

Entered as Second Class Mail at the Makati Central Post Office on March 14, 1984 could to solve The *Winnowing Fan* hopes could to solve the evils that that "...to do what little it t beset the Church." St. Teresa of Avila

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## 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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## PART ELEVEN IGEI 17A

## HOW COME FAITH WAS NEVER ATTAINED.

Fr. Servais Pinckners, a Moral Theologian tried to pinpoint what might have happened; how come very, very few were making the act of Faith.

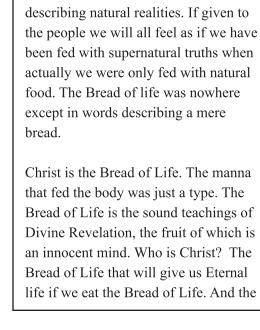
Before he became Pope, the Holy Father wrote the 'Ratzinger Report' where he outlined the 'Crisis in the Church' and described it as a 'crisis of Faith.' This was not due to loss of Faith but due to the inability of souls to make an act of Faith. The solution is not renewal because there is nothing to renew. It must be evangelization because it is teaching everything from the beginning.

Before the Council of Trent the Catholic Church was beginning to have serious problems. For one thing it was noticeable that after each Ecumenical Council there were always problems, even after the Council of Trent just as we have now. But before Trent, the heresy of Nominalism popularized by William was besieging the Church. This heresy was metamorphosing first, into

Luther's Protestantism and forking out into communism on one side and into democracy on the other. Both political philosophies have their origin from the heresy of Nominalism. Europe, especially France, was the experimental ground for these deviant philosophies. It tore Europe into fragments and was transplanted to the U.S. in its worst form. The Catholic Church was disintegrating in Europe. So the Council of Trent was summoned and basing her documents on the Fathers and Doctors of the Church plus her Tradition and Liturgy the Council made very good documents. But as we mentioned in the previous post, after the Council, the Dicasteries were in a hurry to implement the documents especially in Moral Theology. In rushing to train the priest with the new documents, especially the Diocesan priests in the seminaries, they did not follow the proper method of instruction.

The right procedure is this: theology professors must be contemplatives (i.e. they must be spiritually in the supernatural level having receive grace together with the three theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity and as a consequence their knowledge of Divine Revelation is infused or taught to them by God Himself. And the seminary students must be taught, not the truths of Divine Revelation, but how to rise up to the supernatural level spiritually where it is God who would teach them. In the rush the theology instructors who were merely in the natural level (bogged down in the spirituality of the Old Testament) were attempting to teach seminarians who were likewise in the natural level. Strictly speaking both were not in the level of grace and devoid of supernatural Faith. The blind leading the blind.

As a consequence theology professors who were spiritually in the natural level were attempting to teach supernatural truths that they could not explain to students who were in the natural level who could not understand supernatural truths. The fault of theological professors was that in not being contemplatives thus not having the infused knowledge of Divine Revelation, they were explaining supernatural truths using words of Scriptures but explained by giving merely its natural dictionary meaning and not its deep, penetrating meaning as meant by God. It is exactly how the Protestants do it. They explain the words of God without giving what God really meant but by giving only the natural dictionary meaning. This is giving the seminarians a natural understanding of Divine Revelation and this is not Faith because this is not



evangelization. Yet the theology

professor and the seminarian after the

lecture have the deceitful feeling that

Church....thus the feeling that they had

faith, that they are inside the Catholic

Church and will attain eternal life. Poor

souls. And this wrong method is carried

on continuously up to the very present

This first defect mentioned by Pope

Benedict in his 'new evangelization' is

still in the 'Instrumentum Laboris' for

the bishop's synod this October. If it is

not corrected very few will ever reach

Faith in this scheduled 'Year of Faith.'

follow Pope Benedict's schema that he

had already presented? The Bishop's

schema is full of beautiful words

What a waste. Why don' we just all

hour.

they had lectured and listened to a

supernatural truth of the Catholic

eating of the Bread of life is FAITH, the reason Pope Benedict is so insistent.

ove Our Lady. And she will obtain abundant grace for you to help you conquer in your daily struggle. And the enemy will gain nothing by those foul things that continually seem to boil and rise within you, seeking to swallow up in their perfumed corruption the high ideals, the sublime determination that Christ Himself has set in your heart.

Venerable Jose Escriva

## **IMPROPER REPENTANCE**

When the Blessed Virgin called for Repentance in most of her apparitions hardly anyone repented. The reason was not due to anything except pure ignorance. How can one repent if he does not know how to do it. And that has been the problem with Catholics.

St. Augustine states that when a person sins his intellect and free will turns away from God. This he described as aversion from God. And the sinner turns away from God because his mind and free will are attracted to the things of the world. St. Augustine calls this conversion towards the things of the world. That is sin and most Catholics cannot see what is wrong with being attracted to the things of the world. NO. It is not the attraction towards the things of the world that makes an act sinful. It is the fact that in the act of being attracted to the things of the world we turn away from God. This aversion from God is the essence of sin.

Now, when a person sins, he not only turns away from God. He walks away from God. And he will continuously walk away from God as long as he is attached to his sins.

In Repentance the sinner must do several things. First he must stop walking away from God. And secondly he must turn around back to God (conversion). These two steps should be well explained to souls. Most think it is enough to stop sinning. Most think that if they just go to confession that is it, their sins are forgiven. Not yet.

Not only must they stop sinning, which is not well understood, Not only

must they turn around and face God again...which is also not well understood. Most do not know that after these two steps they must still develop the Four Moral Virtues that will prevent them from committing sins in the future and will enable them to return to their former baptismal state.

It is the lack of this knowledge that prevents most Catholics from repenting and having their past sins forgiven. The fact that their sins keep on returning shows that they are not repenting well and their sins are still in their souls unforgiven. St. Augustine described them as "walking dead." Souls who are walking around thinking their sins had been forgiven in confession not knowing that due to lack of proper repentance they are still bound by their sins.

This tying of one's life to a schedule, to a timetable, you tell me, is so monotonous! And I answer: there is monotony because there is not Love.

Venerable Jose Escriva

