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HELP TO DEFEND OUR CATHOLIC HERITAGE AGAINST THE NEW PAGAN THREAT



"HAIL GLORIOUS ST. PATRICK"

The Cleaned House

"And when an unclean spirit is gone out of a man he walketh through dry places seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith: I will return into my house from whence I came out. And coming he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then he goeth, and taketh with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is made worse than the first. So shall it be also to this wicked generation." (Matthew 12:43-45)

I was speaking to a man who lives in England, about the decline of the Catholic faith in Ireland and the forthcoming pagan festival that has been launched by our Government. He said that it reminded him of the above parable told by Jesus.

It seems to me that the man in this parable of Jesus could be an analogy for Ireland. St Patrick drove the demons out of Ireland and so began our Catholic journey, and we became known far and wide for our great devotion to the Catholic Faith. However, it also seems to me that as a Nation we became complacent and perhaps a little self-satisfied in our Catholicism. We began to glory in ourselves rather than in God the Father, who gave us the Catholic Faith through St Patrick and the other Irish saints and martyrs.

Defending Ireland's Catholic Heritage

In this issue of Catholic Voice, we are launching our campaign to defend Ireland's Catholic heritage from the new Paganism which threatens to sweep over our Nation. The influences of evil already seem to dominate Irish culture. Our government, through the launch of the Pagan 'Púca' festival, are inviting the evil spirits of the Druids back into Ireland. The danger is, that, with the arrival of these evil spirits, the Irish Nation may end up like the man in the parable of Jesus.

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be also to this wicked generation." (Matthew 12:45)

More than one person sent me a link to an online article called "Armageddon in the Auld Sod; The Conflict Between Neo-Paganism & Conservative Catholicism in Modern Ireland". The article begins;

"It was once known as the Isle of Saints and scholars, a title it proudly held for 1,500 years. But now Ireland has embraced a different kind of Pride: the rainbow-flag waving, Shout-Your-Abortion kind. And the learned Holy men have been replaced by witches'n'warlocks who would not look out of place in a 1970s Hammer House of Horror movie – though it would be a Hate Crime to say so."

The article also mentions that Paganism is now a recognised religion in Ireland and that the Health Services Executive recently issued a directive to have Paganism listed as an option on all hospital

'Patient Admissions System' (PAS). I visited the 'Pagan Life Rites' website to confirm this and found that they have a list of 'clergy' who will carry out a range of pagan ceremonies.

The site confirmed that they had been working in co-operation with the HSE to facilitate the changes to the PAS which now includes the following options in many of our state-run hospitals.

Pagan – (if patient does not fall within categories below or is not specific)

Pagan – Wicca

Pagan – Shamanism

Pagan – Heathenry

Pagan – Druidry

Faithful Catholics who have been following the trends in Ireland will not be surprised to learn about these Pagan initiatives. Many of us have come across the existence of a growing Paganism in our country. Some years ago, I visited a Mass Rock up in Donegal with some traditional Benedictine Monks. When we got to the rock, there was a Pagan symbol marked out on it with some twigs. I would not be surprised to learn that this Mass Rock is now being used for Pagan ceremonies.

State sponsored Paganism

Our Government now wishes to endorse Paganism by launching their major international three-day festival in counties Louth and Meath. As Catholics we must oppose this festival, but we must do so in a Catholic way. We must also realise that this is a spiritual battle against the powers of darkness and so there needs to be a spiritual crusade to ward off these evil spirits from our land.

The direct conflict against the evil spirits is mainly a job for our Irish bishops and their exorcists, but lay people also have a role to play. It is important that we know our role and do not seek to engage directly against the evil spirits or the fate of the sons of Sceva may fall on us, as related in the Acts of the Apostles.

"Now some also of the Jewish exorcists who went about, attempted to invoke over them that had evil spirits, the name of the Lord Jesus, saying: I conjure you by Jesus, whom Paul preacheth. And there were certain men, seven sons of Sceva, a Jew, a chief priest, that did this. But the wicked spirit, answering, said to them: Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you? And the man in whom

the wicked spirit was, leaping upon them, and mastering them both, prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded." (Acts 19-13-16)

In America, Michael Matt of the traditional 'Remnant' newspaper, recently issued a call to 'Unite the Clans'. The idea comes from the Mel Gibson film 'Braveheart', where it depicts William Wallace meeting up with Robert the Bruce. Wallace asks Robert in the name of Christ to unite the Scottish clans against a common enemy. In America, Michael Matt has organised the 'Catholic Identity Conference' with the tagline;

"Calling all faithful Catholics who've had enough of the madness and want their Church back!"

Protect the Provinces Campaign

Catholics in Ireland must also unite if we are to ever successfully restore our country to the Kingship of Christ. We are launching our 'Protect the Provinces' campaign and we hope to have Catholic events in each of the four provinces of Ireland; Ulster, Leinster, Connacht & Munster.

Our Leinster event will take place in Meath with Latin Mass, a Rosary procession and a public recitation of St Patrick's Breastplate. We will announce the exact details later, but this event is scheduled for Wednesday 30th October, the day before the government's Pagan festival starts.

I have been in contact with someone in Belfast who is hoping to organise a similar event in Northern Ireland to cover Ulster. If you live in the Connacht or Munster province and would like to become involved, then please get in touch with us.

We would also encourage local groups to organise similar events in their own area. It doesn't require great numbers of people, a small group of faithful Catholics gathering for Holy Mass, the Rosary and a public recitation of St Patrick's Breastplate to invoke Our Lady's protection and the blessing of St Patrick on our island of Ireland once more, can have a powerful influence for good. If you can organise something in your area, please get in touch with us and we will co-ordinate and publicise the various events around the country.

The 'Irish Society for Christian Civilisation' have organised a petition to our Bishops asking them to warn faithful Catholics of the dangers of taking part in a Pagan festival. You can sign their petition online by visiting their website www.isfcc.org.

Anyone involved with the Rosary on the Coast movement could also organise an event along the same lines. The more people that are praying against this Pagan incursion, the better.

It is quite possible, even probable, that we face very dark times ahead for our Catholic faith. There seems to be a global movement against the Catholic faith, which has even infiltrated the institutional Catholic Church. It is vitally important that we cling tightly to our Catholic faith and that we defend the faith publicly and bear public witness to it.

We are no longer witnesses, but deserters, if we do not speak openly and publicly

In May 2017, Cardinal Caffarra explained what Catholics must do:

"Within the confrontation between creation and anti-creation, we are called upon to TESTIFY. This testimony is our mode of being in the world. Testimony means to say, to speak, to announce openly and publicly. Someone who does not testify in this way is like a soldier who flees at the decisive moment in a battle. We are no longer witnesses, but deserters, if we do not speak openly and publicly."

Let us be resolved not to abandon the Catholic Church in this time of great trial and let us steadfastly embrace the crosses that come our way. Let us deepen our prayer life and our love for our crucified saviour, Jesus Christ. In this time when many Catholics seem to care more for the planet and the environment than they do for the salvation of souls and the law of God, let us join our hearts to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to the Immaculate Heart of Our Blessed Mother Mary so that we may become lights in the darkness.

At the same time let us remember that all of this is God's work and we are mere instruments. Dom Chautard warns us of the folly of forgetting this in his highly recommended book 'The Soul of the Apostolate':

"Men called to the honour of working with the Saviour in transmitting this divine life must then look on themselves as mere channels, whose function is to draw from this unique source.

The apostle who would disregard this principle and think that he can produce the least sign of supernatural life without borrowing it all from our Lord, would make one think that his theological ignorance was equalled only by his silly self-conceit.

But if the apostle, while recognising in theory that the Redeemer is the primary cause of all divine life, were to forget this truth in his action, and blinded by a foolish presumption insulting to our Lord, were to count but little on anything except his own strength, this would be a

lesser disorder than the preceding, but one just as insufferable in the eyes of God.

To reject the truth, or to ignore it in one's actions, always constitutes an intellectual disorder in doctrine or practice. It is the denial of a principle which should always inspire our conduct.

Obviously the disorder will be still more marked if the light of truth, instead of shining clear, finds the heart of the apostle in opposition to the God of all light through sin or voluntary sloth.

Now for a man, while busied in good works, to behave in practice as if Jesus were not the sole principle of supernatural life is what Cardinal Mermillod has called "the heresy of good works".

With this expression he brands the folly of an apostle, who forgetting his secondary and dependent part would look for the success of his apostolic work from his own personal activity and talents. Is not this a denial in practice of a great part of the Treatise on Grace? This conclusion shocks you at first sight; nevertheless when you think it over a while it is only too true.

So let us humble ourselves in the realisation that we are often outclassed, out-financed, out-performed and out-manoeuvred by those who follow worldly ways. Let this not make us despondent, but rather, let it deepen our knowledge that without God we can do nothing whilst at the same time deepening our trust and our dependency on God.

Let us join together then and let us face our common enemies together for the salvation of souls. Please support us in our initiatives to promote the Catholic Faith in Ireland and

please get in touch to let us know if you can help to organise a Holy mass, a Rosary or a public recitation of St Patrick's Breastplate in your area.

We are also just putting the finishing touches to our September - October newsletter which will look at the HPV vaccination programme for boys in secondary schools, the Puca festival and the forthcoming RSE programme in Catholic schools. If you would like to be on our mailing list for this newsletter then please send your details to John Lacken - see contact details in the advert on this page.

We are more than happy to organise talks on these matters anywhere in Ireland. If you would like us to come to speak in your area, then please get in touch. If you can spread the word about the meeting locally, we will organise the rest. Let us fight the good fight for the glory and Honour of God. May God bless you.