



REUNION

The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil
(The Basilians - The Basilian Fathers)



Volume 19 No. 3 OF THE CHURCH OF MAN WITH GOD June, 2009 A.D.

~ WHY CAN'T WE ALL GET ALONG TOGETHER? ~

*From Metropolitan Archbishop Paul, S.S.B.
To the flock entrusted into my care:*

We can't all get along together because we are divided into two camps. The camp to which I belong, and every member thereof, desires to ascertain and follow God's will and instructions. The other camp desires to do what ever it desires without regard to God's will or instructions.

Very few of those who belong to the camp to which I belong are even partially successful in their attempt to follow God. But each of us and all of us continually strive to attain that goal, that status. We each examine our own conscience, and attempt so-to-do truthfully, that we each may strive to correct that which is not Godly and strengthen that which is Godly. Each of us strives to become and holy, to maintain our holiness, and to increase our holiness.

Those in the other camp are multitude in their individual and collective relations to and with God. A great many presume they have a good relationship with God, while ignoring what ever of God's desires and instructions which are contrary to their own desires. Others presume they have a good relationship wit God, attempt to follow many or most of God's instructions and desires, but grant to themselves exceptions to God's instructions in certain matters - particularly sins which they desire to commit. And others don't care one way or the other.

Those in the other camp can compromise with those in the camp to which I belong and
(Continued TOGETHER on page 8)



A MORALLY CORRUPT HIERARCHY IS BOTH SYMPTOMATIC AND PROBLEMATIC

Symptomatic: When moral corruption of the hierarchy becomes so common as to appear to be if not to actually be the norm it not only discourages and misleads the clergy ranks and laity, but also may leave them without access to the sacraments. This problem is one which all Orthodox would be wise to consider and study since it obviously is a problem in the former Latin Rite of the Roman Catholic Church from which Orthodox are only nominally insulated. It is a problem to which Orthodox may prove to be susceptible.

The problem is exemplified by the now retired Roman Catholic Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland of Milwaukee, (Wisconsin, U.S.A.). Weakland stated he was and is a homosexual, repressed

(Continued PROBLEM on page 21)

THE LIBERAL DOUBLE STANDARD OF NASTY

- The Standard of Immorality for Liberal Vitriol and Virulence -

Liberals consider it perfectly acceptable for Jay Leno, David Letterman, and other promoters of perversion posing as comedians to ridicule President Bush (43), and to mockingly imitate his manner of speaking, but totally unacceptable for Rush Limbaugh to perform an impression of homosexual Rep. Barnett "Barney" Frank

The process of demeaning those who disagree with one's agenda, position, standards (if any), and anything else

(Continued VIRTUOL on page 9)

BEST BUY BLOCKS RELIGION

Best Buy opposes religion with anti-religion policy

Best Buy, a company which sells computers, TV's, and various types of electronics, has blocked access to any religious internet web site from its in store demonstrator computers. One is able to access web sites featuring virtually every form of sin from the Best Buy demonstrator computers, but one is unable to access religious web sites. This is company policy.

On April 22, 2009 A.D., Archbishop Paul, S.S.B., went to a Best Buy store

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This was sent to us. We hope it is not copyright. See the baby's foot pressing mommy's tummy, from the inside?

Unborn babies are alive.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

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The sole purpose of this publication is to comply with the teachings and instructions of Jesus Christ, second person of the Trinity God, and to further His kingdom.

*** **SUBSCRIPTIONS:** **REUNION** is published in both print and electronic (computer/BBS) format. Publication dates are irregular. It is available free for downloading from REUNION NETWORK (see information below), or by e-mail mailing list subscription (which is free) to REU_PUB@REU.ORG with the message SUBSCRIBE REU_PUB YOUR NAME. Just because an issue is published in REUNION BBS does not mean it will be print published also. Print publication distribution is to (in order of preference): financially contributing parishioners of Holy Innocents Orthodox Church (Harahan / New

Orleans) and of St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church (Waveland, Miss.); publication swaps; those who pick up a copy and those who request a "free" subscription (if any are left); **** those who make a donation of \$30.00 (or more) to Holy Innocents Orthodox Church will be mailed each print published issue of **REUNION** for one calendar year from the date the donation is received. A donation does not create an obligation for us to publish.

We try to publish between four and twelve issues per year, and to print publish each electronically published issue, but do not guarantee to so do due to staffing and finances.

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Changes regarding receipt of **REUNION**, including cancellation, should be noted on the form opposite and sent in with your address label.

+ Paul, S.S.B.,
Publisher

+ The Basilians - The Basilian Fathers +

LETTERS

(The Editors reserve the right to reject any submissions, and to edit as necessary. Letters must be typed, single space, signed, and include the sender's name address, and day and evening telephone numbers - If your typed letter is accompanied by an ASCII DOS Text copy on a floppy, we will thank you with extra prayers - Ed.)

WORLD WIDE WEB:

The direct connection to the computer which functions as the message, file, and communications center for The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil, is:

<http://www.reu.org>
telnet://reu.org

Issues of REUNION, in color, in Adobe PDF and HTML, are available at:

<http://www.reu.org/public/news.htm>



On Line Chat Room: at the main web site log-in <http://www.reu.org> You have to register with the system before you can use it, and it is best to send e-mail to set a "chat schedule".

**Current Active Mailing Lists
Originating From BasilNet ReuNet
HIOC BBS**

The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil - The Basilian Fathers

Each ML (Mailing List) has its own rules, which are posted in the ML on a regular basis. Abbreviated commands are also in the signature of each ML message sent via e-mail. You must have permission from the appropriate ML administrator or SysOp to gate a ML.

PRAYERS

Prayer requests operates under a simple premise. When we pray for each other we fulfill a portion of our Christian duty. Prayers for the living and for the dead are allowed and welcome. Those who make prayer requests agree to include the prayer requests of all who make them here. Prayer requests MUST be moral and for moral

(Continued WEB on page 3)

If you wish to receive **REUNION** please see **** above, and fill in your name and address below and send to:

REUNION

Holy Innocents Orthodox Church
311 Hickory Avenue
Harahan, Louisiana 70123

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

(Continued WEB from page 2)

purposes . . . hopefully morality will not have to be defined at length (i.e.: use common sense).

Participants and subscribers agree to honor the moral prayer requests posted, and to pray for those intentions and persons for at least one week.

BIBLE-DAY

Every day we try to post a Chapter of one of the Books of the Bible on the ML for discussion. This began with Genesis, Chapter 1, and continued to the end of Genesis, and so on to the next Book. Discussion is not limited to the Chapter posted each day. We use the Douay-Rheims translation which, while it sometimes has editorial comments biased against the Orthodox Church, is a basically a good, non political translation.

SERMONS

A place to exchange sermons by Christians. POSTERS must be, and certify they are: male; duly ordained Priests, Deacons, Ministers, or seminarians of, a Christian Church, Jurisdiction, or Religion; that the Creed of the Council of Nicea is the Creed, or expresses the basic dogma, of the Church of which each participant is a member. Rabbi may participate and post. (Us Christians may learn something). ANYONE may RECEIVE the ML.

When you post in this ML you must provide your church/religious affiliation in the post.

STUDIES

The STUDIES ML is a list which studies Orthodoxy and the Theology/Dogma of the Holy Catholic Apostolic Church. We attempt to have the text of what ever book/publication we are using posted in pertinent parts during the discussions. This is a slow moving ML, primarily because most people do not wish to or have the time to or are not inclined to read and study as is required for participation in a ML

such as this. However, for those who do, it is well worth the effort.

ONE-BODY

This is a mailing list designed to promote and further reunification of the Holy Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church with the Holy Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church and all other Jurisdictions of the Body of Christ; and to bring each and every human being into union with Christ Jesus our Lord. **Activity - very light.**

REU_PUB

This ML sends REUNION (publication) to its subscribers, in Adobe (PDF) format. In some instances this is better than the paper print issue because the pictures often are in color. The ML does support discussion, and discussion is encouraged. It is mainly used by those who desire to receive the Newsletter but do not have access to the WWW (each issue is available on-line), and those to whom we can not send a free print copy.

We have initiated a simplified method of subscribing to our InterNet mailing lists.

Simply go to:
<http://www.reu.org>

Then, click on the link which reads **MAILING LISTS**. This will bring you to a page captioned:

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or go to:
<http://www.reu.org/public/ml/ml.htm>

Half-way down the page is a link entitled:

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This will bring you to a page entitled:

**HOLY INNOCENTS ODX.
CHURCH BBS
InterNet Mailing List Support**

Enter your e-mail address in the place provided, select the mailing list to which you wish to subscribe, click the **Subscribe** button, and an e-mail will be sent to you to confirm your desire to subscribe to the mailing list.

To confirm your subscription simply follow the instructions in the confirmation message (just click the reply command on your e-mail program without changing anything in the Subject line) and you are subscribed to the mailing list.

Most of the mailing lists then send out a welcome message.

Some of the mailing lists use the mailing list name as the sender's address. Some use the sender's name, and others use Fr. Paul, or father.paul@reu.org on behalf of whoever the one who originated the message. We will bring some consistency to this sometime in the future, probably.

To un-subscribe just follow the above procedure for subscribing and click on the unsubscribe button. A confirmation message will be sent to which you should reply to confirm the un-subscription.

Or you may subscribe by sending an e-mail to :

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THE BASILIAN FATHERS

(The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil)

WHEN YOU MAKE DONA- TIONS TO THE SOCIETY OF CLERKS SECULAR or to The Orthodox Catholic Church of the Americas

When you make donations to The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil, or The Orthodox Catholic Church of the Americas, please make the check payable to Holy Innocents Orthodox Church and put the notation "for SSB" or "for OCCA" in the memo section. It will be properly ledgered. The bank accounts for Holy Innocents are used for The S.S.B. and for The OCCA and making checks payable to The S.S.B. or to The OCCA means we have difficulties negotiating those instruments.

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RETURNING THE LOST SHEEP TO THE FOLD

Exactly *HOW* does one get, assist, convince, entice the lost sheep to return to the fold? The image of Jesus the Good Shepherd carrying the lost sheep on His shoulder is beautiful. But physically carrying a person to someplace obviously is not what the image seeks to convey for returning to the fold of the true faith is not measured by physical movement. Not to mention the fact that were one to attempt to physically force an unwilling individual to a particular place, well the legal term is kidnapping, the penalties are rather severe, and the kidnapped person may react rather violently.

There also is the matter of free will.

While it is neither dogma nor an universal truth, it is fairly accurate to state that no one is ever convinced by argument or debate. The one sought to be convinced simply conceives of new reasons for maintaining old positions and

becomes defensive. Any change must come from within and argument or debate rarely illuminate a concept which will lead one to change their position.

That leaves us with prayer, fasting, alms giving (which is much more than giving money), and personal example.

The lost sheep deems prayer to be wasted effort, fasting only of use if one need loose weight, alms giving either a social duty or a corruption of those who are already lazy or both, and personal example of the faithful to be acts of delusion.

The fact that those who practice or attempt to practice the true faith are more at peace even knowing their own deficiencies often is not lost on the lost sheep. But perceiving no rationale acceptable within their system of lack of belief it is at best considered an aberration of some unknown order.

Are we to simply accept that some seed falls on sterile ground, some sprouts but for lack of nourishment withers, some is choked by weeds, and some is nourished and bears fruit? Since God explained faith in this manner we'd best accept it.

But even accepting it, we may never cease attempting to retrieve the lost sheep. Christ suffered and died for them just as much as He did for the faithful. The lost sheep reject the benefit of Christ's passion but He continues to make it available to each of them until their soul separates from their body.

So continue with prayer, fasting, alms giving, and personal example, and every now and then, when you simply can not resist, a little well mannered argument or debate - maybe.

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EXORCISM RITUALS

We have completed the book on exorcisms, entitled *Exorcism Orthodox and Roman Rituals*, edition date 29 April 2009 A.D.

The contents are:

Introduction; Exorcism of the Possessed - Preliminary Instructions;

Cautions and Additional Suggestions to The Exorcist;

the Western Rite of Exorcism (For a Particular Person) (A Single Individual);

Exorcism Against Satan and the Fallen Angels (For a Particular Geographic Place);

ORTHODOX EXORCISM RITUALS -

Prayer of Exorcism: for Those Impassioned or Imprisoned by Demons, and Every Manner of Demonic Illness or Control, from St. Basil the Great;

Exorcisms or Prayers of Deliverance for General Use, from St. John Chrysostom

This is the same material we currently are running as a series of articles in **RE-UNION**.

We have them available on our web site at:

<http://www.reu.org/public/liturgys/litidx.htm>

as follows:

EXORCISM.PDF - Type style Bookman Old Style, black type, set up for printing 4 pages on one 8 1/2 " x 11 " page. EXORCISM_S.PDF - consecutive pages (for viewing on computer).

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These files are also available in File Area 8, as EXORCISM_.ZIP, compressed (.ZIP) for quicker download.

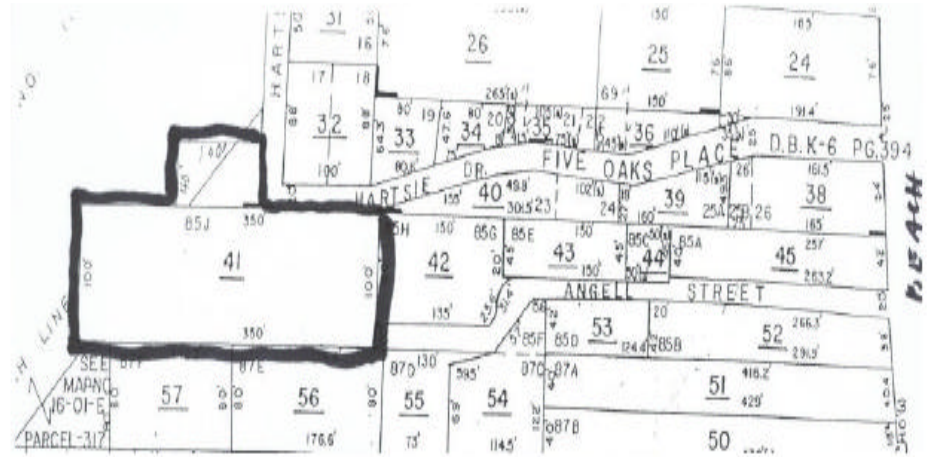
EXORCISM_C.PDF - Type style Bookman Old Style, rubrics in red, remainder black type - set up for printing 4 pages on one 8 1/2 " x 11 " page. EXORCISM_C_S.PDF - consecutive pages (for viewing on computer). These files are also available in File Area 8, as EXORCISM_C.ZIP, compressed (.ZIP) for quicker download.

EXORCISM_T.PUB - Type style Times New Roman (more common and easily obtained than Bookman Old Style), black type. EXORCISM_T.PDF - set up for printing 4 pages on one 8 1/2 " x 11 " page. EXORCISM_T_S.PDF - consecutive pages (for viewing on computer). These files are also available in File Area 8, as EXORCISM_T.ZIP, compressed (.ZIP) for quicker download.

We were concerned that making these rituals easily available would encourage people who desire to impress others or to seem important, to use these rituals since they are now so readily available. That concern is far outweighed by the need for these rituals to be readily available. Also, the rituals are not the "magic formulas" which those seeking fame are wont to use. There is no saying, "Ala-Ka-Zam, devil be damned," followed by a flame of demons spurting from the one believed possessed. There is a lot of praying, which often is hard work in the circumstances of true possession. We therefore are hopeful the idiots will decide to not make use of these publications.

We do intend to send each of our English speaking clergy at least one copy of the book in the near future. The other projects on which we are working consume much of our time so, if the rituals are needed "immediately" it would be best to download the book from the web site and print it, or have it printed.

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PRICE REDUCED ON ST. MARY MAGDALENE PROPERTY

**St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
125 Hartsie Drive - 150 Angell Lane
Waveland, Mississippi 39576**

St. Mary Magdalene was destroyed by hurricane Katrina. There are no buildings or trees remaining on the property. A good natural setting is very important for maximum benefit to be derived from a spiritual retreat facility - the prime use of Saint Mary Magdalene was as a retreat house and our Mother House. That retreat house setting will require many years to re-establish at Saint Mary Magdalene.

We therefore decided to sell the land, which is approximately one acre, composed of two adjacent lots, one being approximately 100 feet by 350 feet, the other being approximately 40 feet by 100 feet, situated approximately 550 feet from the beach of the Gulf of Mexico. (See the area outlined in bold in the above survey map. The survey map is not in true proportion due to the printing process.)

We have had the property listed with Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty, (228) 467-0244, agent Bobby Compretta, (228) 216-7197, for several months and have now reduced the price from \$99,000.00, to \$75,000.00. Inquiries should be directed to the real estate company or agent.

We would have rebuilt if the forest on the property had not been destroyed. Cur-

rently, while the land is an asset and eventually can be sold for a substantial amount, for our purposes it is a non productive asset. It is not being used to assist people to attain union with God.

When the property is sold the money can be used to establish a facility and other forms of assistance to those seeking union with God.

A piece of land might sell at a high price and that money be used to help people to become holy in the future. But people need that help now.

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SEARCH FOR A NEW FACILITY EFFECTS ONGOING WORK AND PROJECTS

The search for a new facility or location to replace the Saint Mary Magdalene Church and Retreat House has been very time consuming. Time during the past two months has been particularly heavily spent in seeking and looking at potential sites and structures.

Because of this many of our ongoing projects have been neglected. But it is vital that we find a new place or facility, since the facilities available at Holy Innocence are not adequate. They in no manner approach that which was lost at St. Mary Magdalene in Katrina.

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DECEPTION A SIN AGAINST THE COM- MAND TO NOT LIE

And often a self-contradiction.

Examples as practiced by government from proposed medical care to removal of inspectors tasked with preventing abuse, misuse, and downright theft of government funds and assets (tax payer property).

Those who deceive are not trustworthy.

HEALTHCARE:

America has an health care system which in practical application takes second place to none. While private insurance provided by employers, the insured, a combination of both, or other systems provide varying levels of health coverage, the federal government, through various programs, and many state governments, through their own programs or in conjunction with the federal government, also provide such coverage.

The current Medicare and Medicaid programs provide medical care to millions of retired and millions of poor Americans. The benefits include office visits to physicians for consultation and treatment, treatments provided in hospitals, surgery from the most mundane such as removing callouses to the most complex coronary and brain procedures, nursing home care, and medication. Medicare provides a basic level of health coverage which the insured is well advised to bolster with a supplement policy for which the insured pays. Medicaid is a government funded program, and Medicare also is basically a government funded program - meaning both

are supported by tax money.

There also are well enforced laws which require most hospital emergency rooms to provide medical assistance to those in need without regard to the patient's ability to pay for the services rendered. Partial reimbursement is provided by some federal funds, with the paying patients being charged more than the cost of their own treatment to make up the difference.

While the foregoing is very simplified, it is basically accurate. The reality of these programs is such that virtually every American citizen who is unable to provide for his or her own healthcare usually has basic and often very sophisticated healthcare available to them.

President Obama wishes to implement a program or programs which will provide health **INSURANCE**, or otherwise make such insurance available, to every citizen. But since health **CARE** already is available, Obama's stated intention is redundant.

What is more amazing is an integral aspect of Obama's plan. Obama intends to cut Three Hundred Thirteen Billion Dollars (\$313,000,000,000.00) from Medicare and from Medicaid, over the next ten years, to assist in funding his program.

Very simply, Obama intends to cut two programs which already successfully provide health **care** to American citizens who are retired or are unable to provide health care for themselves, so that he can provide health **insurance** to those individuals so that they can obtain health care through health insurance.

Perhaps Obama's proposal is merely stupid. But it will result in millions of individuals who currently receive health care, being deprived of health care.

Obama would also cut One Hundred Six Billion Dollars from federal payments to hospitals which provide treatment to uninsured individuals.

He also would cut Seventy Five Billion Dollars in Medicare prescription drug

payments, as well as One Hundred Ten Billion Dollars in Medicare payments to hospitals and other, similar, healthcare providers.

And, of course, this would be funded by some Nine Hundred Forty-eight Billion Dollars in tax increases and service cuts, in addition to the Six Hundred Thirty-five Billion Dollars in tax increases and service cuts Obama has already announced.

If an employer provided health insurance to its employees, even if the employees were required to pay part of the premium, the portion paid by the employer would be taxed to the employee, and not allowed as a cost deduction to the employer. And any individual who did not participate in the government insurance program, would no longer be allowed to deduct any health care costs from income - none at all. Every citizen would be required to obtain health insurance - either from a private insurer, their employer, or from the federal government's program.

An additional Obama proposal would allow tax deductions for employee union associated health insurance program premiums.

These factors, combined with a low premium for the proposed government health insurance program because it is subsidized by tax dollars, will coerce individuals to change from commercial insurance to government sponsored health insurance.

Simply by using Obama's own words, it is obvious his plan would reduce the level of health **CARE** currently received or available to Americans, while increasing the cost every individual pays for health care. Obama says his intention is to provide health **INSURANCE** to every American. The deception is that while every American may wind up having health **INSURANCE** under the Obama plan, the level of health **CARE** will drop drastically, while the **COST** will dramatically in-

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(Continued **DECEPTION** from page 6)
crease.

Within this process Obama proposes to standardize and computerize health care records. His stated purpose is to facilitate individual health care. The process would also make the health records of every individual American available to anyone with access to that records system. Since ranking government officials, and even many low level government employees, already have ready access to even the most private of personal records, including income tax, passport, private legal records including those sealed by courts, personnel records whether those of private industry or government personnel, and even private military records, and even the witness protection program, anyone who believes their private medical records will remain private under the Obama system is mistaken.

With the ability of computer programs to quickly sort medical records into any desired format or statistical formulation, under a government run health insurance system statistics can easily be generated to deny coverage to a not favored individual for conditions at will, and to provide coverage to a favored individual for the same condition.

Naturally the question, **WHY**, arises. Why is Obama doing this? But why is not the focus of this presentation. Honesty and dishonesty are the focus. (But if you are really interested in the “why”, consider this reality. Healthcare currently makes up approximately sixteen (16%) per cent of the United States economy. That is a lot of money, controlling numerous jobs, industries, and lives. Not just the physician, nurse, and patient can be controlled, but even the janitor at a company which makes nuts and bolts used to fasten the cover on an MRI machine, and everyone in between.)

In this instance did President Obama lie? Within the black letter of the definition of lie the answer is, “No, he did not lie.” But Obama did deceive, did not tell

the truth - or at least was selective in what truth he told -, did not reveal the consequences of his proposals and plans, broke the spirit of truth, and entered into the spirit of a lie. Therefore the moral answer is, yes, he lied. He not only lied, but has proven himself to be untrustworthy.

But what else should be expected from someone who has declared his allegiance to Evil, to Satan and his anti-God focus?

A CORRELATING COMMENT ON THE AUTOMOTIVE PORTION OF THE “BAILOUT”:

President Obama stated he has no intention of running (managing) General Motors and Chrysler. But under his direction the CEO’s, and numerous officers and directors of both companies were replaced with individuals acceptable to Obama. Then in bankruptcy the bondholders of both companies were denied their rightful compensation. Over one hundred fifty years of law and court rulings have placed bondholders as the first to be paid in bankruptcy. But in the Obama run bankruptcies of General Motors and Chrysler, the bondholders’ were ignored, often receiving pennies on the dollar, and often receiving nothing. But the unions associated with each company were not just given preferential treatment, but actually were given controlling interest in each company - without being a true creditor of the superior rank of a bondholder. And what effect will this have on investors who seek a preferred and secured investment now that Obama has negated the security of being a bondholder? What effect will this logically have on investing in United States government bonds, since such bonds no longer have preferred rank? An adverse effect.

It also is interesting that thousands of GM and Chrysler dealers had their dealership franchises revoked, without cause, without reason, without viable notice, and without compensation. The reason given was that their dealerships were no longer needed. That is illogical.

The dealerships were not a financial drag on General Motors or on Chrysler. In fact, dealerships are needed for the auto manufacturers to sell their products, provide warranty service, scheduled maintenance, and repairs. Could it be that some of the owners of the closed franchises supported Democrat presidential candidates other than Obama, and that others supported the Republican candidate?

WHY WOULD FIRING AN HONEST INSPECTOR BE A SURPRISE:

Gerald Walpin, the Inspector General of AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service, determined there was misuse of federal grants by St. Hope Academy, a non-profit education group led by Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, who is an Obama supporter and former NBA basketball star. Johnson and the nonprofit education academy he founded ultimately agree to repay half of \$847,000.00, in grants it had received from AmeriCorps.

President Obama fired Mr. Walpin, stating he no longer had confidence in Mr. Walpin.

Obviously, by confidence Obama means he must have confidence government employees subject to being hired or fired by him, will cover up or not expose the illegal actions of Obama supporters.

SURPRISE:

When a basically immoral individual such as Obama the baby killer gains power, do not be surprised when that individual abuses his or her power in any manner he or she desires. Also be assured that you will be a victim of that abuse of power, even if you are a supporter of that evil person. For just as the devil causes every harm possible to his followers simply because that is what he does, because that is what evil does, so too do evil humans. Remember Hitler, Stalin, Lenin? Well, remember Obama as well.

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(Continued **TOGETHER** from page 1)

not transgress God's instructions and desires. In fact, were they to compromise with the camp to which I belong, eventually they might desire to follow God's instructions without exception! But were any member of the camp to which I belong to attempt to compromise with the other camp, that would require that member disregard or make secondary, God's instructions and desires. That would violate the prime principle of our camp.

"But," one says, "So And So is so charming." Yes, the devil often is charming. And he will smile charmingly as he skewers you with his pitchfork and leads you to eternal damnation.

How can I compromise with those who desire to allow abortion? What common ground do we have?

"Oh", you say, "well So And So wants to do away with world hunger and so do you. Can't you work together on that and just leave the abortion question alone?"

No. Since So And So desires to allow abortion, So And So is a follower of the devil. That means I can not trust So And So to tell the truth. I can not trust So And So to attempt to resolve world hunger through morally acceptable means, and if So And So specifies morally acceptable methods are to be used and even specifies those methods I can not trust So And So to be telling the truth because in following the devil So And So is a follower of the Father of All Lies and therefore must be believed to be a liar. In addition, were I to unite with So And So in any matter, that alliance would give So And So some measure of credence with those of the camp to which I belong and possibly lead them astray or make them to equivocate in some manner. It also would allow those in the other camp to say, "See, even 'he' thinks So And So is OK." But I do not think So And So is OK, and therefore any alliance with So And So is impossible.

If So And So and I happen to agree on a certain matter, and we both seek to attain the same goal, that is fine. But I will never join with So And So nor will I allow So And So to join with me, because not only are our purposes and intents not in concert, but our ultimate goals and desires are diametrically opposed.

Were I to give up one electron's weight worth of attempting to and following God's will, I would be incalculably massively the lesser for it and would have given up something of value beyond the ability of anyone to measure. In being in concert with So And So or even appearing to be in concert with So And So I would be giving up much more than one electron's weight of attempting to and of following God's will. If So And So and I happen to agree on something it simply means there is a point at which we are in some form of harmony but it means nothing else. Even the devil and I agree on at least one matter - that being that there is a God. But hopefully the devil and I will never make a joint appearance.

Those who fail to comprehend this basic difference being of such great significance are like the lady who abhorred violence. She was attracted to a very manly man, who though very gentle and kindly, was capable of great

violence used judicially and only when necessary. The lady often chastised the man for his violence. The lady was kidnapped, the avowed intention of her kidnapper being to rape and murder

her. The lady did not wish to be kidnapped, nor raped, nor murdered. She was opposed to these happening to her with the utmost intensity. The man rescued the lady, being forced to kill the kidnapper when the kidnapper attempted to kill him and the lady. The lady refused to ever again see, meet, or be in the company of the man, because he used violence and killed the kidnapper - even though she was in the process of being killed by the kidnapper when the man killed the kidnapper.

The lady was basically illogical, just as are those who

believe, think, or even wish we could all get along together. I have no desire to ever get along with those in the other camp. They can go to hell if they want, but I don't want to go to hell or even flirt with going to hell. If we are ever to have anything in common, they must change. But more than that, I do want to be in harmony with God, and desire that to be my strongest drive and endeavor.



+ Paul, S.S.B.

God, please help me love You

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(Continued **BEST BUY** from page 1)

in suburban New Orleans to obtain a few items. While there he decided to examine the Apple notebook (or laptop) computers. He noticed other people accessing the internet, some of the sites being of questionable morality, so he decided to access the only web site whose url he is sure he knows, that of The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil at <http://www.reu.org> but the server would not allow him to access the Basilian web site. Instead, a notice appeared on the computer screen. The notice basically stated that <http://www.reu.org> was designated a religious web site and that the server had been set to block access to all religious web sites.

Archbishop Paul showed the notice to a store clerk, who immediately referred him to a store manager. There were Best Buy corporate officials present with the store manager. When the Archbishop asked the manager why religious sites were blocked, the manager said it was a proxy server setting. Archbishop Paul said, "But it is your server and you or your company makes the settings." The manager said nothing. Archbishop Paul then said, "How can Best Buy expect a church or a religious order to purchase from Best Buy when Best Buy obviously has an anti-religion policy?" Again the manager was silent.

The Archbishop informed the manager that there would be no further purchases made from Best Buy (by The Society of Clerks Secular, as an entity) until their policy changed; that someone would go to Best Buy every few months to see if the policy had changed, and that it might be a good idea to pass this information up the corporate ladder. He told the manager, "It obviously is impossible for us to purchase anything from a company which has an anti-religious policy since we are a religious organization and such purchases would only fund anti-religion corporate policy. It would be counter productive and an act of immorality from a religious perspective."

The manager appeared to be embarrassed and distressed over the situation. When Archbishop Paul informed the manager that he did not believe the manager was anti-religious, and that he believed the manager desired to go to heaven like any reasonable person, the manager seemed to be somewhat relieved and thanked the Archbishop for not totally ruling out future business with Best Buy. That he appreciated the Archbishop's intention to have internet access to religious sites "checked out" from time to time.

Archbishop Paul has made it clear that individual members of The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil may purchase anything from anyone, but that he personally and the Order will not purchase from Best Buy nor will any of the facilities over which he has direct control. He also made it very clear that any member of the Basilians who purchases from Best Buy while the company's anti-religious policy remains in effect will be a severe disappointment to him.

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HUMOR The Best Way To Pray (Thanks Mike)

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said. "No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

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(Continued **VIRTIOL** from page 1)

has attained the level of both an art form and a science in the hands of the immoral. When those who have moral standards reply with truth, their promulgation of the truth is held by the immoral to be disgusting attacks on the defenseless. Liberals grant the immoral the ability to lie about and to ridicule those who profess and promote moral positions. But when any remark is made by one who professes valid moral positions, about an immoral and perverted promoter of immorality, other than unrestricted praise, the commentator is attacked as being insensitive, and often as being bigoted, dangerous, ignorant, and stupid.

Some of the victims:

Carrie Prejean: Miss California, was a contestant in the April, 2009 A.D., Miss USA Pageant. One of the judges was a person who uses the name Perez Hilton. Hilton is a self avowed homosexual who campaigns for privileges to be granted to homosexuals. He operates a pro-homosexual privileges gossip blog, and advocates homosexuality - actually advocating it not along with heterosexuality but over and in preference to heterosexuality. He has no expertise related to the beauty pageant "industry".

Obviously expecting her to publicly approve of homosexual "marriages" since to disapprove of such would insure she did not win the contest, Hilton asked Prejean about her stance on same-sex marriage. Prejean's response was, "I think that I believe that a marriage should be between a man and a woman," she said on the live broadcast. "No offense to anybody out there, but that's how I was raised."

Miss. Prejean, Miss California USA, was the clear favorite prior to Hilton's question and her answer. After her answer, the attacks on her *during* the remainder of the pageant were vicious. She became the first runner-up in the final vote.

(Continued **VIRTIOL** on page 15)

CHILDREN'S PAGE

The Orthodox - Basilian Catechism

Q. 1031. To receive the Sacrament of Matrimony worthily is it necessary to be in the state of grace?

A. To receive the Sacrament of Matrimony worthily it is necessary to be in the state of grace, and it is necessary also to comply with the laws of the Church.

Q. 1032. With what laws of the Church are we bound to comply in receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony?

A. In receiving the Sacrament of matrimony we are bound to comply with whatever laws of the Church concern Matrimony; such as laws forbidding solemn marriage in Lent and Advent; or marriage with relatives or with persons of a different religion, and in general all laws that refer to any impediment to marriage.

Q. 1033. In how many ways may persons be related?

A. Persons may be related in four ways. When they are related by blood their relationship is called consanguinity; when they are related by marriage it is called affinity; when they are related by being god-parents in Baptism or Confirmation, it is called spiritual affinity; when they are related by adoption, it is called legal affinity.

Q. 1034. Who has the right to make laws concerning the Sacrament of marriage?

A. The Church alone has the right to make laws concerning the Sacrament of marriage, though the state also has the right to make laws concerning the civil effects of the marriage contract.

Q. 1035. What do we mean by laws concerning the civil effects of the marriage contract?

A. By laws concerning the civil effects of the marriage contract we mean laws with regard to the property or debts of the husband and wife, the inheritance of

their children, or whatever pertains to their temporal affairs. All persons are bound to obey the laws of their country when these laws are not opposed to the laws of God.

Q. 1036. Does the Church forbid the marriage of Orthodox Catholics with persons who have a different religion or no religion at all?

A. The Church does forbid the marriage of Orthodox Catholics with persons who have a different religion or no religion at all.

Q. 1037. Why does the Church forbid the marriage of Orthodox Catholics with persons who have a different religion or no religion at all?

A. The Church forbids the marriage of Orthodox Catholics with persons who have a different religion, or no religion at all, because such marriages generally lead to indifference, loss of faith, and to the neglect of the religious education of the children.

Q. 1038. What are the marriages of Orthodox Catholics with persons of a different religion called, and when does the Church permit them by dispensation?

A. The marriages of Orthodox Catholics with persons of a different religion are called mixed marriages. The Church permits them by dispensation only under certain conditions and for urgent reasons; chiefly to prevent a greater evil.

Q. 1039. What are the conditions upon which the Church will permit an Orthodox Catholic to marry one who is not a Catholic?

A. The conditions upon which the Church will permit an Orthodox Catholic to marry one who is not an Orthodox Catholic are:

1. That the Orthodox Catholic be allowed the free exercise of his or her religion ; 2. That the Orthodox Catholic shall try by teaching and good example to lead the one who is not an Orthodox

Catholic to embrace the true faith; 3. That all the children born of the marriage shall be brought up in the Orthodox Catholic religion.

The marriage ceremony must not be repeated before a heretical minister. Without these promises, the Church will not consent to a mixed marriage, and if the Church does not consent the marriage is unlawful.

Q. 1040. What penalty does the Church impose on Orthodox Catholics who marry before a Protestant minister?

A. Orthodox Catholics who marry before a Protestant minister incur excommunication; that is, a censure of the Church or spiritual penalty which prevents them from receiving the Sacrament of Penance till the priest who hears their confession gets special faculties or permission from the bishop; because by such a marriage they make profession of a false religion in acknowledging as a priest one who has neither sacred power nor authority. Most Bishops grant all their priests this special faculty or permission, but it is not to be exercised injudiciously.

Q. 1041. How does the Church show its displeasure at mixed marriages?

A. The Church shows its displeasure at mixed marriages by the coldness with which it sanctions them, prohibiting all religious ceremony at them by forbidding the priest to use any sacred vestments, holy water or blessing of the ring at such marriages; by prohibiting them also from taking place in the Church or even in the sacristy. On the other hand, the Church shows its joy and approval at a true Orthodox Catholic marriage by the Nuptial Divine Liturgy (Mass) and solemn ceremonies.

Q. 1042. Why should Catholics avoid mixed marriages?

A. Catholics should avoid mixed marriages:

(Continued CHILDREN PAGE on page 11)

CHILDREN'S PAGE

(Continued CHILDREN PAGE from page 10)

1. Because they are displeasing to the Church and cannot bring with them the full measure of God's grace and blessing; 2. Because the children should have the good example of both parents in the practice of their religion; 3. Because such marriages give rise to frequent disputes on religious questions between husband and wife and between their relatives; 4. Because the one not an Orthodox Catholic, disregarding the sacred character of the Sacrament, may claim a divorce and marry again, leaving the Orthodox Catholic married and abandoned.

Q. 1043. Does the Church seek to make converts by its laws concerning mixed marriages?

A. The Church does not seek to make converts by its laws concerning mixed marriages, but seeks only to keep its children from losing their faith and becoming perverts by constant company with persons not Orthodox Catholics. The Church does not wish persons to become Orthodox Catholics merely for the sake of marrying Orthodox Catholics. Such conversions are, as a rule, not sincere, do no good, but rather make such converts hypocrites and guilty of greater sins, especially sins of sacrilege.

Q. 1044. Why do many marriages prove unhappy?

A. Many marriages prove unhappy because they are entered into hastily and without worthy motives.

Q. 1045. When are marriages entered into hastily?

A. Marriages are entered into hastily when persons do not sufficiently consider and investigate the character, habits and dispositions of the one they intend to marry. It is wise to look for lasting qualities and solid virtues in a life-long companion and not to be carried away with characteristics that please only for a time.

Q. 1046. When are motives for marriage worthy?

A. Motives for marriage are worthy when persons enter it for the sake of doing God's will and fulfilling the end for which He instituted the Sacrament. Whatever is opposed to the true object of the Sacrament and the sanctification of the husband and wife must be an unworthy motive.

Q. 1047. How should Christians prepare for a holy and happy marriage?

A. Christians should prepare for a holy and happy marriage by receiving the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist; by begging God to grant them a pure intention and to direct their choice; and by seeking the advice of their parents and the blessing of their pastors.

Q. 1048. How may parents be guilty of great injustice to their children in case of marriage?

A. Parents may be guilty of great injustice to their children in case of marriage by seeking the gratification of their own aims and desires, rather than the good of their children, and thus for selfish and unreasonable motives forcing their children to marry persons they dislike or preventing them from marrying the persons chosen by the dictates of their conscience, or compelling them to marry when they have no vocation for such a life or no true knowledge of its obligations.

Q. 1049. May persons receive the Sacrament of Matrimony more than once?

A. Persons may receive the sacrament of Matrimony more than once, provided they are certain of the death of the former husband or wife, or receive special dispensation and comply with the laws of the Church.

Q. 1050. Where and at what time of the day should Orthodox Catholics be married?

A. Orthodox Catholics should be married before the altar in the Church. They

should be married in the morning, and with a Nuptial Divine Liturgy (Mass) if possible.

Q. 1051. What must never be forgotten by those who attend a marriage ceremony in the Church?

A. They who attend a marriage ceremony in the Church must never forget the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and that all laughing, talking, or irreverence is forbidden then as at other times. Women must never enter into the presence of the Blessed Sacrament with uncovered heads, and their dress must be in keeping with the strict modesty that Our Lord's presence demands, no matter what worldly vanity or social manners may require.

**LESSON TWENTY-SEVENTH:
On the Sacramentals**

Q. 1052. What is a sacramental?

A. A sacramental is anything set apart or blessed by the Church to excite good thoughts and to increase devotion, and through these movements of the heart to remit venial sin.

Q. 1053. How do the Sacramentals excite good thoughts and increase devotion?

A. The Sacramentals excite good thoughts by recalling to our minds some special reason for doing good and avoiding evil; especially by reminding us of some holy person, event or thing through which blessings have come to us. They increase devotion by fixing our minds on particular virtues and by helping us to understand and desire them.

Q. 1054. Do the Sacramentals of themselves remit venial sins?

A. The Sacramentals of themselves do not remit venial sins, but they move us to truer devotion, to greater love for God and greater sorrow for our sins, and this devotion, love and sorrow bring us grace, and the grace remits venial sins.

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COMMENTS ON SOME INDICATORS OF OUR TIMES

Vasectomy rates rise amid recession woes - the headline states. Let's see, how many sins did it take to convince men to emasculate themselves: sloth in desiring everyone else to provide them with the necessities and luxuries of life, lust in deeming sexual intercourse to be for one's own pleasure and control of another, that enough.

Atheist sue to take God out of Obama inauguration - another headline read. Not to worry. God wasn't there.

Lung cancer patients get blamed for their disease - another headline reads. Partially stated and fully implied in the article, because of the means by which lung cancer is deemed to be contracted (cigarette smoking), those who contract lung cancer should be left to their own devices and receive neither assistance nor even insurance coverage. But those who contract HIV/AIDS are considered victims. Sexually transmitted diseases are considered "unfair" and must be treated at public expense. And pregnancy is considered a curse. *Those who agree with this are morally insane.* It is not just a matter that political correctness is not divine correctness. It is not even a matter of "correctness". Think about it - or have you lost that ability also.

Bea (Beatrice) Arthur, the tall, deep-voiced actress whose razor-sharp delivery of comedy lines made her a TV star in the hit shows "Maude" and "The Golden Girls" and who won a Tony Award for the musical "Mame," died April 25, 2009 A.D. She was 86. A leader of the pro abortion movement - her character "Maude" was one of the first prime time TV personalities to openly have an abortion -, of the gay privileges movement, and of every immoral act possible for an human to commit - though she may have been selective in the forms of commission. What did she think when she died and immediately was before the Judgment Throne

of God? What did she think of her eternal reward? Do you think you know what her eternal reward is? If so, do you desire the same eternal reward?

Have you noticed that there are more and more severe crimes, and an increase in the level of "weirdness" in crime? In recent weeks there have been a larger than "normal" number of murder suicides, but one of the strangest crimes occurred in Manchester, Iowa. There it is alleged a thirty-two year old man struck his father in the head with a flashlight and a length of firewood, then cut the pacemaker from his father's chest using a pocketknife. But, then, these things have been happening with increasing frequency as the era of Obama progresses. Is there a connection? Evil breeding Evil???

Polish clash with Kent State students, the headline shouted. The writer may have meant police and not Polish, for there is no mention of Poles in the story. The headline also is incorrect in that in the story is stated some Kent State students rioted. Therefore the students clashed with the police, not the police clashed with the students. Unless, of course, the writer intended to state that the students had the right to riot - including starting fires throwing furniture into fires. Perhaps the furniture was owned by some people from Poland.

The Department of Homeland Security under Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano considers veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan to be security risks because they could be susceptible to being recruited by right-wingers a/k/a Republicans! So now the freedom loving totalitarians known as Liberal Democrats or just simply as Democrats are attempting to criminalize belonging to the Republican Party. If Homeland Security Secretary deems a group to be a terrorist organization, then there is the potential for its members to be held (jailed) without recourse. And if you do not believe this is possible, well, in 1959, would you have believed it would be possible to legally kill babies? In

1970, would you have believed marriage would be re-defined to include homosexual "unions"?

Enron, Ken Lay, Al Gore, and cap-and-trade carbon emissions as related to "global warming". Wow! Who would have thought that Al Gore consulted with Ken Lay regarding cap-and-trade carbon emissions. Especially since cap-and-trade would provide great opportunity for fraud, which was a specialty of Enron. Anyone who has a working brain should not be surprised - birds of a feather and all that.

Peace deal with Taliban in doubt after roadblock Anyone dumb enough to think the Taliban will keep a peace arrangement would also expect placing Obama in charge of a hospital's baby birth-delivery facilities will result in an increase in the number of live births.

Presbyterians defeat bid to allow gay ministers which indicates Presbyterians are more morally and dogmatically on the ball and accurate than the Anglicans who have lesbian bishops "married" to lesbians, as well as homosexual bishops "married" to homosexuals. What could be more at variance with what is usual or normal than males having sex with each other or females having sex with each other? Abortion. And having as a moral leader one who rejects God's instructions, such as a practicing homosexual, or an abortionist.

Tamiflu, used to combat pandemic flu outbreaks, was developed by Gilead Sciences, Inc., under the general direction of former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, a Republican much hated by Democrats. He was a member of Gilead's board of directors between 1988 and 2001, and its chairman from 1997. Gilead receives a royalty of about 10% of sales from pharmaceutical giant Roche, which now manufactures and sells Tamiflu. Rumsfeld has millions of dollars in Gilead stock and makes a "bundle" from each flu scare/outbreak. Liberal Democrats preach these profits are money stolen from the poor. But without the profit motive there would be no Tamiflu. Think about it. Would you dig a ditch for free?

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YOU'RE A "New AWLEANIAN" (from New Orleans) IF: You call tomato sauce "red gravy."

(Continued **OUR TIMES** from page 12)

Could it possibly be, there is jealousy of some sort because Rumsfeld is making money from the sale of Tamiflu? Or perhaps just simple hatred of Rumsfeld is sufficient to create a clamor against there being a profit derived from selling Tamiflu

The Flu - An interesting reaction to the Mexican Swine Flu (or what ever it is being called) is that of Egypt. The Egyptian government has ordered all pigs owned by Coptic Christians to be killed. Pigs owned by Moslems will not be killed. But the government says there is no religious discrimination or persecution in the order. The government says the order is a health order. Well, without their pig farms the Coptic Christians may starve so it probably is a health order - an order designed to damage the health of Coptic Christians. Don't you just *love* Islam.

General David McKlernan replaced by Gen. Stanley McChrystal in Afghanistan by President Obama. Let's see: Gen. McKlernan was one of the originators of the troop surge and change in operations and procedures which worked in Iraq and was implementing something similar in Afghanistan. Gen. McChrystal was in charge of the procedures which mischaracterized the death of Army Ranger, NFL star Pat Tillman, and intentionally falsified the circumstances of Tillman's death. Not to say that Gen. McKlernan is a holy man or a good man, nor that he is an evil man. But it is obvious that a cover up guy like Gen. McChrystal would be more acceptable to an advocate of killing yet-to-be-born babies. See how a person's position on abortion is an indicator of many things about that individual?

Tuscon Citizen newspaper RIP: What did they expect. Liberals do not buy newspapers. Those who are concerned buy newspapers. The little old lady who checks the obituaries does so that she may mourn and pray, not gloat.

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(Continued **VIRTIOL** from page 9)

After the pageant, print and broadcast "journalist" investigated every possible aspect of her life. It was discovered she had received breasts implants, but it was not widely reported that the implant surgery was performed at the request and insistence of and paid for by the pageant officials. A photograph of Miss. Prejean taken at age fifteen, with a view from the side and back, wearing only underwear panties, was widely published as being a pornographic work, when in fact it was an undergarment advertisement photograph similar to thousands which appear regularly in numerous well respected publications and newspaper advertising inserts every week. And since she was fifteen years of age when the advertising photograph was taken, at least one of her parents was required to be present when the photograph was taken. Pageant officials held a special meeting to discuss revoking her title of Miss. California but instead of dismissing her the officials reduced her official schedule and allocated much of her "duties" to her runner-up. This effectively harms her career. In all probability she will eventually be deprived of her crown.

This was a focused, concentrated attack on this young lady, made solely because she exercised her right to express her personal opinion that marriage should be between a man and a woman. The perverts will, absolutely *will*, attack anyone who opposes their promulgation of perversion or who even expresses an opinion which indicates a preference for moral conduct over immoral conduct.

Robert Bork: served as Solicitor General, acting Attorney General, and judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. In 1987, he was nominated to the Supreme Court by President Ronald Reagan. He is a legal scholar whose view that antitrust law should focus on maximizing consumer welfare was once considered idiosyncratic, but which has now come to dominate American legal

thinking on the subject. In fact, had his recommendations and view of law been followed, the current economic situation would be much less drastic.

However, upon the nomination of Judge Bork to the Supreme Court, Senator Edward Kennedy took to the Senate floor with a strong condemnation of Bork in a nationally televised speech (but the viable responses to the Kennedy attack were *NOT* broadcast), during which Kennedy stated:

"Robert Bork's America is a land in which women would be forced into back-alley abortions, blacks would sit at segregated lunch counters, rogue police could break down citizens' doors in midnight raids, schoolchildren could not be taught about evolution, writers and artists could be censored at the whim of the Government, and the doors of the Federal courts would be shut on the fingers of millions of citizens for whom the judiciary is -- and is often the only -- protector of the individual rights that are the heart of our democracy... President Reagan is still our president. But he should not be able to reach out from the muck of Irangate, reach into the muck of Watergate and impose his reactionary vision of the Constitution on the Supreme Court and the next generation of Americans. No justice would be better than this injustice."

Of course everything Kennedy stated, and everything he implied, was false, was a lie. But what is to be expected from a person like Kennedy who supports every form of immorality known to mankind as well as those known only to the devil? He might not support every individual immorality possible, but he does support every form of immorality possible.

The simple fact is that Judge Bork believes human life begins at conception and that therefore the Constitution of the United States of America, and especially the Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth, Amendments, applies

(Continued **VIRTIOL** on page 16)

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to such persons. This would prevent abortion as an illegal taking of human life or deprivation of life without due process of law. Kennedy could not possibly allow this form of murder to cease. And what did Irangate (presumably Kennedy meant the Iran-Contra Affair) have to do with a nomination to the Supreme Court? And especially what did Watergate have to do with President Reagan, Judge Bork, or a nomination to the Supreme Court? Nothing!

The perverted liberals did not just attack through Kennedy. A brief was prepared for Joe Biden, then head of the Senate Judiciary Committee, now Vice President of the United States of America, called the Biden Report. Bork later said in his best-selling book, *The Tempting of America*, that the report "so thoroughly misrepresented a plain record that it easily qualifies as world class in the category of scurrility." This statement has not only never been challenged by Biden, but has been proved to be true. The perverts even aired TV commercials narrated by Gregory Peck, a deep voiced well known advocate of sexual promiscuity and perversion and of abortion, which attacked Bork as an extremist. All because Judge Bork believes human life begins at conception and that therefore abortion is an unjust and illegal taking of human life.

Rush Limbaugh: is a conservative who broadcasts a radio program consisting primarily of factual statements regarding current events, his views and comments on those facts and current events, and on government policy and society.

Because he is a conservative, and expresses conservative positions on abortion, marriage, sexual promiscuity, and advocates self-reliance when one is able to be self-reliant, and also opposes purchase of votes by politicians who pay money to voters for doing nothing, and promotes governmental fiscal responsibility, liberals oppose him. His

positions on these matters attack the foundations of their power.

Limbaugh's radio program is syndicated and makes money through advertising. It is very successful. Liberals have continuously attempted to establish opposition radio programs, all of which have failed as commercial enterprises because those liberal programs do not draw a sufficient radio audience to be profitable. Liberals therefore have attempted to resurrect the "fairness doctrine" in a new form. The fairness doctrine basically states that if broadcast time is given for free to one view, it must be given for free in equal amount to opposing views. But Limbaugh's views are not broadcast for free by the broadcasters. His views are broadcast through purchased time. Liberals wish to require those who broadcast Limbaugh's program and other, similar, conservative programs, *to give equal time free* to liberal propagandists. If this is made law, those stations which broadcast conservative programs for which the broadcast stations receive payment, will not be able to afford to broadcast liberal programs of equal time for which they will not be paid, and will therefore be forced to re-vamp their programming to exclude anything which would be considered subject to the new fairness doctrine. Liberal propagandists already have free access to radio and television, through National Public Radio, which proclaims its balance of liberal and conservative views by having liberals speak as liberals, and liberals speak as conservatives - which they are not. The conservative positions would thereby become voiceless. This is one of the goals of immoral liberals.

But liberals do not simply attack Limbaugh's program. Their hatred extends to the depths of the man himself, wishing him every evil possible, in the midst of total fabrications about his philosophy and deeds.

By way of example, at the White House Correspondents Association dinner

speech on Saturday, May 9, 2009 comedian Wanda Sykes (a liberal Democrat Obama supporter) said,

"Boy, Rush Limbaugh said he hopes this administration fails – so you said you hope America fails," Sykes said in reference to the talk show host's past comments. "...To me, that's treason. He's not saying anything differently than what Osama bin Laden is saying. You know, you might want to look into this, sir (looking at Obama), 'cause I think maybe Rush Limbaugh was the 20th hijacker, but he was just so strung out on Oxycontin he missed his flight."

Sykes further said, "Rush Limbaugh . . . I hope his kidneys fail, how 'bout that. He needs a good waterboarding, that's what he needs."

So much for the milk of human kindness and decency from liberals. It does not exist. And saying one hopes Obama fails is not the same as saying one hopes America fails. Notice the subtlety of the lie.

We will only make nominal comments about the last two individuals who have born and continue to bear the brunt of recent liberal vitriol and virulent attacks: President George W. Bush (43), and Vice President Richard Cheney.

President George W. Bush (43): For the entire eight years of his presidency, President Bush was portrayed as a bumbling idiot, a fool, an anti-intellectual, dolt, and anything else demeaning which the immoral could express. The mindless followers of immoral liberals drank these poison waters deeply, adsorbing the concepts into their mushy minds, saturating their belief, without foundation or examination of the Bush presidency. These same zombies think Franklin D. Roosevelt cured the Great Depression. When his various college degrees, MBA, and status as pilot qualified to fly one of the most complex aircraft ever manufactured, are mentioned, immoral liberals imply his father purchased these for him - which is impossible. But

(Continued VIRTUOL from page 16)

there is not a single liberal, nor a single Democrat, who has ever expressed an opinion other than that of President Bush being an idiot. But who are the idiots?

Vice President Richard Cheney: For his entire time as Vice President, and to this very day, Richard Cheney has been portrayed by liberals as a mean, nasty, torturer of the defenseless, who cannibalistically consumes babies. He has been likened to Darth Vader, the black cloaked and helmeted second in command of the Dark Side in the Star Wars movies. To refute this but one statement, completely truthful, need be made: Vice President Richard Cheney is pro-life and anti-abortion, while President Obama and the liberals are pro-abortion. Therefore, who munches on unborn babies?

Alaska Governor Sarah Palin: was and remains under constant attack by liberals since her becoming the Republican vice presidential nominee. Not content with manufacturing accusations of corruption which were reported by newspapers, magazines, and broadcast "journalists" as facts - which were later proven to be unfounded and false accusations, Mrs. Palin appearance and her children have also been under constant attack.

On his prime-time evening TV show, David Letterman recently characterized Mrs. Palin's attire as having the "slutty flight attendant look".

He also joked about her fourteen year old daughter being raped and made pregnant by Yankees ball player Alex Rodriguez, in the ball park, during a ball game. Not only did that not happen, but what kind of mind finds rape and especially rape of a fourteen year old to be funny?

Why?

Why do liberals engage in character assassination and "name calling"? Why

are they intolerant of opposition? Why do they refuse to engage in true open dialogue and real debate? Why do they promulgate lies, presenting them as truth, without any foundation - of which there can be none because they are promulgating lies? Why do they use one-one-hundredth truths combined with ninety-nine-one-hundredth lies and present the entirety as truth? Why do they demonize their opponents? Partially because they are unable to attain success on the merits of their positions, or by using complete truth. But most importantly, because what they seek to attain is actually evil procured through using evil processes. Since evil precludes God, Godliness, and Holiness, it therefore of necessity precludes Truth.

While those who oppose evil can not sneer at those who promote evil, nor ridicule them, nor cry Raca at them, for such are contrary to the teachings of God, the truth about them can be told, and must be told.

The immoral may never be brought to account in this life for lying about someone, whether it be overt and bold, misrepresentation, false characterization, innuendo, ridicule, or other method, often is not a crime, and usually is not actionable in court especially if it regards a public person. But it is a sin. While the perpetrator may not experience or suffer any civil, legal, social, or criminal effects, the perpetrator will experience and suffer spiritually, and incur the wrath of God.

The perpetrators may not give a damn, but they would be well served if they would remember that God hands them out quite regularly.

If you elected any of the perpetrators, either by voting for them or by casting your vote away, or if you watch their "entertainment", you will be well served if you also remember that God hands them out quite regularly.

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WHEN CATHOLICS ARE NOT CATHOLIC

Does an Orthodox priest or bishop ever have the right or the duty to determine and to declare one who is believed to be a Roman Catholic, to not be Roman Catholic?

There are certain situations wherein even in those Orthodox jurisdictions where it is not normally permitted, an Orthodox priest would give Holy Communion or another Sacrament to a Roman Catholic whom the priest knows is dogmatically correct and in spiritual good standing. Just prior to battle in war is an example.

But if that Roman Catholic is pro-choice / pro-abortion, then the Orthodox priest can not give that person Holy Communion because that person is not dogmatically correct.

In effect, the Orthodox priest has made the determination, quite correctly, that the individual is not a Roman Catholic. That the individual is an heretic from the Roman Catholic Church, and definitely not a member in grace of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of which every Orthodox Church is a part.

This discretion, right, and duty applies without regard to whether the heretic or apostate in question is a member of the laity, a religious order, or of the clergy. But it is most properly exercised only when necessary.

Thus Senator Edward Kennedy, a well known advocate of abortion, is properly chastised for his abortion advocacy and it is proper to publicly state that in his current spiritual condition the only Sacrament to which he has access is that of Confession and Absolution. Should he seek it with proper attitude.

But it would not be proper to publicly state such regarding a particular individual who privately holds the same opinion regarding abortion as Senator Kennedy.

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THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTES BUT FIVE PER CENT OF THE WORLD POPULATION BUT USES TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT OF ITS ENERGY

How often has this or some similar statement been made? Been made to discredit, demean, and disparage the U.S.A.?

More often than readily be counted.

What has the U.S.A. done with this massive consumption of energy?

It has rebuilt Europe, fed and relieved the medical needs of Europe and Russia through two world wars, maintained a livable and viable peace throughout the world for over fifty years despite repeated terrorist attacks, relieved the effects of war and natural and man made disaster throughout the world even unto those countries and people who attack the U.S.A. including attacks with military and terrorist, fed millions - actually billions - of people through droughts and starvation, placed her citizens in harm's way and shed their blood and relinquished their lives to protect people throughout the world even those who wish to destroy the U.S.A. and its citizens, made technological advances for which it expended massive sums of money available free or at virtually no cost to the rest of the world.

And that is just a start, just a beginning, of what the U.S.A. has done with its consumption of energy.

What do other countries do with their consumption of energy?

That take care of themselves and their own interests. If they perceive no material benefit to themselves, they expend no resources.

Question: Based on the foregoing, historically, what country at this time is most beloved by God? And where do you live? +

THE ADVICE: FIRST YOU MUST FORGIVE YOURSELF

Troubled individuals often are advised that they must first forgive themselves. So, Who died and made you god? And when did God die?

Obviously when forgiveness is mentioned what ever problem or situation is being studied did not result from accident, nature, happenstance, or inadvertent circumstances. When forgiveness is mentioned, implicit is an act or acts or omission or omissions by an individual or individuals. When one is advised to first forgive oneself, then it is obvious the one being advised to forgive themselves is the one who acted or omitted.

But forgiveness is able to be granted only by the one who has been acted against, who has been transgressed, who has been harmed or sought to be harmed.

If someone has done something foolish and harmed themselves one really can not forgive one's self but must learn to live with the consequences of their foolishness and resolve to not repeat that foolishness. But if someone has harmed another through their own foolishness then the actor has the ability to seek forgiveness from the one harmed.

Likewise for an intentional act or omission.

However, whether one harms themselves or another, there always is yet another who is harmed. That other is the one who owns each of us because He created each of us and while He grants us self determination He never relinquishes the quality of ownership because it is innate in the reality of His being sole Creator.

Therefore one really should first seek forgiveness from God. Then one can "worry" about seeking forgiveness from others - including themselves if they so desire. +

AMOS CHAPTER 4

In our times might this not be a message to those who participate in the Corporate - Government Financial and Power Complex / Interchange?

The Israelites are reproved for their oppressing the poor, for their idolatry, and their incorrigibility.

4:1. Hear this word, ye fat kine that are in the mountains of Samaria: you that oppress the needy, and crush the poor: that say to your masters: Bring, and we will drink.

Fat kine... He means the great ones that lived in plenty and wealth.

4:2. The Lord God hath sworn by his holiness, that lo, the days shall come upon you, when they shall lift you up on pikes, and what shall remain of you in boiling pots.

4:3. And you shall go out at the breaches one over against the other, and you shall be cast forth into Armon, saith the Lord.

Armon... A foreign country; some understand it of Armenia.

4:4. Come ye to Bethel, and do wickedly: to Galgal, and multiply transgressions: and bring in the morning your victims, your tithes in three days.

4:5. And offer a sacrifice of praise with leaven: and call free offerings, and proclaim it: for so you would do, O children of Israel, saith the Lord God.

4:6. Whereupon I also have given you dulness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet you have not returned to me, saith the Lord.

4:7. I also have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon: and the piece whereupon I

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 rained not, withered.

4:8. And two and three cities went to one city to drink water, and were not filled: yet you returned not to me, saith the Lord.

4:9. I struck you with a burning wind, and with mildew, the palmerworm hath eaten up your many gardens, and your vineyards: your olive groves, and fig groves: yet you returned not to me, saith the Lord.

4:10. I sent death upon you in the way of Egypt, I slew your young men with the sword, even to the captivity of your horses: and I made the stench of your camp to come up into your nostrils: yet you returned not to me, saith the Lord.

4:11. I destroyed some of you, as God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrha, and you were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet you returned not to me, saith the Lord.

4:12. Therefore I will do these things to thee, O Israel: and after I shall have done these things to thee, be prepared to meet thy God, O Israel.

4:13. For behold he that formeth the mountains and createth the wind, and declareth his word to man, he that maketh the morning mist, and walketh upon the high places of the earth: the Lord the God of hosts is his name.

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WHEN WE RECEIVE FROM GOD THAT WHICH WE PROPERLY REQUEST WE RECEIVE FROM THE BLESSED TRINITY

And that provides us with a slight insight to there being but one God, yet three Divine Persons, yet also the oneness of God.

Read carefully from Saint John:

14:13. Because I go to the Father: and whatsoever you shall ask the Father in my name, that will I do: that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

So, if you ask the Father in the name of Jesus, then Jesus will do it.

14:14. If you shall ask me any thing in my name, that I will do.

And if you ask Jesus in His own name, then He will do it.

14:26. But the Paraclete, the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring all things to your mind, whatsoever I shall have said to you.

And the Holy Ghost is the “activator,” mentor, and advocate. The one who “pleads our case”?

15:16. You have not chosen me: but I have chosen you; and have appointed you, that you should go and should bring forth fruit; and your fruit should remain: that whatsoever you shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

The WHY we will receive is now explained. The conditions for reception as well. And the Father is the One who gives what is requested.

16:23. And in that day you shall not ask me any thing. Amen, amen, I say to you: if you ask the Father any thing in my name, he will give it you.

Therefore, when we are developed (in or to a level of Holiness?) we will not

ask of Christ but will ask of the Father being one in union with Christ and asking in the name of Christ and the Father will give.

16:24. Hitherto, you have not asked any thing in my name. Ask, and you shall receive; that your joy may be full.

Being unschooled and being spiritual neophytes we knew not that for which to ask and when we did ask did not receive for we requested that for which we had no right to request. But now know, and so requesting will receive - from the Blessed Trinity.

16:26. In that day, you shall ask in my name: and I say not to you that I will ask the Father for you.

For in that day we will be in union, as Christ and the Father are one, and we in Christ, and God in us - well, those who attain union.

Now read, carefully, from the Apocalypse.

2:3. And thou hast patience and hast endured for my name and hast not fainted.

2:13. I know where thou dwellest, where the seat of Satan is. And thou holdest fast my name and hast not denied my faith. Even in those days when Antipas was my faithful witness, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

3:8. I know thy works. Behold, I have given before thee a door opened, which no man can shut: because thou hast a little strength and hast kept my word and hast not denied my name.

And this is who we must be to attain that union.

Hopefully this makes sense.

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THE JOY WHICH NO MAN CAN TAKE FROM YOU

We know that the quest to be, become, and once obtained, to remain, holy, is not only fraught with dangers, oppressions, attacks, ridicules, and other obstacles, but it also is simply difficult and hard. But we also are aware and know the quest and success in the quest is well worth every adversity encountered. Our Lord Jesus Christ God gave us a readily acknowledged and comprehended example when He told us, "A woman, when she is in labour, hath sorrow, because her hour is come; but when she hath brought forth the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. ***So also you now indeed have sorrow: but I will see you again and your heart shall rejoice. And your joy no man shall take from you.***" (John 16:21) (Emphasis added)

Those who seek to maintain personal practice of the dogma and morality which God has unchangingly taught, and seek to promulgate that dogma and morality as being the unchanging standard, are ridiculed and demeaned as being intolerant, behind the times, and ridiculous especially in any expectation that humans would not engage in any and every activity of which a human is capable, *especially* if such activity is pleasurable.

The choice really is quite simple. One either follows God. Or one follows the path taken by self indulgent, perverted, fools who are determined to go to hell and suffer eternal torment of ever increasing intensity *combined with the ultimate torment of being aware of the fantastic desirability of God and their eternal separation from God.*

The fools make this choice because they desire and possibly obtain a few minutes of pleasure or something which they desire instead of desiring God. Someone who seeks power, acclaim, or celebrity instead of God, and who holds such for even an hundred years of life in this world, will in that hundred years exer-

cise that power, acclaim, or celebrity to any meaningful extent for only a few minutes or perhaps hours. One who seeks carnal delights, even though the seeker would engage in them as continuously as possible for an hundred years, would in that hundred years experience those delights to any meaningful extent for only a few minutes or perhaps hours.

Those who sneer at, ridicule, smilingly smirk at, and shout Raca (Mat. 5:22) at those who place God foremost in their lives, or who attempt so to do, these who reject God are the truly and actually incomprehensible ones.

Those of us who value God above all else can not comprehend those who reject God. Especially can we not comprehend those who reject God in favor of human acclaim while knowing supreme torment in eternal damnation awaits them. Particularly can we not comprehend those who reject God in favor of carnal delights, power, or celebrity. We can not comprehend those who reject God because even though such people may express a lack of belief in God, or an uncertainty as to the existence of God, or a belief that there will be no eternal punishment from God for their excessive sins, we know that they do believe in God and in eternal punishment for unrepented excessive sins.

But most especially can we not comprehend them because we can not comprehend rejecting that Which loves us more than any other loves us. We can not comprehend rejecting the ultimate love or the ultimate lover. We can not comprehend rejecting that which is the most lovable. And this is what is rejected when God is rejected.

We can not sneer at these people, nor ridicule them, nor cry Raca at them. Not only are such are contrary to the teachings of God, but the true Christian just does not have it in his or her heart to debase those who have so severely debased themselves, or to debase anyone else.

The sources of entertainment, commu-

nications, and even education, are controlled to a majority extent, by those who advocate celebrity, carnal delights, and gross excesses, without regard for God, God's desires, or God's instructions, and no expectation of punishment for engagement in these sins, as being reasonable, sophisticated, and the norm. Concurrently, those who so control entertainment, communications, and education, teach that those who oppose their views are backward fools, especially if those who oppose their views also express love of God and the desire to please God simply because God is God.

Add to this the reality that government at all levels is controlled by those who advocate celebrity, carnal delights, gross excesses, no regard for God, no regard for God's desires, and no regard for God's instructions, and the thoughtful individual realizes it is quite accurate to state, "The world is in a hell of a mess."

It may sound simplistic, but the response to these evils is simple. Labor for Christ: with your self as the first focus of your labors, and every other person both living and dead and even those yet to be conceived as the second focus; making your focus on yourself and on others meld in holy love and fear of God.

You will experience sorrows, but Christ will see you and you will see Christ for all eternity and your heart shall rejoice. ***"And your joy no man shall take from you."***

Ref: 1 Peter 2:11-19; John 16:16-22

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(Continued PROBLEM from page 1)

his sexual desires until he became an Archbishop, then engaged in homosexual relations with numerous men. One of those men was paid \$450,000.00, by the Milwaukee Archdiocese to keep quiet about his affair with Weakland.

Before the disclosure of his homosexual relationships, Weakland was an advocate of the ordination of women to the Priesthood and consecration of women as Bishops, and of revision of dogma regarding homosexual activities, as well as changing economic laws which de facto differentiate between normal male - female marriages, and homosexual relationships.

Since the disclosure of his homosexual activities Weakland has proclaimed Church Dogma on homosexual acts is in error and must be changed.

Weakland knowingly hid his homosexuality prior to ordination. For a multitude of reasons this brings the viability of his ordination and subsequent consecration into question.

Dogma is composed of directives from God and can not be changed. Canon Law is composed of directives from the humans who administer then Church and can be changed. The directive to worship no god but the true God comes from God, is Dogma, and can not be changed. The directive to keep holy the Lord's Day comes from God, is Dogma, and can not be changed. The directive to not eat meat on Fridays was (is) Canon Law, and can be changed (and has been changed in some Jurisdictions). The directive to attend Divine Liturgy (Mass) on Sundays is Canon Law, made in accordance with the Church's authority to implement Dogma, is binding under penalty of sin, and is subject to additional modifications by the Church - but the Dogmatic instruction to keep the Lord's Day holy can never be changed.

The directive against homosexual acts comes from God, is Dogma, and can not be changed. Homosexual acts are al-

ways wrong.

Weakland has stated the Church must change its stance on homosexual acts. He obviously does not accept the fact and reality that the directive prohibiting homosexual acts comes from God and therefore can not be changed. He obviously has rejected God's directive, deems his own desires to be superior to God's, and superior to the administrative authority of the Church given to the Church by God.

There are many homosexuals who accept God's prohibition against homosexual acts just as there are many heterosexuals who accept God's prohibition against heterosexual intercourse without the benefit of marriage.

There also are a very large number of homosexuals who will gayly engage in homosexual activities claiming approval of the Roman Catholic Church for homosexual acts under the teachings and example of Weakland. And since there always is a large number of people who seek any excuse to sin, and any hint of official allowance or approval of sin, Weakland's teachings will be perceived as official Church approval of what have been traditionally designated as sin.

Empirically homosexuality has been common amongst Latin Rite Roman Catholic clergy, at least in the U.S.A., for many decades. The same applies to the Church in Ireland, which supplied large numbers of priest to the U.S.A. during most of the twentieth century, many of whom became bishops. If anything, homosexuality amongst Irish clergy was more prevalent and existed for a longer period of time than in the U.S.A. The importation of homosexual clergy, combined with the "native" homosexual clergy, lead to a culture similar to the "don't ask, don't tell" policy of the American Armed Forces regarding homosexuality.

Priest who were caught engaging in homosexual acts in bus stations, roadside parks, and other public places, were

protected by their superiors. Many of those superiors were themselves homosexual, and even those who were not did not wish the wide prevalence of homosexual clergy to become public knowledge.

It was a short step from protecting clergy caught engaging in homosexual activities, to protecting clergy accused and even caught engaging in pedophilia.

Before it became accepted by the public that there was a problem with pedophiles in the clergy, true pedophile clergy were regularly reassigned and the accusations against them dismissed. Occasionally a persistent accuser would be paid money often under a written agreement which required the accuser to cease the accusations and never again refer to the incident.

When it became impossible for the Church to conceal the rampant acts of pedophilia and the large number of pedophile clergy, the reaction of the hierarchy to such accusations switched from concealment of the accusations to acceptance of the accusations, monetary payment to the accuser, and often dismissal of the accused without investigation or evidence of the viability of the accusations. Many innocent priest were accused by money seeking accusers, and unjustly dismissed.

Thus it was that the lack of moral fiber made evident in the era of quiet acceptance of homosexuality amongst the clergy continued through the period of overt pedophilia, and continues to this day.

That lack of moral fiber continues to this day is obvious because there has been no official condemnation of Weakland's teachings, and no action taken against him other than acceptance of his resignation as Archbishop.

The laity, and also those clergy who wish to be true to Dogma and Church teachings, have received neither guid-

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ance nor assurance of the continued viability of traditional Church teachings, from the hierarchy.

Problematic: Weakland's rejection of Dogma and Canon Law also presents a severe problem regarding the Sacraments he administered.

One who rejects Dogma can not be a priest for if he rejects that upon which the priesthood, its duties, responsibilities, and authority are founded he rejects the priesthood.

There is a theological principle named *economia*, which basically states that when a priest makes a mistake in the administration or confection of a Sacrament, Christ steps in and rectifies the error. If the priest desires to administer the sacrament and does what the liturgy directs, and the recipient desires to receive the sacrament, theologically that is sufficient even if a mistake is made.

But does this apply when the priest does not believe in the sacrament, or does not care? If the recipient of the sacrament desires to receive the sacrament, is that sufficient? Remember, this is theology, which is the "art and science of guessing about God," and not Dogma, which is statement of fact and reality by God.

Therefore, anyone ordained by Weakland must question the viability of their ordination. Every person who has received a sacrament from a priest ordained by Weakland must question the viability of the sacrament received. Every person who has received absolution from Weakland, or from a priest ordained by Weakland, must question the viability of that absolution. The viability of the anointing and absolution of those in the process of death, given by Weakland and by the priests ordained by Weakland, is uncertain. The validity of the consecration of a bishop by Weakland, especially if the co-consecrators share his views, is questionable, as is the viability of every ordination to the priesthood by those bishops, and the sacraments administered and confectioned

by those bishops and priests.

Resolution: There really is no short term resolution of this problem, though Latin Rite Roman Catholic laity may temporarily resolve the immediate problem by attending a Byzantine Rite Roman Catholic Church where such is available. Byzantine Rite clergy are ordained by Byzantine Rite Bishops, and at present there is no general uncertainty as to their viability or dogmatic correctness. Attending a Latin Mass does not resolve the problem for the priest probably was ordained by a bishop whose viability is questionable. They may also find an Orthodox Church which will welcome them, possibly only temporarily, and possibly with the provision the person not attempt to receive Holy Communion. But it is likely the Orthodox Priest will allow the Roman Catholic to confess and receive absolution - at least the Priest should for to deny this Sacrament when requested by one in need is a grievous situation.

Roman Catholic laity also could simply convert to an Orthodox Church. The older Roman Catholic laity who are better educated in their religion will find learning Orthodox dogma easy for Catholic and Orthodox dogma are basically the same. Such laity would find most Gregorian Rite Orthodox Churches reminiscent of their youth.

Roman Catholic clergy who are concerned as to the viability of their ordination, or their consecration as bishop, are in a more difficult situation. The only means by which clergy can be assured of the viability of their office is to be re-ordained subconditione, by a Byzantine Rite Bishop or an Orthodox Bishop. Unless the priest is or becomes well known to such a Bishop, he probably will remain uncertain as to his viability in office. Note this has nothing to do with the change in the Roman Catholic Mass after the late 1960's or in the Latin Rite ordination liturgy after the early 1970's. Rather, the focus is on the viability of the bishop who ordained the priest.

Realistic resolution of this problem will only begin when the Roman Catholic Church officially and publicly declares Weakland and those like him to be in error, and excommunicates a few of them and a few politicians and public figures who advocate things which are against Dogma, such as abortion and validation of homosexual acts. Concurrently, the Roman Catholic Church must reaffirm traditional Dogma, Canon Law, Tradition, and disavow any hint that some other religion is as viable as The One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of which Latin Rome may possibly still be a part, and of which the Byzantine and Orthodox Churches definitely remain a part. This must be followed by careful screening of all current priest and bishops, re-ordination and re-consecration of those found to be dogmatically correct, the re-ordinations and re-consecrations to be done by Bishops known to be viable (which means really old Roman Catholic Bishops, or Byzantine Rite Bishops), and the dismissal of those found to be Dogmatically in error.

This is not likely to happen because Rome has been and remains under a cloud of inability to admit error and therefore unable to correct error - for error can only be corrected if it is admitted. One need but examine Rome's history regarding homosexual and pedophile activities by its clergy, and no other conclusion can be reached. That does not preclude rectification of the problems for God continues to work miracles. If it does occur, that would also be a good time for Rome to get rid of its new ordination liturgy, and of the *Novus Ordo* (new mass), and return to its traditional, pre Vatican II, ordination liturgy and Mass. Again, this is not likely to happen, for the same reasons, but, again, God does continue to work miracles.

Let us be vigilant and not allow these things to happen to us Orthodox!

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GOD'S WILL NOT OURS

Funerals are for the Dead, not their survivors. God *WILL* enforce His requirements.

Many people who term themselves Christians have strayed so great a distance from Christianity that they are not Christians.

A good example is the Priest who recently stated: a funeral is not for the deceased, it is for the support of the family, to give them comfort in their time of grief. The error this priest expressed is widespread in its specific application to a funeral, and in its wider application to Dogma, to true Christian Dogma, and to the reality of God.

The purpose of a funeral and especially the Divine Liturgy during a funeral, is for the welfare of the deceased. The deceased can no longer do anything to assist their self, for the deceased no longer is a complete human - its body and soul have been separated and it requires a complete human being to do anything for itself. That is why at the last judgment, the body and soul will be reunited into a perfection of each person, so that each person will perfectly experience the reward it will receive for its life's work. Some rewards will not be nice, and some rewards will be very nice.

If the person must be cleansed, refined like gold in the furnace, prior to entering God's house, that will be done, but that final purification of the soul (and spirit) can be assisted by the prayers and reception of the Sacred Body and Blood of Our Saviour by the living. The body already has suffered its cleansing in its death, but the soul must be strengthened in purification so that it will precede the body in glorification and thus make the body receptive to glorification, in a manner transmit to the body the glorification received by the soul.

It therefore is obvious that those who view and treat a funeral as a means of consolation for the family and friends of the deceased have missed the whole point of the funeral. What is worse, the

opportunity of those present, to unite in prayer for the deceased, and to be of real assistance to the deceased, is lost because of their own selfish desire to feel better, and of the desire of the Priest to conform to popular desires.

So too is it today with Dogma and proper Theology, with understanding of and knowledge of God.

Popular expression seems to portray God as a loving and kind buffoon Who will overlook our every transgression; Who established the Ten Commandments and the Two Great Commandments a general but optional guidelines; Who mentioned the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as principles which it would be nice if we occasionally considered if convenient, and not as fundamental requirements which should be part of our nature, habit, and custom, to the extent of our abilities, if effective following of the Two Great Commandments and the Ten Commandments, and eternal salvation, are to be obtained.

God is not a fool, but contemporary attitudes towards God are that God is a fool.

God is The Blessed Trinity, Three Persons, separate and individual, and yet a Unity - there is only one God, not three gods.

That complexity is beyond your comprehension, beyond your ability to understand, and beyond the ability of any creature to comprehend or understand. Since God is the only entity which is not a creature, only God can comprehend and understand God. But God has explained some of Himself to us, and He has given us knowledge of some things about Himself.

But God has never and will never consult with anyone because by His very nature there is no need for Him to consult. One only consults if there is the possibility of one making an error, and it is impossible for God to make or be in error. Unlike Earthly rulers, who seek

individuals qualified to be counsellors on various matters, there is no one qualified to be God's counsellor in any matter because God is the One who established everything and keeps everything in existence.

Neither does God owe anything to anyone. You only owe someone something when that other person has benefited you, has given you something, or done something for you. But everything that exists was created by God and belongs to God. This includes you and me. God made the metal ore which was mined, smelted, and converted into metal parts for your automobile. He made the plants and animals which died and were converted into oil which was mined and extracted through oil wells, transported in pipelines, refined, converted into plastics, and formed into the plastic and synthetic parts of your automobile. He created the people who did that work, and the food they ate to gain energy with which to work. This means we owe God, but that God does not owe us.

God has told us what He desires in payment for what He has given us. He desires a humble, contrite heart from each of us.

O the depth of the riches of the wisdom and of the knowledge of God! How incomprehensible are his judgments, and how unsearchable his ways! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and recompense shall be made him? For of him, and by him, and in him, are all things: to him be glory for ever. Amen

So, what are you doing about it?

Ref: Rom. 11:33-36; Gospel Mat. 28:18-20

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GOD'S PRE-KINDERGARTEN FOR TWO YEAR OLDS

We can obtain a good grasp of spiritual reality if we think of mankind as a bunch of two year olds attending pre kindergarten.

God the Father set up the school and its program. His Son Jesus Christ, God, built the school, put the program into effect and "got things going". And the Holy Ghost, God, now runs the school. We really must admire and thank the Holy Ghost.

Two year olds get into everything. They explore, have no concept of potential harm to themselves or to others, and usually are only partially potty trained. They can not be reasoned with for they lack the ability to reason beyond the most rudimentary levels, and logic often has no part in their lives.

Two year olds can learn and so do primarily by example, by emulating others. If there is a bunch of two year olds they will generally follow the examples given by each other because adults are too big and a two year old can only see an adult in stages - feet and knees, stomach, then face, usually skipping the torso. But a two year old can see another two year old with a single glance or look. So two year olds are more inclined to emulate other two year olds simply because they can see all of what the other two year olds are doing. Unfortunately they can also see most puppy dogs with a single glance, and will often emulate them as well as other two year olds.

Does the analogy between mankind and two year olds hold true so far? Yes it does.

The Holy Ghost trains the best of the two year olds He can persuade to work with Him, so that they can provide good example to the other two year olds.

But none of them, neither the trained nor the untrained, are very well potty

trained. So there will be "accidents". The pee pee diaper changes are not too bad, but the pooh pooh diapers, well sometimes changing them requires real love. Especially ones which have not been changed in a very long time and challenge the "gag factor". Most Priest remember some of those confessions where the last confession was several years ago. And if some of our politicians ever go to confession, well there will be some real "doozies".

Two year olds are attracted to toilets like iron shavings to an electromagnet. Mankind's toilets are just as full of germs, bacteria, and all that will cause disease, and mankind likes to play in its toilets just as much as two year olds like to play in the toilet. Whether it is a latrine trench, an outhouse, or a modern toilet, the attraction is there, and of course when one plays in a toilet that one often falls into the toilet. Then the dunkee must be given a bath.

The Holy Ghost not only changes the diapers, but He also is the one who gives the baths. Now that is true love.

By now some of the men are chuckling and cringingly remembering the last pooh pooh diaper they changed. And *all* of the women are smiling that pinched smile with which all men have become familiar and the women are thinking, "Just like a man. Leaves the pooh pooh diapers for the women. The Holy Ghost must be a woman."

But your brain is working better than it was a few minutes ago and that has been the purpose of this.

We really are like two year olds. We really do learn more from each other than we do from the spiritually adult in God. And God really did set up the system, really does provide us with all that we need, sees to our inoculations - ever hear of the Sacrament of Baptism, changes our diapers and cleans us up - ever hear of Sacramental Confession and Absolution, heals our wounds - ever hear of Sacramental Holy Anointing, has a graduation system - another as-

pect of Holy Anointing, feeds us - ever hear of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, exercises us to strengthen us - ever hear of the Sacrament of Confirmation or Chrismation, trains other two year olds so that we will have them to imitate - ever hear of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, and has provisions to obtain more two year olds - did you think Holy Matrimony was just for . . . , well we better leave that one alone.

Everything happens in God's Pre-K for Two Year Olds. Even dinner. Sometimes God has to feed us. Sometimes we feed ourselves. Sometimes is a combination of both. Have you ever seen two year olds feed each other? Watching two year olds eat green peas can be agonizing and amazing at the same time if they pick up one green pea at a time, place it on a spoon, and then place the spoon in their mouth. Strained green peas are something else. And of course, occasionally, there are those who wish to explore a pooh pooh diaper while they are eating strained green peas.

The world really is not a zoo. It is a school for two year olds. We should be very thankful to God for setting it up the way He did because if He had not set it up the way He did, then it could easily have been a zoo. And if it were a zoo, who would change the pooh pooh diapers? Actually, the real question is: would there even be diapers. We are not allowed to say what we would be if we did not have at least diapers.

Be nice to our headmaster the Holy Ghost, God, for He proves His love for us every day in every way.

Ref: Acts 2:1-11; John 14:23-31

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THE TIME OF ITCHING EARS

Those of us who are Priests and who are Bishops are ordained by God through the agency of a similarly God ordained Bishop to confect or make and to administer the Sacraments. Those of us who are Bishops are also likewise ordained by God to teach everyone to observe what Christ has commanded.

Those clergy who do not these things violate their agreement with God. They heap dishonor upon themselves.

Those clergy who teach contrary to what Christ has commanded, especially those who teach that their own favorite sins are not sins and that the Church must change the teachings of Christ to state that such are not sins, are spiritual scum of hell on the road to eternal damnation unless they repent.

Those clergy who do not place following Christ before everything else, who do not abandon what ever and who ever needs to be abandoned in order to follow Christ, who do not discard anything or anyone which or who is an impenetrable blockade to Christ, are not faithful clergy. Yet should they abandon anything or anyone because of this, they must, absolutely must, fulfill any morally founded obligations to that or those so abandoned.

And the same holds true for the not ordained religious, and the laity.

Do not have ears which itch to hear approval of some favorite sin, which itch to hear that something which has been declared by God to be sin is now declared by some humans to not be sin. Do not constantly seek, or even for a single instance seek, change in that which Christ commanded. So-to-do is to seek that which is not of Christ; and that which is not of Christ is not fruitful for eternal salvation. But it is fruitful of eternal damnation

Whether he be of a peaceful nature and demeanor, or of a vigorous nature and

demeanor, a Priest or Bishop should combine the gentleness of a baby lamb with the fire and explosiveness of a massive volcano in full eruption in the midst of the most powerful hurricane. He must never seek to harm or injure, but not only must never retreat from Divine Truth but must actively proclaim Divine Truth. He must never seek to or intentionally or unintentionally alter or deviate from Divine Truth.

And the same holds true for the not ordained religious, and the for the laity.

Ref.: Rom. 11:33-36, 2 Tim 4:1-8, Mat. 28:18-20, Luke 14:26-35

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HUMOR TEMPERANCE
(Thanks Mike)

A minister was completing a temperance sermon.

With great emphasis he said, 'If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

With even greater emphasis he said, 'And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, 'And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.'

Sermon complete, he sat down.

The song leader stood very cautiously and announced nearly laughing, 'For our closing song, Let us sing Hymn #365, 'Shall We Gather at the River.'

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EXORCISM OF THE POSSESSED - PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS

A priest -- one who is expressly and in special wise (particularly) authorized by the Ordinary -- when he intends to perform an exorcism over persons tormented by the devil, must be properly distinguished for his piety, prudence, and integrity of life. He should fulfill this devout undertaking in all constancy and humility, being utterly immune to any striving for human aggrandizement, and relying, not on his own, but on the divine power. Moreover, he ought to be of mature years, and revered not alone for his office but for his moral qualities.

2. In order to exercise his ministry rightly, he should resort to a great deal more study of the matter (which has to be passed over here for the sake of brevity), by examining approved authors and cases from experience; on the other hand, let him carefully observe the few more important points enumerated here.

3. Especially, he should not believe too readily that a person is possessed by an evil spirit; but he ought to ascertain the signs by which a person possessed can be distinguished from one who is suffering from melancholy or some other illness (especially one of a psychological nature). Signs of possession are (may be) the following: ability to speak with some facility in a strange tongue or to understand it when spoken by another; the faculty of divulging future and hidden events; display of powers which are beyond the subject's age and natural condition; and various other indications which, when taken together as a whole, build up the evidence.

4. In order to understand these matters better, let him inquire of the person possessed, following upon one or the other act of exorcism, what the latter experienced in his body or soul while the exorcism was being per-

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formed, and to learn also what particular words in the form had a more intimidating effect upon the devil, so that hereafter these words may be employed with greater stress and frequency.

5. He will be on his guard against the arts and subterfuges which the evil spirits are wont to use in deceiving the exorcist. For oftentimes they give deceptive answers and make it difficult to understand them, so that the exorcist might tire and give up, or so it might appear that the afflicted one is in no wise possessed by the devil.

6. Once in a while, after they are already recognized, they conceal themselves and leave the body practically free from every molestation, so that the victim believes himself completely delivered. Yet the exorcist may not desist until he sees the signs of deliverance.

7. At times, moreover, the evil spirits place whatever obstacles they can in the way, so that the patient may not submit to exorcism, or they try to convince him that his affliction is a natural one. Meanwhile, during the exorcism they cause him to fall asleep, and dangle some illusion before him, while they seclude themselves, so that the afflicted one appears to be freed.

8. Some reveal a crime which has been committed and the perpetrators thereof, as well as the means of putting an end to it. Yet the afflicted person must beware of having recourse on this account to sorcerers or necromancers or to any parties except the ministers of the Church, or of making use of any superstition, nay any sort of forbidden practice.

9. Sometimes the devil will leave the possessed person in peace and even allow him to receive the Holy Eucharist, to make it appear that he has departed. In fact, the arts and frauds of the evil one for deceiving a man are innumerable. For this reason the ex-

orcist must be on his guard, lest he fall into this trap.

10. Wherefore, he will be mindful of the words of our Lord (Matt. 17.20), to the effect that there is a certain type of evil spirit who cannot be driven out except by prayer and fasting. Therefore, let him avail himself of these two means above all for imploring the divine assistance in expelling demons, after the example of the holy fathers; and not only himself, but let him induce others, as far as possible, to do the same.

11. If it can be done conveniently the possessed person should be led to church or to some other sacred and worthy place, where the exorcism will be held, away from the crowd. But if the person is ill, or for any valid reason, the exorcism may take place in a private home.

12. The subject, if in good mental and physical health, should be exhorted to implore God's help, to fast, and to fortify himself by frequent reception of penance and Holy Communion, at the discretion of the priest. And in the course of the exorcism he should be fully recollected, with his intention fixed on God, whom he should entreat with firm faith and in all humility. And if he is all the more grievously tormented, he ought to bear this patiently, never doubting the divine assistance.

13. He ought to have a crucifix at hand or somewhere in sight. If relics of the saints are available, they are to be applied in a reverent way to the breast or the head of the person possessed (the relics must be properly and securely encased and covered). One will see to it that these sacred objects are not treated improperly or that no injury is done them by the evil spirit. However, one should not hold the Holy Eucharist over the head of the person nor in any way apply It to his body, owing to the danger of desecration.

14. The exorcist must not digress into senseless prattle nor ask superfluous questions or such as are prompted by curiosity, particularly if they pertain to future and hidden matters, all of which have nothing to do with his office. Instead, he will bid the unclean spirit keep silence and answer only when asked. Neither ought he to give any credence to the devil if the latter maintains that he is the spirit of some saint or of a deceased party, or even claims to be a good angel.

15. But necessary questions are, for example: about the number and name of the spirits inhabiting the patient, the time when they entered into him, the cause thereof, and such like. As for all jesting, laughing, and nonsense on the part of the evil spirit -- the exorcist should prevent it or condemn it, and he will exhort the bystanders (whose number must be very limited) to pay no attention to such goings on; neither are they to put any question to the subject. Rather they should intercede for him to God in all humility and urgency.

16. Let the priest pronounce the exorcism in a commanding and authoritative voice, and at the same time with great confidence, humility, and fervor; and when he sees that the spirit is sorely vexed, then he oppresses and threatens all the more. If he notices that the person afflicted is experiencing a disturbance in some part of his body or an acute pain or a swelling appears in some part, he traces the sign of the Cross over that place and sprinkles it with holy water, which he must have at hand for this purpose.

17. He will pay attention as to what words in particular cause the evil spirits to tremble, repeating them the more frequently. And when he comes to a threatening expression, he recurs to it again and again, always increasing the punishment. If he perceives that he is making progress, let him persist for two, three, four hours, and longer if he can, until victory is at-

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tained.

18. The exorcist should guard against giving or recommending any medicine to the patient, but should leave this care to physicians.

19. While performing the exorcism over a woman, he ought always to have assisting him several women of good repute, who will hold on to the person when she is harassed by the evil spirit. These assistants ought if possible to be close relatives of the subject, and for the sake of decency the exorcist will avoid saying or doing anything which might prove an occasion of evil thoughts to himself or to the others.

20. During the exorcism he shall preferably employ words from Holy Writ, rather than forms of his own or of someone else. He shall, moreover, command the devil to tell whether he is detained in that body by necromancy, by evil signs or amulets; and if the one possessed has taken the latter by mouth, he should be made to vomit them (the exorcist always being conscious of the potential requirement this be done by a competent physician); if he has them concealed on his person, he should expose them; and when discovered they must be burned. Moreover, the person should be exhorted to reveal all his temptations to the exorcist.

21. Finally, after the possessed one has been freed, let him be admonished to guard himself carefully against falling into sin, so as to afford no opportunity to the evil spirit of returning, lest the last state of that man become worse than the former.

CAUTIONS AND ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS TO THE EXORCIST

A. The exorcist should be prepared to have the demon reveal the exorcist's sins, especially those which he has forgotten and not confessed and those

for which he has not received absolution. It therefore is prudent that the exorcist confess and receive absolution immediately prior to each exorcism session, but not merely to avoid embarrassment, but primarily to protect his own immortal soul.

B. For this purpose and also for his own protection and assistance, especially should the demon be exceptionally violent, if available, another priest should assist the exorcist, with it being clear and certain which is the exorcist or lead, and which is the assistant.

C. If the exorcism is to take place not in the church or other place where the Holy Eucharist is present, it is permitted and advised that the exorcist carry It properly secured (in a pyx) on his person or place It in a place of reverence where the exorcism takes place, always mindful of Its safety.

D. When tracing the sign of the Cross on the person afflicted it is not necessary that Holy Oil (Chrism) be used, though its use often is prudent or advisable.

E. Be sure to know the full, proper name of the one thought to be possessed, as well as any familiar names by which the person is called. In some instances it is more proper to use but the proper first name, others the full name, or the first and last name, and even to use the full proper name followed by a statement of the familiar name, e.g.: **N. Johnathan Westphalt Smithson**, whom we often call **John**.

F. The Exorcist should read the ritual to be used prior to using it. Not just an hour before, but at least several hours prior, at and in a time, place, and situation where he will be at peace, in a prayerful manner, not skimming or cursorily but contemplatively and studiously.

To be continued in the next issue of REUNION. +

THE CONFESSIONS OF SAINT AUGUSTINE

BOOK NINE (Cont'd)

CHAPTER IV

7. Finally the day came on which I was actually to be relieved from the professorship of rhetoric, from which I had already been released in intention. And it was done. And thou didst deliver my tongue as thou hadst already delivered my heart; and I blessed thee for it with great joy, and retired with my friends to the villa.[275] My books testify to what I got done there in writing, which was now hopefully devoted to thy service; though in this pause it was still as if I were panting from my exertions in the school of pride.[276] These were the books in which I engaged in dialogue with my friends, and also those in soliloquy before thee alone.[277] And there are my letters to Nebridius, who was still absent.[278]

When would there be enough time to recount all thy great blessings which thou didst bestow on us in that time, especially as I am hastening on to still greater mercies? For my memory recalls them to me and it is pleasant to confess them to thee, O Lord: the inward goads by which thou didst subdue me and how thou broughtest me low, leveling the mountains and hills of my thoughts, straightening my crookedness, and smoothing my rough ways. And I remember by what means thou also didst subdue Alypius, my heart's brother, to the name of thy only Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ -- which he at first refused to have inserted in our writings. For at first he preferred that they should smell of the cedars of the schools[279] which the Lord hath now broken down, rather than of the wholesome herbs of the Church, hostile to serpents.[280]

8. O my God, how did I cry to thee when I read the psalms of David, those hymns of faith, those paeans of devotion which leave no room for swelling pride! I was still a novice in thy true love, a catechumen keeping holiday at the

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villa, with Alypius, a catechumen like myself. My mother was also with us -- in woman's garb, but with a man's faith, with the peacefulness of age and the fullness of motherly love and Christian piety. What cries I used to send up to thee in those songs, and how I was enkindled toward thee by them! I burned to sing them if possible, throughout the whole world, against the pride of the human race. And yet, indeed, they are sung throughout the whole world, and none can hide himself from thy heat. With what strong and bitter regret was I indignant at the Manicheans! Yet I also pitied them; for they were ignorant of those sacraments, those medicines[281] -- and raved insanely against the cure that might have made them sane! I wished they could have been somewhere close by, and -- without my knowledge -- could have seen my face and heard my words when, in that time of leisure, I pored over the Fourth Psalm. And I wish they could have seen how that psalm affected me.[282] "When I called upon thee, O God of my righteousness, thou didst hear me; thou didst enlarge me when I was in distress. Have mercy upon me and hear my prayer." I wish they might have heard what I said in comment on those words -- without my knowing that they heard, lest they should think that I was speaking it just on their account. For, indeed, I should not have said quite the same things, nor quite in the same way, if I had known that I was heard and seen by them. And if I had so spoken, they would not have meant the same things to them as they did to me when I spoke by and for myself before thee, out of the private affections of my soul.

9. By turns I trembled with fear and warmed with hope and rejoiced in thy mercy, O Father. And all these feelings showed forth in my eyes and voice when thy good Spirit turned to us and said, "O sons of men, how long will you be slow of heart, how long will you love vanity, and seek after falsehood?" For I had loved vanity and sought after falsehood. And thou, O Lord, had already magnified thy Holy One, raising him from the

dead and setting him at thy right hand, that thence he should send forth from on high his promised "Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth." Already he had sent him, and I knew it not. He had sent him because he was now magnified, rising from the dead and ascending into heaven. For till then "the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified." [283] And the prophet cried out: "How long will you be slow of heart? How long will you love vanity, and seek after falsehood? Know this, that the Lord hath magnified his Holy One." He cries, "How long?" He cries, "Know this," and I -- so long "loving vanity, and seeking after falsehood" -- heard and trembled, because these words were spoken to such a one as I remembered that I myself had been. For in those phantoms which I once held for truth there was vanity and falsehood. And I spoke many things loudly and earnestly -- in the contrition of my memory -- which I wish they had heard, who still "love vanity and seek after falsehood." Perhaps they would have been troubled, and have vomited up their error, and thou wouldst have heard them when they cried to thee; for by a real death in the flesh He died for us who now maketh intercession for us with thee.

10. I read on further, "Be angry, and sin not." And how deeply was I touched, O my God; for I had now learned to be angry with myself for the things past, so that in the future I might not sin. Yes, to be angry with good cause, for it was not another nature out of the race of darkness that had sinned for me -- as they affirm who are not angry with themselves, and who store up for themselves dire wrath against the day of wrath and the revelation of thy righteous judgment. Nor were the good things I saw now outside me, nor were they to be seen with the eyes of flesh in the light of the earthly sun. For they that have their joys from without sink easily into emptiness and are spilled out on those things that are visible and temporal, and in their starving thoughts they lick their very shadows. If only they would grow weary with their hunger and would say, "Who will show

us any good?" And we would answer, and they would hear, "O Lord, the light of thy countenance shines bright upon us." For we are not that Light that enlightens every man, but we are enlightened by thee, so that we who were formerly in darkness may now be alight in thee. If only they could behold the inner Light Eternal which, now that I had tasted it, I gnashed my teeth because I could not show it to them unless they brought me their heart in their eyes -- their roving eyes -- and said, "Who will show us any good?" But even there, in the inner chamber of my soul -- where I was angry with myself; where I was inwardly pricked, where I had offered my sacrifice, slaying my old man, and hoping in thee with the new resolve of a new life with my trust laid in thee -- even there thou hadst begun to grow sweet to me and to "put gladness in my heart." And thus as I read all this, I cried aloud and felt its inward meaning. Nor did I wish to be increased in worldly goods which are wasted by time, for now I possessed, in thy eternal simplicity, other corn and wine and oil.

11. And with a loud cry from my heart, I read the following verse: "Oh, in peace! Oh, in the Selfsame!" [284] See how he says it: "I will lay me down and take my rest." [285] For who shall withstand us when the truth of this saying that is written is made manifest: "Death is swallowed up in victory" [286]? For surely thou, who dost not change, art the Selfsame, and in thee is rest and oblivion to all distress. There is none other beside thee, nor are we to toil for those many things which are not thee, for only thou, O Lord, makest me to dwell in hope."

These things I read and was enkindled -- but still I could not discover what to do with those deaf and dead Manicheans to whom I myself had belonged; for I had been a bitter and blind reviler against these writings, honeyed with the honey of heaven and luminous with thy light. And I was sorely grieved at these enemies of this Scripture.

12. When shall I call to mind all that happened during those holidays? I have not forgotten them; nor will I be

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silent about the severity of thy scourge, and the amazing quickness of thy mercy. During that time thou didst torture me with a toothache; and when it had become so acute that I was not able to speak, it came into my heart to urge all my friends who were present to pray for me to thee, the God of all health. And I wrote it down on the tablet and gave it to them to read. Presently, as we bowed our knees in supplication, the pain was gone. But what pain? How did it go? I confess that I was terrified, O Lord my God, because from my earliest years I had never experienced such pain. And thy purposes were profoundly impressed upon me; and rejoicing in faith, I praised thy name. But that faith allowed me no rest in respect of my past sins, which were not yet forgiven me through thy baptism.

CHAPTER V

13. Now that the vintage vacation was ended, I gave notice to the citizens of Milan that they might provide their scholars with another word-merchant. I gave as my reasons my determination to serve thee and also my insufficiency for the task, because of the difficulty in breathing and the pain in my chest.

And by letters I notified thy bishop, the holy man Ambrose, of my former errors and my present resolution. And I asked his advice as to which of thy books it was best for me to read so that I might be the more ready and fit for the reception of so great a grace. He recommended Isaiah the prophet; and I believe it was because Isaiah foreshows more clearly than others the gospel, and the calling of the Gentiles. But because I could not understand the first part and because I imagined the rest to be like it, I laid it aside with the intention of taking it up again later, when better practiced in our Lord's words.

CHAPTER VI

14. When the time arrived for me to give in my name, we left the country and returned to Milan. Alypius also resolved to be born again in thee at the

same time. He was already clothed with the humility that befits thy sacraments, and was so brave a tamer of his body that he would walk the frozen Italian soil with his naked feet, which called for unusual fortitude. We took with us the boy Adeodatus, my son after the flesh, the offspring of my sin. Thou hadst made of him a noble lad. He was barely fifteen years old, but his intelligence excelled that of many grave and learned men. I confess to thee thy gifts, O Lord my God, creator of all, who hast power to reform our deformities -- for there was nothing of me in that boy but the sin. For it was thou who didst inspire us to foster him in thy discipline, and none other -- thy gifts I confess to thee. There is a book of mine, entitled *De Magistro*.^[287] It is a dialogue between Adeodatus and me, and thou knowest that all things there put into the mouth of my interlocutor are his, though he was then only in his sixteenth year. Many other gifts even more wonderful I found in him. His talent was a source of awe to me. And who but thou couldst be the worker of such marvels? And thou didst quickly remove his life from the earth, and even now I recall him to mind with a sense of security, because I fear nothing for his childhood or youth, nor for his whole career. We took him for our companion, as if he were the same age in grace with ourselves, to be trained with ourselves in thy discipline. And so we were baptized and the anxiety about our past life left us.

Nor did I ever have enough in those days of the wondrous sweetness of meditating on the depth of thy counsels concerning the salvation of the human race. How freely did I weep in thy hymns and canticles; how deeply was I moved by the voices of thy sweet-speaking Church! The voices flowed into my ears; and the truth was poured forth into my heart, where the tide of my devotion overflowed, and my tears ran down, and I was happy in all these things.

CHAPTER VII

15. The church of Milan had only recently begun to employ this mode of

consolation and exaltation with all the brethren singing together with great earnestness of voice and heart. For it was only about a year -- not much more -- since Justina, the mother of the boy-emperor Valentinian, had persecuted thy servant Ambrose on behalf of her heresy, in which she had been seduced by the Arians. The devoted people kept guard in the church, prepared to die with their bishop, thy servant. Among them my mother, thy handmaid, taking a leading part in those anxieties and vigils, lived there in prayer. And even though we were still not wholly melted by the heat of thy Spirit, we were nevertheless excited by the alarmed and disturbed city.

This was the time that the custom began, after the manner of the Eastern Church, that hymns and psalms should be sung, so that the people would not be worn out with the tedium of lamentation. This custom, retained from then till now, has been imitated by many, indeed, by almost all thy congregations throughout the rest of the world.^[288]

16. Then by a vision thou madest known to thy renowned bishop the spot where lay the bodies of Gervasius and Protasius, the martyrs, whom thou hadst preserved uncorrupted for so many years in thy secret storehouse, so that thou mightest produce them at a fit time to check a woman's fury -- a woman indeed, but also a queen! When they were discovered and dug up and brought with due honor to the basilica of Ambrose, as they were borne along the road many who were troubled by unclean spirits -- the devils confessing themselves -- were healed. And there was also a certain man, a well-known citizen of the city, blind many years, who, when he had asked and learned the reason for the people's tumultuous joy, rushed out and begged his guide to lead him to the place. When he arrived there, he begged to be permitted to touch with his handkerchief the bier of thy saints, whose death is precious in thy sight. When he had done this, and put it to his eyes, they were immediately opened. The fame of all this spread abroad; from this thy glory shone more

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brightly. And also from this the mind of that angry woman, though not enlarged to the sanity of a full faith, was nevertheless restrained from the fury of persecution.

Thanks to thee, O my God. Whence and whither hast thou led my memory, that I should confess such things as these to thee -- for great as they were, I had forgetfully passed them over? And yet at that time, when the sweet savor of thy ointment was so fragrant, I did not run after thee.[289] Therefore, I wept more bitterly as I listened to thy hymns, having so long panted after thee. And now at length I could breathe as much as the space allows in this our straw house.[290]

CHAPTER VIII

17. Thou, O Lord, who makest men of one mind to dwell in a single house, also broughtest Evodius to join our company. He was a young man of our city, who, while serving as a secret service agent, was converted to thee and baptized before us. He had relinquished his secular service, and prepared himself for thine. We were together, and we were resolved to live together in our devout purpose.

We cast about for some place where we might be most useful in our service to thee, and had planned on going back together to Africa. And when we had got as far as Ostia on the Tiber, my mother died.

I am passing over many things, for I must hasten. Receive, O my God, my confessions and thanksgiving for the unnumbered things about which I am silent. But I will not omit anything my mind has brought back concerning thy handmaid who brought me forth -- in her flesh, that I might be born into this world's light, and in her heart, that I might be born to life eternal. I will not speak of her gifts, but of thy gift in her; for she neither made herself nor trained herself. Thou didst create her, and neither her father nor her mother knew what kind of being was to come forth from them. And it was the rod of thy Christ, the discipline of thy only Son,

that trained her in thy fear, in the house of one of thy faithful ones who was a sound member of thy Church. Yet my mother did not attribute this good training of hers as much to the diligence of her own mother as to that of a certain elderly maidservant who had nursed her father, carrying him around on her back, as big girls carried babies. Because of her long-time service and also because of her extreme age and excellent character, she was much respected by the heads of that Christian household. The care of her master's daughters was also committed to her, and she performed her task with diligence. She was quite earnest in restraining them with a holy severity when necessary and instructing them with a sober sagacity. Thus, except at mealtimes at their parents' table -- when they were fed very temperately -- she would not allow them to drink even water, however parched they were with thirst. In this way she took precautions against an evil custom and added the wholesome advice: "You drink water now only because you don't control the wine; but when you are married and mistresses of pantry and cellar, you may not care for water, but the habit of drinking will be fixed." By such a method of instruction, and her authority, she restrained the longing of their tender age, and regulated even the thirst of the girls to such a decorous control that they no longer wanted what they ought not to have.

18. And yet, as thy handmaid related to me, her son, there had stolen upon her a love of wine. For, in the ordinary course of things, when her parents sent her as a sober maiden to draw wine from the cask, she would hold a cup under the tap; and then, before she poured the wine into the bottle, she would wet the tips of her lips with a little of it, for more than this her taste refused. She did not do this out of any craving for drink, but out of the overflowing buoyancy of her time of life, which bubbles up with sportiveness and youthful spirits, but is usually borne down by the gravity of the old folks. And so, adding daily a little to that little -- for "he that contemns small things shall fall by a little here and a little

there"[291] -- she slipped into such a habit as to drink off eagerly her little cup nearly full of wine.

Where now was that wise old woman and her strict prohibition? Could anything prevail against our secret disease if thy medicine, O Lord, did not watch over us? Though father and mother and nurturers are absent, thou art present, who dost create, who callest, and who also workest some good for our salvation, through those who are set over us. What didst thou do at that time, O my God? How didst thou heal her? How didst thou make her whole? Didst thou not bring forth from another woman's soul a hard and bitter insult, like a surgeon's knife from thy secret store, and with one thrust drain off all that putrefaction? For the slave girl who used to accompany her to the cellar fell to quarreling with her little mistress, as it sometimes happened when she was alone with her, and cast in her teeth this vice of hers, along with a very bitter insult: calling her "a drunkard." Stung by this taunt, my mother saw her own vileness and immediately condemned and renounced it.

As the flattery of friends corrupts, so often do the taunts of enemies instruct. Yet thou repayest them, not for the good thou workest through their means, but for the malice they intended. That angry slave girl wanted to infuriate her young mistress, not to cure her; and that is why she spoke up when they were alone. Or perhaps it was because their quarrel just happened to break out at that time and place; or perhaps she was afraid of punishment for having told of it so late.

But thou, O Lord, ruler of heaven and earth, who changest to thy purposes the deepest floods and controls the turbulent tide of the ages, thou healest one soul by the unsoundness of another; so that no man, when he hears of such a happening, should attribute it to his own power if another person whom he wishes to reform is reformed through a word of his.

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WHEN WE RECEIVE FROM GOD

THAT WHICH WE PROPERLY REQUEST WE RECEIVE FROM THE BLESSED TRINITY And *that* provides us with a slight insight to there being but one God, yet three Divine Persons, yet also the oneness of God. Read carefully from Saint John: 14:13. Because I go to the Father: and whatsoever you shall ask the Father in my name, that will I do: that the Father may be glorified in the Son. *So, if you ask the Father in the name of Jesus, then Jesus will do it.* 14:14. If you shall ask me any thing in my name, that I will do. *And if you ask Jesus in His own name, then He will do it.* page 19

THE JOY WHICH NO MAN CAN TAKE FROM YOU We know that the quest to be, become, and once obtained, to remain, holy, is not only fraught with dangers, oppressions, attacks, ridicules, and other obstacles, but it also is simply difficult and hard. page 20

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"Barney" Frank The process of demeaning those who disagree with one's agenda, position, standards (if any), and anything else has attained the level of both an art form and a science in the hands of the immoral. When those who have moral standards reply with truth, their promulgation of the truth is held by the immoral to be disgusting attacks on the defenseless. **Some of the victims: Carrie Prejean, . . .** Why do liberals engage in character assassination and "name calling"? page 1

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A MORALLY CORRUPT HIERARCHY IS BOTH SYMPTOMATIC AND PROBLEMATIC Symptomatic: When moral corruption of the hierarchy becomes so common as to appear to be if not to actually be the norm it not only discourages and misleads the clergy

ranks and laity, but also may leave them without access to the sacraments. This problem is one which all Orthodox would be wise to consider and study since it obviously is a problem in the former Latin Rite of the Roman Catholic Church from which Orthodox are only nominally insulated. It is a problem to which Orthodox may prove to be susceptible. page 1

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GROANER

Why did the corn, wheat, rye, and other cereals not want the herbs planted in their rows next to them? Because then the herbs would be aside of them and every one knows that herbasides are cereal killers.

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