

CATHOLICS IN ACTION

GOLDSMITH OFFICE BUILDING. P.O. BOX 5336. LOUISVILLE, KY 40205-5336
www.catholics-in-action.org

NO. 67

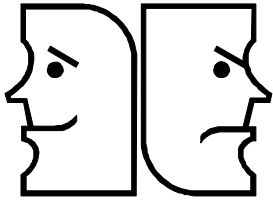
July-August, 2005

Vol.12

Defending the Faith



Catholics In Action



Smile & Grimace

FIVE BISHOPS SHOW THE RECORD – SAYS NO

In this the “Year of the Eucharist”, more than 600 Catholics, including five Bishops, gathered at the Galt House in Louisville for the annual Church Teaches Forum.

The bishops attending were: Archbishop Thomas Kelly of Louisville, Bishop Emeritus Charles Maloney of Louisville, Archbishop Raymond Burke of Saint Louis, Bishop John Donoghue, former Archbishop of Atlanta, and Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz of Nebraska.

Other Speakers included: Right Rev. Edmund McCaffrey, OSB, PhD, Very Rev. William Casey CPM, and Rev. Roger Arnsparger. It was gratifying to see several priests of the Archdiocese in attendance as well.

Forum speakers stressed Eucharistic Adoration and The New Evangelization. Archbishop Donoghue paid tribute to the Eternal Life Apostolate founded by the late William J. Smith of Bardstown saying, “I have been a bishop of the Catholic Church for 22 years, and I understand well why Eternal Life enjoys the reputation it does, in the efforts of so many to return the Catholic Church in America to the straight and narrow course, chartered by the many illustrious pioneers in the faith who have enriched this country with their wisdom, their hard work, and even with their blood.”

One doesn’t know whether to smile or grimace at the fact that THE RECORD doesn’t have the time or the desire to cover a local two-day conference with 600 plus Catholics and 5 bishops attending. This no show by the “Catholic” newspaper is especially curious as the theme of the Forum was “The Eucharist: Source and Summit of Catholic Life” and the Church is celebrating the “Year of the Eucharist”.

The June 16th (the week following the Forum) issue of THE RECORD contained the following front page articles:

- Flaget Hospital to Open in une
- Presentation Academy Names First Male Leader
- Pastoral Team to Provide Presence at Kosair Hospital

While the articles listed above may certainly be newsworthy, surely the gathering of hundreds of Catholics, addressed by several bishops, including the local bishop, is also a newsworthy event.

Tapes of the various speakers are available from *Eternal Life*, 902 W. Stephen Foster Ave., Bardstown, Ky 40004-2402.

LARGE FAMILIES MAY BE BENEFICIAL TO MOTHERS

Australian researchers have corroborated research showing that mothers who have many children develop significant protection against developing breast, colorectal, ovarian and uterine cancer, later in life.

“The more children you have, the more protective it gets,” said medical statistician Steven Darlington of Queensland Institute of Medical Research which conducted the research.

In addition, starting a family at a younger age conferred significant protection against breast cancer, as compared to women who began their families later in life.

FINANCIAL WOES FOR VARIOUS DIOCESES

It would seem that the Archdiocese of Louisville is not alone is suffering a financial setback. The Louisville Archdiocese was forced to pay millions in restitution during the priest sex abuse scandal. Now other dioceses are “paying up”.

* The San Francisco Archdiocese recently agreed to pay \$21.2 million to settle Sexual Abuse Suits.

* The Archdiocese of St. Louis is selling more than 80 buildings, including 20 churches. The asking price totals \$30 million.

* In the Cleveland Diocese, Catholics are suing Bishop Anthony Pilla and other current and former diocesan officials accused of bilking the diocese of millions of dollars. According to a Cleveland *Plain Dealer* report on June 14, the lawsuit accuses Pilla of shirking his responsibilities to “diligently oversee diocesan assets, allowing millions of dollars to be improperly funneled to one current and several former employees.” A diocesan spokesman declined to comment, citing an on-going FBI investigation.

“CHOOSE LIFE”

The state of Florida has numerous custom license plates from which residents may choose. The pro-life license plate with the message “Choose Life” is the ninth most popular plate in a long list.

Right to Life is promoting the concept of such a plate for the state of Kentucky. Good idea! Such a plate would sell like hotcakes in this pro-life state.

CHECK IT OUT

The Vatican’s web site is new and improved. It is now faster and able to support more visitors at the same time.

In the month of April, during Pope John Paul II’s last days and his death, and Benedict XVI’s election, the Vatican site was one of the most visited in the world.

The capacity for connection to the site had to be enlarged because more and more users are connecting to see Benedict XVI’s most important events on video.

Visit the site: www.vatican.va

Important Notice

Catholics In Action General Meeting

Friday, September 16, 2005

Executive West

Featuring

Brian Clowes

Author - Call To Action or Call To Apostasy

"His work is provocative and clear, and is certain to engender discussion in Catholic Church circles in the United States and beyond. For some Catholics it be a wake-up call; to others, a cause of considerable discomfort; while still to others, it will put into words their own sense of frustration and anguish."

Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz

Seating is limited – Tickets are available @ \$5.00 each. Send ticket request to P.O. Box listed below.

Following the presentation there will be a question and answer period. If you have questions on topics such as:

- ☞☞ Institutionalized Dissent
- ☞☞ Ignoring Personal Sin to Dispel Guilt
- ☞☞ The Alleged Priest Shortage
- ☞☞ Inclusive Language
- ☞☞ "Authentic" Church Teachings
- ☞☞ Tactics of Dissenters and How to Defeat Them
- ☞☞ Or any other question relevant to the Catholic Church today

Please mail your question in advance to:

Catholics In Action

P.O. Box 5336 Louisville 40205-5336.

AMERICA:



The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave

Earl and Lela Kalkbrenner,
Contributing Columnists

Terri Schiavo, a young American disabled woman was brutally starved and dehydrated to death because.....just because. Where was her freedom? Where was the brave "someone" to stop her horrific execution?

We watched. Our nation sat in our living room comfy chairs and watched our fellow American sister die, one day at a time, over a period of thirteen days. We sat and watched as the men in black robes pronounced Terri's death sentence over and over again. Yes, we sent E-mails, made telephone calls, prayed, waited, and watched. The decision makers wouldn't listen to the millions of fellow Americans who begged for Terri's life to be spared. She even had a family who publicly begged to let her live with them and be cared for the rest of her life. They asked for nothing else but for their daughter's life to be spared. How could anyone refuse her mother and father the right to love and take care of their child? How could this happen in our great America?

March 31, 2005. We must never forget this date. We must never forget Terri. She is the first public 21st century American martyr to die for the cause of the right to life of a person deemed "not worthy of life." "Who would want to live this way?" so many asked. Terri's beautiful smile and bright eyes as she gazed on her mother's face must never fade from our memories. If we allow ourselves to forget Terri's life and death, then we will be bowled over with many more Terri's. Some we will hear about, but most victims will be anonymous.

Oh! The lies we were fed by the "experts." So many lies: "Terri didn't have any awareness, Terri could not feel pain, and Terri had no idea of anything or anyone." How ridiculous that "professionals" could make these pronouncements! They even tried to make us believe that her death by starvation and dehydration would be an easy, painless, peaceful death. Do these "professionals" think we are idiots? They must believe that because they continuously fed us these lines. They wanted us to think that Terri wanted to die, that her "husband" was just being a "good, compassionate husband" in following her wishes in not letting her live by "artificial" means. Who can really believe that food is an artificial means to maintain life? Yes, America has been fed a bunch of lies by the "experts." Unfortunately, the "brilliant" men in black robes either believed these lies or they, what? Why would they over and over again condemn innocent Terri to death? That is a question that has not been adequately answered. Why did the courts condemn Terri to death? And not only to die, but to do so in a most violent and uncompassionate method. We cannot fathom starving our cat or dog! How could these officials of the courts, who we empower with life and death decisions, say, "Yes, Terri must die."

We grieve with Terri's family; they have suffered so very much! Only God knows the depth of their sorrow. Their daughter's life was brutally ended for no reason other than that "certain people" wanted her dead. May God bless and console them as they continue their lives without Terri. May God heal their memories of watching their beloved daughter starve and thirst to death.

May God have mercy on us.

Editor's Note: Terri's autopsy has now been released. It shows that she was brain injured, not brain dead. The autopsy does not answer what happened to cause Terri's injuries.

A Voice of Reason?

***Is Voice of the Faithful –
"Faithful"?
The Truth about VOTF***

Catholics In Action is determined to fight back against the organization called *Voice of the Faithful*. Very shortly a brochure will be mailed to every Catholic priest in the Archdiocese of Louisville projecting the truth about the organization. The brochure was prepared by *Catholics United for the Faith*.

The VOTF organization has attempted to present a positive impression to many local priests. This impression is certainly not the same agenda they present in their national and local general meetings. The VOTF leaders are not faithful to the teaching of the Catholic Church as we know and understand them.

Given all of VOTF'S fervent denials, what basis do critics have for outrage and concern?

The criticisms can be boiled down to 3 points:

- ✂✂ The leadership of VOTF is composed almost entirely of dissenters.
- ✂✂ VOTF gravitates toward dissenters as advisors and speakers at its events.
- ✂✂ Its goals are ambiguous enough to hide just about any kind of agenda.

Sometime during the next month ask your parish priest if he received his copy of the brochure that we mailed to him and what he thinks about the information.



The Priest Shortage: From Silly to Sublim

David Bauscher, Featured Columnist

After reading the staffing study prepared by the Archdiocese (see "Pastoral Leadership and Staffing—2005" at www.archlou.org), one has the uneasy feeling that he is being asked to straighten up the deck chairs on the Titanic just before it hit the iceberg. This study and its companion demographic study of 2004 are being used to encourage and foster an increase in lay ministries within the Archdiocese, in response to the declining number of priests.

Pope John Paul II, in his encyclical on the laity, *Christifideles Laici*, makes it abundantly clear that the lay members of Christ's people are always called to service, not just during times of vocational shortages to the priesthood. He says:

A new state of affairs today both in the Church and in social, economic, political and cultural life, calls with a particular urgency for the action of the lay faithful. If lack of commitment is always unacceptable, the present time renders it even more so. *It is not permissible for anyone to remain idle.*

So, the Archdiocese's attempt to increase lay ministries, while laudable in itself, is not the proper response from the Body of Christ to a decrease in priestly vocations. It is akin to the captain of the Titanic asking for an increase in the number of deckhands to straighten more deck chairs, rather than asking for a change in the ship's course. It may be shocking (but it would not be an overstatement) to realize that we are being de-Catholicized; we are, in fact, being Protestantized. Pushing all the staffing models to their ultimate conclusion, one could make a plausible argument, on business grounds, for renting the Southeast Christian mega-church on Sunday afternoons, and closing down all the parishes in the East End. That way, one priest could say Sunday mass for everybody. This radical view shows just how much in peril is the sacramental life of our church.

The crisis we face is not a management/planning crisis; it is first and foremost a spiritual crisis. St. Paul (Ephesians 6:12) tells us that "Our battle is not against human forces but against the principalities and powers, the rulers of this world of darkness." Extraordinary as it may sound, although our parishes are being asked to plan ahead in the light of these two studies on demographics and staffing, **NO PARISH IS BEING ASKED TO PLAN TO PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!**

With the sacramental life of our local church ebbing away, every parish should be planning to have regular, if not daily, prayers, holy hours, novenas, and masses for vocations. St. John Chrysostom says the parish is the place "...where there is a great multitude, where exclamations are cried out to God as from one great heart..."

St. Luke asks us: "What father among you will give his son a snake if he asks for a fish, or hand him a scorpion if he asks for an egg?" We are people of faith and hope. We give the past to God's mercy, the present to His

abiding love, and the future to His providence. If every parish were to cry out to God with one great heart, asking Him to bless it with religious vocations, do you think He would long delay in granting us what we ask?

On Liturgical Novelty **C.S. Lewis, "Letters To Malcolm"**

I think our business as laymen is to take what we are given and make the best of it. And I think we should find this a great deal easier if what we were given was always and everywhere the same.

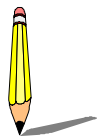
To judge from their practice, very few Anglican clergymen take this view. It looks as if they believed people can be lured to go to church by incessant brightenings, lightnings, abridgements, simplifications, and complications of the service. And it is probably true that a new, keen vicar will usually be able to form within his parish a minority who are in favor of his innovations. The majority, I believe, never are. Those who remain—many give up churchgoing altogether—merely endure.

Is this simply because the majority are hide-bound? I think not. They have a good reason for their conservatism. Novelty, simply as such, can have only an entertainment value. And they don't go to church to be entertained. They go to *use* the service, or, if you prefer, to *enact* it. Every service is a structure of acts and words through which we receive a sacrament, or repent, or supplicate, or adore. And it enables us to do these things best—if you like, it "works" best—when, through long familiarity, we don't have to think about it. As long as you notice, and have to count, the steps, you are not yet dancing but only learning to dance. A good shoe is a shoe you don't notice. Good reading becomes possible when you need not consciously think about eyes, or light, or print, or spelling. The perfect church service would be one we were almost unaware of; our attention would have been on God.

But every novelty prevents this. It fixes our attention on the service itself; and thinking about worship is a different thing from worshipping.

A still worse thing may happen. Novelty may fix our attention not even on the service but on the celebrant. You know what I mean. Try as one may to exclude it, the question "What on earth is he up to now?" will intrude. It lays one's devotion waste. There is really some excuse for the man who said, "I wish they'd remember that the charge to Peter was Feed my sheep; not Try experiments on my rats, or even teach my performing dogs new tricks.

Catholic Humor



Prior to becoming Pope Benedict XVI, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger was a world-class theologian. The following tongue-in-cheek story is sometimes told to convey his superior abilities in all things theological:

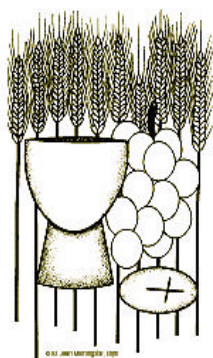
Karl Rahner, Hans Kung, and Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger all die on the same day, and go to meet St. Peter to learn their fate. St. Peter approaches the three of them, and tells them that he will interview each of them to discuss their views on various issues. He then points at Rahner, and says "Karl! In my office..." After four hours, the door opens, and Rahner comes stumbling out of St. Peter's office. He is highly distraught, and is mumbling: "Oh God, that was the hardest thing I've ever done! How could I have been so wrong? So sorry...never realized..." He stumbles off into heaven, a testament to God's mercy.

St. Peter follows him out, points a finger in Kung's direction and says: "Hans! You're next..." After eight hours, the door opens, and Kung comes out, barely able to stand. He is near collapse with weakness and a crushed spirit. He too is mumbling: "Oh, God, that was the hardest thing I've ever done! How could I have been so wrong? So sorry...never realized..." He stumbles off into heaven, a testament to God's mercy.

Lastly, St. Peter, emerging from his office, says to Cardinal Ratzinger, "Joseph, your turn." TWELVE HOURS LATER, St. Peter stumbles out the door of his office, obviously exhausted, saying "Oh God, that's the hardest thing I've ever done."

****Habemus Papam****

Year of the Eucharist



October 2004-October 2005

**"Let Our Adoration
Never Cease!"**

The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to making amends for the serious offences and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease.

*John Paul II
Domenicae Genae*

If Today You Hear His Voice

"You must be holy in the way that God asks you to be holy. God does not ask you to be a Trappist monk or a hermit. He wills that you sanctify the world and your everyday life...Remember that the Christian life is one of action; not of speech and daydreams. Intend every moment of time—past, present, and future—be employed by me and all creatures in the best way. In heaven we shall rest."

---*St. Vincent Pallotti*

Just as Jesus said that He must be about His Father's business, so must we. What have you

done for Him lately?

A Place for Dissent?

In a "special report" posted on the national *Call to Action* website, co-directors Dan and Sheila Daley, promote several articles including *A Place for Dissent* by Charles Curran and *Separate, Not Equal* by Anna Quindlen.

In their personal letter, **The Pilgrim Church: Making Room for Dissent**, the Daleys discuss the resignation of Fr. Thomas Reese, SJ as editor of *America Magazine* "after repeated complaints by then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger".

According to the Catholic News Service pressure was exerted on the Jesuits by the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith for the past five years.

Fr. Reese received the news that the Jesuits found the debate "unwinnable" when he returned from Rome after covering the election of Pope Benedict XVI.

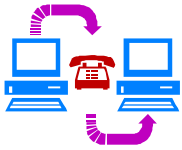
The Daleys quote Brazilian Bishop Pedro Casaldaliga as commenting. "We as Catholics have to learn how to define the figure of the pope. The pope has a ministry, but he is not the Church, he is not God. We have to relate to him and be adults in our faith and continue on the journey. The big institutions only change if there is strong pressure at the bases. The church, divine and human will only change if there is a coherent force, universal at the base."

The Daleys conclude:

"The words of Bishop Casaldaliga remind us that "We are the church" and that our faith community is full of vitality, open dialogue, Gospel peace, and women working in partnership with men. We have faith in this community. We believe the Spirit calls us to continue the work of building this community and preserving a healthy dialogue on the critical issues before us."

Interestingly, Charles Curran who was stripped of his Theologian's Credentials by the Vatican in 1986 will receive *Call to Action's* 2005 Leadership Award at its National Conference in Milwaukee on November 46.

Call to Action remains active in the Archdiocese of Louisville.



From the Mail



Editor's Note:

Catholics In Action has received several letters from readers, which while phrased in different ways, ask the same basic questions. We have listed some of those below. Answers are taken from "Redemptionis Sacramentum" released by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacrament in 2004.

Q. Does Church Liturgical Law forbid the use of glass vessels during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass?

A. The use of glass vessels during Mass has been prohibited by the Congregation of Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacrament.

We have been advised that violations have taken place in some instances in the Archdiocese of Louisville, including Mass of the Air. However, we believe that recently there has been an effort to correct this abuse. If you are aware of any church still engaging in this abuse, please advise us.

Q. We had a woman give the homily during Mass. Is this proper?

A. No, it is not proper. Canon 767 states the following: "Among the forms of preaching the homily is preeminent; it is a part of the liturgy itself and is reserved to a priest or to a deacon; in the homily the mysteries of the faith and the norms of Christian living are to be expounded from the sacred text throughout the course of the liturgical year."

Q. Where did the hand-holding/hand-raising at the Our Father come from?

A. Not from any of the Church's liturgical books. It is a gesture that some persons introduced spontaneously, that is widely practiced today. It has never received approval from the Apostolic See or from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Q. Why is the emphasis no longer on the "Sacrifice" of the Mass?

A. The constant teaching of the Church on the nature of the Eucharist not only as a meal, but also and preeminently as a Sacrifice, is therefore rightly understood to be one of the principal keys to the full participation of all the faithful in so great a Sacrament. For when "stripped of its sacrificial meaning, the mystery is understood as if its meaning and importance were simply that of a fraternal banquet." (Pope John Paul II, Encyclical Letter *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*)

Q. Volunteers bake altar bread at our parish. It tastes sweet. Is this allowed?

A. The Bread used in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice must be unleavened, purely of wheat, and recently made so that there is no danger of decomposition. It follows therefore that bread made from another substance, even if it is grain, or if it is mixed with another substance different from wheat to such an extent that it would not commonly be considered wheat bread, does not constitute valid matter for confecting the Sacrifice and the Eucharistic Sacrament. It is a grave abuse to introduce other substances, such as fruit or sugar or honey, into the bread for confecting the Eucharist. Hosts should obviously be made by those who are not only distinguished by their integrity, but also skilled in making them and furnished with suitable tools.

Q. In our parish the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in a special "room" and is not visible in the church proper. Is this correct?

A. "According to the structure of each church building and in accordance with local customs, the Most Holy Sacrament is to be reserved in a tabernacle in a part of the church that is noble, prominent, readily visible, and adorned in a dignified manner and furthermore suitable for prayer by reason of the quietness of the location, the space in front of the tabernacle and also the supply of benches, seats and kneelers."

*By your unfailing mercy, Lord,
purify and guard your Church,
and since without you she cannot
stand fast, support and guide her
always by your grace. We make our
prayer through our Lord. Amen*

*Concluding prayer from Morning Prayer
Lent Weekdays, Week 3*



Catholics In Action:

Reaches 1,250 and growing!

Dear Catholic Friend:

This is a special invitation from **CATHOLICS IN ACTION** to you to invite a friend to join this special group of loyal Catholics who want to preserve the traditions and teachings of our holy church for generations to come.

Our group has made a commitment to promote and defend TRUE teachings of our Holy Catholic Faith by attempting to educate local Catholics as to those truths.

Members are:

- ☞ Loyal to and supportive of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI
- ☞ Accepting of the teaching authority of the Magisterium
- ☞ In defense of those who cannot defend themselves, namely millions of innocent pre-born babies as well as the elderly and the handicapped.
- ☞ Believers in accepting personal responsibility for defending the Faith, as well as holding those in Church leadership accountable.

Can such a group make a difference? Truly it has! In the last several years Catholics in Action has been there behind the scenes working through people like you making the difference every day. We need you to help us continue the effort to preserve our glorious faith.

Catholics in Action membership includes:

- ☞ Association with Catholics like yourself who love their Church
- ☞ Remembrance in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at least once a month

- ☞ An outstanding NEWSLETTER which will keep you current on both the good and bad in the Archdiocese
- ☞ Supporting one of the finest Catholic WEBSITES in the nation.
- ☞ An opportunity to hear some of the best Catholic speakers in the nation
- ☞ An opportunity, if you so desire, to become individually active on special teams which work in the community to educate and inform.

Invite your Catholic friends to join now!

We need your prayers, your faith and your financial support*.

Suggested Donation:

Individual \$20__ Family \$25__ Sustaining Member \$50__

Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Parish _____

Please mail to:

Catholics In Action, P.O. Box 5336, Louisville, KY 40205-5336.

Donations are tax deductible.

Support Catholic Radio

Do Your Part to Keep Catholic Programming Available in the Louisville Area!

WLCR AM-1040
3600 Goldsmith Lane
Louisville, KY 40220
(502) 451-WLCR (9527)

Contact Advertising Information Call Lynn Ray at (502) 451-9527