



II Timothy 2:9

The Gospel Catholic

The sole purpose of this publication is to promote God's message of salvation through faith alone in the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Additional free literature is available upon request.

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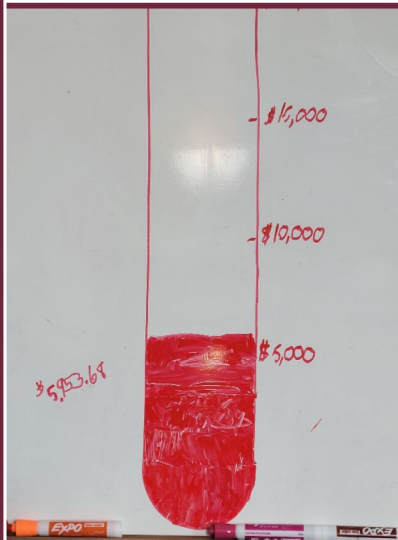
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2023 Tract Project

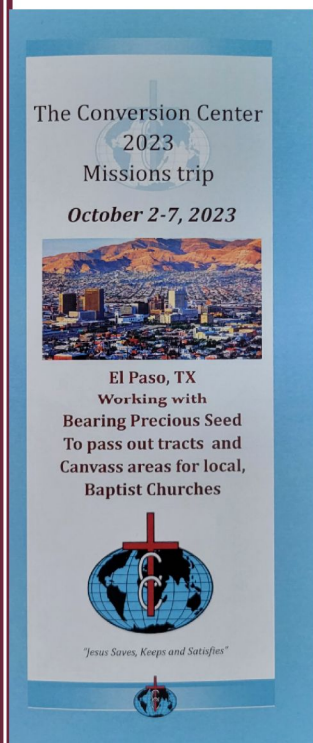
We are praying for \$30,000 this year to be able to send **1 million** Spanish tracts to various mission fields. We are currently at **\$5,953.68**. I keep this thermometer on the dry erase board near my desk to remind me to pray. Please pray with us for the remaining funds to come in. We may be able to print them in 2 orders of 500,000 each. I will be meeting with our contact in Mexico, and the printer in May, to try to arrange plans for how to allocate the tracts. If you would like to give to this project, please mark your offering, "**Spanish Tract Project**". The needs are immense, the opportunities are many; but our God is even greater! We will keep you updated!

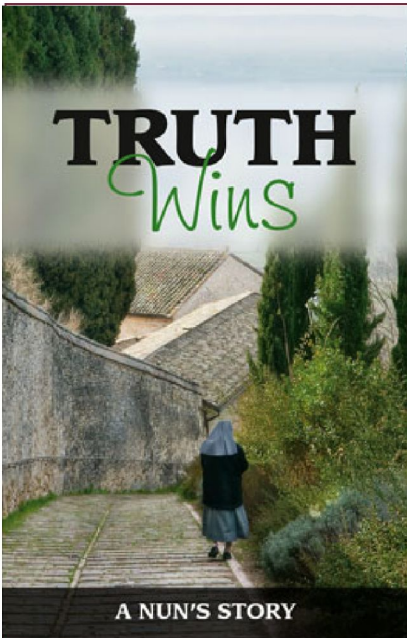


2023 Missions Trip El Paso, TX

We are going to El Paso, TX, in October to try to help some Baptist churches by passing out tracts and invitations to their services. We will be working with Bearing Precious Seed El Paso and would ask that you pray about those who will be going. The brochure in your packet includes more information. If you would like to come, please fill out the information page and return it. If you'd like to give to help with this outreach, please mark your offering, "**Missions Trip**". We currently have 7 people interested in going and are praying for 30-40. Thank you so much!

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TRUTH WINS — A NUN'S STORY

by Jacqueline Kassar

Forty-five years of my life were spent as a Roman Catholic; twenty-two of them as a nun in an enclosed convent dedicated to adoration, reparation and suffering. I believed it was a nun's calling to be a miniature savior of the world like Jesus Christ. After attending Catholic elementary school for eight years and memorizing catechism which is the Roman Catholic textbook, I believed in my heart that a family having a son or daughter become a priest or nun would receive God's favor and special blessings. I decided to enter the convent when I was old enough to leave home. This was my goal while I was still in my teens. On my twenty-first birthday, 1954, I entered the convent against my parents' wishes. My belief in my calling to be a nun superseded my parents' vehement opposition. Even though it broke my heart to leave my family I consoled myself in the fact that I was doing God's will by

making this sacrifice for the salvation of my family and all those outside the Catholic faith who I believed were doomed to hell.

At first, I was in awe of the solitude, structural beauty and peacefulness the convent seemed to have. I was taught to do penance—such as sleeping on a board, prostrating myself at the door of the dining room as an act of humiliation and beating myself as a means of appeasing God's wrath. This taught me to believe in a punishing, unapproachable and unloving God. I feared Him at every turn of my life. As time went on, emptiness filled my heart and hopelessness engulfed me. I became depressed, often crying while I raged with anger at authority and hatred for the rules and customs in the convent that were cruel. My body developed all kinds of illnesses and I found myself with a tremor that only Valium could help. All the time, the medication was dulling my mind and taking away my ability to think and reason.

I was so hungry to know that God loved me and so wanting to know Him that I started reading mystical writings which taught that you could attain mystical union with God, thereby achieving supernatural knowledge of Him which led to total holiness. This path directed me to super naturalize not only the Bible and Jesus, but anything to do with my religious life. Step by step I lost my ability to reason and deal with reality—reality was too painful for me to face.

In 1975, a distant cousin who had become a Christian brought an evangelist who was visiting New York to the convent. He was holding a street meeting at a nearby Catholic parish. I received permission to go and for the first time I heard the true Gospel. It certainly was Good News! **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, [Jesus Christ], that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life [John 3:16].**

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I learned that Jesus died for my sins, past, present, and future. When I accepted Him as my Lord and Saviour and repented of my sins, He made my dead spirit alive and began a personal relationship between the Lord and myself. This is the gift of God to those who believe — **For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast [Eph. 2:8, 9].** How important to know that we must individually trust and believe in Him **For if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved [Romans 10:9].**

After personally accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour, I started to read my Bible and pray directly to God. In 1977, I left the convent and started on my quest to know the truth. God's Word became my only authority and everything else was measured against the Bible. But this was just the beginning, I did not realize the serious harm false doctrines and beliefs had created in my body and mind.

Through a friend, I met a Christian counselor who helped me see that being a doer of the Word brings healing to the body and clarity to the mind. For through the new birth we can have the mind of Christ. It has not been an easy road, but it has been one filled with God's love and blessing. The Lord has been faithful to me in the promises of His Word. He promised to restore the years that the locust hath eaten which has enabled me to begin a new life filled with joy and a true inner peace that neither the world nor religion can give.

It's a privilege to share the love and goodness of God by telling all who hear that He has a plan for each life and is faithful to accomplish that plan when we receive the gift of salvation by believing in His Son.

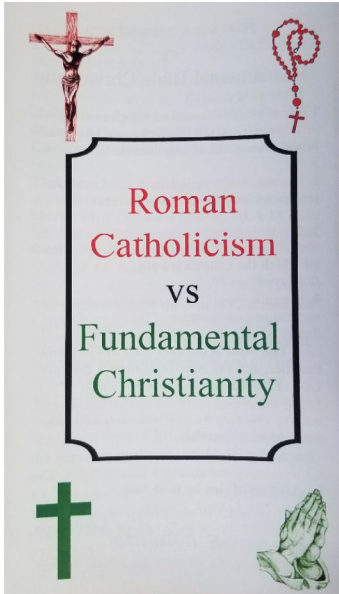
I love quoting Psalm 18:28, 29 — **For thou wilt light my candle, the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness. For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall. Amen — Praise God.**

Editor’s note: “Truth Wins, a Nun’s Story” is available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.



Meals for Migrants

Bro. Hector Jimenez of BPS El Paso has been handing out meals and tracts to migrants who have come into El Paso. He has recently contacted me to tell me of an opportunity to go into Juarez, Mexico (right across the border from El Paso) to preach the Gospel and feed migrants from Venezuela who are waiting entry into our country. Please pray for his safety and the Gospel to shine light into the hearts of the people. Venezuela has been through some very hard times in the last 25 years and is one of the places we have sent tracts in times past. We are thankful for Bro. Jimenez’s willingness and vision. Thank you for giving to make this Gospel outreach possible! We are **EXCITED** to provide the funds necessary for this!



Roman Catholicism Vs. Fundamental Christianity

In previous editions of *The Gospel Catholic*, we have been doing comparisons of what the Roman Catholic Church teaches versus what the Bible says. The previous points covered were:

1. Who is the Final Authority?
2. Is salvation through the Church?
3. Is salvation through good works?
4. Does the Church forgive sins?
5. Is the RCC the one, true church?
6. Should we pray for the dead?
7. Is the Pope the vicar of Christ?
8. Does Baptism Save?

We are going to look at the following teaching: **9. The Pope is infallible.** That word “infallible” means to be absolutely trustworthy or sure, unfailing in effectiveness or operation. (The Roman Catholic Church’s definition follow.) It means to be immune from fallacy or liability to error in expounding matters of faith or morals by virtue of the promise made by Christ to the Church.

We will see what the RCC says in it’s Catechism and then look at what God says in His Holy Word.

The Catechism Says

889 In order to preserve the Church in the purity of the faith handed on by the apostles, Christ who is the Truth willed to confer on her a share in his own infallibility. By a "supernatural sense of faith" the People of God, under the guidance of the Church's living Magisterium, "unfailingly adheres to this faith."⁴¹⁷

890 The mission of the Magisterium is linked to the definitive nature of the covenant established by God with his people in Christ. It is this Magisterium's task to preserve God's people from deviations and defections and to guarantee them the objective possibility of professing the true faith without error. Thus, the pastoral duty of the Magisterium is aimed at seeing to it that the People of God abides in the truth that liberates. To fulfill this service, Christ endowed the Church's shepherds with the charism of infallibility in matters of faith and morals. the exercise of this charism takes several forms:

891 "The Roman Pontiff, head of the college of bishops, enjoys this infallibility in virtue of his office, when, as supreme pastor and teacher of all the faithful - who confirms his brethren in the faith he proclaims by a definitive act a doctrine pertaining to faith or morals.... the infallibility promised to the Church is also present in the body of bishops when, together with Peter's successor, they exercise the supreme Magisterium," above all in an Ecumenical Council.⁴¹⁸ When the Church through its supreme Magisterium proposes a doctrine "for belief as being divinely revealed,"⁴¹⁹ and as the teaching of Christ, the definitions "must be adhered to with the obedience of faith."⁴²⁰ This infallibility extends as far as the deposit of divine Revelation itself.⁴²¹ **"RCC Vs. Fundamental Christianity", continued on page 5**

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2051 The infallibility of the Magisterium of the Pastors extends to all the elements of doctrine, including moral doctrine, without which the saving truths of the faith cannot be preserved, expounded, or observed.

The Bible Says

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”

Romans 3:10 “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

Hebrews 5:9,10 “And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.”

Commentary

Neither the pope, nor any other man for that matter, is infallible. The danger in following after a man is that men change. Men let us down, they sin, or they make mistakes. Paul told the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 11:1, “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.” Paul was telling the church at Corinth to look to him as an example on how to follow Christ. There are spiritual leaders whom we can learn from, but we are never to follow blindly or mindlessly. I know of many different religions where their belief systems or standards change over time because of that change in the man they follow. Our hope and trust is in Jesus Christ and the Scriptures are our creed. Peter, the apostle who the Roman Catholic Church attributes as being their first pope, was wrong on many occasions. Paul referenced one of these times in his epistle to the church at Galatia, in Galatians 2:11,12. “But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.” If Peter were infallible, then Paul would not have withstood (stand or hold against, resist or oppose) him and it certainly would not have been recorded in Scripture. Read and follow what the Scriptures tell you!

10. The Sacraments Save

The Catechism Says

1129 The Church affirms that for believers the sacraments of the New Covenant are necessary for salvation.⁵¹ “Sacramental grace” is the grace of the Holy Spirit, given by Christ and proper to each sacrament. the Spirit heals and transforms those who receive him by conforming them to the Son of God. the fruit of the sacramental life is that the Spirit of adoption makes the faithful partakers in the divine nature⁵² by uniting them in a living union with the only Son, the Savior.

1113 The whole liturgical life of the Church revolves around the Eucharistic sacrifice and the sacraments....

“RCC Vs. Fundamental Christianity”, continued on top of page 6

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...There are seven sacraments in the Church: Baptism, Confirmation or Chrismation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony.³⁰ This article will discuss what is common to the Church's seven sacraments from a doctrinal point of view. What is common to them in terms of their celebration will be presented in the second chapter, and what is distinctive about each will be the topic of the Section Two.

The Bible Says

Romans 3:20 “Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

John 20:31 “ But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.”

Titus 3:5-7 “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

Ephesians 2:8,9 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

Commentary

The sacraments aren't necessary for salvation. The Bible is full of examples but one of the best ones for reference is the thief on the cross. This time of year when Palm Sunday and Resurrection Sunday are celebrated, sometimes we forget that the thief on the cross spoke to Jesus directly and didn't have time for “Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony.” Salvation is by grace through faith and is a GIFT of God. I can't earn it, you can't earn it, and it certainly isn't anything that our actions could ever merit.



I was looking through older editions of The Gospel Catholic and found the first one after the former Director, Donald Maconaghie, had gone home to be with the Lord. There was a brief devotion taken from Spurgeon's “Morning and Evening”. I really enjoyed it and wanted to share it with you!- Editor

“The more you know about Christ the less you will be satisfied with superficial views of Him; and the more you study His transactions in the eternal covenant, His engagements on your behalf as the eternal Surety, and the fullness of His grace which shines in all His offices, the more truly will you see the King in His beauty.

Be much in such outlooks. Long more and more to see Jesus. *Meditation and contemplation* are often like windows of agate, and gates of carbuncle, through which we behold the Redeemer. Meditation puts the telescope to the eye, and enables us to see Jesus after a better sort than we could have seen Him if we had lived in the days of His flesh.

Would that our conversation were more in heaven, and that we were more taken up with the Person, the work, the beauty of our incarnate Lord. More meditation, and the beauty of the King would flash upon us with more resplendence.

“Morning and Evening”, continued on top of Page 7

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Beloved, it is very probable that we shall have such a sight of our glorious King as we never had before, *when we come to die*. Many saints in dying have looked up from amidst the stormy waters, and have seen Jesus walking on the waves of the sea, and heard Him say, “It is I, be not afraid.” Ah, yes! When the tenement begins to shake, and the clay falls away, we see Christ through the rifts, and between the rafters, the sunlight of heaven comes streaming in.

But if we want to see face to face the “King in His beauty” *we must go to heaven* for the sight, or the King must come here in person. O that He would come on the wings of the wind! He is our Husband, and we are widowed by His absence; He is our Brother, dear and fair, and we are lonely without Him.

Thick veils and clouds hang between our souls and their true life. When shall the daybreak and the shadows flee away?”



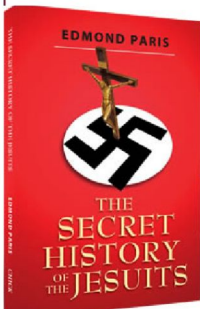
Dear Reader,

Thank you so much for taking time out of your busy schedule to read this edition of our magazine! We are so grateful for the love, prayers and support from all of you! As I type this, we are closing in on Easter and I can't help but think of Christ's great, perfect, one time sacrifice on Calvary's cross for you and for me. We truly have much for which to be thankful!

TRAVEL I am going to be doing less travelling this spring but summer is proving to be busy. We are grateful for the time home but also very much enjoy getting to see so many of you when the Lord permits us to go.

PERSONAL The family is doing well, health wise. The kids are getting closer and closer to being finished with school and as the weather turns nice, they are glad to be outside playing again. We are grateful for the Lord's provision and protection for our family. God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.

BOOK OFFER We wanted to suggest a book this edition that I don't think has ever been offered with our promotion. In this day of power grabs and political moves in every facet of our lives, “*The Secret History of the Jesuits*” would be a great read for you. Return the suggested donation card enclosed for your copy. If you want multiple copies, PLEASE state how many you would like.



MISSION TRIPS Lord willing, I am taking some mission trips this year. So far, I am signed up for: Plant City, FL (June), Brazil (August), El Paso (October). This is in addition to my normal travel schedule where I speak in churches, schools and conferences. Please pray for health, strength and protection. God has been so good to us!

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers on our behalf! We look forward to continuing in this ministry. 1 Corinthians 16:9a says, “For a great door and effectual is opened unto me.”

Yours for the Kingdom,

Mark T. Reno, Director

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The Gospel Catholic

God's Word, the Bible, Tells Us We Need To Be Saved

"For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." *Matthew 18:11*

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." *Romans 3:23*

"Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." *John 3:3*

Religious Works Cannot Bring Salvation

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." *Titus 3:5*

"...not of works, lest any man should boast." *Ephesians 2:9*

"... all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." *Isaiah 64:6*

"This is the work of God that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent." *John 6:29*

Jesus Christ – God Himself – Has Provided Everything For Our Salvation

"Who (Jesus) His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree..." *1 Peter 2:24*

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." *John 14:6*

We Must Repent From Sin and Accept Christ To Be Saved

"... for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." *Matthew 9:13*

"... the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." *Matthew 1:15*

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." *John 3:16*

"...and him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out." *John 6:37*

We Are Saved By Grace Through Faith Alone

"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."

Romans 3:28 "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ...for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." *Galatians 2:16.*

"For by Grace are ye Saved through Faith"

HAVE YOU....Been converted to the Lord Jesus Christ? Is He your personal and all-sufficient Savior? If not, you are invited to trust Him NOW. Today is the day of salvation. Then unite with a Christ-centered, Bible teaching, Missionary-minded, Separated, and Fundamental, New Testament Christian Church.

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THE GOSPEL CATHOLIC – the Official Quarterly Publication of The Conversion Center, Inc. will be mailed to you free and postage paid upon request. It is also available via email and our website. Free tract samples will also be mailed upon request.

HAVE YOU....asked your church to include The Conversion Center, Inc. in its missionary program?

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