

Confraternity of Catholic Clergy

Sanctitas. Fidelitas. Fraternitas.

"O Good Jesus, make me a priest like unto Your Heart." ~Pope John Paul II, homily to priests, October 1995

March 1st, 2023

Dear Brothers in Christ,

Priests understand Lent well. In a way, we live it perpetually. Our lives are built on **prayer**, **almsgiving**, **and sacrifice**, not to mention the daily self-renunciation required in our commitment to celibacy.



These are the very pillars of our religious vocation and if you're like me, you thank God for these gifts. They are sacrifices that **bear fruit for the kingdom** and we never take them for granted.

You also know, from our last email, about our **Canon 915 campaign** to publish and promote Cardinal Burke's book. It's been a whirlwind for our Executive Director, Thomas McKenna, since the launch of the campaign on Ash Wednesday, and I have to tell you that not all our clerical brethren have welcomed His Eminence's wisdom.



We know of some priests who have already spoken against it publicly and even one priest who thought he was being clever in **placing the unopened book in a fireplace** indicating he was going to do a book burning (I don't know if he eventually carried through on this threat, but it's the intention that matters, right?)

As reluctant as I am to share this photo, there it is to the left.

Which means that **the battle is upon us** – even within our ranks. Let's keep the ancient Faith, brothers. God will always bless those who are faithful to Him and His Church!

In Christ and Our Lady,

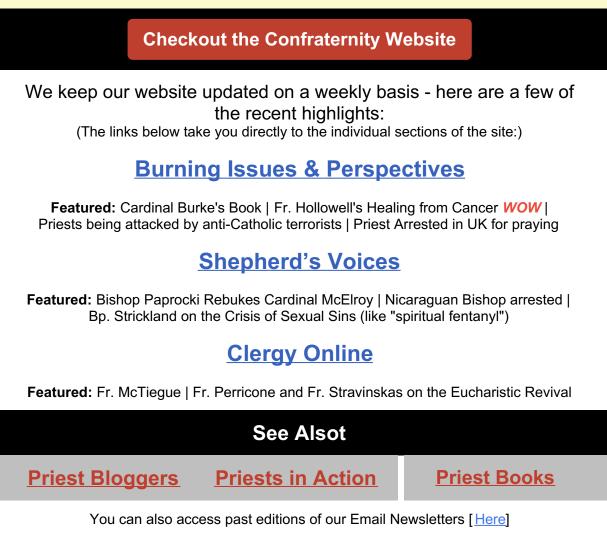
Fr. John Trigilio, PhD, ThD

Confraternity President, Director of Pastoral Formation at Mount St. Mary's Seminary.

PS – Feel free to contact me through the email at the bottom of this newsletter or offer **feedback on any issue of concern** by hitting **reply** to this email.

"Dost thou not see, Meg, that these blessed Fathers be now going to their deaths as cheerfully as bridegrooms to their marriage?"

–Words of St. Thomas More to his daughter Meg watching from the Tower of London as the Carthusian fathers were being drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution



On The Docket

Unbound Priest Retreat and Training



May 22, 2023 - Friday, May 26, 2023 @ St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary Boynton Beach, Florida

Visit HEART OF THE FATHER / UNBOUND website

Domus Dei

Feature: Saint Joseph's Oratory, Montreal, Canada

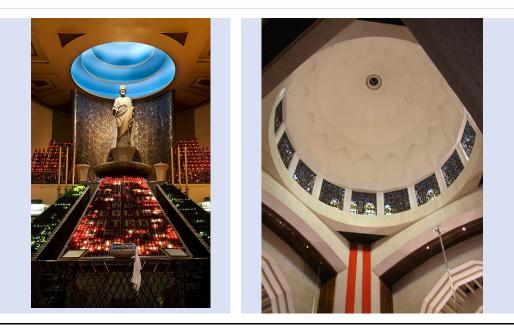


Saint Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Canada was **founded by Brother André** Bessette in 1904. Brother André was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 17, 2010.

The Oratory purports to be the **world's largest shrine dedicated to Saint Joseph** and is the largest domed Basilica in North America. It receives over 2 million pilgrims every year. The style of architecture for the building's exterior is called neo-Renaissance, but the interior is **Art Deco style**, perhaps the only major church building in the world styled in a fashion that flourished in the 1920s and 30s when the church was being built.

Standing nearly 100 feet above the summit of Mount Royal, the construction of this massive shrine spanned a total of six decades. Its dome is **modeled on the Duomo of Florence** and took four years and thousands of workers to build.

One of the treasures of the church is the **votive chapel** next to the tomb of Brother Andre which contains 10,000 candles, which is perhaps a metaphor for the number of people the Oratory can hold when it is full. The Oratory Museum features a massive **collection of nativity scenes** from around the world, in honor of the Holy Family.



PS — Please also forward this email to any other priests or deacons who may wish to join our team.

Confraternity of Catholic Clergy | PO Box 910308 | San Diego, CA 92191 Phone: (619) 356-3538 Mobile: (814) 580-5082 Email: catholic.clergy@gmail.com Webmaster Email: confraternity@catholicclergy.net Website: <u>https://catholicclergy.net</u>

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