

# Reflections

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**America and Church Being Attacked From Within**

**Early Church Fathers and The Rapture**

**The Mass Heals- Help Souls in Purgatory**

**How Evil Politicians Promulgate Satan's Plan**

**Blessing to All:**

**By: Richard Pickard**



I believe it is my duty to raise my voice about the systematic attack on our Freedoms from the government and the warnings from Cardinal Vigano of what is happening inside our Church. A New World Order, led by evil is arising in our time. There is a growing awareness that the world and our Church is heading into the darkness and away from God and

common sense. I was appalled to see Pope Francis allow a pagan statue of the goddess Pachamama inside the Church where the Eucharist is celebrated and becomes the Body and Blood of Christ. He should be concerned about the souls of his flock and preserving the Faith. Not participating in the ceremony of this pagan idol and giving approval for this idolatrous statue to *be set inside our Church and then bless it!* This is not a "cultural symbol" as the Vatican has suggested. It is the goddess of fertility and protection of the crops. This deity is worshipped and prayed too. Exodus 20:3: "You shall have no other gods before Me."



In America, we have a president who appears to be mentally challenged and is in charge of the most power country in the world. He is showing more signs

of dementia and a man in decline, as indicated by his stammering, stuttering and speeches that make no sense. People who voted for the Democratic Party and got him elected, are looking the other way. Those that are now in charge of America have their political appointed puppets in place within the government and supported by the media. Politicians and their puppets who are so morally corrupt that they **"demand"** that children in the womb "*must be killed*" by the law they pass and support. Bishops approve of giving communion to those that support this killing of the innocent. The pagan god <sup>1</sup>Moloch, (who was given children for sacrifice) is now again being resurrected through the billions of babies in the womb who have been slaughter in abortion. God will avenge those that kill His babies.

We see more calls to embrace Modernism, Pantheism, Socialism and Communism as the answer to all the world's problems. America, "Under God," is the last shining example of a free country. Puppets of Satan proclaim radical and perverse agendas away from God's sovereign commands. They want their Lie to be our Truth. <sup>2</sup>The first American Passport has been issued with an "X" for gender. God made male and female. Even our identity is under attack by the enemies of Jesus Christ.

I remind you of the utter destruction of individual freedoms, the disregard for life, and the economies in communist countries. Cuba, Venezuela, Poland, China, Russia, North Korea.



In November 2017, <sup>3</sup>The Washington Post had an excellent article about governments taking away individual freedoms and making the State, supreme and powerful for those living under Socialism/Communism. "Collectively, communist states killed as many as 100 million people, more than all other repressive regimes combined during the same time period. By far the biggest toll arose from communist efforts to collectivize agriculture and eliminate independent property-owning peasants.

<sup>1</sup> <https://zionmanning.com/blog/204/our-modern-molech-child-sacrifice-in-the-21st-century.php>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-issues-first-passport-with-x-gender-marker-2021-10-27/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/volokh-conspiracy/wp/2017/11/07/lessons-from-a-century-of-communism/>

In China alone, <sup>4</sup>Mao Zedong's Great Leap Forward led to a man-made famine in which as many as 30-45 million people perished – the single biggest episode of mass murder in all of world history.

In the Soviet Union, <sup>5</sup>Joseph Stalin's collectivization– which served as a model for similar efforts in China and elsewhere – took some 6 to 10 million lives. Mass famines occurred in many other communist regimes, ranging from North Korea to Ethiopia. In each of these cases, communist rulers were well aware that their policies were causing mass death, and in each they persisted, nonetheless.

While collectivization was the single biggest killer, communist regimes also engaged in other forms of mass murder on an epic scale. **Millions died in slave labor camps, such as the USSR's Gulag system and its equivalents elsewhere. Many others were killed in more conventional mass executions, such as those of Stalin's Great Purge, and the "Killing Fields" of Cambodia."**

The injustices of communism were not limited to mass murder alone. ***Even those fortunate enough to survive still were subjected to severe repression, including violations of freedom of speech, freedom of religion, loss of property rights, and the criminalization of ordinary economic activity.*** No previous tyranny sought such complete control over nearly every aspect of people's lives.

Although the communists promised a utopian society in which the working class would enjoy unprecedented prosperity, in reality they engendered massive poverty. Wherever communist and noncommunist states existed in close proximity, it was the communists who used threat of death to keep their people from fleeing to societies with greater opportunity.

Two major factors were the most important causes of the atrocities inflicted by communist regimes: perverse incentives and inadequate knowledge. ***The establishment of the centrally planned economy and society required by socialist ideology necessitated an enormous concentration of power.*** While communists looked forward to a utopian society in which the

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.asianstudies.org/publications/ea/archives/chinas-great-leap-forward/>

state could eventually “wither away,” they believed they first had to establish a state-run economy in order to manage production in the interests of the people. In that respect, they had much in common with other socialists.

**To make socialism work, government planners needed to have the authority to direct the production and distribution of virtually all the goods produced by the society.** (*Manage the Supply Chain*)

In addition, extensive coercion was necessary to force people to give up their private property and do the work that the state required. Famine and mass murder was probably the only way the rulers of the USSR, China, and other communist states could compel peasants to give up their land and livestock and accept a new form of serfdom on collective farms – which most were then forbidden to leave without official permission, for fear that they might otherwise seek an easier life elsewhere.”

Sadly, these lessons remain relevant today, in an era where socialism has again begun to attract adherents in various parts of the world and especially in America. ***In recent times, Venezuela, has established a new socialist dictatorship that pursues many of the same policies as the old, including even the use of food shortages to break opposition.***

Even in some long-established democracies, recent economic and social troubles have increased the popularity of avowed old-style socialists such as Bernie Sanders in the United States and Jeremy Corbyn in Britain. Both Sanders and Corbyn are longtime admirers of brutal communist regimes.

**With Socialism and Communism, life has no value. Only the State and what the State says and imposes, has value.”** I see the mandates in America converging toward this radical agenda. With Covid, we see businesses forced to say by government intimidation, “get the shot or you are fired.



**To control people, you have to control, businesses, the food supply, the supply chain, and such offices as the powerful Office of the Attorney General.**

Recently the Attorney General appointed by President Biden has instructed the FBI to consider parents who oppose Critical Race Theory, Pornography in schoolbooks, allowing boys into girl's bathrooms and a host of other unhealthy dictates as **domestic terrorist**.

Here is the justification from the Department of Justice Newsletter issued on October 4, 2021. **Read it and weep for America.**

**“Citing an increase in harassment, intimidation and threats of violence against school board members, teachers and workers in our nation’s public schools, today Attorney General Merrick B. Garland directed the FBI and U.S. Attorneys’ Offices to meet in the next 30 days with federal, state, Tribal, territorial and local law enforcement leaders to discuss strategies for addressing this disturbing trend. These sessions will open dedicated lines of communication for threat reporting, assessment and response by law enforcement.**

**Threats against public servants are not only illegal, but they also run counter to our nation’s core values,” wrote Attorney General Garland. “Those who dedicate their time and energy to ensuring that our children receive a proper education in a safe environment deserve to be able to do their work without fear for their safety.”**

**In other words, Attorney General Garland, wants to shut up parents by intimidation. It’s happening. Wake up people!**



America is under violent attack by communist radicals and so called Socialist. They hide under various names, but they all have vowed to take power away from Americans and to rule over them.

You can know who they are by asking them this question: “Do you believe life is created in the womb and killing of babies is against God’s law?” If they answer “NO”, IT’S A WOMAN’S RIGHT. IT’S HER BODY” ...then you know

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-addresses-violent-threats-against-school-officials-and-teachers>

they are in union with Satan's army. **Call it what you want, but when good is called bad and bad is called good, then the words of Isaiah's in 5:20 have come to life in our generation.**

**Wake up people. If you're a Democratic and believe in tearing American apart and tearing apart the limbs from babies in the womb, then you are with Satan.**



Our children are under attack, both in grade school, high school and college. We parents have to become active. We have to elect people who respect life.



<sup>7</sup>I learned a powerful lesson recently about the important of those serving as Trustee for our School System. These people who get elected serve **"without pay!" Did you know that?** These positions are powerful positions! Do you vote in your district for these positions?

If you don't, why not? If you do, have you researched the candidates? Don't assume, that all is well. <sup>8</sup>**Only 5%-10% of eligible voters, vote!!!!** That means that 90%-95% of you don't vote or don't care.... or both.



Wake up. Your country and schools are being controlled.

**So, it is important for parents to protest when they see CRT, Pornography in schoolbooks, and our**

-school-trustees-paid/269-9b76185f-d047-490e-9cb7-

<sup>8</sup> <https://nsba.org/ASBJ/2020/April/the-publics-voice>

## **Christian values under attack by people on School Board who were elected by 5%-10% of the voters.**

When the Attorney General of the United States impowers the FBI to intimidate parents who protests unchristian doctrines in schools, then we are at a **precipice**. A New World Order in America is just around the corner. All of us have to take action. Don't think it is not your fight. All of us are in this fight. The root of this evil is from Satan. Christianity is being attacked, along with our Freedoms, our way of Life, and the Life of Babies in the Womb. Corrupted elected officials at all levels are marching away from Christ.

## **Biden Administration wants to Control Your Bank Accounts**

<sup>9</sup>President Biden's nominee to run the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) which oversees Americas Banking Industry is



Saule Omarova. She is a graduate of Moscow State University in 1989. She was given the Lenin Personal Academic Scholarship. Omarova has apparently understood that the state cannot run the economy without tightly—and in fact, savagely—controlling individual lives. She also has a history writing about

Marxism, calling for an end to banking "as we know it," by "**the complete migration of demand deposit accounts to the Federal Reserve.**" No one would have control over their own checking accounts. This is a Marxist strategy, well documented in communist countries. Omarova is truly one of the most radical individuals ever to be nominated for a position in the federal government. Over the course of her long career, she has repeatedly called for a dramatic transformation of the U.S. economy that would, by

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/omarova-senate-banking-committee-biden-office-of-comptroller-of-the-currency>

design, limit consumer choices, heavily restrict businesses, and put government bureaucrats in charge of most economic activity.

We also see another communist strategy in <sup>10</sup>a Biden administration proposal calling for banks to report aggregated 'inflows' and 'outflows' above \$600 and to use the IRS to monitor your accounts. This are serious matters. Are you aware of these?

Our America's Freedoms Are Being Attacked. Most Americans are not aware or either believe the Fake News Media reports that all is well. Wake up to the reality of what is happening. The Biden Administration and communist puppets are attacking America. They will try to control your lives, through the IRS, Centralized Banking, Supply Chain manipulations.

### **How to Maintain Our Freedoms and Way of Life**

Elect Christians and God-fearing people to all positions. School Boards, City Councils, Mayors, State and Federal Offices. If you do not, then America will turn more and more to a STATE RUN society. No different than other communist country. You have been warned. Don't pull the "I didn't know this was happening reply." Pray for America. Pray for your school leaders and parents who are in the fight to keep moral values in the schools. Support candidates at all levels who believe abortion is wrong. Amen.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/biden-administration-wants-irs-to-monitor-peoples-bank-accounts-more-closely-will-it-catch-tax-cheats-or-invade-privacy-11633560204>

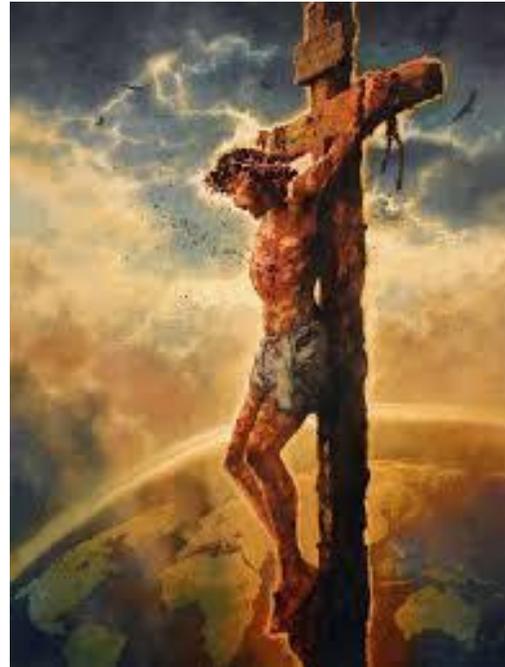
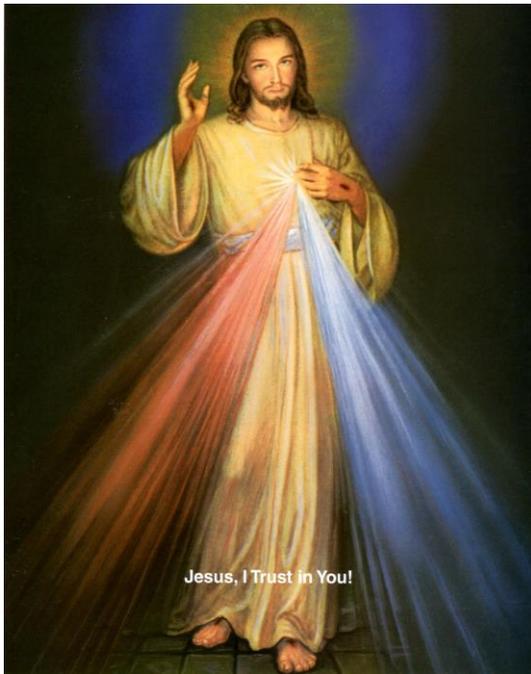


## ***How Evil Politicians Promulgate Satan's Plans***



**FIRST, THEY OVERLOOK EVIL  
THEN THEY PERMIT EVIL  
THEN THEY LEGALIZE EVIL  
THEN THEY CELEBRATE EVIL  
THEN THEY PRESECUTE THOSE WHO STILL CALL IT  
EVIL**

**Jesus Came To Stop Evil...Will You Help Him?  
Vote For Pro-Life Candidates**



**Don't vote for politicians who legalized ABORTION. That is like slapping the face of Jesus and embracing Evil.**

**If you call yourself a Christian but support candidates who advocates for abortion, then you are not a Christian.**

St Paul wrote about these evil times we are living in. 2 Timothy 3:1-4. We see the fulfillment of his warning, in today's society.

"But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God."

## WHAT DID ANCIENT CHURCH FATHERS BELIEVE ABOUT THE RAPTURE?

***"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." – 1 Thessalonians 4:17.***



This article will present the writings of the early church fathers – from those who learned under the disciples of Jesus Christ, to the church leaders of the second and third centuries, on the Rapture – the supernatural removal of all Bible-believing Christians from Earth to enter Heaven. While the writings of the first, second and third century Christian church fathers are not Scripture and not on par with the Bible in any way, it is informative to see how the early church leaders interpreted Scripture in addition to what they learned directly from those closest to The Lord Jesus Christ. And definitively, the few writings still in existence on the end times, put the timing of the Rapture before the Great Tribulation. This article will also serve to dispel some of the common misconceptions about Rapture theology as being something invented in the 19th century by a man named John Darby.



Rapture.

John Darby has *been incorrectly* credited with "inventing" the

All over the internet there are many articles and videos that claim that the Rapture doctrine was “invented” in 1830 by a man named John Darby. The following is an excerpt that summarizes this theory:

*"The Rapture doctrine, which was the invention of the Plymouth Brethren led by John Nelson Darby (1800-1882), has today been adopted by most Baptist, Pentecostals, Assemblies of God, and a variety of other fundamentalist sects. The idea that Jesus Christ will return for His true Church just before the beginning of the Great Tribulation in a secret gathering or "catching away" was an important part of Darby's teaching. The movement in which this teaching began originated in small groups in England and Ireland about 1828 and by 1831 was part of the official teaching of the Plymouth Brethren. By 1860 the "rapture" had made its way to the United States.*

*Today, prophecy pundits and "end-time" revivalists preach the Rapture as if it were established dogma from the time of Christ until the present. Is this really true?*

**Some Catholics believe that the Rapture is a Protestant idea, but is it? Here are a few examples of what the early Church Fathers believed about the Rapture.**

**Irenaeus (130 A.D. – 202 AD)** was a bishop of the church in Lyons, France. He was an eyewitness to the Apostle John (who wrote the Book of Revelation) and a disciple of Polycarp, the first of the Apostle John's disciples. Irenaeus is most-known for his five-volume treatise, *Against Heresies* in which he exposed the false religions and cults of his day along with advice for how to share the Gospel with those were a part of them.

In his writings on Bible prophecy, he acknowledged the phrase “a time, times and dividing of times” in Daniel 7 to signify the 3 ½ year reign of the Antichrist as ruler of the world before the Second Coming of Christ. **He also believed in a literal Millennial reign of Christ on earth following the Second Coming and the resurrection of the just.**

On the subject of the Rapture, in *Against Heresies* 5.29, he describes the church leaving the sinful world just before unprecedented disasters. He uses the term “caught up” which a Rapture terminology. This is the same

meaning in the King James Bible when the word *harpazo* is used. This term for "caught up" in the King James Bible describing the Rapture.

In 1 Thessalonians 4, he then quotes Matthew 24:21 where The Lord Jesus Christ says: "*For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*" And it is during this time that those who convert to Christianity during the final years will receive the incorruptible crown mentioned by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:25. In Irenaeus' belief, the Rapture took place prior to the end times Great Tribulation.

Another Church Father is Cyprian. (200AD – 258 AD). He was Bishop of the church in Carthage. During his short stint as leader of the church, he guided the flock through intense persecution at the hands of the Roman Empire. In 258 AD after spending seven months of confinement to his home by order of Roman authorities, he was beheaded for his faith. Several of his works still exist today. In *Treatises of Cyprian* he wrote in describing the end times Great Tribulation:

"We who see that terrible things have begun, and know that still more terrible things are imminent, may regard it as the greatest advantage to depart from it as quickly as possible. Do you not give God thanks, do you not congratulate yourself, that by an early departure you are taken away, and delivered from the shipwrecks and disasters that are imminent? Let us greet the day which assigns each of us to his own home, which snatches us hence, and sets us free from the snares of the world and restores us to paradise and the kingdom."

Again, we see use of language commonly found in reference to the Rapture as Cyprian describes the judgments of the end times as "imminent." And he makes his belief on the timing of the Rapture when he wrote that Christians will have an "early departure" and be "delivered" from the devastating global judgments that come during the Day of The Lord.

In line with the Apostle Paul who wrote that "*God has not appointed us to wrath, but salvation.*" Cyprian expressed joy and encouraged the believing reader to rejoice that the Church will be "taken away" before the disastrous Great Tribulation. Just as The Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 24 used the same language of one "taken away" and the other "left." Additionally Cyprian references the mansions which The Lord Jesus Christ promises to come back and take His believers to in John 14.

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.” – John 14:1-3.

Clearly Cyprian believed and taught that the Rapture takes place before the Great Tribulation.

### **So, The Early Church Believed In The Rapture!!**

The ancient writings are clear – the belief in the Rapture has existed since the days of the Apostles.



Although there are not a great number of writings on the end times from the early centuries of the church, there is no question that there was a belief in the Rapture among the Church Fathers, and they taught it with strong language and scriptural support.

In terms of the timing of the Rapture, the early Church Fathers placed it before the end times Day of The Lord/Great Tribulation. The writings of early saints in the church are not Scripture and should not be treated on the same level of the Bible. These writings also do not “prove” that the pre-Great Tribulation Rapture or the Beginning and End Rapture series are correct. Only rightly divided Scripture from the Bible can determine if a specific belief is accurate or in error. But the writings of Church Fathers can serve as useful commentaries (just as we use Bible commentaries today in our studies) and certainly prove that the Rapture doctrine existed well before John Darby and has been a part of Christian belief since the earliest days of the Apostles.

## Masses for the Living and the Dead

<http://susantassone.com/masses/>

By Susan Tassone

### The Mass Heals!

We hear stories of people who have been healed in body and we are in awe!

We seldom consider how much Jesus does to heal souls suffering on earth and more so for the souls suffering in Purgatory. A place which none of us has seen and to which many of us could go. We are invited to act on what the Saints are telling us! We gain "new intercessors" when we pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. They become our nearest, sincerest, and dearest friends on earth and in Heaven.



Christ told St. Faustina, "All these souls are greatly loved by Me. They are making retribution to My justice. It is in your power to bring relief. Draw all the indulgences from the treasury of My Church and offer them on their behalf. Oh, if you only knew the torments they suffer."

We do not stop to think about the physical and spiritual healing through the Eucharist. Today, many are discovering how the Eucharist for the deceased also heals the living as they come into deeper relationship with Jesus.

Dr. Kenneth McCall has over one thousand cases of emotional or physical healing occurring with clients by offering a Mass for their deceased loved ones. The Mass heals the living and the dead!

The power of prayer is grabbing the headlines. The Arizona Journal reports that "intercessory prayer" produced measurable improvement in the medical outcome of critically ill patients. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the highest act of worship and the highest form of prayer. St. John Chrysostom says, **"Christ is the victim that gives solace to the dead."** So, what are you

doing for our dear deceased loved ones? Who do you miss the most? Who do you wish you could have done more for in their life? Who hurt you? Who helped you the most spiritually or temporally? Have a Mass offered for them now! The Council of Trent tells us, "The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Perpetual Sacrifice, is the greatest of all suffrages for the Holy Souls."



A great avenue to have Masses offered is through the missions. By offering your Masses through the missions you are providing bread and wine for the Eucharist for a priest in mission countries. These offerings also help with liturgical expenses, books for seminarians, and ministries of the Church. These priests depend on your Masses as their lifeline. Can we help them? Can we help Christ continue His mission on and beyond this earth? And when we do help, we are also being merciful to ourselves! Many Parish Mass Intention Books are filled years ahead.

The Franciscans Missions have a website, that you can use to offer Masses. See <https://franciscanmissions.org/catholic-mass-intentions/> We have an opportunity to help our deceased loved ones and our missionaries spread the Gospel and bring the Eucharist to God's beloved poor. And what a marvelous time to do this spiritual work of mercy! The Eucharist is the source and summit of all Christian life. Let us be missionaries of the Eucharist for the Holy Souls languishing in Purgatory. And remember to have Masses offered for yourselves, special occasions, during the Holidays. It is a refreshing surprise to give someone the gift of prayer! St. Anselm tells that us that a single Mass offered for oneself during life may be worth more than a thousand celebrated for the same intention after death. In this way we shall not be at the mercy of those who remain behind. There is much truth in the proverb which says: "A candle placed before us gives more light than ten candles placed behind us." Only by the means of the Mass can we nourish the hope of being received into Heaven immediately after death, without having to pass through the cleansing flames of Purgatory.

**If you lost someone you love, view this YouTube**

Hoover over the link hit Ctrl + Click

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCdZwitrNoY>

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**Our mission statement is to motivate people to pray and to be Christian examples in their work, home and with others, for those needing the Light in a world of Darkness.**

**<https://www.catholicfamilynewsletter.com>**

**I am watching over you. Pray my children,  
Pray, Pray, Pray, My Rosary For The Salvation of Sinners**

