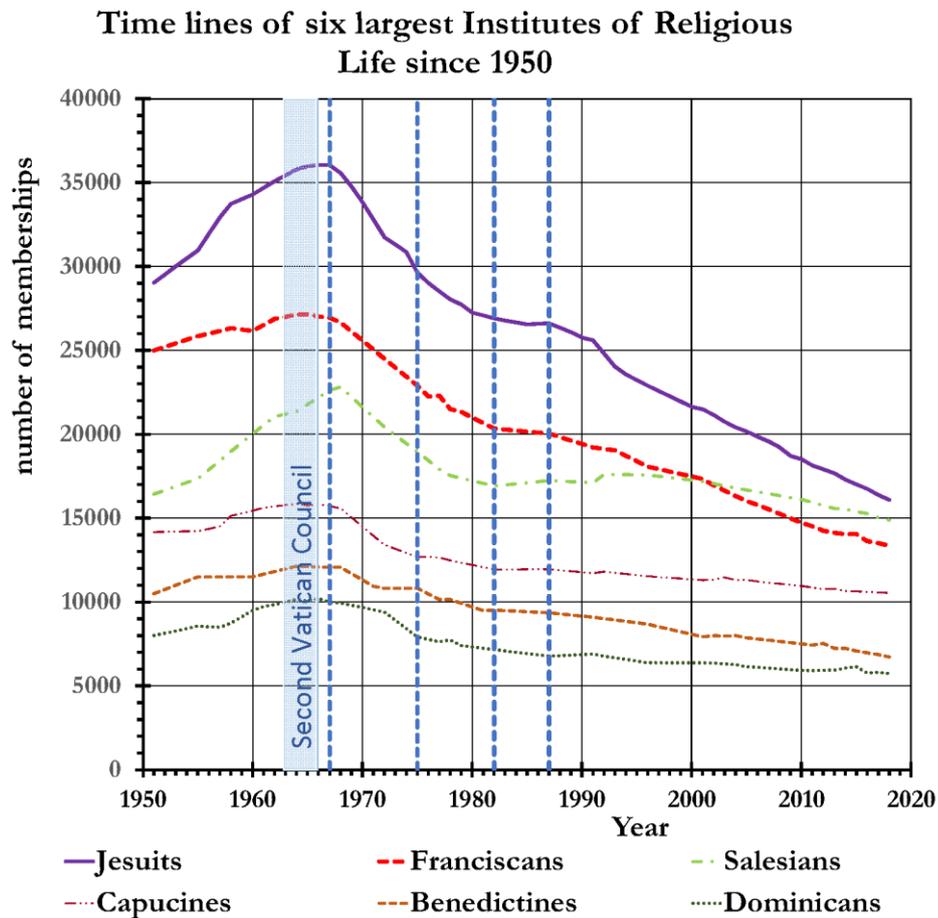


# Vatican II, a Council in Threefold?

Jack P. Oostveen and David Sonnier



## **Content**

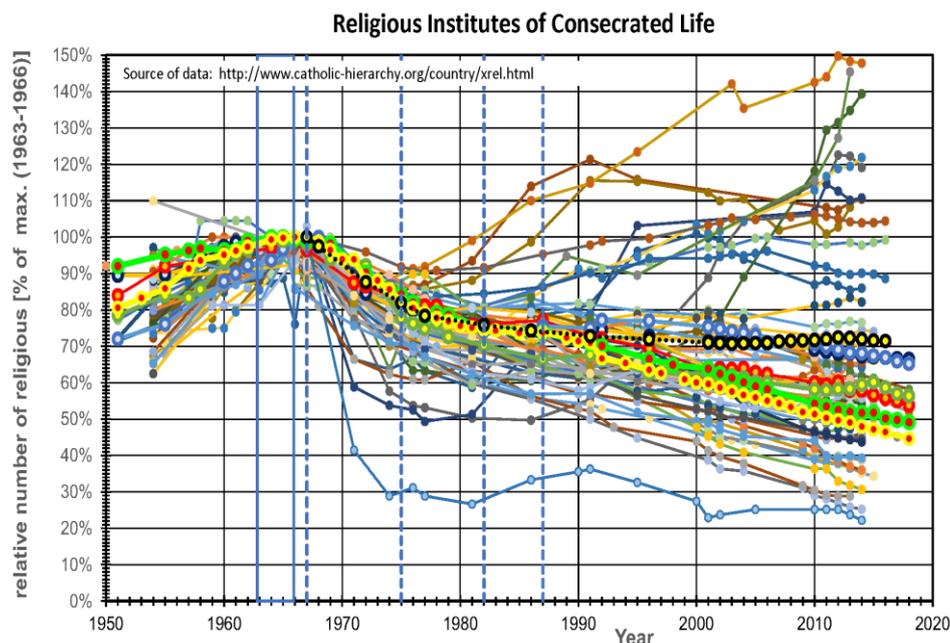
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Jack P. Oostveen<sup>1</sup> and David Sonnier<sup>2</sup>

## Introduction

The [catastrophic decline in male religious memberships](#) throughout the Church [1] has been summarized [here](#) (1P5) and [here](#) (Christendom Restoration Society). A closer [process analysis](#) shows that, because of the [complexity of demographic systems](#), the sociological explanations alone do not suffice, as they provide no explanation for its scope, magnitude and velocity [2]. The sudden and universal chaos that erupted could only have been a result of a catalyst. The more such a catalyst affects the whole system, the more system-wide the consequences will be and the shorter the period will be in which these consequences become visible. It seems that the Second Vatican Council had been misused for precisely this role.



Overview of the time lines of memberships of about 67 well documented Institutes of Consecrated Life since 1950. While the six largest Institutes are highlighted, the black/yellow dotted line shows the mean time line of all religious memberships

Understanding how the Council became such catalyst will give more insight to the catastrophic decline as well as all other symptoms that manifested the fruits of Vatican II: the loss of proper understanding of the Priesthood, the loss of sacredness of Liturgical acts, the denial of objective moral laws, the undermining of sacramental marriage, and the near-universal breakdown in obedience. Such an analysis is important for recognizing the origins of these actual problems in the Church and the World of today. From a more extensive [process analysis](#) part I highlight the general process behind the Council as a catalyst, while part II concerns the crucial event at which the Council has been hijacked and misused as catalyst. Part III concerns the aftermath and among others it marks the 1985-claim that the Pastoral Council would be infallible in itself and the influence of evolutionistic liberal ideology on the actual pastorate of the Church.

1 Emeritus Assistant Professor on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands

Acting President of the Foederatio Internationalis Una Voce (2006-2007)

2 Associate Professor of Computer Science and Director of International Studies Program, Lyon College

## Part I. The general process behind the Council as a catalyst

### 1. The Council According to Pope John XXIII

What were the stated goals and objectives of the council? The primary rule set by Pope John XXIII in his opening address lays out the substantial law for the Council itself as well as for interpreting the Council documents. The primary rule was that the council was to *'never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers'*. Accordingly, the Council should be understood as a renewal not only in a kind of continuity with, but more explicit *in unity and in accordance with the Doctrine taught by the Fathers*. Consider the following quotes taken from the openings address on October 11, 1962 [3]:

- *The sacred deposit of Christian doctrine should be guarded and taught more efficaciously;*
- *The Church should never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers;*
- *The truth of the Lord will remain forever;*
- *Men, without the assistance of the whole of revealed doctrine, cannot reach a complete and firm unity of minds with which are associated true peace and eternal salvation.*
- *Not, certainly, that there is a lack of fallacious teaching, opinions, and dangerous concepts to be guarded against and dissipated. But these are so obviously in contrast with the right norm of honesty, and have produced such lethal fruits that by now it would seem that men of themselves are inclined to condemn them, particularly those ways of life which despise God and His law or place excessive confidence in technical progress and a well-being based exclusively on the comforts of life;*
- *Men are either with Him and His Church, and then they enjoy light, goodness, order, and peace. Or else they are without Him, or against Him, and deliberately opposed to His Church, and then they give rise to confusion, to bitterness in human relations, and to the constant danger of fratricidal wars;*
- *Our duty is not only to guard this precious treasure, as if we were concerned only with antiquity, but to dedicate ourselves with an earnest will and without fear to that work which our era demands of us, pursuing thus the path which the Church has followed for twenty centuries;*
- *The salient point of this Council is not, therefore, a discussion of one article or another of the fundamental doctrine of the Church which has repeatedly been taught by the Fathers and by ancient and modern theologians, and which is presumed to be well known and familiar to all;*
- *The substance of the ancient doctrine of the deposit of faith is one thing, and the way in which it is presented is another. And it is the latter that must be taken into great consideration with patience if necessary, everything being measured in the forms and proportions of a Magisterium which is predominantly pastoral in character;*
- *How Catholic truth can be communicated to the modern world 'pure and whole', without attenuations or alterations, but at the same time in such a way that the minds of our contemporaries are aided in their duty of assenting to it.*

In accordance to his Encyclical *Ad Petri Cathedram*, 1959, at which he condemned in harsh terms anyone who denies the revealed Truth or interferes with the spread of lies or indifferences, these words, intended to set the tone of the council, Pope John XXIII showed no desire to change one *iota* of Doctrine [4]. From these quotes one can only conclude that he sought the continuation of the traditional teaching of the Fathers, his recent and not-so-recent predecessors.

Thus it was that, with these clear guidelines the Council opened in 1962.

### 2. The 'Council of Media'

The Second Vatican Council was accompanied by a wave of enthusiasm throughout the Church. Pope John XXIII expressed his optimism in his opening address to the Council, as he chided those who wondered whether this ecumenical Council was opportune. Most faithful, in-

cluding religious priests, brothers and sisters as well as diocesan priests, received the Council enthusiastically. The reports of the Council by the mass media likewise seemed enthusiastic and uplifting.

The eventual results, as have been well documented by now, were disastrous. Five decades later, February 14, 2013, in an address on the subject of Vatican II, with the clarity provided by hindsight, Pope Benedict XVI alluded to the existence of two Councils: the real Council and the *council-of-the-media*. This *council-of-the-media* reported on the real Council with a bias in favour of rupture and discontinuity, which influenced the way that it was received by the faithful throughout the world. In the words of Pope Benedict XVI:

*It was obvious that the media would take the side of those who seemed to them more closely allied with their world [5]*

The centre of activity of this *council-of-the-media* was an informal press office located outside the official press office. In contrary to the official press office, this alternative press office was acting without prudence to influence the Council Fathers as well as the world with one-sided reports. There was no objectivity in this informal press office [6], [7].

The 'news' that came forth from the *council-of-the-media* was an early version of what is now commonly referred to as 'fake-news'. Simply trusting that the

Opening address Pope John XXIII:

*The sacred deposit of Christian doctrine should be guarded and taught more efficaciously;*

Catholic media would report accurately, the unsuspecting faithful were fed healthy doses of propaganda through the Catholic media. Having no reason to suspect that the Catholic mass media would mislead them, and seeing the reports echoed in the secular press, they saw it all as authentic.

And again, more recently, in 2016, Pope-Emeritus Benedict VI spoke of this phenomenon:

*The bishops wanted to renew the faith, to deepen it. However, other forces were working with increasing strength, particularly journalists, who interpreted many things in a completely new way. Eventually people asked, yes, if the bishops are able to change everything, why can't we all do that? The liturgy began to crumble, and slip into personal preferences. In respect one could soon see that what was originally desired was being driven in a different direction. Since 1965 I have felt it to be a mission to make clear what we genuinely wanted and what we did not want [8]*

Within a few short years any attempt to articulate the original intent of the council, whether by Cardinal Ratzinger, in his later capacity as pope, or anyone else, would be seen as coming from a marginalized and eccentric minority whose opinions should only be tolerated when convenient.

### 3. Interventions by Pope Paul VI

While Pope Benedict XVI put responsibility for a false portrayal of the real Council on the *council-of-the-media*, he referred to the necessity of a direct intervention by Pope Paul VI to prevent the Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum* from proclaiming heresy. Suffice to say, the *council-of-the-media* might be responsible for the false public presentation of the real Council but cannot be held responsible for any text to be proposed by the Council Commissions that required intervention by the Pope. Similarly, it could not be held responsible for any ambiguities and contradictory text left within the final Council documents.

Below, we provide a brief sketch of some interventions that were required in order to avoid the overt promulgation of heresy.

As said, February 14, 2013, in the same address to the Roman Clergy Pope Benedict XVI mentioned a direct intervention by Pope Paul VI regarding the Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum*. This intervention had to do with the two sources of revelation: Scripture and Tradition according the Council of Trent.

*Sacrality must therefore be abolished, and profanity now spreads to worship: worship is no longer worship, but a community act, with communal participation: participation understood as activity. These translations, trivializations of the idea of the Council, were virulent in the process of putting the liturgical reform into practice; they were born from a vision of the Council detached from its proper key, that of faith. And the same applies to the question of Scripture: Scripture is a book, it is historical, to be treated historically and only historically, and so on. [5]*

In this intervention, Pope Paul VI urged against the approval of a text on Scripture that considered:

*Scripture as complete, everything is found there; consequently there is no need for Tradition, and so the Magisterium has nothing to say. [5]*

Another intervention that Pope Paul VI found necessary concerned the doctrine of marriage. New theories were being discussed on the floor of the council, even by cardinals such as Léger and Suenens, which reduced the importance of the procreative purpose of marriage and opened

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*The Church should never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers;*

the way to its marginalization by elevating its unitive end and the gift of self to an equal or higher level. Pope Paul VI sent the commission four amendments, with orders to insert them in the schema. The illicit nature of artificial

contraceptives was to be explicitly taught. It was also to be declared that procreation is not an incidental or parallel end of marriage when compared to the expression of conjugal love, but rather something necessary and primary. All of the amendments were supported by texts from Pius XI's *Casti Connubii*, which were also to be inserted [9].

The amendments were accepted; however, ultimately the quotes taken from Pius XI's *Casti Connubii* were left out. But in the end Pope Paul VI insisted on them being added to the schema that the council approved during its fourth session [3]. Meanwhile, the question of contraceptives was referred to a papal commission and subsequently decided by the encyclical *Humanae Vitae* of 1968 [9].

Pope Paul VI also intervened in the Council by adding *Nota Praevia Explicativa* to the Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium*. If there was no text that ambiguously suggested a contradictory to the Dogma of Vatican I, there would have been no need at all to add such an explanation of 'how to read' this Dogmatic Constitution.

#### 4. The 'Council-of-dissident-theologians'

A careful survey of the proceedings of the Council seems to validate the existence of a third Council, which we will refer to as a *council-of-dissident-theologians*, working behind the scene with their own agenda. A review of the past 50 years with the benefit of hindsight provides a wealth of information about this *council-of-dissident-theologians* that manipulated the course of events and coordinated efforts with the 'council-of-the-media'.

Thus, we can see the underhand working of these theologians, making an end run to advance an agenda that was counter to the perennial teachings of the Church and the stated law of the council. An admission can be found in a statement by Father Edward Schillebeeckx in the Dutch magazine 'De Bazuin' (February 1965):

*We will express it in a diplomatic way, but after the Council we will draw out the implicit conclusions [9]*

This is an open admission of deliberately inserting ambiguities into the proposed documents. Some dissident Council Fathers and their theological advisors manipulated the text of the Council's documents to pave the way for interpretations opposing the Faith after the Council. The widespread optimism, good will and collegial trust held by the majority worked to the advantage

of the *council-of-dissident-theologians*. The objective was to propose ambiguous texts that did not awake the concerns of the majority of the Council Fathers. To avoid backlash, they introduced ambiguous text that could be accepted by the majority of optimistic and unsuspecting Council Fathers, later to be interpreted in a way that would not have been considered acceptable.

After the closure of the real Council this *council-of-dissident-theologians* continued to promulgate the false interpretation of the ambiguous texts, drawing out the implicit conclusions they had put in them. To assist in their dubious pursuit, and to coordinate their effort with the *council-of-the-media* they founded and directed the magazine ‘*Concilium*’. It would soon be an uphill battle for anyone attempting to go back and clarify, as Pope Benedict XVI testifies in his statement “*Since 1965 I have felt it to be a mission to make clear what we genuinely wanted and what we did not want.*”

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*The truth of the Lord will remain forever;*

The *council-of-dissident-theologians* also introduced the term *Spirit-of-the-Council* as an open rule to interpret the Council documents in accordance to their agenda of rupture and discontinuity.

## 5. Pope John XXIII betrayed

Pope John XXIII wished to make Christian Doctrine understandable for the *modern world*. Hereto, regarding the *New Theology*, he implicitly referred to the encyclical *Humani Generis* of Pope Pius XII to search for true elements within the false theories, when he said:

*... because sometimes even in these false theories a certain amount of truth is contained [3].*

However, he continued to warn about the false theories:

*these (false theories) are so obviously in contrast with the right norm of honesty, and have produced such lethal fruits that by now it would seem that men of themselves are inclined to condemn them, particularly those ways of life which despise God and His law or place excessive confidence in technical progress and a well-being based exclusively on the comforts of life [3].*

At the same time, being diplomatic and having the intention to resolve this problem, he warned the *New Theology* to hold on to the Council’s rule *never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers* and offered them the *medicine-of-mercy*:

*The Church in every age has opposed these errors and often has even condemned them and indeed with the greatest severity. But at the present time, the spouse of Christ prefers to use the medicine of mercy rather than the weapons of severity; and, she thinks she meets today’s needs by explaining the validity of her doctrine more fully rather than by condemning [3].*

Pope John XXIII was convinced of the power of the Truth and counted on the right norms of honesty of all involved. Though the Pope had every right to expect that the Council Fathers and theologians would listen to him, the result was the exact opposite. While the introduction of the *medicine-of-mercy* was coupled to the need for a clear and full explanation of the Doctrine without any ambiguity, they uncoupled the *medicine-of-mercy* from the clear and full explanation of the Doctrine. While Pope John XXIII asked for a “*wise organization of mutual co-operation*” [3], he was betrayed by those who he had showed in advance his mercy, and who animated by some noxious spirit, participated in the *council-of-dissident-theologians*. Thereby, like the complaint of Pope Paul VI spring 1966 [2], they had created a false portrayal of the legacy of Pope John XXIII. This betrayal continues up to today. The hard-liners and their ideological descendants firmly reject the Council’s rule set Pope John XXIII and condemn the Church as She existed prior to the Council, they rigidly strive for the complete suppression of it, thereto lacking any kind of mercy.

Being merciful in advance without any assurance isn’t it a risk? Isn’t it implicitly a decoupling of Justice and Mercy as well as a denying of the sense of discipline? Isn’t it therefore a decoupling of doctrine and discipline?

## 6. Catalyst

The council proceeded in threefold. The majority of unsuspecting participants worked toward the stated goals, but for some reason their judgement seems to be clouded to recognize the ambiguities; the *council-of-dissident-theologians* crafted ambiguous documents to be later interpreted in a manner that the majority would have rejected, and the *council-of-the-media* provided a false narrative for public consumption and eventual widespread acceptance of that which was not intended. It was the perfect storm. At its conclusion, the revolutionaries quickly solidified their position by hurling accusations of ‘*disobedience*’ to the Council at anyone questioning their novelties.

## 7. Conclusion

Referring to the opening address by Pope John XXIII, it is this false spirit that animated the ‘*council-of-dissident-theologians*’ and gave rise to confusion, to bitterness in human relations, and to the constant danger of fratricidal wars throughout the years since the Council. Since the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Truth, He cannot contradict Himself. The distortions of deliberated ambiguities, contradictory text phrases as well as one-sided quotations of the doctrine can never

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*Not, certainly, that there is a lack of fallacious teaching, opinions, and dangerous concepts to be guarded against and dissipated;*

be considered as the Fruits of a ‘*humble and gracious collaboration with the intention of the Holy Spirit*’. However, by allowing these *lethal fruits being produced*, the Holy Spirit had respected the free will of man and, in a wonderful way, also protected the Pastoral Council against full heresies by leaving open the possibility to interpret the Council’s doc-

uments by free will in accordance to the rule set by Pope John XXIII: ‘*never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers*’. And, because the Council was set up as Pastoral, the Doctrine of Church has the last word undoubtedly.

## Part II. How the Council was hijacked

### 1. The expectations of the Council

While in his opening address Pope John XXIII had expressed optimism, the diary notes of Father Henri de Lubac S.J. [10] showed an opposite trend. The German and French bishops were involved in a counter-plan for a total rejection of the preparatory documents. This plan was spearheaded by some theologians of the ‘*New Theology*’ [10], [11]. By means of their intrigues, three years of work that had been carried out by more than a thousand members from all over the world, was scuttled.

We refer here to Father Henri de Lubac S.J., who at the very beginning of the Council wrote in his diary:

*‘... He (Father Daniélou S.J.) is already working on a counterplan, which perhaps will be combined with the one we believe Father Rahner S.J. is preparing’ (October 12. 1962) [10].*

Then reporting on October 19, 1962, about a meeting of a select number of Council Fathers and theologians opposing the preparatory documents:

*‘At 4 P.M., on the northwest slope of the Janiculum, a meeting at the boarding house where Archbishop Volk of Mainz is staying to study the drafting of a positive doctrinal schema and to examine the procedure to follow as to have it accepted while setting aside the schemas of the preparatory commission. There were 25 of us. Nine bishops: Volk, his auxiliary, the archbishop of Berlin (Bengsch), Garrone (Toulouse), Guerry (Cambrai) Ancel (auxiliary of Lion), Schmitt (Metz), Weber and his Elchinger (Strasbourg). Among the theologians: K. Rahner*

S.J., J. Ratzinger, H. Kung, Mgr. Philips (Louvain), Daniélou S.J., Rondet, Congar O.P. , Chenu, Labourdette a Dutchman (Piet Fransen SJ or Schillebeeckx O.P.). Very interesting discussion. Karl Rahner S.J. gave some explanations. Then each one gave his opinion, either on the content or on the tactics to adopt. Various possibilities. The German were more scathing than the French. Bishop Elchinger and Bishop Schmitt will serve at liaisons' [10].

With a following up on October 22, 1962:

'On Sunday, Fathers Rahner S.J., Congar O.P. and Daniélou S.J. met, following the meeting around Bishop Volk. Congar O.P. is preparing a totally new schema, as a sort of general prooemium that they would try to have accepted by the Commission for Extraordinary Affairs. Rahner S.J. and Daniélou S.J. are preparing a revision of existing texts, as a fall-back position in case Congar's schema should be rejected on principle.' [10]

Besides these diary notes another event needs our attention. When, spring 1962, the preparatory documents were sent to the Cardinals and Bishops of the Central Preparatory Commission for a final 'placet', Cardinal Franz König of Wien had sent these documents to his theologian advisor Father Karl Rahner S.J., who could not agree with it. He concluded that all documents would be rejected and replaced. Thereto he arranged a three days meeting at the residence of Mgr. Volk of Mainz, one of his pupils, in the late summer 1962 with some German Bishops and theologians, like Mgr. Hermann Volk, Auxillary Bishof Mgr Reusz, Hirschmann S.J. (Frankfurt), Stakemeier (Paderborn), Semmelroth S.J., Grillmeier S.J., Bacht (all three from Frankfurt), Ratzinger (Bonn) und Feiner (Chur). Most of the theologians were also theological advisors of their Bishops and as such present at the Council [12].

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*But these (false theories) are so obviously in contrast with the right norm of honesty, ..., particularly those ways of life which despise God and His law or place excessive confidence in technical progress and a well-being based exclusively on the comforts of life.*

## 2. October 13, 1962

The success of these efforts produced a *paradoxical outcome* for Vatican II: the preparatory work that usually foreshadows the results of a council, was nullified and rejected from the first session onward while successive spirits and tendencies followed one upon another. This departure from the original plan did not happen as a result of a decision made by the council, operating within its rules, but started by an irregular act of Cardinal Liénart.

October 13, 45 years after the miracle of the Sun in Fatima, Cardinal Liénart violated the council's legal framework by reading a prepared text calling for a delay on the vote of the members of the Council's commissions. This intervention was followed by an intervention of Cardinal Frings, who did so also in the name of Cardinal Königs, in favour of Cardinal Liénart's proposal, which was then accepted by an applauding majority of Council Fathers. Cardinal Liénart claimed that his act, discovering a letter in his hand and reading it loudly at a microphone, was a spontaneous charismatic inspired action:

*I only spoke because I felt constrained to do so by a higher force, in which I feel obliged to recognize that of the Holy Spirit' [10].*

But Father Henri de Lubac S.J. reported in his diary in advance about this event:

*'Father Daniélou S.J., who had seen a lot of people, thinks that tomorrow the bishops could ask for a delay in the elections to the commissions, so as to have the time to clarify their vote' [10];*

*'.. the French bishops met again; they only, by successive votes, drew up a list of French names that they are proposing for commissions' [10].*

And

*We are going to see to it that this Council is not a council of experts' [10].*

While Yves Congar O.P. reported in his *Journal of the Council* that Cardinal Liénart did nothing more than reading the letter written by Mgr. Garonne:

*The paper read by Cardinal Liénart on the first day of the First Session had been written by Mgr. Garonne, whose idea it had been, Cardinal Liénart did no more than read it' [11].*

But, how could Cardinal Frings also react on such spontaneous intervention in the name of Cardinal Königs, while Cardinal Frings as member of the Presidium was sitting at the Presidium, which was not the case with Cardinal Königs. Thus if Cardinal Frings could speak in the name

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*Our duty is not only to guard this precious treasure, as if we were concerned only with antiquity, but to dedicate ourselves with an earnest will and without fear to that work which our era demands of us, pursuing thus the path which the Church has followed for twenty centuries:*

of Cardinal Königs as well as all German and Austrian Episcopates [11], they would have been informed about this intervention by Cardinal Liénart in advance. This cannot be called spontaneous at all. It was an irregular deliberate intervention.

And when Cardinal Liénart asked for a delay so that the bishops would know each other better, how could these approximately 2500 bishops know each other better in only 3 days' period, including a Sunday, while nothing was arranged for it? Obviously, as Father Daniélou S.J. suggested, October 12: the hidden agenda needed more time to arrange sufficient support for getting their own candidates elected. So the suggested spontaneity was a lie.

Furthermore, it has to consider that, because Cardinals Liénart and Frings were part of the Presidium, they could have discussed this matter within the Presidium. However, the Presidium as an executive committee knew that they had no power to overrule the rules set by the Pope: *'the rules of the Council could not be changed without the approval of the Holy Father'* (October, 16 [10]). Such a request would have been forwarded to the Pope, but as long as the Pope did not respond, the normal procedure would have carried forward going on. And because that can take one or two days, this procedure would take too much time to stop voting that same day. **Thus a method of 'breaking the rules' was chosen.** And so by a sudden 'raid' Cardinal Liénart started a chain of irregularities to stop the voting on the first working day of the Council.

Some comments on this event can be found in the diary of Father Henri de Lubac S.J.:

*This dramatic little episode is spoken of as a victory of the bishops over the Holy Office. Other victories will no doubt be more difficult' [10].*

And in the journal by Father Yves Congar O.P.

*'... the principle importance rests in the fact that this is a first Conciliar Act, a refusal to accept even the possibility of prefabrication' and 'Between the Supreme head (and his Curia) and the individual bishops, there are intermediate groupings. One of the results of the Council ought to be that giving them more power and independence. The importance of this was demonstrated on the very first day' [11];*

*'That was our first victory' [11].*

Cardinal Suenens, in his memoirs, emphasized the revolutionary significance of this incident, while at the same time he portrayed Pope John XXIII falsely:

*'Happy coup and daring injury to the Regiment! ... The destinies of the Council were decided to a great extent at this moment, John XXIII was glad about it' [11].*

Apparently, these reactions sounds more like a triumph within a revolutionary rebellion war then like a spirit of mutual mercy [11].

### 3. ‘A fait accompli’ and the Holy Spirit

Now Pope John XXIII was faced with this delay as ‘*a fait accompli*’. How could he react on this seemingly spontaneous irregular delay? Why, would Pope John XXIII renounce or postpone the Council or dismiss the Presidium, while this incident was argued to be so spontaneous? Would this do more damage to the image of the Council and bring much more delay than accepting this delay? So, Pope John XXIII sanctioned the outcome of this irregular act and the Council went on.

The fact that the Pope sanctioned the outcome does not take away the intentions behind this chain of irregular links. (1) Cardinal Liénart, member of the Presidium, reading a paper prepared by Mgr. Garonne. Factually,

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*The salient point of this Council is not, therefore, a discussion of one article or another of the fundamental doctrine of the Church which has repeatedly been taught by the Fathers and by ancient and modern theologians, and which is presumed to be well known and familiar to all;*

this was twofold irregular. Firstly the intervention itself, and secondly by addressing the request to the Council Fathers instead of the Holy Father. (2) The intervention by Cardinal Frings, who was a member of the Presidium too. (3) The applause by a majority of Council Fathers that was officially forbidden [13]. (4) The change of the Council’s rule by the Presidium. (5) The lie by Cardinal Liénart to convince the Pope that his intervention was a spontaneous, charismatic inspired act. All these successive irregularities were breaking the council’s legal framework, showing a deliberate lack of ‘*a humble and gracious collaboration with the intention of the Holy Spirit*’. Isn’t it that this has consequences regarding to the help of the Holy Spirit for the individual Council Fathers involved?

Here we must consider the astonishing claim too that this intervention was a charismatic inspiration. He would have us believe that, while the Council was called and prepared by Pope John XXIII by command of the Holy Spirit, at the first working day of the Council the Holy Spirit would promptly turn on the Council by breaking the Council’s legal framework, putting the Pope up to ‘*a fait accompli*’. This claim is ridiculous, and in contradiction to both, the convocation of the Council [14] and the opening address by Pope John XXIII. The latter was only two days past, October 11, at which the Pope expressed his conviction that the preparatory documents were ‘*an initial gift of celestial grace*’ by the Holy Spirit [15].

### 4. Restoration by Pope John XXIII

As Cardinal Suenens suggested that Pope John XXIII would be ‘*glad about it*’, he would not have told the Pope that he considered this event as ‘*a happy coup and a first victory over the Holy Office*’ of which the Pope himself was the Prefect. Certainly, looking at the claim by Cardinal Liénart, he would not have told the Pope the truth about this event.

While the lists of the members of the several commissions originally proposed by the Holy Office were based on the preparatory commissions to assure the continuity between the preparatory documents and the final documents. Now the majority of the elected members of the Council Commissions represented a break with the preparation of the Council.

Father Henry de Lubac S.J. reported (October 29) that because the Curia was being ‘forgotten’ by the Council Fathers Pope John XXIII decided to increase the foreseen number of eight members per commission to be appointed by the Pope to nine [10]. Herewith, he appointed more

than the foreseen one-third of the members for each Council Commission, with which he broke the possibility for an absolute majority of the choice of the Council Fathers.

And since he tended to appoint conservative Council Fathers from the 'Curia', introducing some religious superiors and to balance nationalities so as to satisfy the small countries this upset those attached to the 'New Theology' [10]. Apparently Cardinal Alfrink showed himself very pessimistic:

*"the choices of John XXIII, is said to have saddened those who desire a renewal"* [10].

Obviously, he realized very well that by this act of Pope John XXIII, now the Council Fathers and their theologian advisors attached to the 'New Theology' within the Council Commission had to make compromises.

While Cardinal Suenens in his memoirs suggested that the Pope would be 'glad' about the event of October 13 [11], evidently, by this act Pope John XXIII did the opposite. He tried to resolve the effect of that event of the first working day of the Council as far as possible. Herewith

the Pope created a condition that made compromises necessary. Evidently, herewith the Holy Spirit had created a certain condition at which, with respect to the free will of each individual Council Father as well as the theologian advisors, the Council was protected against full heresies. Thereby leaving open to all, the possibility for a 'humble and gracious col-

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*The Church in every age has opposed these errors and often has even condemned them and indeed with the greatest severity.*

laboration with the intention of the Holy Spirit' by free will to work on the Council's documents in accordance to the rule set down by Pope John XXIII in his opening address: **never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers.** According to this law it appears that the Doctrine of the Church has the last word about the documents of this Pastoral Council without any attenuations or alterations.

## 5. The council at work

The French and Germans joint together to get the rejection of the preparatory documents. After the rejections, due to their different perspectives to reject these documents this co-operation was weakening. The French were focussed on the relationship between Church and State, while the Germans were focussed on the Church itself. Then on request of Cardinal Seunens the Belgian Mgr. Philips, professor at Louvain, jumped in. Now the theologians gathered regularly at the Belgium College discussing the actual topics in the several commissions, advising each other what to introduce in the texts to be proposed to the Council Fathers. Hereto the French Father Yves Congar O.P. finally moved to the Belgian College [11].

Regularly the *renewal* and the *medicine-of-mercy* were used as arguments, but falsely decoupled from the requirement 'not to depart the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers'. It is, therefore, important to consider the opening address in 1962 speaking about the *medicine-of-mercy* [15]:

*As the Second Vatican Council begins, it is clearer than ever before that **the truth of the Lord remains forever** (Ps 116:2). Indeed, as age succeeds age, we see the uncertain opinions of men take one another's place and new-born errors often vanish as quickly as a mist dispelled by the sun. **The Church in every age has opposed these errors** and often has even condemned them and indeed with the greatest severity. But at the present time, **the spouse of Christ prefers to use the medicine-of-mercy rather than the weapons of severity; and, she thinks she meets today's needs by explaining the validity of her doctrine more fully rather than by condemning.***

Thus in no way the *medicine-of-mercy* may be uncoupled from the need to explain the Church's Doctrine more fully while the condemnation of the old and modern errors were never abrogated. The latter has been showed in the opening address by condemning: the '*uncertain opinions of men*', the '*new-born errors*', a '*fallacious teaching, opinions, and dangerous concepts to be guarded against*' and '*particularly those ways of life, which despise God and His law or place excessive confidence in technical progress and a well-being based exclusively on the comforts of life*' [15]. Herewith Pope John XXIII clearly condemned the theories of the *New Theology* like Pope Pius XII did in 1950 by his Encyclical *Humani Generi*. But Pope John XXIII, as optimistic as he is, expected that these errors would *vanish as quickly as a mist dispelled by the sun* if the *validity of the Doctrine has been explained more fully*. Obviously, the *medicine-of-mercy* does not concern the error itself, but those who have to convert from these errors: not by punishing, but by convincing. The errors are still condemned.

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*But at the present time, the spouse of Christ prefers to use the medicine of mercy rather than the weapons of severity; and, she thinks she meets today's needs by explaining the validity of her doctrine more fully.*

Apparently, regarding to the *medicine-of-mercy*, how can the Council's documents with the deliberate ambiguities, contradictory text phrases and one-sided quotations be considered as a more fully explanation of the Church's doctrine? Therefore, the hermeneutic law set by Pope John XXIII has to be accepted as a *conditio sine qua non*, not only in a kind of continuity with, but more explicit *in unity and in accordance with the Doctrine taught by the Fathers*.

### Part III. The aftermath of the Council

#### 1. 1965 -1966

##### 1.1. The Massive Offensive with False Interpretations

In pursuit of their objective the *council-of-dissident-theologians* played their hand well; on the one hand by the *council-of-media* they continued to spread the biased view of the Council including the portrayals of the Popes John XXIII and Paul VI. On the other hand by publishing their intentionally ambiguous and contradictory texts in their own international religious magazine *Concilio* in multiple languages. With the fathers Karl Rahner S.J., Hans Küng, Ives Congar O.P. and Edward Schillebeeckx O.P. as editors they controlled all publications, by which they were able to exclude papers that departed from their line of interpretation. Still during the Council they started a strong offensive of false interpretation departing from the doctrine of the Church. As described by Archbishop Agostino Marchetto they refused any serious discussion by calling any other interpretation a departure from the Council [16]:

*... the false and erroneous interpretation of Vatican II .... being one trend of the modern theology that vituperates as anti-conciliar anyone who departs from their monopoly-line of the Council's interpretation.*

Thereby replacing the hermeneutic rule set by Pope John XXIII in his opening address and repeated by Pope Paul VI in his closing address in 1965, with the vague '*spirit of the council*', which in fact is identical with '*spirit of the council-of-dissident-theologians*' [17]. Herewith they intended to eliminate the influence of the conservative minority and the several interventions by Pope Paul VI in favour of the Council's rule set by Pope John XXIII: '*never departing from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers*' and '*that the sacred deposit of Christian doctrine be guarded and taught more effectively*'..

## 1.2. Complaints by Pope Paul VI

The gravity of the falsification of the Council can be recognized by the complaints of Pope Paul VI so shortly after the Council's closure, spring 1966 [17]:

*(1) a dangerous relativism, (2) a false mystic about Pope John XXIII, (3) nobody is listening to the voice of Pope, (4) a crisis of the celibacy, (5) a false forming of the public opinion, (6), a spirit of Council that has been replaced by a spirit of some Extremist'*

On this point Pope Paul VI had also addressed his concerns more officially in 1966 [16]:

*It would not be the truth for anybody to imagine that the Vatican Council II represented any kind of break, interruption, or 'liberation' from the teaching of the Church, or that it authorized or promoted any kind of accommodation or conformism with the mentality of our times, in its negative or ephemeral aspects'.*

On July 24, 1966 and in accordance with these concerns, Cardinal Ottaviani, Prefect of the new erected Congregation for Doctrine and Faith, issued a Circular Letter to the Presidents of Episcopal Conferences addressing some sentences and errors arising from the interpretation of the decrees of Vatican II (*Cum Oecumenicum Concilium*) [18]..

However, what about these complaints by Pope Paul VI? If he did not intend to touch the doctrine, wasn't he aware that the doctrine and discipline are coupled, that they affect each other like the *lex orandi, lex credendi*? Was he betrayed by some Cardinal advisors he trusted?

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*The substance of the ancient doctrine of the deposit of faith is one thing, and the way in which it is presented is another*

And considering that at the beginning of the Council Pope John XXIII showed his mercy in advance to the dissident theologians without asking for an assurance from them. He continued by sanctioning a

deliberate breaking of the Council's rule on the first working day of the Council, and with his own break of the Council's rule by rejecting the preparatory document *De Fontibus*, while the voting had no absolute majority. Of course, the Pope has the absolute power to decide so, but he cannot prevent the consequences. But because, in this way, Pope John XXIII had undermined the discipline of the Council Fathers and theologians, he could not prevent the hijack of the Council and the introduction of deliberately ambiguous texts in the Council's documents in favour of the evolutionary liberal ideology.

And was Pope Paul VI, still at that time Cardinal Montini, involved in one of the irregular events of the first working day of the Council, like the irregular applause by the majority of the Council Fathers, that went on to break the rule put forward by Pope John XXIII and lead to the hijacking of the Council? Was he then, like so many other Council Fathers, blind to the consequences that doctrinal ambiguities can have, and to the effects of the release of discipline?

## 1.3. Destruction of the Norms Prior to the Council

Regarding the consequences of the loss of discipline, the first sentence of one of the minor documents, [Dignitatis Humanae](#), (DH 1) can be highlighted here:

*The dignity of the human person has been impressing itself more and more deeply on the consciousness of contemporary man, and the demand is increasingly made that men should act on their own judgment, enjoying and making use of a responsible freedom, not driven by coercion but motivated by a sense of duty'*

This sentence is really ambiguous. Surely, within the context of the whole doctrine including what was left out, it can be read as in accordance with the Council's rule: '*never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers*'. But, by not referring to the consequences of original sin

on human dignity leaves this quote open to false interpretations in accordance with the evolutionary liberal ideology that denies original sin. In this way the specific text ‘*not driven by coercion but motivated by a sense of duty*’ meant a release from the disciplinary obligation to the norms, by leaving these norms to be a subject of conscience. While in addition ‘*men should act on their own judgment*’ meant that norms need not be taught anymore, because these norms are considered as coming from outside and thus *driven by coercion*. And by not teaching these norms the conscience cannot be either properly informed or *motivated by a sense of duty* anymore. So, due to the false interpretation that has been so aggressively dictated by the *council-of-dissident-theologians*, the conscience has been replaced by undefined and subjective ‘feelings’ that differ from the original norms held prior to the Council. Eventually this created a situation in which the newly developed practices became the absolute norm, rigidly enforced and made obligatory for all faithful, despite the fact that the traditional norms were never abrogated. They accused all faithful for rigidity who are attached to and missioned the traditional norms of the Church’s Doctrine. Even the younger generation born and drowned by the liberal education in the aftermath period of the Council and who make their own choice towards the norms prior to the Council are called rigid by these liberals. Thereby those, who did not wish to depart from the norms in place prior to the Council, were compelled to accept this “new freedom”, like so many priests and religious in the past and even it still happens today, who were sent to so-called sensitivity trainings to break their resistance. But whereby also their mental health became disordered.

[Opening address Pope John XXIII:](#)

*How Catholic truth can be communicated to the modern world ‘pure and whole’, without attenuations or alterations.*

## 2. 1967-1972

### 2.1. Defence of the Doctrine

Beside the complaints in 1966, Pope Paul VI showed more than once that Vatican II is not a break with the Doctrine: ‘*never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers*’. The most important here are the encyclicals *Mysterium Fidei* (1965), *Sacerdotialis Caelibatus* (1967) and *Humanae Vitae* (1968) as well as the *Credo of the People of God* (1968). However hardly anyone seems to listen to these teachings by the Pope. In particular the continuation of the Church Teachings on celibacy, marriage and contraception fell out of favour and was under heavy fire from dissident theologians, priests and even Bishops and Cardinals. However besides defending the doctrine and the moral norms directly derived from the doctrine, he had released the obligation regarding the disciplinary rules that seemingly had nothing to do with the doctrine, like the liturgical discipline.

### 2.2. Promulgation of the Reformed Liturgy

Pope Paul VI, while releasing the liturgical discipline in the rubrics of the reformed Liturgy of 1970, he declared his intention that both liturgical forms, traditional and reformed, maintain the same *lex credendi*. This intention is fully confirmed by Pope Benedict XVI's 2007 Encyclical *Summorum Pontificum*. But one can similarly observe a one-sided use of the doctrine expressing the *lex credendi* in the reformed Liturgy [19], [20] and [21]. Isn't it that the release of discipline affects the *lex orandi* negatively, which combined with the poor expression of the *lex credendi* has opened risks for ongoing vicious spirals degrading the sacredness of the Holy Liturgy?

The consequences of this poor expression of doctrine, is very evident in the following remarkable example. The liberal interpretation of DH1 can be said to have led to the removal of

the first part of the second prayer from the offertory of the mass, under the guise of liturgical reform: *'O God, Who wonderfully formed the dignity of human nature, and more wonderfully restored it'*

The original prayer expressed the fullness of the Doctrine of Faith very well. The dignity of human nature that was formed so wonderfully by God, and after it was wounded due to the original sin by Adam, it was more wonderfully restored by God through His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ by His Crucifixion, in which we can participate only through the water of the Baptism and the wine of His Blood as he is the Door to Heaven. Thus, the first part of this prayer that implicitly

expresses the continuing reminder of the original sin, has simply been removed without any replacement.

Why was this done? Was this text phrase not important or was it an unnecessary repetition? Anyway, isn't it perhaps that the original prayer did not fit the unrestricted evolutionary liberal ideology that denies original sin? Isn't it that in the long term this is suppressing the notion of original sin from the actual memory of Faithful? Do we meet here, despite the warn-

ings by the Cardinals Ottaviani and Bacci, a serious blindness by those, who were responsible for the introduction of the reformed Liturgy, and to the true intentions behind the New Theology of the dissident theologians?

[Spring 1966 Pope Paul VI complaints about:](#)

*(1) a dangerous relativism, (2) a false mystic about Pope John XXIII, (3) nobody is listening to the voice of Pope, (4) a crisis of the celibacy, (5) a false forming of the public opinion, (6), a spirit of Council that has been replaced by a spirit of some Extremist'*

### 2.3. The Address to the Cardinals

On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1972, another important address was given to the Cardinals of the Curia. Here Pope Paul VI clearly condemned the hermeneutic that was confirmed by Pope Benedict XVI in 2005, calling it the *hermeneutic of discontinuity and rupture* [22]

*'... an emergency which We cannot and must not keep hidden: in the first place a false and erroneous interpretation of the Council, which would want to break with the tradition, even as regards the doctrine, an interpretation which goes so far that the pre-conciliar Church is rejected and one is allowed to consider a 'new' church, as it were reinvented from the inside, as regards the constitution of the Church, her dogma, custom and law.'*

And in the same week in his homily on June 29<sup>th</sup> 1972 he also spoke about:

*'... from some crack the smoke of Satan has entered the temple of God.'*

### 2.4. New International Theologian Magazine *Communio*

Meanwhile, the years between 1966 and 1972 marked a split within the *council-of-dissident-theologians* [23], between the hard core of the board of *Concilium* and a moderated group of theologians that established a new international theological magazine *Communio*. They accused the board of *Concilium* of the following [24]:

- Acting as a secondary magisterium, or official teaching authority, alongside the bishops. Theologians have a key role to play in the understanding and development of doctrine, but they cannot supplant the bishops' responsibility of holding and teaching the apostolic faith.
- Launching Vatican III when the ink on the documents of Vatican II was barely dry. They wanted to ride the progressive momentum of Vatican II toward a series of reforms -- women's ordination, suspension of priestly celibacy, radical reform of the Church's sexual ethic, etc. -- that were by no means justified by the texts of the council.

- Perpetuating the *spirit-of-the-council*. Councils, they stated, are sometimes necessary in the life of the Church, but they also represent moments when the Church throws itself into question and pauses to decide an issue or controversy.

The idea for this new international theological review was discussed within the Theological Commission, established by Pope Paul VI in 1969. Together with the encyclicals since 1966, the addresses in 1972 and the appointments of moderate Bishops he had contributed to start a process of restoration. However this process could not suppress the extreme dissident theologians. It could also not prevent the ongoing suppression of anyone holding the norms of the Church prior to the Council. Here we encounter the suppressions of Mgr. Lefebvre and the Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX) in the early nineteen seventies, the suppressing in general of the Traditional Liturgy but also most recently in 2013 the suppression of the Franciscans of the Immaculate (FI).

[Pope Paul VI in 1966:](#)

*It would not be the truth for anybody to imagine that the Vatican Council II represented any kind of break, interruption, or 'liberation' from the teaching of the Church, or that it authorized or promoted any kind of accommodation or conformism with the mentality of our times, in its negative or ephemeral aspects'*

### 3. 1985

#### 3.1. Extraordinary Synod of Bishops

1985 marks another important event in the aftermath of Vatican II. Pope John Paul II convened an extraordinary assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the 20th anniversary of the closure of the Council that came up with six agreed upon principles for interpretations, which may be paraphrased as follows [25]:

1. Each passage and document of the council must be interpreted in the context of all the others, so that the integral teaching of the council may be rightly grasped.
2. The four constitutions of the council (those on liturgy, church, revelation and church in the modern world) are the hermeneutical key to the other documents—namely, the council's nine decrees and three declarations.
3. The pastoral import of the documents ought not to be separated from, or set in opposition to, their doctrinal content.
4. No opposition may be made between the spirit and the letter of Vatican II.
5. The council must be interpreted in continuity with the great tradition of the church, including earlier councils.
6. Vatican II should be accepted as illuminating the problems of our own day.

#### 3.2. Evaluation of the 1985-principles

Undoubtedly these 1985-principles, born from a compromise, are ambiguous as well. No reference is made to the hermeneutic rule set by Pope John XXIII in his opening address and confirmed by Pope Paul VI in his closure address in 1965.

The first two principles create a vicious circle that depending on the interpretation of the ambiguities can become a downwards oriented spiral. In particular, placing the pastoral constitution at the same level as the doctrinal constitution is asking for a fundamental problem. The

outcome of the third principle, depends strongly on the results of the first two principles, how one understands the pastorate as it relates to the doctrine.

The same consequence can also be found for the fourth principle; the ambiguity in the Council's documents allows the '*Spirit of Vatican II*' to become rather creepy. Apparently a false '*Spirit of Vatican II*' leads to a false interpretation of the documents, while a false interpretation evidently leads to a false '*Spirit of Vatican II*'

Principle 5 can be considered as most important, but is also most dangerous. Though the expression '*continuity*' can be understood well, as a deepening of the Truth *in unity and in accordance with the Doctrine taught by the Fathers*'. But because the term '*continuity*' fundamentally implicates a '*change*' without discontinuity this principle leaves open the opportunity for departing from '*the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers*' by a continuing range of infinitely small steps forming

a curve away from the Doctrine of the Fathers. A change that will only be recognized in the latter stages of the process as a contradiction to the past. The smaller the steps and the more time each step takes the later it will be recognized as a substantial change. Therefore '*continuity*' does not express per se the same intention as expressed by the Popes John XXIII and Paul VI: '*in unity and in accordance with the Doctrine taught by the Fathers*'.

Moreover, the term continuity also bears another danger. A comparison can be made with physics in which the conservation of matter is a fundamental principle. When an explosion destroys any physical form, the conservation of

matter guarantees the continuation of matter from which renewed forms can be built up. So any change or break of form always is associated with a conservation of matter. This leaves the opportunity that a break of form will be argued as a continuity, because of the continuity of matter.

Then finally principle 6 declares a Pastoral Council as a kind of infallible dogma in itself, including the ambiguities, contradictory text phrases and one-sided use of the doctrine, while that Council in no way attempted to declare any dogma. Placing the pastoral constitution at the same level as the dogmatic constitutions (principle 2), opened the opportunity to replace the orthodoxy with an orthopraxis.

## 4. More recent period

### 4.1. 1985-2012

Both Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, the latter being in 1985 Prefect of the Congregation for Doctrine of Faith, had collaborated in the hijack of the Council. Apparently, an act that had lacked the *humble and gracious collaboration with the intention of the Holy Spirit*. Were they therefore beaten into blindness to the general rule of the Council set by Pope John XXIII '*a renewal in unity and in accordance with the Doctrine taught by the Fathers*'? And if so, it means that they had implicitly agreed with the 1985-principles, which exposed the risks of considering the Pastoral Council as an infallible dogma in itself, and replacing orthodoxy by an orthopraxis as well. Certainly both popes did not follow the evolutionary liberal ideology like those who still reject the

[Pope Paul VI in 1972:](#)

*'... an emergency which We cannot and must not keep hidden: in the first place a false and erroneous interpretation of the Council, which would want to break with the tradition, even as regards the doctrine, an interpretation which goes so far that the pre-conciliar Church is rejected and one is allowed to consider a 'new' church, as it were reinvented from the inside, as regards the constitution of the Church, her dogma, custom and law'.*

Church's norms prior to the Council. Both Popes worked on the restoration of the doctrine that was damaged so heavily by the offensive of false interpretations after the Council. They indeed, allowed the faithful attached to the norms prior to the Council to remain so: these norms were never abrogated. This has resulted in a [slight growth of the male religious memberships between 2004 and 2012](#), by which the severe decline of the Congregations following the evolutionary liberal ideology has been compensated by an overall growth of the others that is similar to the growth prior to the Council.

#### 4.2. 2013 - ...

Since Pope Francis took over the chair of Peter a [renewed decline of male religious memberships](#) [1] is observed. He is the first post-Council Pope that was not involved in the Council itself, but educated during the Council and its direct aftermath. This period is characterized by a dissident climate that disobeyed Pope Paul VI and the hermeneutic rule set by Pope John XXIII and repeated by Pope Paul VI: *'never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers'*.

Apparently, this dissident evolutionary liberal spirit of the Jesuits reflects the way Pope Francis is acting. The evidence for this behaviour we see clearly manifested by:

- Rejecting the norms prior to the Council, as evidenced by:
  - suppressing the Franciscans of the Immaculate for becoming attached to the religious and liturgical norms prior to the Council;
  - accusing those attached to these prior norms of being “*rigid*”;
- Decoupling between pastoral practice and doctrine, by which the pastoral practice lacks any clear objective and absolute norms, such as in the post-synodic apostolic exhortation *Amoris laetitia*;
- Decoupling between mercy and justice, by which mercy lacks any on objective and absolute norms to judge;
- Replacing absolute and objective norms by a subjective orthopraxis founded on general feelings, by which the main goal of the Church of saving souls, has been replaced by saving the physical world;
- The reply to journalists of *'Who am I to judge'*, expresses very clearly the evolutionary liberal ideology, where *'men should act on their own judgment'*. This ideology does not consider homosexual activity as a disordered form of sexuality, and therefore it is also not a moral crime in itself. Consequently, it denies that the homosexual activity in itself is a potential intrinsic source for sexual abuses and suggests that it only becomes a crime if it is *'driven by coercion'*. Therefore they claim that clerical sexual abuse to be a sin of clericalism, in which the moral power over their victims is misused. Following this logic, it becomes very clear that only in case of minors do they consider sexual abuse as a crime. Not because of the sexual abuse itself, but because the victim could not defend themselves. And since it is considered to be a sin of clericalism, the abusers were generally only transferred without a true punishment. Isn't this a false mercy decoupled from justice, which had led to a fundamental lack of compassion towards the victims?

[Pope Paul VI in 1972:](#)

*'... from some crack the smoke of Satan has entered the temple of God.'*

Thus concrete measures against the former Cardinal McCarrick, were first taken after his sexual abuse of a minor became indeed clearly known. In accordance with the evolutionary liberal ideology, the sexual abuses reported in 2013, were not considered as a crime by Pope

Francis, these concerned adult seminarians only. On doing this he had demonstrated a disregard for *the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers* and a lack of justice as well as a lack of compassion towards the victims;

- Arguing by means of modern evolutionary liberal ideology instead of deepening the Doctrine. A clear example of the definitive influence of this liberal ideology on Pope Francis, is the proposition that the death penalty becomes inadmissible, as an organic development of the general opinion; which nowadays considers it as contrary to human dignity. Interestingly the previous two Popes still considered the death penalty as undesirable but still legal. This would require a fundamental examination and deepening of the doctrine concerning the relationship between (un-)desirability and legality of the death penalty.

Let us briefly examine this last point in the light of the Gospels:

- John 19:11: *Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.*
- Luke 23:39-43: *And one of those robbers who were hanged, blasphemed him, saying: If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering, rebuked him, saying: Neither dost thou fear God, seeing thou art condemned under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this man hath done no evil. And he said to Jesus: Lord, remember me when thou shalt come into thy kingdom. And Jesus said to him: Amen I say to thee, this day thou shalt be with me in paradise.*

In John 19:11 Jesus confirms that the power Pilate has, to have Him crucified, has been given from above. Herewith, Jesus confirmed that the power of the State regarding the death penalty

[Pope Benedict XIV in 2005:](#)

*It was obvious that the media would take the side of those who seemed to them more closely allied with their world*

has come from God. And in Luke 23:39-43 Christ did not deny the words of the “good” robber, who said about the death penalty: “*we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds*”. Then, this robber explained why it was a sin of Pilate and a greater sin for those who had delivered Jesus to Pilate: “*this man hath done no evil*”. Then one can observe the true manifestation of Mercy and Justice by Christ, in saying to the “good” robber: “*Amen, I say to thee, this day thou shalt be with me in paradise*”. After the

“good” robber said to Jesus: “*Neither dost thou fear God, seeing thou art condemned under the same condemnation? ... Lord, remember me when thou shalt come into thy kingdom*”. Mercy only for the robber who converts. Isn't this a fundamentally clear example of both Justice and Mercy in action? So, while the Gospel confirms the death penalty is coming from God as a clear responsibility of the State, then any suggested development that ends up into the contrary is indeed then a rupture that breaks with the Gospel. Isn't it that the death penalty reminds the liberals of objective and absolute norms regarding Justice and Mercy, especially with regard to the final judgment? Isn't that exactly what the liberals do not accept?

Can we state from this, that Pope Francis repeated here the worldly opinions of the liberals, demonstrating that he has a blind spot for the consequences of the teachings, which depart *from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers*? Similarly is he not aware that Pope John XXIII in his opening address had coupled the use of the *medicine-of-mercy* with the explanation of the validity of the Church's full doctrine? Pope John XXIII did not abrogate any condemnations made by his predecessors, but explicitly by condemning the ‘*uncertain opinions of men*’, the ‘*new-born errors*’, a ‘*lack of fallacious teaching, opinions, and concepts to be guarded against*’ [26], he confirmed the

condemnation of the main principles of the New Theology by Pius XII in his Encyclical *Humani Generis*.

## 5. Conclusion

We can conclude, therefore, that we must blame the dissident theologians who taught Pope Francis, and who transformed the true Ignatian Spirit into a dissident liberal one. Tragically, it is in this dissident liberal spirit, that Pope Francis has been drowned like so many other Jesuits, and effectively brainwashed for such a long period. Evidently, this had its consequence for the Society of Jesus in general too, as demonstrated by the [ongoing severe decline in numbers of Jesuits](#) [1] that indicates a lack of true spiritual inspiration.

Therefore Pope Francis has to be considered as a fruit and in the same time as a victim of the liberal wing that hijacked the Second Vatican Council, as so many Cardinals, Bishops, priests and faithful are today. So he certainly needs our prayers so that, as St. Peter initially denied to know Jesus thrice, similarly Pope Francis, who has been drowned into and as such betrayed for more than 55 years by the dissident liberal spirit of the Jesuits, may have a change of heart.

*Pope St. John XXIII had set the primary substantive rule for the Council itself as well as the guideline for interpreting the Council documents not in a vague kind of continuity with, but explicitly in unity and accordance with the Doctrine as taught by the Fathers.*

## Part IV. References

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year	Jesuits			Franciscans			Salesians			Capucines			Benedictines			Dominicans		
	number	growth/decline		number	growth/decline		number	growth/decline		number	growth/decline		number	growth/decline		number	growth/decline	
	per 31/12	number	%	per 31/12	number	%	per 31/12	number	%	per 31/12	number	%	per 31/12	number	%	per 31/12	number	%
1950	29032			24993			16430			14175			10500			8000		
1951	29523	491	1,69%	25207	214	0,9%	16662	232	1,41%	14188	13	0,09%	10750	250	2,38%	8140	140	1,75%
1952	30014	491	1,66%	25421	214	0,8%	16893	232	1,39%	14200	13	0,09%	11000	250	2,33%	8280	140	1,72%
1953	30486	472	1,57%	25634	214	0,8%	17125	232	1,37%	14213	13	0,09%	11250	250	2,27%	8420	140	1,69%
1954	30958	472	1,55%	25848	214	0,8%	17356	232	1,35%	14225	13	0,09%	11500	250	2,22%	8560	140	1,66%
1955	31947	989	3,19%	26000	152	0,6%	17891	535	3,08%	14363	138	0,97%	11500	0	0,00%	8527	-33	-0,39%
1956	32936	989	3,10%	26151	152	0,6%	18426	535	2,99%	14500	138	0,96%	11500	0	0,00%	8494	-33	-0,39%
1957	33732	796	2,42%	26320	169	0,6%	18961	535	2,90%	15138	638	4,40%	11500	0	0,00%	8729	235	2,77%
1958	34013	281	0,83%	26241	-79	-0,3%	19496	535	2,82%	15290	152	1,00%	11500	0	0,00%	9119	390	4,46%
1959	34293	281	0,82%	26162	-79	-0,3%	20031	535	2,74%	15442	152	0,99%	11500	0	0,00%	9508	390	4,27%
1960	34687	394	1,15%	26519	357	1,4%	20545	514	2,57%	15624	182	1,18%	11658	158	1,37%	9737	229	2,41%
1961	35086	399	1,15%	26876	357	1,3%	21048	503	2,45%	15708	84	0,54%	11816	158	1,35%	9841	104	1,07%
1962	35437	351	1,00%	27006	130	0,5%	21202	154	0,73%	15779	71	0,45%	11973	158	1,34%	10002	161	1,63%
1963	35788	351	0,99%	27136	130	0,5%	21355	154	0,72%	15849	71	0,45%	12131	158	1,32%	10150	149	1,48%
1964	35968	180	0,50%	27140	4	0,0%	21779	424	1,98%	15751	-98	-0,62%	12111	-20	-0,17%	10091	-59	-0,58%
1965	36038	70	0,19%	27009	-131	-0,5%	22202	424	1,95%	15838	87	0,55%	12090	-20	-0,17%	10191	100	0,99%
1966	36038	0	0,00%	26940	-69	-0,3%	22626	424	1,91%	15710	-128	-0,81%	12070	-20	-0,17%	10003	-188	-1,84%
1967	35573	-465	-1,29%	26666	-274	-1,0%	22810	184	0,81%	15575	-135	-0,86%	12070	0	0,00%	9946	-57	-0,57%
1968	34762	-811	-2,28%	26125	-541	-2,0%	22213	-597	-2,62%	15032	-543	-3,49%	11692	-378	-3,13%	9809	-137	-1,37%
1969	33828	-934	-2,69%	25584	-541	-2,1%	21617	-597	-2,69%	14489	-543	-3,61%	11314	-378	-3,23%	9673	-137	-1,39%
1970	32787	-1042	-3,08%	25042	-541	-2,1%	21020	-597	-2,76%	13946	-543	-3,75%	10936	-378	-3,34%	9536	-137	-1,41%
1971	31745	-1042	-3,18%	24501	-541	-2,2%	20423	-597	-2,84%	13403	-543	-3,89%	10819	-117	-1,07%	9399	-137	-1,43%
1972	31303	-443	-1,39%	23966	-535	-2,2%	19935	-488	-2,39%	13165	-238	-1,78%	10819	0	0,00%	8907	-492	-5,24%
1973	30860	-443	-1,41%	23432	-535	-2,2%	19447	-488	-2,45%	12926	-238	-1,81%	10819	0	0,00%	8414	-492	-5,53%
1974	29636	-1224	-3,97%	22897	-535	-2,3%	18959	-488	-2,51%	12688	-238	-1,84%	10819	0	0,00%	7922	-492	-5,85%
1975	29018	-618	-2,09%	22253	-644	-2,8%	18438	-521	-2,75%	12688	0	0,00%	10483	-336	-3,11%	7776	-146	-1,84%
1976	28528	-490	-1,69%	22304	51	0,2%	17917	-521	-2,83%	12655	-33	-0,26%	10147	-336	-3,21%	7632	-144	-1,85%
1977	28038	-490	-1,72%	21504	-800	-3,6%	17535	-382	-2,13%	12475	-180	-1,42%	10147	0	0,00%	7738	106	1,39%
1978	27726	-312	-1,11%	21326	-178	-0,8%	17380	-155	-0,88%	12342	-133	-1,06%	9927	-220	-2,17%	7397	-341	-4,41%
1979	27249	-477	-1,72%	20996	-330	-1,5%	17225	-155	-0,89%	12210	-133	-1,08%	9706	-220	-2,22%	7319	-78	-1,05%
1980	27082	-167	-0,61%	20667	-330	-1,6%	17070	-155	-0,90%	12077	-133	-1,09%	9486	-220	-2,27%	7242	-78	-1,06%
1981	26905	-177	-0,65%	20337	-330	-1,6%	16915	-155	-0,91%	11944	-133	-1,10%	9522	36	0,38%	7164	-78	-1,07%
1982	26778	-127	-0,47%	20277	-60	-0,3%	16979	64	0,38%	11946	2	0,02%	9489	-33	-0,35%	7085	-79	-1,10%
1983	26664	-114	-0,43%	20217	-60	-0,3%	17042	64	0,37%	11948	2	0,02%	9456	-33	-0,35%	7006	-79	-1,12%
1984	26550	-114	-0,43%	20157	-60	-0,3%	17106	64	0,37%	11949	2	0,02%	9423	-33	-0,35%	6927	-79	-1,13%
1985	26584	33,5	0,13%	20097	-60	-0,3%	17169	64	0,37%	11951	2	0,02%	9390	-33	-0,35%	6848	-79	-1,14%
1986	26617	33,5	0,13%	20037	-60	-0,3%	17233	64	0,37%	11953	2	0,02%	9357	-33	-0,35%	6769	-79	-1,15%
1987	26353	-264	-0,99%	19831	-206	-1,0%	17202	-32	-0,18%	11894	-59	-0,49%	9291	-66	-0,70%	6802	33	0,48%
1988	26089	-264	-1,00%	19626	-206	-1,0%	17170	-32	-0,18%	11835	-59	-0,50%	9226	-66	-0,71%	6834	33	0,48%
1989	25757	-332	-1,27%	19420	-206	-1,0%	17139	-32	-0,18%	11776	-59	-0,50%	9160	-66	-0,71%	6867	33	0,48%
1990	25594	-163	-0,63%	19214	-206	-1,1%	17107	-32	-0,18%	11717	-59	-0,50%	9094	-66	-0,72%	6899	33	0,47%
1991	24811	-783	-3,06%	19126	-88	-0,5%	17606	499	2,92%	11805	88	0,75%	9014	-80	-0,88%	6775	-124	-1,80%
1992	24028	-783	-3,16%	19038	-88	-0,5%	17596	-10	-0,06%	11738	-67	-0,57%	8930	-84	-0,93%	6675	-100	-1,48%
1993	23570	-458	-1,91%	18714	-324	-1,7%	17587	-10	-0,06%	11672	-67	-0,57%	8846	-84	-0,94%	6575	-100	-1,50%
1994	23228	-343	-1,45%	18391	-324	-1,7%	17577	-10	-0,06%	11605	-67	-0,57%	8762	-84	-0,95%	6475	-100	-1,52%
1995	22885	-343	-1,47%	18067	-324	-1,8%	17567	-10	-0,06%	11538	-67	-0,58%	8678	-84	-0,96%	6375	-100	-1,54%
1996	22580	-305	-1,33%	17921	-146	-0,8%	17492	-75	-0,43%	11491	-47	-0,41%	8528	-150	-1,73%	6374	-1	-0,01%
1997	22268	-313	-1,38%	17774	-146	-0,8%	17417	-75	-0,43%	11444	-47	-0,41%	8377	-150	-1,76%	6373	-1	-0,01%
1998	21955	-313	-1,40%	17628	-146	-0,8%	17342	-75	-0,43%	11397	-47	-0,41%	8227	-150	-1,80%	6373	-1	-0,01%
1999	21633	-322	-1,47%	17481	-146	-0,8%	17267	-75	-0,43%	11350	-47	-0,41%	8076	-150	-1,83%	6372	-1	-0,01%
2000	21490	-143	-0,66%	17335	-146	-0,8%	17192	-75	-0,43%	11303	-47	-0,41%	7926	-150	-1,86%	6371	-1	-0,01%
2001	21147	-343	-1,60%	16958	-377	-2,2%	17056	-136	-0,79%	11321	18	0,16%	7995	69	0,87%	6359	-12	-0,19%
2002	20743	-404	-1,91%	16642	-316	-1,9%	16911	-145	-0,85%	11465	144	1,27%	7967	-28	-0,35%	6314	-45	-0,71%
2003	20406	-337	-1,62%	16317	-325	-2,0%	16804	-107	-0,63%	11302	-163	-1,42%	7997	30	0,38%	6262	-52	-0,82%
2004	20170	-236	-1,16%	16013	-304	-1,9%	16682	-122	-0,73%	11321	19	0,17%	7860	-137	-1,71%	6137	-125	-2,00%
2005	19850	-320	-1,59%	15794	-219	-1,4%	16567	-115	-0,69%	11229	-92	-0,81%	7798	-62	-0,79%	6109	-28	-0,46%
2006	19573	-277	-1,40%	15527	-268	-1,7%	16452	-115	-0,70%	11160	-69	-0,61%	7726	-73	-0,93%	6063	-47	-0,76%
2007	19216	-357	-1,82%	15259	-268	-1,7%	16336	-115	-0,70%	11091	-69	-0,62%	7653	-73	-0,94%	6016	-47	-0,77%
2008	18711	-505	-2,63%	14992	-268	-1,8%	16221	-115	-0,71%	11022	-69	-0,62%	7581	-73	-0,95%	5970	-47	-0,77%
2009	18516	-195	-1,04%	14724	-268	-1,8%	16106	-115	-0,71%	10953	-69	-0,63%	7508	-73	-0,96%	5923	-47	-0,78%
2010	18139	-377	-2,04%	14516	-208	-1,4%	15935	-171	-1,06%	10865	-88	-0,80%	7438	-70	-0,93%	5906	-17	-0,29%
2011	17908	-231	-1,27%	14247	-269	-1,9%	15760	-175	-1,10%	10771	-94	-0,87%	7528	90	1,21%	5932	26	0,44%
2012	17676	-232	-1,30%	14123	-124	-0,9%	15573	-187	-1,19%	10786	15	0,14%	7231	-297	-3,95%	5947	15	0,25%
2013	17287	-389	-2,20%	14043	-80	-0,6%	15536	-37	-0,24%	10659	-127	-1,18%	7236	5	0,07%	6058	111	1,87%
2014	17008	-279	-1,61%	14046	3	0,0%	15378	-158	-1,02%	10629	-30	-0,28%	7079	-157	-2,17%	6135	77	1,27%
2015	16740	-268	-1,58%	13632	-414	-2,9%	15270	-108	-0,70%	10598	-31	-0,29%	6970	-109	-1,54%	5769	-366	-5,97%
2016	16378	-362	-2,16%	13513	-119	-0,9%	15033	-237	-1,55%	10572	-26	-0,25%	6865	-105	-1,51%	5810	41	0,71%
2017	16088	-290	-1,77%	13348	-165	-1,22%	14884	-149	-0,99%	10538	-34	-0,32%	6725	-140	-2,04%	5742	-68	-1,17%

Data overview of the memberships of the six largest Institutes of Consecrated Life

Green=growth; red=decline; yellow=constant; the darker, the more.

Source of data: <http://www.catholic-hierarchy.org/country/xrel.html>

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*By allowing these lethal fruits being produced, the Holy Spirit respected the free will of man and, in a wonderful way, He also protected the Pastoral Council against full heresies by leaving open the possibility to interpret the Council's documents by free will in accordance to the rule set by the law-maker of the Council, Pope John XXIII: 'never depart from the sacred patrimony of truth received from the Fathers'. And, because the Council was set up as Pastoral, the Doctrine of Church has the last word undoubtedly 'without attenuations or alteration'.*

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<http://www.ecclesiadei.nl>  
[info@ecclesiadei.nl](mailto:info@ecclesiadei.nl)



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