

Brief on Culpability in the Days of the Great Apostasy

By Richard Joseph Michel Ibranyi

On inculpable ignorance regarding putative officeholders

If a true pope is murdered and replaced with an imposter who looks just like the true pope, most of your Catholics would believe he is the true pope. To these Catholics who are inculpably ignorant of the fact that he is not the true pope, he is a putative pope and thus must be obeyed as if he were the true pope.

Hence an apparent officeholder who does not hold the office, such as an antipope, is a putative officeholder to Catholics who are inculpably ignorant of the fact that he does not hold the office. Consequently these unsuspecting Catholics are bound to obey him under pain of sin, just as they are bound to obey a true officeholder. Hence these unsuspecting Catholics must obey his legal, non-sinful, and non-erroneous putative acts, just as they must obey the acts of a true officeholder.

(For more see RJMI book *Non-Catholics Cannot Hold Offices in the Catholic Church*: “[Putative Officeholders and Their Putative Acts](#)” and “[Officeholders and the Te Igitur Prayer of the Mass.](#)”)

On the Desecration of Catholic places

Most of the desecrations of Catholic places are in the main cathedrals and only a few in local churches. And most of them are in Europe. Hence most of the local churches were not desecrated and thus were Catholic churches; that is, if the church did not teach heresy to its flock, in which case it would be a non-Catholic church for that reason.¹ And most of the simple laymen were inculpably ignorant of the desecrations and thus were Catholic, such as St. Bernadette and St. Maria Goretti.

Before Catholics can justly denounce a so-called Catholic as an idolater or schismatic regarding desecrated places, they would need proof that the local church he was a member of was notoriously desecrated and thus was a non-Catholic church. Or that he visited a desecrated church either to attend Mass or for sightseeing, saw the desecrations, and did not condemn them and the desecrators; if he did not see or otherwise know about the desecrations, then he was inculpably ignorant and thus was not guilty of any sin.

(For more see RJMI book *The Desecration of Catholic Places*: [Culpability Regarding Desecrations.](#))

When a Catholic church becomes a non-Catholic church

One way that baptized men manifest their beliefs is by the local church they adhere to. A local church is the church that people go to for religious services and to learn their faith. If that church is a non-Catholic church, even if it calls itself a Catholic church, then all the people who adhere to it, infants included, are guilty of the mortal sin of schism because they adhere to a non-Catholic church and thus do not adhere to the true Catholic Church even if they think they do.

A Catholic church becomes a non-Catholic church in three ways: by schism, by doubting or denying a basic dogma, or by culpably doubting or denying a deeper dogma. For a church to become a non-Catholic church, the head priest of the church must either teach the schism or heresy to the flock or allow it to be taught by a priest or someone else under him. Schism or heresy is taught to the flock

¹ See the next section in this article.

and thus in the church either from the pulpit or lectures or the classroom or catechisms or newsletters or in any other way.

Hence any church that teaches the salvation heresy to its flock is a non-Catholic church, as this heresy denies the basic dogma of outside the Catholic Church there is no salvation, which means all who die and go to their particular judgment as non-members of the Catholic Church are damned forever to gehenna; such, as pagans, Christ-denying Jews, Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists, Protestants, Schismatics, nominal Catholics, Atheists, and Agnostics.

Any church that uses the *New Catechism of the Catholic Church* promulgated by apostate antipope John Paul II is a non-Catholic church because it denies several basic dogmas.

Any church or so-called Catholic that promotes or does not condemn Santa Claus is a nominal Catholic church or a nominal Catholic. Many were guilty of this well before the apostate Second Vatican Council. Santa Claus is a false god. He claims the power of God. He knows all things, sees all things, judges all things (the good and the evil), can go anywhere, and can reward or punish you. Therefore, those who promote or do not condemn Santa Claus are idolaters.

(For more, See RJMI article [How Catholic Churches Become Non-Catholic Churches](#). And see RJMI audio lecture [Nominal Catholic Churches](#).)

On heresies and heretics

(Regarding the culpability of so-called members of the Catholic Church who deny dogmas, see RJMI *Catechism Excerpt 1: On Revelation, Infallibility, Dogmas, Heresy, and Schism*: [Heresy and heretics](#).)

On schism and schismatics

(Regarding the culpability of so-called members of the Catholic Church who are in schism, see RJMI *Catechism Excerpt 1: On Revelation, Infallibility, Dogmas, Heresy, and Schism*: [Schism and Schismatics](#).)

The reason I still refer to saints as saints who were canonized by apostate antipopes

Some Catholic laymen and priests were good Catholics, especially in the early days of the Great Apostasy, which began in AD 1033, due to inculpable ignorance of the crimes of the Great Apostasy and of deeper dogmas. And some could have been saints. Therefore, all the saints that were canonized by apostate antipopes I will consider as saints until evidence proves otherwise. For example, all who belong to the Vatican II Church in these latter days of the Great Apostasy are nominal Catholics and thus are not saints. Canonizations were not instituted until around the 10th century. Before that, saints were first venerated by the popular consent of Catholics and then eventually declared so by local bishops.

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