

DEFEND LIFE

Promoting the Culture of Life and Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987

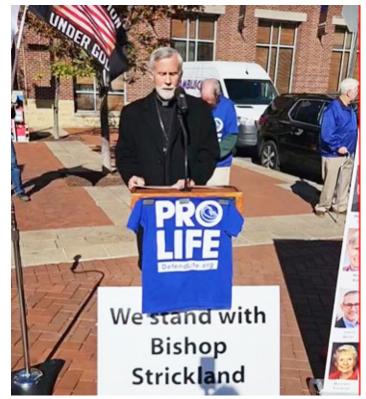
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Bishop Joseph Strickland Challenges His Brother Bishops to Address the Pope's Malfeasances

One would have to have been hibernating under a rock to be unaware of the letter to the bishops that Bishop Joseph Strickland read on the afternoon of Wednesday November This letter has garnered nationwide and even worldwide attention. His Excellency read his letter outside the USCCB downtown meeting in Baltimore. While on the surface the matters that he broached in his letter may seem to be somewhat irrelevant to the saving of unborn children, we need to realize that abortion itself is symptomatic of deeper spiritual malaise inside the Church, spiritual sickness that made itself known af-



Bishop Strickland reads the letter.

ter the wake of Vatican II and the 1960s in general. Unless each and every one of us grasps these issues and deals with them, abortion and other blights will remain with us. Remember the maxim – lex orandi, lex credenda, lex vivandi. Translated, that means how we pray governs how we believe, and that in turn governs how we'll live.

First. let's review Bishop Strickland's recent history. Recall that His Excellency was ousted from his diocese by Pope Francis for daring to challenge the bilge that spews forth from the Vatican on a regular basis. That happened almost exactly one year ago. That was an insult to not only His Excellency but to all faithful Catholics. A few days ago, we received word that the Traditional Latin Mass was banned from Bishop Strickland's former cathedral in Tyler. The Latin Mass was also banned in four other parishes in the diocese. This move happened exactly one year after Strickland's ouster.

Now, only St. Joseph the Worker parish, entrusted to the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, is permitted to celebrate that Mass. I've no doubt this is a direct slap in the face to Bishop Strickland and the Catholics who have appreciated him. The timing of this move is too coincidental.

Getting back to Wednesday's event, Bishop Strickland led the gathering in the recitation of the Angeles,

and then the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, as he had done in previous years.

After the Rosary concluded, Bishop Strickland read an open letter to the bishops. The text appears below, and a video recording of his verbal delivery is found on DEFEND LIFE's facebook page at facebook. com/wedefendlife, the November 15th post. As you will read below, Bishop Strickland rebukes the great majority of his brother bishops, not only of the US, but from other countries. In particular, he excoriates them for their silence regarding the synod that just recently ended. The pope's document on the synod is found at https://www.synod.va/ en/news/final-document-of-the-xviassembly.html. Click on the document at right. In his letter, Strickland points out the all-too-obvious truth that the pope has abdicated his responsibility to guard the Deposit of Faith, and is endeavoring to deform it into a monstrous mockery of the same. Through this synod, Francis has attempted to shatter the structure of the Church into a disparate conglomeration of local "synods", facilitating Francis' abdication of his God-given responsibility as Guardian of the Deposit of Faith. Indeed, we now see a so-called "Mayan rite" in Mexico, newly approved by the Vatican, replete with pagan rituals and trappings. We will be hearing of future similar episodes.

Strickland asked the bishops, "what will it take" for the them to act in accordance with their own Divinely-ordained mandates.

We laity are also likewise challenged to take our responsibilities. He asks "what will it take" for us to speak out if our shepherds won't. Let's face it, Marylanders! That is

our situation. Our shepherds aren't speaking out. In fact, they are openly contributing to the decay of the Church. For instance, recall how the Archdiocese of Baltimore, through its "Social Ministry Convocation", invited practicing gays to lecture Catholics about the acceptance of their perversions. This happened last spring and was covered in recent issues of the DEFEND LIFE newsletter. The latest just happened over this election cycle, with the Maryland bishops deliberately hobbling worthwhile efforts to stop the "reproductive freedom amendment",

We cannot go blithely along in our own parishes and pretend that this ever-worsening debacle won't impact our children and grandchildren.

that sadly became a part of our state constitution. They did so by banning the presence of the excellent resources of Health Not Harm from the churches.

Bishop Strickland is correct. No more do we dare, in the face of episcopal malfeasance, look the other way and pretend that we don't see it. We cannot go blithely along in our own parishes and pretend that this ever-worsening debacle won't impact our children and grandchildren. We must learn our faith ourselves and teach it to one another ourselves, so that when it is preached from the pulpit that same-sex marriage is just an alternative lifestyle or that hell is

not a reality or that the Sacraments are optional and so forth, that our loved ones can discern the error and not be afraid to rebuke the one spreading that spiritual poison.

My lay friends, it will cost us. It may cost us friends in our parish. We may find ourselves kicked off the parish council, the choir, religious education, Knights of Columbus councils, etc. I believe that is what is known as "white martyrdom". We cannot fear it, for we cannot deny the truth nor Our Lord. If we don't embrace that martyrdom, abortion and other attacks on life will remain with us.

What will it take? And now, Bishop Strickland's letter.

Dear Bishops,

You gather here today, presentday apostles, as the Church and, therefore, the world stand perched on the edge of a cliff. And yet you who are entrusted with the keeping of souls choose to speak not a word of the spiritual danger which abounds. Today we stand on the cusp of all that has been prophesied about the Church and the abominations which would come forth in these times, a time when all of hell attacks the Church of Jesus Christ, and a time when the fallen angels of hell no longer seek entry into her sacred halls but instead stand inside, peeking out of her windows and unlocking doors to welcome in more diabolical destruction.

I think that St. Jude had men such as many of you in mind when he described men who feast "together without fear, feeding themselves, clouds without water, which are carried about by winds, trees of the autumn, unfruitful, twice dead, plucked up by the roots, raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own confusion; wandering stars..." (Jude 1:12-13).

Many people have asked what it will take for more than a few bishops to finally speak up against the false messages constantly flowing from the Vatican under the leadership of Pope Francis, and I ask myself the same question over and over:

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

Do you not know that Our Lord will send forth His avenging angels to heap coals of fire upon the heads of those who were called to be His apostles and who have not guarded what He has given unto them?

And yet almost all of you, my brothers, stood by silently watching as the Synod on Synodality took

New structure of "synodality" which in actuality is a new church that is in no way Catholic

place, an abomination constructed not to guard the Deposit of Faith but to dismantle it, and yet few were the cries heard from you – men who should be willing to die for Christ and His Church.

The Synod's final document has been released, yet with the sleight of hand which is so characteristic of the Francis-controlled Vatican. By drawing attention to the issues which worried many, they have slipped in what was always their real goal without anyone even noticing. What they were after in the first place was the dismantling of Christ's Church by replacing the structure of the Church as Our Lord instituted it with a diabolically-inspired new structure of "synodality" which in actuality is a new church that

is in no way Catholic.

We now see the prophetic words of Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen unfolding before our eyes: "Because his religion will be brotherhood of Man without the fatherhood of God, he will set up a counter church which will be the ape of the Church, because he, the Devil, is the ape of God. It will have all the notes and characteristics of the Church, but in reverse and emptied of its divine content, it will be a mystical body of the Antichrist that will in all externals resemble the mystical body of Christ ..." (Radio Broadcast; January 26, 1947).

With the push for "synodality," we see that the enemies of Christ are putting before us, as Archbishop Sheen says: "a new religion without a Cross, a liturgy without a world to come, a religion to destroy a religion, or a politics which is a religion – one that renders unto Caesar even the things that are God's."

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

A rudimentary understanding of the papacy leaves us with the reality that Pope Francis has abdicated his responsibility to serve as the primary guardian of the Deposit of Faith. Every bishop makes this solemn promise to guard the Deposit of Faith, but the Petrine office exists primarily to be the guardian of the guardians and the servant of the servants. St. Peter received the office which bears his name when, after the Resurrection, Christ asked him three times, "Do you love me?" and St. Peter responded, "You know that I love you," thus healing his betraval as Christ endured His Passion. And Who is this Jesus Who Peter professes to love? He is of course Truth Incarnate; thus St. Peter is stating that he loves Truth. This leaves us with this question, "Does Pope Francis love the Truth

that Jesus Christ incarnates?" Sadly, his actions and his policies which promote a relativized version of truth that is not truth at all propel us to a devastating conclusion: the man who occupies the Chair of St. Peter does not love the truth and seeks to reshape it in the image of man.

There can be no bishop who is unaware of statements that Pope Francis has made that are unambiguous denials of the Catholic faith. For example, Francis has stated publicly that God wills the existence of all religions and that all religions are a path to God. In this statement, Pope Francis has denied an integral part of the Catholic faith. How many souls

How many souls will be lost who will accept his erroneous statement that all religions will lead to salvation?

will be lost who will accept his erroneous statement that all religions will lead to salvation? What I find so difficult to understand is that modernday apostles, men who are ordained to be guardians of the faith, refuse to acknowledge this and instead ignore or even promote this deadly falsehood. Every bishop and cardinal should publicly and unequivocally state that Francis no longer teaches the Catholic faith. Souls are at stake!

Therefore, I ask again:

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

As successors of the Apostles, this situation must force the bishops of Christ's Church to answer the pivotal question ourselves: "Do we truly love Jesus Christ, Truth Incarnate?"

With a Pope who is actively opposing the divine truths of our Catholic faith, the responsibility falls to the bishops of the world to profess their own love of Our Lord, to guard the Sacred Deposit of Faith, and to oppose any attempt to dismantle the Truth.

Let us return to the fateful conversation between our risen Lord and St. Peter. When Peter responds, "Lord, you know I love you," Jesus responds: "Feed my lambs" and again "Feed my sheep." How is Peter to feed Christ's lambs? With the Truth of course – with Jesus Christ Himself who IS Truth.

And yet, where are those men whom the Lord has called to feed His sheep? Where are the successors of the Apostles who have promised to defend the sheep with their lives? They sit a few feet away, patting one another on the back, listening to words that they know beyond a doubt are not the Truth, frolicking with the darkness, and blaspheming the very Truth that the original Apostles died to preserve.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

You have words from those who spoke in Sacred Scripture, wisdom from the Sacred Tradition of the Church, and guidance from former Popes and a great multitude of saints that false teachers would come and that the holy faith would be attacked, and yet most of you have gone out into the battle wearing no armor, and have then reacted as one bewildered that his skin has been pierced by poison arrows. You have been given all that was needed to ensure that your heads were not turned by the lies of Satan. Why then have you gone out without the armor of God? It is YOUR responsibility, when you see poison arrows of falsehood falling upon men, to call out to them and

say, "Put on the armor of Our Lord which is Truth, and you shall not be wounded."

And to the faithful, I put forth the same question –

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

What if your shepherds do not rally? What if they have all accepted thirty pieces of silver, and they remain silent in the face of falsehood which further pieces the hands and feet of Our Lord? Then what will it take for you to speak up?

Many might say that it is not your responsibility; you can live Truth quietly in your heart. However, to speak Truth can never simply be the responsibility of someone else, because God has etched Truth onto the heart of every person. Therefore, Truth is each man's property as a sacred gift from God. And never can anyone say that they had no Truth in them - and never can a man claim rightly that to find Truth he had to gather it from the wind, or he could only gather it from the words of another. The soul recognizes Truth and is nourished by it, and those who wither away from lack of Truth do not wither because they were given no portion of Truth in their own soul.

Indeed, Truth has instead been so suppressed again and again by such a person – and has been told so often to "stand down" – until it dares not raise its head. And this is why a man finds himself in such a sad state and why when he cries out, "It is not the fault of my own that I had no Truth or that I knew it not when I encountered it," he speaks in error.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, granting free will to those He loves, which is each and every person without exception, has given the gift of Truth to each and every one of us, so that if there is any predisposition in a man's heart, then it is the propensity of the soul to vibrate to His Truth. Therefore, the soul when deprived of Truth lies dormant until it withers into something cold and hard. Have you not seen how even the angels of darkness recognize Truth and cannot do other than what Our Lord commands them — and yet they strive to hide Truth from every man unto each man's eternal damnation?

So I ask again – WHAT WILL IT TAKE? WILL YOU DIE FOR HIM?

Bishop Joseph E. Strickland Bishop Emeritus

As I bring to a close this letter that asks the question, "What will it take?" I would like to thank my collaborators, the Apostles and Evangelists, especially Saints Nathaniel and Jude. Why these two? Because they are not the most well-known or often cited of the Apostles and, therefore, I feel a kinship with them because I was an obscure bishop who should have remained obscure.

In the ballroom a few feet from here, men are meeting who could be described as a Catholic brain-trust. Many of them are brilliant, talented men who could have been at the top of any profession they chose, but they are bishops, successors of the Apostles.

Sadly, they are for the most part silent shepherds, unwilling to risk speaking up in the face of evil and destructive forces that threaten the Church. These forces have attempted to silence me, but there was no need to silence these men – they never made a sound.

I ask the faithful to pray fervently that all shepherds find their voices and say with me, "Que viva Cristo Rey — long live Christ the King, Truth Incarnate!"

Fighting the Reproductive Freedom Amendment – MCC Not Helpful

The November elections have come and gone. DEFEND LIFE, being a 501c3 charitable organization, is not permitted to comment on partisan contests. We can comment on other election matters, though, especially as they pertain directly to faith and/or morals.

Question 1 on the statewide ballot was must certainly about morals, and just plain old common sense. Sadly, it was passed. Now our minor children have the state's permission to slaughter their own tiny children, without so much as advising their parents of their intent, let alone obtaining their consent. The same lack of parental involvement also pertained to the amendment's other heinous aspect, that of minors seeking surgery and/ or drugs to change their gender appearance. Consider that youngsters cannot get an aspirin for a headache without parental permission. So by what logic should parents be bypassed when it comes to life-damaging procedures that would most likely sterilize them?

The fight to prevent this tragic occurrence was spearheaded by Health Not Harm. Deborah Brocato is its director. This organization, and Ms. Brocato in particular, did yeoman's work to combat this. Not only did they educate its listeners regarding all that SB 798 entailed, but they provided training so that ordinary citizens could become activists in the combatting of this measure. The activists were taught and encouraged to hand out flyers at public transportation stops, primary and general voting places, public parades and other civic events. We were encouraged to distribute door hangers in our neighborhoods and to bring this amendment up for discussion during our conversations. We were taught how to engage in telephone canvassing of voters. We were given yard signs to post. In short, we weren't merely instructed to vote no on question 1 ourselves, but we were also shown how to educate others about From: Jenny Kraska <<u>communications@mdcatholic.org</u>> Date: Fri, Sep 6, 2024 at 9:00 AM Subject: Clergy/principal alert re MD elections To: REDACTED



Sept. 6, 2024

Dear REDACTED.

I hope this message finds you well. As we approach the upcoming election, you may have groups or individuals asking for opportunities to speak or give out materials.

Please know that the Maryland (arch)dioceses work together on election issues. I wanted to offer some guidance regarding requests that you may receive from your families or from different organizations.

- Question 1, on the Maryland ballot this fall, will seek to enshrine abortion in the Maryland State constitution. As we have mentioned in past communications, please ensure that you are distributing only material that has been approved by the MCC.
- Please do not use any material, including yard signs, from the group Health Not Harm.
- The MCC website offers a great deal of resources for use by parishes and schools regarding Question 1 and elections in general.

Resources:

- Election Resources (mdcatholic.org/elections)
- Reproductive Freedom Amendment (mdcatholic.org/voteno)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me. Thank you for your ongoing leadership during this election season.

Jenny Kraska Executive Director

Maryland Catholic Conference + 10 Francis St., Annapolis, MD 21401



DEFEND LIFE

Proclaiming the Culture of Life and Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987

P.O. Box 5427 Baltimore, Maryland 21285 www.DefendLife.Org Jack Ames, Director 410-961-2008 Jack@DefendLife.Org



December 8, 2024 Anno Domíní Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Dear Friend of **DEFEND LIFE**,

Here we are again closing in on Christmas 2024. With the overwhelming election of **Donald** Trump including the control of both the House and Senate, we have so much for which to be thankful. Not to mention the record-breaking way Trump has already named key Cabinet members. But let us not be overly exuberant. As one new friend eloquently reminded me, to make America Great Again, we must first make our beloved America Good Again!

Again this year, we have been blessed by several anonymous donors who have promised to match up to \$15,000 if we can raise that amount on our own. What that means in simple terms, is that your donation of \$100 becomes **\$200**, your \$200 becomes **\$400**, your \$500 becomes \$1,000 and so on. Please give generously to **DEFEND LIFE**, now in its **37th** year can continue its life-saving/culture changing work in 2025.

Here are just some of what we did with your generous support in **2024**:

• Sponsored 2 different talks in January by Professor Janet Smith whose famous talk **Contraception Why Not** has received millions of views. One of those 2 talks at St. Raymond Peñafort Catholic Church in Springfield, Virginia drew a crowd of almost 200 people.

• Sponsored 2 different showings of *Cabrini*, one of the most **inspirational** movies of my lifetime. Mother Cabrini when she first came to America in 1889 did not speak a siingle word of English and was even rebuffed by then Archbishop Michael Corrigan of New York. He told her to **get back on the boat and return to Italy with her 6 nuns**. But this tiny 5 feet tall nun would not be deterred by this crusty Bishop. She insisted on an assignment, was given it, and succeeded against great odds. This future Saint founded a total of **67 schools**, **hospitals** and orphanages on 4 different continents. What a fearless example for those of us who evangelize abortion-minded women outside the death camps of America.

• Sponsored our best ever **24th Annual Maryland Face the Truth Tour.** It featured nearly college or college age students. **Natalie Sharpe**, a student at Regis University did a marvelous job of recruiting and organizing the Tour. We had 15 STOPS, Mass each day, and 5 wonderful luncheon speakers. Please mark your calendar for our 25th Annual Maryland Face the Truth Tour. For now, contact **410-961-2008** if you want us to hold a spot for yourself on our

25-member Core Team.

• Sponsored a **4-STOP** October Lecture Tour on the importance of the Fatima Message featuring talks by Fr. Thomas Morrow, STD, who has written 7 books.

• Sponsored 2 public Rosaries outside the hotel where **260 of our U.S. Bishops** were having sumptuous lunches. **Bishop Joe Coffey** and **Fr. Chuck Canterna** led the Rosary on Tuesday and Wednesday. Strickland read an historic letter directed to his fellow Bishops who were meeting inside Baltimore's 5-star Marriott Waterfront Hotel. Much of this issue contains the historic challenge he made to them.



Prof. Janet Smith Laura Gies



Olga Fairfax









Sen. Patricia Rucker Fr. Thomas Morrow Fr. Chuck Canterna Bishop Joseph Coffey

How I First Met Bishop Strickland — Some Background

Way back in the early 2000's, Mary Ann Kreitzer, of Catholic Media Coalition, and **DEFEND LIFE** decided to have a hospitality suite during the annual Bishops meeting at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel. We were tryig to promote devotion to Our Lady of America as well as *Ex Corde Eclesia* that required professors in Catholic Universities *to be committed to teaching Catholic Doctrine*.

It went very well. About **13** friendly Bishops actually visited our suite. Bill Emory a local stock broker served as our bartender. The late **Bishop Victor Galeone** of Saint Augustine, Florida, one of the *great priests of my life*, was one of our guests. We were even allowed to bring our own adult beverages for Bill to serve.

The following year we tried to replicate the event only to find out there were **no suites available** for some reason.

Fast forward to 2018, we decided to take another approach. We rented a conference room a block from the Marriott. We planned to have networking meetings for Catholic activists such as ourselves on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. On Tuesday, Mary Ann Kreitzer and myself were standing outside the concert tent located a short fly ball from the Marriott, where **Church Militant** had just completed its morning session. Out walked a Bishop who was easily recognizable as a Bishop because he was wearing a Pectoral Cross. It was Bishop Strickland. He could not have been more friendly. He said some of his parishioners back in Tyler, Texas suggested he might want to check out this event during his lunch break. We invited him to join our networking event that evening never dreaming he would. About 8PM in strode Bishop Strickland. We turned everything over to him and he spoke eloquently from his heart for at least **30** minutes about the serious issues facing the Church which were not being addressed by his fellow Bishops. The following night he showed up again and were once again capivated by his **tell it like it is** message.

In 2019, he started leading us in **The Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary** on Wednesdays of the Bishops' Meeting and has been doing that ever since.

In 2023, we hosted about 30 persons for dinner on Tuesday night. Some of the luminaries present included John-Henry Westen of Life Site News, Michael Hichborn of Lepanto Institute, and Bishop Strickland himself who spoke eloquently as usual.

His mother Monica, a devout Catholic, was Irish and moved from Australia to Texas and married his father who was a convert. He mentioned how his grandmother was born on a ship traveling from Ireland to Australia.

He was the **6th of 7** children. When his family moved from Texarkana to small Atlanta, Texas, Strickland joked the *Catholic population suddenly doubled*.

He attended public schools in Atlanta. During the summers he would often hitch a ride from the family farm to downtown 5 miles away. While there, he would make frequent visits to St. Catherine of Sienna Church which his family helped found. That is where he was an Altar Boy and developed his love for the **Eucharist** and the **Blessed Mother** which has sustained his priesthood.

Please pray for this heroic modern-day prophet.

Long Live Christ Our King!

Jack Omes

Jack Ames, P.E., Director

Enclosure

Listen to Our Lady of Fatima

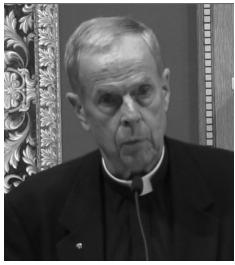
As mentioned in another article, the November 2024 elections were not so much of a victory; they were a reprieve. The evils of the Democratic platform were held at bay for a few years. The Lord Jesus Christ, in a word, has given us some breathing room so that we can redouble our efforts to instill a Catholic culture of life, not only in the United States but in the world. Rather that rest on some laurels, we need to take advantage of this window of opportunity.

We can start by redoubling efforts to fulfil the task left by Our Lady of Fatima herself.

Pray the Rosary daily and wear the Brown Scapular of Mount Carmel

During the week of October 14 -18, Father Thomas Morrow was the speaker in that week's **DEFEND** LIFE lecture tour. Father is a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, currently in residence at St. Raphael' parish in Rockville MD. Over the course of his priesthood, he could be found praying the Rosary in front of abortion mills in the area. He has written prolifically, and his writings can be found on the website of Catholic Faith Alive at cfalive.com. He also has contributed article to Homiletic and Pastoral Review at hprweb.com.

The topic of Father Morrow's talks during October was Our Lady of Fatima's message. Recall that



Father Thomas Morrow

she appeared to three children in Portugal in 1917, just before the end of World War I. The children were Jacinto and Francisco Sarto, two siblings, and their cousin, Lucia Dos Santos. She warned the children that Our Lord was very offended and that He would soon punish the world. She passed on three requests to the children:

- 1. That all would pray the Rosary daily and wear the Brown Scapular of Mount Carmel
- 2. That acts of reparation would be made for sins and outrages against the Hearts of Jesus and Mary
- 3. That the pope, in union with the bishops, would consecrate Russia to her Immaculate Heart

During her final apparition to the children on October 13, 1917, with hundreds in attendance, Our Lord performed the miracle of the sun, confirming the veracity of the children's account in the eyes of all in attendance. Indeed, the miracle was seen by people many miles away from that site.

Within the next few years, both Francisco and Jacinta died of the Spanish influenza plague while Lucia went into a convent. Francisco and Jacinta have since been canonized. In 1925, Our Lady again appeared to Lucia and gave new direction to the devotions for which she asked. She asked that on First Saturdays, that all receive the Sacrament of Confession, receive Holy Communion and recite five decades of the Rosary while meditating on the Mysteries. She promised that those who did so for five consecutive First Saturdays would receive

The Catholic world has dragged its feet in obeying the simple requests of Our Lady of Fatima

her assistance at their hour of death.

It should be pointed out that when Our Lady made her request regarding Russia, the Bolshevik revolution had not yet occurred. Russia, decimated by the war and torn with internal strife, hardly seemed to be a threat to the world. That picture soon changed and the new Soviet Union began promulgating atheistic communism throughout the world.

In many respects, the Catholic world has dragged its feet in obeying the simple requests of Our Lady of Fatima. I hardly hear of it in Churches. When I attend Mass on the first Saturdays, there is not

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Book Review

The Devil and Communist China: From Mao Down to Xi

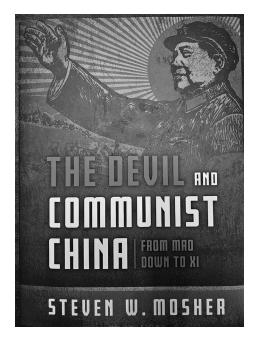
Author: Steven W. Mosher Published by TAN Books in 2024

A few introductory remarks about Steven Mosher are in order. He was born in 1948 in California. After a career in the Navy and studies in anthropology and Chinese language, he was admitted to the doctoral program at Stanford University. In 1979 he was the first American social scientist to visit mainland China. He was granted access to government documents and witnessed forced abortions. At the time he was a pro-abortion atheist, so the Communist authorities probably perceived him as no threat.

Mosher takes a deep look at the character (or lack thereof) of Mao Zhedong

He was impacted by the trauma that those women underwent, causing him to question his own proabortion stance. Such questions led him to become a Roman Catholic pro-life activist. He joined the Population Research Institute that was founded by Father Paul Marx (who also founded Human Life International) and eventually became President of PRI. He has written other books dealing with these general topics.

In the Devil and Communist China, Mosher takes a deep look at the character (or lack thereof) of Mao Zhedong and how that shaped



him into the tyrant that ruled China with an iron fist for so many decades. Mosher examined his child-hood, particularly his rebellion and disobedience towards his parents. Mao then rose through the ranks of commanding a small band of peasant soldiers to greater heights. He mainly accomplished that by betrayals, deceits and violent murders of all who stood in his way.

Mao became a master of playing his enemies, one against another. One of the ways in which he utilized this strategy was when he let the forces led by Chang Kai-Shek do the lion's work of repelling Japanese invaders during World War II, thus weakening him. Mao exploited the historical tendency of the Chinese people to accept the domineering role that the state played. China had never been Christianized, so the people were unfamiliar with the concept of man's individual dignity as one made in God's image.

Throughout his life, Mao was the consummate megalomaniac. Add to that his hedonistic and vengeful proclivities and we can see how Mosher likens Mao to the devil. In his ascent to power and his drive to inflict his version of communism on the people, he had no qualms whatsoever about deliberating the murders of millions of the Chinese people by forced starvation, brutal slavery regimens and yes, the untold murders of millions of babies via forced abortions.

He always portrayed himself as living among the people, living their lifestyle. In reality, opulence and hedonism was his lifestyle. He

In reality, opulence and hedonism was his lifestyle

had many private homes throughout China to accommodate his travels. He and his closest associates always dined on the best while the bulk of the people literally starved to death. His appetites, both culinary and sexual, were voracious. Regarding the latter, he had staff dedicated to ensuring that hapless young women were always at his disposal, no matter where he ventured. If any of these dared to refuse him, they were met with grisly fates. Such has been the way of tyrants throughout history, although none have been more responsible for the death and misery of millions as has been Mao Zedong.

Mosher goes into detail about the fate of Chinese Catholics under Mao and his successors. The dictators set up a sham of the Church called a "patriotic" church and attempted to propose "bishops" to be ordained. Hitherto, the popes have refused to do so. Bishops loyal to Rome have suffered imprisonment.

He then talks of the wretched deal that now-disgraced Theodore McCarrick drew up with Chinese lawyers with Pope Francis' blessings. In a nutshell, the churches would be preserved, provided that the Chinese leaders could name their own bishops. The Vatican granted that concession, but the wrecking of Churches was only accelerated and true Catholics terrorized. The Vatican raised no voice of protest.

These few paragraphs don't do justice to the contents of this book. We suggest that you obtain your own copies. More importantly, we suggest that all heed and obey the words of Our Lady of Fatima so that this Communist scourge, both Chinese and otherwise, can be slowed and halted.

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much increase in the number of people in attendance (although it's slowly picking up). More importantly, there has been reluctance to consecrate Russia in the precise manner as Our Lady requested. Pope St John Paul II consecrated the world to Our Lady. Allegedly Lucia said our Lady accepted that. I differ from Father in that I don't believe that. We are only hearing this alleged approval second-hand. Moreover, we'd have to believe that Our Lady somehow changed course on the consecration? I find that difficult to believe.

Pope Francis did consecrate Russia, by name, to her Immaculate Heart. However, he did not direct the bishops to join him in that. Quite a few bishops did join him, but not all by a long stretch.

Father Morrow urged all in attendance that if they weren't already doing so, to start obeying the requests of Our Lady. Namely, that means praying the Rosary daily and wearing her Brown Scapular and keeping the First Saturday devotions. Father urged daily Mass. He also stated that we should be spreading the word about Fatima and urging our fellow Catholics to take up the message of Fatima.

If we needed a starting point for post-election efforts to bring about change in American society, the Fatima devotion would be an excellent place to start.



Please feel free to send accounts of your pro-life activism to the Editor of Defend Life newsletter for possible inclusion in future editions of the newsletter. Email delivery is preferred. Either send your accounts in the body of the email or attach a Word document to the email JanetBaker01@comcast.net.

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FIGHTING, from page 5

the measure so that they too would vote for its defeat.

The literature that Health Not Harm produced was top-notch. Most of the pieces bore a verbatim copy of SB 798 (that became the constitutional amendment), with line-by-line descriptions of the legal ramifications of the same. Most of it was available in both Spanish and English.

It took the Maryland Catholic Conference a while to jump into the fray, and their approach was, quite frankly, somewhat tepid. This measure was not front and center on their website for a good while; it was buried under one or two sub-pages; only within the two months prior to the election was direct reference to the amendment found on their main page. Moreover, their focus was solely on the abortion aspect of the amendment. I did not detect any mention of the transgender-enabling aspects of it in any of the MCC material. I was also disappointed by lack of any encouragement of Catholics to engage the community at large about the matter.

All that being said, I was pleased that they were at least engaging in this fray to some extent. My belief is, in regards to people and/or organizations that share our opposition to inherently dangerous and sinful conditions, the more the merrier. We welcome our allies in these endeavors.

Sadly, though, that didn't seem to be the attitude of the Maryland Catholic Conference towards Health Not Harm. I came into possession of a copy of a memo that went out from the MCC to all the Maryland pastors, instructing them to not allow HNH materials into the Catholic churches. It is pictured in this article. I added

the yellow highlight to make plain the MCC's attitude towards HNH.

This explains some of the strange behaviors that I encountered in priests and other parish personnel when I've asked to put HNH materials in the literature rack, or to allow HNH personnel to address the parish. They refused me, but also refused to articulate reasons why. Some alluded to "inaccuracies" in the HNH literature, but refused to elaborate. They simply wanted me gone.

This is not the first time that the Maryland bishops have stymied efforts to defeat evil legislation. When we were trying to petition the gay marriage bill to the ballot, Catholic

A memo that went out from the MCC to all the Maryland pastors, instructing them to not allow HNH materials into the Catholic churches

churches did not allow us to collect signatures after Masses. They claimed that they were not given permission to do so. I think they were being truthful. When that permission was finally granted, it was very late in the campaign to collect enough signatures to put the measure on the ballot. That was particularly heartbreaking, for at the end of the campaign, we were short by only a few thousand. Had the Catholic churches allowed us into their lobbies sooner, we probably would have succeeded in putting gay marriage to a popular vote.

Both of these situations illustrate a "too little too late" habit on the part of the Maryland bishops when it comes to legislation that facilitated the gay agenda. When I take these matters into consideration, and other matters that I will detail below, I cannot eliminate the possibility that the "too little too late" pattern was a deliberate ploy to thwart those of us who were trying to uphold Christian morals in Maryland public life, while still pretending to care about them to save face.

I will now go into the "other matters" to which I alluded in the previous paragraph. This past August, Father James Martin conducted a "LGBT Outreach" on the campus of Georgetown University. A decent local prelate would have banned that gabfest from any Catholic property. Not so Cardinal Gregory! He actually offered a Mass for them as part of the event. He delivered a homily (?) in which he praised the attendees for seeking "dialog and unity". It is published in the Catholic Standard – the August 3rd issue.

Earlier in April, the Archdiocese of Baltimore had its "Social Ministry Convocation". In that gabfest, the attendees were treated to the ungodly spectacle of practicing gays trying to foist upon us acceptance of their various perversions while pretending to uphold Catholic moral teaching. I was there and heard it first-hand.

Health Not Harm addressed the Reproductive Freedom amendment not only from its abortion-enabling aspect, but also its gay-agenda-promoting aspect. Was Health Not Harm shunned by the Maryland hierarchy because of the second aspect? That would make sense if the chanceries are under the sway of those promoting sexual perversions of all sorts.

When we plan any future efforts, we simply will have to count on NOT having the participation of the hierarchy to assist us.

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