



WINNOWING FAN

The Spiritual Life according to the Fathers and Saints of the Catholic Church in preparation for Christ's Second Coming.

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THE FIRST MARK - CATHOLICITY (6)

The Catholic Church is the very name of the Church instituted by Christ. St. Augustine writes; even if every heresy should wish to appear and be called the Catholic Church, nevertheless, when the heretics are asked by the pagans where one would go to come together at a Catholic Church, none of them dares to show his house.

St. Cyril teaches, "If you go into a city and ask where is the church or where is the house of God, even heretics will show their own house or church. But if you ask where is the Catholic Church, no heretic will show you his house or his church."

The name "Catholic Church" was not borrowed or made by man, Pacianus says to Sympronianus. "My name is Christian, Catholic is my cognomen; that addresses me, that shows who I am."

Those who leave the Church use human names; "I am of Paul," others, "I am of Apollo," others "I am of Cephas." St. Justin Martyr shows distinctly the cognomen of heretics. Though calling themselves Christians, these heretics call themselves Marcionists, Valentinians, Basilidianians, Saturninists, Arians.

Catholics do not get their names even from the Apostles. Only from Christ. Our Faith is in Christ. Protestants have their faith in their human founders, like the Marcionists from Marcion the inventor of their heresy. The same goes with Valentinus, Basilides and Manes. They are named after the founder of their heresies. Today we have the Lutherans, Zwinglians and Calvinists. The churches of these people are named after the founder of their heresies.

The Catholics were called by other names; but these names are taken from doctrines of the Catholic religion, like "Homousians" because Catholics believe that the Son is consubstantial with the Father. We are, also, called Papists because we believe in the Pope as the true successor of St. Peter.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE.

The Catholic Church is in panic mode. As prophesied by the Lenten Liturgy, the world is in Good Friday mode. The entire world, as prophesied, has become Good Friday. This had been foretold during the Lenten Liturgy, it had been interpreted by St. Bonaventure in his *Haexameron* and deeply studied by Fr. Joseph Ratzinger for his thesis to qualify to teach theology.

Like on Good Friday, today, no one will be teaching the truth; because most of the preachers are badly trained in the seminaries and the few who are teaching the right truths, like the Apostles, are silent "for fear of the Jews."

So, it was necessary to go on emergency procedure. Since the Apostles could not go to Scriptures because it was not yet written, because the Apostle could

not go to the Fathers of the Church because it was the Apostles who would start training the Fathers of the Church.....to whom could they go?.....they had to go back to their own memories and recall the teachings of Christ.

So in the Sundays after Easter, when Christ was perfecting the Faith of the Apostles Christ always helped them recall to mind, Christ reminded them what was written by Moses and the prophets. The Memory. Christ commanded them to go back to what they remembered.

The more a man
Descends into the depths
of humility and condemns
himself as one not worthy
of salvation, the more he
mourns and sheds streams
of tears. The more he
mourns and sheds tears, the
more spiritual joy flows into
his heart, and with it flows
increasing hope which gives
him the most complete
certainty of salvation.

St. Simeon the New Theologian



THE EMERGENCY PROCEDURE vs ORDINARY PROCEDURE.

The ordinary procedure in going to heaven was given to mankind for those living in the Old Testament up to the preaching of Christ. The emergency procedure started from Pentecost up to the present.

Another way of putting it is that the ordinary procedure was in preparation for the first coming of Christ. The emergency procedure was in preparation for the Second coming of Christ.

After the Ascension of Christ, the Christians began to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ. St. Paul noted that the Second Coming was not imminent during his time, thus correcting some Christians who were no longer working and were just waiting for the Second Coming of Christ.

The first Christians believed that the Second Coming was not imminent but they did not know when it would occur. So they prepared themselves, nevertheless. And that preparation was in “emergency mode.” The “emergency mode” was the monastic and heremital life.

So both ways of life were popular at the beginning of Christendom.

But because the Second Coming did not come soon enough, the Christians became complacent and forgot about the doctrine on the Second Coming. They, also, forgot how the “emergency mode” was.

Then suddenly, the emergency came and no one knew what the “emergency mode” was. It was written in Scriptures and explained by the Fathers of the Church but the spiritual leaders of the Church could not find it. They never studied it. They did not know where to find it. And the few who tried to find it could not find it.

So we have to review it again and hope it is not too late.

LEARNING FROM THE LITURGY.

The best place to learn the way to heaven or the Plan of Salvation is learning it from the Liturgy and this for two reasons; first, the truths on how to go to heaven are supernatural. They cannot be learned from men or from books. It can only be learned from God.

The human aspect is learned through the readings while the grace necessary to understand the mysteries in the Liturgy is received

through the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

At birth, we had Baptism to supply the necessary grace for us to understand what our parents and godparents were going to teach us, i.e. the supernatural truths. But when we sinned during adolescence we lost that grace and it had to be recovered. And the most convenient Sacrament is the Holy Eucharist since it accompanies the readings for whose understanding the grace is needed.

And so Theology is learned best on bended knees before the Blessed Sacrament. You read the theological treatise and pray that God explains it to you through the Eucharist.

The most ideal arrangement, however, is through the Mass, where we already have the Readings and we have the Divine Help from the Mass itself.

THE LITURGY AFTER EASTER

The Apostles had begun their training at the beginning of the ministry of Christ. And Christ wanted the Apostles to begin their training from the time He was born. This process of training the Apostles is portrayed in the Liturgy of the Mass. It starts with Advent and the

teaching of the Apostles is completed on Pentecost.

By Pentecost the training of the Apostles was completed by Christ. Thus their training was completed during Pentecost. And so that was the only time the apostles were told to go and evangelize all nations.

For the Apostles to be able to preach well, they had to learn all the teachings of Christ. When we say “they must learn all the teachings of Christ”, first, we mean that the Apostles learned directly from Christ “all the teachings of Christ.” And, secondly, the Apostles learned, also, how those teachings are put into practice.

The Apostles would not be able to preach the commands of Christ if they did not know how to put them into practice. Knowledge must contain both elements; knowledge of the teachings and knowledge on how to put into practice.

If we notice the words of Christ when He sent His Apostles to all nations, it is precisely to do the two elements of knowledge.

If a preacher does not have one of those elements, or worse still does not know the two elements of the necessary knowledge, he cannot preach or worse he will teach wrongly.

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