



'Legio Sanctae Familiae'

The Legion of the Holy Family

Under the Patronage of
The Sacred Heart of Jesus
The Immaculate Heart of Mary
The Most Chaste Heart of St Joseph



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THE TRADITIONAL CATHOLIC FAMILY

The Traditional Catholic Family

Bedrock of the Catholic Church

Bedrock of Society & Culture



A Handbook For Matrimony

Legio Sanctae Familiae

I have booked the venues for the final eleven counties that I have to visit with my Book Launch and presentation on the family (see inside back cover). These will take place over four weeks, from September to October, with a break of one week in between. The feedback from the presentations so far has been very good and whilst some of what is covered may come as a shock, those who attended were glad to be informed of what our governments are proposing to teach to children.

At one of the venues I was asked if I had managed to look at the programme that is being recommended by the Irish bishops. This is called 'Flourish' and, whilst I was aware of the programme, I had not managed to look through it. I was told that one parent with young children who had seen it was not impressed and said that there was objectionable material in it. A couple of weeks later, a grandmother contacted me and asked the same question about the Flourish programme. She then sent me some of the contents of the Flourish programme.

It is quite upsetting to learn that the Irish bishops have recommended an RSE programme which instructs the teachers to show a sexually explicit video, produced by the Irish Health Services Executive (HSE), to children in sixth class. The age range of these children would be from eleven to thirteen years of age. I would ask for your prayers for our bishops. I have been in contact with all of them but the responses from some have not been encouraging. I am currently maintaining contact with three of our bishops asking them to call for the withdrawal of the Flourish programme from our Catholic primary schools and for the Episcopal Commission for Catholic Education and Formation of the Irish bishops conference to withdraw their support for this programme as it promotes a form of child abuse.

The Catholic Church Opposes Graphic Classroom Sex-Education

That the video recommendation of the Flourish programme constitutes a form of child abuse, is not just my opinion. It is the teaching of the Pontifical Council for the Family which is based on centuries of Catholic thought. The Pontifical Council for the Family published a document entitled “The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality” in 1995. Point number 139 of that document states the following.

139. Another abuse occurs whenever sex education is given to children by teaching them all the intimate details of genital relationships, even in a graphic way.

In my correspondence with the bishops I included some sexually explicit images from the video which I would not print in this newsletter. Young children are being exposed to sexually explicit videos in sixth class in Catholic primary schools on the recommendation of the Irish bishops. Adults are showing children in primary schools sexually explicit videos which the Pontifical Council for the Family has called a form of child abuse. At the time of writing, I am not aware of anything being done by any of our bishops to protect the children of Ireland from this form of abuse? Why is this?

Please pray for our bishops and please contact your own bishop to ask them why they are not opposing this form of child abuse?

It seems that the Irish bishops seek to be compliant with State laws governing Relationships and Sexuality Education in Catholic schools, without first questioning the validity and motivation of such laws. The Catholic Church has a long history of being opposed to explicit sex education in a group setting.

The Roman Catechism, or Catechism of the Council of Trent, as it is also known, was published almost 460 years ago, in 1566. The following excerpts contain a warning to priests concerning instruction on the sixth commandment.

Importance Of Careful Instruction On This (6th) Commandment

In the explanation of this Commandment, however, the pastor has need of great caution and prudence, and should treat with great delicacy a subject which requires brevity rather than copiousness of exposition. For it is to be feared that if he explained in too great detail or at length the ways in which this Commandment is violated, he might unintentionally speak of subjects which, instead of extinguishing, usually serve rather to inflame corrupt passion.

As, however, the precept contains many things which cannot be passed over in silence, the pastor should explain them in their proper order and place.

Custody Of The Eyes

But the eyes, in particular, are the inlets to criminal passion, and to this refer these words of our Lord: If thine eye scandalize thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee. The Prophets, also, frequently speak to the same effect. I made a covenant with mine eyes, says Job, that I would not so much as think upon a virgin. Finally, there are on record innumerable examples of the evils which have their origin in the indulgence of the eyes. It was thus that David sinned, thus that the king of Sichem fell, and thus also that the elders sinned who calumniated Susanna.

Avoidance Of Impure Conversation, Reading, Pictures

In the same class are to be numbered soft and obscene books which must be avoided no less than indecent pictures. All such things possess a fatal influence in exciting to unlawful attractions, and in inflaming the mind of youth. (Roman Catechism - Excerpts on the 6th Commandment)

Modern sex-education methods ignore these wise words which form part of the constant teachings of the Catholic Church. It is important for Catholics, especially Catholic parents, to realise that the modern methods of sex-education, which are championed by our governments, were developed by those who promote sexual immorality such as International Planned Parenthood. Others, who do not accept Catholic Church teaching on human sexuality are also involved. The sex-education programmes were specifically developed as a means of circumventing Catholic Church teaching under the guise of reducing teenage pregnancy. Sadly, many of our bishops have compromised with the world on this matter and are putting our children in grave danger by exposing them to occasions of sin.



Pope Leo XIII warned Catholic parents to be on our guard against those who would corrupt children in schools as far back as 1890. Here is a quote from his encyclical letter *Sapientiae Christianae*.

“This is a suitable moment for us to exhort especially heads of families to govern their households according to these precepts, and to be solicitous without failing for the right training of their children. The family may be regarded as the cradle of civil society, and it is in great measure within the circle of family life that the destiny of the States is fostered. Whence it is that they who would break away from Christian discipline are working to corrupt family life, and to destroy it utterly, root and branch. From such an unholy purpose they allow not themselves to be turned aside by the reflection that it cannot, even in any degree, be carried out without inflicting cruel outrage on the parents.

*These hold from nature their right of training the children to whom they have given birth, with the obligation super-added of shaping and directing the education of their little ones to the end for which God vouchsafed the privilege of transmitting the gift of life. It is, then, incumbent on parents to strain every nerve to ward off such an outrage, and to strive manfully to have and to hold exclusive authority to direct the education of their offspring, as is fitting, in a Christian manner, and **first and foremost to keep them away from schools where there is risk of their drinking in the poison of impiety.**” (Sapientiae Christianae 42 emphasis added)*

It is incredibly sad that Catholics parents in Ireland today, have to reprove their own bishops who, through the Flourish programme, are promoting the very *poison of impiety* spoken of by Pope Leo XIII in *Sapientiae Christianae*!

Pope Pius XI, in his encyclical *Divini Illius Magistri* of 1929, re-affirmed the need for caution in this area and again warned against the dangers of exposing young minds to matters of a sexual nature. He also spoke out against programmes similar in nature to the Flourish programme which is recommended by the Irish Bishops.

“Another very grave danger is that naturalism which nowadays invades the field of education in that most delicate matter of purity of morals. Far too common is the error of those who with dangerous assurance and under an ugly term propagate a so-called sex-education, falsely imagining they can forearm youths against the dangers of sensuality by means purely natural, such as a foolhardy initiation and precautionary instruction for all indiscriminately, even in public; and, worse still, by exposing them at an early age to the occasions, in order to accustom them, so it is argued, and as it were to harden them against such dangers.

Such persons grievously err in refusing to recognize the inborn weakness of human nature, and the law of which the Apostle speaks, fighting against the law of the mind; and also in ignoring the experience of facts, from which it is clear that, particularly in young people, evil practices are the effect not so much of ignorance of intellect as of weakness of a will exposed to dangerous occasions, and unsupported by the means of grace.

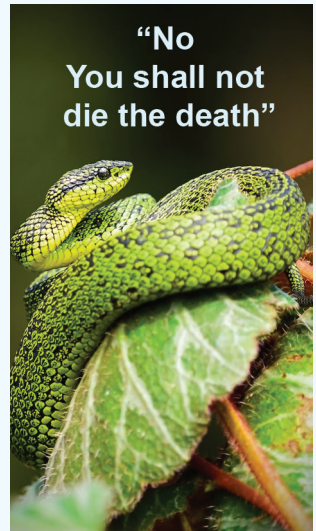
In this extremely delicate matter, if, all things considered, some private instruction is found necessary and opportune, from those who hold from God the commission to teach and who have the grace of state, every precaution must be taken. Such precautions are well known in traditional Christian education, and are adequately described by Antoniano cited above, when he says:

Such is our misery and inclination to sin, that often in the very things considered to be remedies against sin, we find occasions for and inducements to sin itself. Hence it is of the highest importance that a good father, while discussing with his son a matter so delicate, should be well on his guard and not descend to details, nor refer to the various ways in which this infernal hydra destroys with its poison so large a portion of the world; otherwise it may happen that instead of extinguishing this fire, he unwittingly stirs or kindles it in the simple and tender heart of the child. Speaking generally, during the period of childhood it suffices to employ those remedies which produce the double effect of opening the door to the virtue of purity and closing the door upon vice.” (Divini Illius Magistri 65-67)

Pope Pius XII in his address to Catholic fathers of 1951 also spoke of this very problem. Here are some relevant excerpts.

Sexual initiation

“There is another field in which this education of public opinion is needed and this with tragic urgency. It is in this field perverted by propaganda which one, does not hesitate to call evil, even if at times it takes its origin from Catholic sources and aims at making headway among Catholics, — and even if those who promote it do not seem aware that they are deluded by the spirit of evil.



**“No
You shall not
die the death”**

Here We intend to speak of writings, books, and articles regarding sexual initiation, which today very often achieve fame as “best sellers,” and flood the whole world, taking possession of infancy, submerging the new generation, and disturbing engaged couples and the newly married...

One becomes terrified by the intolerable impudence of certain literature; and while paganism itself seemed to halt in respect before the secret of married intimacy, it is our lot to see the mystery violated and its vision, sexual and degraded, offered as a meal to the public and even to youth.

One must ask oneself if there still remains sufficiently marked out the boundaries between the initiation which is called Catholic, and the press with its erotic and obscene illustrations, which, with serious deliberation, aims at corruption, and basely exploits the lowest instincts of fallen nature for despicable interests.

...It may be admitted that these authors, under the purely theoretical aspect, keep within the limits of Catholic morals. But no less true is it that their manner of explaining sexual life is such that it acquires in the mind and conscience of the average reader the idea and value of an end in itself, making him lose sight of the true primordial purpose of matrimony, which is the procreation and upbringing of children, and the grave duty of married couples as regards this purpose — something which the literature of which We are speaking leaves too much in the background.

Secondly, this literature — if it deserves such a title — seems to hold in no account the universal experience of past, present and future ages, although such experience is based on nature itself, which attests that in moral education neither initiation nor instruction offers of itself any advantage; that indeed, it is seriously harmful and prejudicial where it is not firmly restrained by constant discipline, by a vigorous self-control, above all, by the use of the supernatural means of prayer and the Sacraments.” (Pope Pius XII - Address to Catholic Fathers, 1951)

Pope Pius XII then refers to Divini Illius Magistri saying, “Even the principles so wisely explained by Our Predecessor, Pius XI, in the Encyclical Divini Illius Magistri, regarding sexual education and the related problems, are pushed aside with a smile of compassion: Pius XI, it is said, wrote these things twenty years ago for his own times! The world has gone a long way since then!”

Pope Pius XII then tells the fathers to unite under the direction of their bishops, “to halt and curtail these movements which authorize and mask themselves under any name or patronage.”

How shocked Pope Pius XII would have been to learn that today’s bishops are the very ones promoting the sexual initiation that he condemned. How shocking it is that today, Catholic fathers are duty bound to resist the programmes being promoted to their children by their own bishops.

Pope John Paul II also addressed this issue in his Apostolic Exhortation Familiaris Consortio of 1981.

“Sex education, which is a basic right and duty of parents, must always be carried out under their attentive guidance, whether at home or in educational centres chosen and controlled by them. In this regard, the Church reaffirms the law of subsidiarity,

The Flourish Programme Must Be Withdrawn From Schools

which the school is bound to observe when it cooperates in sex education, by entering into the same spirit that animates the parents.

In this context education for chastity is absolutely essential, for it is a virtue that develops a person's authentic maturity and makes him or her capable of respecting and fostering the "nuptial meaning" of the body. Indeed Christian parents, discerning the signs of God's call, will devote special attention and care to education in virginity or celibacy as the supreme form of that self-giving that constitutes the very meaning of human sexuality.

In view of the close links between the sexual dimension of the person and his or her ethical values, education must bring the children to a knowledge of and respect for the moral norms as the necessary and highly valuable guarantee for responsible personal growth in human sexuality.

For this reason the Church is firmly opposed to an often widespread form of imparting sex information dissociated from moral principles. That would merely be an introduction to the experience of pleasure and a stimulus leading to the loss of serenity - while still in the years of innocence - by opening the way to vice."
(Familiaris Consortio 37)

Catholic parents are not in control of the primary schools and the Irish bishops have lost control over the curriculum. This is now dictated by the State which promotes contraception, same-sex marriage, and abortion, to mention just some of the evils now rampant in our society. The Irish bishops, in recommending a sexually explicit video that was produced by the HSE in Ireland, are ignoring the advice of Pope Saint John Paul II. They are promoting a video which imparts sexual information which is *dissociated from moral principles*. The video in question promotes immoral sexual activity and, as Pope Saint John Paul II says, it opens the way to vice.

Why are the Irish bishops ignoring the teachings of the Roman Catechism, Pope Leo XIII, Pope Pius XI, Pope Pius XII, Pope John Paul II and the Pontifical Council for the Family's document 'The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality'?

Here we have a situation, where I, as a Catholic parent, have raised a matter of child protection with several bishops and the response so far has been less than satisfactory. I am beginning to understand how parents whose children were abused by Catholic priests in the past, must have felt. It seems that our bishops have not really learned from the mistakes made by bishops in the past. Their primary concern seems to be to try to make the matter go away without taking any concrete action to resolve the serious problem of exposing sixth class children to a sexually explicit video produced by the abortion promoting HSE.

The Flourish programme needs to be withdrawn from our Catholic schools because it represents a danger to our children. Our Catholic bishops have a duty to protect our children from such abusive materials. Again, I ask you to pray for our bishops and to contact your own bishop to ask for the withdrawal of the Flourish programme from the Catholic primary schools of Ireland, north and south.

Book Launch & Presentation on the Family Stage 3

**All presentations begin at 8.00pm sharp.
Please note that the presentation is not suitable for children.**

DATE	COUNTY	VENUE
Tuesday 12th September	Co Down	Canal Court Hotel Merchants Quay, Newry, Co. Down
Wednesday 13th September	Co Antrim	Legion of Mary Hall 14 Cliftonville Road, Belfast
Thursday 14th September	Co Derry	The Drummond Hotel Ballykelly, Co Derry BT49 9HS
Tuesday 19th September	Co Louth	Monasterboice Inn Monasterboice, Drogheda A92 A59E
Wednesday 20th September	Co Monaghan	The Hillgrove Hotel Old Armagh Road, Monaghan, H18 RK15
Thursday 21st September	Co Cavan	The Farnham Arms Hotel 11 Main Street, Cavan H12 Y6E4
Tuesday 3rd October	Co Longford	The Longford Arms Hotel Main Street, Longford Town
Wednesday 4th October	Co Westmeath	Radisson Blu Hotel Northgate Street, Athlone N37 A8X9
Thursday 5th October	Co Offaly	The Tullamore Court Hotel O'Moore Street, Tullamore R35 D406
Tuesday 10th October	Co Armagh	Armagh City Hotel 2 Friary Road, Armagh BT60 4FR
Wednesday 11th October	Co Fermanagh	The Killyhevlin Hotel Dublin Road, Enniskillen

Financial Appeal for Legio Sanctae Familiae

Once again I am looking forward to getting out on the road to meet with Catholics who are striving to live out their lives according to the teachings of the Catholic Church. From the contents of this newsletter, one can see that it is a daunting task to be a Catholic parent. Often, our efforts to form our children in the virtues of Catholic living are undermined by our shepherds. These seem to be all too conscious of not upsetting the secular governments rather than firmly and publicly opposing the corrupt ideologies which represent a danger to the salvation of Catholic children.

It is important that we do not allow ourselves to become despondent. We must have the courage to tackle these very serious issues so that future generations of Catholic children will desire to live as Christ calls them to live.

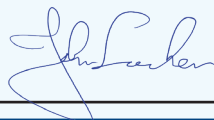
St Paul, writing in his second letter to St Timothy tells him, "Wherein I labour even unto bands, as an evildoer; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation, which is in Christ Jesus, with heavenly glory." (2 Timothy 2:9-10) He also tells St Timothy to be "strong in the grace which is Jesus Christ." (2 Timothy 2:1)

We are called to bear courageous witness to the Gospels and to stand up and defend the truths of our Catholic faith at all times. This is all the more important when the attacks against the Catholic faith are on the increase, both from without and within the Catholic Church, and when more and more are falling away because there are so few who will speak the truth with courage and with charity.

We can wonder at times what our own little efforts can achieve. The answer depends on whether we are working for Jesus or for ourselves. In the Gospel, when Jesus asks Philip where they shall get bread to feed the multitude, Andrew says to Jesus, "There is a boy here that has five barley loaves, and two fishes; but what are these among so many?" (John 6:9) Jesus then feeds the multitudes from the little that is given.

So, let us remain undaunted by the apparent enormity of the task that lies ahead of us. Let us offer the little that we have to our Lord, asking Him to feed the multitudes by multiplying our resources and our efforts. As always, I am grateful for your prayers for my apostolate and for any financial help you can give to help to cover the costs.

May God bless you,



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