



Newsletter

"Service of and witness to the faith are necessary for salvation"

-CCC § 1816

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The Board Members of the Pope John Paul II Society of Evangelists wish you and yours the most joyous of New Years. May God bless each of you abundantly.

New Years Day

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Octave Day of Christmas.**

The Third General Council of the Church, met in Ephesus in the year 431, under the leadership of St. Cyril of Alexandria and openly proclaimed the Blessed Virgin Mary as *Theotokos* – Mother of God.

"We confess, then, our Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, perfect God and perfect man, of a rational soul and a body, begotten before all ages from the Father in his Godhead, the same in the last days, for us and for our salvation, born of Mary the Virgin according to his humanity, one and the same consubstantial with the Father in Godhead and consubstantial with us in humanity, for a union of two natures took place. Therefore we confess one Christ, one Son, one Lord. According to this understanding of the unconfused union, we confess the holy Virgin to be the Mother of God because God the Word took flesh and became man and from his very conception united to himself the temple he took from her" (Council of Ephesus *Formula of Union* [A.D. 431]).

The Second Council of Constantinople in 553 issued the following anathema, "If anyone does not profess that Emmanuel is truly God, and that consequently the Holy

Virgin is the Mother of God (*Theotokos*), inasmuch as she gave birth in the flesh to the Word of God made flesh..., let him be anathema.

Therefore it is truly an article of our Catholic faith that Mary is really and truly the Mother of God.

The Bible nowhere uses the expression "Mother of God." It refers to Mary as "the mother of Jesus" and "the mother of the Lord." However, since Christ is true God, it follows that all texts which refer to Mary as His Mother, are so many proofs of her divine Maternity. Thus, the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah was announced by the Archangel Gabriel in these words: "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus." And he added: "therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God" (Luke 1 32, 35). We gather the same truth from the following statement of Saint Paul: "But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman" (Galatians 4:4).

Early Christian belief in Mary's divine Maternity is evidenced in the liturgical prayer used by the faithful, particularly the Apostle's Creed wherein they professed faith in "Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary." Similarly, the early Fathers of the Church boldly proclaimed the same doctrine, not by employing the term *Theotokos* itself, but by affirming that Jesus, who was the Son of God, was truly born of the Virgin Mary. St. Irenaeus of Lyon (d. 202), Tertullian, (d. 222/3), Novatian of Rome (d. 253), St. Cyprian of Carthage (d. 258), and St. Hippolytus of Rome (d. 235) are all witnesses to this dogma.

The first undisputed use of the expression *Theotokos* was made, according to Walter J. Burghardt, S.J., around the year 319 by Bishop Alexander of Alexandria.

In Christ there are two natures (one divine, one human), and these two natures are inseparably united in one Person, namely the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity. That most perfect union is called the Hypostatic Union.

Now Mary did not supply Jesus with either His divine nature or His divine Person. Both existed from all eternity. She furnished only His human nature. But since that human nature was inseparably united to the divine Person in the very first instant of Christ's conception, we say that Mary conceived and gave birth to a Son who is truly God, and hence she is the Mother of God.

ROE v. WADE

On January 22, 1973, the United States Supreme Court decided to allow the Slaughter of the Innocents.

Victor R. Claveau, MJ

On December 8, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt delivered a memorable speech to a joint session of Congress. In which he said:

“Yesterday, December 7, 1941- a date which will live in infamy- the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.”

After recounting the events at Pearl Harbor, and the fact that the Japanese government had also launched attacks against Malaysia, Hong Kong, Guam, the Philippine, Wake and Midway Islands, He went on to say, “There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory and our interests are in grave danger.” The President asked that Congress declare that a state of war existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire.

From 1941-1945, 450,000 American lives were lost; an average of 112,500 per year in what became known as the Second World War.

On January 22, 1973, another date which will forever live in infamy, the United States Supreme Court decided to allow the Slaughter of Innocents. This date has been seared into the minds and hearts of every American who recognizes the sanctity of each and every human life.

It has been estimated that since the decision came down from the court well over 48 million babies have been slaughtered on the tables of expediency and greed. This equates to 1,370,000+ deaths per year. That figure is greater than the entire populations of more than half of our states and the District of Columbia.

The Catholic Church is the only major Christian body which condemns direct abortion at any time or for any reason. Every other major Christian group in America attempts to justify abortion in cases of rape, incest, or the mental health of the mother.

The Catholic Church holds that all human life is a sacred gift of God. It does not matter how conception takes place or whether or not the child will be born with a physical or mental impairment or disability.

We live in an age of moral relativity; where situational ethics, is the norm. The attitude is that, the end does justify the means. Catholic moral teaching has always held that no evil may be justified by the conviction that it will lead to a good end.

The Holy Father Pope John Paul II taught in *Veritatis Splendor* (The Splendor of Truth) published August 6, 1993, that truth is absolute; it does not depend on the situation or circumstance. An action is good or bad, right or wrong, moral or immoral; there are no shades of gray.

In *Veritatis Splendor*, the Holy Father said that there are certain actions that are “incapable of being ordered” to God, because they radically contradict the good of the person made in his image. These are the acts which, in the Church's moral tradition, have been termed “intrinsically evil”: in other words always evil regardless of the intention of the person committing the act.

The Second Vatican Council's Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, *Gaudium Et Spes*, published December 7, 1965, discussed the respect due to the human person, and gives a number of examples of acts which are contrary to the dignity of man and are an affront to God:

“Whatever is hostile to life itself, such as any kind of homicide, genocide, abortion, euthanasia and voluntary suicide; whatever violates the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, physical and mental torture and attempts to coerce the spirit; whatever is offensive to human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution and trafficking in women and children; degrading conditions of work which treat laborers as mere instruments of profit, and not as free responsible persons: all these and the like are a disgrace, and so long as they infect human civilization they contaminate those who inflict them more than those who suffer injustice, and they are a negation of the honor due to the Creator” (27).

These words are necessarily very strong. The people involved in these actions disgrace themselves before God and man and are in dire need of our prayer in order that they may turn their lives around and serve God by serving mankind.

We live in a secular society that is rapidly becoming amoral. Abortion is corrosive to every society, and has been eating away at the moral fiber of our nation for 35 years.

Atheistic materialism is not only condoned by the political leadership but is broadcast on network television, screened in Hollywood movies and is created

on Madison Avenue. The majority of our current political leadership, duly elected by the will of the American people, have supported and defended the wanton destruction of over forty-eight million innocent victims on the altar of abortion.

U.S. foreign aid to third-world countries is usually predicated on the sterilization of the populace. The premise is that if families have fewer children they will have more discretionary income to spend on consumer goods; much of which is produced in the U.S.

Deviant sexuality is flaunted in gay-pride parades and pornography, a multi-billion dollar per year industry, located in California, is sold openly. It is also available in major hotel chains. Need I also mention the pornography and sexual license available on home television through Dish, Direct TV, or cable?

The state and federal prison populations are overflowing and the criminal justice system is overloaded. Abortion, usury, divorce, drug abuse, child abuse, gang-warfare, drive-by shootings, murder, theft, white-collar crime, racial and religious hatred, euthanasia, etc., are all indications of the failure of the "reformed" gospel that presupposes everyone will go to heaven, no matter what choices he or she makes, as long as a verbal declaration of allegiance to Christ has been made; the gospel that Christians can make individual evil choices yet retain a proper moral orientation.

There is a war going on between good and evil; between the Will of God and the will of Satan. Most people don't see it, or if they do, they look the other way, rationalizing that if it does not affect them at that present moment in time, that it is not worth addressing, or it's someone else's problem.

Scripture tells us that the sins of the fathers are said to be punished in their children, because the latter are the more prone to sin through being brought up amid their parents' crimes, both by becoming accustomed to them, and by imitating their parents' example, conforming to their authority as it were.

We are at war with an atheistic culture and we are losing by default. It is estimated that as many as 72% of the American population have no religious affiliation. More often than not, social evils are not addressed by religious leadership. Rather than Christians arguing among ourselves, we should be working together to change our society and the world.

The words of Franklin Roosevelt, "There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory and our interests are in grave danger", can easily be applied to the battle against abortion.

Abortion very often is touted as an economic solution for poor women, i.e., "Black or brown women." Strident, pro-abortion feminists cry for abortion as a "right" for which they must fight to keep.

Legal abortion was first popularized by a white woman, Margaret Sanger, the founder of the National Birth Control League, which is now known as Planned Parenthood.

Sanger claimed that her interest in limiting the size of families through contraceptive practices was awakened by the suffering of mothers who were weakened physically, or died on account of excessive pregnancies, abortions, and poor economic conditions. Her hostility towards the Catholic Church she attributed to the Church's uncompromising opposition to artificial contraception.

Sanger called for the sterilization of, in her words, "genetically inferior races". In 1939, after the organization changed its name from the American Birth Control League (ABCL) to the Birth Control Federation of America (BCFA), she organized her "Negro Project" and wrote "the poorer areas, particularly in the South... are producing alarmingly more than their share of future generations." "The most successful educational approach to the Negro is through a religious appeal. We do not want word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population and the Minister is the man who can straighten out that idea if it ever occurs to any of their more rebellious members".

Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson are the two most notable examples of Black politicians who promote abortion.

Sanger's racial genocidal goals have unfortunately come to fruition.

It is estimated that 1 out of 4 white babies, 1 out of 3 brown babies and 2 out of 3 Black babies are being aborted today in the United States.

The minority communities have benefited neither socially or economically from an atrocity that is enthusiastically promoted by those who make 150 million dollars per year from dead African American babies; and by those who seek to entice the Black community to self-genocide through abortion. Therefore, the disproportionate number of abortions by Black Americans, as compared to our percentage of the general population, is more than a social phenomenon. It is destructive and genocidal.

The Alan Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthood's research arm, reported in January 2003, "Blacks, who make up 14% of all childbearing women, have 31.7% of all abortions". This means that every five minutes four black children are killed by surgical abortion -- that's 1,452 every day; sacrificed for any or no reason. The seeds of the eugenics movement of which abortion is only one way it is manifested, are bearing a bountiful harvest. Black women are almost four times as likely as white women to have an abortion, and Hispanic women are 2.5 times as likely. Abortion businesses are frequently located in minority communities.

It is ironic that the Democratic Party, which has worked so hard to be the voice of the powerless and the voice-less would not champion the cause for innocent defenseless unborn human life. It's interesting that a party that was at the nucleus of the Civil Rights Movement would support less protection for the unborn child than almost any civilized country in the world.

We need to work harder in the political area to defeat Politicians on the national level who have sold their souls. For the most part, the Black and Hispanic political leadership in America supports abortion. These politicians need to be exposed for who they are: purveyors of death.

Don't be discouraged by the enormity of the task that lies ahead. Mother Teresa of Calcutta recognized that her efforts and those of her fellow Sisters of Charity were in her own words, a drop in a vast ocean of need, but she never wavered, and her legacy lives on today.

Taking a line from an old song, "What the world needs now is love, sweet love." It is only the love of God and the Love for God that will change our world.

"When the time comes, as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, I've often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, that it is a terrible moment of loneliness. You have no advocates, you are there alone standing before God -- and a terror will rip your soul like nothing you can imagine. But I really think that those in the pro-life movement will not be alone. I think there'll be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world -- and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement. They will say to God, 'Spare him, because he loved us!'"

— Congressman Henry Hyde

Pro-Life Champion Leaves a Legacy of Life

Please remember to prayer for the repose of the soul of Henry Hyde, who passed away on Nov. 29, 2007, just weeks after he received a Presidential Medal of Freedom for his efforts opposing abortion. Congressman Hyde is best known in the pro-life community as a tremendous orator in defense of human life and for sponsoring the Hyde Amendment prohibiting taxpayer funding of abortions. Hyde passed away at the age of 83 at Rush University Medical Center in his hometown of Chicago. He was a practicing Catholic and member of the Knights of Columbus. *Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

Let us Pray for Peace

Prayer is the elevation or lifting of the soul to God. Now, the higher the soul is lifted, the

nearer it draws to Him; and the nearer it draws, the more like Him does it grow: then, you see, as God is eternal tranquility and peace, so man, when he begins to pray, begins to know peace in himself, and loves to be at peace with others. He gets one degree, say, of this blessed love of peace when he prays once; and is likely to get another degree of it the next time he prays, and so on, just as a mason or bricklayer lays one course of stones or bricks for his wall, then another again, resting on that. At last, the soul gains a confirmed habit of peace, and feels a great pain at being out of peace, with anyone, or witnessing any breach of peace or charity: and this is, as it were, like topping the whole with a coping stone. So, now, that is what I call building the wall. Is it not good masonry, my dear friend; and is it not worthwhile to raise such a wall against hatred, violence, and misery?

One of the greatest peacemakers of Christian history was St. Francis of Assisi. The following incident is just one of many from his life:

The Saint arrived at Assisi, sick unto death, when he heard a great discord had arisen between the bishop and the governor. The bishop had excommunicated the governor, and the latter had ordered that no one should do any selling or buying with the bishop. Moved with pity, Francis said to his companions: "It is a great reproach for the servants of God that the bishop and the governor hate each other, and no one tries to make peace between them.

He then added another verse to the Canticum of the Sun on this subject: "Praised be my Lord for those who for Thy love forgive and weakness bear and tribulation.

Blessed those who shall in peace endure,

For by Thee, Most High, shall they be crowned."

Then he called one of his companions and said to him: "Go to the governor and beg him for me that, with the chief men of the city and such others as will join them, he go to the bishop's residence."

When this friar had departed, Francis said to his other companions: "Go to the bishop and the governor and those who are with them, and sing the Canticum of Brother Sun, and have confidence in God that he will humble their hearts, and cause them to return to their former love and friendship."

When all were assembled at the bishop's home, two friars arose, and one of them spoke: "Blessed Francis asks you to listen to the Praise of the Lord by All His Creatures." The governor arose, and with joined hands, listened intently, for he had great devotion to St. Francis. When the friars finished singing, the governor announced to all: "Verily I say to you, that not only the Lord Bishop, whom I desire and am bound to hold as my Lord, but, had anyone slain my kinsman, or my son, him also would I forgive."

With this he fell at the bishop's feet saying: "Behold I am ready to make you any satisfaction that it may please you to demand for the love of our Lord Jesus Christ and his servant, Blessed Francis."

The bishop took him by the hand, raised him up and exclaimed: "By the virtue of my office it is fitting I should be humble, but as by nature I am prone to anger, I pray you to pardon me." Then with much kindness and love they embraced and kissed each other. All the people praised God who had restored peace and harmony through the efforts of Blessed Francis.

Again and again St. Francis brought about peace and understanding between individuals, groups and cities. He was a true peacemaker. And because he was so effective in bringing about peace, you might be interested in hearing and learning and using a little prayer for peace composed by that peace-loving Poverello.

Before giving this prayer I would like to quote what Arnold Lunn, brilliant convert to Catholicism, wrote about this prayer in his book, *Within That City*, written some time after his conversion:

"It would be difficult to better a prayer of St. Francis, which seems to me equally perfect as an expression of the Franciscan Ideal, and as a balanced and harmonious passage of liturgical prose." Here is the prayer of St. Francis:

"Lord make me an instrument of Thy peace;
Where there is hatred let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, Hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning, that we are pardoned, and
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

The world today is overgrown with the weeds of war, with the weeds of hate and injury and doubt, despair, darkness and sadness. It is for you and me, like St. Francis, to sow again and again the seeds of love and pardon and faith and hope and light and joy. Please pray.

Spread the Word about the Society

Let us know what you are doing to spread the Faith, as your story might encourage others to do the same. Society membership is slowly growing by word of mouth. It is imperative that we spread the word about the materials we offer in order to evangelize the world.

Please tell everyone you know about the Society and forward this newsletter to family and friends.

Society News



9 New Pamphlets:

- 382 *Clarifying, "There is no salvation outside the Church"* Victor R. Claveau, MJ
- 383 *Salvation Outside the Church and the Baptism of Desire*, Victor R. Claveau, MJ
- 384 *Our Lady of Guadalupe*
- 385 *The Mystery and Meaning of Suffering*, Victor R. Claveau, MJ
- 386 *The Shroud of Turin*
- 387 *Letter to the Archbishop of Boston, 8 August 1949, concerning Fr. Feeney and the Doctrine of "No Salvation Outside the Church."*
- 388 *Saint Nicholas*
- 389 *A Story of Santa Claus*
- 390 *Alberto Rivera*

26 New CD Lectures:

- 071 Nicolosi, Dr. Joseph — *Homosexuality its Cause and Treatment*
- 073 Pavone, Fr. Frank — *How to Talk to Those Who Disagree with Us.*
- 075 Perrone, Fr. Edward — *The Role of Art and Sacramentals in the Catholic Home.*
- 076 Peters, Robert — *A Christian Perspective on Pornography.*
- 077 Peters, Robert, — *Reversing the Floodtide of Hardcore Pornography.*
- 078 Rego, Fr. Richard — *Development of Conscience and Morality.*
- 079 Rice, Charles — *Natural Law.*
- 080 Shea, Mark — *Eucharist and an Evangelical.*
- 082 Sippo, Dr. Arthur C. — *Who Were the Reformers?*
- 084 Stackpole, Fr. Robert — *Sister Faustina Message for Our Times.*
- 085 Stenson, James B. — *Forming Children in the Holy Spirit and Virtue.*
- 086 Pts I & II Stenson, James B. — *Moral and Religious Upbringing of your children.*
- 087 Sungenis, Robert — *Answering the Top 10 Common Objections about the Catholic Faith.*
- 088 Taillon, Fr. Marcel — *Marriage: A Sacrament of Service.*

089 Thomas, Fr. Antoine — *From Chastity to True Virginity for all.*
 090 Unruh, Leslee — *Abstinence, Contraception and Teen Chastity.*
 091 Unruh, Leslee — *Raising Virgins.*
 092 Valieur, Rick, Dr. — *Catholic Fatherhood.*
 093 Valieur, Rick, Dr. — *Marriage, Love, and Communication.*
 094 Vogrinc, Mary — *Walking with the Blessed Mother.*
 095 Von Hildebrand, Dr. Alice — *The Gift of Femininity.*
 096 Vota, Fr. Paul Mary — *Reverence a Mass.*
 097 Walkins, Fr... Mark — *Fostering Vocations in Your Family.*
 098 Weigel, George — *Witness to hope: Pope John Paul II.*
 101 Wolfe, Anne McGowan — *The Gift of Children.*
 102 Zaleski, Fr. Daniel — *Cornerstone of the Early Christians—Eucharist.*

Evangelization Tip of the Month

One of the more common questions that we hear when giving lectures on the Faith or evangelization is “What is the best way to evangelize?” Many people seem to be looking for some gimmick or new idea, which will help them win souls for Christ. The answer is fundamental. - Live the Catholic life! When you strive for holiness and spiritual perfection in your own life, it becomes apparent to others and they will be drawn to Christ through you. True Catholic Christians radiate a sense of peace and joy, which comes from the grace received in the proper reception of the sacraments.

This sacramental grace is infinite. But the operation of that grace in our lives is limited by the degree to which we are in submission to God. He wants all of us, all of the time, not just part of us, some of the time. Proper reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist is the key to holiness.

Before you go to confession, go before Jesus in the tabernacle and ask him to show you your soul. Then shut up and listen. If you are sincere, He will show you the darkest corners of your soul. He will reveal to you the sins that you have been afraid to admit because of fear or pride. Only then can we make a proper confession. We cannot hide from Jesus and must not try. Our self-preservation instinct can be a hindrance when we try to protect ourselves from the All-Knowing. It has been said that Padre Pio could smell the corruption in a person’s soul. Imagine how your soul must look to God who loves with an endless love. Jesus can and will heal us and take away our shame.

When we receive the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Holy

Eucharist we receive infinite grace. But, again, we limit the operation of this grace if we are not in submission to Him.

Using artificial birth control or living in a second marriage without reconciling the first with a Church granted annulment are mortal sins. Any mortal sins prevent the operation of grace in our lives and make mockery of the sacraments. In such a state God’s grace becomes ineffective.

When we strive to live a holy life, God will lead people to us. Then and then only will the Holy Spirit be able to evangelize through us.

Questions from our members

Question: What are “priest holes”?

A. Priest catchers were professional lawmen in the era of the underground Catholic Church in England (1535-1679). They raided houses where they suspected a Mass was being celebrated, guarded the ports to prevent priests from coming into the country, and searched the houses of known Catholics for the secret panels, which disguised the “priest holes.”

St. Nicholas Owen, who was called “Little John,” was a Jesuit lay brother, and master carpenter who, for twenty-five years, designed and built many of the hiding holes in great Catholic homes throughout England. These “priest holes” were where hunted priests frequently hid undiscovered for days while the priest catchers ripped the house around them apart. St. Nicholas was eventually betrayed and tortured in the Tower of London for six days until his death. On the rack the only words he said were “Jesus” and “Mary.”

He suffered from a hernia and his torturers fastened an iron girdle around him in order to try to keep him alive long enough to reveal the whereabouts of other hiding places. He was hung by his wrists for six hours at a time, with weights tied to his feet. Little John remained silent until his bowels burst, dying a martyrs death in terrible agony without betraying his secrets.

Question: Why do Catholics and Protestants number the Ten Commandments differently?

A. The Scriptures tell us that there were Ten Commandments, but do not indicate how they were divided. The Protestant division follows Ex. 20:2-27, while the Catholic follows Deut. 5:6-21. The Catholic division is older and more logical. We hold that desire for another man’s wife and desire for another man’s property are essentially two distinct crimes, and therefore, merit two separate commandments, the ninth and tenth. On the other hand, the first commandment insists on the virtue of religion and forbids all sins against that virtue, the chief of which is idolatry. Logically, therefore, the Protestant second

commandment has no reason for being, and was born of the necessity of controversy to justify the early Reformers.

Question: A Protestant friend claims that Martin Luther “discovered the Bible” by accident in his monastery and up until that time Catholics were forbidden to read it. What is the truth?

A. Before the Protestant Revolt every Catholic nation in Europe had versions of the Bible in the vernacular. Between 1477, when the first edition of the French New Testament was published at Lyons, and 1535, when the first French Protestant Bible was published, more than twenty editions of the Bible in the French vernacular issued from the Catholic press. In Germany prior to the publication of the first edition of Luther’s Bible in 1534, no fewer than thirty Catholic editions of the entire Scriptures, and parts of the Bible appeared in German. In Italy, the very seat of the Papacy, two editions of an Italian translation of the entire Bible appeared in 1471, and several other editions appeared prior to the Reformation.

The Catholic Church has never forbidden the use of properly *authorized* translations of the Bible. As the Bible is a Catholic book and held as the Word of God, the Church and she alone has the right of interpretation.

“The task of giving an authentic interpretation of the Word of God, whether in its written form or in the form of Tradition, has been entrusted to the living teaching office of the Church alone. Its authority in this matter is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ.” This means that the task of interpretation has been entrusted to the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome” (CCC 85).

Some may well ask why, if we have Scripture, we need the Church to interpret it? The reason is that Scripture as any other written work necessitates a proper interpretation to fully understand it. When writing to Timothy, his “child in the faith,” Saint Paul made it very clear that it is the Church that upholds and defends the truth” (1Tim 3:15-16).

For a full understanding of the Church’s position on the interpretation of Scripture see: *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part I, Section I, Chapter 2, Article 3, paragraphs 109-119.

Scripture itself warns us against private interpretation: Acts 8:30-35 – So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading? And he said, “How can I, unless some one guides me?”

2 Peter 1:20 - First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation.

2 Peter 3:16 - There are some things in them hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other scriptures.

In Protestantism, there are as many opinions as there are people holding them. The Church’s precautions were based on well grounded and reasonable fears, as events later proved.

Please E-mail your question(s) to: pjpiisoe@earthlink.net.

Sabotaje de la Biblia.

In last month’s newsletter, we asked for a donation of \$2,750.00 in order to hire a professional to translate Bible Sabotage into Spanish. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor we received the necessary funds and the translation is in progress.

Donations

We wish to sincerely thank each and every one of you who donated to the Society in the past month. Without financial contributions we will not survive. There is still much work to be done and we rely on your generosity to continue. Are you taking advantage of the materials we offer? During the past few months, we have filled almost 190 orders for dozens of books and hundreds of CD lectures. These materials are sold at our cost. We sincerely want to continue to provide materials as inexpensively as possible, but we will only be able to do this with your generous contributions.

Please consider a monthly tax deductible donation. Take a moment right now and write a check. Any amount will help us to stay afloat and accomplish the many goals that we have set for the coming year.

We can only minister to the evangelization needs of Catholics through the generous support of friends and members like you. A \$30 tax deductible donation will provide 500 pamphlets for a poor parish or prison ministry. \$125 will provide 1,875 pamphlets. \$400 will provide a pamphlet display rack complete with 1875 pamphlets.

Please join us in ministering to our Catholic brothers and sisters, and reaching out to those searching for the truth of the Catholic Faith.

Help us to build up the Church. Please make your check out to the Pope John Paul II Society of Evangelists, and mail it to the Pope John Paul II Society of Evangelists:

The Pope John Paul II Society

24818 Ranchero Rd.
Hesperia, CA 92345

Thank you for your financial help.

Membership Application

(Please pass on to your Catholic friend or family member)

Benefits of Membership

As a Society member, evangelization materials, CDs, pamphlets, books, etc., may be purchased at the Society's cost (plus S & H) in any quantity. The materials you receive will assist you in learning more about your Catholic faith, and by the grace of God, will help you live and share what the Church teaches, believes and advocates.

Members may purchase business cards, jackets, shirts, hats, and other items with the Society's logo, at special prices, directly from the printer and manufacturers.

Members also receive the Society's free E-newsletter, which contains evangelization resources and ideas, as well as inspiring success stories of evangelization around the world.

Joining The Pope John Paul II Society of Evangelists and School of Evangelization, Inc.™ is free, quick and easy. Simply complete and submit the following *Membership Pledge of Loyalty to the Church*.

Pledge of Loyalty to the Church on Assuming Membership in the Pope John Paul II Society of Evangelists and School of Evangelization, Inc.™

I, _____, believe in all the Creeds proposed and accepted by the Catholic Church. With firm faith, I believe as well, that the seven sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ for the salvation of mankind. I also firmly accept everything contained in God's word, written or handed down in Sacred Tradition and proposed by the Catholic Church, and reject every error which she condemns. Furthermore, I accept that the Bishop of Rome is the sole Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, that he is the supreme visible head of the whole Church, and that he can teach infallibly what we must believe and do to be saved.

Full Name: _____ Signature: _____

Street Address: _____

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