



Catholics United for the Faith

Affirming Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee

St. Gregory VII Chapter
March, 2014

Fr. James Kubicki, S.J., to present an "Afternoon of Recollection" on Mar. 9

Fr. James Kubicki, S.J., will again, most graciously present an "Afternoon of Recollection," on Sunday, March 9, to help lead us through a faith-filled Lent, and to a more joyous Easter celebration. Our Chapter is very fortunate that Fr. Kubicki is willing to be our Spiritual Advisor, and we sincerely thank him for that kindness. Fr. Kubicki is an excellent speaker who is very much in demand to give retreats, missions and talks around the country. Every year, when his presentation to our Chapter is over, we hear comments like, "Now I understand that!" or "I never knew that!" or "That's really interesting!"

Fr. Kubicki is the National Director of *The Apostleship of Prayer*, a 160 year old organization that directs attention to the Pope's monthly prayer intentions, and encourages devotion to The Sacred Heart of Jesus. We highly recommend Fr. Kubicki's recent (2012) book, *A Heart on Fire - Rediscovering Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus*, which is available for purchase at our meetings. In addition, Fr. Kubicki is heard on Relevant Radio (100.1 FM). We strongly encourage you, not only to come to hear Fr. Kubicki, but also to bring a friend (or two) with you to enjoy a very worthwhile...

"Afternoon of Recollection"

WHERE: Sacred Heart Church

917 North 49th St. (one block north of Wells St.)

WHEN: Sunday, March 9

TIME: 2:00 p.m. - Program 1:45 p.m. - Rosary

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Please! - Ask Archbishop Listecki to remove "Common Core" from diocesan schools!!

Because there is no indication that Archbishop Listecki has made any effort to remove this federal takeover of our schools, known as **Common Core State Standards (CCSS)**, we continue to ask you to call, write or email Archbishop Listecki and ask him to remove "Common Core" from our diocesan schools. Unfortunately, the diocese continues to make public statements which promote and defend Common Core, e.g., the article by **Fr. Joseph Shimek** titled, "Catholic schools can use Common Core," that appeared in the Sunday, February 23, "Crossroads" section of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. Fr. Shimek claims that "Since 2007, the National Governor's Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers have been developing a set of CCSS," with parents, teachers and various professionals to develop "bipartisan benchmarks" in math and language arts to "create new high-quality academic expectations." The truth is that the standards were developed behind closed doors by a group of lobbyists, and the only mathematician on the validation committee refused to approve the math standards, insisting that Common Core math students will not be successful in a university engineering or STEM program.

Plan to attend the 2014 "Men of Christ Conference" at the Milwaukee Theatre Mar. 15

The 2014 Men of Christ Conference will be held on Saturday, March 15, at the Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W. Kilbourn Avenue. Archbishop Listecki will begin the day with Mass at 7:00 a.m., and Bishop Hying will close the day with Mass at 4:00 p.m. The morning speakers will be **Tom Peterson** and **Bruce Hannemann**. The afternoon speakers will be **Fr. Michael Gaitley**, author of *The 'One Thing' Is Three (2012)*, and **Michael Coren**, author of *Why Catholics are Right (2011)*. Confession will be available during lunch, and Eucharistic Adoration throughout the day. For questions, visit MenofChrist.net, or email at menofchrist@menofchrist.net

The March, 2014, Prayer Intentions published by Pope Francis

During March, Pope Francis has asked that we pray for two intentions: 1) **Respect for Women.** That all cultures may respect the rights and dignity of women, and, 2) **Vocations.** That many young people may accept the Lord's invitation to consecrate their lives to proclaiming the Gospel. For information regarding the activities of **The Apostleship of Prayer**, please visit: apostleshipofprayer.org

Bishop Hying to say 8:00 p.m. "All-Night Vigil" Mass at St. Charles Borromeo April 4

The April "All-Night Vigil of Reparation" will be held on **Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5** at **St. Charles Borromeo Church**, 5571 S. Marilyn St. **Bishop Hying** will say the opening Mass at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, and the Vigil will conclude with First Saturday Mass at 5:00 a.m. Come for the opening Mass and stay as long as you like. For more information, or for a ride, call 414-254-2790.

Are parish pastors required to invite girls to serve at the altar?

In July 2001, the Holy See's **Congregation for Divine Worship** (CDW) issued a response to a bishop's question (dubium) concerning the admission of girls and women as altar servers. This response made it clear that only a diocesan bishop may decide whether to permit female servers in his diocese; furthermore, that "no priest is obliged to have female servers, even in dioceses where it is permitted." The letter stressed that no one has a "right" to serve at the altar, and also strongly reaffirmed that altar boys should be encouraged. The letter, signed by Cardinal Jorge A. Medina Estevez, prefect of the CDW, was published in the August/September, 2001, issue of *Notitiae*, the official publication of the CDW.

Is "Centering Prayer" really a form of Christian contemplation?

Margaret A. Feaster, author of "A closer look at centering prayer," (*Homiletic & Pastoral Review*, Oct., 2004, p. 26), explains that Centering Prayer "is not Christian contemplation and that this type of prayer is **not recommended** by Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Ratzinger, The Catechism of the Catholic Church, or St. Teresa of Avila." It is "the same as Transcendental Meditation, which is tied to Hinduism...Mind-emptying techniques are not Christian prayer, but rather practices of Hindus, Zen Buddhists and New Agers." As Christians, we are not to practice non-Christian religions.

"Catechetical Corner"

Question: What sins does Baptism take away?

Answer: Baptism takes away original sin; and also actual sins, if there be any, and all the punishment due to them.

Catholics United for the Faith

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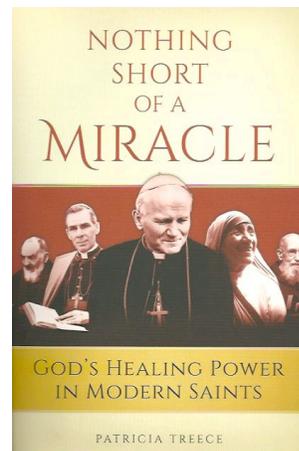
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Book of the Month: "Nothing Short of a Miracle"

Author: Patricia Treece

Publisher: Sophia Institute Press, 2013

"God doesn't need humans to work miracles for Him, but as veteran Catholic author Patricia Treece shows, it certainly seems His good pleasure to perform great miracles by means of human prayers and human hands. For more than a quarter century, Treece - America's most experienced and revered saint-watcher - has gathered numerous fascinating reports of miraculous healings brought about in our lifetime. Among them is the complete 2005 cure of St. Marie Simon-Pierre's advanced Parkinson's disease after she appealed for healing to the just-deceased Pope John Paul II. After intense scrutiny, the Vatican declared her healing miraculous, leading to John Paul's beatification and canonization. Here, too, are tales of scores of lesser-known healings brought to light by Treece's own investigations into little-known official Vatican documents..."



Contributors of \$12 or more per year to the Chapter are entitled to discounts on all books displayed at CUF meetings.

Southern Nebraska Register

“What popes can and can't do”

By George Weigel, January 17, 2014, p. 4

George Weigel is a Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

A good friend habitually refers to the *Wall Street Journal* as his “favorite Catholic newspaper” – a bit of whimsy not without foundation, given the openness of the *Journal’s* op-ed pages to serious Catholic argument on numerous issues. But just as Homer occasionally nods, so does America’s best newspaper. And on Jan. 2, the *Journal* nodded, big-time, in this description of why Pope Francis was one of the “People to Watch” in 2014:

“After raising expectations for shifting views toward homosexuality, divorce, the environment, and society’s obligations to the poor, the pontiff is expected to also undertake bureaucratic reform at the Vatican, as well as the possible expansion of the role of women in the Church.”

By my count, and bypassing the unnecessarily split infinitive, there are four errors in that one sentence, plus one grave misconstrual of ecclesiastical “roles.”

Although it is very difficult for those who see Catholicism through political lenses to grasp this, popes are not like presidents or state governors, and doctrine is not like public policy. Which means that a change of papal “administration” does not – indeed cannot – mean a change of Catholic “views.” Doctrine, as the Church understands it, is not a matter of anyone’s “views,” but of settled understandings of the truth of things.

Nor are popes free agents who govern by the seat of their pants, if you’ll permit the phrase. Prior to the completion of Vatican II’s *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, Pope Paul VI proposed adding to

that seminal document a sentence – stating that the pope is “accountable to the Lord alone” – and effort, I suspect, to protect papal authority and freedom of action from potential civil or ecclesiastical encroachments. But the council’s Theological Commission rejected Pope Paul’s proposed amendment, noting that “the Roman Pontiff is...bound to revelation itself, to

“...popes are not like presidents or state governors...a change of papal ‘administration’ does not – indeed cannot – mean a change of Catholic views...”

the fundamental structure of the the Church, to the sacraments, to the definitions of earlier Councils, and (to) other obligations too numerous to mention.”

Those “other obligations” include honoring the truth of things built into the world and into us. At an academic conference years ago, a distinguished Catholic philosopher remarked (perhaps hyperbolically) that “If the pope said that ‘2+2=5,’ I’d believe him.” An even more distinguished Catholic philosopher gave the correct, and far more Catholic response: “If the Holy Father said that ‘2+2=5,’ I would say publicly, ‘Perhaps I have misunderstood His Holiness’s meaning.’ Privately, I would pray for his sanity.” Popes, in other words, are not *authoritarian* figures, who teach what they will and as they will. The pope

is the guardian of an *authoritative* tradition of which he is the servant, not the master. Pope Francis knows this as well as anyone, as he has emphasized by repeating that he is a “son of the Church” who believes and teaches what the Church believes and teaches. Thus the notion that this pontificate is going to change Catholic teaching on the morality of homosexual acts, or on the effects of divorce—and—remarriage on one’s communion with the Church, is a delusion, although the Church can surely develop its pastoral approach to homosexuals and the divorced. As for the environment and the poor, Catholic social doctrine has long taught that we are stewards of creation and that the least of the Lord’s brethren have a moral claim on our solidarity and our charity; the social doctrine leaves open to debate the specific, practical means by which people of good will, and governments, exercise that stewardship, and that solidarity and charity.

And “the role of women in the Church?” No doubt various Church structures would benefit by drawing upon a wider range of talent (irrespective of gender) than the talent-pool from which Church leaders typically emerge. Still, in an interview with *La Stampa* before Christmas, Pope Francis made it clear that identifying leadership in the Church with ordination is both a form of clericalism and another way of instrumentalizing Catholic women. Flying a Vatican desk, Francis was suggesting, is not the acme of discipleship. As for Curial reform: **Oremus**, as we used to say.

George Weigel’s column is distributed by the Denver Catholic Register, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver. Phone: (303) 715-3123

THE WINTER-SPRING-FALL SCHEDULE:

- March 9 AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION, by Fr. James Kubicki, S.J. (at Sacred Heart Church)***
- May 4 THE MODERN PAPACY AND THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, by Dave Archibald***
- May 25 TO BE ANNOUNCED***
- September 21 TO BE ANNOUNCED***
- October 19 MSGR. POPEK AWARD DINNER----Recipient: Bishop Robert C. Morlino***
- November 16 TO BE ANNOUNCED***
- December 14 MSGR. POPEK BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS DINNER***
- January 18 TO BE ANNOUNCED***
- February 15 TO BE ANNOUNCED***



Catholics United for the Faith

To Support, Defend and Advance the Efforts of the Teaching Church

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Join us May 4 to hear
Dave Archibald present
“The Modern Papacy and Vatican II”

Come and bring a friend to hear

Fr. James Kubicki, S.J.,
National Director, Apostleship of Prayer,
present

“An Afternoon of Recollection”

Sunday, March 9
Sacred Heart Church
917 North 49th Street