

From: Bui, Msgr. Peter
Sent: January 14, 2022 8:26 AM
To: #Priests
Subject: Satanic Temple Convention in Scottsdale

Dear Brother Priests,

The Satanic Temple is organizing their first convention - SatanCon 2022 that will take place from February 11-13, 2022 in Scottsdale, Arizona. The move came about after the group lost a federal lawsuit against Scottsdale alleging religious discrimination because they were not allowed to give a prayer invocation at a City Council meeting. By having their convention in Scottsdale, they are trying to seek attention and legitimacy in the public and social arena.

In view of denying the attention and legitimacy that they seek, Bishop Olmsted has asked the faithful of the Diocese to refrain from organizing or participating in any type of protest at the venue of the Convention. Instead, in our spiritual warfare against Satan and his minions; prayer, fasting, reparation and sacrifices coupled with the Sacraments are the most effective, spiritual weapons at our disposal. St. Paul reminds the early Christians of Ephesus of the spiritual aspect of this ongoing battle: "For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens" (Ephesians 6:12).

Therefore, Bishop Olmsted encourages all priests and faithful to increase their prayers and sacrifices of reparation on the days leading up to the Convention and immediately after. Here are some concrete ways to intensify our diocesan wide response: promote and provide more public Eucharistic adoration opportunities at your parish, encourage Novenas and prayers to the Blessed Virgin and the Saints, especially the Prayer of St. Michael after daily and weekend Masses, invite the faithful to double their efforts to attend some weekday Masses, encourage your people to fast and make sacrifices of reparation.

Also, it is possible that in the days and weeks leading up to and during the Convention, the Sacred Host given at Holy Communion could be clandestinely obtained for later desecration. Parish churches could also be broken in to desecrate the sanctuary and/or steal the Sacred Host. We encourage pastors to communicate to staff, volunteers and Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers to be vigilant at Holy Communion and securing Church buildings.

United in prayers with you especially in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, I remain

Sincerely your brother in Christ,

Msgr. Peter D. Bui

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