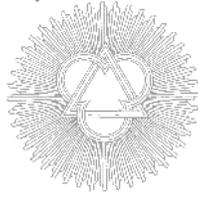

Most Holy Trinity Seminary Newsletter



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My dear Catholic people,

Earlier this month I travelled to France, and in the city of Nantes administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to forty-three recipients.

Relatively few of the recipients were children, as is usually the case. Of the forty-three, I would estimate that at least thirty-five were men, and of those, about twenty-five were *young* men. I learned later that most of these were converts from *nothing*, that is, from no religion at all. It should be noted here that 55% of the people in France are atheists. It is therefore fairly common to grow up with no religion at all.

I was told that Father Chappot de La Chanonie, a graduate of our seminary, has been instructing these young men in the Catholic Faith. It was very edifying to see this result, and even surprising.

Young men today have many temptations against both chastity and the faith itself. As a rule, they are not raised in the spirit and practice of christian mortification of their senses, but are taught to indulge in whatever inclination comes to their mind

or body. They are, furthermore, subject to the temptation of conformity to others, either to their parents, who may well be religion-less, or to teachers and schoolmates, who are likewise imbued with the atheistic and hedonistic culture.

Men are more attracted to conformity in these things than women are. A woman will worry more about conformity to fashions in dress and make-up, than

about conformity to ideas. Men are the opposite. They have little or no care for passing fashions, but do have a very strong desire to be accepted by fellow men from the point of view of ideas. For this reason, they are more prey to temptations against the faith. It



Confirmations in Nantes, France

The confirmands and clergy pose for a picture after the ceremony. On the left, in surplice, is Father Tobias Bayer, who accompanied me on the journey. On the right, in surplice and stole is Father Philippe Guépin, the pastor of the chapel of Christ the King in Nantes. At the extreme right, in surplice, is Father Henry Chappot de La Chanonie.

is also true that women, by nature, are more prone to acts of piety than men are.

The typical young man today becomes addicted to sexual pleasures at a young age. This addiction blinds him to spiritual things, leaving him in a rut from which he cannot escape on his own power. This addiction, furthermore, causes him to be depressed, since he knows down deep that he is acting like an animal, and not like a human being.

By the grace of God, however, this depression and interior disquiet can bring him to a desire to be reconciled to God.

What I have described was precisely the case of Saint Augustine. One day, he was so overwhelmed by the weight of his impurity that he went into his garden and wept bitterly, with his head in his hands. As he wept, he heard the voice of a little child singing, in Latin "*tolle, lege.*" which means "*take up and read.*" He looked around, but there was no child to be found. He went back into his house, picked up Sacred Scripture, and opened it randomly, and found these words of Saint Paul: *Let us walk honestly, as in the day: not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and impurities, not in contention and envy: But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh in its concupiscences.* (Rom. XIII: 13, 14)

Saint Augustine said: "As if a light of security had infiltrated my heart, all the darkness of my doubts had dissipated."

We know the rest. He went on to become one of the greatest saints of the Catholic Church, one of her greatest doctors, second only to Saint Thomas Aquinas. In fact, St. Thomas quoted him more than any other doctor of the Church.

The death of Ratzinger. The last of the suit-and-tie priests, the radicals who inspired and directed Vatican II, has passed on to his judgement. Only God knows what is in store for those who have destroyed His vineyard with the ravages of Modernism. Karl Rahner and Hans Küng, his radical cronies, have already preceded him to the judgement seat.

The media and the Novus Ordo conservatives regard him as a great man, a great conservative who was preserving the Faith against the naysayers.

Of course we know this is false. But it is true to say that he was a Novus Ordo conservative. This designation, however, does not in any way exonerate him, or make him worthy of praise.

What is damning in the term is *Novus Ordo*. This term indicates the entire revolution of Vatican II, which infected dogma, morals, discipline, canon law, and the liturgy. Every single aspect of Catholic life

was injected with this poison, with the result that billions of souls have lost the Catholic Faith.

Everyone detests the crime of genocide. If we take Hitler, Stalin and Mao-Tse-Tung together, it might add up to 100 million dead bodies.

Genocide is to destroy people's bodies. Vatican II perpetrated a *spiritual* genocide, however, in which *billions* have lost the Catholic Faith. Spiritual death is an everlasting death, one that never quits. It is a perpetual and continual pain of separation from God. It is everlasting agony.

What is yet worse, Ratzinger personified the attempt to "marry" this godless revolution of Vatican II with the Catholic Faith. He encouraged the traditional Latin Mass, but under the aspect of Modernism, that is, because it corresponds to people's tastes and sensitivities. For this he is praised and glorified, in contrast to Bergoglio, who is vilified for merely being a *consistent* Vatican II proponent.

We cannot, however, permit the Catholic Faith to become the illegitimate child resulting from the union of two religions which are diametrically opposed to each other. We cannot be in communion with those who have destroyed our Faith. Vatican II must be condemned and repudiated as a *conciliabulum*, which is the Church's term for an illegitimate and phony council. Only then will there be a true restoration, and only then a true peace.

It is the characteristic of non-Catholic sects to have liberal and conservative branches. The very term "conservative" implies the legitimacy of its correlative, namely "liberal." So there are liberal and conservative Jews, liberal and conservative Protestants, liberal and conservative Moslems.

The Catholic Faith, by its very nature, and even by its name, is *universal*, that is one single set of dogmas and morals for everyone, without any deviation, one government, one worship, one great institution. If we accept anything less than this, we will be worse than the very perpetrators of this apostasy of Vatican II.

A move to get rid of Francis? The Italian newspaper *La Stampa* reported that there is a movement afoot among some cardinals to put pressure on Bergoglio to resign. An anonymous cardinal stated, "The secret plan will be formulated on various axes and phases, but it will have one objective - to place the pontificate under such stress that Francis will have to resign." Interesting.

More invalid Novus Ordo baptisms. Recently it was discovered in a diocese in the southwest that a

Novus Ordo priest was conferring baptism in an invalid manner. He changed the formula from “*I baptize you...*” to “*We baptize you...*” Even the Novus Ordo, which has succeeded in rendering either doubtful or invalid nearly every sacrament, recognized that this was an invalid formula.

The priest, apparently, has been doing this for years, which means that hundreds, if not thousands, of baptisms have been affected. They all have to be redone, according to the diocese.

There was almost an identical case in the Archdiocese of Detroit a few years ago.

Who is to blame for this? The priest? No, Vatican II and the modernistic training which the candidates for the Novus Ordo priesthood receive. The only word for this training is *garbage*.

For one thing, they are told that the sacramental forms are not “magic words.” This is to mock the Church’s traditional solicitude for the accuracy of the form of the sacrament. A sacrament is a *sign*, and therefore like any sign, it must be clear and unambiguous. Imagine a traffic light which emitted an unclear color.

Secondly, Novus Ordo clergy are encouraged to ad-lib in the Mass and sacraments. They are encouraged to make their own comments in the Mass, to conduct the “liturgy,” as they call it, in their own personal style.

Thirdly, there is so much emphasis on “the community” and lay participation in the Novus Ordo, that it would not be surprising that a priest would think that “*We baptize*” is actually better than “*I baptize*,” which is so “exclusive.” The new theology concerning baptism is that it is an initiation into the Church. The dogma of original sin has been neglected into oblivion. The idea of the minister of the sacrament being the instrumental cause of the sacrament is mocked as “medieval” and “aristotelian.”

With all of these factors swirling in the head of the Novus Ordo priest, it is of no wonder that he thought nothing of changing the words of baptism.

Our policy now is this: If you arrive from the Novus Ordo, it is necessary that your baptism be verified either by yourself, or by some witness. Otherwise we baptize again conditionally. For who knows how many other instances of invalid or doubtful baptisms there have been? We have seen many videos of Novus

Ordo priests pour the water onto the hair, and not the forehead, of the recipient. To do so is to render the sacrament doubtful.

Mass in Harrisburg. Since Christmas, we have been offering Mass in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The location is the Holiday Inn Express, 4201 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109. The Mass time is 10:00 A.M., but in February, only, there will be some changes in the Mass time owing to previous commitments of the hotel. Please check our website. We are also looking forward to opening a Mass center in the Philadelphia area. Those who are interested in these Masses should send us an email at the address that is located on page 1. In time we hope to purchase churches in these areas, but we must save some money in order to do that.

Mass intentions. The clergy of the seminary may receive Mass intentions. The Mass stipend currently stands at \$25.00. However, this may change in time because of inflation. The Mass stipend helps the priest to meet his personal expenses, such as his cassocks, suit, and other clothing, as well as many other expenses, such as his personal computer and books.

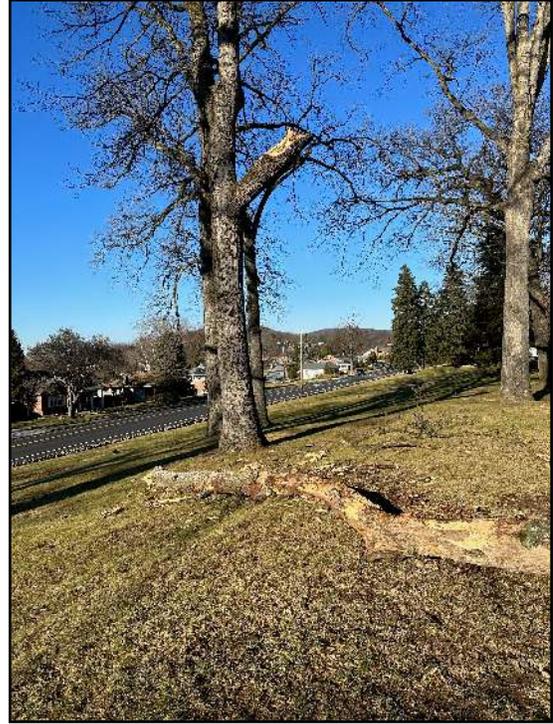
Thank you. We received many extraordinary donations at Christmastime. We thank you for these. We are still unsure of what our monthly expenses will be for food, gas, electricity, water, etc. Prices are generally higher here in the northeast. We have discovered, however, that our building is very well insulated, and holds the heat quite successfully.

The winter in Reading is relatively mild. Usually we have low thirties at night and low to middle forties during the day. We have received only dustings of snow. But the winter is not over yet!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Rev. Donald J. Sanborn
Rector



Some unexpected damage

Upon my return from France, I discovered this extensive damage to our front porch. A large branch fell from a nearby tree, on our own property. There had been no wind or bad weather when it happened, but there had been some very high wind the week before, and it is possible that the branch became weakened, and merely fell. Oddly, no one heard it. This is probably because all but one resident of our building were away that day in New York, visiting the Metropolitan Museum of Art. We are claiming the damage on insurance, but there is a \$5000 deductible. This is one of two trees which need to be taken out completely. They probably antedate the building, which is over ninety years old.