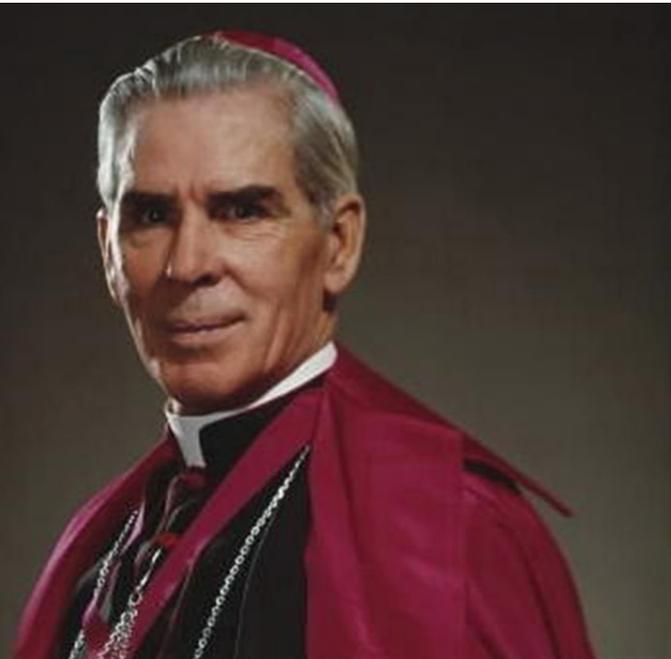




JMJ
Fulton J. Sheen,
"America
is
Suffering
from
Tolerance"
by Dan Byron



My view is simple. When I meet a person who says, "I am Catholic, but..." it is my immediate conclusion that he/she is not Catholic. In matters of faith and morals, the Church has a reasonably long history of leading the flock.

Fulton J Sheen

Even though he died quite some time ago, what Fulton J. Sheen has written tends to remain quite current and true. On his television program one evening, he looked into the camera and said rather forcefully,

"America, it is said, is suffering from intolerance — it is not. It is suffering from tolerance. Tolerance of right and wrong, truth and error, virtue and evil, Christ and chaos. Our country is not nearly so overrun with the bigoted as it is overrun with the broadminded."

On another occasion, he explained the problem with simple broadmindedness. "Broadmindedness, when it means indifference to right and wrong, eventually ends in a hatred of what is right."

Suffering from Tolerance?

As Catholics by and large, and as part of a larger Christian community, we are told to be tolerant and stand by as a female (I would use the word "mother", but that is the wrong descriptor) decides to have her preborn child killed since it is only a blob of parasitic cells which hold the promise of disrupting her life. There is a quote

attributed to Ronald Reagan where it is reported he said, "It seems to me that the people in favor of abortion have already been born."

We are told to be tolerant when a fellow, who may be a member of a tiny population of society (well under 2%), wishes to use a women's restroom in which children, young women, teens, and nuns may be present, simply because he may feel he needs to be in touch with his female side that day.

Christians are told to be tolerant when a "couple" wishes to have their same-sex union celebrated. We are told that it is only right that, as a result of a legal action, a person's shop is forced to close rather than supply a cake or make a dress, or any number of other reasons.

We are told to be tolerant as scientists cut and splice DNA to *correct* defects. We are told that doctors, among others, should make the decisions when to end a person's life.

I Am Proud to be Intolerant

"Tolerance is an attitude of reasoned patience toward evil ... a forbearance that restrains us from showing anger or inflicting punishment. Tolerance applies only to persons ... never to truth. **Tolerance applies to the erring, intolerance to the error** ... Architects are as intolerant about sand as foundations for skyscrapers as doctors are intolerant about germs in the laboratory. Tolerance does not apply to truth or principles. About these things, we must be

Gospa Missions

Mission Statement: Gospa Missions is a nonprofit organization headquartered in Evans City, PA. It was established in A.D. 1990 for the purpose of evangelizing the world's people to the Catholic Church. Gospa Missions is dedicated to serving our Lord, spreading devotion to His Blessed Mother and general faith-building. We are obedient to our bishop, spiritual directors and the Magisterium.

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*This newsletter is dedicated to the Holy Spirit.
May we always do God's will.*

An Editorial Reprint from Thomas . . . A Message from Mary

Hello, dear friends,

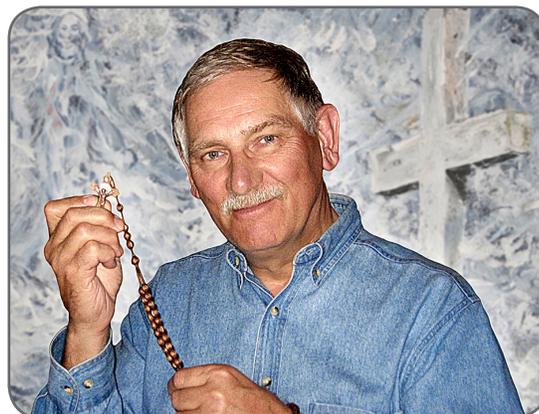
It's Mary! I am so happy to be sending you a copy of our latest newsletter. As you might expect, I am reprinting Tom's editorials because he was never afraid to speak the truth — and I can't compete with him. He had such a gift for writing them. I know how much you looked forward to reading a new editorial each month. We hope we can make that happen again. It's the most important part of these publications.

The one I chose for this issue is from November, 2008 — almost twelve years ago. I think you will be shocked to see how relevant, with a few changes (replacing the USSR with China, for example) it still is today. It's a heavy warning for us all, but the way things are going today, we desperately need this wake up call. 2020 has been one of the strangest and most difficult years we've ever experienced, for so many reasons. This includes the Covid 19 virus and its consequences, elections, riots and destruction of cities, so many unable to go to church (for some governors it's just not essential enough) and so much more.

Apply these circumstances with what was happening in 2008 in Tom's commentary to understand. Read on and see what I mean. **Here's Tom:**

Who's in Charge?

U.S.S.R. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Did these four letters not strike fear into the heart of every peace-loving American during the 50s and 60s? The threat represented by these four little letters to our very way of life was on everyone's mind. What we knew about the Soviet Union was government control of everything: health care, food, housing, financial institutions, industry, the media, transportation — everything. We knew that their system did not work for the betterment of Russia's citizens because the only people there who lived well were those in control. It was they who were involved in redistribution of wealth and the result was chaos: food and gas lines, empty shelves and the concept of which it is said the Russian leaders were the proudest — “universal” health care.



Most Russians lived in misery (more than 65% in two rooms or less) and many still do. The first country to legalize abortion, way back in 1920, still uses abortion as its primary means of birth control. Russia has the highest abortion rate in the world — and every year since these statistics have been kept (1957) the number of abortions has been greater than the number of births. For a considerable stretch, the number of abortions was more than double the live births. And so, God allowed the Russian atheists to live in misery and in a seriously declining population mode.

The U.S.A., on the other hand, was doing quite well. As long as we worked hard and prayed hard, we not only prospered, we saw to it that those who had less got a share of our bounty. But something happened. We became greedy. “Blue laws” that dictated that all non-essential stores had to be closed on Sunday were challenged in court or abolished outright. The parental ideal of the stay-at-home mom flew the coop because one income wasn't enough to buy all the stuff we “needed” and the children were farmed out to strangers. Church attendance plummeted by more than 60 percent, but we were doing so well and we discovered that spending our money on Sunday was not only convenient and fun, but usually necessary because there was no other day to do it. What used to be called good news (I'm pregnant), was now becoming a financial burden and, even worse, socially unacceptable. Birth control and abortion became the solution. Their result is world population control.

Continued on Page 3 — Editorial

The key word here is control and we are out of proper control. With God as our friend we flourished. Now that He is no longer welcome in our government and in many of our homes, well, *the times they are a-changing*. Now can you guess who is in charge in this tumultuous world?

Our Blessed Mother in Fatima predicted the errors of Russia would spread over the whole world if her requests were not fulfilled — especially the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart and to pray the rosary every day. She said we would experience war after war — and look where we are now. Sister Lúcia, the one who received these visions and messages, called the state of the world today **diaboli- cal disorientation**. Simply put, this means that everything we held as right and good is now viewed as wrong and evil. The examples are everywhere we turn, in every newscast we watch.

As Americans, we were the envy of the entire world. Everyone wanted to come to the U.S. — the land of the free and the home of the brave. Is that still the case? If we take a really close, objective look, we will see telltale signs that we are becoming a mirror image of Russia. In a bizarre coincidence of shared initials, our name could easily change to U.S.S.R., **United States Socialist Republic**.

In the recent 2008 presidential election campaign, candidates used words to describe ideas on fixing the economy that could never have been mentioned before — words like *redistribution of wealth* that would put a smile on the long-cold lips of Karl Marx. Those who lied, time after time, for the sake of political expediency, were not held accountable because those around us just didn't seem to care. How can we expect our leaders to be moral, if we, ourselves, are losing our grip of the concept?

Promises were made that 95% of Americans would get a tax break and that somehow there would be great, low-cost health care for everyone. Can you tell me when we last saw government involvement in anything that made it better? Another grandiose promise — Social Security — became just another form of tax, but with an

ID number so the government could track us. Does it work well? The answer is **No**. The government decided to reclassify the excess money out of the Social Security Trust Fund and use it for war, capital projects and other giveaways to solidify their popularity with their constituents. When passed in 1935, the Social Security Act was an attempt to limit what were seen as dangers in the modern American life, including old age, poverty, unemployment, and the burdens of widows and fatherless children. Today it is the largest single government program in the world! Over 61,000 employees. The same will happen with government health care only it will be worse because health care affects everyone, not just those mentioned above. We will end up with reduced quality, less control and higher cost. (Sounds like a prophecy to me — *mbr*)

Does it seem that I am painting a gloomy picture for America? **Good**. That was my intent. As we slip farther and farther away from God, the future will become even gloomier. You don't vote into power those who pass laws that allow the murder of 45 million children and not reap the whirlwind.

If you cannot see **diaboli- cal disorientation** in all of this then you are part of the problem. The only solution is to do exactly what Jesus Christ asked for 2000 years ago, but we all know that is not going to happen. So what can we expect? Expect the worst.

Many people ask me how it is that I take terminal illness so well. The fact is, I am going home and I am excited. God once explained to me that I would not be able to take what was coming in the future so He was bringing me home early. Thank You, thank You, God. I have tried very hard to give my life to God in the past twenty years and I hope it is bearing fruit. But what about those left behind?

Those whose vote expressed the willingness to accept the status quo in regard to abortion will pay an extreme price. As Jesus told us, it would have been better for them to have tied a millstone around their neck and jumped into the ocean. The good will die along with the bad. All we can do is live the Blessed Mother's message in

Fatima and pray the rosary every day, constantly praying for mercy.

A cavalier attitude will not lead to salvation. Only a small remnant will be left to carry on the true faith. Remember always — *the Eucharist is the fuel for the journey*. It leads to humility in the face of God and it opens our eyes to His reality. To receive Jesus unworthily, and unrepentant, can lead to destruction.

God loves each of His children and so we should try to act as if we are children of God. The only reason the U.S. and the rest of the world will be brought to its knees is because we are not there asking for His help. **We think we know more than God Himself**. Instead of seeing God for what He is, Our Father, we have become what we most feared: communists. Instead of asking God to lead us, we are begging for a socialist leadership and so the errors of Russia are at our door. Welcome to the U.S.S.R., Satan's domain. I repeat: expect the worst.

The situation we are facing is so much like the story of Samuel in the Old Testament. The elders of Israel came to Samuel and asked him to appoint a new king. Samuel was not happy about this, so he prayed to the Lord, who said "Grant the people's every request. It is not you they reject, they are rejecting Me as their king." But before He did so, God told Samuel to warn them solemnly of what to expect of the king who would rule them. So Samuel said to those who were asking him for a king:

"The king will take your sons and assign them to his chariots and horses, and they will run before his chariot. He will set them to do his plowing and his harvesting, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. He will use your daughters as ointment-makers, as cooks, and as bakers. He will take the best of your fields, vineyards, and olive groves, and give them to his officials. He will tithe your crops and your vineyards, and give the revenue to his eunuchs and his slaves. He will take your male and female

Continued on Page 9 — Editorial

Why are the Luminous Mysteries Are So Important?



Recently, I have been reading a book about the history of the rosary as a spiritual weapon, entitled *Champions of the Rosary: The History and Heroes of a Spiritual Weapon*, by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC. In it, Fr Calloway discusses using the rosary to fight heresy and Satan's lies in our current time.

Father Calloway talks about how St. Dominic was given the fifteen mysteries of the rosary to fight the Albigensian heresy, which was prevalent at the time. St. Dominic then preached on the mysteries to dispel the heresy.

When Pope St. John Paul II gave us the Mysteries of Light, also known as the Luminous Mysteries, in 2002, we can see he was using the mysteries to address the prevalent heresies of our time. He wrote in his apostolic letter, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*:

Moving on from the infancy and the hidden life in Nazareth to the

public life of Jesus, our contemplation brings us to those mysteries which may be called in a special way **mysteries of light**. Certainly the whole mystery of Christ is a mystery of light. He is the "light of the world" (*Jn 8:12*). Yet this truth emerges in a special way during the years of His public life, when He proclaims the Gospel of the Kingdom. In proposing to the Christian community five significant moments – "luminous mysteries" – during this phase of Christ's life, I think that the following can be fittingly singled out: (1) His Baptism in the Jordan, (2) His self-manifestation at the wedding of Cana, (3) His proclamation of the Kingdom of God, with His call to conversion, (4) His Transfiguration, and finally, (5) His institution of the Eucharist,

as the sacramental expression of the Paschal Mystery.

To help you understand, I will examine each mystery so you can see how it is a powerful tool for the insane world in which we live.

First, the **Baptism of Our Lord**. In this first mystery, we see Christ instituting the first Sacrament by allowing John the Baptist to baptize Him in the Jordan River. The heavens opened up and a dove descended, and God, the Father, spoke, saying, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well pleased" (*Mt 3:17*).

Jesus did not need to be cleansed of original sin since He was born without sin, but He did so to show us what we needed to do in order to wash away the stain of the original sin of Adam and Eve.

In our world today, we see that sin is frequently disregarded and original sin is all but forgotten. Baptisms in the Catholic Church have been declining at a significant rate since the early 1970s, from 1.089 million to just 615,119 in 2018*. So, baptism and the truth about its saving power has been under attack for a long time, quietly, which is how the evil one likes it. Now you can say this is because there are fewer children being born and smaller families, but the decline is also attributed to overall decline in religious affiliation and religiously mixed marriages according to *CatholicCulture.org* (2013), which leads to the next

Cont'd on Page 5 — Mysteries



Medjugorje Message

August 25, 2020

"Dear children! This is a time of grace. I am with you and anew am calling you, little children: return to God and to prayer until prayer will be a joy for you. Little children, you do not have a future or peace until your life begins with a personal conversion and a change to the good. Evil will cease and peace will begin to reign in your hearts and in the world. Therefore, little children, pray, pray, pray. I am with you and intercede before my Son Jesus for each of you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

Luminous Mystery.

The **Wedding Feast at Cana**. Here Jesus performed His first public miracle: changing water into wine. By doing so, He acknowledged the importance and sanctity of sacramental marriage.

Now, if we look at marriage and how it has been twisted and beaten up for the past 60 or so years and the toll that the destruction of marriage has had on the family, one would come to the conclusion that this Mystery of Light needs to be prayed each and every day. Due to many factors, including the prevalent approval of contraception and the separation of the marital act from procreation, sacramental marriage is no longer valued in our society. **This is reflected in the fact that marriages have decreased in the Catholic Church by almost 75%.**

We see the impact this has had on faith and family life in the decrease in church attendance, as well as the increase in divorce, single parent households and a whole slew of issues in society. I have heard it said *where marriage goes, the family goes, where the family goes, society goes.*

Our society is in desperate need of the truth about marriage, as evidenced by the pervasiveness of pornography, child abuse, poverty, and the list goes on and on. We need this Mystery of Light more today than ever to fight the world's belief that marriage can be defined however we like, is transitory, and is a means to comfort and pleasure, rather than for procreation and the unity of two persons, male and female, intended by God from the beginning.

The next mystery is the **Proclamation of the Kingdom**. We can read the media attacks against Christ's Kingdom on a daily basis. We witnessed the previous administration trying to force the Little Sisters of the Poor to pay for contraception and abortion-inducing drugs; we have seen cake bakers sued for not wanting to support homosexual marriages by making a wedding cake; we have seen churches burned; police harassment and arrest of prolife people proclaiming the Gospel of life at abortion clinics; and our culture's widespread attack and mocking of the Christian

faith, especially, the Catholic Church. This year, we have seen attacks on the Proclamation of the Kingdom in aggressive restrictions on churches during state, county and city-mandated lockdowns. In too many cases, restrictions on churches were far stricter than restrictions on other businesses and organizations. The disparity is indicative of the hostility in our culture towards the Church proclaiming the Gospel of Christ.



The Transfiguration. The fourth mystery reflects on the three Apostles – Peter, James and John, seeing the divinity of Jesus in order to strengthen them for what was about to occur during the Passion of our Lord. Today, we have people, inside and outside of the Church, questioning the divinity of Jesus and, as a result, questioning the constant teaching of the Church on faith and morals.

It is popular today in our culture for people to claim that they like what Jesus taught, that He was a “good guy” or a “compelling teacher,” but reject His divinity. Some, such as Bible scholar, Bart D. Ehrman, even try to make the case that He never called Himself God or considered Himself God. If Jesus was not divine, we cannot trust any of the Christian tradition or the Church's teachings. We need to affirm Christ's divinity against these attacks, and His transfiguration can equip us to do just that.

The fifth mystery is the Source and Summit of our faith, the **Institution of the Eucharist**. According to Pew Research, **“In fact, nearly seven-in-ten Catholics (69%) say they personally believe that during Catholic Mass, the bread and wine used in Communion ‘are symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.’ Just one-third of U.S. Catholics (31%) say they believe that ‘during Catholic Mass, the**

bread and wine actually become the Body and Blood of Jesus.”

As a kid in Catholic school in the confusing 70s and 80s, I saw how poor catechesis and a turning away from traditional Catholic practices, such as Benediction, Adoration, and reception of Communion at an altar rail, has led to this widespread error, even amongst those who attend Mass regularly. Understanding and prayerfully reflecting on the Institution of the Eucharist can strengthen us to work for an increase in reverence toward the Eucharist in our churches and throughout our world.

The Luminous Mysteries, therefore, address the areas of heretical thought and practice within our culture today. Praying and reflecting on these mysteries, along with the original fifteen, can be our best weapon and protection against these modern heresies. The rosary can strengthen us to speak up and correct, with charity, those we encounter who subscribe to these errors.

In this trying time, I would submit we follow the message of Our Lady and the example of our founder, Tom Rutkoski: **Pray, Fast, and offer Sacrifices daily.** The best weapon we have against evil is the rosary. I personally started praying all 20 decades of the Rosary and attending daily Mass back in December and have since added fasting on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for the conversion of sinners (starting with myself) and peace in our world. Will you join me?

—Chris Reynolds

**(<https://cara.georgetown.edu/frequently-requested-church-statistics/>)*

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GROWING GOSPA

Our Vision

A world where all people live in faith to know, love, and serve Our Lord so they can spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

Our Mission

To lead all souls, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, into the fullness of Truth found in the Catholic Church; in the hope that they grow in their relationship with God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Following the precedent set by our founder, Thomas Rutkoski, we promise to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit, while we attempt to act with complete charity, as we provide experiences, resources, and personal communication; always encouraging others to a deeper conversion in Christ.



Evangelization

While our usual methods of evangelization (conferences and pilgrimages) are not possible for the time being, we are still continuing our work of evangelization in many ways. One goal we have set is to again distribute Tom's talks and books!

To do so, we will be reprinting *Apostles of the Last Days* and get Tom's conversion story, both print and audio, into the hands of 20,000 people throughout the world.

Over the past 30 years, we've seen how powerful Tom's story is, and we believe it is the best way to touch the hearts of people, especially in these troubled times! With the help of our donors and supporters, we can share this much-needed message of Truth, grace, and repentance with the world, and lead souls to conversion!



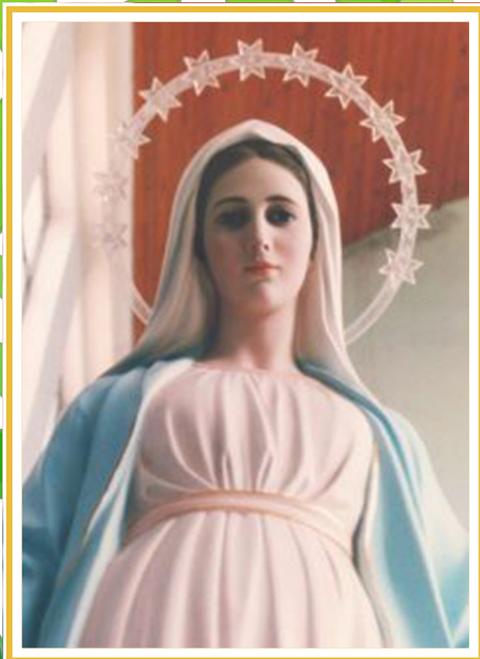
Strengthening our infrastructure

With our new website and online store up and running, the possibilities are endless for Gospa Missions! We have leveraged useful tools and systems that will help us accomplish our mission more effectively and efficiently.

Using current technology and best practices for e-commerce, we aim to make our message of evangelization and our high-quality Catholic items available to more people than ever before.

This growth will not only help us to get our message in front of more people in need of conversion, but will also help us fully support the operations of Gospa Missions through the store sales, freeing our donations to be used for further evangelization efforts!

A MISSIONS



Giving effectively

Charitable giving and caring for those most in need has always been an essential part of Gospa Missions' work. Currently, we do so by supporting our sister organization, Abode for Children, which houses, feeds, educates, and cares for orphans and impoverished children in India and Nigeria.

Our goal is to make sure that the orphanages and schools in India and Nigeria have the funding they need to provide nutritious meals, loving care, and a high-quality Catholic education to the hundreds of children they serve.

We will do this by putting in place systems that minimize overhead costs and sharing the opportunity to make a life-changing difference with more potential donors and sponsors.

Our Strategy

Gospa Missions, drawing from its rich history and inspired founding in 1990 by Thomas Rutkoski, is committed to furthering the Blessed Mother's mission to lead all souls to her Son. We do this by holding conferences, leading pilgrimages, selling faith-supporting items, publishing vital and interesting information about our Catholic Faith, and by giving generously to support vulnerable children through our partnership with *Abode for Children*. In addition, we promote conversion of heart through encouraging the practice of daily Mass, the praying of the Rosary, fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays, and monthly Confession. *Gospa Missions* partners with all who feel called to further our mission.

We desire the salvation of all souls, focusing primarily upon reaching out to our fellow Catholics and to those who have fallen away from their Faith. We will warn our brothers and sisters in Christ against the dangers of complacency in our relationship with God. As Jesus revealed to St. John in the book of Revelation, *"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold, nor hot. I would thou wert cold, or hot. But because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold, nor hot, I will begin to vomit thee out of my mouth."*

LIFE WITH (and before) COVID at AFC

Amidst the global concern regarding COVID-19, the start of our schools has been delayed until, at least, the end of September.

In the meantime, the ongoing support of our sponsors and donors has made it possible for the children's basic needs to continue to be met, both the orphans we care for and the other impoverished children who attend our school. As one example, our school in India has been calling the families of the children who attend our school and providing groceries and other basic necessities to those who are in desperate need, many of whom lost work due to the lockdown.



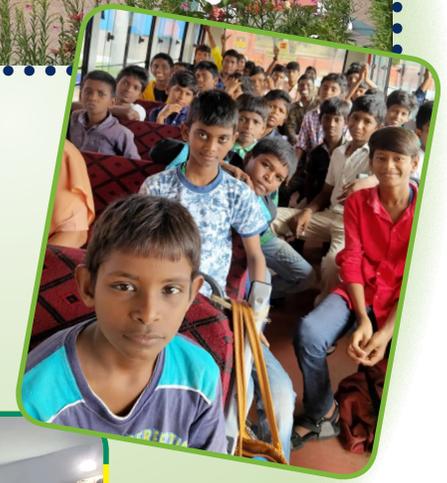
Above, Fr. Allam distributing food on the street to parents left unemployed by Covid-19.



Left, Food distribution at Mary Rose Buds School.



Right, Morning Assembly at Mary Rose Buds School. School is on the upper left and the church, upper right.



Left and Above, Visiting Gundala Matha Shrine (St. Mary Church), outside of Amaravathi, the capital of Andhra Pradesh.



servants, as well as your best oxen and your asses, and use them to do his work. He will tithe your flocks and you, yourselves, will become his slaves. Then you will complain, but the Lord will not answer you.” (I Sam 8:11-18)

But, of course, the people refused to listen. And so, the Lord granted their request and the warnings came to pass. Is there any hope remaining? Hope saved eight people on an ark while the rest of the world perished. The same hope is available today. Simply live as if the end of the world was to be tomorrow and your only desire was to please God. Make all of your decisions based on this premise and you will have all the hope you need.

And for those who still think Hell is a fantasy, global warming should

excite you. It’s a chance to get used to the heat.

Here’s a test: (Pretend this is China)

- U.S.S.R. stands for:
- a) Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,
- b) United States Socialist Republic,
- c) Union of Satan’s Socialist Republic.

For which are you voting?



Thomas Rutkoski

...and Mary



Catholic Teaching & Trivia

5 Fruits of Holy Communion

1391 Holy Communion augments our union with Christ. The principal fruit of receiving the Eucharist in Holy Communion is an intimate union with Christ Jesus. Indeed, the Lord said: “He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him” (Jn 6:56)...

1392 ...Communion with the flesh of the risen Christ...preserves, increases, and renews the life of grace received at Baptism. This growth in Christian life needs the nourishment of Eucharistic Communion...

1393 Holy Communion separates us from sin. The Body of Christ... is “given up for us,” and the Blood... “shed for the many for the forgiveness of sins.” For this reason the Eucharist cannot unite us to Christ without at the same time cleansing us from past sins and preserving us from future sins...

1394 As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity... and this living charity wipes away venial sins...

1395 By the same charity that it enkindles in us, the Eucharist preserves us from future mortal sins. The more we share the life of Christ...the more difficult it is to break away from Him by mortal sin. The Eucharist is not ordered to the forgiveness of mortal sins—that is proper to the sacrament of Reconciliation. The Eucharist is properly the sacrament of those who are in full communion with the Church.

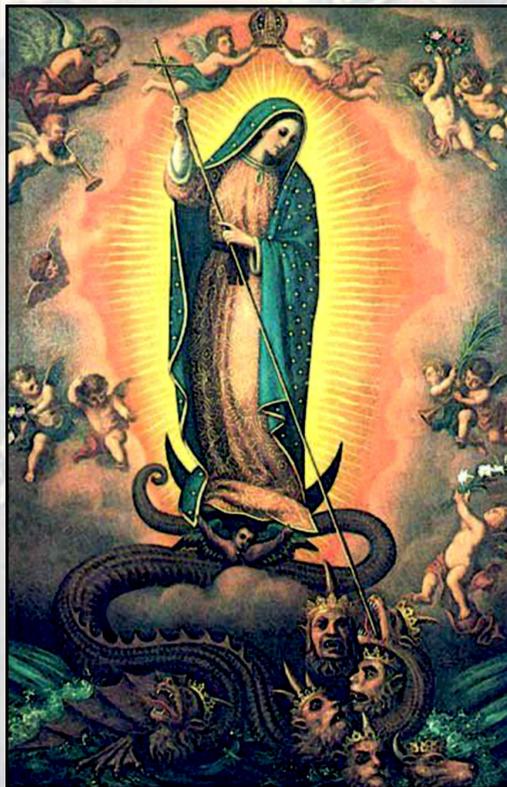
1396 The unity of the Mystical Body: the Eucharist makes the Church. Those who receive the Eucharist are united more closely to Christ. Through it Christ unites them to all the faithful in one body...

1397 The Eucharist commits us to the poor. To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognize Christ in the poorest, his brethren...

—The Catechism of the Catholic Church

A Prayer to Defeat the Devil

by St. Anna Maria Taigi, incorrupt Patroness of Mothers and Families



Prostrate at thy feet, O Great Queen of Heaven, we venerate thee with the deepest reverence and we confess that thou art the Daughter of the Father, the Mother of the Divine Word, the Spouse of the Holy Ghost. Thou art the storekeeper and the almoner of the Divine Mercies. For this reason, we call thee Mother of Divine Compassion.

Behold us here in affliction and anguish. Deign to show us thy true love. We beg thee to ask the Holy Trinity, most fervently, to grant us the grace ever to conquer the devil and the world and our evil passions; the efficacious grace that sanctifies the just, converts sinners, destroys heresies, enlightens infidels and brings all men to the true faith.

Obtain for us this great gift that all the world may form but one people united in the One True Church.

Mary, Mother of Holy Hope, pray for us. Amen.

Venerable Servant of God, Archbishop Fulton Sheen

Venerable Archbishop Sheen is best known for his television series, *Life is Worth Living*, which ran from 1951 to 1957. An estimated thirty million people tuned in each week to watch this Irish-American priest who had a way of applying the Gospel to everyday life and current social problems that was not simply entertaining but evangelizing. This talent, no doubt, led to his winning an Emmy Award for the Most Outstanding Television Personality in 1953.

Previous to *Life is Worth Living*, Fr. Sheen had a weekly spot on *The Catholic Hour* radio show from 1930-1950.

In 1940, he was the celebrant for the world's first televised broadcast of a Catholic religious service, the Easter Sunday Mass.

Wherever he was, Fr Sheen's concern for souls impelled him to evangelize and he personally led people from all walks of life, famous and not-so, to Christ and the Catholic Church. This passion also impelled him to travel the country, giving lectures and retreats, as well as to write dozens of books. It also, no doubt, inspired his acceptance, in 1950, to head the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He filled that position for sixteen years.

In 1951, Fulton Sheen was elevated to bishop of the

titular see of Caeseropolis and to Archbishop of the titular see of Newport (Wales) in 1969.

He also attended all the sessions of the Second Vatican Council, from 1962 to 1965.

When Pope John Paul II visited the United States in October 1979, he met Archbishop Sheen at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. The pope embraced him and exclaimed, "You have written and spoken well of the Lord Jesus. You are a loyal son of the Church!"

Two months later, the archbishop was found dead in his private chapel, no doubt remaining true to his 60-year habit of a daily Holy Hour.

The cause for his canonization was opened in 2002 in the Diocese of Peoria, IL. Pope Benedict XVI declared him Venerable in 2012. A miracle attributed to Sheen's intercession was approved in 2014 and the beatification was scheduled for December 2019. It was postponed at the request of the Diocese of Rochester, where Sheen was the bishop from 1966-1969, pending a state-wide report from the New York attorney general on clergy sexual abuse. No charges or allegations are expected against Sheen.

—Dawn Sanders

Continued from Page 1 — Sheen

intolerant, and for this kind of intolerance, so much needed to rouse us from sentimental gush, I make a plea. Intolerance of this kind is the foundation of all stability." — *Fulton J. Sheen*

Equipped with this wisdom, I believe that Catholics must be **intolerant** in so far as evil or a disruption of moral teachings, and societal mores, are concerned. Failure to display **intolerance** becomes tantamount to a complete giving in, as Archbishop Sheen observed,

"The refusal to take sides on great moral issues is itself a decision. It is a silent acquiescence to evil. **The tragedy of our time is that those who still believe in honesty lack fire and conviction, while those who believe in dishonesty are full of passionate conviction.**"

While not necessarily emulating the movie *Network* and flinging the window open to yell "I'm as mad as h---, and I'm not going to take this anymore!", we are called upon to correct our brothers in society and help them see that the current social order is a bit off center. As an example, how does it make any sense that any government should pay organizations to kill their pre-born citizens via abortion?

Aren't Christians called to turn the other cheek? Aren't they simply supposed to be meek and sheepish? To some extent perhaps, but, there are many instances where we are told to admonish, correct, or otherwise counsel our brothers when we see them in error.

Matthew 18:15 "If your brother sins [against you], go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If

he listens to you, you have won over your brother."

Galatians 6:1 "Brothers, even if a person is caught in some transgression, you who are spiritual should correct that one in a gentle spirit, looking to yourself, so that you also may not be tempted."

1 Thessalonians 5:14-15 "We urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, cheer the fainthearted, support the weak, be patient with all. See that no one returns evil for evil; rather, always seek what is good [both] for each other and for all."

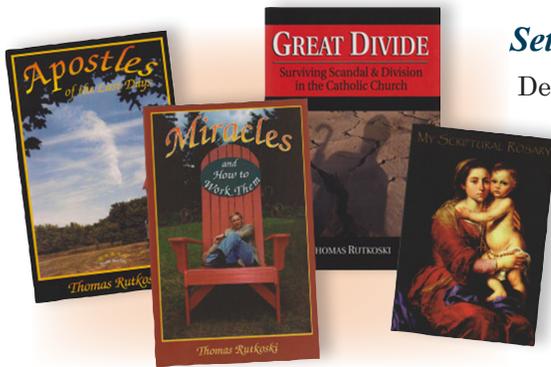
These and several other quotes tell us that we must correct that which is wrong, but, we must do so with love and not with hate. Failure to correct our brothers (society in general) is the first step down the slippery slope which will end potentially with the loss of any religion at all.

"A religion that doesn't interfere with the secular order will soon discover that the secular order will not refrain from interfering with it." — *Fulton J. Sheen*

Author Dan Byron and his bride, his gift from God, have been married over 50 years, and they have recently moved to East TN to reduce the distance to family. He is a 4th degree Knight, is active in the Society of St Vincent de Paul, and several other ministries. He has been listed in the Who's Who Directory of Global Business Leaders.

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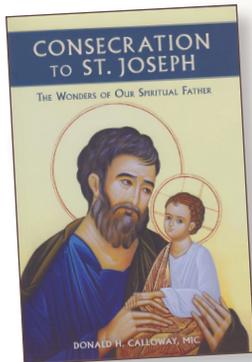
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Fr. Leon Answers Objections to Medjugorje

Often Fr. Leon [the chaplain to the English speaking pilgrims in Medjugorje] will give a little talk before the English Mass, which we call a “Sanctuary Snippet!” (You can listen to all the Snippets here: <https://marytv.tv/sanctuary-snippets-2/>.) He does short teachings that help us in our spiritual life. The Snippet for October 9, was so helpful! He answered several objections to Medjugorje as an apparition site. We all encounter people who are cautious or even afraid of Medjugorje. Fr. Leon’s points will help us to allay their fears. Medjugorje is a grace for our time!

Fr. Leon’s Snippet for October 9, 2018: “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Today I thought I would talk to you about possible objections to Medjugorje. Some of the objections that people come up with (these are the sort of things you hear or have already heard, or maybe you have these objections yourself):

“One of the things people say is that **you cannot go to an unapproved apparition site**. Well, what happened at Lourdes? Lourdes took four years to be approved. Fatima took fifteen years to be approved. When they were approved, the bishops said that one of the reasons they were approved was the continual numbers of people who were coming there while it was still not approved. So that is one of the signs that the Church looks for. So to say that you cannot go to a place that is not approved yet is not true.

“Then people say that **the apparitions at Medjugorje have gone on too long**. OK, how long is too long? In Laus in France, the apparitions went on for 54 years – daily apparitions. Fatima, we know that Sr. Lucia continued to have apparitions for 88 years! OK? So how long is too long?

“Then they say that **the approval is too slow in coming**. Champion in Wisconsin took 151 years to be approved. Laus in France took 344 years. So the average number of years for Marian Apparitions Sites for approval is 64.8 years. Here in Medjugorje, we are near 37 years, so we have another



27.8 years to go before we are average.

“Then people say **there is a danger in going to a place like Medjugorje**. This is true. According to Archbishop Leonard of Brussels, he said there are two dangers in going to Medjugorje. Number 1 – the first danger in going to Medjugorje is that it may be false. And if it is false, we are all in danger of being deceived. If we are being deceived, we are being deceived into what? Praying the Rosary every day from the heart, going to Mass every day, going to Confession once a month, reading our Bibles, fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays. Oh, happy deception – I wish the whole world were deceived in this way! Number 2 – then he says there is a greater danger to Medjugorje. This is the danger of ‘What if it *is* true?’ Because then it is a grace from God, and how have we responded to it? So that is the greater danger!

“Then people say, ‘**Oh the visionaries’ lives! If I had seen the Mother of God, I would have become a monk or nun or something.**’ Then you have to ask yourselves, ‘Why haven’t I become a monk or nun?’ It’s not too late! I have a habit in your size. Now this I call ‘Vauzou syndrome’. I name it after the novice mistress of St. Bernadette. Sr. Vauzou said, ‘Why

would the Mother of God appear to an illiterate, uneducated sister? She should have appeared to a marvelous, fantastic, clever person like me.’ Now think about La Salette. In La Salette, which is an approved apparition, the two visionaries were hounded by the public and they both went off the rails. Melanie, the girl, joined four different orders and she died outside all of them, dispensed from her vows. Maximin, the boy, was thrown out of high school, then thrown out of medical school, then tried to be a soldier and failed at that. Tried to train as a pharmacist, and later lent his name to a man who made liquor, and they called it ‘Visionary Liquor’. He was swindled out of a lot of money. Then he died, penniless, alcoholic and in a ditch, alone. But he was a real visionary. So don’t confuse being a visionary with being a saint. This is a good reason why we should leave them alone and not hound them.

“Finally, two last things. People say **Our Lady doesn’t make appointments to appear**, because here She appears at 5:40 [6:40 in the summer] every day. What did She do in history? Well we know at Guadalupe, She said to come back tomorrow, same time and same place. Fatima: come back every 13th of the month, same time, same place. Lourdes: ‘*Will you do me the great grace of coming here every day for 15 days?*’ So from this we see that Mary is perfectly capable of making appointments.

“**And finally, people complain that it is the same message, over and over**. This I submit to all the mothers here. You know if you repeat yourself, obviously you must be fake. So to all the mothers here, how many times do you tell your children to come down to dinner? How many times do you tell them to clean their rooms? Just once? Because if you repeat yourself, you must be fake. OK, if Our Lady has to repeat Herself, it means that we are bad children! In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! Amen.”

By Cathy Nolan from Mary TV —
Source: *Spirit of Medjugorje*