters make financial contributions and are they tax-deductible?**

Contributions are accepted at [www.canceledpriests.org/give](http://www.canceledpriests.org/give) and all contributions are tax deductible. CFCP is registered with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as a 401(c)3 non-profit organization. Our Federal EIN number is 87-1298120.

If you desire to talk to a CFCP representative prior to giving, please email [give@canceledpriests.org](mailto:give@canceledpriests.org)

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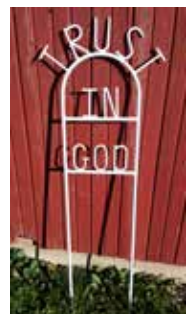
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## Publishing

### The Bellowing Ox



**GET OFF THE COUCH, TURN OFF THE TV, GO TO CHURCH!**

**RESPONSE: A Letter to the Editor**

Response: A Letter to the Editor. The response to the 28th issue of Aquinas was received from a reader who writes: "I am a Catholic and I am a fan of your magazine. I have been reading it for many years and I have learned a great deal from it. I am glad to hear that you are planning to continue it. I hope you will continue to publish it for many years to come. I am a fan of your magazine and I am glad to hear that you are planning to continue it. I hope you will continue to publish it for many years to come. I am a fan of your magazine and I am glad to hear that you are planning to continue it. I hope you will continue to publish it for many years to come."

**What does this mean?**

It means that the magazine is still relevant and that it is still being read. It means that the magazine is still a source of information and inspiration for many people. It means that the magazine is still a part of the Catholic community and that it is still a voice for the faith.

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**BRUCE JACOBSON PROCLAIMS THE TRUTH ON GENDER DISORDER**

Dr. Bruce Jacobson, a leading expert on gender identity, has written a new book, "The Truth on Gender Disorder: How Unhealthy Socialization Causes Psychological and Physical Problems." The book is a comprehensive look at the issue of gender identity, from the psychological to the physical. It is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the topic.

**Divine Mercy Society**

The Divine Mercy Society is a group of people who are dedicated to the promotion of the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ. They are a part of the Catholic Church and they are working to help people to experience the love and mercy of God. They are a group of people who are dedicated to the promotion of the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ.

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