

Gerald Steinacher, a research fellow at Harvard University, was given access to thousands of internal documents in the archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The documents include Red Cross travel documents issued mistakenly to Nazis in the postwar chaos.

They throw light on how and why mass murderers such as Adolf Eichmann, Josef Mengele and Klaus Barbie and thousands of others evaded capture by the allies.

By comparing lists of wanted war criminals to travel documents, Steinacher says Britain and Canada alone inadvertently took in around 8,000 former Waffen-SS members in 1947, many on the basis of valid documents issued mistakenly.

The documents – which are discussed in Steinacher's book *Nazis on the Run: How Hitler's henchmen fled justice* – offer a significant insight into Vatican thinking, particularly, because its own archives beyond 1939 are still closed. The Vatican has consistently refused to comment.

Steinacher believes the Vatican's help was based on a hoped-for revival of European Christianity and dread of the Soviet Union. But through the Vatican Refugee Commission, war criminals were knowingly provided with false identities.

The Red Cross, overwhelmed by millions of refugees, relied substantially on Vatican references and the often cursory Allied military checks in issuing travel papers, known as 10.100s.

It believed it was primarily helping innocent refugees although correspondence between Red Cross delegations in Genoa, Rome and Geneva shows it was aware Nazis were getting through.

"Although the ICRC has publicly apologised, its action went well beyond helping a few people," said Steinacher.

Steinacher says the documents indicate that the Red Cross, mostly in Rome or Genoa, issued at least 120,000 of the 10.100s, and that 90% of ex-Nazis fled via Italy, mostly to Spain, and North and South America – notably Argentina.

Former SS members often mixed with genuine refugees and presented themselves as stateless ethnic Germans to gain transit papers. Jews trying to get to Palestine via Italy were sometimes smuggled over the border with escaping Nazis.

Steinacher says that individual Red Cross delegations issued war criminals with 10.100s "out of sympathy for individuals ... political attitude, or simply because they were

MailOnline

Vatican investigated 4,000 cases of child sex abuse in the last 10 years, U.S. cardinal reveals

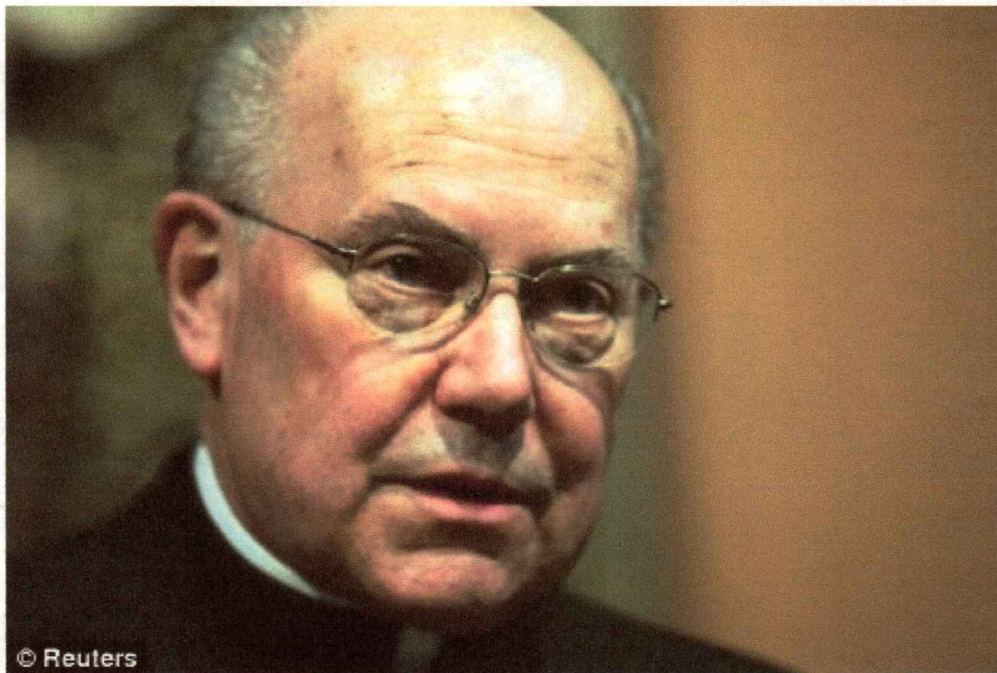
By [Nick Pisa](#)

UPDATED: 11:14 EST, 7 February 2012

A senior Vatican cardinal has revealed how more than 4,000 cases of sex abuse by priests on children have been investigated during the last ten years.

The shock figure was announced by American cardinal Joseph William Levada as he opened a conference on the wide scale phenomenon which has rocked the Roman Catholic church with cases reported all over the world.

Cardinal Levada, who is head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, described the figure as a 'dramatic increase' and came in the face of global indignation at the scale of the problem and which has forced Pope Benedict XVI to apologise for previous cases during papal visits as he meets victims.



Cardinal Joseph William Levada revealed the figures as he opened a conference on child sex abuse

Addressing the conference in Rome at the Pontifical Gregorian University he also stressed that the Catholic Church had an obligation to report paedophile priests to the police and civil authorities - in the past there have been cases in Ireland and elsewhere that bishops 'dragged their heels' in naming offending clergy.

The event called 'Towards Healing and Renewal' is being attended by more than 100 senior bishops and clergy from all over the world - with Ireland's leading Roman Catholic Cardinal Sean Brady among the delegates and it comes after Benedict ordered an Apostolic Visitation into the Irish Catholic Church following two damning reports on the extent of abuse there.

Cardinal Levada stressed the Pope had urged for a 'profound renewal' in the Church and that helping victims of abuse by priests should be its top priority and in a statement the Vatican added: 'He (the Pope)

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More Than 500 Sex Abuse Claims Filed Against Jesuits

Monday, December 07, 2009
Associated Press

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SPOKANE, Wash. — More than 500 people in the U.S. Northwest filed claims against the Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus in advance of a November deadline, alleging members of the Catholic order sexually abused them as children.

The Spokesman-Review in Spokane reports the claims against the Jesuits span decades and range from Native Alaskan children to students at Spokane's Gonzaga Preparatory School.

A federal judge overseeing the bankruptcy reorganization of the province set a Nov. 30 deadline for people to file the claims. The organization includes Jesuits in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

The Jesuits already have settled 200 additional sex-abuse claims.

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JESUITS-BANKRUPTCY Feb-18-2009 (690 words) xxxn

Jesuits' Oregon province, facing abuse lawsuits, files for bankruptcy

By **Catholic News Service**

PORTLAND, Ore. (CNS) -- The Oregon province of the Society of Jesus filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection Feb. 17 citing a number of pending lawsuits over clergy sexual abuse claims.

The petition was filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon in Portland in response to 200 lawsuits filed recently against Jesuits of the province. The abuse claims are primarily from Alaskans who said they had been abused as children by priests.

The Jesuits' Oregon province, based in Portland, serves Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

"Our decision to file Chapter 11 was not an easy one, but with approximately 200 additional claims pending or threatened, it is the only way we believe that all claimants can be offered a fair financial settlement within the limited resources of the province," said Jesuit Father Patrick Lee, provincial, in a Feb. 17 statement.

The statement noted the province has worked "diligently" to resolve claims of priests' misconduct, saying it has settled more than 200 claims and paid more than \$25 million to victims since 2001. That amount does not include payments made by insurers.

A spokesman for the Oregon province told **Catholic News Service** Feb. 18 that Father Lee would not comment beyond the statement released a day earlier.

In 2007, the province announced a \$50 million settlement between the Jesuits and more than 100 native Alaskans for cases of sexual abuse involving more than a dozen Jesuits posted in Alaska between 1961 and 1987.

Last March, the Diocese of Fairbanks filed for bankruptcy protection saying it was unable to reach a financial settlement with 140 people who had filed about 150 claims against the diocese. After the diocese filed bankruptcy, the number of sex abuse claimants rose to 288.

Father Lee said he hoped the province's bankruptcy filing "could begin to bring this sad chapter in our province's history to an end."

"We continue to pray for all those who have been hurt by the actions

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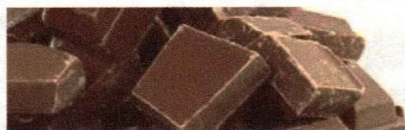
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Report Outlines Abuse Claims at German Jesuit Schools

By JUDY DEMPSEY
Published: May 27, 2010

BERLIN — Deepening the sexual abuse crisis in the [Roman Catholic Church in Germany](#), a special investigator released a report on Thursday saying that 205 former students claimed they had been abused in Jesuit schools, including at the prestigious Canisius-Kolleg in Berlin.

The investigator, Ursula Raue, said the actual number could be higher. “We cannot expect to have heard everything yet,” she said. “The question must be asked why the order dealt so dismissively with the well-based information about frequent incidents of sexual abuse in its institutions.”

Father Stefan Dartmann, Germany’s leading Jesuit official, immediately issued a statement acknowledging “with shame and guilt, our failure.”

“I ask for forgiveness,” he said, adding that there was a “widespread mentality in the order, and perhaps still is, that the primary concern was the reputation of the institution and its fellow brothers.”

The report is the latest blow to a church weathering its most serious crisis over sexual abuse, here in Germany and around the world. [Pope Benedict XVI](#), who has faced accusations that he or his subordinates did not take strong enough actions in several cases in Germany and elsewhere, has acknowledged the depth of the problem, this month calling the crisis “truly terrifying.”

The Jesuit order in Germany had asked Ms. Raue to look into allegations of sexual abuse after 25 students came forward alleging abuse at Canisius.

Her report was unsparing in its details. She said 46 Jesuits and nonclerical staff members at the schools had been accused of abuse or of knowing of such crimes without acting.

A priest identified only as Father Eckhart, no longer alive, who was at Canisius-Kolleg, “liked very much to beat” the children. Another priest, called Father Michel, also at that school, was “a sadist who enjoyed and often beat the naked bottoms of the children.”

At three schools, a priest called Father Bertram beat 50 students in a “sadistic sexual” way on their bare or clothed buttocks in the 1970s and 1980s. According to the investigation, Father Bertram underwent years of therapy. Before leaving the order, he confessed in 1991 to having suffered emotional problems that led him to beat children.

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Jesuits pay record \$166.1 million in child abuse case

March 25th, 2011

(CNN) - The Society of Jesus' Pacific Northwest unit and its insurer have agreed to pay a record \$166.1 million to about 500 people who were sexually and psychologically abused as children by Jesuit priests from the 1940s to the 1990s, the Washington State Association of Justice said in statement Friday.

The association described the payment as "the largest settlement between a religious order and abuse victims in the history of the United States."

The settlement also asks the Jesuits to provide a written apology to the victims, and share documents of importance to them, such as their personal medical records.

The abuse primarily took place in Jesuit-operated mission schools and boarding schools on Indian reservations in Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana and Oregon, and some of the children were abused by Jesuits serving in dioceses throughout the Northwest, the association said.

Posted by: [The Editors](#) - CNN Belief Blog

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German Jesuit report shows years of sex abuse cover-up

THURSDAY, 27 MAY 2010 22:14

BERLIN--A Jesuit investigation cited 205 allegations of sexual abuse against priests at its schools in Germany on Thursday, revealing decades of systematic abuse and attempts of a cover-up by the Roman Catholic order.

The new allegations threaten to further undermine the German Roman Catholic Church, already accused of hushing up hundreds of sexual and physical abuse allegations in Church-run schools that have come to light recently.

"In the name of the order I acknowledge with shame and guilt our failure," Father Stefan Dartmann, Germany's leading Jesuit official, said in a statement. "I ask for forgiveness."

"There was a widespread mentality in the order, and perhaps still is, that the primary concern was the reputation of the institution and its fellow brothers," Dartmann added. The report also cited a further 50 allegations of abuse relating to other, mostly Catholic institutions.

The abuse scandal also has put a spotlight German-born Pope Benedict and his handling of the crisis. Benedict was archbishop of Munich at a time when a priest in the archdiocese undergoing therapy for sexual abuse was returned to work. The Vatican denies Benedict was involved in the decision.

The allegations by predominantly male victims in the Jesuit investigation focus on 12 priests, six of whom are now deceased, from several schools and youth facilities in Germany. Solitary victims cited a further 32 church figures.

The order would continue to examine the allegations and talk to victims, Dartmann said, noting it was still open whether state prosecutors would become involved in the investigations.

The German report, commissioned in January after 25 students came forward alleging abuse at the Jesuit-run Canisius Kolleg in Berlin, details harsh corporal punishment and sexual abuse stretching back as far as the 1950s. Since then, media reports have documented more than 250 cases of abuse in Catholic schools, prompting the government to set up a round table to address issues of abuse in Germany.

Cases have popped up across Europe and bishops in Ireland, Belgium and Germany have been forced to step down.

Nearly 50 people at three schools said a priest--given the alias of Father Bertram--beat students in a "sadistic sexual" way on their bare or clothed buttocks in the 1970s and

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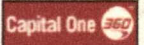


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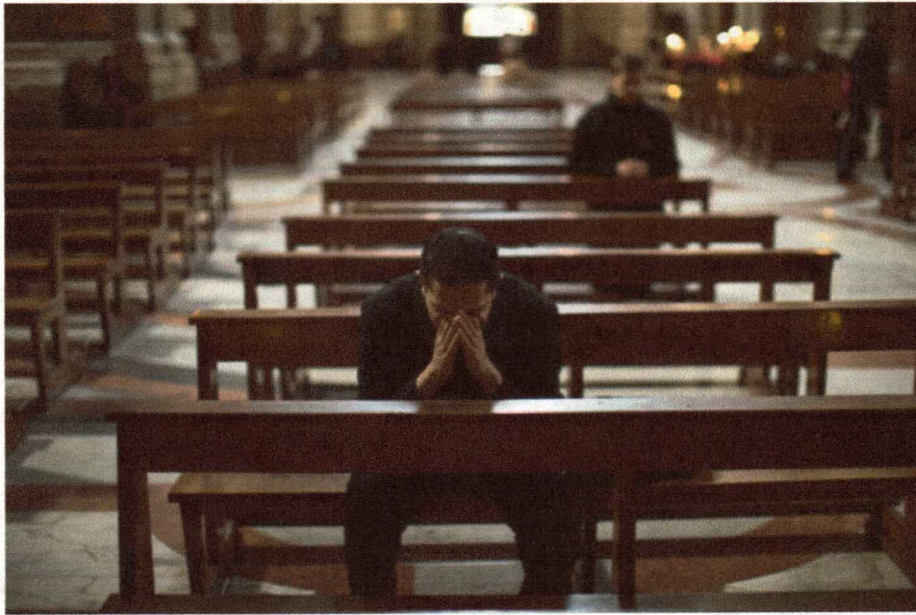


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Spring travel is in full bloom from Boston

New Pope Puts Spotlight on Jesuits, an Influential Yet Self-Effacing Order



Emilio Morenatti/Associated Press

A priest prayed in the Church of St. Ignatius in Rome, dedicated to the Jesuit order's founder. [More Photos »](#)

By LAURIE GOODSTEIN
Published: March 16, 2013

ROME — Men who join the Jesuits, the [Roman Catholic Church's](#) largest religious order, take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, and promise never to take any high office in the church.

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So while other priests were climbing the ladder of the church's hierarchy, the Jesuits directed their considerable energies into spreading the Catholic faith in new frontiers. They have planted the church in places like India, Japan, Canada and Latin America. They work with the poor in shantytowns and AIDS clinics. They publish magazines, paint, write music and stage plays.

And, what they are perhaps best known for, they run academically rigorous schools and universities around the world — which in the United States include Georgetown, Boston College, Fordham and the various Loyolas. Secular professions are filled with high achievers educated at Jesuit institutions.

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Openness to Other Faiths (March 17, 2013)

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Now, for the first time in the church's history, a Jesuit has been elected pontiff. [Pope Francis](#), the former Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, an Argentine of Italian origin, has already set a new tone for the papacy. He is the first to take the name Francis, in homage to Francis of Assisi, who abandoned comfort to join beggars. In keeping with the Jesuit ideal to live simply, Francis in his first days as pope dressed in a plain white cassock. He opted to ride in a minibus with his fellow cardinals rather than a private Vatican car. And on Saturday, he suggested a humble

course for the church as a whole.

"How I would like a poor church," he said, one that was "for the poor."

Given the Jesuits' watchword to find God "in all things," some are hoping that the leadership of a Jesuit pope will allow the church to engage more openly and fearlessly with the world, to project the church's message in new ways and to emphasize service to, and solidarity with, the poor. With an outsider now at the helm, they hope Francis will be able to shake up the culture of the Vatican.

If so, his papacy could become a contrast to that of his predecessor, Benedict XVI, a quiet German scholar and former doctrinal enforcer for the church, who at times seemed to accept the prospect of a church dwindling in the future to a faithful remnant of the most devout, hunkered down in the catacombs. Benedict became the first pope in 600 years to resign when he stepped down last month.

But it is still too early to tell what is at the top of the agenda for Francis, who at 76 is only two years younger than Benedict when he was elected. The church is struggling in Europe and even in some parts of Latin America. He is assuming control of a Vatican that has been racked in recent years by missteps and scandals that peaked when the personal papers of Benedict were stolen by his butler and published in an affair known as VatiLeaks.

Going into the conclave, many cardinals spoke of the need to reform the Vatican: both to address the mismanagement, and also to make it more responsive and accessible to the world's bishops.

The Rev. James Martin, an editor at the Jesuit magazine *America* based in New York City and author of "The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything," said, "They wanted someone who can make the tough decisions, and the fact that he is a member of a religious order may have given him a certain aura of independence."

Throughout its history, the church when in need of reform has turned to religious orders for popes — though never before a Jesuit.

The Society of Jesus, as the order is called, was founded in the 16th century by [Ignatius of Loyola](#), a Spanish knight who experienced a religious conversion while recovering from the wounds of battle. There are now about 17,000 Jesuits around the world, and while their ranks are declining in Europe and the United States, they are growing in places like Vietnam, India and Latin America.

The Jesuits are distinguished by their vow to obey the pope and to serve where he commands. The Rev. Antonio Spadaro, editor of *La Civiltà Cattolica*, a Jesuit journal in Rome, said in an interview that before the papal conclave, journalists were asking him whether Cardinal Bergoglio could be pope.

"And I said, 'Not at all, because he's a Jesuit,'" Father Spadaro said in an interview in his office on Friday. "We are used to serving a pope, not to be a pope."

The Rev. Federico Lombardi, a Jesuit who serves as the Vatican spokesman, said that when he saw Cardinal Bergoglio emerge on the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica as the new pope, "I was dumbfounded."



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10. New Pope Shifts Church's Center of Gravity Away From Europe

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HOUSES OF WORSHIP | March 14, 2013, 7:45 p.m. ET

Pope Francis and the Jesuits

The order in modern times has often been a papal critic. Now one of their own is the pontiff.

By THOMAS HIBBS

Amid the many firsts represented in the election of Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio as Catholic pontiff—the first pope from South America and the first to take the name Francis—he is also the first Jesuit.

From its founding in the 16th century to contemporary times, the Jesuit order has had a remarkable and tumultuous history. Alone among religious orders, the Jesuits take a fourth vow: Over and above the standard vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, they also take a vow of obedience to the pope. Yet, in the post-Vatican II era since the mid 1960s, Jesuits have developed more of a reputation as rebels, even as direct critics of the papacy and of official Catholic teaching. Having one of their own as pope must be slightly disorienting.

I recall attending a retreat for new faculty during my first semester in the fall of 1990 at Boston College, a Jesuit university that has risen from near bankruptcy in the early 1970s to national academic prominence. The elderly Jesuit who led the session on Boston College's Jesuit identity spent most of his allotted time railing against Pope John Paul II. Bewildered non-Catholics in the group—by my recollection they outnumbered the Catholics—wondered what it all meant. A lay female member of the retreat team told them not to worry about it. All they needed to know was that faith would not get in the way of their work at Boston College.

Even as their numbers dwindle, the Jesuits retain a reputation as Catholic rebels. Founded in Spain nearly five centuries ago by Ignatius of Loyola, the order was established for the "propagation and defense of the faith and the progress of souls in Christian life and doctrine."

Those are not words that fall trippingly from the tongue of most Jesuits in positions of leadership at major universities. One suspects in some cases that hostility to church teaching is not so much a sign of brave independence as it is a shift from obedience to Catholic teaching, to obedience to a party line of left-leaning opinions on church and society.

But the reputation of the Jesuits as rebels is by now an old story. While many Jesuit institutions of learning may sadly be lost to the church as well as to the Jesuit order, the younger generation seems less interested in alternative ways of being Catholic than in recovering Ignatius's fidelity to the church.

When considering what part the Jesuit Pope Francis might play in all this, it helps to look at the

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Jason Berry

March 15, 2013

ROME – This was an historic papal transition from the very start.

It was the first time in 600 years a living pope resigned; the first time a Cardinal from the Americas was elevated to the throne; the first time a pope was named Francis with reverence for the saint's mission for the poor and the first time the pope was selected from the Jesuit order known for its focus on critical thinking.

And as a week of pageantry and punditry comes to an end here, it is apparent that it is also the first time a papacy has begun right away as a story of competing narratives. Pope Francis is a pope from the New World but of Italian descent — a pope who speaks like a progressive on economic inequality but like a strict conservative on social issues, particularly gay marriage.

Pope Francis, in tone and gestures, introduced himself to the world as a humble pastor, bowing to 100,000 from the balcony at St. Peter's Basilica and drew on his focus on behalf of the poor to turn the center of gravity in the Catholic Church from Rome to the global south.

Meanwhile a relentless media was digging into his complex position as Cardinal Jose Maria Bergoglio in Argentina's bloody past.

Early reports began raising stark questions about his role as a Jesuit superior in dealing with the military junta during the 1970s' Dirty War, a struggle in which 30,000 people, including more than 100 priests, were killed by the violence but the church as a whole was largely silent on speaking out against the injustices of the dictatorship. Jesuits reacted with praise and surprise to the first of their order to become pope.

"He has truly lived his vow of poverty," said Father Thomas Reese, a sociologist and author of *Inside the Vatican*, serving as a media commentator at the Holy See Press Office this week. "He was very progressive on social justice, fighting the Argentine government on benefits for the poor," said Reese. "This is not a candidate of Wall Street. He's to the left of Nancy Pelosi on economic issues."

But the historic first of a Jesuit becoming pope is another story, and not a simple one to parse in the case of Pope Francis.

"I am a bit shocked by the fact we have a Jesuit pope," Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman told reporters. "Usually the Jesuits don't accept, or at least try to resist being nominated as bishops or cardinals."



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Francis I: The 'End of the World' Pope



Adrian Salbuchi is a political analyst, author, speaker and radio/TV commentator in Argentina.

Published time: March 19, 2013 16:25

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Pope Francis waves from the papamobile during his inauguration mass at St Peter's Basilica in 2013 at the Vatican. (AFP Photo/Filippo Monteforte)

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After the white-smoke "fumatta" signaled Argentina's Archbishop of Buenos Aires Jorge Bergoglio now heads the Catholic Church, the attention turns to significant, if subtle, signs surrounding the naming of the new Pope.

As soon as Msgr. Bergoglio was chosen, in the privacy of the Vatican Cardinal Giovanni Battista's first question to him was, "*What name would you like to be known by?*" to which he replied "*I shall be called Francis I*".

Moments later, when presented to the world from the Basilica

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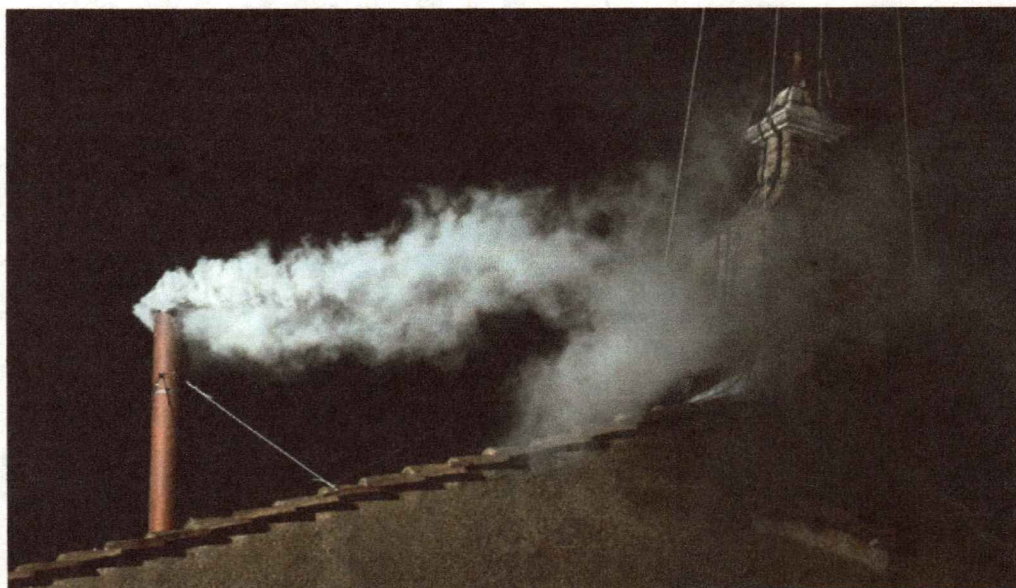
overlooking St. Peter's Square Pope Francis announced to the world, *"You know that the duty of the conclave was to give a bishop to Rome. It seems that my brother cardinals went almost to the end of the world to get him. But here we are."*

An interesting and significant phrase filled with foreboding in these troubling times, many perceive of apocalyptic worldwide turmoil. Particularly to those lending credence to the prophecies of Irish Saint Malachy, a 12th century Archbishop of Armagh who had a vision when visiting Rome of 112 future popes that the Church would supposedly have from his days onwards.

Malachy wrote down short emblematic and symbolic descriptions for each which have been fulfilled with uncanny precision to this very day.

According to that vision, the 111th pope was Benedict XVI, whom he described as "The Glory of the Olive" which makes him the next-to-last pope.

Malachy could have very well been way off the mark by whole centuries when you consider that some popes like Pius IX in the 19th century reigned for a full 34 years, whilst others like last century's John Paul I only reigned for 33 short days. And yet, as we enter 2013 – just months after 2012 with its symbolic End-of-Time aura – we suddenly have a new (the last?) pope being chosen.



White smoke rises from the chimney on the roof of the Sistine Chapel meaning that cardinals elected a new pope on the second day of their secret conclave on March 13, 2013 at the Vatican. (AFP Photo)

Many "firsts"

Even if Francis I is not the last pope, he certainly makes an interesting

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list of Catholic firsts: the first non-European pope in almost 1500 years; the first Jesuit; the first to choose Francis as his name; the first to succeed an abdicating pope in six centuries.

Why all the expectation? Because for the 112th pope on Malachy's List he wrote these ominous words: *"In the final persecution of the Holy Roman Church, there will sit Peter the Roman, who will pasture his sheep in many tribulations, and when these things are finished, the city of seven hills will be destroyed, and the dreadful judge will judge his people. The End."*

If Malachy's List continues to hold in its uncanny precision to the very end, then Pope Francis I is the last pope of the Roman Catholic Church.

On the very same day that Benedict XVI shocked the world with his unprecedented and unexpected resignation, a bolt of lightning struck St. Peter Cathedral's Dome, an image that went around the world. "The hand of God" many thought, only this time not alluding to an Argentine football player but rather a sign of the times to come for the Vatican: the coming of an Argentinian pope.

The monsignors are said to take this and other prophecies – notably the Vision of Fatima – quite seriously, which might help to explain why other possible papal candidates who either carried the name Peter or came from Rome were discretely left aside so as not to tempt Destiny.

Either way, Francis I is as he himself unwittingly said, an "end of the world" pope coming as he does from far off Argentina.

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Gens peruerla. Animal rurale. Flos horum.
In tribulatione pacis. Rosa vmbriae. De medietate lunae.
Lilium & rosa. Virsus uelox. De labore solis.
In quibus crucis. Peregrin⁹ apostolic⁹. Gloria olivae.
Montium custos. Aquila rapax. In persecutione extrema S.R.E. sedebit.
Sydus aulorum. Canis & coluber. Petrus Romanus, qui
De humine magno. Vir religiosus. pascet oves in multis tribulationibus:
Bellua infatigabilis. De balneis Etruriae. quibus transactis ciuitas septicollis di-
Poenitentia gloriosa. Crux de cruce. ruetur, & Iudex tre-
Rastrum in porta. Lumen in caelo. medus iudicabit po-
Flores circumdati. Ignis ardens. -
De bona religione. Religio depopulata. -
Miles in bello. Fides intrepida. -
Columna excelsa. Pastor angelicus. -
Quae ad Pontifices adiecta, non sunt ipsi
Alphonſi Giaconis, Ord. Praedicatorum, huius Prophetiae interpretis.

(<http://News.Discovery.Com/Space/History-Of-Space/Doomsday-2012-Theories-End-Times-11214.Html>)

Is the world only a Pope away from the End? Yes, if you believe a chilling 12th-century prophecy.

Attributed to St. Malachy, an Irish archbishop canonized in 1190, the Prophecy of the Popes would date to 1139. The document predicted that there would be only 112 more popes before the Last Judgment — and Benedict XVI is 111.

The list of popes originated from a vision Malachy said he received from God when he was in Rome, reporting on his diocese to Pope Innocent II.

PHOTOS: 10 Most Intriguing Popes (<http://news.discovery.com/history/religion/papal-primer-10-most-intriguing-popes-130211.html>)

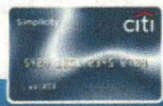
The story goes that St. Malachy gave the apocalyptic list to Innocent II and that the document remained unknown in the Vatican Archives some 440 years after Malachy's death in 1148. It was rediscovered and published by Benedictine Arnold de Wyon in 1590.

The prophecy consists of brief, cryptic phrases in Latin about each Pope. It ends with the 112th pope, named "Petrus Romanus" or "Peter the Roman."

According to the premonition, Peter the Roman would "feed his flock amid many tribulations, after which the City of the Seven Hills shall be utterly destroyed, and the awful Judge will judge the people."

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Often highly enigmatic, several prophetic announcements in the document appear to have come true.

For example, Malachy prophesied the first pope on his list would be "from a castle on the Tiber." Celestine II, elected in 1143, was born in Tuscany on the shores of the Tiber River.

PHOTOS: 2012 Doomsday and Other Signs of the End Times

(<http://news.discovery.com/space/history-of-space/doomsday-2012-theories-end-times-111214.htm>)

Malachy predicted another pope would be "elevated from a hermit." Nicholas IV, pope from 1288 to 1292, had been a hermit in the monastery of Pouilles.

The 45th pope in the prophecy is described as coming "from the hell of Pregnani". Indeed, Pope Urban VI (1378-1389) was born Domenico Prignano and came from a village near Naples called Inferno (hell).

Most scholars consider the document a 16th-century elaborate hoax. Until 1590, when the prophecy was published, the mottoes were easily derived from the pope's family, baptismal names, native places or coats of arms.

After 1590 the epithets become much more vague. According to the Catholic Pages, "the inclusion of anti-popes would also appear to militate against the authenticity of the prophecies."

NEWS: Rumors Swirl Amid Pope's Resignation

(<http://news.discovery.com/history/religion/rumors-swirl-amid-popes-resignation-130212.htm>)

Yet, uncanny similarities also appear when reading the mottoes associated to modern-day popes.

For example, the 109th pope is described as "of the half of the moon." John Paul I, elected pope in 1978, "lasted about a month, from half a moon to the next half," the Catholic Pages noted.

As for his successor, the late Pope John Paul II, Malachy described him in Latin as "de labore solis," meaning "of the eclipse of the sun, or from the labor of the sun."

"John Paul II (1978-2005) was born on May 18, 1920 during a solar eclipse... His Funeral occurred on April 8, 2005 when there was a solar eclipse visible in the Americas," the Catholic Pages wrote.

Finally, "Glory of the Olives" is the motto for Benedict XVI, the 111th pope in the list. A branch of the monastic order founded by St. Benedict is called the Olivetans.

As for the doomsday pope, one would think we are quite safe: according to church tradition, no pope can take the name Peter II.

However, one of the favorites to succeed Benedict XVI is Ghanaian Cardinal Turkson. His first name is Peter.

Image: A detail of the "Prophetia S. Malachiae Archiepiscopi, de Summis Pontificibus" by Arnold Wyon. Credit: Wikimedia Commons.

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Thousands of children abused in Dutch churches over 65 years, inquiry says

By Joe Sterling, CNN

updated 9:56 AM EST, Fri December 16, 2011



STORY HIGHLIGHTS

Church officials delegated an independent commission to probe the problem

The child sex abuse is called "a serious problem in absolute numbers"

More than 100 of the alleged abusers "are known to be living," the commission says

(CNN) -- Thousands and thousands of children suffered from sexual abuse in the Dutch Roman Catholic Church over more than six decades, and about 800 "possible perpetrators" have been identified, an independent Commission of Inquiry said Friday.

"Several tens of thousands of minors have experienced mild, serious and very serious forms of inappropriate sexual behavior. Victims have often suffered for decades from the effects of abuse and have received acknowledgment of the fact," the panel says in its report.

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Recent Charges of Sexual Abuse of Children in Hollywood Just Tip of Iceberg, Experts Say

By Meaghan Murphy

Published December 05, 2011 | FoxNews.com

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NBC / Warner Bros.

Allison Amgrim (left) starred on 'Little House on the Prairie.' She said stories about Corey Feldman and Corey Haim (right) being abused as child stars were common in the 1980s and 90s.

If a spate of recent allegations proves true, Hollywood may have a hideous epidemic on its hands. The past two weeks have brought three separate reports of alleged child sexual abuse in the entertainment industry.

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Martin Weiss, a 47-year-old Hollywood manager who represented child actors, was charged in Los Angeles on Dec. 1 with sexually abusing a former client. His accuser, who was under 12 years old during the time of the alleged abuse, reported to authorities that Weiss told him "what they were doing was common practice in the entertainment industry." Weiss has pleaded not guilty.

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On Nov. 21, Fernando Rivas, 59, an award-winning composer for "Sesame Street," was arraigned on charges of coercing a child "to engage in sexually explicit conduct" in South Carolina. The Juilliard-trained

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Mom reveals a \$5 Wrinkle Secret That Has Angered

Doctors! Registered sex offender Jason James Murphy, 35, worked as a casting agent in Hollywood for years before his past kidnapping and sexual abuse of a boy was revealed by the Los Angeles Times on Nov. 17. Murphy's

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composer was also charged with production and distribution of child pornography.

"Cheaper by the Dozen 2" and the forthcoming "Three Stooges."

Revelations of this sort come as no surprise to former child star Corey Feldman.

Feldman, 40, himself a survivor of childhood sexual abuse, unflinchingly warned of the world of pedophiles who are drawn to the entertainment industry last

August. "I can tell you that the No. 1 problem in Hollywood was and is and always will be pedophilia," Feldman told ABC's Nightline. "That's the biggest problem for children in this industry... It's the big secret."

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Another child star from an earlier era agrees that Hollywood has long had a problem with pedophilia. "When I watched that interview, a whole series of names and faces from my history went zooming through my head," Paul Peterson, 66, star of The Donna Reed Show, a sitcom popular in the 1950s and 60s, and president of A Minor Consideration, tells FOXNews.com. "Some of these people, who I know very well, are still in the game."

"This has been going on for a very long time," concurs former "Little House on the Prairie" star Alison Arnglim. "It was the gossip back in the '80s. People said, 'Oh yeah, the Coreys, everyone's had them.' People talked about it like it was not a big deal."

Arnglim, 49, was referring to Feldman and his co-star in "The Lost Boys," Corey Haim, who died in March 2010 after years of drug abuse.

"I literally heard that they were 'passed around,'" Arnglim said. "The word was that they were given drugs and being used for sex. It was awful – these were kids, they weren't 18 yet. There were all sorts of stories about everyone from their, quote, 'set guardians' on down that these two had been sexually abused and were totally being corrupted in every possible way."

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In fact it is the very nature of a TV or movie set that invites predators, experts tell Fox News.

"A set in Hollywood with children can become a place that attracts pedophiles because the children there may be vulnerable and less tended to," explains Beverly Hills-based psychotherapist Dr. Jenn Berman. "One thing we know about actors, psychologically speaking, is that they're people who like a lot of attention. Kids naturally like a lot of attention, and when you put a kid on a set who is unsupervised and getting attention from someone who is powerful, it creates a vulnerability for a very dangerous situation."

Feldman, who claims he was "surrounded" by pedophiles when he was 14, says the sexual abuse by an unnamed "Hollywood mogul" led to the death of his friend Haim at the age of 38. "That person needs to be

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exposed, but, unfortunately, I can't be the one to do it," Feldman told Nightline.

"There's more than one person to blame," says Arngirim. "I'm sure that it was not just one person who sexually abused Corey Haim, and I'm sure it wasn't only him and Corey Feldman that knew about it. I'm sure that dozens of people were aware of the situation and chose to not report it."

Arngirim, a board member and the national spokeswoman for protect.org, an organization that works to protect children from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, says greed in Hollywood allows sexual predators to flourish. "Nobody wants to stop the gravy train," says Arngirim. "If a child actor is being sexually abused by someone on the show, is the family, agents or managers – the people who are getting money out of this – going to say, 'OK, let's press charges'? No, because it's going to bring the whole show to a grinding halt, and stop all the checks. So, the pressure is there is not to say anything."

"It's almost a willing sacrifice that many parents are oblivious to – what kind of environment do they think that they're pushing their kid into?" said Peterson. "The casting couch is a real thing, and sometimes just getting an appointment makes people do desperate things."

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Arngirim, who revealed her own sexual abuse in her 2010 autobiography, "Confessions of a Prairie Bitch," explains: "I've heard from victims from all over the country. Everyone tells the same kind of story, everyone is told to keep it secret, everyone is threatened with something. Corey Feldman may have opened a can of worms by speaking out, but yes, this does go on."

Even though Feldman spoke candidly about the abuse, he hasn't named the predator. "People don't want to talk about this because they're afraid for their careers," says Peterson. "From my perspective, what Corey did was pretty brave. It would be really wonderful if his allegations reached through all of the protective layers and identified the real people who are a part of a worldwide child pornography ring, because it's huge and it respects no borders, just as it does not respect the age of the children involved."

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