

## **"I MUST DISOBEY": A PRIEST'S LETTER TO HIS BISHOP With acknowledgement to The Remnant Newspaper**

**[Editor's Note:** The following letter from a priest to his bishop could well be a template for other priests who find themselves trapped in a similar position. Many will be ordered to cease offering the traditional Mass, and many will feel that they have no option in conscience but to disobey. It is important to acknowledge that the real villain here is Pope Francis, not the bishop, the bishop is himself between a rock and a hard place.

No power on earth or under the earth has the power to destroy the traditional Mass, the rite of our forefathers, saints and martyrs, not even a papal wrecking ball like Francis. Many have tried in the past. The British State spent 200 years trying to wipe it out, and failed miserably. And the British State had far more draconian and cruel means of oppression at its disposal than has Bergoglio.

In God's good time, the traditional Mass will be fully restored to our altars, just as it was after the 1970s when the Modernists thought that they had buried it. Then as now, their celebration will prove premature, for God is ultimately in charge.

It is essential to note that all the high-ranking churchmen who are hell bent on the destruction of traditional Catholic communities are men who dissent from the Church's perennial teachings on a raft of issues, and in a former age would have been roundly condemned as heretics. They oppose the Church's teachings on the evil of artificial contraception; they constantly promote the sodomite agenda; and last but not least they oppose the Church on the pro-life issues, which they regularly signal by lionizing pro-abortion politicians and publicly giving them Holy Communion. I do not believe that any Catholic, priest or layman, has any obligation to obey prelates who so clearly reject the faith of the Church, no matter what their rank.



Please share this letter with your priests, so that together we can hunker down and weather the coming storm, and ultimately emerge from the bunkers stronger than ever.  
ED]



Your Excellency:

Praise be to Jesus Christ now and forever. As one of your most loyal priests – who has always tried to honour his Church, obey his bishop, and worship his God – I never anticipated having to do what I'm about to do, and I am truly sorry for the disappointment it may cause.

After much prayer, study, and consideration, I find myself bound in conscience to declare my intention to disobey your order to stop offering the Traditional Latin Mass.

I realize that Your Excellency is in a difficult position, and that you too are following the dictates of your conscience where the Holy Father's *motu proprio Traditionis Custodes* is concerned. But I have weighed my duty before God against my promise to obey – and God won out. As I see it, to comply with an order so unjust could well rise to the level of effrontery to Almighty God Himself.

But let me be clear, I do not intend to disrespect you, much less question your rightful authority over me as a simple priest. This is a matter of conscience for me, and the reason I cannot obey has everything to do with the crisis in the Church and nothing whatever to do with any personal disrespect for you.

Before God, I have no choice. I see so many faithful Catholics losing heart due to sexual, financial, and doctrinal scandals that run up and down the entire chain of command. The few that remain are barely hanging on. Many would have left already had it not been for the traditional Mass, which somehow by God's grace speaks to their broken hearts and soothes their battered souls.

How can we take this away from them? Have they not suffered enough? This is the only Mass the young people in my parish have ever known. It unites them, not only with Catholics all over the world, but also with their forefathers. It sustains them. It lifts them up, inspires them, helps them grow closer to God.

Our Church is based on Faith and Reason, but how is this not detrimental to Faith? And how is it not utterly unreasonable? I cannot accept that God wishes for us to cooperate with such cruel persecution of such faithful Catholics. And even if it means I am to lose my position and livelihood for a time, at least I will not have the souls of their children on my conscience. I know them. I know how much they love God and the Church and the angels and the saints. I will not do this to them. I cannot betray them. I will have no part in this scandal.

I pray that you will understand my crisis of conscience, even if you disagree with my decision to continue offering the Latin Mass. You are my bishop, Francis is my pope,

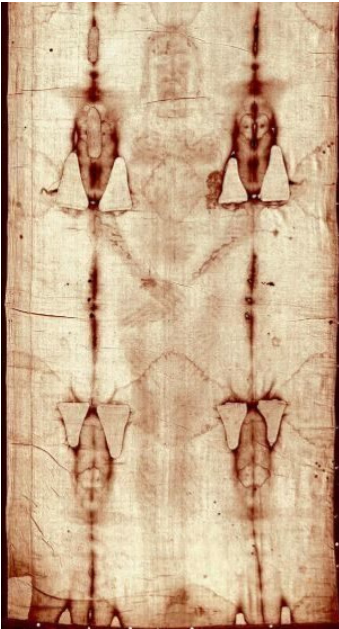
and I will pray for you both at every Mass I offer, even as I pray that our merciful God will shorten this time of tribulation for us all.

With great sorrow and sincere affection,

Father X

**THE SHROUD OF TURIN**  
**What MODERN SCIENCE has to say about the most extraordinary image in the history of the world**  
**By Graham Moorhouse, with acknowledgement to Prof Robert Spitzer SJ Ph.D**

**Miraculous witness to the Crucifixion and glorious Resurrection of Christ.**



Millions believe that the Shroud of Turin is the linen cloth that Jesus Christ was wrapped in for burial after His crucifixion. On the Shroud there is a perfect negative image of a crucified man. But it's not merely a perfect negative image, it's a perfect 3D negative image! Further, it actually has details of the inside of the body, somewhat akin to a modern ultrasound scan: you can see the bones in the hands, for example, and the flesh relative to the bones.



In addition to the image on the Shroud, there are blood stains. The blood type is AB+. We also have a partial DNA profile. The profile is not complete because it is far too contaminated, but there's real haemoglobin in it and there's separation of serum from the plasma.

**How ancient is the Shroud?**

There have been five serious attempts by scientists to date the Shroud. The four most recent tests were:

1. Fourier Transformed Infrared Spectroscopy Testing of Cellulose Degradation.

2. Raman Spectroscopy (Laser) Testing of Cellulose Degradation.
3. Mechanical Tests of Compressibility and Breaking Strength of Fibres.
4. A vanillin test dating.

If one averages the results of all four of these tests, the date that one comes up with is 50 AD plus or minus 150 years with a 96% confidence level. Note: Christ was crucified most probably in 30 AD.

There is one earlier test that needs to be mentioned: the 1988 attempt to carbon date the Shroud, which came up with a radically different date: 1260–1390 AD. It would seem safe to dismiss this aberration for several reasons, chief of which is that material analysis has revealed that the material tested was dyed, whereas the Shroud is woven from un-dyed linen. How did such an error occur? Well, in December, 1532, a fire broke out in the sacristy of the Sainte-Chapelle in Chambéry, France, where the Shroud was then housed. The Shroud was rescued but not before it had sustained some fire damage. In April 1534, the Poor Clare nuns were commissioned by a papal legate with the task of repairing the Shroud. The sisters dyed the thread they used to match the linen of the Shroud. Further, it should be noted that a fire, in itself, would compromise carbon dating.

In addition to scientific analysis there are other indications of the Shroud's provenance. In the Cathedral of San Salvador in Spain, there is kept a bloodstained cloth measuring approximately 600mm square, known as the Shroud of Oviedo. It is believed to be the cloth that was wrapped around the head of Christ after He died, as described in John 20:6–7<sup>1</sup>. This relic has a definite history extending back to around 570 AD. It has 129 blood stains from the crowning with thorns and the whipping. If you lay the Shroud of Turin over the Shroud of Oviedo you find the blood marks match, showing that both relics must have touched the face of the same victim, and done so prior to 570 AD.

Even more significant, the image on the Shroud of Turin has two coins placed on the man's eyes, and those coins have a very unique feature that's on only six coins in the entire numismatic collections of the world. They come from a special minting of Roman leptons<sup>2</sup> by Pontius Pilate in 29 AD, the year before Christ was crucified!

A forensic scientist has also studied the pollen on the Shroud and found them to be consistent with first century Judea.

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<sup>1</sup> "Then cometh Simon Peter, following him, and went into the sepulchre, and saw the linen cloths lying, And the napkin that had been about his head, not lying with the linen cloths, but apart, wrapped up into one place."

<sup>2</sup> A lepton, meaning "small" or "thin", was a small value coin during classical and Hellenistic times.

## **How do we know the image on the Shroud is Christ?**

It is important to note that Christ's crucifixion was not a normal crucifixion. First up, Christ was brutally flogged before He was crucified. The man on the Shroud has been lashed 132 times, and it's the exact whip that was used by Romans, the three-strand whip with the bone or metal chips embedded. Paradoxically, Pilate had Christ flogged in a vain effort to spare Him crucifixion.

Next, we have the evidence of the crowning with thorns. Christ was crowned with thorns in an act of cruel, sarcastic mockery because of His claim to be a king. There is no historical evidence of any other victim of crucifixion having been crowned with thorns.

Thirdly, the victim on the Shroud has a spear wound between the fourth and fifth rib on the right-hand side. Victims of crucifixion would die from asphyxiation because, suspended with arms outstretched, they were unable to inhale. The Romans would hasten asphyxiation by breaking the legs of the victims, so they could no longer use their legs to take their weight off their arms. The Gospel records that when they came to Christ, they found He was already dead, so instead of breaking his legs they thrust a spear into His side<sup>3</sup>. The spear would have pierced the pericardial sac that surrounds the heart, and the heart itself, which explains the effusion of blood and water witnessed by St John (Jn 19:34-35)<sup>4</sup>.

Whilst medieval paintings always illustrate Christ nailed to the Cross through the palms of His hands, the Shroud shows Him nailed through His wrists. Many victims were tied to the cross, but Christ was nailed. Nailing through the wrist makes perfect sense. A nail through the bones of the wrist could support far more weight than a nail through the soft tissue of the palm.

### **How the image on the Shroud wasn't formed**

How was the image formed? The first thing to note is that the image is sitting on the surface of the fibre. There's nothing in the cloth itself, just on the surface. Scientists have therefore excluded dyes, chemicals, vapours or any liquid, because they would've soaked into the linen and not remained just on the outer surface. Further, it didn't get there by means of heat, i.e. scorching, because modern forensic science can easily detect scorching and this has been absolutely excluded.

### **The Shroud as evidence of the Resurrection**

It is difficult to fully comprehend the nature of Christ's resurrected body, because it is so different to anything within our experience. On the one hand it was a real body - the

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<sup>3</sup> The prophet Isaiah, writing some 600 years earlier had stated that no bone of Christ's body would be broken but that His side would be pierced.

<sup>4</sup> "But one of the soldiers with a spear opened his side, and immediately there came out blood and water. And he that saw it, hath given testimony, and his testimony is true. And he knoweth that he saith true; that you also may believe."

apostles ate with the risen Christ, and touched Him and examined his wounds. However, it had what we can only describe as transphysical powers. The risen Christ could pass through solid objects and appear among His followers in locked rooms. He could also conceal and reveal His identity at will. St Paul described it as a “spiritual body”. It was clearly something glorious, light filled and spiritual<sup>5</sup>.

Scientists, by a process of elimination, have only one explanation for the image on the cloth: light. But not just any light, a short intense burst of vacuum ultraviolet radiation, a super bright light capable of producing a perfect 3D negative on a non-photographically sensitive cloth. Physicists have calculated that in order to do that you would need six to eight billion watts of light! Now, there’s one problem with producing that amount of light energy, it would’ve been super, super hot, like being close to the sun. If that light burst had lasted even just one second, you wouldn’t even have smoke from the vaporized cloth, the smoke itself would have vaporised. So, how long did the light burst last? Physicists calculate one 40,000,000,000th of a second! Now, the only way scientists currently have of producing light like that is called an excimer laser. However, in order to produce that image, you would require 14,000 excimer lasers, which is more than the combined laser capacity of all the laboratories in the world. Nevertheless, teams of scientists have validated this theory 14 times since 2010 under laboratory conditions.

Oh, but there’s something even more remarkable. The Shroud does not merely have a perfect 3D image of the crucified Christ, it has also picked up data from the inside of the body. The only possible explanation is that when Christ rose from death, He did so in that transphysical state of which we have written, and passed through the Shroud covering His body just as He later passed through solid walls, in a physically translucent, light emanating, glorified, spiritual state.



### Conclusion

More scientific tests have been performed on the Shroud of Turin than any other artefact in history. And what is so remarkable is it keeps producing more evidence of the biblical account of Jesus’ crucifixion and of His most glorious resurrection. It’s as if God waited around for 21 centuries, having worked all the miracles way back and said, “Just wait till they get to the 21st century and discover this. I’ve got ‘em!”

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<sup>5</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:44 - It is sown a natural body, it shall rise a spiritual body. If there be a natural body, there is also a spiritual body, as it is written:

Readers interested in a much more detailed account of the Shroud, and its history and confirmed provenance, should consult the book *God So Loved the World*. Use this link to order from Amazon: <https://amzn.to/3XDTcdq>



The article is now available FREE from PEEP as an evangelising aid. Just contact PEEP for as many copies as you can make use off. Give them to relatives, friends, work colleagues, or just leave them in public places

### PICTURE OF A FAR-RIGHT HATER

“Scratch a liberal and you will find a fascist every time,” - By Graham Moorhouse



According to some secret deep-state database, I'm a far-right hater. I'm the old wrinkly at the back-right holding up a bottle of whisky at a gathering of my family. Take a good look so you know a far-right hater when you see one. Actually, I also have two more children who couldn't make it, three grandchildren born since the picture was taken, and one daughter-in-law who was indisposed at the time.

A couple of years ago, a friend of mine, a good Catholic prison chaplain, resigned from his ministry because he had got wind of the fact that he was on some watch list because of his association with me, the well-known far-right hater. His association consisted off occasionally inviting me in as a prison visitor to talk to young prisoners.

Recently, another good friend, whom some readers of the Flock will know, telephoned me to say that the agency who employs him as a supply teacher, informed him on Friday 25th November 2022 that they will not be offering him any more work. The reason? - they had prima facie evidence that he associated with far-right haters. Who were these nefarious Nazis? - the SSPX and PEEP (i.e. yours truly).

If one was able to get the cowardly, faceless, deep-state, Marxist bigots, who maintain these lists, into court, it could prove to be a lot of fun. I have two adopted coloured children, and seven mixed race grandchildren, so sticking racism on me might prove problematic. The devout Muslim who runs my corner shop has declared me to be a secret Muslim, as no white man (or so he assets) had ever treated him as kindly as I had. This amused me as you may guess, because he was as white as I am and I'm about as far from being a "secret Muslim" as one could possibly be. But this does suggest that the Islamophobia label might have trouble sticking. As for the Alphabet Brigade, I have a homosexual friend who has served time in Maidstone jail for paedophilia. The man in question hates the fact that he is aroused by children and has never harmed an actual child - he was discovered to have dirty-pictures on his computer. Before his arrest, he had approached the NHS for help with his disordered inclinations. They, instead of sending a therapist who might have been able to help him, sent the police! On the sure basis that Christ blood can wash away even the most vile of sins, I refuse to withdraw my friendship. So the homophobia label is another of their silly labels that they would to have a problem making stick. It is worth noting that all these silly labels come from people who clearly suffer from normalphobia.

So, I've yet to find out who it is I supposedly hate. I can only assume it is because I assert that a bloke dressed-up, made-up, drugged-up, and chopped-up to look like a comedic facsimile of a woman, is just that: a block dressed-up, made-up, drugged-up, and chopped-up to look like a comedic facsimile of a woman - but who knows.

Perhaps it is something to do with immigration? As a Christian, I strive to keep a hospitable home where strangers are routinely made welcome. Nevertheless, I do not leave my front door wide open with a big sign saying everyone who wants to can wander in. If I did, it would quickly cease to be my home. I regard my nation also as my home so, as a Christian, I would want my nation to be hospitable towards the stranger. Nevertheless, we need to exercise some control over our borders - if we allow thousands to enter illegally and in uncontrolled numbers, then my nation similarly ceases to be my home, and I have every right to object to that. We are supposed to be a democracy, but no one as far as I'm aware has ever voted for unrestricted illegal immigration. However, expressing views that most readers would believe are fairly reasonable, common sense even, is, I assume, enough to get you on some Deep-State Marxist's hit list.

But why would the SSPX be on their "far-right hater" list? After all, the only difference from the outside observer's view would be their tenacious clinging to the rites of our forefathers, saints and martyrs, as against most of the rest of the Church's ready acceptance of the post-Conciliar regime of endless novelties. Bear with me here before



you dismiss me as a conspiracy crackpot. The chief architect of the novel Mass of Vatican II was one Archbishop Bugnini, and there is a widespread belief among scholars that Bugnini was a Freemason. If Freemasonry was behind the imposition of a banal rite upon the Church which resulted in over 80% of Catholics no longer going to Mass, is it too far fetched to wonder if Freemasonry may be behind these evil, secret lists that designate groups and individuals as “haters” and seek to cost them their livelihood? I’m not drawing conclusions, merely thinking out loud, but has any one got a better idea why those of us who cling to the orthodoxy and orthopraxis of our forefathers, saints and martyrs, draw such malign and spiteful bile from the secular left?

The designation of us as haters is, of course, an obvious lie, a lie, moreover, that is intended to do maximum harm. And is not the very essence of hate the wishing or seeking of harm upon another? Back in the days when I was the MD of a construction company, if one of my bricklayers turned up for work in a frock and requested that we call him Aisha, because he now identified as a Muslim woman, it would not have occurred to me to fire him - provided, of course, that he was a good bricklayer. But the left will go to extraordinary lengths to harm us for merely dissenting from their latest quasi-religious dogmas, even seeking to rob a man, with a wife, family and a mortgage to support, of his livelihood. So, who are the real haters here, and manifestly so?

Not only do those controlling the world today freely propagate the most obviously diabolical lies with impunity, almost all of the “good guys” within the Church and society don’t seem to notice, let alone respond adequately. But why are we surprised when the left lies and cheats? They are all rabid pro-aborts, that is they enthusiastically promote the murder on an industrial scale of the smallest, weakest and most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters, merely so they can enjoy sexual licence. Such is their commitment to this rank, vile evil that recently the New York State Senate gave a standing ovation to the passing of a bill giving an absolute right to the citizens of that State to murder a baby up to the moment of birth. Why would anyone expect a man who is happy, indeed eager, to sup on that evil, to balk at far less evils like lying and cheating? That would be like expecting Hitler, who sent 4,000,000 Jews, including women, children and the elderly, to their deaths in his camps, to be outraged by someone short changing his Jewish corner shop owner. People capable of embracing great evil with wild enthusiasm are very unlikely to suffer from scruples about lesser evils.

The same people who are most eager to censor you and me are the most frequent and casual liars themselves. The left once posed as the enemy of entrenched power, today it is the most obsequious, sycophantic slave of power that one could envision, be it the entertainment industry, the Marxist madrassas we still amusingly call universities, academia in general, a corrupt judiciary, politicians, mainstream media, the police, globalist sociopaths, billionaire oligarchs, or big Pharma. Having sold their souls to evil, their entire lives now have no other purpose than servitude to power. The left also has a hive brain, functions like a pack carnivore, and recites the same clichés on prompt.

However, they are manifestly, deeply insecure. Why, given their omnipresence in all the levers of power, would they fear someone as insignificant as one elderly man like

me? Are they so insecure, that they fear that one old man boldly telling the truth could bring their entire house of cards tumbling down? Surely not!

It is very difficult to defend oneself against these anonymous cowards. However, PEEP has taken some prudent measures. First up, we have opened four separate bank accounts and distributed our funds broadly evenly between them. We have even included two banks who advertise themselves as free-speech champions. Secondly, all future articles in the Flock will be published with pen-names unless the authors insist otherwise.

Me? - I have absolutely no intention of kowtowing to these left-wing, narcissistic sociopaths. I would rather spend my remaining years behind bars than bend the knee to Christophobes. And even in jail, I would refuse to defile my soul by hating those who put me there. I would pray instead for their conversion to Christ, so that we may spend eternity merrily together.

## VERITAS IN VIA (Truth in the Street) By Graham Moorhouse

I became a Catholic in my late teens over 60 years ago, back in the glory days before Vatican II. Back then there was a great Catholic organisation called the Catholic Evidence Guild. Speakers would stand on soapboxes in public places and plug the faith. I believe my predecessor as Chairman of PEEP, the late Daphne McLeod, met her husband that way: she was a speaker and he was a heckler.



I used to speak in Beresford Square, Plumstead. It was great fun. We would often finish up in the pub afterward with our hecklers, and be buying one another drinks and chatting into the late evening. Like so many good things, the Catholic Evidence Guild went down the tubes after the Modernist tsunami following Vatican II slammed into the Church.

I have a dream, God willing, of relaunching a modern Traddy version. We have so many resources available to us today, that were not available back then, to promote the One, True faith: videos, the Internet, e-books, podcasts, CDs, leaflets, films, blogs, memory sticks, QR codes. We are limited only by our imaginations.

A friend, Phil Jones, and I (recently joined by others) have been operating a pilot mission outside Brixton underground station on a Saturday for some seven years. We have just expanded this with a small table on which we display all sorts of useful resources. Our *modus operandi* is somewhat different to the old Catholic Evidence Guild in that

we do not pitch to large crowds, but rather seek to engage people on a one-to-one basis, which, I believe, can be more fruitful.

My dream and prayer is that, God willing, one day there will be Veritas in Via chapters staffed by Traddies in every major town that has access to the traditional Mass within a reasonable distance. Novus Ordo churches are closing world wide at a truly alarming rate, but traditional Catholic congregations are growing exponentially. It is time for us to come out of the closet and go on the offensive.

We are looking for volunteers to join us. The only asset required is that you need to be a people person, enjoy meeting and chatting to people, and not be bothered by the occasional moron or unpleasant character. That said, 99% of people are very agreeable, and it can be splendid fun.



The current program is to go to the 9:30 am Saturday morning Mass at St Bede's. We then go to Wetherspoons for breakfast and a chat. After that we go on to Brixton and spend an hour talking to pagans, Protestants, lapsed Catholics and poor souls lost in Catholicism lite land. Afterwards, if we have time, we go onto the baby killing factory on Brixton Hill and say a rosary together.

If you are interested in joining us in this venture: leave your contact details (including your mobile) with Mrs Diane Hendricks. Diane's mobile is 0737-860-9488.

If you are interested in starting a chapter of Veritas in Via in your town, we would be happy to travel to provide you with support until you feel confident enough to go it alone.

**CATHOLICS ARE THE MOST PERSECUTED FACTION ON THE PLANET**

*[Christmastide is a good time to reflect on the fate of persecuted Catholics throughout the world, we have therefore printed the reflection below by Michael Haynes. Michael is a Vatican correspondent who writes for LifeSiteNews, but is originally from Cheshire, England.]*

*We tend to lazily think of persecution of Catholics in terms of Rome, the Colosseum and wild beasts, but the truth is that for 2,000 years Catholics have been the most persecuted faction on the planet. Indeed, I seriously doubt that there has been a single day in those 2,000 years where Catholics somewhere were not suffering and dying for Christ. Without a doubt, this is one of the proofs of the truth of the Catholic faith, for Christ prophesied that it would be so, but why else would the demons in charge of the world be so cruel and unremitting in their persecution of Catholics, if our faith were not true?*

*Three things stand out for me this year: in Canada nearly a hundred Catholic churches were burned to the ground because the authorities had found “mass graves” in which the Church had allegedly disposed of the bodies of Eskimo children in its care. The fact that not so much as a single finger bone, just tree roots and mud, were found in the “graves” did nothing to reduce the ensuing orgy of anti-Catholic hate. Indeed, the present Christophobic pontiff, true to form, took time out from his day job of promoting Beijing, Bolshevism and buggery<sup>6</sup>, to pour fuel on this particular hate fest.*



*Not to be outdone, England woke constabulary has just arrested a woman for standing silently outside a closed baby killing facility, while possibly entertaining Catholic thoughts inside her head while doing so - I'm not sure that even Kim Jong-un has gone quite that far in his war on Christ. Note: the latest anti-Catholic laws passed by the British state, which provided cover for this woman's arrest, was supported by 297 MPs - a mere 110 rejected them. Make no mistake, the laws criminalising people for praying outside baby killing facilities are aimed at Catholics. If Muslims regularly prayed outside these facilities, these laws would universally, from the UN down, be denounced as Islamophobic.*

*In the meantime, yours truly was threatened with quasi-legal proceedings by the Charity Commission for the crime of reporting the fact that Muslims butcher more innocent people in any given 3-month period than the IRA managed in 33 years. It is important to understand that in the Devil's endless war on Catholics, facts are utterly irrelevant.*

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<sup>6</sup> Taken from an article by R.J. Stove (Catholic Officialdom in Australia: A Woke, Broke, Joke) - "I quote others only in order the better to express myself" - Michel de Montaigne

*The IRA is believed in the popular imagination to be vaguely Catholic, so therefore they are fair game. The fact that the modern IRA is less Catholic than my gatepost is just another of those facts that don't matter. Islam, on the other hand, is a hateful, violently anti-Christian creed, therefore from the World's perspective, they must be assumed to be among the good guys. - ED]*



ROME (LifeSiteNews) — As I sit musing over what to write for this year's Christmas reflection a host of traditional, heart-warming Christmas topics come to mind. Describing the wintry scenes of Christmas in a small village in my native England is something which is very appealing to me, particularly if I can find a way to tie in a number of references to carols and the wonderful choral traditions which so beautifully mark this season in England.

But this is something which I have already done: two years ago trying to describe the indescribable joys of midnight Mass and then last year indulging in my love of Christmas carols. As tempting as it was to simply return to form and indulge in those topics once again, I found myself unable to do so this year.

This is for two reasons. First, because a few weeks ago I had the opportunity to spend some time in the Catacombs of St. Callixtus just outside the centre of Rome. In those brief minutes spent several meters below the surface I was overwhelmed with a sense of just how deep was the love those early Christians had for the Catholic faith.

As a Catholic, it is hard not to be impressed by the catacombs. One walks past row upon row, corridor leading into corridor, and room after room all full of tombs. Tombs which were the resting place of countless Catholics, who were prepared to suffer and die for their faith – and many of those whose remains ended up in the catacombs did just that.

Walking past those (now empty) graves I was inescapably struck by the strength of character which those Catholics of the early Church must have had. They lived in an age where they freely accepted the possibility of horrendous tortures and death, simply for publicly professing their faith, or for not worshipping an emperor. Their memory was quietly contained in the catacombs, where centuries later I found myself walking past the empty graves trying to imagine myself as one of those early Christians.

Would I have been able to live so bravely as they did? To be able to accept such a likely fate as torture and death for being Catholic? Such questions rang out from every grave I passed. It was an endlessly repeated question that was both so silent and yet so inescapable.

The second reason was when I read about Christians who are enduring precisely the conditions which the early Christians lived through. In *Aid to the Church in Need's* report about persecuted Christians around the world, there was no need to picture myself as part of the early Church whilst walking amidst the catacombs. On every page of

ACN's report were presented details about people who are daily suffering and dying for Christ.

Take for example the summary description of Afghanistan: "The rise of the Taliban has driven Christians underground — they live in fear of arrest, torture and execution."

Or that of China: "Authorities have increased pressure on Christians, with arrests, the forced closure of churches and new draconian legislation."

Even worse, here is the brief description of the conditions for Christians in North Korea this Christmas: "Extreme Christian persecution is judged to have reached the threshold for genocide, with reports of murder, forced abortions and infanticide, and slavery."

The charity referenced a "cultural misperception in the West" which "continues to deny that Christians remain the most widely persecuted faith group."

Reading through that report presented me with a cold, uncomfortable reality – a reality which is all too easy to forget about unless encountered in such a manner. Namely, that I cannot simply theorize in the catacombs about whether I would be a faithful soul if I lived in the early centuries of persecution. The times of persecution are still here, they are the current times!

There is a ready ease by which one can forget about the great sufferings endured by millions around the globe to this day, all because they remain true to their faith. Not for them the traditional joys of Christmas to which I cling so dearly – the log fire, the merry carols, the glories of midnight Mass, the traditional food and tasty delights of assorted baking.

Instead, these numberless, but oft forgotten souls, are spending this Christmas much like any other day – perhaps in fear for their lives, perhaps in cold and wet because they cannot find suitable employment without reneging on the faith, perhaps in hunger.

I did not want to forget the experience I had in the catacombs, but when presented with the harsh reality of such persecution still happening today that experience took a very different tone. No longer could I casually ask myself whether I would remain true to the faith – the faith in which we celebrate the coming of the Christ child this Christmas. Instead, I now have to ask myself if I can honestly say I would be as true to the faith as are those millions who currently endure persecution.

The question in abstract is a moving one, but when put into modern, real context, it becomes decidedly unpleasant.

And yet for those millions who endured and still endure persecution, they remain true to this Catholic faith because they love and follow Christ, that little baby whose coming into the world we celebrate every Christmas. Their love for this little child is what moves them to practice heroic virtue in the face of trials, pain or death.

So, this Christmas, despite what you might be thinking by this stage, dear reader, I will not be sitting alone in a corner, thinking only sombre thoughts about life. I shall be celebrating the feast as befits it, with joy aimed at Christ.

What will be different this year is that I shall pray that the Infant King will grant me the strength to love Him as do those brave souls, who have – and are yet to do so – witnessed to Christ in the manger through their suffering and death.

A very blessed Christmas!

Michael Haynes is a graduate of Thomas More College in New Hampshire. Since childhood he has been very involved in pro-life activity and defending the Catholic faith through public campaigns.

Michael writes on [materdolorosa.co.uk](http://materdolorosa.co.uk), and has authored works on Mariology (Mary the Motherly Co-Redemptrix), Catholic spirituality, and most recently published an apologetic work “A Catechism of Errors.” He occasionally writes for *Catholic Family News* and for the American TFP. His great love is the Traditional Latin Mass. You can follow Michael on Twitter.

## LIMITS TO PAPAL AUTHORITY By Graham Moorhouse

It is not my intention here to write a theological reflection. I’m not qualified to do so. I became a Catholic over 60-years ago, and I suspect that I had a somewhat bloated notion at the time of papal authority. There are clearly limits to papal authority, the pope cannot bind me to believe that two plus two equals five, for example. There is no way he can demand my intellect to embrace something that is so contrary to truth, i.e. to observable reality.

*Traditionis custodes* seeks to bind me to the Novus Ordo (the New Mass). Put aside the fact, for the time being, that Bergoglio appears to be an imposter who has gained the papacy by malign scheming. A priest I know, writing about Pope Benedict XVI following his recent death, expressed it rather well, “*He was like the dad we all loved, who inexplicably abandoned us to the care of a cruel step-father.*”

Let’s just for now take a hard, frank look at the damage done to Christ and His Church by the Novus Ordo. Right off the bat, some 90% of Catholics abandoned the faith and the Mass after its introduction. But that is far from the end of this miserable story, for most of the 10% or so who still go to Mass are heretics. Discounting unspeakable evils like Biden and Pelosi actively campaigning for the murder of babies on an industrial scale, the vast majority (89%) of so-called Catholics who attend the Novus Order have no problem with practising the depravity of artificial contraception. Further more, the majority reject basic Catholic doctrines such as the Real Presence. 51% support abortion. Which means that the bulk of those who still attend Novus Ordo Masses are CI-NOs (Catholics in name only).

Can a pope legitimately bind me to attend a rite that has demonstrably caused such a massive loss of faith, and could therefore over time put my own faith at risk? I have it from a source close to my own bishop, that only 55% of Novus Ordo Catholics have returned to Mass post lockdown, which inevitably means that there will be yet another raft of Novus Ordo Church closures shortly.

Now compare that dreary, sad picture, with the traditional Catholic community. 98% of traditional Catholics attend Mass every Sunday. And whereas only 3% of the children of Novus Ordo parents keep their faith, over 90% of the children of traditional Catholics keep their faith. Since the lockdown many traditional Catholic communities have doubled in size. The young traditional Catholics on the Chartres pilgrimage grew from 15,000 before the lockdown to 20,000 post-lockdown, an increase in just two years of 33%! Furthermore, our seminaries are full, marriages and converts are plentiful, and best of all, young people, large families and children are super abundant.

So, please explain to me dear Pope Francis why I should go along with your efforts to herd me into the Novus Ordo corral. I'm sorry, but I do not accept that a pope has the authority to command me to consume junk spiritual food, anymore than he has the authority to command me to eat junk physical food.

**THE BIGGEST WIN FOR CONSERVATIVES IN 2022**  
**With acknowledgement to Dr Steve Turley**

The biggest win for conservatives in 2022 was Elon Musk's takeover of Twitter. I think Tucker Carlson put it best, "Elon Musk's Twitter takeover was the single most consequential turn of events in the political sphere since the 2016 Presidential election of Donald Trump. In fact the restoration of free speech on the largest instant messaging platform on the planet will have ramifications that go far beyond anything that President Trump could have done." Even CNN recognized the significance of Elon's Twitter takeover: it's just beyond imagining.

According to the Pew Research Centre, more than two-thirds of Twitter's users say the platform is the most important source of news for them, making it the single most important social media platform for shaping national news narratives.

Prior to Elon's takeover, when it came to the major issues of our day, from Covid, to vaccines, to mask mandates, election Integrity, LGBT issues, the climate BS, when it came to all the major issues of our day, you and I were not allowed to hold, express or even hear an opinion different from that of woke orthodoxy enforced by the Legacy Media and Big Tech oligarchs. Twitter allowed for absolutely no dissent. Just ask the tens of thousands of users whose accounts were suspended for being guilty of nothing more than the crime of having a different opinion from that of woke leftists on these fundamental issues.

Now that worldwide platform that woke leftists have used all these years to fabricate an artificial public consensus on those very issues, that platform has now been liberated to



freely disseminate, celebrate and champion those very dissenting opinions, which promises to have lasting civilizational significance beyond anything we can imagine.

## HANCOCK USES THE HOLOCAUST TO COVER HIS OWN STUPID, LYING BUTT

By Daniel Miller (copied from the Conservative Woman - our title)



Andrew Bridgen - a seemingly rare specimen, an MP with integrity

CONSERVATIVE MP Andrew Bridgen recently spent a week under concerted attack for a tweet quoting an Israeli consultant cardiologist who declared that the dangerous and useless experimental gene therapies, which have been forced on the public by an international network of criminals and fools comprising most of the British political and media elite, plus, the NHS are the biggest crime against humanity since the Holocaust.

In a cynical and desperate statement in the House of Parliament, this tweet was condemned by incompetent former Health Secretary Matt Hancock as “*disgusting and dangerous anti-Semitic, anti-vax, anti-scientific conspiracy theories*”.

In a clearly rehearsed move, Hancock’s statements were immediately acclaimed by the Prime Minister, and Bridgen was suspended from the criminal mafia popularly known as the Conservative Party.

The fact that Bridgen’s statement contained no anti-Semitic content at all has already been pointed out by dozens of writers and scientists, including many Jews. But so what? This rhetoric is being used not because it corresponds to the truth but as a weapon to defend corruption and lies. It is only on this basis that the current regime survives. It is also for this reason that Julian Assange remains a prisoner in Belmarsh.

Hancock’s rhetoric is an example of what Polish psychologist Andrew Lobaczewski called paramoralisation. The essence of Hancock’s objections is that Bridgen’s integrity threatens to expose his own corruption. Because he can’t say this openly, he presents his complaints in pseudo-moral terms intended to stigmatise, defame and confuse.

Implicit in Hancock’s attacks is the claim that he has more authority to determine the proper way to refer to the Holocaust than Holocaust survivors themselves: as Andrew Barr pointed out in the Daily Sceptic last week, Vera Sharav<sup>7</sup> has made exactly the same argument as the Israeli doctor Bridgen cited.

It is also worth repeating that Jews were originally imprisoned in the Warsaw Ghetto on the back of claims of medical emergency, ostensibly as a measure to fight a cholera

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<sup>7</sup> Vera Sharav, a medical activist, is the founder of the Alliance for Human Research Protection and an activist against some practices of the biomedical industry, particularly in matters of patient consent and children.

epidemic. The claim that repressive governments are acting for the sake of ‘saving lives’ is a standard feature of the totalitarian playbook.

What is really at stake here is the entirely cynical instrumentalisation of the memory of the Holocaust by Hancock and his allies to deflect from their stupidity, their cowardice, their corruption and their lies. Hancock and Sunak and their collaborators are standing behind the bodies of millions of murdered Jews to shield themselves from criticism of their deadly and disastrous decisions.

Hegel remarked that nobody learns anything from history except that nobody learns anything from history. Still, the idea behind safeguarding historical memory and especially the memory of the Holocaust is to prevent political atrocities from happening by understanding critically how they occur.

From this point of view, the crimes of the National Socialists, and also the Bolsheviks who were both their chief inspiration and political doubles, must be compared to the contemporary political situation and the right lessons drawn. Some of the same circumstances which led to a cabal of criminally insane fanatics taking control of great nations are also present today. Now, as then, we face a merger between state and corporate power, politicisation of art and culture, suppression of independent intellectuals, scientists and artists, systematic racism against White people (now under the Orwellian name anti-racism) political censorship and control of the media, violation of individual autonomy, normalisation of state-backed political violence, and perpetual war.

Totalitarianism installed itself not by evil people openly declaring that they were going to do evil things, but through a gradual corrosion of ethical and intellectual standards. In these conditions pathological personalities come to acquire undue influence: Hancock is a case in point.

**A HEALTH TIP**  
**By Graham Moorhouse**

I don’t normally put health tips in the Flock, but I was recently listening to Dr Peter A. McCullough, MD, MPH, one of my favourite doctors, and he suggested something that was so simple and common sense that I felt it was worth passing on. But first some background info.

I believed that the Covid test was a scam, such a scam that even the inventor of the test stated that it was useless for the purpose for which it was being used. At best it detects a pathogen on the sticky tissue at the back of the nasal passages, but that is where pathogens are supposed to get trapped, it doesn’t indicate that you are ill. Just imagine hanging one of those sticky flypapers people used to use in your kitchen window. A friend comes by, and seeing a few flies stuck on the paper, declares that he is not eating at your house because your fridge must be full of flies! It’s the same principle - complete and utter nonsense.

For a virus to make you ill, it has to reach a certain density in the throat and nasal passages. This is what physicians call the “viral load”. So obviously, just commonsense,

its our job to make it hard for the virus to reach that critical “Viral load” mass, which has the potential to overwhelm our immune system.

First up: fresh air, if you are feeling under the weather, open windows, and, if the weather is not too inclement, get out and about. Stuck inside, the virus has a much better chance of replicating.

Second up: wearing a mask is about the worst thing you can do. By reducing the flow of fresh air around your throat and nasal passages, you are producing the perfect environment for the virus to replicate.

Third up, and this is the really clever bit - it was seemingly discovered by Ghanaian doctors, and the results in preventing serious illness were dramatic - gargle and employ a nasal wash a couple of times a day with Hydrogen Peroxide. This makes perfect sense, mothers have been sterilizing babies’ bottles with very diluted Hydrogen Peroxide for decades.

You need a 1% solution for gargling and a ½% solution for a nasal wash. Preparing a 1% solution is simple. You can purchase 3% solutions. Just take one tablespoon of the 3% solution and add to it two tablespoons of water, and you have a 1% solution to gargle. Then take one tablespoon of your 1% solution add to it one tablespoon of water and you have your ½% solution.

The advice is to gargle with the 1% solution for one minute once or twice a day, and use a small pipette or cotton swabs for the nasal rinse.

A word of caution: don’t swallow the solution when gargling and don’t sniff when doing the nasal wash, you don’t want to inhale, even a ½% solution of Hydrogen Peroxide, down into your lungs. Furthermore, the general advice seems to be not to continue this for more than one week. Whether this is based on science or an excess of caution is not clear. Nevertheless, it would be prudent to follow this advice until told otherwise.

The best news is that according to the Ghanaian research team, this simple remedy works on colds, flus, Covid and a host of nasty respiratory infections. But you need to act promptly, as soon as you get sniffles or a sore throat, the aim is to prevent the virus reaching the critical mass that can challenge or overwhelm your immune system.

Note: this is not my advice. I suspect it may even be illegal for me to give you health advice. I’m merely passing on the advice of one of the world’s top doctors - a man who was willing to put his reputation and livelihood on the line to stand up and oppose the official Covid narrative, so clearly a man of fierce personal integrity.

### **THE POWER OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - A TRUE LIFE STORY**

A transcript from a sermon by Fr Linus Clovis  
(Edited and abridged by Graham Moorhouse)

What I want to speak about in this homily is the power of the Miraculous Medal, or rather the power of the Blessed Virgin who uses the sacramental of the Miraculous

Medal to bring about the wonders that have lead to it to being called miraculous. And of course, the greatest of all the wonders is the salvation of a soul. There are thousands of stories of how Our Lady has intervened through the instrumentality of the Miraculous Medal. But there's one story that I find particularly moving, and it's a story that is within our own lifetime. It's the story of Claude Newman.

Claude Newman was born on the 1st January, 1923, 100 years ago. He was born in Arkansas to Willie and Floreta Newman. They were Afro-Americans. He was born in the Southern states before the Civil Rights Movement. We can imagine what life was like a hundred years ago when Claude was born.



At the age of five, Claude, together with his older brother, was taken by his father and handed over to his paternal grandmother to be raised. His grandmother's name was Ellen Newman, and she lived in Mississippi. In 1939 (so Claude would have been about 16 years old) Ellen married a man named Sid Cook. This relationship was very abusive. So here you have a 16-years-old boy, who loves his grandmother, who has married a man who abuses her, and Claude becomes

increasingly angry.

Three years later, 1942, Claude kills Sid Cook. He murders him. He is arrested a month later, tried, found guilty and condemned to death in the electric chair. The execution day is set for the 14th May 1943. An appeal is lodged but is rejected. But the execution date is rescheduled for the 20th January, 1944. Claude is just 21-years-old and he's on death row.

On death row, he shares a cell block with four other men. Late one night Claude notices a medal around the neck of one of his fellow prisoners. He doesn't know what it is, so he asks him, "What's that you're wearing?" The other prisoner doesn't know either - although he is a Catholic, it's one of those things given to him by his mother or grandmother, but he doesn't know anything about it. But Claude persists, "What is it?" The man eventually becomes angry with Claude's pestering. He rips it off and throws it at Claude shouting, "Take the [blank-ing] thing!" Claude picks it up and looks at it. He has no idea what it is, but he knows one thing, that he's attracted to it, he likes it. He puts it around his neck.

That night he's woken up by the feel of someone gently touching his hand. He woke up and he saw what he later described as the most beautiful woman God had ever cre-

ated. And she said to him, “If you would like me to be your mother, and if you would like to be my child, send for a priest of the Catholic Church.” Then she disappeared.

Claude is panic stricken and started to scream, “A ghost, a ghost!” Everybody in the cell wakes up and it takes a great deal of effort to calm Claude down. Early next morning a priest is summoned because Claude is still making such a fracas. The priest is Father Robert O’Leary, and it is from Fr O’Leary that we have this story. Fr O’Leary died in 1983. So, as I said, this story happened within our lifetime. Fr O’Leary hears Claude’s story and he is naturally sceptical, but what strikes him is not only that Claude wants to become a Catholic, but the other men in the cell want to also. So, Fr O’Leary agrees to instruct Claude and the others into the Catholic faith.

Claude is illiterate and can neither read nor write. He is also religiously illiterate: beyond believing that God exists, he had no knowledge of God or the Christian faith, so the instruction is going to be very slow. And as for the other men in the cell, they’re the ones who are going to have to help Claude to grasp the elements of the Catholic faith.

Two religious sisters in Father’s parish want to meet Claude - after all, it’s not often that Our Lady is alleged to appear in a prison. Fr O’Leary remains sceptical about the whole story, but is nevertheless struck by Claude’s obvious sincerity. When the sisters come along, they discover that the story has spread. And not only the men in the cell want instruction, but the other prisoners in the block also want instruction. Even the women’s block have heard the story, and there are women prisoners who want instruction as well. And so the sisters are kept busy teaching the women.

When Fr O’Leary reached the section on confession, Claude blurted out, “*Oh, I know all about that. The lady told me that when you go to confession, you are kneeling down, not before a priest, but we are kneeling down by the Cross of her Son. And that when we are truly sorry for our sins and we confess them, the blood of Jesus that he shed for us flows down over us and washes us free from all sins.*” Fr O’Leary and the nuns are stunned into silence.

Claude thinks they’re angry, and exclaims, “*Oh don’t be angry. Don’t be angry. I didn’t mean to blurt it out.*” Father O’Leary responds, “*We’re not angry, Claude, we’re just surprised. Have you seen her again?*” Claude responds by asking Father to come around the cell block away from the others, to speak in private. When they’re alone, Claude told Father, “*She told me that if you doubted me or showed any hesitancy, I should remind you that when you were lying in the ditch in Holland in 1940, you made a vow to her, which she’s still waiting for you to keep.*” In the early years of WW2, Father had been sheltering in a ditch in Holland, with bullets and shells flying all over the place. Fearing his number was up, he made a vow to Our Lady. He had promised that if he survived, he would build a church to Our Lady under the title of the Immaculate Conception. This was in 1940, three years before this incident. Only Our Lady and the Lord and Fr O’Leary knew about the vow. Yet Claude told Father pre-

cisely what he had promised. Of course, this convinces Fr O'Leary, who now took a totally different attitude towards Claude and his story.

They returned to class, and Claude encourages the other prisoners, "*You should not be afraid to go to confession,*" he said, "*You are really letting God know your sins, not the priest. The Lady said that when you go to confession, it's something like using a telephone; you talk to the priest, you talk through the priest to God, and God talks back to you through the priest.*"

A week later, and Fr O'Leary now begins to teach about the Blessed Sacrament. And Claude blurted out that the Lady had also taught him about the Eucharist. He said, "*The lady told me that in communion I will only see what looks like a piece of bread. But she told me that it is really and truly her Son and that he will be with me in the same way as he was with her before he was born in Bethlehem. She told me that I should spend my time with her Son as she did during her lifetime with him on earth in loving him, adoring him, thanking him, praising him, and asking him for blessings. I shouldn't be distracted or bothered by anybody or anything else, but I should spend those few moments in my thoughts alone with him.*"

Claude and the other prisoners were received into the Catholic Church on 16th January 1944. Claude's execution date was on the 20th of January, 1944 at five minutes past midnight - just four days after his baptism. The warden who was in charge of the prison, his name was Williamson, asked Claude, "*You have the privilege of a last request. What do you want?*" "Well," said Claude, "*All my friends here are all shook up. The jailer is all shook up, but you don't understand. I'm not going to die, only this body is going to die. I'm going to be with her, so I would like to have a party.*" The warden is a bit sceptical and thinks that perhaps the prisoners might riot. And Claude says, "*No, they're not going to riot. We're just going to have a party, we're celebrating.*"

The warden consents to the party. Some ladies from the parish donate the food, some cakes and some lemonade, and they have their party. After the party, they made the Holy Hour, praying especially for Claude. Father O'Leary led the Stations of the Cross. As Claude's execution time approached, Fr O'Leary went for the Blessed Sacrament so that Claude could receive viaticum before his execution. And returning to the cell, he knelt on one side of the bars, Claude on the other, and they prayed together as the clock ticked towards midnight.

At 10 to 12, 15 minutes before his execution, Sheriff Williamson comes running up the stairs, all excited, "*Reprieve, reprieve,*" he shouts, "*You have been granted two weeks reprieve.*" Claude begins to cry like a baby. Father and the Sheriff assume that he is shedding tears of joy. Then Claude exclaimed, "*You don't understand anything. If you ever saw her face and looked into her eyes, you wouldn't want to live another day.*" He continued, "*What have I done wrong these past weeks that God should refuse me going home?*" And he continued to weep inconsolably. Fr O'Leary testified that Claude sobbed like someone who was completely heartbroken.

The Sheriff left the room bewildered and embarrassed, because seeing a grown man cry like a baby is a very difficult thing to bear. Fr O'Leary remained and eventually managed to calm Claude. Claude said, "*Why Father? Why must I stay here for two more weeks?*" And the Holy Spirit spoke through Fr O'Leary at that moment, and Father said, "*You remember James Hughes, the white prisoner, who has an intense hatred for you, Claude?*" Now, James Hughes had been raised a Catholic, but he had led a horribly immoral life. He was on death row for many crimes, including murder, but he was also guilty of incest. He had apostatized and he hated God and anything and everything religious. And he had a hatred for Claude as well.

Fr O'Leary said, "*Maybe our Blessed Mother wants you to offer this denial of you being with her for his conversion.*" Father said, "*Why don't you offer to God every moment that you are separated from your Heavenly Mother for James Hughes, so that he will not be separated from God for all eternity?*" Claude agreed to do this.

He didn't know the prayer to make this act of reparation of sacrifice, so Father O'Leary gave him the words of offering. The next morning, of course, the news of Claude's reprieve had made the rounds. And when Father O'Leary visited Claude, Claude said to him, "*James hated me before, but oh Father, now he hates me even more.*" James, in fact, hearing of Claude's reprieve was insanely jealous. Fr O'Leary said, "*Well, perhaps that's a good sign.*"

During those two weeks, Claude continued generously offering every moment he was separated from his Heavenly Mother as a sacrifice to God for the conversion of James Hughes. Two weeks later, the reprieve time is up, it's the 4th of February, and Claude is to be put to death in the electric chair. His last words to Fr O'Leary as he is strapped in the chair, "*Father, I'll remember you, and whenever you have a request, ask me and I will ask her.*" Fr O'Leary testified about Claude's death, "*I've never seen anyone go to his death so joyfully and happily.*" Even the official witnesses and the newspapers, reporters were astonished. They said they couldn't understand how anyone could go and sit in an electric chair while at the same time actually beaming with happiness. Why did God make us? To know him, love him, serve him, in this world, and to be happy with him forever in the next. And if you know you're going to see God, the happiness begins right here.

And so Claude goes to his eternal reward. He goes home. The report of his death was in the newspapers of that same day, the 4th February 1944. Three months later, the 19th May 1944, and it is James Hughes' turn. Fr O'Leary said about James, "*This man was the filthiest most immoral person I've ever come across. His hatred for God and for everything, spiritual defies description.*" James would not allow any priests or any clergymen into his cell. Just before his execution, the doctor came to visit him and pleaded with him, "*At least kneel down and say the, Our Father,*" and James spat in the doctor's face. James is strapped in the chair and the Sheriff says, "*If you have anything to say, say it now,*" James responded by blaspheming.

Suddenly he stopped. His eyes opened wide fixed in the corner of the room, and his face was one of absolute horror. And he screamed in terror, a horrible, terrible blood curling scream. And he shouted to the Sheriff, "Sheriff, sheriff, get me a priest." The room was cleared and Fr O'Leary heard the man's confession, which he made with deep repentance, and intense fervour. On leaving the room, the Sheriff asked the priest, "Father, what made him change his mind?" "I don't know," says Fr O'Leary, "I didn't ask him." The Sheriff said, "Well, I won't ever sleep until I find out, so I'm going to ask him." He approached the condemned man and said, "Son, what changed your mind?" Hughes responded; "You remember that black man, Claude, the one I hated so much? Well, he's standing over there in the corner, and behind him with one hand on each shoulder is the Blessed Virgin. Claude said to me, 'I offered my death in union with Christ on the Cross for your salvation. She obtained for you this gift of seeing your place in hell if you do not repent.' I was shown my place in hell, and that's why I screamed." James Hughes was executed as scheduled, but Our Lady's appearance with Claude Newman, and the subsequent vision of hell brought about an instant conversion in the last moments of his life.

With the help of our Blessed Lady, Fr O'Leary taught Claude to unite himself with the sufferings of Jesus by offering his own sufferings with him, just as every one of us can do for the salvation of others. Claude's sufferings helped to pay the price for James remarkable last-minute conversion and repentance. Therefore, we must never underestimate the value of our suffering joined to that of Jesus Christ, and also the power, of the loving intercession of our Blessed Mother in heaven.

James had absolutely nothing to commend him. Claude had nothing to commend him. Claude knew nothing about God. James was a Catholic, and ought to have known everything about God, but knowing it, he had rejected it. Nonetheless, both Claude and James, children of Adam, Sons of Eve, are beloved by our most Blessed Mother, the mother of Jesus and our own most gentle queen and mother. She will do everything possible for us to enter into Heaven just as she did for Claude. Claude didn't ask for it. It was a grace given to him because he held the Miraculous Medal, and he saw her image and loved her, and he put it around his neck. And she fulfilled her promise that those who wear it around their necks will receive many graces, graces that we ask for, and even those we do not ask for. Let us pray: O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen.

**IS THE WEST ABOUT TO THROW MR TWERKING, GREEN TEE-SHIRT  
UNDER THE BUS?**

**By Frank Wright (Our title)**

**[Russia has so far deployed only about 20% of its military to their operation in Ukraine, which means that 80% of its armed forces are held in reserve. I can think of nothing more depraved than western mainstream media types sitting in their air-conditioned, luxury-carpeted offices encouraging Ukrainian young men to die in their tens of thousands in a war they do not have a cat-in-hell's chance of winning. - ED]**



Prepare for a radical shift in the way in which Ukraine itself is reported. Reports are surfacing in the Western media which even a week ago would have been denounced as Russian propaganda. It is becoming clear that the only war the U.S. has been winning has been the propaganda war surrounding the conflict. With the report from the RAND<sup>8</sup> Corporation last month, who have been advising the Pentagon since 1948, comes the news that the ground war is lost and that no return of Ukrainian lands is likely.

The report, titled “Avoiding a Long War,” glosses over the complicated history of Ukraine and makes no mention of the many interventions and diplomatic failures directed by the US and its NATO allies. Instead, it focuses on the need to avoid a protracted conflict – chiefly to free up the U.S. military to concentrate on the next big war with China.

Added to this are the remarkable events surrounding Zelensky himself, whose carefully crafted persona as the warrior saint of Project Forever War is becoming so tarnished as to suggest he may now be perceived as an obstacle to the “negotiated settlement” which RAND says is the only outcome which serves U.S. interests.

General Mark Milley has been calling for the same “diplomatic solution” since November. Yet the war faction has continued to push for escalation, demanding more weapons alongside opening the door for the lucrative “reconstruction” of Ukraine by companies such as BlackRock and JP Morgan.

This past week has also seen the House Armed Services Committee state that the retaking of Crimea is impossible. The emerging picture here is resolving into an impasse between politics and practical military advice. The neoconservative position, always a heady mixture of freedom-based sloganising and corrupting destruction, has perhaps best been outlined by former U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson. His position is that the West should send everything the increasingly isolated Zelensky demands from them, which would include jet fighters and hundreds more tanks.

The question as to who shall win this battle – the war mongers or the generals who advise against them – will be clarified over the issue of escalation. Should the U.S. and its allies indeed approve the sending of fighter jets to Ukraine, then the neoconservative death cult has won. Why is this so dangerous? Those jets will be flown by Western pilots, bringing NATO into direct conflict with Russia. As early as 2019, Milley outlined the major U.S. aims to President Joe Biden. “No. 1” was “Don’t have a kinetic conflict between the U.S. military and NATO with Russia.” The second, closely related, was “contain war inside the geographical boundaries of Ukraine.”

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<sup>8</sup> The RAND Corporation (from the phrase "research and development") is an American non-profit global policy think tank created in 1948 by Douglas Aircraft Company to offer research and analysis to the United States Armed Forces. It is financed by the U.S. government and private endowment, corporations, universities and private individuals.

That the war has had a political dimension is no secret. Yet this dimension is one increasingly detached from reality, both in its indifference to the feasibility of its aims and in the horrifying consequences it will provoke. Our politicians are facing a dramatic humiliation if they return to a reality-based appraisal of their war aims and the cost of escalation.

For a year we have heard about the need for regime change in Russia, and how a Russian defeat is a matter of time. They have yet to accept the reality that the return of Crimea, the Donbass and the additional regions claimed<sup>9</sup> by Russia is impossible. Finally, there is no plan for a post-war Ukraine, which appears very likely to be partitioned into a landlocked rump state.

### **THE SOCIOPATHS ARE NO LONGER HIDING**

**By Graham Moorhouse (With acknowledgement to Christian Order)**

I have argued for decades that many people in influential posts in our modern world are clearly sociopaths. The following quotes taken from Christian Order confirm my convictions.

“If I was reincarnated I would wish to return to earth as a killer virus to lower human population levels,” - **Prince Philip (Duke of Edinburgh)**.

“There is a single theme behind all our work—we must reduce population levels. Either governments do it our way, through nice clean methods, or they will get the kinds of mess that we have in El Salvador, or in Iran or in Beirut. Population is a political problem. Once population is out of control, it requires authoritarian government, even fascism, to reduce it...” “Our program in El Salvador didn’t work. The infrastructure was not there to support it. There were just too goddamned many people.... To really reduce population, quickly, you have to pull all the males into the fighting and you have to kill significant numbers of fertile age females.... The quickest way to reduce population is through famine, like in Africa, or through disease like the Black Death....”

**Thomas Ferguson, US State Department Office of Population Affairs**

“A cancer is an uncontrolled multiplication of cells; the population explosion is an uncontrolled multiplication of people. Treating only the symptoms of cancer may make the victim more comfortable, at first, but eventually he dies -- often horribly. A similar fate awaits a world with a population explosion if only the symptoms are treated. We must shift our efforts from treatment of the symptoms to the cutting out of the cancer. The operation will demand many apparently brutal and heartless decisions. The pain may be intense. But the disease is so far advanced that only with radical surgery does the patient have a chance of survival.” - **Paul Ehrlich, The Population Bomb**

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<sup>9</sup> Some would argue “liberated” by Russia - ED

“The ecological crisis, on short, is the population crisis. Cut the population by 90% and there are not enough people left to do a great deal of ecological damage.” - **Mikhail Gorbachev**

“A world population of 250-300 million people, a 95% decline from present levels, would be ideal.” - **Ted Turner, medial mogul.**

“In order to stabilise world population, we must eliminate 350,000 people per day. It is a horrible thing to say, but is just as bad not to say it.” - **Jacque Cousteau, explorer and UNESCO courier.**

The WHO, in collusion with the Bill Gates foundation, have been accused of sterilizing millions of Kenyan young women without their knowledge or consent via tetanus jabs. Who but a sociopath would plot to strip a young woman of her fertility without her informed consent?

**A VICTORY FOR FREEDOM IN OUR ORWELLIAN THOUGHT-CRIME NIGHTMARE**  
**By Simon Caldwell (The Conservative Woman)**

**‘Nobody should be criminalised for their prayers’: Father Sean Gough and Isabel Vaughan-Spruce after yesterday’s hearing**

THE reason George Orwell is quoted so often these days is because two of his works, *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and *Animal Farm*, are prophecies of the demented post-modern era in which we live.

Identity politics, the ugly US import which separates everyone into tribes competing for victim status, was anticipated in *Animal Farm* by the observation that

‘all animals are equal but some are more equal than others’. Likewise, *Nineteen Eighty-Four* gave the world the concept of Big Brother, which is now a reality, as well as doublethink and newspeak. In modern Britain there are examples of these everywhere.

One of the most chilling of Orwell’s warnings was that of ‘thought crime’ or ‘crime-think’, offences kept in check by the ‘thought police’ or the ‘thinkpol’. Until now they have remained in the realm of fiction.

Following charges brought in December by West Midlands Police against Isabel Vaughan-Spruce, a pregnancy counsellor, and Father Sean Gough, a Wolverhampton-based Roman Catholic priest, the substance of Orwell’s dual masterpieces can no longer be considered portents of a dystopian age to come, but one which has now surely arrived.



What crimes were so heinous for three officers to arrest, search, detain and charge Ms Vaughan-Spruce and similarly demand the presence of Fr Gough at the police station before they charged him too?

Ms Vaughan-Spruce had admitted to them that she 'might' have been praying silently in her head outside a British Pregnancy Advisory Service abortion facility. A 150-metre 'buffer', or exclusion, zone had been imposed by Birmingham City Council around this clinic the previous month, making it a crime to seek to influence or harass anyone within the vicinity. The clinic was closed at the time, so no one, including any mind-readers, could have been influenced or harassed.

Fr Gough had his clerical collar felt after he stood in the same censorship zone, demarcated by a Public Spaces Protection Order designed to tackle extreme anti-social behaviour, silently holding up a placard which read: 'Praying for Free Speech'.

The charges were referred to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) which last month threw them out on the grounds that there was no evidence that any crimes had been committed, but with a warning to the pair that should sufficient evidence later emerge the charges could be revived and they would be prosecuted.

This prompted Ms Vaughan-Spruce and Fr Gough to use their right to seek a verdict from Birmingham magistrates' court about whether their actions were in any way criminal.

The CPS clearly did not want to know, declining to offer the slightest scrap of evidence to suggest any wrongdoing had been committed. District Judge David Wain summarily dismissed both cases in a matter of seconds. West Midlands Police surely offers each of these law-abiding citizens an apology, and they also deserve compensation.

Birmingham Council introduced a scheme which has immediately ensnared the innocent and is therefore unsafe. It should now scrap it without delay.

After being arrested, Ms Vaughan-Spruce was asked by the police what she was silently praying for. She told them she was praying for people like her friend Amy who was raped and became pregnant and was pressured into having an abortion which she deeply regretted, for people like Natalia who took the abortion pills then passed her baby at home and saw that child down the toilet which deeply traumatised her, for people like Kirsty who also passed her child at home, in her own bed and on lifting up the covers saw what she described as being like a scene from a horror movie.

'This is where the true crime exists – women being sold the lie that abortion will solve their difficulties in pregnancy, that this is being endorsed by the government and that attempts to offer women alternatives are being described as either criminal or anti-social. What is profoundly anti-social is that it is still legal to deprive certain human beings of their most basic freedom, the freedom to live and that steps are now being taken to censor freedom of speech, freedom to offer help, freedom to pray and even freedom to think. We must stand firm against this and ensure that these most fundamental freedoms are protected and that all our laws reflect this.

‘I was arrested for my prayers because of a disproportionate and far-reaching censorship zone . . . Nobody should be criminalised for offering help. Nobody should be criminalised for their prayers. Nobody should be criminalised for their thoughts.’

Fr Gough similarly expressed relief at having been cleared of all charges in connection with ‘intimidating service-users’ and observed that ‘whatever your views are on abortion we can all agree that a democratic country cannot be in the business of prosecuting thought crimes’.

He said: ‘I pray every day, everywhere I go. Prayer can never be a crime. This story isn’t over. If the government imposes censorship zones around every abortion facility in the country, as they are considering doing with the Public Order Bill currently under discussion, who knows how many more people will stand trial, even facing prison, for offering help or for praying in their minds?’

Fr Gough is right to be concerned about the hijacking of the Bill by pro-abortion activists in the Houses of Parliament under the nose of the Government, which pusillanimously granted free votes on amendments for a national rollout of punitive censorship zones instead of striking them out for what they were.

The latest of these was Amendment 45, which replaced the Clause 9 hijacking amendment. It was tabled by Conservative peer Baroness Sugg of Coldharbour and accepted at Report Stage in the House of Lords. It makes it a crime to influence ‘any person’s decision to access, provide or facilitate the provision of abortion services’.

It also makes it a criminal offence to cause ‘harassment, alarm or distress to any person in connection with a decision to access, provide, or facilitate the provision of abortion services’ within 150 metres of an abortion clinic.

The Lords on the same evening dismissed an altogether sensible amendment for a review by the Home Office to see what evidence justified such a draconian national intervention before imposing it.

The rejection of evidence means there is nothing new to add to the 2018 government review which found no examples of harassment, prompting Sajid Javid, then Home Secretary, to dismiss similar calls for national censorship zones.

The implication here is quite clear: evidence does not matter, but ideology does. This is surely an example of the most egregious form of law-making. It is the ‘my feelings don’t care about your facts’ mantra of Titania McGrath, the comic creation of Andrew Doyle, finding expression in Britain’s second political chamber. It is how dictatorships behave when they are at their worst.

The decision by Judge Wain yesterday does not set a precedent but at least it sends a message to our woker-than-woke police forces and council chiefs that for the moment they cannot criminalise innocent people for their thoughts.

It was indeed a good day for freedom, a moment when Britain once again held up a lantern to a world increasingly confused about simple issues of truth and justice, an echo of the country so many of us were proud to live in.

Yet unless there are those with the courage of Ms Vaughan-Spruce and Fr Gough to fight these battles, such victories may be short-lived.

The West needs to change its ways, and quickly. The police and the politicians in particular also ought to remember that Orwell's books were written as warnings against totalitarianism rather than as manuals for how to implement tyranny, a point evidently too frequently missed.

**CONVERSATION OVERHEARD BETWEEN AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT AND HER CHILD**

**Child:** "Mummy - what is democracy and what is racism?"

**Mummy:** "Well Sweetheart, democracy is when British taxpayers work every day so that people like us can have free housing, free education, free health care and more benefits than a homeless British veteran. That's what we call democracy."

**Child:** "But Mummy, don't the British taxpayers mind doing that?"

**Mummy:** "Of course they mind Sweetheart, but that's what we call racism."

**FROM THE MAIL BOX**

**NB Because of the toxic atmosphere in which orthodox priests have to work in the modern Church, we never publish their real names. All priests are called Fr Ignobilis and reside in Stat Veritas for the purposes of this mailbox**

*"I just love it when it arrives"*

Dear Mr Moorhouse - Enclosed cheque for £XX.XX to help you with your costs.

Thank you so much for sending me the Flock - I just love it when it arrives, as I just sit down and devour its contents!!

I am 84 years young and I will continue sending you something each time I receive the magazine.

Thank you again. You are an amazing man!!

**Kind regards: Annette Daly (Co. Wicklow)**

*"I pass them on to several friends"*

Dear Graham - Thank you for the Flock. Excellent! I pass them on to several friends. God bless you. £■■■■.00 cheque enclosed towards your postage and printing costs.

**From: Paddy Williamson (Bournemouth)**

***“Please rush to me an extra 10 copies of the Flock”***

Dear Graham - Please rush to me an extra 10 copies of the Flock. This means I will need 20 copies in total when they are printed. Keep up the good work. I hope the mail strike is over.

**God bless: Tom Wall (Co Cork, Ireland)**

***“It certainly helps to keep my faith alive”***

Dear Mr Moorhouse - many thanks for sending me a copy of your inspiring work. It certainly helps to keep my faith alive, particularly at this time.

I enclose a small cheque. I am not a wealthy pensioner!

May God bless you and all those people who can help you.

**Yours sincerely: Mrs Veronica Anderson (Cambridgeshire)**

***“ it was very interesting and enlightening as usual.”***

Dear Graham - Thank you for the latest Flock - it was very interesting and enlightening as usual.

I enclose a small gift of £■■■■.00. I applaud you for all the hard work you do, helping everyone to know about subjects we do not usually hear about, even in church.

Mat God bless you and your work

**Yours sincerely: Arlene Quantrill (Mrs) (Milton Keynes)**

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