

SUPPLEMENT TO THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Readers,

Enclosed is a supplement, written by one of our parishioners in England, which expresses very clearly and concisely the position which we hold, namely that Novus Ordo “popes” are not true popes, inasmuch as they do not have the power from Christ to teach, rule and sanctify the Church, but nonetheless are validly elected pope-elects. This is to say that they are not popes *formally*, that is, in reality, but are in a position to become true and valid popes, if they should remove the obstacles to their receiving the power from Christ. Since an election constitutes the *matter* of authority, in the same way that wood is the matter of a statue, we say that they are popes *materially*.

The same can be said of the Novus Ordo “bishops.”

Opposed to this explanation is what we call *totalism*, which says that this N.O. hierarchy has neither the power from Christ to rule the Church, nor even a valid election or designation to rule.

The author of this brief article, Frankie Logue, goes directly to the source of the error in the totalist position, which is *the failure to distinguish between the order of reality and the order of legality*.

It is common that something may be true in reality, for example, that someone is a murderer, but not true in the legal order, since the murderer is considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. We are saying the same thing here. In reality these men have no power to rule the Church. On that we all agree. Since they are *undeclared heretics*, however, that is, not yet condemned by the legal processes of the Church, they still retain a legal ability to be elected and designated to positions of power.

The Church is not a mob. It operates according to law.

Furthermore, the material/formal sedevacantists do not argue the vacancy of the Roman See from the point of view of the personal sin or crime of heresy of the Modernist Inmate of the Vatican, but instead argue from his intention to impose upon the institutions of the Catholic Church a new and false religion, substantially different from pre-Vatican II Catholicism. For the problem we are facing is not that Bergoglio is a heretic, but that he teaches heresy to the whole Church, and imposes sinful disciplines. This is contrary to the indefectibility of the Church, which is a dogma of Faith.

Finally, totalist sedevacantists do not give any explanation of how apostolicity is saved in their system, which is a glaring flaw. For apostolicity is also a dogma of Faith. Somehow, in this time of the apostasy of the hierarchy, we must be able to account for the continuity of apostolic succession until the end of time. As I always say, if the totalists have a better explanation than what we propose, we are listening.

Most Rev. Donald J. Sanborn