



Catholics United for the Faith

Affirming Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee

St. Gregory VII Chapter
October, 2018

Come and hear Fr. Belmonte discuss the "The Renewal of Catholic School Culture"

Fr. John Belmonte, S.J., in his position as Superintendent of Schools in the Diocese of Joliet (in Illinois), and as a member of the National Catholic Education Association Board, has taken his dedication to authentic catechetical programs to the highest levels. Having been principal of Marquette University High School for six years, from 2004 to 2010, he has had valuable experience with catechetical materials frequently used in Catholic school classrooms, and understands the problems that need to be corrected. It is important that Catholic parents are able to evaluate the religion books that are given to their children and ask for a change when necessary, rather than abandon the school.

After graduating from Marquette University in 1985 with a Bachelor's degree in History, Fr. Belmonte joined the Society of Jesus. Following two years of philosophy and humanities studies at Creighton University, he earned his Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology in 1995 from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1996. In 2006 he graduated from the doctoral program in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at Loyola University in Chicago. While working on his doctoral program, Fr. Belmonte served as the Director of Pastoral Ministry at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago from 1999 to 2003. He is obviously qualified to discuss:

"Convinced and Courageous: The Renewal of Catholic School Culture"

WHERE: Four Points by Sheridan (formerly Clarion)

5311 South Howell Avenue (across from airport)

WHEN: Sunday, October 14, 2018

TIME: 5:00 p.m. ~ Social Hour

6:00 p.m. ~ Dinner

PLEASE R. S. V. P. BY **OCTOBER 8th**.

Indicate choice(s): Grilled Flat Iron Steak in Mushroom Rosemary Sauce _____
Seared Chicken with a Creamy Parmesan Mushroom Sauce _____
Salmon Florentine _____
Apple and Cranberry Stuffed Pork Loin _____

\$52 PER PERSON**

\$75 ANGEL (includes dinner ticket)

\$150 PAPAL TIGER (includes two dinner tickets)

() yes () no Name listed in program as a

"Papal Tiger" or "Angel" donor?

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

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TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Sorry, I cannot attend. Enclosed is a donation to help with expenses:

\$ _____

NAME(s) (please print): _____

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Make check payable to: St. Gregory VII—CUF

** \$32 PER STUDENT

Mail to: Ann Taucher 6235 Walnut Lane Unit A12 Cudahy, WI 53110

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Chapter Resolution to Archbishop Listecki, regarding Fr. Massingale, is enclosed

A "Resolution," was delivered by "certified mail" to Archbishop Listecki from this CUF Chapter on September 17 asking him to "officially prohibit the exercise of Fr. Bryan Massingale's participation in the New Ways Ministry retreat," for gay priests, brothers and deacons. It is being offered Oct. 2 - 4, 2018, at the Siena Retreat Center in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Fr. Massingale, scheduled to lead the retreat, is a priest of the archdiocese and, therefore, must be obedient to his bishop. Even though Archbishop Listecki has publicly stated that the program is "not in line with Catholic Church teaching" and is "in no way connected to or endorsed by the archdiocese," he has not, as of this date, forbidden Fr. Massingale's participation.

Justice Clarence Thomas gave 2018 Christendom College "Commencement Address"

U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Clarence Thomas, received the *Pro Deo Et Patria* award, and delivered the 2018 Commencement Address at Christendom College. He recalled that, "My first encounter with a Catholic institution was in September of 1955 when I entered second grade at St. Benedict Grammar School in my hometown of Savannah, Georgia...The first subject was always religion, using the Baltimore Catechism. I can still remember Sister Mary de la Rosa asking us as a class, 'Why did God create you?' In unison, with the innocent voices of seven-year-olds, we responded, 'God created us to know, love and serve him in this life and to be happy with him in the next.'" For many years, too many Catholic students have not learned this.

Come and hear Michael Voris on Nov. 11 at Ingleside (former Country Springs Hotel)

Michael Voris, found on the Internet at Church Militant, with his daily message, "The Vortex," will be speaking on Sunday, Nov. 11 at the Ingleside in Pewaukee (formerly the Country Springs Hotel). The title of his talk is "Holy Mother Church and the Cultural Crisis." The event, scheduled from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., is not sponsored by our Chapter but will serve as our November meeting. Cost is \$20. For questions call 262-210-1958.

660 FOCUS Missionaries work on over 150 College campuses, including UW-Madison

Readers may recall that our April speaker, seminarian Dan Tracy, explained that it was his experience with FOCUS missionaries at Ball State University that led him to his vocation. This fast-growing program was started 19 years ago by Curtis Martin, when he was president of CUF International. Of the 156 college campus programs, 19 of these were initiated this year, in 2018! When choosing a college for your young students, a better choice is a campus with an active FOCUS program!

Catechetical Corner: Why do Catholic bibles have more books than Protestant bibles?

Because Martin Luther chose to leave out the Old Testament books that were not originally written in Hebrew. "The Church accepts and venerates as inspired the 46 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New." (CCC #138)

Catholics **U**nited for the **F**aith

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Book of the Month: *The Case for Jesus*

Author: By Brant Pitre

Publisher: Image, Crown Publishing Group, 2016

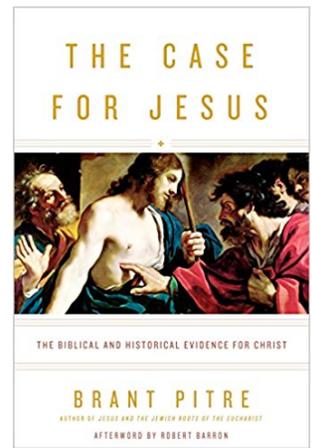
"*The Case for Jesus* topples the naïve skepticism that too often dominates the study of the Gospels, by showing that the evidence for the truth of the Gospels is far stronger than is often assumed. Pitre has a unique talent for putting scholarly work of the highest caliber into an accessible and engaging form. This book should be on the shelf of every homilist, catechist, and Bible study leader."

Mary Healy, Sacred Heart Major Seminary

"In this important book, one of America's most brilliant young scholars wrestles with issues of profound importance concerning Jesus and his identity. Pitre, in a lively and direct manner informed by up-to-date scholarship, presents a case for Jesus as the divine Son of God, fully human and fully God. Along the way he bursts some scholarly bubbles and sets a much needed cat among the proverbial pigeons. A delight to read!"

Chris Tilling, King's College, London

Contributors of \$12 or more per year to the Chapter receive discounts on books displayed at CUF meetings, and receive the Newsletter by First Class Mail.



"Counteracting the Protestant Formation Of Our Catholic Youth"

By Arthur Hippler
The Wanderer, July 19, 2018

(Editor's Note: Dr. Hippler is chairman of the religion department and teaches religion in the Upper School at Providence Academy, Plymouth, Minn.)

Anyone involved in catechizing the young in our schools and parishes on the sacraments must always remind themselves that they are not writing upon blank slates - there is a formation already there and that formation is usually Protestant. The loss of distinctive Catholic signs and symbols has had, over the decades, the cumulative effect of making out children default Protestants. Several examples should make this fact evident. Our young people believe that everyone is a child of God. Being a "child of God" is for them, a natural quality of humanity. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, however, teaches that it is Baptism that makes us "an adopted son of God" (n. 1265). The Catechism cites the words of the Second Vatican Council: "Incorporated in the Church through baptism, the faithful are destined by the baptismal character for the worship of the Christian religion; re-born as sons of God they must confess before men the faith which they have received from God through the Church" (Lumen Gentium n. 11, cited at CCC n. 1270). Without the belief that Baptism makes the baptized a child of God, we now have the view of Baptism held by evangelical Christians, namely, that Baptism is a ceremony welcoming someone into the Christian community. If we are already "children of God" by nature, it is hard to understand why the Church insists on infant Baptism. Evangelicals, who baptize adults, are more consistent on this point. One also sees this Protestant formation in Confirmation. How many times have I heard Catholic teenagers tell me, "Confirmation is what allows me to take the faith for myself, accept the faith as an adult." I usually remark, "Congratulations - you're a Lutheran!" The Evangelical Lutheran Church teaches that confirmation "provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's

promise given in Baptism, to make a personal public profession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of faithfulness to Christ." By contrast, the Catholic understanding includes the notion not only of professing the faith, but doing so under persecution. Confirmation "gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the cross" (CCC, n. 1303). As John Paul II explained, "Since the Middle Ages, theology, which developed in a context of generous commitment of 'spiritual

"Without having the words for it, they are modern Pelagians, who do not really believe that man is a fallen creature..."

combat' for Christ, has not hesitated to highlight the strength given by Confirmation to Christians who are called 'to serve as soldiers for God'" (general audience, April 1, 1992). Many of our confirmandi have never heard the expression "soldier for God." Confirmation for them is an acceptance of faith without any corresponding risk.

Finally, it is not uncommon, indeed all too common, to hear young Catholics describe the Mass as a "memorial of the Last Supper." While it is true that the Eucharist can be referred to as "the Lord's Supper" (CCC, n. 1329), it is not a memorial of the Last Supper, but of the Lord's Passion (CCC, n. 1330). Indeed, the Mass is a sacrifice "because it makes present the one sacrifice of Christ the Savior and includes the Church's offering" (ibid). The Last Supper is important because it anticipates the sacrificial death that our Lord undergoes the following day (cf. CCC, n.1329). To emphasize the "Lord's Supper" to the exclusion of "sacrifice" is Calvinism (see Calvin's *Institutes*, IV. 17-18). The notion of Christ's death as a "sacrifice" is already vague to young people, and the teaching that the

Mass shares in the eternal sacrifice of Christ on the cross is doubly vague. These misunderstandings and confusions apply only to our Catholic youth who have some degree of engagement with the faith. For many others, the whole sacramental system is a puzzle. Without having the words for it, they are modern Pelagians, who do not really believe that man is a fallen creature, but rather suffers from bad parenting or bad schools or bad neighborhoods. Still others wonder why if grace is to be necessary at all, why it must come through sacraments, and instead not be present in the world like oxygen in the atmosphere.

The requirement that God meet man in determinate ways and traditional rituals seems unreasonable and unfitting. In fairness, these latter errors are not so much mainline Protestant beliefs but rather the legacy of the liberal Protestantism that developed during the late 1800s. As Richard Niebuhr felicitously expressed it, it is the belief that "a God without wrath brought men without sin into a kingdom without judgment through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross."

Catechizing our young people on the sacraments is not then a matter of merely providing information. The Protestantism, whether mainline or liberal, that they have absorbed from the society around them reduces or eliminates the biblical teaching that God makes Himself known to us through sensible signs.

As St. Thomas teaches, "Since it is natural for man to receive knowledge through his senses, and since it is very difficult to transcend sensible objects, divine provision has been made for man so that a reminder of divine things might be made for him, even in the order of sensible things" (*Summa Contra Gentiles*, III. 119). To deny the need for sensible signs in receiving spiritual gifts is to disregard the needs of our nature as men. In other words, catechesis on the sacraments must be preceded by a catechesis - I almost said a "re-evangelization" - on the nature of the human person.

THE FALL-WINTER-SPRING SCHEDULE:

- October 14 **MSGR. POPEK AWARD DINNER----**Recipient: Reverend John Belmonte, S.J.
- November 11 **HOLY MOTHER CHURCH AND THE CULTURAL CRISIS**, by Michael Voris (at Ingleside)
- December 9 **MSGR. POPEK BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS DINNER**
- January 20 **TO BE ANNOUNCED**
- February 17 **TO BE ANNOUNCED**
- March 17 **AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION**, by Fr. James Kubicki, S.J. (at Sacred Heart Church)
- April 15 **TO BE ANNOUNCED**



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

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this e-Newsletter, please type

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Join us November 11
“Holy Mother Church and the Cultural Crisis”
with Michael Voris (at Ingleside)

Come and bring a friend to hear

“Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek Award” recipient,
Rev. John Belmonte, S.J.
Superintendent of Schools, Diocese of Joliet, Illinois

discuss:

“Convinced *and* Courageous: The Renewal of
Catholic School Culture”

Award Dinner on Sunday, October 14
Four Points by Sheridan, 5311 S. Howell Avenue