

THE SERAPH

January 2026

Vol. XLVI No. 5



The Seraph

Vol. XLVI No. 5
JANUARY 2026

PUBLISHED WITH EPISCOPAL AUTHORIZATION

Contents

Freemasonry	1
Against Indifferentism	9
The Sunday Sermon: The Epiphany of Our Lord	14
I am a Roman Catholic: Part Five	17
Just Stories: Grandfather's Warning	21
Pro Parentibus	23
The Catholic Mother to Her Children	27
Franciscan Saints	30

EDITOR

Bishop Giles Butler, OFM

PRODUCTION

Bishop Giles Butler, OFM

Mr. Francis Y. No

Sister Catherine, TOR

CONTRIBUTORS

Fr. Joseph Noonan, OFM

Fr. Anthony Lentz, OFM

CIRCULATION

Bishop Giles Butler, OFM

The **SERAPH** is published monthly, except in July and August, by the Franciscans in Rochester, NY.

The **SERAPH** defends the authentic doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church and the moral values upon which Godly nations were founded.

The **SERAPH** stands opposed to any and all heterodoxy, particularly as manifested in today's heresy of Modernism. It holds to the principle that good will without truth is a sham and that truth without good will is a shame.

The **SERAPH** seeks to serve and unite in spirit all Roman Catholics, faithful to tradition, and all men of good will, for the betterment of society according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of Saint Francis of Assisi.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

USA: Free upon request.

Suggested donation - \$20.00.

FOREIGN: Air Mail - \$40.00 per year.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE SENT TO :

The SERAPH

3376 MOUNT READ BLVD.

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14616

TELEPHONE: (585) 621-1122

EMAIL: father@friarsminor.org

WEBSITES: friarsminor.org &

franciscanfathers.com

www.catholichour.org

EDITORIAL POLICY

Articles dealing with Roman Catholic doctrine, morals, history and spirituality are welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit and/or use articles submitted. Manuscripts returned with SAE. Opinions expressed in The SERAPH are not necessarily those of the publishers.

© 2026 All rights reserved. No part may be reproduced without written permission of the publishers.

Publishers:

Order of St. Francis of Assisi, Inc.

Rochester, New York 14616 USA

*In essentia - Unitas. In dubio - Libertas.
In omnibus - Caritas.*

THE SERAPH

FREEMASONRY

Bishop Giles Butler, OFM DD

It seems imperative that we remind ourselves of the evil in our days because what we habitually see in our day-to-day lives soon begins to feel normal or proper. The evils of “Naturalism,” “Modernism,” and “Materialism” are ubiquitous in our society. These are not good but are rather demonic. At the heart of all evils is the demonic; however, the demons make use of human instruments, and perhaps the most useful to the diabolical plan is found in Freemasonry. Recognizing these dangers should fill us with concern for our souls and a sense of urgency to protect The Faith.

The following are a few extracts from The 1910 Catholic Encyclopedia, Volume IX, on “Masonry.” It is a rather lengthy article, hence we provide the reader with these select quotes:

The Catholic Encyclopedia 1910 Volume IX “Masonry” (pg. 777) “In Duncan, ‘American Ritual’ (229), the Royal Arch-Mason even swears: ‘I will assist a companion Royal Arch Mason, when I see him engaged in any

difficulty and will espouse his cause so as to extricate him from the same whether he be right or wrong.’”

(pg782) “In truth, all the ‘anti-clerical’ Masonic reforms carried out in France since 1877, such as the secularization of education, measures against private Christian schools and charitable establishments, the suppression of the religious orders and the spoliation of the Church, professedly culminate in an anti-Christian and irreligious reorganization of human society, not only in France but throughout the world. Thus, French Freemasonry, as the standard-bearer of all Freemasonry, pretends to inaugurate the golden era of the Masonic universal republic, comprising in Masonic brotherhood all men and all nations. ‘The triumph of the Galilean’, [Jesus Christ] said the president of the Grand Orient, Senator Delpech, on 20 September 1902, ‘has lasted twenty centuries. But now he dies in his turn. The mysterious voice, announcing (to Julian the Apostate) the death of Pan, to-day announces the death of the

impostor God who promised an era of justice and peace to those who believe in him. The illusion has lasted a long time. The mendacious God is now disappearing in his turn; he passes away to join in the dust of ages the other divinities of India, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, who saw so many deceived creatures prostrate before their altars. Bro. Masons, we rejoice to state that we are not without our share in this overthrow of the false prophets. The Romish Church, founded on the Galilean [Jesus Christ] myth, began to decay rapidly from the very day on which the Masonic Association was established' (Copteredu Grand Orient de France 1902, 381)."

"No doubt the claims of Freemasonry in France are highly exaggerated, and such success as they have had is due chiefly to the lowering of the moral tone in private and public life, facilitated by the disunion existing among Catholics and by the serious political blunders which they committed. Quite similar is the outer work of the Grand Orient of Italy which likewise pretends to be the standard-bearer of Freemasonry in the secular struggle of Masonic light and freedom against the powers of 'spiritual darkness and bondage', allud-

ing of course to the papacy and dreams of the establishment of a new and universal republican empire with a Masonic Rome, supplanting the papal and Caesarean as metropolis. The Grand Orient of Italy has often declared that it is enthusiastically followed in this struggle by the Freemasonry of the entire world and especially by the Masonic centres at Paris, Berlin, London, Madrid, Calcutta, Washington ... But though the aims of Italian Masons are perhaps more radical and their methods more cunning than those of the French, their political influence, owing to the difference of the surrounding social conditions, is less powerful."

(pg 783) "The following are deemed the principal means: (1) To destroy radically by open persecution of the Church or by a hypocritical fraudulent system of separation between State and Church, all social influence of the Church and of religion, insidiously called 'clericalism' and as far as possible, to destroy the Church and all true, i.e. superhuman religion, which is more than a vague cult of fatherland and of humanity; (2) To laicize, or secularize, by a likewise hypocritical fraudulent system of 'unsectarianism', all public

and private life and, above all, popular instruction and education. 'Unsectarianism' as understood by the Grand Orient party is anti-Catholic and even anti-Christian, atheistic, positivistic, or agnostic sectarianism in the garb of unsectarianism. Freedom of thought and conscience of the children has to be developed systematically in the child at school and protected, as far as possible, against all disturbing influences, not only of the Church and priests, but also of the children's own parents, if necessary, by means of moral and physical compulsion. The Grand Orient party considers it indispensable and an infallibly sure way to the final establishment of the universal social republic and of the pretended world peace, as they fancy them, and of the glorious era of human solidarity and of unsurpassable human happiness in the reign of liberty and justice..."

(pg 783) "A. Pike, as the Grand Commander of the Mother Supreme Council of the World (Charleston, South Carolina), lost no opportunity in his letters to excite the anti-clerical spirit of his colleagues. In a long letter of 28 December 1886, for instance, he conjures the Italian Grand Commander, Timoteo Riboli,

33. The intimate friend of Garibaldi, to do all in his power, in order to unite Italian Masonry against the Vatican. He writes: 'The Papacy ... has been for a thousand years the torturer and curse of Humanity, the most shameless imposture, in its pretense to spiritual power of all ages. With its robes wet and reeking with the blood of half a million of human beings, with the grateful odour of roasted human flesh always in its nostrils, it is exulting over the prospect of renewed dominion. It has sent all over the world its anathemas against Constitutional government and the right of men to freedom of thought and conscience'. Again, 'In presence of this spiritual "Cobra di Capello", this deadly, treacherous, murderous enemy, the most formidable power in the world, the unity of Italian Masonry is of absolute and supreme necessity; and to this paramount and omnipotent necessity all minor considerations ought to yield; dissensions and disunion, in presence of this enemy of the human race are criminal.' 'There must be no unyielding, uncompromising insistence upon particular opinions, theories, prejudices, professions: but, on the contrary, mutual concessions and harmonious co-operation.' 'The Freemasonry

of the world will rejoice to see accomplished and consummated the Unity of the Italian Freemasonry’.”

(pg 785) “Past Grand Deacon J.C. Parkinson, an illustrious English Mason, frankly avows: ‘The two systems of Romanism and Freemasonry are not only incompatible, but they are radically opposed to each other.’ (Chr., 1884, II, 17): and American Masons say: ‘We won’t make a man a Freemason, until we know that he isn’t a Catholic.’”(Chr., 1890, II, 347: See also 1898 I, 83).

(pg 786) “Pope Clement XII accurately indicates the principal reasons why Masonic associations from the Catholic, Christian, moral, political, and social points of view should be condemned. ... (2) The inscrutable secrecy and fallacious ever-changing disguise of the Masonic association and of its ‘work’, by which ‘men of this sort break as thieves into the house and like foxes endeavour to root up the vineyard’, ‘perverting the hearts of the simple’, ruining their spiritual and temporal welfare.”

(pg. 787) “Gregory XVI similarly declares that the calamities of the age were due principally to the conspiracy of secret societies, and like Leo

XII, deplores the religious indifferentism and the false ideas of tolerance propagated by secret societies.”

“Leo XIII (1884) says: ‘There are various sects, which although differing in name, rite, form, and origin, are nevertheless so united by community of purposes and by similarity of their main principles as to be really one with the Masonic sect, which is a kind of centre, whence they all proceed and whither they all return.’ The ultimate purpose of Freemasonry is ‘the overthrow of the whole religious, political, and social order based on Christian institutions and the establishment of a new state of things according to their own ideas and based in its principles and laws on pure Naturalism.’”

“In view of these several reasons, Catholics since 1738 are, under penalty of excommunication, incurred *ipso facto*, and reserved to the pope, strictly forbidden to enter or promote in any way Masonic societies. The law now in force (Const. “Apostolicae Sedis,” 1869, Cap. ii, n. 24) pronounces excommunication upon ‘those who enter Masonic or Carbonarian or other sects of the same kind, which, openly or secretly, plot against the Church or lawful authority and those who in any way favour

these sects or do not denounce their leaders and principal members.”

(pg 787) “In this sense also the pope [Leo XIII], in accordance with a fundamental biblical and evangelical view developed by St. Augustine in his ‘De civitate Dei’, like the Masonic poet Carducci in his ‘Hymn to Satan’, considers Satan as the supreme spiritual chief of this hostile army.”

Where do Freemasons stand in the One True Church? This question seems obvious to every informed Catholic. Everyone who joins a Masonic organization is automatically excommunicated from the Church. They are, by this very fact, outside of the True Church – no longer a member of the Church. They are outside the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ. They are outside the one and only road to Heaven.

Are Freemasons heretics? Yes. Freemasons believe and promote the condemned heresies of Naturalism, Materialism, Modernism, and Religious indifferentism.

Are Freemasons in schism? Yes. They refuse communion or unity with the True Church. They work for the ruin of the True Church, Catholicism, and

Christianity, as well as the destruction of civil governments and societies.

Are Freemasons apostates? Yes. They refer to Jesus Christ as an “imposter God” and a “mendacious [lying] God.”

What god do Freemasons serve? They deny Jesus Christ, so they serve Satan.

Can a Roman Catholic Bishop who becomes a Freemason (excommunicate, heretic, schismatic, apostate, Satanist) have the minimum necessary intention to confer the Sacraments? Theoretically, it may be possible, but practically, it is unlikely. The problem is that intention is essential for the validity of every sacrament, and we cannot know if a particular man who is a Freemason has a Catholic or a Satanic intention. Does he wish to confer valid Sacraments, or does he want to falsify sacraments and thus destroy the sources of grace? Any informed and sincere Catholic should want nothing to do with such dubious “Sacraments.”

“Bishop” Marcel Lefebvre was ordained a priest by a high-ranking Freemason, “Bishop” Lienart. “Bishop” Marcel Lefebvre was elevated to the episcopacy by the same Free-

mason “Bishop” Lienart. This was even publicly admitted by “Bishop” Lefebvre himself. The question to be considered is, was Marcel Lefebvre a true priest and bishop? Did he receive true or valid ordination and consecration to the bishopric? Our answer is maybe, but not likely.

Why then do so many people attend and support priests and bishops whose sacramental validity depends solely on “Bishop” Marcel Lefebvre? We hope and pray that it is due to ignorance, not malice.

There is no doubt that the false Vatican II Council was the work of Freemasons who had infiltrated the hierarchy of the Church. Or, at least, they hijacked the Council. This is evident in the very outcome with the destruction of the Sacraments and The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the false ecumenism, and the demonic liberalism or “religious liberty” that so profusely poured forth from it.

Why do so many espouse or support the doubtful priests of the Novus Ordo and/or the doubtful priests of the Lefebvrite sects? Perhaps what the 1910 Catholic Encyclopedia says about the French applies here as well: “... such success as they [Freemasons]

have had is due chiefly to the lowering of the moral tone in private and public life, facilitated by the disunion existing among Catholics and by the serious political blunders which they committed.” We might also add spiritual blunders to the political ones.

The time for passivity and indifference is long gone. All faithful Catholics and all who wish to be true Catholics need to see that now is the acceptable time to wake up and abandon the Satanic ideals so prevalent in the world today and embrace the One True Faith (not in the Modernist Novus Ordo or in the many and varied Lefebvrian sects). But unite with true and certain Roman Catholic Bishops to restore all things to Jesus Christ that have been usurped and turned over to Satan.





THE SUNDAY SERMON

THE SUNDAY SERMON is a biweekly paper that offers a few spiritual thoughts for each Sunday throughout the year.

THE SUNDAY SERMON began with a desire of our people, who could not attend Mass on Sundays, to receive these messages.

THE SUNDAY SERMON has now become very popular. Subscribers are asking that we send **THE SUNDAY SERMON** to their friends and relatives.

We only ask the small donation of \$15.00 per year (or whatever you can afford) to help us cover the cost of production and mailing.

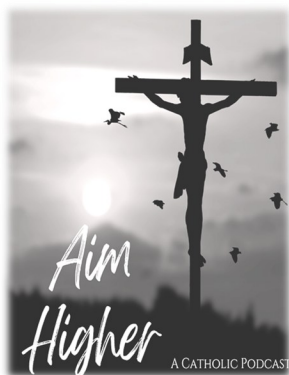
Why not subscribe today, for yourself or for a friend?

Please write to:

THE SUNDAY SERMON
3376 Mt. Read Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14616

*Is it time to renew your subscription?
Or have you received a sample copy?
Check your mailing label and the last page of this
issue for Subscription Details.*

AIM HIGHER: A CATHOLIC PODCAST



*Available on our YouTube Channel:
Order of St. Francis of Assisi, Inc
Apple Podcast, & Spotify!*

*If you have any questions,
please contact us at
aimhigher.podcast@gmail.com*

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO VISIT THE AIM HIGHER
PODCAST PLAYLIST!



NOW AVAILABLE!

2026 FRANCISCAN CALENDAR

This simple, attractive calendar lists all the traditional feasts of the Roman Catholic Church and the traditional Franciscan feasts.

The suggested donation is \$25.00 per calendar.

THE SERAPH
3376 Mt. Read Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14616

AGAINST INDIFFERENTISM

Bishop Giles Butler, OFM DD

Why does the Church not debate Her doctrines or teachings?

The contest of debate, as commonly understood, is a form of entertainment, rather than a pursuit of truth. However, within the Church, intellectual discourse and respectful dialogue are valued. What the Church teaches is the truth, and there is really nothing to debate. Indeed, the Church can give logical arguments in favor of Her doctrines and can point out the fallacies of opposing doctrines. When there is no real pursuit of truth, debates are not discussions or sincere efforts to arrive at undeniable truths, but rather mere entertainment – not much different from gladiatorial or sporting games.

The fact that one plus one equals two is not up for debate, though it might be very entertaining to see such a debate. The truth, like this simple mathematical fact, does not change even if everyone takes the side of

falsehood. The truth is not interested in what people think or even what they want. It remains constant, unwavering, and unchangeable, whether we like it or not.

Our modern internet and social media have devolved from an ideal of pursuing information, knowledge, or truth to simple entertainment. There is very little that can be trusted on social media, because it is an open platform for anyone to say anything. There is no right or wrong, truth or falsehood. Everything has devolved into opposing opinions, sides, or teams. While this is quite entertaining and captivating for many, we should not be led to believe that winning a contest will determine truth or reality.

The infallible doctrines of the Catholic Church are not subject to change because the truth does not change – God does not change. It does not matter if worldly kings defy the truth, embrace error, and even force compliance with their error; it will never be

true. It does not matter if the majority of people embrace or vote for error; it will never be true and will always be error.

We can debate, argue, and fight until the end of time whether there are three Persons in One God; it will never change the reality and truth of the matter. What is truly disturbing is that for many, this is simply entertaining. They are not interested in obtaining the truth. They are happy to side with error when it seems to be on the “winning side” and perhaps side with the truth at another time. Siding with truth or error seems to be as important as picking your favorite sports team or flavor of ice cream.

Our wishes or desires are often whimsical and illogical, but we cling to them with steadfast (stubborn) determination. A fanatical supporter (fan) of a particular sports team usually remains loyal for a lifetime. Logic or reason plays no part. Objective truth or reality has nothing to do with it. Tragically, religion has entered this same realm, and the contests between opposing doctrines are like a sports contest -- merely entertainment.

When we are blessed with the True Faith, the True Church, and the True Sacraments, there is nothing to seek out in Pagan or false religions. It is an insult to God and the Truth to put error and falsehood side by side on “equal” playing fields. Religious indifferentism, the belief that all religions are equally valid or that one religion is as good as another, is one of the greatest insults to God. It is very clearly against the First Commandment of God. We cannot allow idolatry to have the same rights or place in our minds and hearts as we must give to the One True God.

Humanism, Modernism, Atheistic Communism, Protestantism, Freemasonry, Paganism, Satanism, etc., all appear upon the stage of the internet or World Wide Web with as much place or equality as True Catholicism. Indifferentism seems to be running rampant. The heated arguments and debates are more about building viewership than about truth versus falsehood or right versus wrong.

While contests, sports, games, and entertainment in general are good, we must avoid bringing God and religion into this realm. When God, faith,

and religion become sport, it easily enters into the demonic realm of blasphemy, apostasy, and Satanism.

Heretics are welcome to seek answers from the Church regarding their heresies (false teachings). Their honest questions are valuable and good as they lead to better definitions and clarification of true doctrines. However, the Church does not place its doctrines (teachings) on the same level as the heretical ones. The Church does not seek the truth from heretics; rather, the Church speaks the truth for the conversion of heretics. The goal is to bring souls to renounce their errors and embrace the truth, not to engage in a debate where both sides are considered equally valid.

The Church is not looking for the truth, because She already has it. Her mission, given to her by Jesus Christ, is to go forth and teach (not learn) the truth to all nations and peoples. We, as individuals, may seek the truth, but if we are wise, our striving for the truth will be where the truth is to be found – in the true Catholic Church. Typically, we do not search for fish in the skies, nor do we search for birds under the water.

Likewise, we do not look for the truth in Satanism, Witchcraft, Paganism, heresy, schism, or apostasy.

There is no doubt that there is usually some element of truth in every lie or error; otherwise, we would not be inclined to embrace it. These are partial truths. It does not take much intelligence to realize that half-truths are whole lies.

We must be careful not to confuse errors with the people promoting them. We are commanded to hate the sin, but to love the sinner (the person). We are all sinners in need of God's mercy and forgiveness. We are all made in the Image and Likeness of God. We are all called to live eternally with God in Heaven. God calls all of us to Himself and does not desire the eternal death of anyone. As long as there is life, we must work and pray for the salvation of souls. In this sense, it is not us against them. All division comes from demons. All true unity is found in God.

If we truly love as God has commanded us to love, we are habitually seeking to love God more and more and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We must earnestly

desire that Jesus (the Truth) is better known and loved – by ourselves as well as every other person in this world today.

Love is not blind. Nor is Love ignorant. God is Love, and He is neither blind nor ignorant. When we truly love, we see the errors and reject the errors, but we also see the poor souls in darkness with very little chance of ever seeing The Light. Love of our neighbors compels us to do what we can to lead them to the Light. Love does not compel us to join them in the darkness, or ever to consider the darkness as light. Much less, to believe that light and darkness are equal or that it is a matter of indifference which one we choose.

Demonism was around before the creation of humanity. The fall of some of the angels from heaven predates the Garden of Paradise. Idolatry and Paganism rather quickly spread demonic darkness because men chose lies, errors, and deceit over truth and love. Every false religion or faith has demonic origins. There is a vast number of false beliefs and religions in our world today, and they all stem from some demonic falsehood, lie, or error. There

is only one God and only one true Church established by Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. All the rest are false and demonic. We say this not out of hatred for anyone, but rather out of love for the souls of our fellow human beings.

The indifferentism in our world today promotes an apocalyptical apostasy from God, the Church, and the Truth. If we truly love God and our neighbors, we cannot remain silent. We warn them not because we are better or smarter than they are. We warn our loved ones as unworthy instruments of God and the Truth. We argue not “our truth,” but rather The Truth. We are only to seek The Truth in the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church given to us by Jesus Christ, guided and protected by the Holy Ghost, and commissioned by God to teach the whole world, baptizing and bringing into the Church all who believe so that they may be saved.

Freemasonry and Protestantism have been and are very powerful instruments of Hell. Protestantism has led to the indifferentism of so many in the world today. The false ecumenism is constantly being

promoted that we all believe in the same god. Or that it does not matter what church or doctrine you profess as long as it is “Christian.” The religion of Freemasonry does not care what god people believe in and puts all religions on an equal basis as beneath or subservient to Freemasonry. Every member in this demonic religion will be able to place their “holy book” or “sacred text” on the Freemasonic altar and make their vow of loyalty and obedience to the religion of Freemasonry.

The indifferentism in the world today is quickly approaching the apocalyptic One World Religion of Satan rather than the One True Religion of Jesus Christ – The One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. Religion is not a game or sport, nor is it entertainment. We are in a dire situation and time. It is not the time to become careless or indifferent, but rather to increase our love of God and His Church. It is time to follow Jesus Christ as we die to ourselves truly and the demonic temptations of this world – eagerly and willingly embrace our daily cross by which we die to this world and live in Jesus Christ. It is

time to honestly examine our consciences, make good Sacramental Confessions, whenever possible, and unite our small personal sacrifices with Jesus’ Holy Sacrifice of the Cross, now renewed upon the altars in the True Church in the True Sacrifice of the Mass. And with hearts and souls prepared as best we can humbly and meekly receive Jesus into our bodies in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. If we are physically unable to receive the Sacraments, we should, nevertheless, make fervent desires for these graces and frequently make spiritual Communions. It is only in this state that we can truly help ourselves and those around us.



THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

From the Sunday Sermon Archives, 2019

Bishop Giles Butler, OFM DD

Dear Friends,

There are commentators of today's Gospel that tell us that the Magi arrived to worship Jesus thirteen days after His Birth and not a year later as some suggest. St. Jerome tells us that the Magi learned of this star that was to come from the prophecy of Balaam whose descendants they were. They traveled upon Arabian horses and dromedaries which made their travel very swift. St. John Chrysostom says that they could have set out two years before His birth, the Star traveling before them. The star began in the east and traveled before them. It was low in the sky and therefore clear and easy to follow — just as the cloud and pillar of fire that led the Israelites through the desert.

The Fathers of the Church make sure to tell us that Jesus brought forth the star that revealed His birth. It was not the star that brought forth the

birth of Jesus. The superstitions of fate and the astrologers are clearly condemned. The stars in the sky do not determine the destiny of men. We have a free will and thus our future is placed in our own hands.

In any case, it is truly a wonderful event that the Gentile Magi come to worship the King of the Israelites before they do. The poor Israelites were rich in prophesies and scriptures, wisdom and understanding, but also with pride; and for this reason, they are blind to the arrival of the Son of God and are poor in His grace and virtue. St John tells us that Jesus came to His own, but His own did not receive Him.

The Magi were at least three men, but there may have been more and they offered all together the three gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gold reminds us that Jesus is King, the frankincense tells us

that He is God, and the myrrh prophecies Jesus' sacrificial death for our sins. These gifts are offered to God, Who is hiding His divinity in a Human Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes. It is obvious that the Magi were not looking for an earthly king. An earthly king would have been dressed in fine garments and resting on a soft bed. The sight of poverty surrounding the Holy Family blinds the worldly-minded. The Magi saw a poor infant but worshiped an all-powerful God.

It is a terrible tragedy and injustice that God dwells so lovingly and patiently in the tabernacles of true Catholic churches, yet very few Catholics come to worship Him or offer Him the gifts of prayer and sacrifice. It is to the shame of Catholics just as it was to the shame of the Israelites to have not known God. He is here, we believe this through faith. Jesus has told us and the Catholic Church continues to teach us, yet very few develop this faith into positive action in their lives. The Magi, put us to shame. Having heard the prophecy and witnessed the wondrous star they were moved to action. This was not just interesting information to be set

aside so we can continue on with our lives in the same manner as before. They set out facing all the hardships entailed so that they could present their gifts and themselves in the worship of God. We find it too difficult to come to Mass and we make any little inconvenience an excuse not to come and worship Him. There are some who come from great distances and endure some hardships to worship Jesus in the True Mass, and these put to shame those who are in the immediate vicinity but do not come.

It is the Magi that we are called upon to imitate — not the spiritually blind Israelites. Today's Gospel says that with Herod all of Jerusalem was troubled because of the news the Magi brought to them. Perhaps the Israelites were troubled because they feared King Herod rather than God. They are troubled over the birth of a child. They must know or understand that Jesus is not just any other child, or that He is not just another king. It is truly troubling when we are asked by the worldly authority to reject and turn against spiritual authority.

The world invites us to obey the suggestions of modernism and materialism. Those in au-

thority and those supporting them are deeply troubled by anyone who may even suggest that there is a greater power, a greater authority, that we must follow. The blinded souls of many are deeply troubled when it is pointed out that God has forbidden murder — including the murder of infants (many of whom never see the light of day). They are troubled when the unnatural sexual sins of today are clearly exposed for what they are. To speak the truth is so troubling to our world today that they are ready to criminalize the truth and condemn any

who might dare speak the truth. Just as Herod sought to do away with Jesus, so the world today seeks to do away with anyone who even remotely resembles Jesus by speaking the truth.

Jesus has called us, just as He called the Magi. Let us not fear worldly kings and power, but with hearts filled with love and determination find Jesus and offer Him our three-fold gifts of ourselves (memory, intellect, and will) in the true worship of the Mass and as well as in prayer and sacrifice.



THE MAKING OF A GOOD WILL OR TRUST:

Have you remembered God?

**LET YOUR BLESSINGS CONTINUE TO BLESS OTHERS BY REMEMBERING
THE FRANCISCANS AND THEIR WORK IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST!**

Our legal title is:

ORDER OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI, INC

3376 Mount Read Blvd.
Rochester, New York 14616

I AM A ROMAN CATHOLIC: THE ERRORS OF VATICAN II

Father Anthony Lentz, OFM

I remember a conversation that I had about the Supreme Principle of Contradiction during my time at St. Anthony's Minor Seminary in the early 2000's. The conversation took place in the friary's kitchen with a young man named Joe. Joe was around 13 years old at the time, the eldest of, I believe, eight children, all of whom were homeschooled. This would allow Joe to visit the friary from time to time. One Friday morning, while I was in the middle of making myself a breakfast of eggs and toast, Joe proposed an interesting topic. "You know you shouldn't eat eggs on a Friday," he said. I asked him "why" and he began to reason thus, "Well, we are not supposed to eat meat on Friday, and since that is a chicken egg, you are eating meat." I replied, "Eggs are not meat." He argued, "Well, it will become a chicken." I must confess that I had a really perplexed look on my face, and I am sure he noticed. I then countered, "You proved yourself wrong. You just said, 'It will become a chicken,' the word 'become'

implies that it is not a chicken yet. It cannot be something and not be something at the same time." What I was trying to say was "Either a thing is what it is, or it is not."

Before moving on, I feel compelled to let the reader know that I am well aware that eggs do not change into chickens. That is merely what they are encased in during their incubation period, and neither does the yolk become a chicken, but it is merely what the chicken embryo consumes while in the egg before it hatches. Also, I know that the egg must be properly fertilized for any of this to happen. Finally, I knew this at the time of this conversation. I just wanted you to know that.

Now let's continue.

The Principle of Contradiction is the fundamental principle that the other three – identity, excluded middle, and sufficient reason – are based upon. Perhaps I will explain all of these in the future, because they may prove to be relevant, but for now, remember this principle: **either a thing is, or it is not.**

This is the first, fundamental concept we need to grasp when discussing the legitimacy of the Second Vatican Council. There are some, of a progressive mind, who say that the Council was a legitimate and true council. Others, of a more conservative mind, say it was instead an illegal and false council. So, you have two choices: **either it is a true Council, or it is a false Council.** Those who hold the progressive opinion, aka the Novus Ordo Church, have a massive advantage because they still maintain the hierarchical structure of the Church and control the Church's properties. There is also a third advantage: now being fifty-plus years removed, the current generation only knows the post-Vatican II Church and grew up with the spirit it promoted. Obviously, due to what I have already written, our community, the Franciscans, holds the latter viewpoint. So here is the question: Why do we say that the Second Vatican Council is a false council?

We say that the Second Vatican Council is a false council because, in its sixteen documents, it promoted errors contrary to Catholic teaching. There are three principal errors of which they are guilty: 1) false ecumenism & religious liberty; 2) false concept of the

Church, which they term "Ecclesiology"; and 3) Collegiality.

It needs to be made clear that much of what is contained in these documents is indeed orthodox Catholic teaching. The Modernists did not want to draw too much attention to themselves and made sure to use ambiguous terms that could be interpreted either as orthodoxy or unorthodoxy. The Roman Catholic Church has never used ambiguous terms in any of her documents, especially in her constitutions. She has always taught the truth, come hell or high water. The Church uses her Divine Founder, Jesus Christ, as her guide, for He said: *"Let your answers be 'yes, yes,' or 'no, no'; anything else is from the evil one."* (St. Matthew 5:37)

A short and concise definition of each of these three errors will be very beneficial at this point for two reasons: 1) it will be easier for memorization and provide a quicker recall, and 2) it will help lay a good foundation when you need to explain it to others.

Error One: False Ecumenism & Religious Liberty

The Novus Order teaches that anyone can be saved in any religion and that everyone has the right to practice the religion of their own choosing.

This is outlined in *Dignitatis Humanae*, Vatican II's declaration, and this directly contradicts the Traditional Catholic teaching that "The Catholic Church is the only means of salvation."

Error Two: False Concept of the Church - Ecclesiology

The Vatican II documents teach that the true Church of Christ "subsists in" the Catholic Church. In contrast, the true Catholic teaching is that the true Church of Christ is (equals) the Catholic Church. Let us say that again, the Novus Ordo teaches that the Church of Christ "resides in" the Church of Christ. If this were true, it would mean that the Catholic Church is not the Church of Christ, but that the Church of Christ can be found in the Catholic Church. This implies that the true Church of Christ can be found in other religions as well. This is obviously not true because the Church of Christ is the Catholic Church.

Error Three: Collegiality

The doctrine of Vatican II, confirmed by the 1983 Code of Canon Law, teaches that the supreme authority of the Catholic Church is vested in the pope in combination with the college of bishops. The true teaching, as defined by the councils of Florence and the

Vatican, is that the supreme authority in the Catholic Church resides in the pope and the pope alone.

Here is the question:

Q: Why do we say that the Second Vatican Council is a false council?

A: We say that the Second Vatican Council is a false council because it promoted errors that are contrary to Catholic teaching and tradition. The three main errors found within its documents are: 1) false ecumenism & religious liberty; 2) a false concept of the nature of the Church (Ecclesiology), and 3) collegiality. Since the Novus Ordo adhered to and continues to adhere to the teachings and spirit of this false council, it has fallen away and become a false church. This false church is more Protestant than Catholic within its essential elements.

Over the following three articles, we will explore these three errors in more depth. We will examine the documents that emerged from Vatican II and counter them with the teachings of the Church, as promoted and promulgated by true Catholic popes and councils. We will begin with the first error – False Ecumenism

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

“Be not conformed to this world; but be reformed in the newness of your mind, that you may prove what is the good, and the acceptable, and the perfect will of God.”

Romans 12:2

Do you love serving God and neighbor?

Do you find yourself increasingly unsatisfied by the life of the world?

Do you yearn for something more?

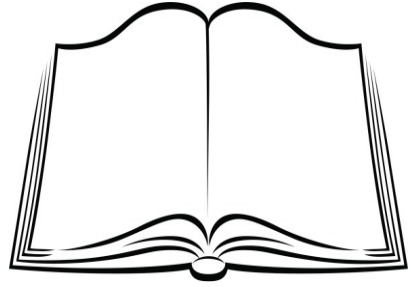
Not all of us are meant for marriage or a life in the world. Some souls are set aside by God for special tasks. These are the souls that find joy and contentment in the religious life or sacred priesthood.

Do not be deterred by what you think you know or by what the world tells you. Find out for yourself. If you feel called, then at least learn more.

Any happiness we may have on earth and all the joy we hope for in heaven depend on answering God’s individual call for us. The sooner we do His Will, the happier we will be.



Just Stories



Winfried Herbst, SDS

GRANDFATHER'S WARNING

The weather has been bitterly cold, and then had softened somewhat. Afterwards, for three whole days, the snow had gently fallen.

The falling flakes, though gentle, had yet kept Rob and Bessie in the house and in their room. 'Twas a bright winter morning when the jolly sun once more peeped smilingly over the eastern horizon. Rob, looking out the window, saw a pure white carpet of snow, sparkling and glittering as far as the eye could reach. Now he would have some fun, he thought. Yes, he knew what he would do. He would hurry out, quickly make a snowman in the garden below, and spring a pleasant surprise on Bessie.

'Twas a great idea. In a twinkling he was down in the

garden. One big ball of snow was soon rolled up. This was the base. Another equally large was placed upon it. And so, in a short time the body was finished. But the head was still wanting. Hurrying to a sunny spot where the snow was soft, Rob shaped a head and neatly attached it to the snowman's broad shoulders. But arms were also lacking. Luckily, he found two sufficiently long pieces of laths. These he fastened in the snowy sides. He must hurry, else Bessie would see him before he was finished. Then all would be spoilt. Eyes were yet wanting, and a nose and a mouth. Only a few seconds and he had brought charcoal from the kitchen and there stood Mr. Snowman in all his glory, a masterpiece of boyish skill.

Away he went to get Bessie. Wouldn't she be delighted?

But while Rob had been working, another had been watching. This was Tom, a neighbor boy. He disliked Rob because the latter, being more diligent was always ahead of him in class. Now, as soon as Rob had gone, he leaped over the fence and with a few blows and kicks and shoves completely destroyed the newly-made snowman. Then he hid in some nearby bushes and waited. He wanted to see and laugh at Rob's surprise and pain.

Rob hastened back with Bessie. There lay Mr. Snowman, a shapeless mass. Instinctively he looked around for the author of this deed. There, across the fence, was Tom, laughing and rubbing his hands in his wicked glee. The blood rushed to Rob's head. He would show him! Such meanness! He bent down and

picked up a stone. Already about to swing his arm, he paused. Grandfather's warning seemed to ring in his ears: "*You are the master of the stone while it remains in your hands; let it fly and you cease to be its master!*" He conquered himself with an effort, turned and went away. Bessie followed, and together they made a second snowman in another part of the garden.

Tom expected Rob to throw and to say hard words. That would have pleased him. But, since he did neither, Tom was filled with shame at his own petty baseness. He saw that Rob was a man, and that he himself was mean, a coward, and no man. The next day at school, he asked Rob's pardon. They shook hands and became fast friends. And as a result, Tom became as model a boy as was Rob. 'Twas all due to grandfather's warning and to Rob's self-control.

"YOU WILL ACCOMPLISH MORE BY KIND WORDS AND A COURTEOUS MANNER THAN BY ANGER OR SHARP REBUKE, WHICH SHOULD NEVER BE USED EXCEPT IN NECESSITY."

ST. ANGELA MERICI

PRO PARENTIBUS

Father Joseph Noonan, OFM

RENEWING THE SOUL

A new year brings with it goals, hopes, and promises. One's position will depend on which of these is important in one's life.

For a Catholic parent, it is a good time for reflection. A reflection that should begin with yourself. This reflection does not need to question every one of your decisions and judgments. That could be quite destructive and unnecessary unless a parent has a history of consistently making poor decisions. It should probably be a time for reflecting on how to be a better parent. A parent should never be so arrogant as to think they always make correct decisions. It is understood that good parents always want to make good decisions. Human frailty or emotional sentiment, though, often gets in the way of an objective judgment.

How often do you, as a parent, pray before making a big decision, calling upon the Holy Ghost for wisdom and

guidance? No one should think he can "do it all alone," which is usually a sign of stubborn pride. This pride will lead to more wrong decisions than one may want to admit. Making prayer a regular part of decision-making helps parents align their choices with God's will and encourages spiritual growth.

Young serious parents usually spend their early years trying to understand how to conduct themselves in a marriage. Once the first child is born, parents will spend time learning how to raise a child, including everything necessary for a newborn. One assumes that adjustments or changes are made when a second or third child is born. They learn what was done correctly and what was not.

Parents usually learn early that children can be quite different. There may be many physical similarities, but personalities are often different. Parents are frequently called upon to raise children differently because of their temperaments.

What do these things mean for a parent? The first consideration should be the spiritual responsibility of their soul. If a parent strives to attend Mass each Sunday and receives the Sacraments regularly, he is better equipped to live a good Catholic life. An essential part of Catholic life in the home is a solid daily prayer life, which includes both parents and children. If these things are present, the soul is provided with numerous graces to lead the family better. Vocal leadership and good example are essential when a parent has the express desire to raise their children as good Catholics.

Men, too often, leave teaching the Faith to their wives. This is a serious mistake, for he is the one who is responsible first before God. The parents may share these duties, but to walk away from this responsibility is wrong. Mistakes such as this are usually an indication of a soul that is not in the state of grace. External behavior is a display of the soul's condition.

Laziness or selfishness may also be reasons for the lack of responsibility. Depending

upon the severity of these faults, they may vary from a slight annoyance to severely affecting a marriage.

Married men would do well to take the time to make a good examination of conscience each night. They should examine their work-day, but more importantly, consider the responsibilities and duties of married life and family.

An underlying problem that has caused serious marital problems occurs when men give away their authority or allow it to be taken from them. This disorder causes chaos in the family. Each parent has a role in family life. When they understand their proper role and place, peace will largely prevail. In practice, there is no such thing as the perfect marriage or family. There are families, though, that live to a great extent a peaceful life. Parents who are able to maintain a peaceful environment in the home are to be commended. This situation does not occur on its own but is the result of the parents' decisions and good judgment.

Children usually spend more time with their mother. This

means that mothers' influence is generally greater at a young age. The love of a mother often has a lasting effect on a child, provided it is a positive relationship.

Mothers are usually the ones who teach their children to speak and do many things for the first time. Serious mothers will teach their children to begin to pray in the simplest ways for the first time. She should also be the first to discipline the children when they misbehave.

They are called upon to perform many necessary but not very exciting tasks. A few tasks include cleaning, cooking, washing dishes, and doing the laundry. I wonder how many women make use of these repetitive tasks to sanctify their day. This is an excellent example of making use of the smallest things in life and using them as stepping stones to holiness, and in other words, transforming those things which are often thought of negatively and making them something which will elevate your soul above the mundane. This relates in a very real way to the morning offering prayer, which reminds one to offer up all our thoughts,

words, and deeds as a single prayer, and to unite this prayer with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass being offered by a True Catholic priest each day.

One is reminded of two points in a parent's life. The daily life of parents in today's world is quite busy. This provides them with the opportunity to sanctify each day while fulfilling their responsibilities and duties in a way that differs from other vocations. Catholic parents are called upon to raise their children to be saints. This is quite different from other parents who never elevate their children's minds above the natural sphere. Catholic parents must lead their children by example into the realm of supernatural holiness. The challenge for most Catholic parents is that they must first accomplish this for themselves. Unfortunately, they fail due to human frailty or attachments.

The second point involves making use of the graces of the Sacrament of Matrimony. These graces are meant to sustain the married person throughout their life. Married life brings with it crosses specific to it. That cross is

sufficient for salvation if one makes use of it each day. Too often, the individual makes the cross much heavier because of poor judgment and bad decisions.

How often do married adults pray for the sustaining graces of the Sacrament of Matrimony to help them each day, but especially during the most difficult times of life? This simple request can be a means through which a soul is renewed and strengthened.

Parents are the most influential people in the world. Most fail to understand their important

role. Their most important responsibility is the soul of each child they bring into this world. They need to think in terms of raising saints, not simply another person who will be like everyone else.

Make use of the means which Holy Mother Church provides through which a soul can be renewed. You will have all of the graces necessary for your own sanctification and those of your children. Thank God each day for the blessings of children and family.

The Catholic Faith RADIO PROGRAM

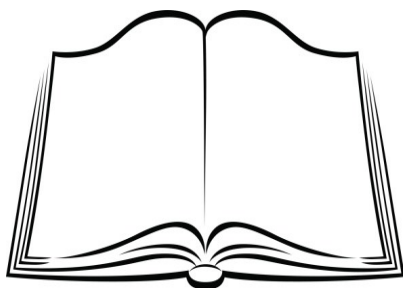
The Catholic Faith Radio Program is broadcast live
each Friday from 1:30-4:30 p.m.. (CST)
in the studios of KRFE AM580, Lubbock, Texas.

It is streamed live on <http://catholichour.org>. If you are unable to listen live, you may go to the website anytime and listen to the recorded broadcasts at your leisure.

*The call in telephone number is (806) 745-5800.
You may also email your questions or comments to father@catholichour.org*

The Catholic Mother to Her Children

The Countess de Flavigny



TWENTY-FIFTH LESSON

ASCENSION DAY

“Jesus is entered into heaven itself, that He may appear now in the presence of God for us.”
St. Paul, Hebrews 9:24

After His glorious Resurrection, Jesus Christ remained on earth during forty days; but He did not live in the same manner as before His Passion. Then His Body was subject to suffering, and was mortal like ours, my children, subject to the same wants and the same sufferings, but after rising from the tomb, Our Lord’s Body became immortal, impassible, that is to say no longer subject to pain or death. Instead of living constantly amongst men, as He had hitherto, He only appeared to them now and then, and always in a sudden and miraculous way. At one time, He appeared by the sea-side, when the Apostles were about

to cast their nets; at another, on the road from Jerusalem to the little village of Emmaus, or else in the midst of His assembled disciples. And Jesus Christ addressed to them these words so full of kindness which He repeated continually: “Peace be with you.”

These soothing words, the sound of His well-known voice, were yet sufficient to make the disciples believe in the presence of the Savior; some of them, still affrighted by His sudden apparition, supposed they saw a phantom. To reassure them He said: “It is I, fear not...handle Me, and see: for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as you see Me to have!”

He also showed them His feet and hands, which still retained the marks of the nails by

which they had been pierced; then He would sit down and eat with the Apostles; and the latter recognized Him by His way of breaking and blessing the bread. Thus it was, my children, that Our Lord at length succeeded in convincing the most incredulous of His disciples of the miracle of His Resurrection.

It was for this purpose Jesus Christ passed forty days on earth; it was also to establish His Church, the Catholic Church, whose children we have the happiness to be.

After having completed the Divine instructions He had already given the Apostles, Our Lord ordained that these instructions should be transmitted to the successors of the Apostles, and preached throughout the whole world; at the same time, He promised never to forsake His Church, nor to allow it to err.

My children, Jesus Christ, had redeemed man by His death and His sufferings, furthermore, He had enlightened him by His word; and established His Church to teach and expound His law. Having thus foreseen all our wants; provided us with remedies for ailings; relief for our misery, consolations in our sufferings; Our Savior brought His Divine

mission to an end. The time had now come for Him to return to His kingdom, and in His sacred humanity to take possession of Heaven, so as to glorify it.

In order to prepare the Apostles for this approaching separation, He had already said to them: "My little children, I have but a few days to remain with you – a little while, and then you shall see Me no more." And as, at their master's word, sorrow filled the hearts of the Apostles, Jesus Christ added: "I will not leave you orphans... And I will pray My Father, and He will send you the Paraclete, the spirit of truth, that he may abide with you forever... If you love Me, keep My Commandments. I am going, but I will come to you again, and your heart shall rejoice: I am going to prepare you a seat in Heaven."

On the fortieth day after His Resurrection, my children, Jesus Christ ascended gloriously to Heaven. By His order, the disciples were assembled on Mount Olivet near Jerusalem. The Gospel relates that there, the Lord Jesus gave them His last advice, said His last farewell, stretched out once more His Divine Hands to bless them, and in so doing

was raised up to Heaven. As the Apostles still gazed after Him, trying to catch another glimpse of Him, even after a cloud had hidden Him from their sight, two angels clothed in white suddenly appeared, saying: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand you staring into Heaven, He shall so come as you have seen Him ascend." Then the Apostles threw themselves on the ground, and adored the Son of God entering into His glory, followed by the souls of the righteous He had delivered and surrounded by innumerable choirs of angels.

These words addressed to the Apostles, refer to the last

judgment, which is to take place at the end of the world. Then, for the second time, Jesus Christ will descend on earth; He will come no more as Our Savior, but as our judge. We shall see no more the poor child of Bethlehem, the friend of sinners, the God who died on Calvary, but a just and severe King, Who will give to each according to his deeds. Let us, by a holy life, prepare for this last coming of Jesus Christ. My dear children, may it in our thoughts be never separated from His triumph, from this glorious Ascension, the anniversary of which we celebrate today.

THE CHERUB

Started in 2015, THE CHERUB is dedicated to the further enrichment and continuing education of Catholics of all ages.

Please send subscription requests to:

THE CHERUB

1114 30th Street

Lubbock, TX 79411

The Cherub is published quarterly by the Third Order of St. Francis.

Suggested donation—\$15.00 per year.



FRANCISCAN SAINTS

JANUARY 6TH

*The Servant of God Catharine,
Queen of England
Widow, Third Order*

Catharine was the daughter of King Ferdinand V of Spain and of his spouse Isabella. Reared in piety and in the fear of the Lord, she was espoused as early as the sixteenth year of her age to Arthur, the eldest son of Henry VII of England. Arthur died within five months of their marriage, and Catharine wanted to return to her native country. But King Henry, who had taken a great fancy to her, urgently besought her to remain in England in order to become the wife of his second son, Henry. Since this was also in accordance with her parents' wishes, Catharine consented, and the papal dispensation for the marriage was requested.

Meanwhile King Henry died, and his son ascended the throne as King Henry VIII. Soon afterwards he celebrated his marriage with Catharine, who was then crowned with great pomp as queen of Eng-

land. But her heart found as little delight in worldly dignity as that of the pious Queen Esther.

She always arose early in the morning, dressed herself as simply as her rank permitted, and wore the penitential garb of the Third Order of St. Francis which she had joined some time previously. Every morning she attended holy Mass and spent several hours in prayer. Every week she received the holy sacraments, and she fasted so rigorously, that on the vigils of the feasts of our Lady, she partook only of bread and water. Withal, she expended great care on the education of her five children.

But King Henry shared not at all in the devout life of his spouse; rather, he gave himself up to all the gratifications of a luxurious life at court, and even conceived an adulterous affection for a young lady at court, Anne Boleyn by name.

This affair was to occasion the greatest sufferings for Catharine. Egged on by godless courtiers, Henry now indulged a dislike for his pious queen. He began to allege that his marriage with Catharine was null and void because the dispensation had not been validly issued. His intention was to marry Anne Boleyn. After a careful investigation of the matter, Pope Clement VII declared the marriage of the king with Catharine valid and insoluble. Now King Henry renounced his allegiance to the Catholic Church and declared himself the head of the Church in England; priests and people that were unwilling to admit his authority were executed or sent into exile.

The pious queen, who in no wise consented to the godless designs of her spouse, was cast off, and Henry married Anne Boleyn. Separated from her children, laughed at by her courtiers, Catharine repaired to a secluded spot, where she sometimes suffered the want of things necessary to sustain her life. Yes, because of the persecution of the priests she did not even have the comfort of the holy sacraments. Though crushed with grief, Catharine, nevertheless, bore it all with the most perfect conformity to the will of God un-

til her blessed death on January 6, 1536.

ON CONSTANCY IN SUFFERING

1. Consider what a difference there was between the day on which Catharine was crowned amid great splendor as the queen of England, and the day on which, cast off by the king and despised by her courtiers, she left the royal palace helpless and destitute. Yet, that sad day was more truly glorious in the sight of heaven than that first day. On the day of her coronation, the world undoubtedly praised Catharine as blessed; yet, how soon did this blessedness come to a sad end! When, however, she was going into exile, heaven pronounced her blessed: "Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (*Matt. 5:10*). This blessedness she still enjoys, and it will never end.

2. Consider how saintly Queen Catharine proved herself through prolonged constancy in suffering. Not only did she bear patiently the first attacks, when the king turned away from her; she remained constant also when the entire fullness of suffering came upon her along with her rejection.

For years she persevered and bore the greatest tribulations without complaint or murmuring even unto her death, always resigned to the holy will of God. Thus she obtained the heavenly crown, according to the words of St. Bernard: "The crown is offered to beginners, but it is given to those who persevere." But only such constancy and perseverance can ensure for us the eternal crown. Many people bear their sufferings courageously and resignedly in the beginning; but if the sufferings increase, if they last long, they do not persevere, they despair and murmur against the designs of God. Only "he that shall persevere unto the end, he shall be saved" (*Matth. 10:22*).

3. Consider by what means saintly Queen Catharine preserved that constancy amid such great suffering. In youth she did not allow herself to be

dazzled by good fortune and the glamour that surrounded her, but directed her attention to heavenly things rather than to those of earth. Devout practices and love of mortification confirmed her still more in her life of faith. Even in her suffering she was faithful to her pious practices, and so, with her attention directed more to the future than to the present, she could bear all with joy, while she reflected on the words of the Apostle: "The sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared with the glory to come that shall be revealed in us" (*Rom. 8:18*). — If you wish to arrive at the glory of good Queen Catharine in eternity, then you must tread the same path, and God's mercy will also lead you to your goal.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O GOD, WHO DOST CHIEFLY MANIFEST THY ALMIGHTY POWER
IN LONG-SUFFERING AND IN PITY, INCREASE THY MERCY
TOWARDS US, THAT, HASTENING AFTER THY PROMISES, WE MAY
BE MADE PARTAKERS OF HEAVENLY TREASURES.
THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The **SERAPH** is sent **FREE** anywhere in the United States, upon request. Cost of production and mailing is borne by your fellow Catholics, who are concerned for your soul. They desire that you, too, would become informed as to **TRUE DOCTRINE** and **SOUND SPIRITUALITY** as Roman Catholics totally loyal to the Apostolic See.

Won't YOU join them in this world-wide apostolate?

SUBSCRIPTION

Please note the expiration on your label. You will find the expiration of your subscription immediately following your name on the address label.

- A1 Benefactor Subscription - donation of \$50.00 or more.
- B1 Supporting Subscription - \$20.00 donation,
- C1 Free requested Subscription
- Tr Trial Issue

Example: **01-27 A1** indicates a subscription which will expire in January 2027. The A1 indicates that this is a Benefactor Subscription.

Please Note: There is an annual request for renewal.

Back Issues: Due to the extra cost in postage and handling, we must ask a minimum donation of \$5.00 for available copies and \$6.00 for any reprint.

Most Reverend Bishop Giles, OFM

The SERAPH

3376 Mount Read Blvd.

Rochester, New York 14616

Your Excellency,

Here is my offering of \$ _____ to help defray the cost of publishing the SERAPH - to help you keep sending it to someone who might otherwise never be able to benefit from it.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
The SERAPH

3376 Mt. Read Blvd.
Rochester, New York 14616-4344

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

ROCHESTER, NY
PERMIT NO. 27