

## Catholic Schism Coming

Can you say schism? This is a word I did not think would surface in my lifetime. As Catholics we have endured many challenges. In the current century the pedophilia scandal of parish priests is prevalent. But we prevailed and accepted the closing of parishes and the selling of real estate to pay for the sins of a few. But, the current pope has become a liability, not to the church, but to the Catholic faith. Yes, our faith.

His deviation from centuries of church teachings to accommodate perverts of human society has struck a dissonant chord. Either the bible is wrong or the pope is wrong. Pick one. I don't care anymore. If the bible is wrong on queers than it is wrong on everything. Yes, throw out the baby with the bathwater. Because now we can pick and choose what is the foundation of the Roman Catholic Church.

When the pope said it was okay to bless a sinner, regardless of their state in society, I was okay with that. Sinners, me included, need God's blessing. But, to bless a queer couple, not a couple of queers, but two people who elected a life style antithetical to the Catholic Church teaching, the pope has abdicated his role as "Fisher of Men".

I have spoken and written about the illegal role Catholic Charities plays in supporting human trafficking. Catholic Charities is supported and promoted by the Roman Catholic Church. This is just another piece of the pie. "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesars, and to God the things that are God's". That means follow the law of the land. The Catholic Church aiding and abetting illegal aliens is not following Jesus' dictum.

No doubt Jesus would welcome any sinner in his company, but he would absolve him or her if they changed their ways and repented.

Let me recap the failings of the pope – and some bishops: no public repudiation of Pres. Biden and Jill Biden or Nancy Pelosi on promoting abortion; promoting Gazans who support terrorists against Israel; promoting acceptance of gay marriage (recognizing gay couples is the same thing); no public statement on the U.S. border catastrophe that emboldens human trafficking (maybe because it is source of revenue?). Add to that the defrocking of bishops who speak out against the fallible positions of the pope.

Jesuits have a rocky history in the Catholic Church. Their progressive attitude brought many substantial changes in the church administration. They were also disbanded, except in Russia, and then reaffirmed by Pope Paul II, who the Jesuits opposed, by the appointment of Latin American prelates one of which is the current Pope Francis. Pope Francis is a Marxist from Argentina. He has done his best to devalue the conservative values of the Roman Catholic Church. Shame, shame on the bishops who do not speak out. It is on their heads that the church will self-destruct. They obfuscated the pedophilia tragedy and now they bury their heads in the sand.

Believe me when I say, the end of the Catholic Church is near. There is another Martin Luther out there and he will be welcomed – right or wrong. Money drives the church. I know this first hand. When the money evaporates so will the congregation. The parish priest know this. They

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see the collection plate is parish specific. Yes, we support the seminary, but never the Archdiocese. The Catholic Community no longer sees “church” as a prerequisite to salvation. Church leadership is non-existent. There are parish pastors who are dealt a bad hand. The current financial strife the U.S. endures under a corrupt administration, not much different than other countries – Russia, China, Pakistan – puts them begging for funds. Catholic Education, once the gold standard, has diminished in its reputation. Why? Parents.

At one time, the pride of Catholic Education was a true medal of honor. That adulation has diminished with the lack of parent support and indifferent teachers. The nuns were a revered group of women, who no longer wear the habit to conform to secular rules. In some cases it is necessary for security. But, in the suburbs – not an issue.

Where is the pope? If God was to change from wine to bourbon and elect me pope, my most pressing issue would be the reinstatement of nuns as a community pillar. At one time they embodied the respect of an entire community, not just the Catholics. Wearing the habit of a particular order was a sense of pride and dedication.

Deacons have been the savior of many parishes. Their faith and dedication is most admirable and enviable. They have become the third leg of parish faith and support. Maybe the pope should think more on allowing priests to marry rather than queer couples that cannot procreate Catholic children. Priests do not have to be monks to spread the gospel. Why is it that a progressive Jesuit pope is not open to ensuring that there are shepherds to lead the flock of the future? (No, I am not a priest looking for a hookup.)

This pope is so far removed from the realities of day-to-day Catholic lives he may as well live in the Vatican. We need a charismatic pope to promote Catholicism. Trust me when I say I am a sinner, but I hit the communion rail every Sunday – whether the pope likes it or not. Heretic bishops who fail to adhere to the communion of faith will destroy the Catholic Church.

The first new Bishop Sheen to appear on TV will win back, at least, American Catholics. Schism anyone? Hear me College of Cardinals? Jesus picked Simon/Peter to be the leader. The last College of Cardinals numbskulls picked Jorge Mario Bergoglio. My guess is that the white smoke was from a bong.

There is no 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment as in the U.S Constitution to remove the pope. And prayer does not seem to work. But maybe a few bishops and cardinals with a cask of wine can go to the Vatican and convince Pope Francis he has done enough harm.

When in grade school we were taught at the end of the rosary we were to pray for the pope, I believe it was Pope Pious XII. Now I pray for the pope’s health and for him to quit.

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